



CHAN STANDS BEHIND IACM

The Secretary for Administration and Justice defended IACM from a critical report issued by the Commission of Audit

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Lisbon authorities are reportedly working on a plan that would expand the Macau Portuguese School model in China

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FIA DECLARES SUPPORT FOR MACAU GRAND PRIX

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OVER 630,000 PASSENGERS

August busiest month ever at local airport

P3

WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



SYRIA At least 23 civilians were killed in renewed government airstrikes on the contested city of Aleppo, Syrian activists said yesterday, as the United Nations Security Council convened an emergency meeting on the spiraling violence in Syria. More on FT

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FINANCIAL TIMES

EMPLOYMENT

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change

the face of

retirement



ANNUAL EXPAT EXPLORER REPORT

How Singapore beat New Zealand to be expats' top place to live

P11

Marathon fills quota in one day



According to a statement from the Sports Bureau, all quotas for the 2016 Macau Galaxy Entertainment International Marathon, Half Marathon and Mini Marathon were filled as of yesterday, having received an "overwhelming response". The sporting events which are organized by the Sports Bureau and the General Association of Athletics of Macau, and sponsored by Galaxy Entertainment Group, only opened for registration on Saturday. The annual event will take place this year on Sunday, December 4, with the start and finish locations both situated inside the stadium of the Olympic Sport Centre. Participants for the marathon and half marathon will start the race at 6 a.m., while those for the mini marathon will begin at 6:15 a.m.

Man arrested for attempted smuggling of liquid cocaine

A Peruvian national was busted for attempting to smuggle 50 wrapped liquid cocaine inside his body, the first case of liquid drug trafficking found in the peninsula. After landing at the Macau International Airport last week, the man was asked to undergo a full body scan because his behavior was suspicious, and was later escorted to a hospital, as cited in a TDM report. After a medical exam, the suspect was found to be carrying inside 50 pieces of wrapped liquid cocaine inside his body, which weighed a total of 1.6 kilos. According to the Judiciary Police (PJ), the seized drugs have a total market value of approximately MOP10 million. The suspect admitted that it was his second time trafficking drugs to the region and he was to receive a fine of USD5,000 for it.

Two sites available for waste batteries

The Environment Protection Bureau (DSPA) revealed that there are two sites now available for the recycling of batteries in town. Aside from the DSPA headquarters, the other collection center is located at the Estação de Tratamento de Resíduos Especiais e Perigosos de Macau (ETRPM), located at Avenida Son On, Lote U2, Pac-On, in Taipa. The two sites accept both primary and rechargeable batteries, including button shape, AA batteries, batteries for tools such as mobile phones, notebook computers, and some specialized batteries. Any associations or groups in charge of organizing battery recycling activities are urged to contact the DSPA before sending all batteries to the department.

Several changes to take place in city's transportation facilities

Julie Zhu

CHANGES to the city's transportation facilities will be implemented in the coming years according to Kelvin Lam Hin San, deputy director of the Transport Bureau (DSAT) following Friday's meeting of the Transport Advisory Committee.

All parking meters in Macau will be replaced starting from the middle of next month. The company responsible for the replacements will take two years to complete the scheduled work, which includes more than 12,000 meters across the city. The operation will begin in the busier regions of town. "Fares should not be adjusted in the beginning," Lam informed, adding that "the fare has not been changed since 1987, which



Kelvin Lam Hin San

has been nearly 30 years, although there are some suggestions which advocate a suitable adjustment of the meters' fees." However, regarding potential adjustment values, Lam claims that the department is "still thinking about them."

According to Lam, new meters will be able to accept at least two electronic currencies, "including Macau Pass at

the first stage." Users will also be allowed to use a five-pataca coin to make the payment, an option currently unavailable.

Additional blue meters will be installed at busier regions in order to meet the demand of those in a rush and those who only need to park for a short time.

Macau Forehap Parking Management Limited will pay the

government, on a half-year basis, first MOP6.3 million and then MOP10.9 million.

A change will also be implemented to the bus-reporting system. "I estimate that by November or December all bus lines will be uploaded to the reporting system, and that this month 19 lines will be already uploaded," said Lam.

According to Lam, in the months of May, June, and July, the daily number of bus passengers increased by around 30,000 year-on-year. In July alone, the number reached 580,000 per day. "The current everyday bus capacity that we can ensure is 610,000, a number able to meet the demand," said Lam, adding that "we still need to find solutions to enhance the service during rush hours."

Chan stands behind IACM over critical report

THE Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, over the weekend defended the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) from a critical report issued by the Commission of Audit.

The report, which found that several leisure spaces under the supervision of IACM had fallen into disrepair and now posed a danger to the public, criticized the bureau's mismanagement of the issue.

However, Sonia Chan has come out in IACM's defense, arguing that the bureau

has solved "80 percent" of the problems that were pointed out in the report.

"IACM has fixed 80 percent of the weaknesses in the report [and] the rest of the problems need construction works to be repaired," she said, as cited by public broadcaster TDM. "They have already made a plan [to improve the situation] and will solve the problems as early as possible."

The secretary added that there is still more work to be done in improving IACM's management of these spaces. Therefore

she has requested the bureau to submit an improvement proposal as soon as possible, which would include measures to enhance the supervision of the IACM's contractors.

She also called on the public to understand that the remaining 20 percent of the problems cannot necessarily be solved with a simple solution.

"For example, the stone floor around Nam Van Lake is quite fragile but it's not as simple as changing one piece of stone," Chan explained, according to TDM. **DB**

EDUCATION

UM among 400 best universities in the world



THE University of Macau (UM) made it on the list of the world's most international universities in 2016, ranking among the top 400 universities across the globe.

The University is the only institution from Macau to show up on the list. Its rank jumped from somewhere be-

tween positions 401 to 500, in last year, to interval 351 to 400, this year. Regarding teaching scores, international outlook, industry income, research and citations, UM was awarded 21.5, 98.8, 46.3, 22, 53.3, respectively, according to the key statistics published by the Times Higher Education, a weekly magazine based in London.

UM currently has 8,521 students, with 31 percent of them considered as international students, and the ratio between students and staff is 14.9, while there are 58 females and 42 males in every

one hundred people.

This year, 290 universities from 24 countries in Asia are listed in the rankings, including 19 which are among the top 200.

Five universities in Hong Kong, and four universities from mainland China are among the top 200 institutions. The University of Hong Kong reached fourth in the rankings concerning Asia, and 43rd in the global rankings. The National University of Singapore reached the 24th spot in the world ranking, but first in Asia, followed by Peking University, which ranks 29th worldwide.

The University of Oxford is the first on the list, with the ETH Zurich – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich rounding up the top ten. Nonetheless, it is the U.S. who dominates the top 10 universities with six of its schools making it to the top positions.

The American University of Sharjah, a university from United Arab Emirates, is the most international institute, with 82 percent of its students being international students. The most international university in Asia is in Hong Kong, with 38 percent of international students. **JZ**

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Macau airport hits new passenger record of 630,000

THE Macau International Airport (MIA) set a new record in August as it reached over the 630,000 passenger traffic and the 5,000 aircraft movement marks for the first time.

A statement released by the Macau International Airport Company Limited (CAM) indicated that last month recorded the highest single month of passenger traffic and aircraft movement, gaining 10 percent and 2.8 percent over last year respectively.

In August, MIA handled about 120,000 Macau resident travels from and to the local airport, marking a year-on-year increase of 11 percent.



From January to September, the airport saw steady growth across all market sectors with passengers from legacy and low cost carriers recording a steady growth of 18 percent and 10 percent, representing 530,000 and 130,000 passengers respectively.

CAM stated that the airport has handled over 4.8 million passengers and 42,000 aircraft movement in this period, which is an increase of 16 percent and 5 percent against the same period of the previous year.

The three major markets of Mainland China, Taiwan and Southeast Asia all recorded positive growth of 2.5 percent, 21 percent and 24 percent respectively.

Transit passengers through the MIA grew by more than 50 percent over last year and these passengers now account for some 10 percent of CAM's total.

From January to September, the local airport handled more than 1,100 weekly scheduled flights with approximately 27 airlines connecting Macau to more than 40 cities.

CAM had previously announced that its full-year target stands at 55,000 flight movements, which includes 3,105 general aviation aircraft movements, and 6.4 million passengers for this year.

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ERIC JACKSON • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 1 Week Ago

I am pleased to hear that the government of Macau is listening to the world in regards to the Canidrome. The people of Macau should not be judged by what goes on at the Canidrome, but as long as they are racing and killing dogs, the world will look [without] favor upon Macau. Please, stop the racing, close the Canidrome, and work with international groups to place all of the greyhounds in homes.

REPLY



JANICE FRELUCH • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 5 Days Ago

The Canidrome is Macau's shame and it is time to bring an end to this cycle of appalling trade which makes the name 'Macau' synonymous with animal cruelty in the eyes of the world.

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REPLY



GAB • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 5 Days Ago

This cruelty has to stop. The World is watching and waiting for the Chinese people to do the right thing and close this hell hole down.

REPLY



GAB • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 5 Days Ago

This cruelty has to stop. The World is watching and waiting for the Chinese people to do the right thing and close this hell hole down.

REPLY



MARY ANNE CHRISTMAN • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 5 Days Ago

The world no longer tolerates the massive amount of animal abuse and cruelty that China and other Asian countries, in particular, have shown from centuries ago to this very point in time. This is the Age of Enlightenment, animals are no longer seen as objects of art, ritual, potions, medicine, and entertainment as the hands of those groups and individuals whose sensitivity goes no further than themselves. It only casts a dark shadow on these societies and proves that they have not advanced in humane behavior, in spite of their grasp on technology.

REPLY

“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

HEALTH

Chan Iek Lap defends local medical services

LAWMAKER Chan Iek Lap said that “not all [medical] aspects cannot compare with Hong Kong’s or the neighboring regions,” during his lecture last week at the Macau University of Science and Technology.

Earlier, a South China Morning Post report criticizing Macau’s medical service led the Health Bureau (SSM) to publish a statement contesting the news agency. The report stated that Macau’s public is not confident in the city’s medical service, and that Hong Kong is better for seeking medical treatment.

Chan, who is also a doctor, said: “You will think the integral medical level is distanced from the one in neighboring regions, but I, as an insider, believe that part of the subjects under discussion are basically close to the neighboring regions.” Chan exemplified with the medical treatment of heart related



Chan Iek Lap

problems, where Macau performs at a high level.

