



CHIEF EXECUTIVE VISITS PORTUGAL NEXT MONTH

The trip will take place from 10 to 15 September, following an invitation by the Portuguese President, Rebelo de Sousa

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ENGLISH SUMMER COURSE CLOSES

UM's English Language Centre organized the event that attracted over 100 local and international secondary school students

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CAR DRIVING IN THE WRONG LANE ON BRIDGE

P5 CRIME

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WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA's yuan declined the most in a week and sovereign bond yields were near a decade-low as weaker-than-expected data reignited concern over growth in Asia's largest economy. The currency dropped 0.11 percent to 6.6405 a dollar yesterday in Shanghai, paring a decline of 0.24 percent earlier, according to prices from the China Foreign Exchange Trade System. The offshore yuan rose by 0.04 percent, as a gauge of the dollar's strength declined for a second day.



CHINA-JAPAN Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stays away from a Tokyo shrine that honors convicted war criminals among the nation's war dead, a bid to avoid controversy with neighboring countries on the 71st anniversary of the end of World War II. Abe instead sent a gift of money and religious ornaments to Yasukuni Shrine. *More on p10*

PHILIPPINES Human rights victims of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos' regime petition the Supreme Court to block a government directive to have the ex-leader buried in a heroes' cemetery — an emotional and divisive issue for Filipinos who ousted Marcos in a 1986 "people power" revolt.

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New Macau: Government suppresses public opinion

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RIO OLYMPICS

Bolt shines bright, wins another gold in Olympic 100

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THE Chief Executive (CE) believes that the idle lands that are being claimed lately by the government, due to their non-development during the 25-year contract term, are enough to cover the almost 89,000 square meters of land debts held by the government.

During a press conference held yesterday morning at the local airport before his departure to Beijing, Chui Sai On said: "We are confident that these [idle] lands will be enough to respond not only to the developments [proposed on the five-year plan] but can also be reserved [for the reimbursements]." He reaffirmed that "the policy never changed, the priority is always public housing and social infrastructure [only] after we will take care of the devolutions [...] if we win the legal disputes it is more than enough to pay back."

The head of the government expressed total confidence that the land plots currently in legal disputes will all revert to the government as "we took all the

CE believes that idle lands are enough to repay land debts



Chui Sai On pictured yesterday at the airport

Visit to Portugal next month



Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa

CHUI Sai On will lead a delegation on a visit to Portugal, following an invitation by the Portuguese President, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa. The trip will take place from September 10 to 15.

During the visit, the Chief Executive is also to meet Portugal's Prime Minister, António Cos-

ta. The CE will additionally co-chair – with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal, Augusto Santos Silva – the latest meeting of the Macau-Portugal Joint Committee. The latter will explore further opportunities for cooperation between the two territories.

The Macao-Portugal Joint Committee was established under the Framework Agreement of Cooperation between the MSAR and the Portuguese Republic, with the aim of strengthening cooperation between the two sides in a number of areas. The first meeting of the Macau-Portugal Joint Committee was held in Lisbon, in April 2011.

According to a statement issued yesterday by the Government Information Bureau, the Chief Executive's upcoming visit aims to focus on areas like Portuguese-language teaching; education; culture; environmental protection and youth affairs.

"The government is confident that Macau will further strengthen and expand its links with Portugal, so that Macau can further expand its role as a commercial and trade cooperation service platform between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries," reads the statement.

measures according to the law."

When questioned if there is any "plan b" in case that does not happen, the CE said that he couldn't reply to a "hypothetical question," calling for the "trust of people in the government."

Before departing to Beijing, the CE was questioned about the evaluation that he does for the work of Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam. Tam was recently involved in a controversy over the placement of a banner which heavily criticized him on the façade of Hotel Estoril.

In response, the CE gave a positive assessment of Tam's governance: "I have worked with him for more than ten years. He is a very committed and dedica-

ted worker. He does have his own style but in all his projects he is very honest and he has been accepting the opinions of the population, especially the critics."

After being presented with examples of cases where the society and some lawmakers expressed different views to Tam's, the CE replied: "It looks like he is a naughty boy or that he wants to do everything [as he wishes]. He is a good colleague and is a good team member."

During his two-day visit to Beijing, the CE is going to meet with central government authorities. Chui said that he expects to discuss the MSAR's five-year plan. **RM**

PAC ON TERMINAL SHOULD COMPLEMENT AIRPORT

QUESTIONED ABOUT the criticism of many lawmakers regarding the "exaggerated" dimensions of the new Taipa Ferry Terminal, the CE said that during the process of construction there was a need to adjust the project. "In the future, we want to use it in tandem with our airport following the policy of creating the World Tourism and Leisure Center in order to better develop the two infrastructures," he added.

PORTUGAL will open a consulate-general in Guangzhou following the approval of an agreement signed by the two countries. The statement released at the end of the meeting indicates that

Lisbon confirms consulate opening in Guangzhou

the new consulate-general will cover an area encompassing Guangdong, Hainan, Hunan and Fu-

jian provinces and the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Under the terms of the

agreement, China will have the right to establish a consular post in Portugal, the location and area

of jurisdiction of which will be subject to diplomatic negotiation. Last April, Angola opened its third

consulate-general in the People's Republic of China in Guangzhou, after those in Hong Kong and Macau.

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Daniel Beittler

NEW MACAU ASSOCIATION

Alexis Tam dubbed 'ignorant and arrogant' in atmosphere of gov't-sponsored 'suppression'

AT a New Macau Association press conference yesterday, held at the group's headquarters, president Scott Chiang labeled the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture as an "ignorant and arrogant official" who is not suitable to be in charge of preserving the city's heritage.

Chiang made the comments just days after he was arrested by the police following the hoisting of a black banner on Hotel Estoril that denounced Secretary Alexis Tam as a "heritage killer."

The president, who was released after spending the night in detention, during the course of which he underwent a lengthy interrogation, said he has not yet been charged with an offence and that there have been no further developments that he can provide at the moment.

Meanwhile, Chiang and other senior ANM members expressed the belief that Thursday's protest is a reflection of the "suppressed public opinion" in Macau, which has worsened in recent years, but specifically over the "farce of the whole renovation project."

"We can see the willingness of a handful [of people] to establish whatever they want; to pursue whatever they want in government. That willingness has steamrolled all opposition and any chance to do [something different]. That is a dangerous sign that we don't want to see. [This kind of action] is poisonous and discourages people from expressing their opinion in a fair and peaceful manner," said Chiang at the press briefing.

While neither confirming nor denying that he was behind the hoisting of the protest banner, Chiang nevertheless confirmed that given the opportunity, he "might" recreate the demonstration.

"If there is a chance to do it over again and I was [delegated] the role of doing it... I might take it. But I cannot answer



Scott Chiang (left) and Jason Chao

whether or not I did it [...] for judicial reasons," said Chiang. "Even if you lock me up, some other guys will do it [these sorts of protests]."

Playing down the issue, he said: "We are not talking about

a big issue like democracy or big money – it's just historic heritage [...] and how we champion the buildings of a city and our memories in a historic city."

Asked if he expected to be locked up on Thursday night,

Chiang said: "Well, there were certain things that I did not expect. I did not expect the public [outrage]. I did not expect the reaction times of 'Macau's finest'," he joked. "If only they [the police] could react so fast

on every other issue."

Also in the New Macau headquarters yesterday was the inclusion of a poster depicting the iconic façade of Hotel Estoril and the headline: "History should not only be on paper."

However the ANM leader was

“We are not talking about a big issue like democracy or big money – it's just historic heritage.”

SCOTT CHIANG

unable to provide a concrete alternative use for the decades-old derelict building that is in a serious state of disrepair. Asked for his proposals, Chiang said that he merely wants something that "celebrates our past."

While ANM notes that the hotel's murky past as a brothel does make it somewhat less respectable than it otherwise may be, association leaders also point to the preservation of other brothels in the region for their historic "contribution" to Macau. They added that as residents of a historic city, citizens should come to terms with both the good and bad elements of the MSAR's past.

"Why can't we just be more open to our own past?" Chiang questioned.

Chiang wants walking tours over tourist buses

ASKED about the possible government regulation of tourist buses in the historic center of the city following the recent crash near Kiang Wu hospital, ANM president Scott Chiang said that he would support proposals that encourage walking tours in the old district.

"We are saddened that it took some casualties for the government to actually take things seriously. It's not the first time that a member of the public has pointed out not just the issue of safety but of [congestion] due to the touring bus," said Chiang. "Sadly we need to take

this kind of case to put the issue under [the spotlight]."

He said that he proposes the promotion of walking in the territory as opposed to "bus-hopping and photo-taking", an initiative that the Macao Government Tourist Office has tried to promote in the past.

"Macau is a lovely little place where [almost everything] is within walking distance," Chiang added. "It would be nice if people interested in heritage, historic architecture and the overall atmosphere of Macau, can spread around the whole neighborhood and enjoy it [on foot]."

Unofficial panda naming contest opens

THE New Macau Association (ANM) announced the launch of an unofficial naming competition for the new Panda cubs born recently in the territory, yesterday.

According to ANM representatives who called a press conference to disclose the initiative, the government's competition for the official naming of the newborn

animals will result in a "non-transparent" decision-making process. As such, they are therefore publicizing a similar competition in tandem.

Vice-president Jason Chao said during yesterday's meeting that the competition has two purposes. "Firstly it is symbolic; we are trying to take things back into our control. We [previously]

had the chance to choose the names of the pandas [given to Macau], but this year we don't have [the same] chance," he explained. "Another aspect to the [competition] is to educate citizens to make decisions about things in Macau."

The unofficial competition is being hosted by the Macau Concealers for what New Macau terms the panda's "civil nick-

names". ANM hopes that the unofficial names may replace the official ones in common usage among Macau's public.

Nominations for the panda names can be submitted online by August 28. Meanwhile, voting will be held electronically on the Macau Concealers website between September 1 and 7.

Voters must have their



Macau phone number verified before casting a ballot, however organizers stress that all personal data collected will be

solely used for the purpose of this competition, in compliance with the Personal Data Protection Law of Macau. **DB**

Foreign exchange reserves up 2.6 percent

The Monetary Authority of Macao announced yesterday that the preliminary estimate of Macau's foreign exchange reserves at the end of July 2016 amounted to MOP155.2 billion. The reserves increased by 2.6 percent from the revised value of MOP151.2 billion for the previous month. As at the end of July, the MSAR's foreign exchange reserves remained stable compared to the previous month, representing 12 times the currency in circulation. Meanwhile, the trade-weighted effective exchange rate index for the pataca rose 0.87 points month-to-month and 1.64 points year-on-year in July. This implies that overall, the pataca appreciated against the currencies of Macau's major trading partners.

