



### US, CHINA READY FOR TODAY'S GAMES

Team USA is set to play against Turkey this afternoon kicking off three days of volleyball action in Macau

P2



### HONG KONGERS MOST ACTIVE PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

P3



### LOCAL INDIE BAND RETURNS

Turtle Giant are reconvening for their first concert in the city since December last year

P7

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# Times

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

### WORLD BRIEFS



**HONG KONG'S** government said yesterday there are no plans to remove a pair of statues depicting World War II Japanese army sex slaves known as "comfort women" that were erected in front of Japan's Consulate in the Chinese territory. Activist Tsang Kin-shing said the bronze statues were a reminder to Japan of its culpability in forcing women recruited or captured from Japan, the Korean Peninsula and elsewhere to serve in front-line brothels.



**MALAYSIA** held a memorial service yesterday to mark the anniversary of the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 over eastern Ukraine in July 2014, which killed all 298 people aboard. More than 90 family members attended the memorial.

**NORTH KOREA** A magnitude 5.9 earthquake off North Korea early yesterday jolted watchers of the country's weapons development but experts say it was not caused by a nuclear test. The quake was centered far offshore and very deep while North Korea's past nuclear tests were conducted on land.

**JAPAN** has protested to North Korea after a Japanese patrol vessel spotted an armed boat believed to be from there allegedly fishing illegally, an official said yesterday.

More on backpage

# Political prisoner Liu Xiaobo dies at age 61

P11

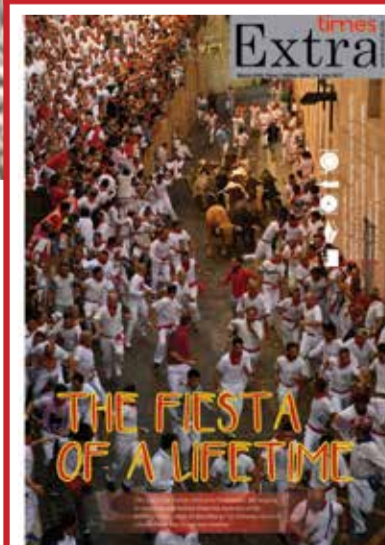


“What I demanded of myself was this: whether as a person or as a writer, I would lead a life of honesty, responsibility, and dignity.”

LIU XIAOBO  
"I HAVE NO ENEMIES: MY FINAL STATEMENT"

## Less calls to Fire Service in first half of the year

P4



**Extra**  
times  
weekend Guide  
INSIDE



From left: China team captain Zhu Ting, coach An Jiajie, U.S. coach Karch Kiraly and US team captain Carli Lloyd

“For last weekend, scores were not so important; it’s important that we’re learning and improving everyday, and our players are working hard at that,” he added.

The US team is much younger this season, with an average age of 24.6.

According to Kiraly, the team is prepared to play any player at any time in an effort to improve itself for international competitions.

He also noted that there are “good teams” this season, citing Russia, which he believed was a challenge for his team.

Meanwhile the champion of the 2016 Volleyball World Grand Prix Macau, China, is confident for the games this weekend.

China, which currently has two wins and one loss, will play tonight against Italy.

The team’s head coach An Jiajie reiterated that the team’s young players have their own technical skills, adding that they aim to have new players in the team to prepare for the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo.

“We will focus on the selection of players and analysis of the opponents,” he said.

“When compared with players in 2014, we had more young players who have never played in this kind of world match before,” An said.

Further, with its win at the 2016 Rio Olympics, An said the group does not need to feel overly stressed about the results this year but instead pledged to focus on working well as a team each and every game.

VOLLEYBALL

# US, China ready for today’s games

Lynzy Valles

**SITTING** on top of their group, following three wins in the 2017 Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) Volleyball World Grand Prix, team USA is set to play against

Turkey this afternoon kicking off three days of action in Macau. The US team currently sits in first place in Pool B1 after playing against China, Italy and Russia last week in Kunshan, China.

Kiraly, who was speaking to the press at yesterday’s FIVB Grand

Prix 2017 press conference, said that the team is looking forward to playing against Turkey for the first time this season.

Asked about which opponents he finds the most challenging, Kiraly noted that the team is only focusing on scoring a win

against Turkey.

“It’s a little different because we played China and Italy previously but we didn’t play Turkey. So both teams will be new to each other. We have to learn and adjust very quickly,” the coach told the press.

# Greater Bay Area expected to surpass Tokyo by 2023

**EXPERTS** from the Guangdong Academy of Social Sciences have said that it will only take the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area six years to surpass the Tokyo Bay area in terms of its gross domestic product, according to a report by Macao Daily News.

Recently, a research institute in the field of the Greater Bay Area, in Guangdong, released its first report including the above prediction stating that the urban area surrounding the geographical feature will become the most wealthy bay in the world.

The Greater Bay Area

will cover the Hong Kong and Macau special administrative regions, and nine cities in Guangdong Province including the first-tier cities of Guangzhou and Shenzhen.

Growth in the Greater Bay Area is expected to continue well past 2023. By 2030, the area is expected to have the highest GDP among all bay areas worldwide, and have become an advanced manufacturing center, as well as an important global hub of innovation, finance, shipping and trade, according to the China Center for International Economic Exchanges.

The combined regional GDP of the greater bay

area stood at 9.35 trillion yuan (USD1.38 trillion) in 2016, compared with the GDP of the Chinese mainland at 74.41 trillion yuan last year.

Estimates show the regional GDP of the greater bay area will reach USD4.62 trillion by 2030, surpassing Tokyo, New York and San Francisco bay areas to become the world number one.

The research institute report also indicated that the Greater Bay Area is transitioning to an endpoint when the maritime and industrial sectors will become its key economies.

The report suggests that in view of China’s Belt and Road initiative, the Grea-

ter Bay area has unique locations and advantages.

It also suggests that the Greater Bay Area should participate in China’s Belt and Road development, guide more of the country’s development, help China’s participation in international competitions, build itself into a platform for international cooperation and help improve Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau’s roles in China’s economy development and open reform.

The research institute has nearly 100 experts from Guangdong, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Macau, and it is expected to provide intellectual support to the Greater Bay



A man stands shirtless at a park of Daiba Bay area in Tokyo

Area’s development.

The idea of creating a bay area was raised as early as 2009 in a research report for the greater Pearl River Delta region. The area’s

development entered a fast track this year after the annual government work report made it clear that China was pressing ahead. MDT/Xinhua

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**Times**

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# Hong Kongers most active people worldwide

Daniel Beittler

**H**ONG Kongers are the most active people in the world, according to data collected from more than 700,000 mobile phones worldwide.

Utilizing anonymous data from the Argus activity monitoring app, Stanford University found that Hong Kongers topped the world, registering an average of 6,880 steps per day compared to the global average of 4,961 daily steps.

The app, created by health and fitness developer Azumio, collects data from in-built accelerometers - devices that measure acceleration - in most mobile phones.

A report published by the university showed that China and Japan were also highly active societies, with the average number of daily steps at 6,189 and 6,010 respectively. Indonesia was observed to be the most sedentary society of those surveyed, with its people taking only 3,513 steps on average each day.

The activity level of people in Macau was not included in the re-



port due to an insufficient sample size, one of the report's authors told the Times.

"Unfortunately, we didn't have enough data (yet) on Macau to draw statistically valid conclusions," said Tim Althoff. "As more and more people own smartphones, and use them for activity tracking, we expect this to change in the future."

The findings are being linked to the global epidemic of obesity - or "globesity" as the World Health Organization sometimes calls it - and researchers hope this information can help inform decision-makers in the areas of public health policy and urban planning.

The report affirmed a predictable conclusion: there is a strong, inverse correlation between the

average number of daily steps of a society and the prevalence of obesity.

However, how that activity is distributed appears to be a much more accurate predictor of obesity, researchers said. Coining the term "activity inequality," the researchers found a notable difference between the daily activity of men and women in those countries with an obesity epidemic, such as the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

"Just like income inequality measures the gap between rich and poor in terms of their income, activity inequality measures the gap between 'activity rich' and 'activity poor' in terms of their average physical activity levels," said Althoff.

"In countries where obesity is a bigger problem, the [activity inequality] gap was bigger and [as a result,] there are some people that get way more activity than others, and some that get way less activity than others," he added.

In contrast, both sexes were equally as active in countries with low levels of obesity, such as Japan.

"Reduced activity in females contributes to a large portion of the observed activity inequality," the report stated. "When activity inequality is greatest, women's activity is reduced much more dramatically than men's activity, and thus the negative connections to obesity can affect women more greatly."

#### AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAILY STEPS BY SOCIETY

Hong Kong	6,880
China	6,189
Japan	6,010
U.S.	4,774
Brazil	4,289
Indonesia	3,513

## Non-local worker died from work accident

A 32-year-old non-local worker died at a construction site in Taipa. According to a report by TDM, the Fire Service presumed that the death had been caused by heat stroke, although an injury was later found on the chest of the deceased. The Judiciary Police (PJ) believes that there are no suspicious causes behind the death. The case has been forwarded to the PJ for further investigations. The Labor Affairs Bureau has also stepped in to assist in the case.