The doctor considered that, under some circumstances, some patients need urgent treatment, and that sending them out for a timely treatment can solve their problems. Chan explained that Macau has a small population, therefore it has not enough medical cases to warrant the establishment of every specialized service.

In Chan’s words, “they [Hong Kong and Macau] have their own indexes. Regarding this situation, it [the comparison criteria] is not integral.”

Chan explained that it will take several years for Macau to train specialists in some areas, and for that reason it would be easier to send the patients out.

The doctor then brought up another topic, predicting

that if Macau establishes a medical institute to train local medical professionals, there will be not enough employment opportunities for the graduates.

Another concern of Chan’s is that “a great amount of money will be spent to open a medical school.” In his words, if each year there are at most 50 students, this figure does not represent a good deal. On the other hand, if a medical school trains 100 doctors every year, there will be not enough employment opportunities in Macau for these graduates.

In addition, the lawmaker praised the local government’s effort in providing medical services to the public, and said: “The government uses a lot of money in the city’s medical service.”

“I hope everyone understands that Macau’s medical service have made progress,” concluded Chan.

Earlier, the SSM published a statement contesting the South China Morning Post article. “A report alluded that, because of the lack of infrastructure and professionals, Macau’s hospitals have been sending patients to Hong Kong for treatment. Such reports mislead people, and it needs to be clarified,” the statement reads.

Tariff reduction to be applied for transshipment cargo

A new policy granting tariff reduction to third countries or regions will be implemented, starting from October 1.

The policy, called the Free Trade Agreement Transshipment Facilitation Scheme (FTA Scheme), rules that consignments routed through a third location are qualified to apply for tariff reduction if they remain under the administration of the Customs Services.

The voluntary scheme provides traders with Customs supervision, and issues certificates of non-manipulation to certify transshipment cargo that have not undergone further processing during their stay in Macau.

The cargo will then be regarded as having undergone direct transportation to the third location, and will be eligible for tariff reduction.

The FTA Scheme will cover transshipment cargo in Macau heading for mainland China under several agreements, such as the China-Korea Free Trade Agreement and the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement.

Once the cargo has been approved for tariff reduction, it will be allotted a certain period of time to stay in the city, which can vary in length from 60 days to 12 months.

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ARTS

Exhibition of Hua-Lin's collection opens tomorrow

THE exhibition "The Trumpet of the Times: Poet F. Hua-Lin", organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), will be inaugurated tomorrow at Jao Tsung-I Academy at 6.30 p.m.

The exhibition features manuscripts, poems, photographs, correspondence, newspaper clippings, music scores, song lists and other related items pertaining to the local poet Hua-Lin, who was famed in the Chinese literary circles during the 1930s and 1940s.

According to the IC's statements, all items that will be featured in the exhibition were donated by relatives of the poet.

Hua-Lin (1915-1992), earned the title "the trumpet of the times" during the "isolated-island period" in Shanghai.

The poet graduated from the Foreign Language Department of Jinan National University in Shanghai and settled down in the region where he worked and polished his writings in the early 1950s.

In the late 1960s, he began his studies in classical Chinese poetry and couplet writing. His published works include "Mei Gui" (Rose), "Xiang Ri Kui" (Sunflower), "Man Tian Xing" (Starry Sky), and "Qian Niu Hua" (Morning Glory), in addition to several unpublished translations, poems, couplets and monographs.

To complement the exhibition the bureau will also launch the collection "The Trumpet of the Times: Poet F. Hua-Li" and "Selected Poems and Essays by F. Hua-Lin."

According to the IC, these publications feature works that have never been published alongside relatively unknown poems that were published in a variety of newspapers.

The exhibition will run until November 13 at the Academy daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Gaming-related revenues down one-third in 2015

TOTAL revenues for enterprises involved in gaming activities amounted to MOP 233.2 billion in 2015, down by 34.1 percent year-on-year, according to new information released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) as part of the Gaming Sector Survey 2015 results. The bureau wrote in a statement that gaming revenues decreased by 34.3 percent year-on-year to MOP231.58 billion while receipts from food & beverage and currency exchange dropped by 10.6 percent and 24.6 percent respectively. Interest receipts declined 32.5 percent to MOP278 million.

Meanwhile, total expenditure amounted to MOP101.87 billion, down by 32.5 percent year-on-year.



Purchase of goods, commission paid & customer rebate accounted for almost MOP57 million, substantially down by 45.1 percent year-on-year. Operating expenses fell by 13.5 percent to MOP21.24 billion. Within this figure, expenditure on complementary goods & services (such as hotel accommodation and food & be-

verage) provided to customers totaled MOP9.81 billion (down 14.1 percent). The expenditure on marketing & publicity was MOP3.91 billion (down 27.6 percent).

At the same time, employee compensation increased by 5.1 percent to MOP19.93 billion despite a 2.7 percent drop in the total number of full-time

employees (56,217).

In addition, non-operating expenses (including depreciation and interest paid) totaled to MOP3.7 billion, up by 4.6 percent year-on-year.

Gross Value Added, which measures the sectoral contribution to the economy, fell by 31.3 percent year-on-year to MOP154.74 billion. Gross Surplus of the gaming sector decreased by 34.6 percent to MOP134.8 billion. The Gross Surplus Ratio dropped slightly by 0.4 percentage points to 57.9 percent.

Meanwhile Gross Fixed Capital Formation of the sector increased by 4 percent year-on-year to MOP2.75 billion, which DSEC attributes to an increase in the acquisition of machinery and other related equipment.

CREATIVE AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

MDC represents designers at China-Japan-Korea expo

RDesign Center (MDC) participated in "The China-Japan-Korea Industries Expo 2016" over the weekend at the Shandong-Taiwan Convention and Exhibition Center in Shandong Wei-fang, China. The representatives joined the "Cultural Creative Industry Exhibition Fair of China, Japan and Korea", which is just one of the arms of the large trilateral expo.

Aiming to promote the establishment of a Free Trade Zone between the three countries as well as to generally enhance trilateral cooperation, the expo seeks to showcase comparative national advantages in certain economic areas by virtue of the respective countries' locations, resources and policies.

According to expo organizers, the event serves as an incubator for facilitating commodity trade, two-way investments,

and technological and cultural exchanges across the three countries. As such, the event involves procurement "matchmaking sessions", one-to-one business meetings and the signing ceremonies of key cooperation projects.

The three-day event this year highlighted the sector areas of smart manufacturing, electronics, energy and "new energy", modern agriculture, food safety, healthcare and beauty, and cultural and creative industries. A total of around 2,000 booths were present, showcasing businesses and organizations from China, Japan and Korea.

The MDC informed in a statement that it selected creative products to showcase at the event as well as a variety of videos in animation design, video design and 3D mapping shows.

The purpose behind their participation



according to the statement, is "to introduce the development of Macau design and the business of local design companies [to the three countries], so as to seek more opportunities [for cooperation]."

Also according to the statement, MDC has been cooperating with a number of different international organizations within the past year, including some in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, the Netherlands and Portuguese-speaking countries. **DB**

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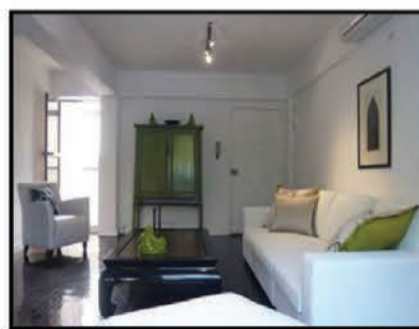
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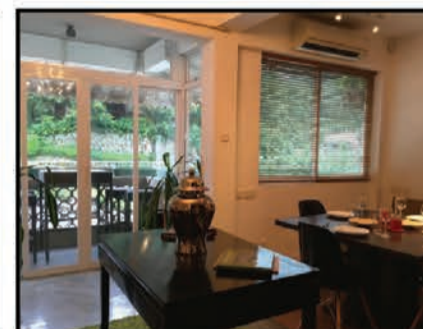
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Coloane Village

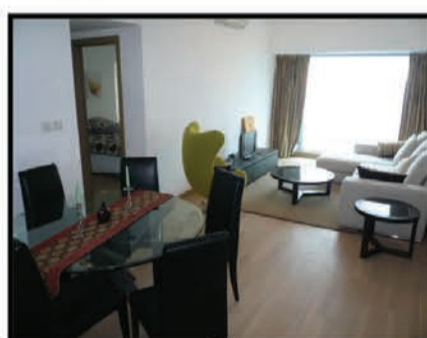
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800sq. ft. HKD 11,000

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(Ref: 16090602)
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For Sale



Roof Top Apartment, Macau

(Ref: 1505441)
799sq. ft. HKD4.463M
Rate: HKD 5,799sq ft

Renovated 5 years ago this apartment has a modern open plan kitchen. The main floor consists of a good size double bedroom and a separate bathroom. A wooden staircase leads to the upper floor which has an open area, good for bedroom, office, studio or entertainment area. This apartment has a wonderful private terrace with views over looking Government Offices. This is a rare chance to buy a view. Viewing by appointment only.



La Cite, Macau

(Ref: 16095494)
1,499sq. ft. HKD 10.9M
Rate: HKD 7,271sq ft

This apartment is on a high floor in much sought after area close to the Hong Kong / Macau bridge landing point. Three bedrooms and two bathrooms, one en-suite, with ample living space. Residents can access the clubhouse facilities which include a swimming pool and fitness areas, and there is also a shuttle bus service that runs throughout the day. At present the apartment is tenanted with the lease expiring in February 2017. This apartment makes a great family home, and is also a ready made investment if you are looking for cash flow.



Bauhinia Court, Hellene Gardens Appealing Apartment in Coloane

(Ref: 16045473)
1,633sq. ft. HKD 7.8M
Rate: HKD 4,776sq ft

Three good size bedrooms. Master bedroom with ensuite. Open style kitchen, made larger by incorporating the original maids quarters and back balcony. With only 7 floors in this block this apartment can be considered a low rise building. Renovated 10 years ago the property could benefit from a face lift although with some TCL it could also be a great rental property. This apartment comes with one parking space.



H Unit in Gladiolus Court, Hellene Gardens, Lot 5

(Ref: 11115275)
2,530sq. ft. HKD 11.8M
Rate: HKD 4,664sq ft

Unique opportunity to purchase a completely renovated & remodeled duplex apartment in Hellene Gardens. Fully fitted modern kitchen with built in appliances including dishwasher and separate utility room. Roof top terrace waterproofed & tiled with large outdoor store room. Two side by side parking spaces included. 2 Car Parks HKD888.888 each.