Water to be more expensive from November

A change to the territory's water tariffs will come into force by November, according to information published yesterday in the Official Gazette (BO). According to the information, the price increase will be between 2 and 16 percent for residential water depending on the amount of water consumed. The first 28 cubic meters will cost MOP4.48 per cubic meter, increasing progressively for the next 32 cubic meters (MOP5.18). The next 19 cubic meters will cost MOP6.04. Water consumed over the 79 cubic meters will be charged at MOP7.27 per cubic meter. As for non-residential water, it will have a fixed cost of MOP6.04 per cubic meter, representing an increase of 8 percent.

EDUCATION

UM's English summer course attracts over 100 secondary students

THE University of Macau's English Language Centre has organized a program to help secondary school students improve their English proficiency. According to a statement issued by the university, the event has attracted more than 100 local and international secondary school students.

The five-day camp encouraged the use of English in day-to-day interactions through a series of creative activities both inside and outside the classroom. Cecilia Chio from the Sacred Heart Canossian College (English Section), described the camp as a 'very special' experience: "We were exposed to an English-friendly living environment and we learnt something new each day," she said. "I've improved my English a lot through participating in the various activities both inside and outside the classroom. We practiced English through drawing, painting, performing drama, singing, and



dancing. It was fun."

Another student from Malaysia, Goh Jia Shen, noted that the way of teaching and learning he had experienced during the summer course differed to most Malaysian high schools. "The instruc-

tors arranged many interactive and fun activities for us to practice speaking English. The course provided a very good opportunity for us to learn how to communicate with people from different cultures," he said.

There were 100 local participants from 14 Chinese and English secondary schools in Macau. This number was selected out of more than 250 applicants. "I would say that the students all came with different levels of English language proficiency," said Miranda Ma, one of the program's coordinators. "My goal for this program was to help students strengthen their confidence in using English so that they could better express themselves and work with each other in the target language."

The summer camp coordinators lived in the residential college with the students to help them practice English and review what they had learned during the day. Some UM students also served as camp leaders and encouraged the participants to use English in everyday interactions. According to the statement, the UM plans to expand the English summer course in order to "benefit more local students."

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CRIME

Dangerous driver caught on Amizade Bridge

Renato Marques

A motorist was arrested by the Public Security Police Force (PSP) for dangerous driving on Amizade Bridge during the early hours of Sunday morning, the PSP informed in a press conference held yesterday at the police

headquarters.

According to the PSP spokesperson the police received a report around 4 a.m. of a driver in a white car making his way from Taipa to Macau driving in the wrong lane.

Officers were sent to the location but could not find the referred vehicle.

A further investigation that resorted to the utilization of security cameras on the bridge revealed that a few minutes before 4 a.m. a white car driving in direction of Taipa made a U-turn on the bridge and then drove on the wrong side of the road for about 3 minutes in the direction of Macau.



BLOOMBERG

If that situation was not serious enough, the driver then made another U-turn recovering its original direction.

Through the vehicle registration the police were able to track down the owner and driver who was then interrogated by authorities.

The motorist, who admitted the unusual maneuver, told the authorities that while on the bridge he had decided to meet a friend back in Macau. A few minutes later he had given up on that idea and so made another U-turn and headed back to Taipa.

Further investigation revealed

that the driver had consumed and was under the influence of methamphetamines ("ice").

The PSP also found that the driver and vehicle owner, a local resident in his 20s, already possessed an extensive criminal record for drug consumption and trafficking, and also a traffic condemnation for being involved in a "hit-and-run" traffic accident.

He was yesterday transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) on the accusations of dangerous driving and consumption of forbidden psychotropic substances.

Mainland vendor stripped of merchandize valued at HKD200m

A mainland Chinese handicraft and arts vendor lost merchandize valued at over HKD200 million, the Judiciary Police (PJ) informed in press conference held yesterday.

According to the force, the case goes back to December 19 of last year when a 46-year-old merchant from Hunan province complained to the PJ about the theft of 118 items from a total of 196 that he had kept stored in the territory after a Fair organized by the government in September.

The man claimed to have started a company in the territory a few months prior with a partner to sell the referred merchandize in a fair.

After the fair the unsold 196 items of handi-

craft works, ceramic, porcelain and jade products were kept in a residential unit until October.

The man, who returned in November to the mainland, arrived back in the MSAR in December to find that 118 pieces had disappeared.

Further investigation led to the detention of one employee at the Border Gate on Saturday. The detained man, who pleads innocence, informed the PJ that he was told by the partner of the victim to deliver the merchandize at the Border Gate during November, but that the partner had disappeared shortly afterward.

The case is still under investigation.

INSURANCE BROKER CHEATS 6 OVER IPHONE7 PRE-SALE

IN A separate case also reported by the PJ, an insurance broker has allegedly cheated six other insurance brokers in a pre-sale of the latest smartphone (not yet released). According to cases reported by six different people between August 4 and 6, the suspect presented them with the chance of being the

first to own an iPhone7, charging an undisclosed sum of money for the pre-sale of the product. According to the victims, the suspect told them she had a special relationship with a shop selling the product and showed them a fake invoice to prove the capacity for retrieving such an item.

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WeChat coming soon at 35,000 feet as China eases phone rules

Crystal Tse

MILLIONS of flyers in China may soon see their wish come true: authorities are considering lifting restrictions on the use of mobile phones on planes, paving the way for wider in-flight connectivity that is now available only in developed markets.

A legislation to amend regulations that limit the use of electronic devices on board is underway and the norms will be relaxed by the end of this year or early 2017, Zhu Tao, director of the air transportation division at the Civil Aviation Administration of China, said in an interview. The changes follow revised safety standards issued about three years ago by regulators in the U.S. and Europe.

The amendment, if approved, will enable passengers to surf the internet, use applications such as WeChat, and shop online at cruising altitudes with smartphones, the most preferred device for web browsing in the world's most populous nation.

For the 50 odd Chinese airlines fighting for a slice of the world's No. 2 air-travel market, it provides e-commerce opportunities as they tap the purchasing power of the nation's newly rich while they are airborne. The global market for in-flight e-commerce is set to reach USD1.7 billion by 2020 from \$1.4 billion in 2015, according to Frost & Sullivan. China Eastern Airlines Corp. and Spring Airlines Co. are already preparing for it.

"From a business perspective, we definitely hope that there'll be a breakthrough in the policy review," said Zhang Chi, a deputy director at China Eastern, the nation's second largest by passengers. "While I let passengers browse the internet for free, I can at the same time profit from advertisement and on-board



shopping. There will be a big positive return."

Under Chinese civil aviation regulations, airlines at present order mobile phones to be turned off for safety reasons. However, many allow the use of other electronic devices, such as tablets, that do not interfere with flight radio signals.

Such rules are changing across the world, partly because of advancements in technology and users preference for the convenience of smartphones. As of June, 656 million users in China, or 92.5 percent of all internet users, use mobile phones to browse the web, according to a report published by the China Internet Network Information Center in July.

Though many Chinese carriers provide in-flight Wi-Fi service for a limited number of flyers on some of their planes, it isn't widely available yet. A report by Routehappy, a company that tracks airline amenities, shows that 78 percent of airlines in the U.S. provide some sort of connectivity. That compares with 23 percent in China, according to a local aviation statistic company VariFlight.

Almost three-fourths of U.S. airline "seat miles," an industry measure of capacity, now have Wi-Fi, according to the "Global State of Inflight Wi-Fi" report from Routehappy, with American Airlines, Delta and United leading with relatively decent Wi-Fi in most of their fleets. **Bloomberg**

Indonesia wins air safety upgrade from US in gain for Garuda

Fathiya Dahrul, Harry Suhartono

INDONESIA, an aviation market with one of the world's worst safety records, had its air-safety rating upgraded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, a move that may add momentum to flag carrier PT Garuda Indonesia's expansion plans.

The Southeast nation's transport ministry said it received a letter from the U.S. embassy saying Indonesia got elevated to Category 1, meaning local carriers including Garuda can fly to the U.S. and enter code-share agreements with U.S. airlines. In 2007, the FAA had cut the rating to Category 2, citing serious concerns about the local civil-aviation regulator's safety oversight and operational control systems.

"This is an achievement we've been waiting for since 2007," Suprasetyo, Director General for Air Transport at the ministry, told reporters in Jakarta. "There are several airlines that are ready to fly to the U.S."

The higher rating holds better prospects for Garuda, which returned to profit last year, as it is allowed to add lucrative routes to North America. The upgrade came after the European Union scrapped a flight ban on Garuda in 2009 and in June this year abolished



restrictions on three other Indonesian operators - PT Lion Mentari Airlines, Batik Air and Garuda's low-cost unit Citilink. Among the four, only Garuda has scheduled flights to Europe.

Among efforts to improve its rating, Indonesia opened a new terminal at its main airport in Jakarta this month to ease congestion and has also added structures and equipment to bolster airport safety.

"The efforts of the DGCA over the past year have demonstrated the commitment of the DGCA, the Ministry of Transportation and the Government of Indonesia to establishing a system of effective aviation safety oversight," the U.S. embassy said in its letter, referring to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, the local regulator.

A Category 1 rating means a

nation's civil aviation authority complies with international standards. Category 2 means a country either lacks laws or regulations necessary to oversee its airlines in line with minimum international standards, or its civil aviation authority is deficient in one or more areas.

Several aviation accidents in recent years have left Indonesia with a fatal air-crash rate of more than three times the global average even amid the government's efforts to improve transportation safety.

A shortage of skilled pilots, ground crew and air-traffic controllers as well as outdated equipment and planes have all contributed to the deadly accidents, including an AirAsia Bhd. Flight 8501 crash in December 2014 that killed all 162 people on board. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

SANDS CHINA SEES FIVE RESTAURANTS AWARDED BY SMILIN



Elegant Seafood Restaurant

Smilin, the travel and gourmet brand under Ctrip, one of China's largest travel service providers, has named five restaurants at Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao as "Smilin Excellence" or "Smilin One-Star" in a recent inaugural award ceremony, according to a statement from Sands China.

The Venetian Macao's Michelin-starred Indian restaurant "Golden Peacock", Chinese eateries "Canton" and "Elegant Seafood Restaurant", and Sheraton Grand Macao Hotel's Italian restaurant "Bene" each received a "Smilin Excellence" award. Meanwhile, Four Seasons Hotel Ma-

cao's two-Michelin-starred Cantonese restaurant "Zi Yat Heen" was given the accolade, "Smilin One-Star".

The "Smilin Excellence" award recognizes signature restaurants with a local touch within a medium price range, while the "Smilin Star" awards deal with high-end establishments requiring a higher budget.

Aimed primarily at mainland tourists, Ctrip describes Smilin as "a list recommending the most reliable restaurants worth visiting during travel and [that] appeals to the Chinese taste."