## Smoking penalty may increase to MOP1,500

The Legislative Assembly will vote on an amendment of the city's tobacco control bill today. The amendment suggests increasing the penalty for irresponsible smoking to MOP1,500. During a TDM radio show yesterday, tobacco control officer Tang Chi Hou, from the Health Bureau (SSM), said that within the number of 5,000 people who are repeatedly displaying irresponsible smoking behaviors, 92 percent of them are MSAR residents. Tang said that SSM hopes that the amendment can improve the city's tobacco control effect. Tang is calling for the public to use the tobacco control hotlines more often.

AD

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## Jaywalking cases surge

In the first half of 2017, there was a total of 254 jaywalking cases recorded, according to the latest data released earlier this week by the Public Security Police Force (PSP). The number represents a 119 percent increase compared to the same period of last year. In addition, there have been 943 recorded occurrences of cars that did not give way to pedestrians on zebra crossings, while in the first half of 2016 the number was 872. In the same period, 399 overloaded cars were reported, down 46 percent compared to the previous year. This figure in the first half of 2016 was 737.

## 38 school snack shops evaluated as healthy

Thirty eight school snack shops have been evaluated as healthy shops by the Health Bureau (SSM). The 38 shops represent 60 percent of the total number of school snack shops across Macau. Currently, local non-tertiary schools are required to establish healthy dining instructions, as well as to mark their food with red, yellow, or green labels and to stock these foods in amounts that correlate to a sales ratio. For instance, food marked with red labels can correspond at most to 20 percent of all food being sold. The aforementioned healthy dining instructions were first established in 2008/2009, in primary schools. The SSM, together with the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, hopes to instill an attitude to food based on healthy eating principles in the younger generation.

## Man arrested for social network posts

A 32-year-old local man was arrested this week in Zhuhai for posting videos online calling the public to subvert the Macau SAR government, according to a report by Macao Daily News. Last May, the man posted a video online saying he could commit murder in exchange for MOP500,000. The local resident, who is now under arrest, consistently posted videos where he declared that subversion of the Macau government starts by assassinating the Chief Executive. With the help of the mainland policy authority, the Judiciary Police arrested the man, and charged him with inciting violence. Once the accusations against the suspect are confirmed, he will be sentenced to jail for a period between one and eight years.

# Fire Service registered less calls in first six months of 2017

Renato Marques

**T**HE Fire Service (CB) registered a decrease in the need for their services during the first six months of 2017, when compared to the same period of last year. The general decrease was quoted at about 4 percent, according to a press conference held by the CB at its Nam Van Headquarters yesterday.

According to the figures presented by the Fire Service Chief, Cheong Chi Wang, during the first six months of the year the CB registered 893 fewer cases (compared to the corresponding period last year) requiring their attention and action, which is the equivalent to a decrease of 3.84 percent.

From the range of services CB provides, the one that registered the most significant drop was calls to fires. In the first six months

a drop of 84 or 15.5 percent was registered. Dropping less significantly were calls for ambulance services, which slipped by a mere 2.56 percent in the same period. This result was regarded by Chief Cheong as a "demonstration that our tasks regarding prevention of the abuse on the use of ambulances reached the expected outcome."

The CB head also noticed that besides the significant drop in the assistance to fires, "in 76.64 percent of the cases there was not a need to use the fire hoses," as the cases were already solved by the time the firefighters arrived to the scene or the size of the fire was too small and did not necessitate the use of such equipment.

Cheong also noticed that fire prevention performance has increased, with the number of preventive inspections on buildings said to have risen by 23.4 percent.



Regarding the operations of the CB, Cheong said that "following requests and suggestions from residents we are going to start sending an immediate-rescue motorcycle to the place of the accident." The aim of this new service: the

immediate dispatch of a vehicle and the respective rider will be to provide help as quickly as possible in serious accidents to shorten the intervention time. When necessary this service will be followed by ambulance attendance.



ARTS

## 'Ballade - Animamix Contemporary Art' opens

**A** new exhibition, titled "Ballade - Animamix Contemporary Art" will open today at the Macau Museum of Art (MAM).

The exhibition features 46 art pieces including anime, videos, installations, sculptures, oil paintings and large-scale live paintings created by 17 artists and art groups from mainland China, Korea, Japan and Macau. It showcases a variety of artworks, including celadon puppet animation, immersive aerial image, glow-in-the-dark animation and uncanny scenes assembled with mechanical sound installations and ready-made items.

According to a statement issued by MAM, the art pieces reflect the artists' understanding of space

and time and the worldview from a contemporary perspective. Using the influence of anime aesthetics, the artists have jointly created "Ballade" by imaginatively combining reality with the virtual world. Larger art pieces in innovative forms will be exhibited on the ground, as well as the first and second floors of the MAM, covering a total area of over 1,100 square meters.

The artists and art groups participating in the exhibition include 12 from mainland China: Ding Shiwei, Tian Xiaolei, Zhu Xi, Wu Junyong, Qiu Anxiong, Sun Xun, Geng Xue, Lou Shenyi, Lu Yang, Tong Kunniao, Liu Yi, and Inkman Studio. The exhibition also features Korean and Japanese

artists Kim Jun Sik and Toru Harada, along with Macau artists Lei Ieng Wei, Leong Man Teng and Sanchia Lau.

The Animamix Biennale began in 2007 to showcase contemporary art influenced by animations and comics. This year, MAM is participating in the "Animamix Biennale 2017-2018" with "Ballade," along with other institutions such as the Power Station of Art in Shanghai, MoA Museum of Art in Korea and the Hong Kong Visual Arts Center. One of the highlights of this event is the characteristic use of anime aesthetics in a narrative text which is being turned into images for an expressible visual language. The exhibition will be open until October 15.

## New residential loans surge 70pct

**N**EW approvals of residential mortgage loans (RMLs) surged 70 percent in May 2017 compared to the previous month, according to data released this week by the Monetary Authority of Macau, while those of commercial real estate loans (CRELs) dropped during the same comparative period. With regard to the outstanding balance, RMLs increased whereas CRELs posted a slight monthly decline.

During May, new RMLs approved by Macau banks were up more than 70 percent month-to-month to MOP5.7 billion. DSEC attributed the colossal rise to new approvals of loans to enterprises with residential properties as collateral. Subsequently, the non-resident component of RMLs increased to MOP1.5 billion, while the resident proportion (accounting for 74.1 percent of the total), expanded at a slower pace of about 30 percent.

When compared with the same period of 2016, new approvals of RMLs increased by 6.3 percent.

In the same period,

new CRELs fell by 15.5 percent month-to-month to MOP3.3 billion, of which new CRELs to residents, accounting for 65.5 percent of the total, decreased by 44 percent.

In contrast, new CRELs to non-residents rose to MOP1.2 billion, mainly driven by new loans granted to enterprises collateralized by retail premises. On an annual basis, new approvals of CRELs grew by 16.8 percent.

As of the end of May, the outstanding value of RMLs was MOP184.5 billion, up by 0.7 percent from the previous month or 5.2 percent from a year ago. The resident component made up 93.5 percent of the total. When compared with one month earlier, outstanding RMLs to residents and non-residents rose by 0.1 percent and 9.5 percent respectively.

Meanwhile, the outstanding value of CRELs was MOP168.9 billion, down 0.4 percent from a month ago, but up 1.7 percent year-on-year. Compared with a month earlier, outstanding CRELs to residents fell by 0.8 percent whereas those to non-residents rose by 3.4 percent.



The colorful Pastry Bar at MGM MACAU serves Portuguese and Asian-inspired cakes and pastries, each lovingly handmade by expert patissiers and presented in a playful yet classic setting.

The cafe opens daily from 10am to 8pm. All prices include tax and are subject to 10% service charge.

### Summertime specials at MGM's Pastry Bar

Dessert lovers have much to look forward to this month with MGM MACAU's three weekday specials at Pastry Bar.

At MOP88, the 'Fresh Morning' breakfast special is a major discount on the usual Pastry Bar breakfast set. Customers can combine an all-day breakfast item - from the quiche of the day to eggs cooked any style - with one non-alcoholic beverage, such as a mixed berry smoothie or hot chocolate. The offer is available between 10am and 12noon from Monday to Friday.

Diners craving a second helping can return at night for the 'Relaxing Evening' special in this playful setting. For MOP68, Pastry Bar patrons can enjoy a non-alcoholic beverage paired with a pastry from the cafe's mouthwatering array of tarts, puffs and cakes.

The third and final offer is open to ladies only: those looking for a sweet indulgence to share with the girls can enjoy an exclusive two-for-one discount on all pastries and baked goods. The Ladies' special is available between 3pm and 8pm from Monday to Wednesday.

All three summer specials are available for the entire month of July, August and September. The Ladies' special will also be offered on Thursday and Friday during August and September. These offers cannot be redeemed in conjunction with other promotions or discount offers.



#### A slice of decadence:

### Pastry Bar's signature sweet & savory snacks

Visitors seeking a quiet moment or a quick bite can't go wrong with the Pastry Bar's afternoon tea for two, a refined set evoking English tearooms and finger sandwiches.

The MOP288 set features buttery homemade scones and madeleines with a generous helping of clotted cream and strawberry preserves on the side, all personally handmade by the Pastry Bar chefs. These come with a choice of tea or coffee, of which the Pastry Bar has several exotic blends.