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Renato Marques

Portuguese School unaware of plans to expand into mainland

THE Macau Portuguese School (EPM) is unaware of the projects that both the Ministry of Education and Science of Portugal (MEC) and the president of the school's foundation (FEPM) reportedly have in store for the future of the institution.

As reported by the weekly bilingual (Chinese and Portuguese) newspaper *Plataforma*, the MEC has been working on a project that aims to create the internationalization of the school institution in both the region and in mainland China.

The idea involves offering lessons in European languages like Spanish, French, and Portuguese. Although the project is not a new one it seems that there is now a greater will to take the school "brand" to the next level, developing it locally and expanding it into mainland China, where there is reportedly a great demand for different kinds of international schools. This demand has been attributed by the FEPM to the strong results that the school has been achieving in comparison to its overseas counterparts in the Portuguese education system.

Beijing and Shanghai were two of the major Chinese cities raised as possible destinations for the first delegations of the



Portuguese School in the mainland.

The measure would also consider in the long-term

changes within the school's administrative level, but for the time being the plan is set to be implemented under

the current administration. *Plataforma* quotes a source in the MEC that said that such plans "are already in the final stage of consideration."

According to the same media source, the subject is on the agenda of higher ranked officials of both Macau and Portugal and might have been addressed recently during the visit of the Chief Executive Chui Sai On to Portugal, where he co-presided together with the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Augusto Santos Silva, a meeting of the Macau-Portugal Joint Committee.

"[The idea] is to strengthen Portuguese, French and Spanish, and Portugal is the foundation of Europe there," said to *Plataforma* Roberto Carneiro, president of FEPM, adding,

"and then enter [into] China creating a network of European schools."

According to Carneiro, the new school would not require additional funding from either the MEC or the Macao Foundation, since it would be self-sufficient and funded by its own tuition fees, similar to other international schools.

Although the plan seems to be in an advanced stage of development, the Macau Portuguese School board of directors seems to be unaware of such ideas.

Questioned by the *Times*, the vice president of the board, Zélia de Oliveira Baptista, said that the school's board of directors is "unaware of such a project since the MEC didn't speak about it with the school," providing no further comment.

China: Demand for pricey international schools surging

ONCE limited mainly to foreign children, during the last two decades international schools have been allowed to open up their campuses to Chinese students jointly with local companies. While the Chinese government has sought to tighten its ideological control over textbooks and limit perceived Western influences, international schools offer a valuable infusion of new teaching methods and options for China's middle class.

Western prep schools in China advertise a smoother pathway to acceptance into overseas univer-

sities, with teaching methods that emphasize critical thinking over memorization, and classes based on the International Baccalaureate program or other internationally recognized curriculums. This opening has brought in some of the world's biggest brand names, joining long-established international schools in Beijing and Shanghai.

Britain's Dulwich College now runs schools for Chinese students in the eastern city of Suzhou and the southern city of Zhuhai, while Hurtwood House operates in association with a school in eastern Ningbo. **AP**

SCIENCE

Macau contributes to progress in cancer treatment research

THE State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicine (QRQM Lab), Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences (ICMS), University of Macau (UM), and the National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health in the United States, have reportedly made significant progress in a collaborative research project on sa-

fer and more effective treatment for cancer and autoimmune diseases. The related findings have been published in scientific journals under the scientific journal *Nature Magazine*.

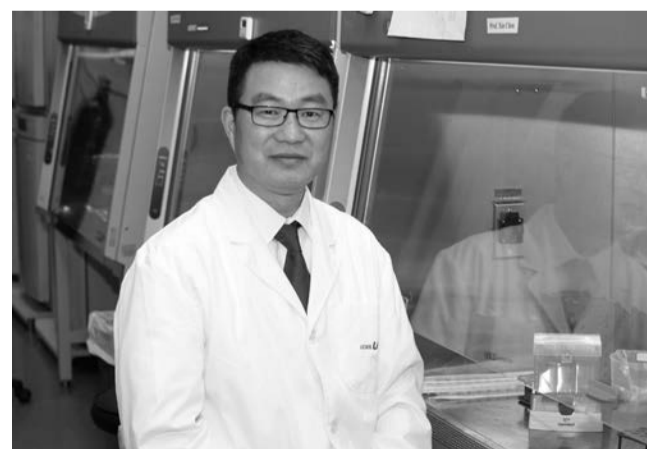
According to a statement issued by UM, the team of researchers established that TNFR2 (tumor necrosis factor receptor 2) plays an important role in the proper functioning

and proliferation of T cells, especially regulatory T (Treg) cells. This finding not only corrects a theoretical misconception in immunology, but also paves the way for developing safer and more effective drugs for tumor and autoimmune diseases.

Earlier this month, two papers about the research findings: 'Paradoxical Effects of Targeting TNF Signalling in the Treat-

ment of Autoimmunity', and 'TNFR2 Expression by CD4 Effector T Cells Is Required to Induce Full-fledged Experimental Colitis', were published in *Nature Reviews Rheumatology*, and scientific reports respectively. UM professor Chen Xin is the first author of both papers.

Since its founding, the QRQM Lab has been committed to nurturing colla-



UM professor Chen Xin

boration with internationally renowned institutions in scientific research and personnel training. The lab and the NCI have signed a collaboration agreement aimed to pro-

mote collaboration in studying the mechanism of action within traditional Chinese medicines in regulating the immune system, which has produced many impactful results.

Yahoo hack steals personal info from at least 500m accounts

Michael Liedtke,
San Francisco

Computer hackers swiped personal information from at least 500 million Yahoo accounts in what is believed to be the biggest digital break-in at an email provider.

The massive security breakdown disclosed last week poses new headaches for beleaguered Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer as she scrambles to close a USD4.8 billion sale to Verizon.

The breach dates back to late 2014, raising questions about the checks and balances within Yahoo — a fallen internet star that has been laying off staff and trimming expenses to counter a steep drop in revenue during the past eight years.

At the time of the break-in, Yahoo's security team was led by Alex Stamos, a respected industry executive who left last year to take a similar job at Facebook.

Yahoo didn't explain what took so long to uncover a heist that it blamed on a "state-sponsored actor" — parlance for a hacker working on behalf of a foreign government.

The Sunnyvale, California, company declined to explain how it reached its conclusions about the attack for security reasons, but said it is working with the FBI and other law enforcement. Yahoo began investigating a possible



breach in July, around the time the tech site Motherboard reported that a hacker who uses the name "Peace" was trying to sell account information belonging to 200 million Yahoo users.

Yahoo didn't find evidence of that reported hack, but additional digging later uncovered a far larger, allegedly state-sponsored attack.

"We take these types of breaches very seriously and will determine how this occurred and who is responsible," the FBI said in a statement.

The Yahoo theft represents the most accounts ever stolen from a single email provider, according to computer security analyst Avivah Litan with the technology research firm Gartner Inc.

"It's a shocking number," Litan said. "This is a pretty big deal that is probably going to cost them tens of millions of dollars.

Regulators and lawyers are going to have a field day with this one."

Yahoo says it has more than 1 billion monthly users, although it hasn't disclosed how many of those people have email accounts. In July, 161 million people worldwide used Yahoo email on personal computers, a 30 percent decline from the same time in 2014, according to the latest data from the research firm comScore.

The data stolen from Yahoo includes users' names, email addresses, telephone numbers, birth dates, scrambled passwords, and the security questions — and answers — used to verify an account holder's identity. The company said the attacker didn't get any information about its users' bank accounts or credit and debit cards.

Security experts say the Yahoo theft could hurt the affected users if their personal information is mined to break into other online services or used for identity theft. All affected users will be notified about the theft and advised how to protect themselves, according to the company.

Yahoo also is recommending that all users change their passwords if they haven't done so since 2014. If the same password is used to access other sites, it should be changed too, along with any security questions similar to those used on Yahoo. **AP**

REPORT OF DATA DUMP ON DARK WEB

IN JULY, Yahoo! Inc. received a report of a hacker claiming to have 280 million user account credentials for sale on the black market. An initial investigation found no evidence to back that up, according to a person familiar with the probe. Claims like these are common nowadays. However, Yahoo decided to

conduct a deeper, separate investigation and, piece by piece, the company slowly accumulated evidence of an even larger breach. Earlier this week, the person said there was enough evidence to tell Verizon Communications Inc., which had agreed to buy Yahoo's web assets for USD4.83 billion on July 25.

China to slow green growth for first time after record boom



After installing more wind and solar farms than anywhere else on the planet, China is ratcheting back the pace of growth in an industry that's helped lower the costs of green energy worldwide.

Installations of new wind and solar farms in China are expected to drop 11 percent in 2017 from a record high this year, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance. That would be the first decline in the history of the modern renewables business, now a little more than a decade old, for a nation that has provided about a third the investment for the industry.

After five years of breakneck growth in the supply, China's electricity demand is stagnating along with a pause in the nation's economic expansion. President Xi Jinping's government has started re-calibrating subsidies for the business, a move that's likely to hit the industry's leading manufacturers, Xinjiang Goldwind Science & Technology Co. and Trina Solar Ltd.

"China shapes the whole world market," Paolo Frankl, head of the International Energy Agency's renewable energy division, said in an interview.

The move is crucial for renewables because China has been the single largest developer of the technology for eight years. Its demand for panels and turbines has pushed manufacturers to build factories throughout Asia, and the scale of its projects helped bring down the cost of electricity from low-polluting sources everywhere.

While global clean energy capacity is expected to swell 17 percent in 2017, it's still the slowest in at least a decade, according to BNEF, a researcher based in London. China's wind and solar capacity will grow 41.8 gigawatts next year, down from a record 46.9 gigawatts in 2016, BNEF estimates. A gigawatt is about as much as a nuclear reactor produces.

"The insanity in China gave a false sense of security to manufacturers to ramp up new capacity," said Charles Yonts, an analyst at CLSA Asia-Pacific Markets in Hong Kong. "Now they need to slog it out."

The slowdown could be short lived. China has a history of working to prop up its manufacturers, and if makers of turbines and photovoltaic panels stumble, authorities may unleash new incentives. China's current plans for investing in clean power suggest that installations will rise again by 7 percent in 2018, BNEF estimates. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

MGM CO-SPONSORS FOURTH 'OUTSTANDING TEENAGERS AWARDS'



Organized by the Young Men's Christian Association of Macau and sponsored by the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau and MGM, the fourth 'Macau Outstanding Teenagers Award' presentation ceremony was held on Saturday at MGM MACAU's Grand Ballroom, where a total of 15 teenagers were presented with awards.