The brand's "Southern China Region" shortlist includes 171 restaurants from four cities: Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Hong Kong and Macau.

HAN HONG TAKES THE STAGE AT STUDIO CITY



Studio City's second summer concert "Han Hong Macau Concert 2016" took

the stage at the Studio City Event Center (SCEC) on Saturday, attracting thousands

of fans who came to see the Chinese megastar, according to a statement from gaming operator Melco Crown Entertainment.

At her very first performance at the SCEC, Han treated audiences to numerous fan favorites including her signature songs, "Listen to My Sound" and "If You".

The artist also introduced new song arrangements using string instruments to create a refreshing music vibe, offering concert-goers a unique live performance.

The SCEC is a 5,000-seat multi-purpose entertainment complex that opened at Studio City last year. The stage has welcomed musical icons such as Mariah Carey, Madonna and Asia's King of Dance, Aaron Kwok.

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ANGOLA

Year-on-year inflation over 35 percent in Luanda

YEAR-ON-YEAR inflation in Luanda reached 35.30 percent in July, up 24.89 percent over the figure recorded a year ago, Angola's National Statistics Institute announced.

In July prices posted a monthly increase of 4.04 percent. The spending categories that accounted for most of that rise were health (+6.86 percent), food and non-alcoholic beverages (+5.94 percent), diverse goods and services (+4.94 percent) and alcoholic drinks and tobacco (+3.85 percent).

The INE also reported that cumulative inflation since the beginning of the year showed an increase of 26.66 percent year-on-year, 16.69 percentage points over the 6.97 percent cumulative inflation from January to July 2015.

Several international studies have indicated that the Angolan capital Luanda is one of the most expensive cities in the world.

The national consumer price index (NCPI) (the INE does not disclose aggregate data for a year for the whole country) recorded variance of 4.26 percent from June to July. **MDT/Macauhub**

Human resources focus in next cycle of China-Africa economic cooperation

THE cycle of expansion based on raw materials, which has sustained growth of economic relations between China and African countries like Angola, is playing out and the next opportunity is in human resources, says researcher David Dollar.

In the Brookings Institution study on "China's Engagement with Africa: from natural resources to human resources," the US researcher holds that "the foundation for the Africa-China economic relationship is shifting," after an initial period where it was "logical" for the Chinese economy to import African raw materials while exporting back industrial products.

"These patterns of trade and investment are now likely to gradually shift in response to changing demographics. The working-age population in China has peaked and will shrink over the coming decades." This has led to higher wages and rising domestic consumption, the economy's most dynamic component, he says.

The model based on investment and exports is also "running out of steam" and there is excess production capacity in real property, manufacturing and infrastructures, whereby raw material demand should remain muted.

Dollar asserts that Africa's demographics are heading in the opposite direction, with much resemblance to China before the economic reforms 35 years ago: half of the population is less than 20 years old, so the working-age population will in-



Youths from China and Africa take a group photo after the opening ceremony of 2016 China-Africa Youth Gala held in Guangzhou on Aug. 2. A total of 188 youths from 18 African countries and nearly 200 youths from Guangdong attended the gala

crease in the next two decades, forcing the continent to create 20 million jobs per year.

"Africa's demographics present both an opportunity and a challenge. It is unrealistic to expect the China-Africa economic relationship to change overnight. Nor would it be reasonable to expect large volumes of Chinese manufacturing to move to the continent in the near future [...] But if even small amounts of manufacturing shift, this could make a significant difference for African economies," he explains.

Preliminary conclusions of a study by the China Africa Research Initiative of Johns Hopkins University in the US, recently presented by the researchers Jyhjong Hwang, Deborah Brautigam and Janet Eom, indicate that of the USD86.9 billion of Chinese lending to Africa between 2000 and 2014

Africa's demographics present both an opportunity and a challenge.

DAVID DOLLAR

(by Chinese government, banks and companies), Angola received \$21.2 billion or 23 percent of the total.

The China Development Bank was the institution that granted the most credit to Angola (\$11.3 billion), followed by the Export-Import Bank of China (\$7.36 billion) and others (\$2.5 billion).

China should work with African governments to "encourage Chinese firms to hire and train

African workers and to limit the flow of labor" to those countries, because there is a greater incentive for companies to hire locally due to the rising cost of sending in expatriate workers, Dollar says.

After analyzing the Chinese Commerce Ministry database on companies investing in Africa, he concludes that while the biggest companies focus on extracting natural resources, small and medium sized ones are above all dedicated to manufacturing and services, which meets the interests of many African economies.

In late July, 39 agreements between Chinese and African companies worth an estimated \$17 billion were signed in Beijing on the sidelines of a meeting held to assess the second China-Africa Forum (FOCAC) Summit, according to Xinhua news agency.

The business seminar likewise held during that meeting was attended by more than 400 participants from government agencies, financial institutions, business associations and companies.

Among those present were Mozambique's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Nyeleti Mondlane, and Guinea Bissau's Minister of Public Works, Construction and Urbanism, Malam Banjai, among other representatives from the Portuguese-language countries.

The December 2015 FOCAC Summit in Johannesburg resulted in ten cooperation plans between China and Africa in the next three years, worth an estimated \$60 billion. **MDT/Macauhub**

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Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

CHINA-JAPAN

Abe avoids Yasukuni Shrine as Japan marks Pacific War's end

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stayed away yesterday from a Tokyo shrine that honors convicted war criminals among the nation's war dead, a bid to avoid controversy with neighboring countries on the 71st anniversary of the end of World War II.

Abe instead sent a gift of money and religious ornaments to Yasukuni Shrine. His visit to the shrine in December 2013 drew sharp rebukes from China and South Korea, which see Yasukuni as a symbol of Japan's wartime militarism and consider the visits an attempt to whitewash the country's wartime aggression.

Abe's government is reportedly trying to arrange a meeting between him and Chinese President Xi Jinping at a G-20 summit in China next month.

At an official memorial ceremony later yesterday, Abe reiterated his pledge not to let the tragedy of war be repeated, but neither mentioned Japan's wartime actions in Asia nor apologized to its victims.

He also did not do so in his three previous speeches at the annual event, though he did touch on some of Japan's wartime actions last year during a speech in Washington and in a separate statement for the 70th anniversary of the war's end.

Emperor Akihito reiterated his "feelings of deep remorse," a phrase he used last year for the first time, capturing media attention because of the contrast between his words and Abe's.

Akihito, 82, spoke after observing a moment of silence in his first public appearance outside the palace since he indicated his wish to abdicate in a video message last week.

Abe also visited the Chidorigafuchi National Cemetery for



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

unidentified soldiers on his way to the memorial ceremony at the nearby Budokan hall.

In a sign of lingering bitter feelings in Asia over Japan's wartime actions, a group of South Korean lawmakers picked the day to land on small disputed islands in the Sea of Japan to celebrate their country's liberation from Japanese colonization. The islands are

controlled by South Korea but also claimed by Tokyo.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga reiterated Japan's claim to the islands and said the lawmakers' action was "unacceptable and extremely regrettable." He said Tokyo had protested to Seoul.

In Nanjing, China, Chinese and South Korea representatives gathered at a memorial hall

for victims of Japan's notorious 1937 Nanking Massacre to commemorate victory in what China calls the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression.

There was mixed reaction in South Korea, where President Park Geun-hye focused on future relations with Japan, while the Foreign Ministry expressed "deep concerns and regret" over visits to Yasukuni by others in

Abe's visit to the shrine in December 2013 drew sharp rebukes from China and South Korea

Abe's government.

At least four Cabinet ministers have visited Yasukuni since early August, two of them yesterday.

Abe's special aide Yasutoshi Nishimura, a ruling Liberal Democratic Party lawmaker, told reporters that he offered a donation from Abe to the shrine along with the religious ornaments and prayed on his behalf.

Hidehisa Otsuji, head of a group of lawmakers from various parties who routinely visit Yasukuni, told reporters that Abe's absence would be understood by the war dead "if it's a judgment based on national interest."

Separately, a group of conservative members of parliament chaired by Tomomi Inada, a recently appointed defense minister known for downplaying Japan's wartime atrocities, also visited the shrine.

Inada is a regular at Yasukuni during ceremonial occasions but is currently out of the country. **AP**

Beijing working on growth initiative for economy summit

CHINA will propose a joint initiative to revive weak global growth at next month's meeting of leaders of Group of 20 major economies amid rising protectionist sentiment in the United States and Europe, officials said yesterday.

Speaking at a news conference, a senior Chinese diplomat made clear Beijing wants the Sept. 4-5 meeting to avoid political issues such as its territorial disputes with its neighbors in the South China Sea.

The meeting in the eas-

tern Chinese city of Hangzhou comes as an unusually weak global economic recovery is helping to fuel the popularity of U.S. and European political movements that advocate protection for local industries.

Details of Beijing's proposal still are being worked out but will include reforms aimed at strengthening the global financial system and promoting technological innovation, said the Chinese finance and foreign affairs officials.

They gave no indication

it might include an economic stimulus. Some investors have expected such a measure but officials at two previous G20 gatherings this year said the timing was wrong, because individual economies face different conditions and need to take actions tailored to their own needs.

The proposal will stress "inclusive growth" to spread economic benefits widely and shore up support for free trade, said a deputy finance minister, Zhu Guangyao. He said governments should

be on "high alert" to "anti-globalization" sentiments.

"If the people cannot feel the benefits, then this sort of development cannot truly improve people's lives, and people will have mixed feelings about such development," he said.

A deputy foreign minister, Li Baoding, made clear China wants to avoid sensitive diplomatic issues.

The consensus among members is to "focus on economic development and not be distracted by



Hostess prepares for the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting in Chengdu

other parties," Li said when asked about territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

"The Hangzhou summit must focus on economic issues," said Li. "This is what people want to talk

about most at the summit."

Li gave similar responses to questions about China's resolute opposition to South Korea's deployment of a U.S. missile defense system. **AP**

Why China's plan to build a new silk road runs through Singapore

As the son of a man who journeyed from China to Singapore and founded a shipping business a half century ago, Teo Siong Seng sees his life as one immersed in the ancient trading networks of Asia.

So the managing director of the Pacific International Lines Group is seeking to benefit as China rejuvenates its Silk Road routes to the Middle East and Europe. He is setting up a joint venture with China Cosco Shipping Corporation Ltd. to help China's largest shipping group build connections in Southeast Asia and beyond.

"Chinese companies alone may not have enough experience to carry out their investments in other countries," said Teo, who's also chairman of the Singapore Business Federation. "To cooperate with companies like us would also make their businesses smoother. They have to learn the way we deal with local people and the way we do business."

The venture underscores Singapore's potential as a gateway to Southeast Asia for China as President Xi Jinping seeks to export excess industrial capacity while building influence overseas. Lured by shared cultural bonds and the former British colony's legal and financial systems, the number of Chinese companies registered locally has almost doubled in the past five years to more than 7,500.