Delight your sweet tooth with the selection of delicately crafted miniature pastries. The famous pastry menu from which the cafe takes its name offers no fewer than three tarts - green tea with black sesame, mixed red berries, and the famous Portuguese egg tart - as well as a chocolate macaron and soft orange cake. Another highlight is the fragrant vanilla and tonka choux pastry.

Those looking for something heartier will get their fill of meat and cheese after the Pastry Bar's miniature savory items. The Pastry Bar's culinary creations are far from the average sandwich, ranging from beetroot toast with chicken and corn to smoked duck and mango salad in a bun - not forgetting another crowd favorite, whole-wheat bread with arugula and bresaola (Italian air-cured beef). For vegetarian nourishment, the zucchini, feta cheese and red onion tartlet are sure to please even the pickiest eater.



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# Turtle Giant to reconvene for 1st Macau gig this year

Daniel Beitler

**TURTLE** Giant are reconvening in Macau tomorrow night at Rua de Nossa Senhora do Amparo for their first concert in the city since December last year.

Band members António Conceição, Fredji Ritchie and Robert Ritchie describe themselves as São Paulo natives with a connection to Macau. Though they live in different cities, separated by thousands of kilometers of ocean, the trio continues to write and produce indie-rock tracks.

This weekend, Turtle Giant will introduce some of their latest material that António Conceição said has never before been performed in the MSAR. Speaking yesterday to the Times, the vocalist-bassist assured that the trio also plans to revisit their earlier tracks that first earned the band its popularity.

Conceição said that Turtle Giant is now looking to record a new EP. The album will break from the tradition of recording exclusively in Macau's Dom Pedro V Theater; this time recorded partly in the United States and Portugal as well. In an interview with the Times last night, the band's vocalist offered his opinion on the development of Macau's cultural and creative scene and the government's role in cultivating the sector.

"I always think that Macau is a little bit behind in how they are pushing kids to know the world" in a cultural sense, he said. "That curiosity is what drives people to want to know these things."

"Is it about exposure to this sort of music? At some point yes, it has to be about exposure. I don't think it matters whether you are young or a little bit older," added Conceição, but at some point "you don't know what you don't know."

The artist believes that while government support to the industry is commendable, it can only take local acts so far. To become successful artists beyond the incubator stage usually requires the participation of the private sector, he argued.

"I don't know if this is a job for



the government," he told the Times on the idea of government plans to create sustainable creative and cultural industries.

"I don't know how many countries have their governments pushing their top artists and cultural icons... you go to the biggest pop countries in the world and the government has little involvement. It has a lot more to do with private investment. The biggest pop artists succeeded through the private sector, not through the public sector."

Though the government has "done a great job to incentivize people to create - and we can't expect all subsidized projects to be great - [...] it might be slightly misguided [on the behalf of the government] as the subsidies are supposed to develop a career, and maybe it doesn't quite have this impact."

Last year, at This Is My City festival in December, Turtle Giant presented singles from their Many Mansions I album as a warm-up to the evening's headline act, legendary Portuguese artist Rui Reininho.

Outside of music writing and concert playing, the band has also begun its foray into producing music for U.S. television shows, including one called Supergirl earlier this year.

"We had the first experience [working with television] in 2013 with other series, and it's a gig that we love," said Conceição. "We love the idea of having our music played in film and TV. There is a reciprocal relationship: movies have fed us, and we feed our ideas with movies."

The concert starts tomorrow night at 8:30 p.m. at "Beer Temple" on Rua de Nossa Senhora do Amparo, according to organizers.

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### MARKS & SPENCER SALE

There's no time like July to work on your summer wardrobe as you wave goodbye to neutral tones and heavy textiles and welcome the bold, bright cheer of summer style. What's more is that swathes of vibrant womenswear, menswear, kidswear and lingerie at Marks & Spencer are now on sale, with prices at up to 50% off. Head on down and enjoy reductions ripe for the season.

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### HIDDEN AGENDA 'PICKED ON'

**COMMENTING ON** recent media reports suggesting Hong Kong authorities are taking a tougher stance on alternative music venues in the neighboring SAR, Conceição said that, to the best of his knowledge, only two organizations have had a long-running problem. "I'm not into the political side of Hong Kong," he said, "but in my experience [...] the only two that ever had a problem were Beating Heart and Hidden Agenda. [...] I guess

Hidden Agenda has always been picked on and raided a bunch of times by police and fireman," he added, because "they keep moving to different warehouses." Hong Kong authorities say that the raids are due to ongoing regulatory problems with the premises. The latest raid on Hidden Agenda took place over the weekend and the club's owner was arrested on suspicion of allowing foreign citizens to perform without the appropriate visas.

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Angus Whitley, Jason Scott

**A**S Australians on Wednesday night watched one of the year's biggest sporting events, the interstate rugby league finale, television ads repeatedly implored them to have a bet.

For years, coverage swamped by betting promotions has made match day in Australia almost synonymous with a wager. But now a sports-mad nation that racks up gambling losses of AUD23 billion (USD17.7 billion) a year - more per person than any country - is growing a conscience. Aussies are seeking to weaken the combined force of sports, broadcasters and betting companies - for their kids' sake.

With about a quarter of young Australians estimated to be gambling on sport, the government is pushing through a ban on betting ads during daytime live matches. Lawmakers are also debating a bill, expected to pass next month, that aims to crack down on offshore gambling websites that offer bets on games already in progress.

"In people's minds, and especially children, the concept of sports and gambling have become so intertwined that they can't think about one without the other," said David Rowe, a professor at Western Sydney University who specializes in sports, culture and media. "That's what people regard as really dangerous."

As the U.K.'s top soccer body ends all betting sponsorship, Australia's government faces a conundrum: how to nurture major sports while shielding children from gambling. Efforts to stem the flood of marketing threaten the value of AUD4.9 billion of media rights for rugby league, Australian rules football and cricket alone. The rights were sold to networks including Seven West Media Ltd., Nine Entertainment Co. and Rupert Murdoch-backed pay-TV service Foxtel.

As many as 500,000 people in Australia either have a gambling problem or risk developing one, the government estimates. And in an era of smartphones and social media, adolescents are particularly at risk, according to the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation.

Teenagers are four times more likely to develop gambling problems than adults, the foundation said in a March report citing a range of studies. It included a survey of 2012's interstate rugby league contest - known as State of Origin - where types of gambling promotions, including on billboards and uniforms, appeared an average 111 times during its free-to-air coverage.

"I hear parents' concerns that their kids can name the odds on every game and talk about that rather than who's playing well," said Australian Human Services Minister Alan Tudge, whose department is overseeing the Interactive Gaming Amend-

# World's biggest gamblers cry foul as betting ads lure kids



ment Bill. Online gambling "has all the growth and is where the problems of the future will arise unless we start to get control of it now."

Such problems have been more than 200 years in the making. Gambling was already entrenched in Australia before the colony's first official horse-race in Sydney in 1810. One of the earliest forms saw convicts and military officers bet on a coin toss in a game now called "two-up" that's still played today.

Today's gambling advertisements, such as those by Sportsbet, often attempt to capture the nation's working-class and blokey past, showing cheeky young men trying to escape their female partners to drink beer or watch a match. Sportsbet also signed up Olympic drug cheat Ben Johnson to promote its mobile-phone service, before pulling the ad following criticism.

Bet365 has appealed to more urbane, tech-savvy millennials, using Hollywood star Samuel L. Jackson to add glamor to its ads. On Australian broadcasts of games, local former sports stars cite the latest betting odds during pre-match discussions, always adding: "And please, gamble responsibly."

Restrictions likely to be implemented in March will ban gambling ads during matches before 8:30 p.m., as well as in the five

minutes before and after them. That didn't apply to Wednesday night's third and deciding clash between New South Wales and Queensland states, which at least 16 percent of Aussies were expected to watch.

Even before last night's match started, six ads for Ladbrokes had appeared. One commercial break was book-ended with Sportsbet promotions, while appeals to gamble from CrownBet rounded out the game's coverage.

## Teenagers are four times more likely to develop gambling problems than adults

Australia's major sporting codes blame the television networks and betting operators for swamping the airwaves with gambling ads, which Victorian Responsible Gambling's report said were valued at AUD236 million in 2015.

"They overcooked the pudding," said Malcolm Speed, executive director of the Melbourne-based Coalition of Major Professional and Participation Sports. "While

it's a very clearly defined demographic they aim at, the general sporting public finds the advertising overbearing and annoying."

Nine didn't reply to requests for comment, while Ten Network Holdings Ltd. and Seven referred questions to Free TV Australia, which represents free-to-air broadcasters. Free TV didn't return a call and email seeking comment. The television networks and Foxtel have said they support the gambling ad restrictions as part of a package of broader reforms.

All the same, it's not clear the ad restrictions will be effective because they don't constitute a blanket ban, and many children are awake past 8:30 p.m.

"At the end of the day, if the ads are shown, kids will see them," said Andrew Hughes, a lecturer in marketing at the Australian National University in Canberra. "The advertising is very clever and effective - it downplays the harm, and gives young people a sense of belonging to a club."

The public debate has laid bare a network connecting some of Australia's richest men and major businesses to the sporting codes and their betting partners.