As cited in MGM's press release, new categories were added to the latest 'Outstanding Teenagers Award' to support local creative

industries and encourage young people to pursue their dreams.

Secretary Alexis Tam chaired a judging panel of 30 social and community elites across various fields to decide on the 2016 award winners. After a series of initial and final selections a total of ten outstanding teenagers and five outstanding performance award winners were selected based on three key aspects: "Personal Achievements," "Personal Endeavors" and "Involvement in the Community."

STOMP COMMENCES SHOW AT THE VENETIAN

Stomp's high-energy performers entertained a large audience at The Venetian Theatre for almost two hours on their Macau opening night show on Friday.

Stomp, the innovative dance, street theatre and music performance company, which has been touring the world since 1992, creates music through smashing, crashing and bashing an unlikely assortment of everyday objects including matchboxes, brooms, garbage cans and Zippo lighters.

The revamped show with new music, choreography and 'instruments' including massive recycled inner tubes which performers wear and play simultaneously, is more riveting



than ever, said Sands China in a press release.

STOMP, which will perform in the city until October 9, has brought over 20,000 performances to more than 12 million people in 53 countries across six continents.

CEM HOSTS FOURTH SOLAR CAR BUILDING COMPETITION

CEM hosted its fourth edition of "Solar & Capacitance Model Car Races" yesterday at its Coloane Power Station in a bid to improve local secondary students' scientific and technical knowledge and interest in the field.

According to the utility company's statement, 95 teams which made up over 500 students and teachers representing 20 secondary schools participated in this year's competition.

Fifty-five teams from F4 to F6 grades joined the "Solar Model Car Race" and were challenged to design and build their own model cars moved solely by solar panels provided by the organization. While in the "Capacitance Model Car Race"



40 teams from F1 to F3 grades participated, also required to build their own model cars.

The event was co-organized by the Macau Youth Federation, the General Association of Chinese Students of Macau and the Youth Center of Macau Federation of Trade Unions, with the technical support of Hong Kong Technology & Renewable Energy Events (HK TREE).

China begins operating world's largest radio telescope

AP PHOTO



Gillian Wong, Beijing

THE world's largest radio telescope began searching for signals from stars and galaxies and, perhaps, extraterrestrial life yesterday in a project demonstrating China's rising ambitions in space and its pursuit of international scientific prestige.

Beijing has poured billions into such ambitious scientific projects as well as its military-backed space program, which saw the launch of China's second space station earlier this month.

Measuring 500 meters in diameter, the radio telescope is nestled in a natural basin within a stunning landscape of lush green karst formations in southern Guizhou province. It took five years and USD180 million to complete and surpasses that of the 300-meter Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico, a dish used in research on stars that led to a Nobel Prize.

The official Xinhua News Agency said hundreds of astronomers and enthusiasts watched the launch of the Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Telescope, or FAST, in the county of Pingtang.

Researchers quoted by state media said FAST would search for gravitational waves, detect radio emissions from stars and galaxies and listen for signs of intelligent extraterrestrial life.

"The ultimate goal of FAST is to discover the laws of the development of the universe," Qian Lei, an associate researcher with the National Astronomical Observatories of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, told state broadcaster CCTV.

"In theory, if there is civilization in outer space, the radio signal it sends will be similar to the signal we can receive when a pulsar [spinning neutron star] is approaching us," Qian said.

Installation of the 4,450-panel structure, nicknamed Tianyan, or the Eye of Heaven, started in 2011 and was completed in July.

The telescope requires a radio silence within a 5-kilometer radius, resulting in the relocation of more than 8,000 people from their homes in eight villages to make way for the facility, state media said. Reports in August said the villagers would be compensated with cash or new homes from a budget of about \$269 million from a poverty relief fund and bank loans.

CCTV reported that during a recent test, the telescope received radio signals from a pulsar that was 1,351 light-years from Earth.

The radio telescope has double the sensitivity of the Arecibo Observatory, and five to 10 times the surveying speed, Xinhua said.

China has also completed the construction of tourist facilities such as an observation deck on a nearby mountain, reports said. Such facilities can be a draw for visitors — the one in Puerto Rico draws about 90,000 visitors and some 200 scientists each year.

Earlier this month, China launched the Tiangong 2, its second space station and the latest step in its military-backed program that intends to send a mission to Mars in the coming years. In August, the country launched the first quantum satellite experts said would advance efforts to develop the ability to send communications that can't be penetrated by hackers. **AP**

ADVERTORIAL

SANDS CHINA NEWS

Las Vegas Sands and Sands China Celebrate Grand Opening of The Parisian Macao

Integrated resort's opening represents crown jewel of vision for the Cotai Strip

Amid fanfare and celebration, The Parisian Macao opened its doors to the public for the first time on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 8:18 p.m.

The grand opening of the newest integrated resort from Sands China Ltd. and parent company Las Vegas Sands Corp. represents the crowning achievement of company Chairman and CEO Mr. Sheldon G. Adelson's vision for the Cotai Strip.

"What started with a Venetian and now adds a Parisian to the family, the Cotai Strip has become one of the world's greatest tourism marvels," said Mr. Adelson. "Before our very eyes, Macao is making a similar transition to the one it took Las Vegas decades to make, evolving from a destination only suited for gaming customers, to an environment which still provides a safe and reputable gaming experience, but also offers a wide variety of activities, attractions and amenities for people of all backgrounds, income levels and interests."



"No one has believed more, or invested more, in Macao's future as a leisure and business destination," Mr. Adelson continued. "We never wavered in our development plans, or our desire to serve as a model for the type of development which would help diversify Macao's economy through the introduction and growth of important non-gaming attractions. I'm tremendously proud and honored that our company made such a bold commitment to Macao and I will be forever grateful to the people of Macao and its leaders for the support they have shown us since even before we opened the Sands Macao in 2004."



Sands China Ltd. President Dr. Wilfred Wong said: "Sands China is a company with deep roots in Macao and we are very proud to be able to grow together with the city. Operating in Macao as an integrated resort developer has given Sands China the unique opportunity and privilege to contribute to the city's transformation into a world center of tourism and leisure. We are incredibly thankful for the support our company has received over the years from the Macao SAR government, the vibrant and one-of-a-kind Macao community, and from our 30,000 team members."

The Cotai Strip was crowded Tuesday night with both locals and tourists, who had gathered outside to enjoy the opening festivities courtesy of live streams broadcast on all of Sands China's large outdoor screens along the Cotai Strip.

Guests of honor at the opening ceremony include company executives and representatives from the Macao and central governments.

In keeping with tradition, a lion dance was an essential part of the day's earlier events, and the evening of festivities concluded with a gala dinner featuring performances by Hong Kong actress and pop star Karen Mok and multi-award-winning Belgian singer Lara Fabian, who also performed at the opening ceremony.

The celebration extends throughout the opening month of September, with a range of promotions available exclusively to Macao ID holders. The Parisian Loves Locals promotion offers a series of special offers across all Sands China properties that has been designed for Macao locals to encourage them to join the celebration and enjoy a wide range of non-gaming elements. A way for the company to give back to the local community and thank them for their years of support, the Sept. 14-29 offers include discounts on accommodation, transportation, entertainment and leisure activities.



Inspired by the magic and wonder of the famed City of Light, The Parisian Macao offers 3,000 guestrooms and suites and a full array of integrated resort facilities. More information is at www.parisianmacao.com.

Leung pledges more land for cheaper Hong Kong housing

Aibing Guo

HONG Kong Chief Executive Leung Chun-Ying pledged to provide more land to build apartments for low-income people in a bid to lower housing prices in the world's least-affordable city.

Less than 25 percent of Hong Kong's land has been developed, according to government figures. That is the reason housing is expensive and land supply is short, Leung said Friday at a banquet hosted by the Bauhinia Foundation Research Centre think tank, according to a statement on the government's website.

"Every piece of our land could be used for building houses, as long as we, the Hong Kong people, want to do it," Leung said. "We should have a clear sense on what matters most and what matters little, and it looks to me making sure Hong Kong people have a place to live is the absolute No. 1 priority."

The government faces



Leung Chun-Ying

opposition to plans to rezone rural green-belt sites for housing, or build new apart-

ments in already overcrowded areas.

Increased housing density

in certain areas may cause traffic jams, "but it's only a matter of inconvenience," Leung said in the speech. Addressing sub-divided apartments in Hong Kong is a matter of safety, which should override inconveniences, he said.

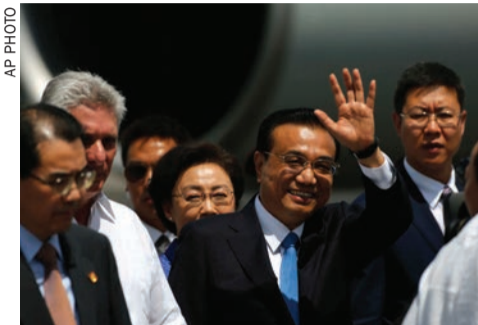
Leung's speech came just a few days after the Hong Kong leader defended his decision to postpone two phases of a large public housing project in the city's northern outskirts.

Leung, who must decide soon whether to seek a second five-year term as chief executive, has spent much of his tenure struggling to subdue housing costs.

Hong Kong's housing supply will reach 93,000 apartments in the next three to four years, the highest since 2004, Leung said. The extra supply will help reduce prices by HKD1 million (USD129,000) per apartment, saving buyers HKD93 billion in total, he said.

"We cannot be satisfied with what we have managed to achieve," Leung said, referring to the new apartments available. The only way to solve Hong Kong's housing problem "is to continue to provide more land and build more apartments," he said. **AP**

Li Keqiang arrives in Cuba for official visit



CHINESE Premier Li Keqiang has arrived in Cuba's capital for an official visit designed to deepen commercial and political ties between the two countries.

Li was greeted at Jose Marti International Airport by First Vice President Miguel Diaz-Canel and other Cuban officials. The Chinese premier then attended a wreath-laying ceremony Saturday at the Monument to Jose Marti, overlooking the iconic Revolution Square in central Havana.

Officials say the two countries signed several bilateral accords, including ones related to investment in tourism and telecommunications.