Exploiting Singapore's regional familiarity could help Chinese companies navigate local politics complicated by tensions over China's territorial claims



Teo Siong Seng

in the South China Sea. It could also help them avoid pitfalls from prior investment in Africa and Latin America, where China has faced criticism at times for a heavy-handed approach, insisting for example its companies and laborers carry out the bulk of a contract.

"From all the failures, Chinese have learned that they need a local broker," said Gao Zhikai, a board member of coking coal distributor Winsway Enterprises Holdings and former vice president of crude oil giant CNOOC Ltd. "Chinese companies believe Singapore companies are easier to deal with and they know how to deal with different markets."

Xi is offering vast amounts of money to Southeast Asia for infrastructure projects for the maritime portion of his revitalized Silk Road. Combined with an overland route through Eurasia, the project is known as

"One Belt, One Road."

For Beijing, the project is a solution to the industrial overcapacity that has built up in many sectors. It's also the economic carrot of Xi's push to make China a regional power and challenge decades of U.S. dominance in Asia. Greater trade and investment could blunt concern over the country's military expansion and its territorial ambitions.

Investment company Fosun International - one of the largest private groups in China - set up its Southeast Asian headquarters in Singapore last year. "Chinese companies have to pick the right platform and springboard before making an international move, and Singapore is a very good choice," said chief executive officer Liang Xinjun.

China's relations with Southeast Asia are deeply rooted in history and the region's trading

culture. Some Chinese Singaporeans, like Teo's father, migrated from Chinese provinces like Fujian during the second Sino-Japanese War in the 1930s, and ethnic Chinese traders had been plying routes in the area for centuries before.

China has looked to Singapore before: The country in late 2015 hosted the first summit between Taiwan and China in seven decades, while late leader Lee Kuan Yew was seen as a regional voice of counsel on China relations. Many Chinese officials tread a path each year to Singapore to study its political model.

Singapore has the largest ethnic Chinese population in the region, at nearly 75 percent, and is China's largest foreign investor. More than 20 percent of its gross domestic product is linked to China, according to Natixis SA.

Chinese business flowing through Singapore could help as its economy faces what could be its slowest-growth year since the global financial crisis, hurt by a slowdown in trade, weak commodity prices and job cuts in the banking industry.

Still, while Southeast Asian nations are hungry for infrastructure funds to meet the demands of their growing populations, China shouldn't expect an unconditional open door.

"Many countries in Southeast Asia are becoming more cautious when dealing with Chinese companies, which have a relatively bad track record in implementing deals over the past decade," said Winsway's Gao, who is also director of the

China National Association of International Studies.

"Given the growing tensions over the South China Sea, Chinese firms have to be even more careful in putting the deals in practice," Gao said. "Even a small mistake could cause a major negative reaction."

China may look to Singapore to help smooth over the territorial frictions it has with some Southeast Asian nations. The U.S. navy uses Singapore as a gateway to the South China Sea for its ships and surveillance planes, and Singapore has called on China to tread carefully.

On a company level, there is progress. Singapore's Ascendas-Singbridge Group created a joint venture last year with China Machinery Engineering Corporation to invest in industrial and technology parks in Asia. Ascendas-Singbridge Chief Customer Solutions Officer Aylwin Tan said the venture expects to announce its first project within six months.

"We find that trust is the most important element in the Chinese business culture," Tan said by e-mail. "Singaporeans can better appreciate the Chinese culture, and understand the spoken and unspoken rules of doing business in China."

Still, there will be difficulties ahead, according to Bernard Chan, president of Asia Financial, an investment holding company. Some nations in the region have relatively opaque - and complex - regulatory and financial reporting systems that can be harder for outsiders to navigate.

Also, China companies in some cases "have absolutely no clue of what they are buying, but they have to buy," said Chan. "It looks like a recycling of what happened 20 years ago to the Japanese. Hopefully Chinese companies could learn from them and minimize the mistakes. But I'm sure they will walk through that cycle once again." **Bloomberg**

HONG KONG

'Occupy' leaders avoid jail time for illegal rally

THREE Hong Kong student protest leaders have avoided prison time for leading or encouraging an illegal rally that sparked huge pro-democracy street protests two years ago.

A magistrate sentenced Joshua Wong and Nathan Law to community service yesterday while a third activist, Alex Chow, received a suspended sentence.

Nineteen-year-old Wong became the most high-profile leader of the protests that erupted

in late September 2014, which marked the former British colony's most turbulent period since China took control in 1997.

Youthful protesters occupied key thoroughfares for 11 weeks to press demands for unrestricted elections for the city's top leader.

Wong and Law were found guilty last month of taking part in an unlawful assembly. Wong was given 120 hours of community service by Magistrate June Cheung while the 23-year-old Law received 80 hours.

Chow, who was found guilty of inciting others to join an unlawful assembly, was also initially given 120 hours of community service. However, because the 25-year-old is due to start a year-long master's program at the London School of Economics in September, he would be unlikely to complete it so the magistrate instead gave him a three-week prison sentence, suspended for a year.

Student leaders and rights groups have slammed the prosecutions for

being politically motivated.

Wong told reporters outside court that he would "still commit civil disobedience through non-violent direct action to show my commitment and persistence to fight for human rights, democracy and freedom in Hong Kong."

The three were charged with storming into a fenced-off courtyard known as Civic Square beside Hong Kong's government complex on the evening of Friday Sept. 26, 2014,

in a bid to protest Beijing's plan to restrict the elections.

They and dozens of other young activists were detained by police. In response, crowds of demonstrators flooded the area over the weekend to demand their release. Police responded late on Sunday Sept. 28 with dozens of volleys of teargas, a move that backfired and drove even more people on to the streets, kickstarting what became known as the Umbrella Movement protests.

In her sentencing, Cheung said she took into account the fact that the three, who had no previous criminal convictions, did not intend to harm anyone or benefit themselves with their actions.

She said she decided not to hand out tough sentences as a deterrent, saying it would be unfair to the three, who she said had shown milder behavior compared with that of other political events that have erupted in Hong Kong since then. **AP**



KASHMIR

1 Indian soldier, 4 rebels killed in gunbattles

Aijaz Hussain, Srinagar

At least one paramilitary soldier and four suspected rebels were killed in a series of gunbattles in Indian-controlled Kashmir despite a security lockdown in the disputed region

yesterday as India celebrated the anniversary of its independence from British rule. Ten government troops were also wounded.

The Himalayan region has been under curfew for almost six weeks since the largest

street protests in years erupted after Indian troops killed a top rebel leader, and security was tightened further in the week preceding India's Independence Day.

The first clash took place in the Nowhatta neighborhood

of Srinagar, Kashmir's main city, when suspected rebels attacked troops on patrol to enforce the curfew. K.K. Sharma, a top official of the Central Reserve Paramilitary Force, said the gunbattle lasted several hours.

The second attack, similar in nature, took place in the Khanyar neighborhood.

Two rebels and one paramilitary soldier were killed, Sharma said. A local policeman and nine paramilitary troops were wounded, two of them critically, he said.

Two rebels were also fatally shot in a gunbattle with In-

dian troops in Uri, an area west of Srinagar. The army said the men had crossed the highly militarized Line of Control separating the Pakistani and Indian-held portions of Kashmir.

Pakistan celebrated Independence Day on Sunday, and tens of thousands of Kashmiris on the Indian side rallied and hoisted Pakistani flags and chanted "Long Live Pakistan" and "Go India, go back."

At least 40 people were injured in clashes between rock-throwing protesters and government forces, who fired shot-gun pellets and tear gas.

Kashmir's chief minister, Mehbooba Mufti, appealed for calm in her Independence Day speech. The national flag fell on Mufti's head as she pulled the rope to unfurl it at a highly guarded soccer stadium in Srinagar, leading authorities to order an investigation to ascertain whether it was sabotage or negligence.

Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan but claimed in its entirety by both.

India accuses Pakistan of arming and training Kashmiri rebels who have been fighting for independence or for a merger with Pakistan since 1989. Pakistan denies the charge, saying it provides only moral and political support.

More than 68,000 people have been killed in the fighting and in a subsequent Indian military crackdown. **AP**

PAKISTAN

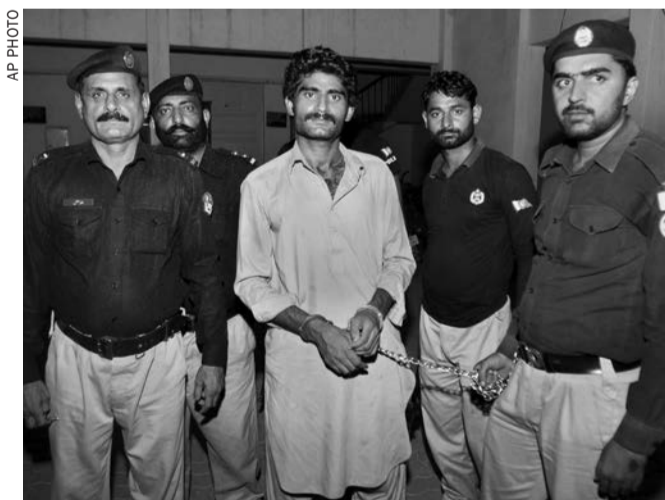
Father, ex-husband arrested in UK-Pakistani woman's killing

PAKISTANI police have arrested the father and ex-husband of a British woman of Pakistani origin who was killed last month in what authorities suspect was an "honor killing," a top investigator said yesterday.

Samia Shahid's family buried her, claiming she had died of natural causes. But after her husband raised the alarm, the police reopened the case and later concluded the 28-year-old was strangled to death.

Abu Bakar Khuda Bux, the investigator heading the team, told The Associated Press that the woman's father, Mohammad Shahid, and her former husband, Mohammad Shakeel, were prime suspects in the case.

The two were formally arrested on Sunday, although the police have been questioning them



In this file photo, Pakistani police officers present Waseem Azeem, the brother of slain model Qandeel Baloch. He has confessed to strangling her to death for "family honor" because she posted "shameful" pictures on Facebook

for several days, Bux said. "All the evidence we have is leading to their involvement in the murder," he said. "We are collecting more evidence before we sent the case to court."

After her death, Shahid's second husband, Mukh-

tar Kazim, accused the family of luring her back to Pakistan from Dubai, where the couple lived, on the pretext of her father's illness. His statements prompted the investigation and Pakistani police eventually declared the case a murder.

According to two police officers, the ex-husband has confessed to the killing and has described to his interrogators how he used his ex-wife's scarf to strangle her. The officers, who are involved in the probe, spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the details with the media before the case goes to court.

Bux declined to comment on the purported confessions, saying the investigation is not yet finished.