Billionaire James Packer, the largest shareholder in casino operator Crown Resorts Ltd., part owns rugby league club South Sydney Rabbitohs with actor Russell Crowe. Crown Resorts

also sponsors the club, while its betting unit is the official gambling partner of rival code the Australian Football League. Cricket's national governing body, Cricket Australia, lists 20 approved sports-betting partners on its website.

And the bookies show up on both sides of the debate. Even as they're teaming up with the sporting codes, lobby groups such as Responsible Wagering Australia - whose members include Sportsbet, Ladbrokes and Bet365 - say they're pushing for better ways to protect the public.

"Our members acknowledge that there is concern in the community about the level of wagering advertising," said Stephen Conroy, a former government minister who's now executive director at Responsible Wagering Australia. "That's why we have been at the forefront of calling for a reduction in the volume of wagering advertising."

Christopher Hunt, a clinical psychologist at the University of Sydney who specializes in treating gambling addictions, says he witnesses the fallout. He's concerned about the number of young men he sees suffering from sports-betting problems.

"They went from being rare to being one of our more common client groups," said Hunt. "We're at the vanguard of this problem." **Bloomberg**



REAL ESTATE MATTERS

The Rental Process For Tenants; Part 5

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor.

Having been established in 1994, JML Property offers investment property & homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.

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JULIET RISDON

This is the final part of the five part series on the rental process for tenants, and this final installment is about "ongoing living and termination".

Once you have spent the first few weeks in your new apartment and are nicely settled, it is important to ensure that you take responsibility for the ongoing upkeep and condition of the apartment.

Whilst the landlord is responsible for structural issues you need to check your contract for who is responsible for minor maintenance issues.

There are really four key areas to focus on as a tenant;

- 1. Keep it clean
- 2. Keep it dry
- 3. Repair any damage
- 4. Pay your bills

1. Keep it clean

This will minimize the chance of having an insect infestation such as beetles or cockroaches.

To help with this you should keep all food stuffs in tightly sealed containers.

Keeping the place clean will also keep it smelling as nice as possible.

2. Keep it Dry

Keeping an area dry will keep mould at bay.

During humid times of year your best bet is to use a dehumidifier and air conditioner to dry the air.

If you do find mould starting to appear, treat it straight away. You can do this by cleaning it with a solution of water and white vinegar and making sure the area is dry.

3. Repair any damage

Make sure that you take responsibility for anything damaged, even by accident, and repair it. Rectify any damage you or your family cause and keep the receipts. You may want to let the landlord know what has been done.

It is also a good idea to make sure that the air conditioners are serviced once a year and the filters in them cleaned regularly.

Making sure that the windows get cleaned once a year on the outside is a good idea as it brightens up the apartment and lets in the light.

4. Pay your bills

Make sure that you pay your bills on time and pay the final bills before check out. If you don't, the cost will be deducted from your deposit and you

could face problems with the utility companies. This may also delay the security deposit refund process.

Giving notice

If you are intending to vacate the property ensure that you give the landlord the appropriate notice which, under Macau law, is 90 days. You can also check your contract for requirements.

Do not be tempted to use your deposit to pay the final months' rent as this is in contravention of contracts and Macau law.

Once you have given notice your agent or landlord will arrange a check out and inspection with you and return the appropriate amount of the security deposit.

If you would like to know more about tenancy administration, please feel free to contact us at the e mail address below.

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'CARDBOARD GRANNIES'

# As China neighbors got rich, working in HK left her poor

THEY start sometimes at dawn and work frequently into the night, an army of old workers maneuvering carts around the streets of Hong Kong. Their spines bent with back trouble or simply the burdens of life-long toil, they're collecting cardboard boxes to sell to recyclers for the equivalent of USD2.60 a day.

In Hong Kong, they're known as "cardboard grannies." They're estimated by non-government organizations to number 5,000 — a figure almost 40 percent higher than the total of registered Ferraris, Lamborghinis and Rolls Royces seen frequently on the streets of the bustling Asian financial center.

Hong Kong has amassed enormous wealth since its handover to China in 1997, yet it's also home to an expanding wealth gap, according to the standard measure of income inequality. It has risen to a record in 2017, is the highest in Asia, and exceeds that of the U.S. and Britain.

"I do this work so I can afford to eat," said Fok Mei-sung, 67, a former farmer who came from China's Guangdong province almost 20 years ago. She migrated just as factory jobs were moving in the other direction into the mainland and a building boom was about to transform thousands of acres of farmland into residential estates for the growing middle class — and make the neighbors she left behind comparatively rich.

Fok represents Hong Kong's growing divide in economic opportunity, one that's starting to get far more public awareness. In late June, a public protest broke out after a 75-year-old cardboard collector was arrested for unlicensed hawking, which comes with a HKD5,000 (\$640) fine, for selling a piece of cardboard for HKD1, the South



Fok Mei-sung, 67, a former farmer who came from China's Guangdong province almost 20 years ago

China Morning Post reported. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, whose officers made the arrest, said it later dropped the charges after consulting with prosecutors and taking the woman's background into account.

"These old ladies and old men worked their whole lives to support building up this beautiful city," said Terry Lum, a University of Hong Kong professor and a director at the Sau Po Centre on Aging. "What you see now are a group of forgotten workers. They can only use their residual capacity to collect cardboard to sell at a low price in order to supplement their living."

Many of these workers, parti-

cularly women with little education, migrated from China to Hong Kong in the late 1990s seeking to improve their families' livelihoods and took up the low-wage work they could find. They've been cited by the Hong Kong government's Center for Public Policy as being particularly economically vulnerable and in need of support. Some 44 percent of city-employed sanitation workers noted in the report, for example, had immigrated to Hong Kong between 1995 and 2002; 78 percent of the sanitation workers were women.

Fok used to be one of them before she retired, earning low wages that weren't nearly enough to buy a home, just as the city was beginning a property boom

that has seen prices soar 400 percent since the end of the last slump in 2003. She thinks frequently of her former neighbors back on the mainland, who she said received hundreds of thousands of yuan for their farmland from developers. Because she gave up her household registration when she moved to Hong Kong, she couldn't benefit from the payouts.

"Now they are so rich, they can't even spend it all!" Fok said. "Even after eating big feasts, they even use money to travel around — imagine! They're people my age, strolling around at their leisure, sipping tea, playing mahjong. What a life they now lead."

The government's provision of public housing and a living allowance for the elderly poor is insufficient to cover the needs of those who spent decades in poorly paid jobs, have no savings, suffer from ill health and can't depend on their children for help, said University of Hong Kong's Lum. Waiting times for public housing are long, on average almost five years, despite government pledges to build more supply.

For most of her working life, Fok spent about two-thirds of her HKD3,000-a-month salary to pay rent on an apartment subdivided with wooden planks, which cost HKD2,000. Even as her salary rose to HKD6,000 a month at the peak, rent doubled to HKD4,000. After she retired from her government sanitation

job, the fund of HKD50,000 she had saved over two decades ran out within two years. After a five-year wait, she received a government-subsidized apartment last September.

"I am so much happier now and feel so much less pressure from my life, but I know many older people who aren't as lucky as me," Fok said. "We get the basics covered in Hong Kong — HKD2,490 a month allowance — but we still need to struggle for our livelihood at our age. It's just not enough, even if we buy vegetables that are a few days old."

More than 14 years of crouching and bending over garbage caused a back injury that left her unable to work full time, she said. Fok long ago separated from her husband and can't ask for financial help from her two sons who both work in construction and do odd jobs. They barely make enough to support their own families, and she doesn't want to be a burden, she said. When she can work, she said she gets up at 4 a.m. in order to get a head start on the other elderly residents competing fiercely for scrap in her neighborhood, Sham Shui Po, the poorest in Hong Kong.

"There are days it hurts so much I need to hang onto railings to even take one step," said Fok. "There's no time for pleasure, or for any normalcy in my life. I hope that my life here has given my children and grandchildren a better future." **Bloomberg**

## Shake Shack to open Hong Kong location

Leslie Patton, Vinicy Chan

SHAKE Shack Inc., the burger-and-fries chain founded in New York, will open its first location in Hong Kong next year, setting the stage for a push into the fast-food hotbed of mainland China.

The restaurant will be opened with licensee Maxim's Caterers Ltd. and a total of 14 locations are planned in Hong Kong and Macau through 2027, Shake Shack said Wednesday. The chain's upscale burgers and fries will appeal to the population there, and the restaurants will provide a base for eventually going into China, according to Chief



Executive Officer Randy Garutti.

"You're seeing changing preferences for what was traditional fast food," he said in an interview. "There's a continued thirst for great brands and a premium level of food at an approachable price."

While about 90 percent to 95 percent of the menu will be the same as in the U.S., there may be more chicken items, said Garutti, who sees opportunities in mainland China, where Maxim's operates other dining brands including Cheesecake Factory Inc.

Shake Shack may look to grow overseas as the U.S. market becomes increasingly saturated with restaurants offering fast-food burgers. The company's same-store sales fell 2.5 percent in the latest quarter, missing analysts' projections, as cold weather hurt some locations. A recent report also found that the chain is suffering from a lack of customer loyalty in the U.S. despite its more upscale image.

Shares of the company have declined 3 percent this year through Tuesday's close, while the Standard & Poor's 500 Restaurants Index has jumped 17 percent.