China is Cuba's second-largest trading partner, and Li's visit, which includes a meeting with Cuban President Raul Castro, is seen as an effort to boost investment in the island nation. **AP**

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SHOWDOWN IN MACAO

Hend and Lahiri prepare to do battle again at 2016 Venetian Macao Open

There is no question that Macao has seen its fair share of showdowns over the years. From boxing and Asian martial arts to Grand Prix Racing, the SAR has always punched its way to the top of the world order. But with news that one of the most intense rivalries in Asian sport is set to resume at next month's Venetian Macao Open, golf looks set to join the party.

With the event promising one of the strongest fields assembled in its 17-year history, spectators can expect to see fireworks on course, but the battle that is sure to capture spectators' attention is the next installment of the fierce rivalry between India's Anirban Lahiri and Scott Hend of Australia.

The last three years of the tournament have played witness to a seemingly endless duel between the two superstars.

While Hend cruised to a three-stroke win over Lahiri in 2013, the result was reversed the following year when Hend let a two-shot lead slip on the final day to lose his title by one shot.

Fans were treated to a third instalment of the rivalry last year when the two found themselves in the all-too-familiar position of being first and second going into round four. Hend held firm and became only the second player to win the prestigious tournament for a second time.

"We seem to bring the best out of each other in Macao. Scott has had a great run in previous years but I hope to even the score this year with a solid performance. We have had intense battles the last two years on Sunday afternoon and I expect the same this year. It would be wonderful to get a win at the Venetian Macao Open and even up my score with him!" Said Lahiri.

The battle resumes on 13 October with Hend's form indicating that he will be the man to beat in 2016.

Free Entry
The Venetian Macao Open gets underway at the spectacular Macau Golf & Country Club from 13 to 16 October and sees players compete for the highest prize full-field Asian Tour event. Entry is free. For more information see www.thevenetianmacaooopen.com



Livia Yap

How Singapore beat New Zealand to be expats' top place to live

SINGAPORE has done it again. The city-state beat New Zealand to rank first in a survey of expat destinations for the second year running. Among nearly 27,000 expats in 190 economies, Singapore is the best place to live, work and raise a family abroad, according to the latest and ninth edition of HSBC Holdings Plc's annual Expat Explorer report.

While New Zealand came close to Singapore in most areas, what dragged down its ranking was economics - the category covering earnings and career prospects. New Zealand was rated 41st for personal finances in the survey, far behind Singapore's eighth place under this metric.

No other Asia-Pacific economy made it to the top 10 overall ranking of expat destinations, with Australia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Vietnam and Japan rounding up the top 20. The U.S. placed 30th overall.

Here's a breakdown of why Singapore is the favorite:

MONEY AND ECONOMY - Expats in Singapore earn on average about USD139,000 annually, 43 percent more than the global average. Expats in Hong Kong are paid even more, at \$170,000. Switzerland is the top country for personal finances, with annual incomes averaging \$188,000.

The highest-paid expats live in Zurich, where more than two in five earn over \$200,000, compared with almost one-third in Shanghai.

Expats in Singapore are the most assured about the economy of their adopted country, with almost three-quarters saying they feel confident, compared with 52 percent in the Asia-Pacific region.



Singapore

QUALITY OF LIFE - Here is where New Zealand beats Singapore - in overall experience. New Zealand tops the category, which includes quality of life and ease of social integration, with Singapore coming in at fourth place.

Almost three-quarters of expats in New Zealand say they've achieved the goal of improving their quality of life, beating the global average of 52 percent.

Expats consider Japan to be the

world's safest country, followed by Singapore and South Korea. More than eight in 10 expats living in Singapore feel safer than back home, compared with 52 percent globally.

CAREER PROSPECTS - More than six in 10 expats working in Singapore believe it is a good place to advance their careers. Singapore ranks second behind Hong Kong. China, in

seventh place, and India, in ninth, are the only two other Asian countries within the top 10. New Zealand is in 18th place.

About 58 percent of expats in Singapore say it is a good place to start a business, beating the global average of 38 percent.

London and New York attract executives looking to boost their careers. More than 70 percent of expats in both cities say working there will improve their job pros-

Expats in Singapore earn on average about USD139,000 annually, 43 percent more than the global average

pects when they return home, surpassing the 46 percent globally.

FAMILY, EDUCATION - Sweden remains the best place in the world for families abroad, taking the top spot in the overall family category including school and childcare quality and cost of bringing up kids. Singapore is in third place and New Zealand in fourth. Taiwan, Thailand, Hong Kong and Australia round up the Asia-Pacific entries in the top 20.

Singapore's quality of education is rated the best in the world. Among expats in Singapore, 75 percent consider the quality of education there better than in their home country, compared with 43 percent overall in the survey. New Zealand ranks eighth, followed by Japan in ninth place and Hong Kong in 11th. **Bloomberg**

Ex-Thai PM Yingluck should pay USD1b fine, committee says

Supunnabul Suwannakij

FORMER Thailand Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, whose government was ousted in a military coup in 2014, should be fined about 35 billion baht (USD1 billion) for overseeing a program to buy rice from farmers above market rates, a state-appointed committee recommended.

The proposed penalty amounts to about 20 percent of the 178 billion baht that the rice-purchase programs in 2012 and 2013 cost the country, Manas Jamveha, director general of the Comptroller General's

Department, told reporters Saturday. The committee appointed to look into the issue ruled it was an abuse of power and that Yingluck was negligent in overseeing the program while she was in power, said Manas, the committee's chairman.

A report will be submitted to the Prime Minister's Office and the Mi-

Everyone is treated equally.

PRIME MINISTER PRAYUTH CHAN-OCHA

nistry of Finance, which are both responsible for claiming damages from Yingluck before the case expires next February, Manas said. The office of National Anti-Corruption Commission or another related agency will decide who is responsible for the remaining damages, he said.

Junta leader and Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-Ocha said the government has to proceed with the case in accordance to the law and before it expires.

"Everyone is treated equally," Prayuth told reporters yesterday. "I didn't rush the process. The process is stated in the law."

Yingluck's Pheu Thai Party has asked the National Council for Peace and Order to reconsider procedures that allow the government to sue for compensation on losses from the rice-purchase program and to revoke the use of special powers under the constitution, according to a statement to the council dated Sept. 25.

The case has been filed to the Supreme Court and "it is inappropriate for leaders to lead the society into making conclusions before the court has announced its ruling," the party said in the statement.

Yingluck's party won



Yingluck Shinawatra

elections in 2011 in part by appealing to millions of rice farmers with a plan to buy crops at inflated prices. She said the program would help reduce inequality, while her opponents say it encouraged corruption.

After Yingluck's gover-

ment was ousted in a May 2014 coup, she was impeached and banned from politics for five years by the junta's legislature for alleged graft in the rice-purchasing program. She is the sister of former premier Thaksin Shinawatra. **Bloomberg**



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North Korean defectors who became Chinese brides end silence

Hyung-Jin Kim, Seoul

NORTH Korean defectors who became brides for rural Chinese men, they faced another excruciating choice when they suffered abuse: to flee to South Korea and leave their children. Women who've made that choice have lived with the guilt and shame for years, but some are breaking their silence and trying to get international help for their situation. What some of the women told The Associated Press about their experiences:

KIM JUNGAH, 40, chose to be trafficked because she could no longer endure poverty and malnutrition in the North.

"I thought about killing myself many times but it wasn't easy to do it. For me, escaping from North Korea was the only way to survive," she said.

Before she was sold to a farmer in the northeastern Chinese city of Shenyang who paid 20,000 yuan (\$2,990), Kim said potential buyers visited her and that brokers ordered her to stand up, turn around and show her profile.

"I felt so bad about that. I felt so humiliated and I realized they didn't see me as human being," she said.

Kim said she was pregnant when brokers sold her to the Shenyang man, who eventually



North Korean defector Kim Jungah (right), speaks during an interview with her husband Kim JongPhil at their house in Gunpo, South Korea

adopted her daughter.

"There aren't any mother and daughter who are separated like us. I'm demanding a simple thing. I'm demanding the parental rights that that every couple in the world has," she said.

KIM, 35, asked to be identified only by her surname. She allowed a stranger in China to marry her off with one of his friends, 14 years her senior, wi-

thout knowing it was meant to clear the man's debt.

"When I first saw him [my husband], he really looked like a grandpa. He was like a country man who didn't care about his appearance at all [...] How can a man in his 30s look like a grandpa? I thought he was lying about his age," she said. "I felt really bad and cried."

She said her husband beat her about once a month and looked down on her so much.

"He always told me he brought a beggar-like person to his house [...] and threatened to report me to police to get me punished," she said. "Do you know how intimidating that threat was to me?"

PARK KYUNG-HWA, 44, offered herself to traffickers but escaped before being sold to a Chinese man.

"I had just prayed for meeting a good husband," she said. "The

women sold as brides were the people who belonged to the lowest class in the North. Our dreams were like eating rice fully and we had heard that even dogs and animals in China ate rice," she said.

Park said she and six other women were on the back of a big truck loaded with logs for about 12 hours when brokers were moving them.

"If one log fell, we would have died all [...] We all cried. It was miserable [...] We held each other's hands and sang together," she said.

CHAE OKHEE, 48, lived in China for about 16 years. She wasn't a trafficking victim but has many friends and relative living in Seoul who had been sold as brides to Chinese men before their arrivals to South Korea.

"One of my friends told me her Chinese husband had put her leg in the shackles to prevent her from going out," Chae said.

She said her 25-year-old niece from North Korea had also lived with a Chinese man with "a little bit of autism" before she fled to South Korea in 2014.

"She said she wasn't beaten by her husband but she ran away wearing only underwear in the middle of night in collaboration with brokers," Chae said. "She came here because she didn't want to live with him." **AP**



Philippines' Foreign Minister Perfecto Yasay

Dave Bryan, United Nations

DESPITE growing international criticism of his government's bloody crackdown on illegal drugs, the Philippines top diplomat told world leaders Saturday that the rule of law governs the campaign to eradicate the illicit substances, which he said have stunted the country's development.

Secretary for Foreign Affairs Perfecto Yasay said President Rodrigo Duterte's

crackdown is guided by a respect for human rights and the legal system, even though thousands of drug dealers and users have been killed in recent months.

"The rule of law and strict adherence to due process fully governs our campaign against corruption and criminality, including the fight against illegal drugs," he said.

More than 3,000 suspected drug dealers and users have been killed

PHILIPPINES

Top diplomat says rights respected amid drug crackdown

since July and more than 600,000 others have surrendered out of fear of being killed.