After she married the first time, Shahid lived in Pakistan for a brief period before moving back to England where she got a divorce in 2014. Her family had lived Bradford since 1950s.

Pakistan reports nearly 1,000 so-called "honor killings" every year. **AP**

INDONESIA

New Jakarta airport terminal flooded just days after opening

THE operator of the Indonesian capital's main airport has apologized to passengers for flooding at its brand new terminal after rains overcame drainage pipes and inundated the arrivals area this weekend.

The USD560 million terminal opened last week to domestic flights by national carrier Garuda but has been plagued by complaints about its lack of readiness.

The airport operator and government hope the new terminal, and a third runway that is under development, will relieve over-crowding at Soekarno-Hatta airport and make Jakarta a rival to Singapore and Bangkok for international stopovers in Southeast Asia.

PT Angkasa Pura II, the airport operator, said it brought the flooding under control within an hour and is investigating the cause.

Local media said drains might have been clogged by construction debris.

The company plans for other airlines to gradually move their flights to the terminal and it plans to start refurbishing two old terminals, built in 1984 and 1992, later this year.

Soekarno-Hatta airport will be able to handle 62 million passengers a year once the renovated terminals are fully operational again in early 2018.

The airport handled about 54 million passengers last year, making it the 18th busiest in the world, according to Airports Council International. **AP**

THAI authorities said yesterday they are investigating whether bombings last week at several popular tourist destinations were related to long-term separatist violence in the country's far south, backing away from assertions that partisan politics were behind them.

Police have made no formal arrests in the bomb and arson attacks in seven towns that killed four people and wounded dozens, including several foreign tourists. They told a news conference that several people have been detained by the military for questioning, but declined to provide details. Those detained have been identified in by Thai media as political activists opposed to the country's ruling military junta.

The attackers' tactics have led to speculation that the bombings were carried out by Muslim separatists in Thailand's south who have staged a low-level insurgency since 2004. Thailand is overwhelmingly Buddhist, but its three southernmost provinces have Muslim majorities.

National police chief Gen. Chakthip Chaijinda acknowledged that there were similarities between the tourist spot bombings and those carried out by the separatists.

"I've always said since the beginning and I've never said anything else, there are similarities in bomb-making methods and the equipment used," he said in response to reporters' questions.

Senior Thai officials suggested strongly soon after the Thursday and Friday attacks at Hua Hin and other holiday spots that they were carried out by

THAILAND

Police probing bombing link to southern violence



Investigators work at the scene of an explosion in the resort town of Hua Hin, 240 kilometers (150 miles) south of Bangkok

political opponents of the military government. The comments suggested the perpetrators were linked to supporters of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted in a 2006 military coup. His supporters and opponents have since then carried out a sometimes-violent struggle for power. The army in 2014 toppled an

elected government that had been led by Thaksin's sister, Yingluck Shinawatra.

Evidence pointing toward southern militants includes at least one recovered cellphone used as a trigger in last week's bombings that originated in Malaysia, which is on the other side of a porous border from Thailand's southernmost pro-

vinces and hosts sympathizers to the separatist cause.

Malaysian police chief Khalif Abu Bakar confirmed that they received details from Thai police and are trying to track the phone's dealer and buyer.

Several new attacks took place in two of the deep south provinces where bombings and drive-by shootings have become al-

most a daily occurrence over the past decade. Three homemade bombs exploded Sunday night in Yala town, causing property damage but no casualties, while roadside bombs detonated yesterday morning in Narathiwat province injured two patrolling soldiers.

A pro-Thaksin group, the United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship, on Sunday accused the government of using the investigation of last week's attacks to crack down on its opponents.

"They accuse us of being responsible for the violent acts without any evidence or claim to support the accusations. Their intent is to destroy their competitors so that support would be given to a government that came into power from force," said a statement from the group, also known as the Red Shirts.

Questioned yesterday about the group's allegation, Deputy Prime Minister Prawit Wongsuwan denied any political bias, and said that "in regards to the finding of the phone and SIM card from Malaysia, we will have to keep investigating because everything has its origins. All the officials have collected all the evidence, just give us some time to work." **AP**

PHILIPPINES

Supreme court asked to block hero's burial for Marcos

HUMAN rights victims of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos' regime petitioned the Supreme Court yesterday to block and nullify a government directive to have the ex-leader buried in a heroes' cemetery — an emotional and divisive issue for Filipinos who ousted Marcos in a 1986 "people power" revolt.

The respondents asked the court to issue a temporary restraining order, and after deliberations, to nullify the Executive Department's decision to allow Marcos' burial at the Heroes Cemetery.

The petition said such burial for the "tyrant" and the "plunderer par excellence" is illegal, would flout principles enshrined in the constitution and

violate regulations that outline who is entitled to be interred in the military run cemetery.

It also would abandon a 1993 agreement between the Marcos family and then President Fidel Ramos' government for Marcos to be buried in his hometown in northern Ilocos Norte province, the petitioners said.

President Rodrigo Duterte has remained firm in his stance to allow the burial despite growing opposition.

On Sunday, 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.

Marcos died in exile in Hawaii in 1989. His remains are displayed in a glass coffin in his hometown.

The petitioners, including former congressmen Saturnino Ocampo and Neri Colmenares, are among human rights victims who won a class-action lawsuit in Hawaii against Marcos. The respondents include Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and two military officials who issued directives to carry out Duterte's order, which the petition said "was made with grave abuse of discretion."

"With thousands of Filipinos murdered and disappeared under his watch and billions of peoples' money stolen during his



Martial Law victims (from left), Rodolfo Dela Cruz, Danilo Dela Fuente, Fr. Dionilo Cabillas, former Congressman and human rights lawyer Nery Colmenares, Felix Dalisay and Bonifacio Ilagan, clench their fists shortly after filing a petition before the Supreme Court seeking to stop the burial at the Heroes' Cemetery of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos

regime, Marcos should have spent his last years in prison, and his death in an unmarked and de-

solate grave," the petition said.

A hero's burial will not achieve closure for the na-

tion because his victims, "who continue to cry out for justice, can never rest in peace," it added. **AP**

USA ELECTIONS

Pence walks fine line as Trump translator, damage controller

Kathleen Ronayne & Brian Slodysko, Milwaukee (Wis.)

IT'S been one potentially disastrous comment after another from Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump — but you wouldn't know it watching his running mate.

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence is the Trump campaign's happy warrior, delighting in telling cheering audiences that Trump won't "tiptoe around" the rules of political correctness. He's deliberately avoided or, when pressed, tried to do damage control on most of Trump's recent eyebrow-raising remarks.

"The media's talking today about another controversy over semantics," Pence told a crowd last week in La Crosse, Wisconsin, following a spate of campaign coverage about Trump's claim that President Barack Obama is "the founder of ISIS," an acronym for the Islamic State extremist group.

Part sunny sidekick, part Trump translator, Pence is betting his political future on endearing himself to the slice of Republican primary voters who propelled the businessman to the GOP nomination. At the same time, he's trying to stay true to the conservative values he's held since former President Ronald Reagan's "morning in America" optimism lured the one-time Democrat over to the Republican Party in the 1980s.

It's a strategy with risks.

"He is walking a tight rope and there's no safety net," said Republican Indiana state Rep. Dave Ober, who is both a vocal

AP PHOTO



Republican vice presidential candidate Indiana Gov. Mike Pence speaks during a campaign stop in Council Bluffs, Iowa

Pence supporter and outspoken in his distaste for Trump. "He's had to put together a message of their hopes and dreams for the country if they are elected, while also trying to Band-Aid over some of the mistakes that are being made by Donald at the top of the ticket."

Over the last year-and-a-half, Pence's approval rating as Indiana's governor sunk, largely due to his support for conservative social issues which drew negative attention to the state. His selection as Trump's running mate plucked him away from a difficult re-election he had no assurance of winning. Now, should Trump lose the White House, Pence will likely be seen favorably by the businessman's most faithful supporters who are expected to be a key voting bloc in the 2020

GOP primary. He plays directly to them on the stump.

"[Trump's] a fighter, he's a winner, and until recently it seemed like he was out there fighting all on his own," Pence said, punctuating each of the last four words for emphasis, crafting himself as the man who rescued Trump from walking down a lonely road.

GOP strategist and former Pence spokesman Robert Vane says it's no surprise Pence is devoutly on-message because the "the first rule of being a VP candidate is 'do no harm.'"

"Donald Trump chose Mike Pence based on a series of strengths," Vane said. "And Gov. Pence is famous for his message discipline."

Still, there are times where the two are on different pages.

Trump, for example, has refused to publicly release his taxes, bucking a longstanding tradition. Pence ducked the issue until his Democratic vice presidential rival Sen. Tim Kaine, of Virginia, last week released years' worth of tax records. Now Pence has changed tack, suggesting in an interview with WABC in New York that his own taxes could soon be released and adding they would be a "a quick read."

When news anchors pressed Pence last week about Trump's "founder of ISIS" comments, and remarks that "Second

[Pence has] had to put together a message of their hopes and dreams for the country if they are elected, while also trying to Band-Aid over some of the mistakes that are being made by Donald.

REP. DAVE OBER

Amendment people" — people advocating for the right to carry guns — could do something to protest Hillary Clinton's Supreme Court selection, Pence did his best to downplay or rationalize both controversies.

"Of course not, no," he told a Philadelphia reporter when asked whether Trump's Second Amendment remarks sought to incite violence. "Donald Trump is urging people around this country to act in a manner consistent with their convictions in the course of this election, and people who cherish the Second Amendment have a very clear choice in this election."

The two men talk strategy almost daily, but Pence is the far more disciplined. In his roughly 30-minute stump speech, Pence defends his new boss, brushes over the latest Trump-related news item, then trains his sights squarely on Clinton, a target Trump hasn't seemed able to stay on.

But while Pence is more on-message, few voters are around to see it. Pence attracted crowds of less than 300 last week at stops in Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, compared to the thousands who show up to see Trump daily.

Curt Smith, a longtime friend and former GOP congressional aide who now runs the conservative Indiana Family Institute think tank, says Pence has performed well, despite the challenges of being Trump's running mate.

"If he handles himself well, if he continues to make a valuable contribution to the ticket, his future will take care of itself and he will be a top ticket contender," Smith said.

Indeed, Pence is using Midwestern modesty to make his support for Trump crystal clear.

As a rowdy Milwaukee crowd began chanting, "Pence, Pence, Pence," at a Thursday night rally, the Indiana governor offered a different suggestion: "Let's try Trump, Trump, Trump!" AP

A Houston mother who calmly told an acquaintance that she had drowned her two children in a bathtub has been charged in their deaths and was being held without bond yesterday.

Sheborah Thomas, 30, was charged Sunday with capital murder of a person under age 6, according to court records.