Expanding into China

comes with challenges as other fast-food companies have faced supply-chain scandals and anti-Western sentiment there. Last year, Yum! Brands Inc. spun off its China unit to focus on turning around its U.S. business. The owner of KFC and Pizza Hut had struggled to boost sales in China as local com-

petitors offer discounted prices and gain market share.

Shake Shack already has some locations in Asian countries, including Japan and South Korea, among its 135 restaurants. Still, Garutti said the U.S. is its main avenue for growth.

Domestic sales will be the "lion's share" of the business going forward, he said. "We have massive growth ahead here in the states." **Bloomberg**

There's a continued thirst for great brands and a premium level of food at an approachable price.

RANDY GARUTTI  
SHAKE SHACK CEO



Liu Xiaobo

# Political prisoner Liu Xiaobo dies at age 61

Christopher Bodeen, Han Guan Ng

**N**OBEL Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo, China's most prominent political prisoner, died yesterday at a hospital in the country's northeast, officials said. He was 61.

Liu had been transferred to the hospital after being diagnosed with advanced liver cancer in prison in May but remained under police custody. In an online announcement, the judicial bureau of the city of Shenyang said he died of multiple organ failure.

Liu was only the second Nobel Peace Prize winner to die in prison, a fact pointed to by human rights groups as an indication of the Chinese Communist Party's increasingly hard line against its critics. The first, Carl von Ossietzky, died from tuberculosis in Germany in 1938 while serving a sentence for opposing Adolf Hitler's Nazi regime.

"Hitler was wild and strong and thought he was right — but history proved he was wrong in imprisoning a Nobel Peace Prize winner," said Mo Shaoping, an old friend and Liu's former lawyer, adding that he was heartbroken by Liu's death.

"The authorities consider Liu Xiaobo guilty, but history will prove he is not."

Liu's supporters and foreign governments had urged China to allow him to receive treatment abroad, but Chinese authorities insisted he was receiving the best care possible for a disease that had spread throughout his body.

**The authorities consider Liu Xiaobo guilty, but history will prove he is not.**

MO SHAOPING  
LIU'S FORMER LAWYER

News of Liu's death triggered an outpouring of dismay among his friends and supporters.

"There are only two words to describe how we feel right now: grief and fury," family friend and activist Wu Yangwei, better known by his penname Ye Du, said by phone. "The only way we can grieve for Xiaobo and bring his soul some com-

fort is to work even harder to try to keep his influence alive."

Liu was imprisoned for the first time in connection with the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2010 while serving his fourth and final prison sentence, for inciting subversion by advocating sweeping political reforms and greater human rights in China.

"What I demanded of myself was this: whether as a person or as a writer, I would lead a life of honesty, responsibility, and dignity," Liu wrote in "I Have No Enemies: My Final Statement," which he had hoped to read out in court when being sentenced in 2009. He was not permitted to do so and received an 11-year prison sentence.

He came to prominence following the 1989 pro-democracy protests centered in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, which he called the "major turning point" in his life. Liu had been a visiting scholar at Columbia University in New York but returned early to China in May 1989 to join the movement that was sweeping the country and which the Communist Party regarded as a grave challenge to its authority.

When the Chinese government sent troops and tanks into Beijing to quash the protests on the night of June 3-4, Liu persuaded some students to leave the square rather than face down the army. The military crackdown killed hundreds, possibly thousands, of people and heralded a more repressive era.

Liu became one of hundreds of Chinese imprisoned for crimes linked to the demonstrations. It was only the first of four stays in prisons owing to his ideology.

His final prison sentence was for co-authoring "Charter 08," a document circulated in 2008 that called for more freedom of expression, human rights and an independent judiciary in China. Although Liu wasn't the initiator, he was a prominent force behind it and already well known to the authorities.

The sentence only increased Liu's prominence outside of his country.

In 2010, while Liu was serving his sentence in a prison in a small city in China's northeast, he was awarded the Nobel Prize, with the Norwegian-based committee citing Liu's "long and non-violent struggle for fundamental human rights in China."

The award enraged China's government, which condemned it as a political farce. Within days, Liu's wife, artist and poet Liu Xia, was put under house arrest, despite not being convicted of any crime. Chi-

na also punished Norway, even though its government has no say over the independent Nobel panel's decisions. China suspended a bilateral trade deal and restricted imports of Norwegian salmon, and relations only resumed in 2017.

Dozens of Liu's supporters were prevented from leaving the country to accept the award on his behalf. Instead, Liu's absence at the prize-giving ceremony in Oslo, Norway, was marked by an empty chair. Another empty chair was for Liu Xia.

Liu was born on Dec. 28, 1955, in the northeastern city of Changchun, the son of a language and literature professor who was a committed party member. The middle child in a family of five boys, he was among the first students to attend Jilin University when college entrance examinations resumed following the chaotic 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

Liu studied Chinese literature there and later moved to the capital, first as a graduate student and then as a lecturer at Beijing Normal University.

After spending nearly two years in detention following the Tiananmen crackdown, Liu was detained for the second time in 1995 after drafting a plea for political reform. Later that year, he was detained a third time after co-drafting "Opinion on Some Major Issues Concerning our Country Today." That resulted in a three-year sentence to a labor camp, during which time he married Liu Xia. He is survived by his wife and by his son from his first marriage.

Released in 1999, he joined the international literary and human rights organization PEN and continued advocating for human rights and democracy.

Liu Xia's brother was convicted on fraud charges and sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment over a real estate dispute which supporters said was designed to further persecute Liu Xiaobo's family over his actions.

Two years after Liu's Nobel prize, a Chinese writer won the Nobel Prize for Literature, to the delight of Chinese authorities. Mo Yan is not a critic of the Communist Party, and after initially evading questions from reporters, he eventually said he wished for Liu Xiaobo's freedom.

Other Nobel laureates were more outspoken. In 2012, an appeal by 134 Nobel laureates, including South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, called the detentions of both Lius a violation of international law and urged their immediate release. Fellow PEN members such as Margaret Atwood and Salman Rushdie appealed for his release in a letter on June 29 after he was transferred from prison to the hospital.

Their appeal fell on deaf ears. **AP**



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Hyung-Jin Kim, Seoul

**W**HEN Kim Jong Un took the helm of North Korea in late 2011, speculation swirled around the young, Swiss-educated leader. What would he do for an economically backward authoritarian nation that had been in a high-stakes nuclear standoff with its neighbors and Washington for years?

Almost six years later, there are still unanswered questions, but some things about Kim have come into focus. His rule has actually seen the economy improve, and when it comes to the nuclear drive, it's obvious that Kim, who rattled nerves last week by test-firing his country's first inter-continental ballistic missile, has a more uncompromising stance than his late father, Kim Jong Il, who occasionally sat down for talks with Washington meant to gain concessions.

Kim Jong Un seems uninterested in negotiations until he perfects a nuclear missile capable of striking anywhere in the United States.

The stance has so far worked, and he'll likely achieve the badly needed nuclear deterrence against the United States fairly soon if he's not stopped.

Here's a look at Kim's nuclear gamble and what the future might hold:

#### WHAT HE'S DOING

His father, who ruled North Korea from 1994 to 2011, also ordered a string of weapons tests, but he let diplomats pursue now-dormant international disarmament-for-aid deals.

No such talks have happened under Kim Jong Un. He has overseen three of the North's five atomic test explosions and both of its successful satellite launches, which are seen by the U.N. as a disguised test of long-range missile technology.

And then there's the July 4 ICBM launch, the North's most successful missile test to date. Afterward, Kim said he will never put his nuclear and missile programs on the negotiating table as long as U.S. hostility and nuclear threats persist.

What accounts for Kim's boldness?

It might just be his nature. Kim, believed to be around 33, may have strategically chosen to push the nuclear program after determining that the United States won't attack because of fears that a North Korean retaliation would cause enormous casualties in South Korea.

Kim may also have determined that China, North Korea's main ally and aid benefactor, might agree to tougher international sanctions against North Korea but would stop short of doing anything to bring down Kim's government, which could trigger a flood of refugees over their shared border and potentially a unified Korea with U.S.-allied Seoul in charge.

# North Korea's Kim: Dictator? Reformer? Shrewd negotiator?



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un waves during a military parade to celebrate the 105th birth anniversary of Kim Il Sung in Pyongyang

North Korea's small yet gradual economic growth in recent years has also allowed Kim to focus on furthering his nuclear ambitions. His father, by comparison, resorted to outside handouts to feed many of his 24 million people after a devastating famine in the mid-1990s killed tens of thousands.

#### WHAT HE WANTS

Kim's propaganda machine argues that the nuclear deterrence is a "treasured sword" meant to cope with U.S. aggression.

"Kim doesn't want to resolve issues through diplomacy. He's just trying to protect himself by reinforcing his country's military power," said analyst Cheong Seong-Chang at South Korea's Sejong Institute.

Since his inauguration, Kim has not met any foreign leaders or traveled abroad. The most high-profile foreigner he has met: former NBA star Dennis Rodman, who regaled him with a rendition of "Happy Birthday" at an exhibition game during one of several trips to Pyongyang.

Kim has repeatedly promised to achieve Korean unification, and he likely thinks his nuclear bombs will deter U.S. involvement in the event of another war on the Korean Peninsula. "If North Korea demonstrates its ability to strike Washington and New York [...] and threatens to turn them

into a sea of fire, the U.S. couldn't easily enter a war," Cheong said.