Despite growing alarm and international criticism, including from President Barack Obama and human rights watchdogs, the controversial Duterte has said he won't stop the campaign. He has said that killing drug suspects is lawful if police act in self-defense and urged citizens with guns to shoot and kill drug dealers who resist arrest. Witnesses have accused some police of gunning down people

suspected of being involved in illegal drugs.

Yasay, who was addressing the U.N. General Assembly during its annual ministerial meeting Saturday, said the government is determined to eradicate the distribution, sale and use of illegal drugs because they threaten the country's peace and order "which, in turn, impedes our sustainable development goals."

Duterte, 71, overwhelmingly won election in May on the ambitious promise of eradicating corruption and crime,

particularly illegal drugs, in six months. He recently said he underestimated the magnitude of the drug problem and will extend the crackdown by another half year.

Duterte said this week he will invite the U.N. chief and European Union officials to investigate his anti-drug effort, but only if he can question them in public afterward to prove their human rights concerns are baseless. He disclosed the offer in a speech Thursday in the Philippines in which he again lashed out at

critics of his crackdown, including Obama. He accused them of hypocrisy for raising concerns about his anti-crime fight while launching military strikes that have killed innocent people in the Middle East.

Yasay acknowledged the scrutiny that the drugs crackdown has evoked from the international community.

"We urge everyone to allow us to deal with our domestic challenges in order to achieve our national goals, without undue interference," he said. **AP**

Phuong Le, Gillian Flaccus

US

Police: Washington shooting suspect 'zombie-like' at arrest

THE 20-year-old suspect in the deadly Washington state mall shooting said nothing and appeared "zombie-like" when he was arrested by authorities nearly 24 hours into an intense manhunt, authorities said.

Island County Sheriff's Lt. Mike Hawley said he spotted Arcan Cetin from a patrol car Saturday evening in Oak Harbor, Washington, and immediately recognized him as the suspect who killed five people at the Cascade Mall in nearby Burlington.

Hawley said at a news conference they had received information that Cetin, of Oak Harbor, was in the area. Cetin, who immigrated to the U.S. from Turkey, is a legal permanent resident who has been living in Oak Harbor, authorities said. He had been arrested once before in the county for assault, Hawley said.

"I literally hit my brakes, did a quick turn, I jumped out," Hawley said. "We both jumped out with our guns, and he just froze." Cetin was unarmed and was carrying a satchel with a computer in it. "He was kind of zombie-like," Hawley said.

The suspect's arrest capped a frantic search following the slayings of five people the day before. The first 911 call came in just before 7 p.m. on a busy Friday at the Cascade Mall: A man with a rifle was shooting at people in the Macy's department store.

By the time police arrived mo-

AP PHOTO



Law enforcement officers stand near a mobile police command center at the scene of a shooting where several people were killed

ments later, the carnage at the Macy's makeup counter was complete. Four people were dead, and the shooter was gone, last seen walking toward Interstate 5. The fifth victim, a man, died in the early morning hours Saturday as police finished sweeping the 434,000-square-foot building.

"There are people waking up

this morning, and their world has changed forever. The city of Burlington has probably changed forever, but I don't think our way of life needs to change," Burlington Mayor Steve Sexton said Saturday at a news conference.

Authorities said it now appears the rifle was brought into the mall from the suspect's

vehicle that was there, Mount Vernon police Lt. Chris Cammock said Saturday night.

Cetin has not been charged, Cammock said. He will be booked into the Skagit County Jail and is expected to appear in Skagit County District Court shortly.

The Seattle Times reports that Skagit County court records

show three domestic-violence assault charges against Cetin. The victim was identified as Cetin's stepfather.

The newspaper reports Cetin also was arrested for drunken driving.

Cetin was told by an Island County District Court judge on Dec. 29 that he was not to possess a firearm, the newspaper reported.

However, the stepfather urged the judge not to impose a no-contact order, saying his stepson was "going through a hard time."

As the small city absorbed the tragic news, critical questions remained, including the shooter's motive.

Initially the suspect was described as Hispanic, but Hawley said that was based on initial witness statements to the shooting at the mall.

Surveillance video captured the suspect entering the mall unarmed and then recorded him about 10 minutes later entering the Macy's with a "hunting type" rifle in his hand, Cammock said.

The identities of the victims — four women who ranged in age from a teenager to a senior citizen — were withheld pending autopsies and notification of family. **AP**

Corbyn is re-elected as UK Labour leader, urges party unity

Robert Hutton, Thomas Penny and Alex Morales

JEREMY Corbyn was re-elected as the leader of Britain's Labour Party with an increased share of the vote and then urged the movement to heal its bitter divisions and unite against Conservative Prime Minister Theresa May.

Corbyn took 62 percent of the votes of more than 500,000 party members and supporters, according to the result announced on Saturday in Liverpool, northwest England, where Labour is gathering for its annual conference. His challenger, Owen Smith, forced the bruising election campaign after mass resignations by Labour lawmakers in the House of Commons from Cor-

Corbyn took 62 percent of the votes of more than 500,000 party members and supporters

byn's team of spokesmen, known as the shadow cabinet, and a vote of no confidence in his leadership by 172 to 40. Corbyn had 60 percent support when first elected in 2015. Speaking immediately

after the result was announced Saturday, Corbyn called for an end to the splits and noted it was the second mandate he'd received in a year. He called Smith "part of the same Labour family" and said he has no doubt Labour can defeat May's Tories in the next general election.

"In our party we have much more in common than that which divides us," Corbyn said. "Let's wipe that slate clean from today and get on with the work we've got to do as a party together."

Polls and bookmakers suggested Corbyn, 67, would easily defeat his challenger as he retains the support of rank-and-file party members attracted by his "authentic" image and socialist anti-austerity policies.

Lawmakers who pointed to Corbyn's lackluster performance in the European Union referendum campaign and failure to effectively challenge the Tory government in Parliament were dismissed as "red Tories" and "traitors" by his supporters.

Smith said in a statement that he fully accepts and respects the result. "I will reflect carefully on it and on what role I might play in future to help Labour win again for the British people," he said. He didn't repeat previous statements that he wouldn't serve in Corbyn's shadow cabinet, but he said he won't stay at the conference for the leader's closing speech on Wednesday.

Corbyn was in talks before the result was annou-

BLOOMBERG



Jeremy Corbyn

ned to persuade rebel lawmakers to return to his team but said he will not change his style or policies to address their concerns. What they'll get is "the same Jeremy Corbyn who's been through the last year, indeed the last 30 years in Parliament," he said in a BBC interview on Wednesday.

Jon Lansman, who helped organize Corbyn's leadership campaigns, warned Labour lawmakers to fall into line behind their leader. "Disunity is not

good for the party," he said in an interview. "It would only be very inattentive people who fail to rally round what is clearly a united party."

"Now is the time to focus every ounce of our energy on exposing and defeating the Tories," Corbyn said in his speech. He described the administration led by May, who took over from David Cameron after the Brexit vote, as "Cameron's government repackaged with a new hard-right edge." **Bloomberg**

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what's ON



THE VOICE – THE EXHIBITION THAT SPEAKS TO YOU

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

UNTIL: November 16, 2106

VENUE: Communications Museums of Macau, No.7, Estrada de D. Maria II, Macao

ADMISSION: MOP10

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2871 8063

EXHIBITION "PLIS & REPLIS 3 - WORKS BY NOËL DOLLA"

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: October 9, 2015

VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, 95

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

Offbeat

AL CAPONE LETTER WRITTEN IN PRISON SHOWS MOBSTER'S SOFT SIDE



Did notorious gangster Al Capone have a soft spot? An intimate letter he penned from prison suggests the ruthless racketeer could handle tenderness almost as skillfully as his Tommy Gun.

The three-page letter — which is being auctioned off next week — is addressed to Capone's son, Albert "Sonny" Capone. The mobster signed it, "Love & Kisses, Your Dear Dad Alphonse Capone #85," which was his number at the Alcatraz prison in San Francisco Bay.

"Junior keep up the way you are doing, and don't let nothing get you down. When you get the blues, Sonny, put on one of the records with songs I wrote you about," Capone wrote.

Later, he added: "Well heart of mine, sure hope things come our way for next year, then I'll be there in your arms."

"It's an exceedingly rare personal letter showing the softer side of the notorious gangster," said Robert Livingston, executive vice president of Boston-based RR Auction, which is handling Monday's auction at a hotel in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and expects it to fetch around USD50,000.

"You'd think that figures like this would be despised, but instead, they're kind of deified in the consciousness of the American public," he said.

The legendary Brooklyn-born mobster, who ruled gangland Chicago during Prohibition, is best known for his 1929 "Valentine's Day Massacre" of seven members of rival bootlegger Bugs Moran's gang.

The feds finally caught up with Capone in 1931, when he was charged with income tax evasion. He was eventually convicted and sentenced to 11 years in prison, much of which he spent at Alcatraz. Capone was finally released a few years early in 1938 and returned to his Miami Beach mansion. Riddled with syphilis, he suffered a stroke and died in 1947 at age 48.

Though the letter to his then college-aged son is dated only "Jan 16th," experts say he likely wrote it in 1938, four years after the man dubbed "Public Enemy No. 1" was transferred to Alcatraz.

In a somewhat surprisingly cheerful tone, his letter describes the daily grind in prison, which Capone tried to relieve by playing banjo and mandola, a stringed instrument similar to the mandolin. While at Alcatraz, Capone put together an inmate band he dubbed The Rock Islanders.

"Sonny I got a Song like Rainbow on the River, that was sung by Bobby Breen, in the Rainbow on the River picture, I sure hope you seen it as we saw it out here," he wrote. "... When I come home, I will play not only that song, but about 500 more, and all mostly Theme Songs from the best Shows. In other words Junior, there isn't a Song written that I can't play."

Capone ended the letter encouraging his son to stay strong.