"All indications are she is the one who acted alone" in the deaths of her 7-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter, Houston police spokesman Kesse Smith told The Associated Press. Their bodies were found Sunday under a neighbor's house.

USA

Houston mother charged in deaths of son, 7, and daughter, 5

Authorities have not yet confirmed a cause of death but said an acquaintance of the woman told police she said she drowned her children in a bathtub.

Smith said investigators are still interviewing the woman and have not determined a motive. Autopsies have been ordered.

Online criminal court records do not list an attorney to comment on

behalf of Thomas.

The acquaintance told authorities he came across Thomas dumping trash in a field and that she told him she needed help moving right away. When the man asked about her kids, she calmly said she had killed them, Smith said.

"She was so matter-of-fact about it, he didn't think she was serious. He thought she was joking," Smith said. "He

continued to help her pack."

Smith said the man eventually realized something was wrong when he asked again and got the same answer. He then drove the woman to a nearby police precinct and flagged down an officer, Smith said.

The mother apparently tried to bury the children but when that proved too difficult she hid their bodies under a neighbor's

house, Smith said.

Smith said investigators don't yet know if the mother has a history of mental problems. He said police had been to the home before but for "nothing major."

Tejal Patel, a spokeswoman for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, said state child welfare officials have visited the family, but that she could not disclose the nature

of those visits. Patel said a "top to bottom review" of the family will be conducted.

Neighbors told the Houston Chronicle that the family had moved in just a few months earlier.

"She would just take her kids to the park; that's all everyone saw of them," neighbor Mike Polk told the newspaper.

In 2001, Houston mother Andrea Yates drowned her five children ranging in age from 7 years to 6 months in the bathtub of her family's home. She was eventually found not guilty by reason of insanity in July 2006 and sent to a state mental hospital. AP

TURKEY has protested to Austria over a news ticker at Vienna's airport that claimed Turkey allows sex with children under age 15, an official said yesterday, amid heightened tensions between the two countries.

A Foreign Ministry official said the Austrian charge d'affaires was called to the ministry on Saturday for an official complaint about the "distorted" headline which appeared on a screen at the airport the same day. A ministry statement accused Austrian officials of encouraging news reports that "besmear" Turkey.

Turkey's Constitutional Court last month scrapped an article in the penal code that defined all sexual acts against children as abuse, triggering concern among child-rights advocates that the move will lead to an increase in child sexual abuse cases.

The court justices voted 7-6 to uphold a local court which argued that all cases should be reviewed individually and that someone who abuses a 4-year-old should not receive the same punishment as someone who has consensual sex with a 15-year-old. The previous law remains in force for six months, giving Parliament time to enact a new law, while child-rights advocates will seek to have the judgment reversed at the European Court of Human Rights.

A ministry statement said

TURKEY

Ankara protests Austria over 'child sex' report at airport

Turkey was "attached to its international obligations" regarding child rights and was "conscious of its responsibilities."

The ministry official said the report was removed from the screen at the Vienna airport following the Turkish ambassa-

dor's intervention. The official spoke on condition of anonymity in line with government rules.

Turkey also demanded the removal of another news ticker at the same airport a few weeks ago that said visiting Turkey would amount to supporting President

Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the ministry said.

Ties between Turkey and Austria have been tense for several weeks, with a top Austrian official saying Turkey was heading toward a dictatorship and other leaders calling for an end to Turkey's European

Union membership talks. Turkey, in turn, has described Austria as the "capital of radical racism."

European nations have voiced concern over Turkey's massive crackdown on alleged supporters of a religious movement led by U.S.-based cleric Fethullah Gulen, whom Ankara claims orchestrated last month's violent coup attempt that killed at least 270 people. Turkey has accused European allies of not providing the elected government sufficient support in the face of the attempted coup or its bid to move against the coup plotters. **AP**

Three killed in car bomb attack targeting police

KURDISH rebels detonated a car bomb at a police station in southeast Turkey yesterday, killing two police officers and a young child, officials said. Some 25 other people were wounded.

The attack targeted a traffic-police station on a highway linking the city of Diyarbakir and the town of Batman, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported. The explosion tore a large crater on the highway while television footage showed a three-story building that appeared to have been gutted by the blast.

Officials blamed the attack on the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK. The Diyarbakir governor's office said eight police officers were among the wounded.

Clashes between the PKK and Turkey's security forces resumed last year after a



Police search an area after a bomb attack in Mardin

tenuous cease-fire collapsed. The PKK has frequently targeted police or military with roadside explosives or car bombs.

Last week, a wave of PKK attacks targeting Turkish police and soldiers in the mainly Kurdish southeast region, including

Diyarbakir, killed at least 12 people. PKK commander Cemil Bayik had threatened increased attacks on police last week, in comments carried by Kurdish and Turkish media.

The attack came on the day the PKK marks the start of its armed campaign in 1984, with attacks on paramilitary police forces in the two southeastern towns of Eruh and Semdinli.

Since hostilities with the PKK resumed last year, more than 600 Turkish security personnel and thousands of PKK militants have been killed, according to the state-run Anadolu Agency. Human rights groups say hundreds of civilians have also died.

Turkey and its allies consider the PKK a terrorist organization.



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what's ON



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ADMISSION: Free
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ENQUIRIES: (853) 2856 0160

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VENUE: Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, No. 95 C-D, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
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ARTS IN THE MANDARIN'S HOUSE
TIME: 10am-6pm daily
 (No admission after 5:30 pm, closed on Wednesdays, opens on public holidays)
ADMISSION: Free
VENUE: Travessa de António da Silva, No. 10 (near Lilau Square)
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ARTISTIC CRAFTSMANSHIP OF OUR ANCESTORS – EXHIBITION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RELICS OF TAIPA AND COLOANE
TIME: 10am-6pm daily (No admission after 5:30; Closed on Mondays; Free admission on Sundays)
VENUE: Rua Correia da Silva, Taipa
ADMISSION: MOP5
ORGANIZER: Cultural Affairs Bureau
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

THE ENCHANTING RED BOAT
TIME: 10am-6pm (no admission after 5:30 pm; closed on Mondays; open on public holidays; free to public on 15th of every month)
UNTIL: October 9, 2016
ADMISSION: MOP15
VENUE: Praceta do Museu de Macau 112
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

THE EXHIBITION ARCHITECTS SKETCHES X 3: YOUNG ARCHITECTS SERIES
TIME: 12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)
 3pm-8pm (Mondays)
UNTIL: September 15, 2016
VENUE: Albergue SCM - A2 Gallery, No. 8 Calcada da Igreja de Sao Lazaro
ADMISSION: Free
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FACEBOOK: creativealbergue.scm

Offbeat

NUTTY SITUATION: RESCUERS FREE SQUIRREL WITH HEAD STUCK IN CUP

Emergency responders in Connecticut have come to the rescue of a squirrel that was caught in a nutty situation.

Members of Enfield Emergency Medical Services responded Friday after the rodent got its head stuck in what appeared to be a plastic or paper cup.

Video posted on the Enfield EMS Facebook page shows the critter wildly jumping and flipping into the air in an effort to dislodge the cup.

Responders' first attempt to remove the cup was unsuccessful. The wily rodent hopped out of one officer's hands and through the legs of another.

The second attempt proved more successful. An officer covered the animal with a blanket and held its body steady while another officer removed the cup before the critter scampered away into some nearby bushes.

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	Documentary Serie
21:30	Once Upon A Time S1
22:10	Merciless
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

11 Aug - 17 Aug

LINE WALKER - THE MOVIE

ROOM 1
2.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm
Director: Jazz Boon
Starring: Nick Cheung, Louis Koo, Francis Ng
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 97min

DOREAMON: BIRTH OF JAPAN

ROOM 1
4.30 pm
Director: Shinnosuke Yakuwa
Duration: 97min



BFG
ROOM 2
(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm
(3D) 7.15 pm
Director: Syeven Spielberg
Starring: Mark Rylance, Ruby Barnhill, Penelope Wilton
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 117min

CHIBI MARUKO CHAN- A BOY FROM ITALY

ROOM 3
2.15, 4.00, 7.30 pm
Director: Jun Takagi
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 120min

ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE

ROOM 3
(2D) 5.45 pm
Director: Mike Thurmeier, Galen Chu
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 97min

THE SHALLOWS

ROOM 3
9.30 pm
Director: Jaime Collet-Serra
Starring: Blake Lively, Óscar Jaenada, Brett Cullen, Sedona Legge
Language: English (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 86min

MACAU TOWER

11 Aug - 17 Aug

SUICIDE SQUAD

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



1977 ROCK AND ROLL 'KING' PRESLEY DIES

Elvis Presley, whose singing and style revolutionized popular music in the 1950s, has died.

Presley, 42, was discovered slumped in a bathroom at his mansion in Memphis, Tennessee on Tuesday.

He was rushed to the Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis but was pronounced dead on arrival.

The Tennessee state pathologist, Dr. Jerry Francisco, said a post mortem examination of the singer's body had revealed he died of cardiac arrhythmia - a form of heart attack.

"The precise cause has not yet been determined for the cardiac arrhythmia," Dr Francisco said.

"It may take several days to several weeks to determine that specific cause and in some cases it never is determined."

The three-hour examination uncovered no sign of any other diseases or any drug abuse, Dr Francisco added.

Presley was divorced from his wife Priscilla in 1973 but it was rumoured that he had recently become engaged to Ginger Alden, 20.

She was reportedly spotted wearing a \$50,000 (£20,315) diamond engagement ring from Presley.

Ms Alden and other members of his entourage were at Graceland when he collapsed.

There had been indications of Elvis Presley's declining health for some time.

Earlier this year the singer had cancelled several performances in Louisiana and returned to Memphis suffering what his doctors termed "exhaustion".

No arrangements have been announced yet for his funeral which is scheduled for Friday.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Thousands gathered to file past Elvis Presley's body which lay in state at his mansion, Graceland, the day after his death. Although it was officially stated that he died of heart failure there has always been speculation that an overdose of cocaine and barbiturates also played a part.

Since his divorce from Priscilla in 1973 he had relied heavily on prescription drugs and was known to be a junk-food addict, gaining a considerable amount of weight. During his lifetime he sold over 300 million albums and made 33 films.

His death has been lucrative for the "Elvis industry". In 2001 he came top in US magazine Forbes' poll of "Richest Deceased Celebrities".