After perfecting a functioning ICBM, which could take a couple of years, Kim could push for talks to win big outside concessions in return for imposing a moratorium on nuclear and missile activities. Even so, he won't likely give up his already-developed weapons.

In the event of such talks, Kim would likely want big aid packages, the suspension of annual U.S.-South Korean military drills that North Korea views as an invasion rehearsal, and the signing of a peace treaty officially ending the 1950-53 Korean War, which would allow him to push for the withdrawal of the 28,500 American troops stationed in South Korea.

#### WHAT STANDS IN HIS WAY

Kim's dogged quest for nuclear weapons may also relate to his hunger to be seen by his people as a strong leader and to establish the same absolute power held by his father and his grandfather, national founder Kim Il Sung.

This would make it hard for him to back off.

"He cannot give up nukes because they are the core of his power," said Cho Han Bum, an analyst at South Korea's Korea Institute for National Unification.

The North Korean ICBM could be capable of reaching Alaska, but weapons experts say the North still needs to master several more technologies before the missile will work perfectly.

When that happens, the United States might reconsider military strikes so as not to let other rogue states think they could get their own nuclear programs if they simply hold out, Cho said.

Aside from a U.S. attack, the most painful measure against North Korea could be a Chinese suspension or drastic scaling back of its oil shipments to the North.

China sends about 500,000 tons of crude oil to North Korea, mostly for free, every year. That accounts for 80-90 percent of the North's domestic consumption, according to Cho Bong-hyun of

Seoul's IBK Economic Research Institute.

It's not clear if China would suspend the shipments even if North Korea's nuclear threat becomes more dangerous. But if a suspension happened, the North's military, the backbone of Kim's rule, would suffer because it cannot effectively fly warplanes and operate tanks without oil.

That will lead to Kim's grip on power loosening, Cheong predicts.

"We can see he's so far run North Korea in a smarter way than his father because the economic conditions have improved and the military power has been bolstered," Cheong said. "But there is a high possibility that his adventurous, uncompromising attitude will eventually make things turn out badly." **AP**

#### CHINA DEFENDS IMPORTS OF NORTH KOREAN IRON ORE

**CHINA'S FOREIGN** ministry has defended its purchase of North Korean iron ore and says it is enforcing sanctions imposed in hopes of stopping the North's nuclear weapons development. A ministry spokesman, Geng Shuang, said yesterday the imports are allowed under U.N. sanctions and generate no profit for North Korea's weapons program. Geng said China will

"strictly and earnestly implement the North Korea-related Security Council resolution in its entirety." Iron ore is one of China's biggest imports from North Korea after Beijing stopped buying coal this year under the sanctions. That has prompted U.S. President Donald Trump to accuse Beijing of failing to use its leverage, as the North's only major trading partner, to stop the nuclear weapons program.



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# Ex-Brazil leader biggest to fall in unblinking graft probe

**T**HE former president who brought Brazil to prominence on the world stage has been found guilty of corruption and money laundering — a historic judgment underscoring that no one is out of reach of this Latin American country's sprawling graft investigation.

Former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's conviction Wednesday was the highest profile victory yet for the probe, which has already brought charges against dozens of political and business elite and recovered more than USD3 billion in ill-gotten gains.

While Judge Sergio Moro defended the decision as one based purely in the law, Silva derided the trial as a political witch hunt and is expected to rally his supporters to his cause with a news conference he called for Thursday.

Brazil's first working class president, sentenced to nearly 10 years in prison, will remain free while an appeal is heard, but he is now the country's first former president to be convicted in a

criminal proceeding at least since democracy was restored in the 1980s.

Meanwhile, the current president, Michel Temer, is facing his own corruption charge.

"It's very unusual to have a former president convicted of corruption and at the time same a sitting president also being investigated," said Sergio Praca, a political scientist at the Fundacao Getulio Vargas university in Rio de Janeiro. "Today is a huge moment in Brazilian history, for better or worse."

Brazilians have lived through three tumultuous years as the ever-spreading "Operation Car Wash" investigation has revealed corruption on a scale that has shocked even the most cynical. At the same time, Dilma Rousseff was impeached and removed from office for illegally managing the federal budget. And now her successor, Temer, is under siege as the lower house of Congress decides whether he should be suspended and put on trial.

The probe initially focused on members of Silva's Workers' Party, but it has since brought



Brazil's former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva testifying in the Car Wash investigation in Curitiba

charges of wrongdoing against politicians of all stripes, feeding anger against those at the top as Brazil's struggles with its worst economic slump in decades. Brazilians are frequently in the streets, either to voice support for politicians they feel are being unfairly attacked or to back the prosecutors and judges who are investigating them.

Traditionally, no one has been better at drawing a crowd than Silva.

"He will try to mobilize his crowd, his group, but I don't think he's noticed that the times have changed, that the battle is not fought on the streets," said Praca. "People are just plain tired of everything."

A few hundred Silva supporters did protest his conviction in Sao Paulo on Wednesday night, and a somewhat smaller group was also out to cheer Moro's decision.

The charismatic leader left offi-

ce at the end of 2010 with sky-high popularity, after riding an economic boom to fund social programs that pulled millions of Brazilians out of poverty and expanding the international role of Latin America's biggest nation.

In many quarters, the man known to Brazilians simply as Lula remains revered — both for his economic policies and his role in fighting for democracy during the country's dictatorship. The 71-year-old has been considered a front-runner for next year's presidential election.

Silva's defense team issued a scathing statement after the verdict, calling the charges an attack on democracy and vowing to prove the former president's innocence.

"President Lula has been the victim of lawfare, the use of the law for political ends, the famous method used to brutal effect in various dictatorships throughout history," the lawyers said.

Silva was accused of receiving a beachfront apartment and repairs to the property as kickbacks from construction company OAS. Silva never owned the apartment, but prosecutors argued it was intended for him. Prosecutors also alleged that OAS paid to store Silva's belongings, but Moro dismissed that part of the case.

Silva also faces charges in four other cases. He denies doing anything wrong. AP

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 Venue: Macau Polytechnic Institute Lecture Theatre No. 1, R. de Luis Gonzaga Gomes, Macau  
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19:00 開幕禮 Cerimónia de Abertura / Opening Ceremony	17:00 中國 VS 土耳其 CHINA / CHINA VS TURQUIA / TURKEY	15:30 中國 VS 美國 CHINA / CHINA VS EUA / USA
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## TV canal macau



## FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:00	Revenge Sr 3
18:20	Now Generation (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talk Show (Repeated) (PT)
19:40	Soap Opera (PT)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:15	Miscellaneous
22:10	Now Generation
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
01:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:55	RTPi Live

## SATURDAY

10:40	Comedy
11:15	Blaze Riders
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast (PT)
14:50	Soap Opera
18:35	Miscellaneous
18:55	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:10	Drama (PT)
22:00	Comedy
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:05	RTPi Live

## SUNDAY

10:35	Young Adult
11:00	Sunday Mass (Live)
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	Zig Zag
18:15	Miscellaneous
19:30	Documentary Serie
19:45	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Documentary Serie
23:00	TDM News
23:50	Champions League Highlights
00:10	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:45	RTPi Live

## Offbeat

## MAN TRAPPED IN ATM SLIPS NOTES TO CUSTOMERS BEGGING FOR HELP

A Texas man who became trapped inside an ATM slipped notes to customers via the receipt slot pleading for them to help him escape, police said yesterday.

The contractor became stuck Wednesday when he was changing a lock to a Bank of America room that leads to the back of the ATM, Corpus Christi police Lt. Chris Hooper said. He couldn't let himself out of the room because he didn't have a keycard on him and was unable to notify bank employees for help.

"Apparently he left his cellphone and the swipe card he needed to get out of the room outside in his truck," Hooper said.

When he realized customers were retrieving cash from the machine, he passed notes to them through the ATM receipt slot. One read, "Please help. I'm stuck in here and I don't have my phone. Please call my boss ..."

Some customers appeared to dismiss the notes as a gag, Hooper said. But one called police, who detected a faint voice coming from inside the ATM. An officer kicked in the door to the room and freed the man, whose name has not been released.

"Everyone is OK, but you will never see this in your life, that somebody was stuck in the ATM. It was just crazy," Richard Olden, a police senior officer, told KRIS-TV.

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

13 - 19 JUL



## CARS 3

ROOM 1

2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00pm

Director: Brian Fee

Starring: Owen Wilson, Cristela Alonzo, Chris Cooper

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 102min



## DESPICABLE ME 3

ROOM 1

10:00pm

Director: Eric Guillon, Kyle Balda, Pierre Coffin

Starring: Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 90min



## WAR OF THE PLANET OF THE APES

ROOM 2

2:15, 4:45, 9:45pm

(3D) 7:15pm

Director: Matt Reeves

Starring: Woody Herrelson, Sara Canning, Judy Greer

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 140min

## SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING

ROOM 3

2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45pm

Director: Jon Watts

Starring: Tom Holland, Michael Keaton, Robert Downey Jr.

Language: English

Duration: 133min

## MACAU TOWER

6 - 26 JUL



## SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING

ROOM 3

2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm

Director: Jon Watts

Starring: Tom Holland, Michael Keaton, Robert Downey Jr.