"Well Sonny keep up your chin, and don't worry about your dear Dad, and when again you allowed a vacation, I want you and your dear Mother to come here together, as I sure would love to see you," he wrote. **AP**

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13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
18:00	Precious Pearl (Repeated)
18:50	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sport
22:10	Precious Pearl
23:00	TDM News
23:30	UEFA Champions League 2016/2017 Magazine Programme
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

22 SEP - 28 SEP



EQUALS

ROOM 1

2.15, 5.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Drake Doremus

Starring: Kristen Stewart, Nicholas Hoult, Guy Pearce, Jacki Weaver

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 101min

NINE LIVES

ROOM 1

4.05, 7.45 pm

Director: Barry Sonnenfeld

Starring: Kevin Spacey, Jennifer Garner, Christopher Walken

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 96min

SULLY

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Clint Eastwood, Aaron Eckhart

Starring: Tom Hanks

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 96min

TRAIN TO BUSAN

ROOM 2

7.30 pm

Director: Yeon Sang-ho

Starring: Gong Yoo, Jung Tu-mi, ma Domng-Seok

Language: Korean (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min



BLAIR WITCH

ROOM 3

2.30, 6.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Adam Wingard

Starring: James Allen McCune, Brandon Scott, Callie Hernandez

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 89min

S STORM

ROOM 3

4.15, 7.45 pm

Director: David Lam

Starring: Louis Koo, Julian Cheung, vic Chou, Ada Choi

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min

MACAU TOWER

15 SEP - 28 SEP

SULLY

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Clint Eastwood, Aaron Eckhart

Starring: Tom Hanks

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 96min

this day in history



1973 CONCORDE SLASHES ATLANTIC FLIGHT TIME

Concorde has made its first non-stop crossing of the Atlantic in record-breaking time.

The French model of the supersonic airliner flew from the US capital, Washington, to Orly airport in Paris in three hours 32 minutes.

The pilots, Jean Franchi and Gilbert Defer, cut the previous record for a transatlantic airliner journey in half, flying the plane at an average speed of 1,535 kph.

Officials for Aerospatiale - the French company involved in the project - said the plane touched down at 1617 local time (1517 GMT), 13 minutes ahead of schedule.

This second pre-production model of the aircraft being co-built with the British Aircraft Corporation was also carrying a small number of passengers.

Concorde has been on a lengthy tour of North and South America to promote it to reluctant airlines that have so far said they have no need for a plane that can travel at twice the speed of sound.

The trip was also designed to convince aviation authorities in the two continents to fit the supersonic jets into subsonic traffic patterns when the companies begin commercial flights in 1975.

BAC vice-chairman Geoffrey Knight said the tour had been a great success and prospects for the future were good.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Concorde began commercial flights in January 1976 with London-Bahrain and Paris-Rio services.

Regular flights to the US did not start for another three years as American aviation authorities were not willing to allow the plane to land at their airports.

Concorde had an almost unblemished safety record until 25 July 2000, when an Air France model built in 1975 crashed shortly after taking off from Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris.

All 109 people on board were killed and there were also four fatalities on the ground.

All Concorde were grounded while a full investigation took place and flights did not resume until November 2001.

In April 2003 British Airways and Air France announced the plane would be retired due to falling passenger revenue and rising maintenance costs.

Concorde's final commercial flight was on 23 October 2003.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Your emotional side is in need of some attention — and you can make a real difference if you attend to your feelings. See if your people can give you the space you need to take care of this.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Passions are driving your behavior today, and you may find that your friends are looking at you funny before evening falls. That's okay — you know that you're doing what's right for you.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Your feelings might be a bit overwhelming — but that can be good as easily as it can be difficult. See if you can get your people to support you, or to join in your good times. Surround yourself with friends!

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Intensity is definitely on your agenda — so make sure you're ready for some serious catharsis! You may finally get rid of some emotional baggage or have that showdown at work.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Someone close to you isn't working toward your best interests — though that doesn't mean they've got it in for you! They just work toward their own goals, and that means you've got to do the same.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Those around you may be confused, but your ability to explain things is seriously enhanced right now. You don't have to go into full-on lecture mode — just a few words here and there can help.

Libra

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

Change is coming — are you ready? There should be a lot to love with this round of transformation, so make sure that you're showing others who may fear the unknown that it's not so hard to adapt!

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Personal magnetism draws others to you without any effort on your part, so it's a great time to get a date or influence your coworkers to see things your way. Don't get too tricky, though!

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

It's a low-key day for you — and you may snap at someone if they start to pester you too much. Try not to offend anyone, but sometimes your mood is simply beyond your control.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Your social standing is important to you — and on a day like today, you can actually do something about it. People are much more likely to notice the positive things you do, so get busy.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

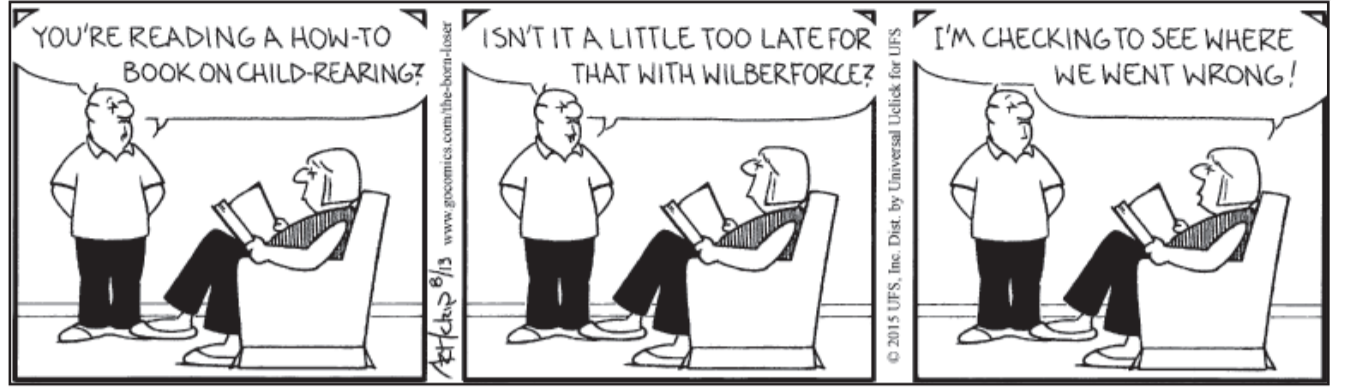
Emotional business is more intense today — and that could mean that you're finally ready to confront that one situation that has been hanging over you for quite some time. Go for it!

Pisces

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

You don't feel quite right today — and those around you aren't helping! The weird thing is that your energy is actually quite strong. You just can't seem to apply it to your own life!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

CHINA

Table showing weather conditions (MIN, MAX, CONDITION) for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

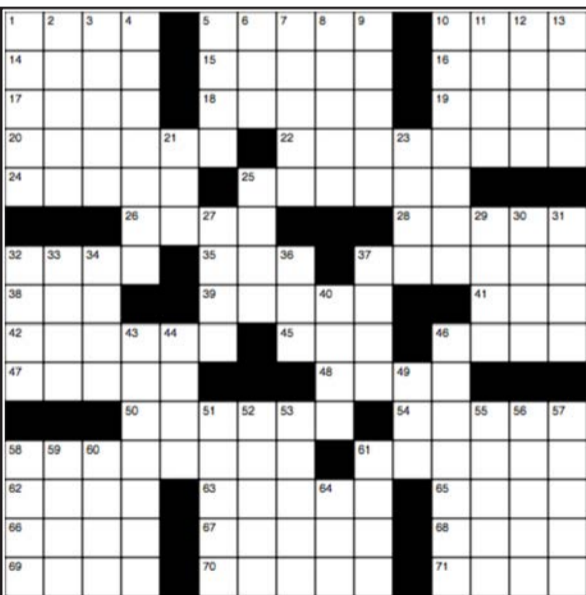
WORLD

Table showing weather conditions for world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Farrow and Hamm; 5- Keep an ___ the ground; 10- "___ the night before Christmas ..."; 14- Swenson of "Benson"; 15- Autocratic Russian rulers; 16- Actress Sofer; 17- Meager; 18- Footnote abbr.; 19- Swear words; 20- Sixth planet; 22- Spinal anesthesia; 24- Cognizant; 25- Mountain nymphs; 26- Tel ___; 28- Big name in insurance; 32- Start of something small?; 35- Block; 37- Scenic route path; 38- Devoured; 39- Tickle pink; 41- Largest book of the OT; 42- Gambling state; 45- "Michael Collins" actor; 46- Scorch; 47- Last letter of the Greek alphabet; 48- Razor name; 50- One or the other; 54- "Dallas" matriarch; 58- Hocking site; 61- Out there; 62- Cattle group; 63- Actor Ryan; 65- ___ me tangere; 66- Met solo; 67- Later, dude!; 68- Work without ___; 69- Small children; 70- Curved letters; 71- Sun. speeches;

DOWN: 1- Beethoven's "___ Solemnis"; 2- Acquired relative; 3- Heartburn; 4- Warrior of feudal Japan; 5- Collar type; 6- Egyptian cobra; 7- One on track?; 8- Nonsense; 9- Port of old Rome; 10- Legging; 11- Don; 12- Architectural pier; 13- Political satirist; 21- Gun, as an engine; 23- June 6, 1944; 25- Egg-shaped; 27- Notion; 29- Drink to excess; 30- Rocket launcher; 31- Jewish month; 32- Look ___ hands; 33- Tabloid tidbit; 34- Campbell of "Party of Five"; 36- Blemish; 37- Fluff egg whites; 40- Shred; 43- To-do lists; 44- Speaker's spot; 46- Steinbeck's birthplace; 49- TKO caller; 51- That group; 52- Sharpens; 53- Fencing swords; 55- Sierra ___; 56- Less healthy; 57- Prepares for publication or release; 58- Excellent, slangily; 59- Prefix with dynamic; 60- Court order; 61- Exclamation to express sorrow; 64- Answer to a sea captain;



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MOTORSPORT

FIA declares support for Macau Grand Prix



THE International Automobile Federation (FIA) has declared its support for the Macau Grand Prix this year, just weeks after Motor Race Consultant's Barry Bland distanced himself from the role. Speaking to an online racing media Autosport, FIA said that the classic Formula

3 race will be held in accordance with the same tradition of previous years.

"Macau is for us a key event for F3," FIA Single Seater Commission's Frederic Bertrand told Autosport.

"As of a few years ago, we have made the relationship closer with Macau to better understand how they work," Bertrand continued. "We respect the philosophy and DNA of the event [...] the idea is to keep consistency and continuity, but at the same [time] they had a lot of changes with the organization on the [Macau] government side."

The commission member added that with regard to places on the entry list, which will be announced on October 6, priority will be given, as is usual, to those who have competed in either the F3 European Championship or the Japanese F3 Championship, but other contestants will also be considered.

Bertrand also provided details on the proposed multi-round World Cup that is being discussed for 2017. Macau would be on this circuit, which would reduce the impact of a cut in the number of European F3 rounds.