It put Elvis estate's earnings in 2000 at \$35m (£23m) - \$15m (£10m) of it from Graceland admission fees.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Your drive doesn't go into neutral. If anything, you are revving the motor trying to get as much accomplished as you can under the wire. You don't need to slow down just yet, either. Keep focusing on the payoff.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Making travel plans now is a huge mistake, money-wise. You hesitated and now you'll lose. Money, that is. If you don't mind paying full price, then make firm plans. If not, hope for a small miracle on a great deal.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You may feel that the comings and goings of others are holding you back. But that doesn't mean you have to slack off. Start figuring out which things you can accomplish alone and tackle them.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Everyone has their personal baggage tied around their necks like chains. There's still plenty of time to avoid their fate. Start by realizing that money isn't everything, and work your way backward from there.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 It's hard to make a good impression when there's no one around to impress. Spend plenty of time with other people. The effects of that quality time spent now are more valuable than any new clothes ever could be.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 The early stages of a project are usually where the creativity comes in, but even at this late stage of the game, you need to make some artistic changes to avoid disaster. Get inspired - it's critical to success.

Libra Sep. 23-Oct. 22 Balancing your personal budget is weighing on you wherever you go. It's like having a relationship issue that affects your performance elsewhere. Make tackling it a priority, before it invades other areas of thought.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 It's not a good day to sign on the dotted line. Keep thinking about maximizing savings and not signing on for further debt. Muster all of your willpower if that's what it takes to resist a special big-ticket item.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Trim any fat in your budget that's only there out of sheer laziness. Making your own lunch is only the beginning. Once you see the extra savings, you'll wonder why you thought such simple things ever seemed like hard work.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Just when your plans seem to be working, you're ready to chuck them away. Are you afraid of success or do you really have something much more lucrative in mind? That question is impossible to answer.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Those around you who lack your self-discipline can be amusing every now and then. Watching them flail around is one thing, but bailing them out is another. You're almost tempted, but only make a token offering.

Pisces Feb. 19-Mar. 20 It's okay to ask for favors every now and then. You have a friend who can pull some strings for you, and there's no honor in not taking advantage of that. You'll only be making a martyr out of yourself if you opt out.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



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Easy

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

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

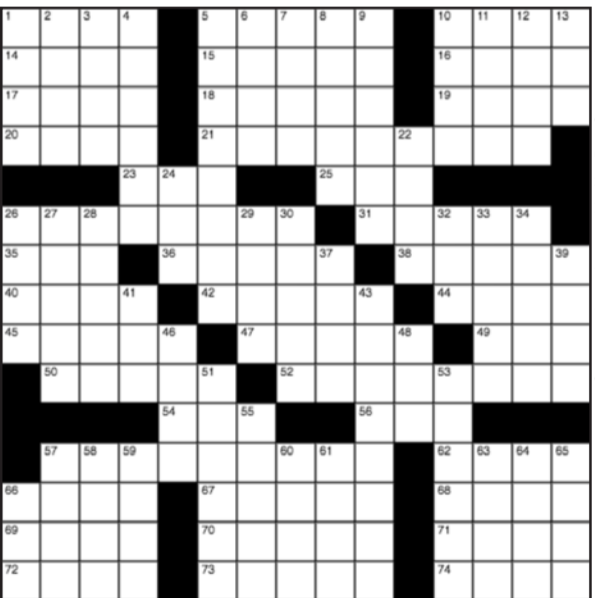
WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION. Rows include CHINA (Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.) and WORLD (Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.).

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Mindy of "The Facts of Life"; 5- Sailing hazards; 10- Latin lesson word; 14- Opera highlight; 15- Org.; 16- we forget; 17- Creamy-beige color; 18- Secret supply; 19- Hebrew month; 20- Scottish refusals; 21- Maintain a house; 23- Ich bin Berliner; 25- What, chopped liver?; 26- Cure-alls; 31- Take the role of; 35- Simpson trial judge; 36- Cosmetician Lauder; 38- Prepared to pray; 40- Tidy, without fault; 42- Actress Berger; 44- Small combo; 45- Barbecue leftovers?; 47- Accustom; 49- Addams Family cousin; 50- Autocrats; 52- Breezy; 54- Wiedersehen; 56- End for Siam; 57- Searches; 62- Sunset direction; 66- Prepared to drive; 67- Braid; 68- Robert; 69- McNally's partner; 70- Mr. Moto portrayer; 71- Concordes, e.g.; 72- Functions; 73- Broke off; 74- Nipple.
DOWN: 1- Capital of Calvados; 2- "Jaws" boat; 3- Put on the payroll; 4- Sickness at the stomach; 5- Temerity; 6- This, in Tijuana; 7- Son of Isaac; 8- Anatomical cavity; 9- Conceptual framework; 10- Wings; 11- Ancient Persian; 12- Quickly, briefly; 13- Orch. section; 22- Strike with foot; 24- Frozen water; 26- colada; 27- This is only; 28- Ark; 29- To (perfectly); 30- Medicinal shrub; 32- Big bang cause; 33- Hawk's home; 34- Narrow cuts; 37- Decorative case; 39- Small children; 41- Leaves in a bag; 43- Apprehended; 46- Sp. ladies; 48- Sue Grafton's "for Evidence"; 51- Flexible; 53- Freshest; 55- Criminal; 57- Legumes; 58- Actor Auberjonois; 59- Bookie's concern; 60- Ace, e.g.; 61- Air-filled rubber hoop, become fatigued; 63- Otherwise; 64- precedent; 65- Dry run; 66- Capote, to friends

Yesterday's solution
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O U T D A T E D A S S U M E
P R I S T I N E T S T R A P
T E R O O O E A T N O
E A R S S M I T E S A A S
S T E E L E N A T S I T E
E D D O T H I A M I N E
F E N G H A N T E D
F O R E M O S T N A M E
R O C L O T T A T H A N D
E R E I N H E R E O R T O
T W A I N O N T Y E D
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RIO OLYMPICS

South African Van Niekerk shatters 17-year-old record

Pat Graham

EXPLODING out of the blocks in lane eight, Wayde van Niekerk didn't see another runner during the entire Olympic 400-meter final. He didn't need to. It was just him against the clock.

The South African sprinter broke Michael Johnson's 17-year-old world record yesterday [Macau time] in Rio de Janeiro, leaving two of the greatest one-lap runners of this era in his dust. Van Niekerk finished in 43.03 seconds — 0.15 seconds faster than Johnson ran on Aug. 26, 1999, in Seville, Spain. To think, Johnson's mark was considered one of the almost untouchable records in track.

"I thought someone was going to catch me," Van Niekerk explained. "I felt very alone at the end."

The 24-year-old Van Niekerk leaned at the finish



line, which he really didn't need to do as Kirani James of Grenada and LaShawn Merritt of the United States weren't even in the picture. James, the defending Olympic champion, finished with the silver and Merritt, who won gold eight years ago in Beijing, hung on for bronze as he staggered across the line.

Van Niekerk drove a wedge in the rivalry between James and Merritt at the world championships last

August, when he beat them both with such a lung-searing performance that he left the track on a stretcher. Now, he's the fastest ever.

Instead of collapsing at the finish this time, Van Niekerk dropped to one knee and put his head in his hands. Moments later, he draped a South African flag around his shoulders and took off his spikes. As he did so, Van Niekerk pointed at the clock to make sure everyone saw his time. Hard to miss. **AP**

Murray first to win two Olympic tennis singles golds

Andy Murray is making a habit of accomplishing things that hadn't been done in a while. Or ever.

Murray became the first tennis player in Olympic history with two singles gold medals, winning his second in a row by wearing down Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina 7-5, 4-6, 6-2, 7-5 at the Rio de Janeiro Games in a back-and-forth 4-hour final yesterday [Macau time].

"Anything could have happened," said Murray, who took the last four games after trailing 5-3 in the fourth set. "Emotionally, it was tough. Physically, it was hard," he said. "So many ups and downs."

At the 2012 London Olympics, Murray won a singles gold and mixed doubles silver at the All England Club. That, of course, was also the site of his historic 2013 Wimbledon championship, ending the hosts' 77-year wait for a British man to claim the trophy.

Murray won Wimbledon again last month, raising his Grand Slam title count to three. Yesterday, the No. 2-seeded Murray stopped the resurgent run of the 141st-ranked del Potro, who knocked off No. 1 Novak Djokovic in the first round



after getting stuck in an athletes village elevator for 40 minutes earlier in the day, then beat No. 3 Rafael Nadal in the semifinals. No man ever has defeated the top three seeds on the way to a gold, but 2009 U.S. champion del Potro sure came close before winding up with a silver to go alongside his bronze from 2012.

Del Potro had the louder support, and one fan even yelled something as Murray was about to hit a shot while two points from victory. He put the ball in the net and glared in the direction the voice came from. Soon after, a spectator was escorted out.

Nadal, the 2008 gold medalist, lost 6-2, 6-7 (1), 6-3 earlier Sunday to Kei Nishikori, whose bronze is Japan's first Olympic tennis medal since 1920. **AP**

AD



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Eddie Pells

USAIN Bolt sauntered onto the track, stretched out his arms and waved his hands, signaling for more applause. He knew exactly how this night was going to go.

The sprinter-turned-showman's swan song in the Olympic 100 meters yesterday [Macau time] was a no-doubter — a pedestrian-by-his-standards 9.81-second sprint down the straightaway, but not so slow that he couldn't take time to point at his own chest with his thumb a step before he crossed the finish line.

"It was brilliant," Bolt said. "I didn't go so fast but I'm so happy I won. I told you guys I was going to do it." He won his record-setting third straight title in track's featured event and his seventh Olympic gold.

He has already swept aside pretty much every sprinter who had any claim on being the greatest. So, on a muggy night in Rio, Bolt took aim at Michael Phelps and the Olympics themselves, shoving the swimmer and all his 23 medals to the background and making this official: The Bolt Games have begun.

"I told you guys I wanted to set myself apart from everybody else," Bolt said. "This is the Olympics that I have to do it at." Bolt beat American Justin Gatlin, who was greeted by the fans with raucous boos, by .08 seconds. Andre de Grasse of Canada took the bronze.

Bolt has a chance for two more golds — in his favorite race, Thursday's 200 final, where he has pronounced he'll be gunning for the world record, then the 4x100 relay Saturday night.

Speaking of world records — a few minutes before Bolt's race, world champion Wayde van Niekerk of South Africa eclipsed what many thought was the most-unbreakable mark in the book — Michael Johnson's 17-year-old run of 43.18 seconds in 400 meters.

Running out of Lane 8, where the lag puts him well in front of the rest of the field, van Niekerk never saw a soul — crossing in 43.03 and only glancing to his left when he approached the line to peer at the clock, which showed him what he had done.

“Somebody said I can become immortal. Two more medals to go and I can sign off. Immortal.”

USAIN BOLT

RIO

Bolt shines bright, wins another gold in Olympic 100



"Usain Bolt will be retiring soon, but this could be the next star of the sport," Johnson said during his commentary on BBC.

But Bolt isn't done quite yet. The 6-foot-5 sprinter/celebrity overcame his typically slow unfurling from the blocks — he was second-to-last after the break. "I just said, 'Take your time, and chip away,'" he said. Churning his legs to gradually build up speed, he eventually caught Gatlin with about 40 meters left and took it to warp speed. The rest was a matter of how hard he wanted to run to the line.