Language: English

Duration: 133min

## this day in history



Faisal II of Iraq, aged 18, taking his oath of office before parliament in 1953

## 1958 COUP IN IRAQ SPARKS JITTERS IN MIDDLE EAST

A group of Iraqi army officers have staged a coup in Iraq and overthrown the monarchy.

Baghdad Radio announced the Army has liberated the Iraqi people from domination by a corrupt group put in power by "imperialism".

From now on Iraq would be a republic that would "maintain ties with other Arab countries". It said some 12,000 Iraqi troops based in neighboring Jordan have been ordered to return.

Major-General Abdul Karim el Qasim is Iraq's new prime minister, defense minister and commander-in-chief.

Baghdad Radio also announced that Crown Prince Abdul Illah and Nuri es Saïd, prime minister of the Iraq-Jordan Federation, had been assassinated.

It said the body of the Crown Prince, the powerful uncle of 23-year-old King Faisal, was hanging outside the Defense Ministry for all to see.

Reports from the US Embassy in Baghdad say the British Embassy has been ransacked and set on fire. The ambassador, Sir Michael Wright, and his wife were held at the embassy until late this afternoon when they were released. They are now in a Baghdad hotel.

Unconfirmed reports suggest King Faisal himself has also been killed. His cousin, King Hussein of Jordan, has declared himself head of the Arab Federation - the five-month alliance between Iraq and Jordan - in the "absence" of King Faisal.

In a broadcast to his subjects, King Hussein condemned the coup as the work of outsiders. While Iraqis are celebrating on the streets of Baghdad, the news is a cause for concern for western powers worried about their oil interests and instability in the region.

The insurrection was probably inspired by a similar uprising staged in Egypt by Colonel Gamal Abdel Nasser six years ago. In February this year he formed a political union between Egypt and Syria known as the United Arab Republic (UAR).

Radio stations in the UAR are naturally delighted by news of the Iraq coup. But leaders of Jordan and Lebanon fear it might inspire Arab nationalist rebellions in their own states and have appealed to Britain and the United States to send troops to their countries.

The US President Dwight D Eisenhower is said to be "extremely disturbed" by the Iraqi revolt and has called for an emergency session of the United Nations Security Council.

Officials in Washington fear the Iraqi coup will mean the end of the Baghdad Pact whose members include Turkey, Persia and Pakistan. It was intended to stem the influence of the Soviet Union in the region.

There are fears the Iraq coup will have a domino effect and that the pro-Western oil regimes of Kuwait, Bahrain and the Trucial States may fall to Arab nationalists.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The following day 1,700 Marines of the US Sixth Fleet arrived in Lebanon and two days later 2,000 British paratroopers were flown into Amman after reports that Syrian troops were massing on the border with Jordan. The Soviet Union supported Arab nationalist Colonel Nasser, president of the United Arab Republic (now Egypt), so tensions rose further when the USSR announced major manoeuvres close to the Persian and Turkish borders.

On 19 July, barely a week after the coup, President Nasser signed a defence pact between the UAR and the new Iraqi regime.

The UAR collapsed in 1961 when Syria withdrew from it after a military coup, but Egypt kept the name until 1971.

The Baghdad Pact was renamed CENTO (Central Treaty Organisation) in 1959 after Iraq pulled out and Ankara in Turkey became its headquarters. Iran, Turkey, and Pakistan withdrew in 1979, spelling the end of CENTO. They felt the US and UK were more interested in the pact as an anti-Soviet alliance than as a way of improving the economy of the region.

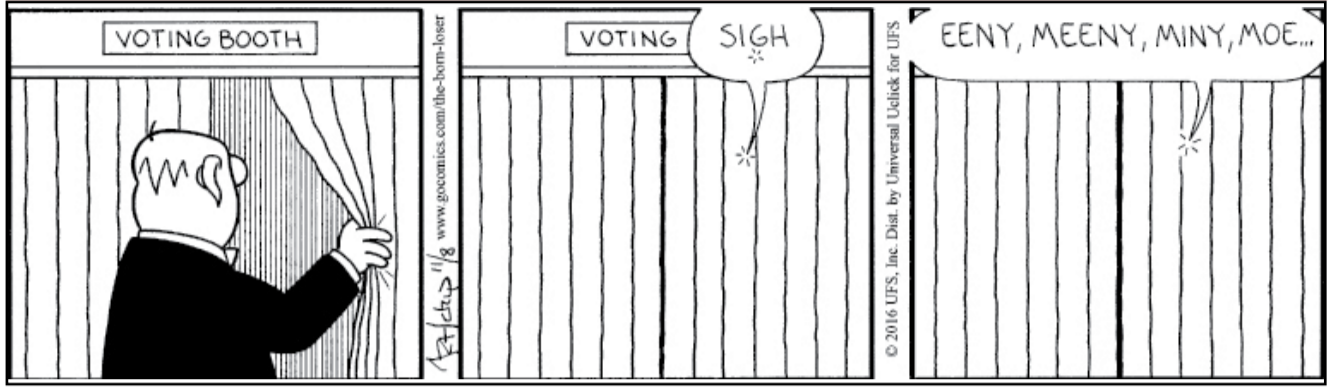
Iraq's coup leader and prime minister, Abdul Karim el Qasim, was ousted and killed in 1963 in a coup led by the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19
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Gemini May 21-Jun. 21
Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22
Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles in four difficulty levels: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each puzzle is a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table for CHINA and WORLD. Columns include location, MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. Locations listed include Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, and New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Dramatic troupe; 5- Cubs slugger Sammy; 9- In a minute; 13- Wings; 14- Lineup; 15- Potpourri; 16- One telling tale; 17- Grammarian's concern; 18- Brazilian soccer star; 19- Cloth; 21- MisÃ©rables; 22- Sunbathers catch them; 23- Tiny amount; 25- Perlman of "Cheers"; 27- Tranquility; 31- Yearly; 35- Neet rival; 36- Sweet sandwich; 38- Furze; 39- snail's pace; 40- Approaches; 42- Give rest; 43- Pave over; 46- Brockovich; 47- Seniors' org.; 48- Make possible; 50- Photograph; 52- Retired fliers; 54- Old Pontiacs; 55- Roughly; 58- Elevs.; 60- Cower; 64- Fly like an eagle; 65- Whiskey type; 67- Ego; 68- Pierce with a knife; 69- Cheerful; 70- Hardware fastener; 71- Crew needs; 72- Raced; 73- Matches a bet;
DOWN: 1- Young cow; 2- Inter; 3- Swedish auto; 4- Small dog; 5- Gown renters; Abbr.; 6- Vocal; 7- More wise; 8- Mohammed's favorite wife; 9- Highest singing voice in women; 10- Olive genus; 11- Greasy; 12- Turndowns; 14- Public sale; 20- Electrically charged atom; 24- Grows in Brooklyn; 26- Chang's twin; 27- Animal trap; 28- Consumed; 29- Lasso; 30- A long time; 32- Heap of "David Copperfield"; 33- Minute Maid Park player; 34- Vaulted; 37- Rubber gasket; 41- Spasmodic; 44- Soaks up; 45- "Treasure Island" monogram; 47- Aids; 49- Morals; 51- favor; 53- Backpack part; 55- buco; 56- Roster used to assign duties; 57- German river; 59- Cosecant's reciprocal; 61- Hawaiian goose; 62- Adhesive; 63- Young newts; 66- Avg.;

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

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
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## opinion

## CAN'T SOMEBODY SPEED UP THE GAME OF BASEBALL?

Tim Dahlberg, AP

That didn't last long. A day after basking in the glow of the most watched All-Star Home Run Derby in nearly a decade, reality intruded on baseball. Though fans still seem to dig the long ball, they don't seem too keen about the game itself.

That's a real problem for the sport, though it's hard to blame fans for not tuning in for the All-Star Game. Those in Miami were so disinterested themselves that there were empty seats visible around the ballpark even as the game was tied 1-1 in the late innings.

Baseball should be thriving this season, coming off a historic World Series last year that captivated the country. Marquee teams like the Yankees and Dodgers are playing well and there's an intriguing new crop of sluggers led by Home Run Derby star Aaron Judge that offer some appeal.

New ballparks are bringing in money with cushy USD1,000 seats behind home plate. Television rights deals are still in a bubble, and owners have to be salivating over skyrocketing valuations that mean even a team like the Marlins can bring more than \$1 billion on the open market.

Take a closer look, though, and there's trouble ahead. An All-Star Game that used to be must-see TV struggled again to draw eyeballs, even with no real competition from any other sports. The game drew half the audience of All-Star Games 20 years ago, and a quarter of the viewers from 20 years before that.

The reasons are varied, and not hard to find. Interleague play has taken the mystique off the All-Star Game, baseball doesn't manufacture stars like other sports and the game itself is becoming one-dimensional with many of its subtleties fading away.

Mostly, though, it's because baseball is simply too slow for today's limited-attention viewers. They're finding better things to do than watch endless pitching changes, long replay challenge delays and games that always seem to revolve around home runs or strikeouts.

Commissioner Rob Manfred admitted as much in a meeting with baseball writers before Tuesday's game.