"We are looking at a way to

make European F3 a little bit more affordable and for sure the number of events is part of the equation," Bertrand told Autosport. "It could be eight European rounds and three World Cup, nine plus two or 10 plus one [as it is this year]."

Earlier this month, the Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee (MGPOC) accredited the departure of Barry Bland to the changing regulations of the race, which now requires the involvement of FIA.

"As a result, Mr. Bland has made the decision to discontinue his involvement," the statement from the entity read. "The MGPOC respects Mr. Bland's decision and would like to convey its appreciation for his many years of contribution and valued service."

According to Bland, the reason for his departure was linked to rushed developments from the organizing committee, which had become characteristic of organization in Macau. Despite Bland's comments however, the MGPOC insists that "arrangements for this year's event are well underway and progressing smoothly." **DB**

Promo campaign held in Hong Kong

A grand opening for the promotional campaign for the Suncity Group 63rd Macau Grand Prix was held on Saturday at Ocean Terminal in Hong Kong's Tsim Sha Tsui. The Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee participated in the roadshow which was staged by the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO) over the weekend.

The event included a number of activities recalling the history of the Grand Prix and

Macau's famous Guia Circuit. According to a statement from the organizing committee, visitors had the chance to get an up-close look at the Mercedes Dallara Formula 3 car which took Spain's Daniel Juncadella to victory in 2011, as well as a Ducati ridden by the "undisputed two-wheel 'King of Macau', Michael Rutter." There was also a pair of racing simulators present at the event which offered visitors the chance to try out the Guia Circuit themselves.

F3 RACE WITH NEW STATUS

THE MACAU Grand Prix Organizing Committee announced earlier that the "status of this year's Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix is now officially elevated to FIA F3 World Cup status." According to the committee, "Macau has many years' experience staging major motorsport events, and its organizational skills have received praise from the FIA. The trust established has led to Macau's selection as host of the FIA F3 World Cup." Previously, the race was titled FIA Formula 3 Intercontinental Cup.

Tales Azzoni, Madrid

TWO consecutive draws and a little rant by Cristiano Ronaldo have put Real Madrid on the verge of an early crisis.

Real Madrid got off to a good start this season but setbacks against Villarreal and Las Palmas in the Spanish league, combined with Ronaldo's angry reaction after being substituted on Saturday, have created an air of turmoil.

The Spanish powerhouse still holds the league lead, but its advantage over Barcelona was cut to one point after the recent lackluster performances. Madrid also struggled against Sporting Lisbon in its Champions League opener, when it needed two late goals to salvage a 2-1 win at home.

The biggest problem

facing coach Zinedine Zidane may be Ronaldo, who was visibly upset after being replaced in the 72nd minute in the 2-2 draw at Las Palmas. The Portuguese forward did not look at Zidane as they quickly shook hands after the substitution. Zidane was the one who moved toward Ronaldo and extended his hand.

Ronaldo had walked briskly toward the sideline after seeing he was being replaced by youngster Lucas Vazquez, sputtering words to himself and not hiding his disappointment. He continued talking, apparently in Portuguese, on his way to the bench, where he watched the rest of the game.

After the match, Zidane tried to downplay Ronaldo's attitude, saying he didn't think the player was angry at being replac-

FOOTBALL

Real Madrid dealing with poor results and unhappy Ronaldo



ced. The coach said he took his star forward out to rest him ahead of the team's Champions League match at Borussia

Dortmund.

"We've got a game on Tuesday and I thought that it was the right time to bring him off," Zidane

said. "That's all there is to it. He always wants to play and be out there on the pitch, but I've also got to think about the player and he needed to rest and think about Tuesday."

Madrid was winning 2-1 when Ronaldo was replaced, and Las Palmas equalized near the end to keep Madrid winless for the second straight match.

"We're relaxed," Zidane said. "We are working hard and focused on what we're doing. We have to realize that you can't always win, but we're on the right track."

Ronaldo did not play

well but set up the team's second goal on Saturday, scored by Karim Benzema, just minutes before being taken off the field.

The forward has been supportive of Zidane since the former player took over the squad last season, always praising his way of coaching. There had never been any signs of discontent from Ronaldo before Saturday's incident. Ronaldo was crucial for Zidane's team as it won the Champions League title last season.

Ronaldo did not talk to the media after the match. **AP**

opinion

World Views

Lionel Laurent

DRAGHI WANTS FEWER BANKS. GOOD LUCK WITH THAT!

Europe is over-banked. Mario Draghi knows it; John Cryan knows it; even Twitter knows it. So it's a shame that euro zone bank mergers still look so painful.

There's clearly little appetite out there to take supply out of the region's approximately 6,000-firm banking sector, even if it would mitigate the pain of negative rates and sluggish economies. Just look at how few deals there have been recently. This year, completed transactions targeting a Western European bank stand at a grand total of USD132.2 million, a drop of almost 99 percent year-on-year, according to Bloomberg data. The volume of deals involving North American and western European banks in the past six years has been less than half that of the previous six, according to Bloomberg News.

There are, of course, good reasons why you wouldn't want to bite the bullet in this environment. Euro zone bank shares are trading at about half their book value, which should mean there are bargains. But if your own stock is in the toilet too, then there's limited appeal in trying to buy rivals using shares. It's also hard to pitch an optimistic story to investors about a "transformational" merger when the outlook is this awful. Euro zone bank earnings have fallen 80 percent since the end of 2007 and analysts estimate a 9 percent drop this year. Don't forget the execution risk on top.



Mario Draghi

The biggest obstacle, though, is regulatory. Nowhere is this more obvious than Italy, a market overrun with some 650 banks and saddled with a non-performing loan ratio that's among the worst in Europe. Earlier this year, it saw its biggest bank deal since 2007 when two cooperative firms agreed to merge. But what surprised investors was ECB pressure for a 1 billion euro capital increase to support the combined entity, which damped any celebration and created higher hurdles to getting the deal done. The ECB's top banking supervisor, Daniele Nouy, made clear that she didn't just want any old merger, but only new entities that were "strong from the very beginning." In the real world, that means investors and CEOs fear dilution whether banks stay alone or get hitched.

We've argued before that even desperate-looking deals such as a tie-up between Deutsche Bank and Commerzbank deserve to be looked at given the suffering at Europe's lenders. But to encourage banks over that merger bridge, whether for domestic or cross-border deals, will need more carrot and less stick. And that ultimately depends on the ECB, even as it calls on banks to take more responsibility for their own problems. Draghi may well want to shrink the finance sector, but his own organization isn't helping. **Bloomberg**

THE LANG LANG PLAYING BOSTON SYMPHONY OPENER

A classical music superstar from China helped the Boston Symphony Orchestra kick off its new season this weekend.

Piano virtuoso Lang Lang performed Prokofiev's "Piano Concerto No. 3" as the orchestra conducted by Andris Nelsons opens its 2016-17 run at Symphony Hall on Saturday.

Lang Lang has performed at the Grammys and football's World Cup. He also serves as a U.N.

"messenger of peace" and has recorded music for PlayStation 3 games. Ahead of the season opener, Lang Lang staged a guest artist "takeover" of the BSO Instagram account on Friday.

Boston is the latest stop in a whirlwind U.S. tour for Lang Lang. Earlier this month, he performed in Dallas and Cincinnati, and plays next week in Washington, New York City, Carmel, Indiana, and Champaign, Illinois.

US ELECTION

NYT endorses 'tenacious' Clinton for president



Ros Krasny

The New York Times endorsed former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for president, saying the Democrat's "record of service and a raft of pragmatic ideas" represent the best choice to tackle the challenges the U.S. faces.

"Running down the other guy won't suffice to make that argument. The best case for Hillary Clinton cannot be, and is not, that she isn't Donald Trump," the newspaper said in an editorial for yesterday's newspaper that was published online today.

The endorsement, while not a surprise for a publication that last supported a

Republican for president in 1956, comes two days before Clinton and Trump face off in the first of three planned presidential debates, and as early voting is already under

The best case for Hillary Clinton cannot be, and is not, that she isn't Donald Trump.

NYT EDITORIAL

way in some states.

Clinton's "occasional missteps" have distorted perceptions of her character and her status as "one of the most tenacious politicians of her generation," the newspaper said of the former U.S. senator from New York and first lady.

By contrast, Republican nominee Trump "discloses nothing concrete about himself or his plans while promising the moon and offering the stars on layaway," the Times wrote.

Polls show the race to succeed President Barack Obama is tight. A RealClearPolitics average of recent surveys shows Clinton up by three percentage points, 46.2 percent to 43.2 percent for Trump. In a four-way race which also includes Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson and the Green Party's Jill Stein, Clinton leads by 2.3 percentage points.

The newspaper, while assessing Clinton on her own merits, said it would explain in a subsequent editorial "why we believe Mr. Trump to be the worst nominee put forward by a major party in modern American history." **Bloomberg**

Station	Air quality
Roadside	40-60 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	65-95 Moderate
Ambient	65-95 Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA The world's largest radio telescope began searching for signals from stars and galaxies and, perhaps, extraterrestrial life yesterday in a project demonstrating China's rising ambitions in space. **More on p9**

THAILAND A homemade bomb planted in a road killed three police officers Friday in insurgency-plagued southern Thailand, officials said. Police said they believe Muslim separatist insurgents were behind the attack.

INDONESIA announced Friday its candidacy for membership on the U.N. Security Council, saying its commitment and contribution to the world's body make it a true partner for world peace.

PHILIPPINES and the U.S. have scheduled military drills next month in the Southeast Asian nation, the U.S. embassy in Manila said, days after President Rodrigo Duterte acknowledged that his country did need American troops in the South China Sea.



SOMALIA's Foreign Minister Abdisalam Omer says that as a result of successful joint operations by the Somali military and the African Union's peacekeeping force "we have militarily defeated the evil that is al-Shabab."

US The California Highway Patrol said 12 people were injured when a tour bus carrying Chinese teens struck a tree near Yosemite National Park and went down an embankment. Twenty two people were on the bus, most of them 12- to 15-year-old Chinese students and their adult chaperones who were heading to their hotel in Fresno after visiting the park.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



A group of protestors wearing shorts in central Istanbul, Turkey, Sunday Sept. 25. Turks donned shorts to condemn the assault of a young nurse who was attacked on a bus for wearing shorts. With chants of "Don't interfere with my shorts!" the protest aimed to show solidarity with Aysegul Terzi, who was kicked in the face by a man, Abdullah Cakiroglu, on Sept. 12.