"From the start, really," Bolt said, when asked when he knew he was going to win. "When I got going, got to about 50 meters, I was all right. I could tell I was going to catch him."

Gatlin made Bolt work for it, the way he has for the past four years. He said the short turnaround between the semifinal and final sapped his strength, and Bolt agreed. "First time we've had to jog to the warmup area to get ready for the final," Bolt said. Gatlin

finished with silver to go with his 2004 gold and 2102 bronze and, at 34, became the oldest man to win a medal in a non-relay sprint.

And while Bolt was celebrating with anyone he could find, Gatlin was parading the American flag around the track virtually alone. The boos from the Brazilian crowd were the latest ugly chapter in Gatlin's saga. He's been punished for doping twice. His last ban ended in 2010. But fans in the stadium bought into the "Good vs. Evil" story line that's been pitched by the media for all these years, and they let the American have it.

"We all have respect for each other," Gatlin said of himself and his fellow competitors. "I'd like to see everyone have respect in the audience, as well."

A split-second after Bolt crossed the line, he raised the index finger, and then, the real party began.

Bolt unlaced his now-famous gold spikes and took selfies with the fans. He turned his yellow hat backward, knelt down and gave the crowd

■ Bolt beat Gatlin, who was greeted by the fans with raucous boos, by .08 seconds

what it really wanted — that famous, arching, "To the World" pose that he debuted eight years ago in Beijing.

Chants of "Bolt, Bolt, Bolt" rang out from the near-capacity stadium. Yes, the show lived up to its billing.

But this was not Bolt at his fastest. Four years ago, all three medalists broke 9.8. Nobody did this time, and neither Bolt's world record from 2009 (9.58) nor his Olympic record from London (9.63) were ever in jeopardy.

It was not Bolt at his toughest. Some might argue his gutsy effort at last year's world championships, when he overcame a season's worth of injuries to beat Gatlin by .01, might have been the grittiest

race he has won.

But it certainly took hard work. Before the Olympics, Bolt hadn't run a 100 since June 30, when he pulled out of Jamaica's national championships with injuries to his left hamstring.

The rehab started immediately, with trips to Germany to see his doctor, then a warm-up 200 in London to prove to his Olympic committee that he was fit for the Olympics. Shortly after he arrived in Rio, he conceded that, yes, he wished he'd had more chances to run in real races, but that everything would be OK.

It was better than that. From the moments before he crouched into the blocks, putting his finger to his lips and asking for silence, until long after the race, when he worked the crowd and posed for photos, Bolt made the troubled world of track feel fun again.

He turns 30 the day of the closing ceremony and has insisted his Olympic days are over. "Somebody said I can become immortal," Bolt said. "Two more medals to go and I can sign off. Immortal." AP

opinion

Our Desk

Daniel Beitler



BATTLE WORTH FIGHTING

The most recent controversy involving New Macau Association's (ANM) president, Scott Chiang, kicked off at the end of last week when he and his colleague were arrested on suspicion of being behind the hoisting of a black flag, styling the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture as a "heritage killer".

Compared with some of the more "noble" endeavors undertaken by Chiang and other ANM members in the past, the question is whether the future of Hotel Estoril is really a battle worth fighting?

The issue stems from a disagreement over the historical worth of the building, which the government and the Cultural Heritage Council have determined does not meet the definition of "heritage". The subsequent plans for demolition were condemned by Chiang at the time as another example of the "bulldozer impulses" of the government.

While the initial plans to transform Hotel Estoril into a youth leisure center were at best pointless and at worst a farcical waste of public funding (since the existing Tap Seac Multi-Sports Pavilion is right next door), its current use - as some sort of cumbersome and fading monument in a central and useful location - is hardly worthy of preservation.

At a press conference held yesterday by New Macau, president Chiang made it clear that he has no particular vision of what Hotel Estoril might be repurposed into in the future. He wants "preservation" - presumably of the hotel's iconic façade - but what about the rest of the building? Is it to be preserved as a derelict structure?

The lack of an answer provides an insight into the protest's lack of purpose.

New Macau provides a crucial service in Macau that is increasingly in short supply; a ready and seemingly limitless source of government criticism in the otherwise bleak desert of Macau's political "yes-men" and vested interest parties. Criticism of the government (and of authority in general) is an essential part of a healthy and functioning society that in the past has resulted in innovative, industrious, and culturally-progressive civilizations.

Indeed, freedom of expression and open discussion were invariably an important factor in the cultural and political rise of late-17th century Britain, 19th century Germany and China's Tang dynasty, which is still today regarded as a "golden age" of cosmopolitan culture.

So opposition to the government is crucial. However, the problem with groups that operate in total and permanent opposition is that we are never really sure what they stand for. This is perhaps especially true for New Macau, which ceaselessly voices a point of contention with every government policy that comes their way. Where does opposition based on values and principles end and opposition for its own sake begin? And is the latter even a problem?

The title of this piece and its purpose attempts to address whether this issue was a battle worthy of New Macau's attention. With all of the pressing social problems in Macau today and the enduring hypocrisies in the conduct and behavior of local authorities, the answer is no.

Much like traffic offences, Chiang only has so many "strikes" before he's out. Given the trouble the ANM president has found himself in before, he would do well in future to choose his battles more wisely.

After all, he is the president of one of the few groups willing to take a public stand against the government on a wide range of issues.

Chiang knows that unlawful acts cannot go unpunished indefinitely, but the fact that he is willing to take these risks - and over an issue like heritage - is revealing of the extent that the New Macau president believes he is essential to the group. But if not, then why stand for the position in the first place?

THE JORDAN WRITER HELD OVER CARTOON DEEMED OFFENSIVE TO ISLAM

A prosecutor has slapped a gag order on the case of a Jordanian writer who was arrested after posting a cartoon deemed offensive to Islam. Nahed Hattar was arrested this weekend after sharing the cartoon on social media. The drawing of unclear origin depicts God in paradise, being treated as a servant by an Arab man who lounges in bed with two women and asks for wine.

Journalist Saed Hattar, a relative, said yesterday that his cousin posted the cartoon to illustrate what he views as the twisted religious views of Islamic State extremists. Saed Hattar says his cousin deleted the post after many angry responses.

Jordan is an overwhelmingly Muslim and deeply conservative country. The Amman prosecutor's office banned further reporting in a statement published yesterday, citing public safety concerns.

Jordan is an overwhelmingly Muslim and deeply conservative country. The Amman prosecutor's office banned further reporting in a statement published yesterday, citing public safety concerns.



People gather for a demonstration, near a crime scene after the leader of a New York City mosque and an associate were fatally shot in a brazen daylight attack as they left afternoon prayers

USD10K reward offered in imam slaying as families seek answers

Michael Balsamo, New York

A Muslim advocacy group yesterday plans to announce a USD10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest of the gunman who killed a New York mosque leader and his associate as the families of the slain men make funeral arrangements and continue their quest for answers in the shooting.

Imam Maulama Alaudin Akonjee, 55, and Thara Uddin, 64, were both shot in the head near the Al-Furqan Jame Masjid mosque in the Ozone Park neighborhood of Queens as they left afternoon prayers on Saturday in their traditional religious attire, according to police.

"He always wants peace," Akonjee's son, Naim Akonjee, 21, said of his father through tears. "Why did they kill my father?"

Another son, Foyez Uddin, who isn't related to the other victim, told The Associated Press in Bangladesh that his father and mother had booked flights for Aug. 31 to visit Akonjee's mother. The son said the family is discussing funeral plans. He said they "cannot believe he is no more," call the loss "irreparable."

The Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR, plans to announce a \$10,000 reward for in-

formation leading to the arrest and conviction of the shooter.

Police said they have not yet determined a motive for the killings, but some in the Bangladeshi Muslim community served by the mosque worry it could be a hate crime.

Monir Chowdhury, who worshipped daily with the two men, said he had moved to the community because of its large Bangladeshi immigrant population, but in recent months has been harassed by people shouting anti-Muslim epithets.

In one incident, a man called him "Osama" as he walked to the mosque with his 3-year-old son. With the killer still on the loose, Chowdhury decided it would be best to drive to prayer services.

"A lot of neighbors said, 'Hey, don't take your kid with you,'" he said. "People, they just hate us."

Police on Sunday released a sketch of the suspected gunman, a dark-haired, bearded man wearing glasses. He was described by witnesses as a man with a medium complexion. A person who lives near the shooting scene shared with The Associated Press and other media organizations surveillance video that showed a man walking up behind the imam and his associate, shooting them

and then walking off. Police said they were reviewing the video.

In a statement on Sunday, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, a Democrat, said the slayings were felt by all of New York City.

"While we do not yet know the motivation for the murders of Maulama Akonjee and Thara Uddin, we do know that our Muslim communities are in the perpetual crosshairs of bigotry," the mayor said. "It remains critical that we work to bridge the divides that threaten to undermine the greatness of our city and country."

An official with the government in Bangladesh condemned the killings on Twitter. The country's State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mohammed Shahriar Alam, called the shooting a "cowardly act on peace-loving people."

The U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh, Marcia Bernicat, also decried the violence, saying Akonjee "stood for peace."

Several police officers were stationed outside the mosque on Sunday as worshippers remembered the victims and remarked on their devotion to their families and faith.

Yesterday, Muslim community members will gather in Brooklyn to hold Islamic funeral prayers for the two men. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	45-65 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	45-65 Moderate
Ambient	45-65 Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS



INDONESIA The operator of the Indonesian capital's main airport apologizes to passengers for flooding at its brand new terminal after rains overcame drainage pipes and inundated the arrivals area. More on p12

NEPAL An overcrowded bus veered off a mountain highway in Nepal yesterday, killing at least 33 people and injuring 28 others in one of the country's deadliest bus crashes in recent years. Injured people were brought by helicopter to Kathmandu and were being treated in two hospitals, the Home Ministry said.



INDIA At least one paramilitary soldier and four suspected rebels are killed in a series of gunbattles in Indian-controlled Kashmir despite a security lockdown in the disputed region as India celebrates the anniversary of its independence from British rule. More on p12

NEW ZEALAND Tainted tap water sickens hundreds of people in a small town on North Island and forces schools to close. Two patients were in a critical condition and 19 others remained in a local hospital after testing positive for campylobacter bacteria. At least 200 people have been treated by local doctors over recent days and that officials estimate up to 2,000 people have gotten sick in Havelock North.

USA Two terminals at Kennedy Airport resumed normal operations yesterday [Macau time] after reports of shots fired prompted evacuations and grounded and diverted flights. The reports, which led to some frightening moments for fliers, were later determined to be unfounded, and the airport was given the all-clear. "At this time, no firearm, rounds or shell casings or other evidence of shots fired has been found," said a spokesperson from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department.