"There have been dramatic changes in the game, the way the game's taught, the way the game is played at the big league level," Manfred said. "There

is a dramatically increased tolerance for strikeouts by offensive players. There's much, much more emphasis on the home run as the principal offensive tool in the game. There's a dramatic increase in the use of relief pitchers, even to the point of kind of a rotating bottom of the roster between Triple-A and who's in the big leagues."

What Manfred didn't do was offer a plan to keep fans more involved. And that's crucial at a time when nine-inning games are averaging 3 hours, 5 minutes, up a whopping 9 minutes from just two years ago.

Contrast that with the NBA, which moved Wednesday to speed up its own games. Concerned that the last few minutes of games were choppy, the owners eliminated two late timeouts to make the flow go more smoothly.

It's not all Manfred's fault, when the knee-jerk reaction from the players' union is to fight any change proposed by owners. Players grudgingly gave a small concession in allowing intentional walks with no pitches this season but have resisted most proposals to speed up the game.

But if the NBA can eliminate some timeouts, there's no reason baseball — which long ago quit worrying about saving traditions — can't move more quickly to make the game more watchable, especially among the attention-challenged younger generations that aren't embracing it.

"Other sports have been more aggressive about managing what's going on on the field in terms of what their game looks like than we have been, and I'm certainly open to the idea that we should take a more aggressive posture," Manfred said.

That likely means pitch clocks next season, something that can be implemented unilaterally after giving the union a season's notice. But there should also be limits on pitching changes, visits to the mound and replay challenges that seem to take forever.

While they're at it, a strike should be where it was originally intended to be — between the knees and the letters.

None of that is going to make baseball the dominant game in the land once more. That ship has sailed, with football and even basketball surpassing the nation's former pastime.

But it's a start, and it might be enough to entice a few more people to give the game a chance.

## BOXING

## McGregor makes fun of Mayweather's tax problems



Floyd Mayweather (left) and Conor McGregor exchange harsh words during a promotional stop in Toronto

UFC star Conor McGregor played to a partisan Toronto audience and made fun of boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr.'s tax problems at the second stop of their four-city promotional tour.

They are scheduled to meet in an exhibition boxing match Aug. 26 in Las Vegas.

McGregor, one of the biggest stars in mixed-martial arts, was clearly the fan favorite Wednesday at the open-air Budweiser Stage, with the crowd chanting "Pay your taxes! Pay your taxes!" at Mayweather.

The IRS still has Floyd Mayweather Jr. on the hook for USD7.2 million in taxes from 2010, according to records that show a lien as unresolved. That's on top of the \$22.2 million the undefeated boxer nicknamed "Money" owes in 2015 taxes for the year he earned \$200 million to fight Manny Pacquiao.

McGregor encouraged the crowd to

shout expletives at Mayweather and his family before the Irishman launched into a nearly 10-minute profanity-laced tirade.

"Twenty-eight years of age and I'm getting fight checks and promoter checks," McGregor said. "When Floyd was 28, he was on Oscar De La Hoya's undercard and that's just facts."

The 41-year-old Mayweather produced a backpack filled with thousands of dollars in bills before grabbing an Irish flag and draping it over his shoulders to mock McGregor.

"One thing we do know, the [expletive] fans can't fight for you," Mayweather said to boos. "We're not talking about being at the top one year, two years, three years, four years. Twenty-one years!"

The promotional tour opened in Los Angeles and also will hit New York City and London. AP

## East Timor football official gets life ban over fixed matches

THE Asian Football Confederation has banned former East Timor technical director Orlando Marques Henriques for any football-related activity for life, after he accepted money to lose a match at the Southeast Asian Games in 2015.

The AFC said yesterday that Orlando was found guilty of agreeing to accept USD15,000 from a third party to arrange for seven players from the East Timorese team to lose the match between East Timor and Malaysia on May 30, 2015 during the SEA Games in Singapore.

Orlando was recently re-

leased from prison in Singapore after he had previously pleaded guilty to various offenses relating to the matter in 2015.

In January, a scam to provide Brazilian players with fake birth certificates to play in World Cup qualifying matches for East Timor led to the country's expulsion from the 2023 Asian Cup.

At least 12 Brazilians players got "falsified Timorese birth or baptismal certificates" to play for East Timor's national team in qualifying matches for the 2019 Asian Cup, 2018 World Cup and other competitions, the

AFC said.

FIFA worked on the AFC-led investigation, which found seven World Cup qualifiers played between March and October 2015 were corrupted, the Asian governing body said.

In another AFC sanction announced yesterday, Al Wahda's head coach Javier Aguirre was suspended for three matches for making provocative gestures and spitting in the direction of spectators following his expulsion during the Group D Asian Champions League match between Persepolis of Iran and Abu Dhabi's Al Wahda on May 8. AP

AD

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opinion

**Bizcuits**

Leanda Lee



**WHEN GOING NATIVE GOES FERAL**

I recently embarked on one of those days that I customarily procrastinate over when the errands pile up and it is time to bite the bullet, pound the pavement and attempt to tick them all off the list. I know better than to expect total success. Inevitably there are unforeseen circumstances, missing documents, interminable queues or ridiculous company policies and nasty surprises that hamper a full bingo card of crossed-off items.

It has been slow progress, and summer in Macau is not normally the time to tease great service from banks and larger institutions – staff dream of better things to do. Local service improvements, however, have been noticeable.

Even my banking bête noire, HSBC – it is actually the Hong Kong side that’s problematic – bowled me over with impeccable service and knowledgeable staff who had the unheard initiative to offer solid and effective advice on how to proceed with my latest Macau banking conundrum. And that was just the lady by the door. My next step into the inner sanctum had me conversing with a manager about our mutual alma mater, who fixed my problems. He even suggested how best to grapple with his Hong Kong counterparts. “Don’t take no for an answer and take it up the line if you don’t get a reasonable response.” My goodness. What happened to the ‘cannot’s of Macau?

Here, where the house always wins, I knew the odds were likely to turn against me after this incredible win, but I had my list to work through. I’m stoic, if not a martyr.

Next stop, the notorious AIA Tower’s elevators. No queuing, straight up to the 20th floor and the lift was waiting for me to come down again. Strike me pink!

With trepidation I head for CTM. Last time I attempted this, the sea of heads proved too much. In a first for great service, I had received an odd SMS a few months earlier advising me that my SIM card was somewhat beyond its due-by date. Given that it had been cut down progressively since 2005, they were probably correct. I rock up; seats were available. I get asked my business and given a number. In a third for good service, within seconds I’m given a cup of water! Not only am I attended to within 10 minutes, I leave the place with a new SIM that is activated immediately and an updated contract that gives me more at two-thirds the cost. Local service in Macau rocked this day.

Then there are other companies that began well but have sent service back in time, reminiscent of Chinese mainland service pre-Olympics. Regardless of VIP numbers and calls to diversify, maybe it is still the mainland mass demographic they are marketing to because the First Class offerings on the airport ferry to the new whiz-bang expansive no-seating terminal in Pac-On has moved so down market that even the Cotai Water Jet crew are embarrassed. An additional HKD138 gets one seated upstairs, priority access and an awkward smile with “Just one small pack of biscuits and one small pack of nuts” – such a pity I had declined the morning’s aeroplane breakfast. On the return trip, even milk tea was off the menu and the across-the-counter promotion quota of two tickets for one had already sold out by the 9th of the month.

Then there are the ‘free’ promotional tickets up Macau’s Eiffel Tower. Embarrassingly for us being accompanied by guests, although “Cotai Water Jet is your ticket to the top”, “for a limited time only, simply present your same day ferry ticket for complimentary access”... to Level 7. It is another MOP70 x n-guests to the top.

The devil’s in the detail and so is the service quality. Real local service quality might just have overtaken those who have gone sham-native.

**THE BUZZ ITALY’S POOR ALMOST TRIPLED IN A DECADE**

Italians living below the level of absolute poverty almost tripled over the last decade as the country went through a double-dip, record-long recession.

The absolute poor, or those unable to purchase a basket of necessary goods and services, reached 4.7 million last year, up from almost 1.7 million in 2006, national statistics agency Istat said yesterday. That is 7.9 percent of the population, with many of them concentrated in the nation’s southern regions.

As Italy went through its deepest, and then its

longest, recession since World War II between 2008 and 2013, more than a quarter of the nation’s industrial production was wiped out. Over the same period unemployment also rose, with the rate rising to as high as 13 percent in 2014 from a low of 5.7 percent in 2007. Joblessness was at 11.3 percent at last check in May.

The number of absolute poor rose last year in the younger-age classes, reaching 10 percent in the group of those between 18 and 34 years old. It fell among seniors to 3.8 percent in the age group of 65 and older, the Istat report also showed.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	10-30 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	😊
Ambient	15-35 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSMG

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**SAUDI ARABIA** says 11 South Asian workers have died in a fire that engulfed the building where they lived. The kingdom’s civil defense says the fire, which broke out Wednesday in the southwestern city of Najran, injured another six. Saudi media, quoting civil defense, say the victims were from India and Bangladesh.

**IRAQ** Human Rights Watch yesterday condemned videos circulating on social media purportedly showing Iraqi forces killing and beating men suspected of being Islamic State group fighters in Mosul.

**POLAND** said yesterday it was glad it will have a chance to defend its logging in the ancient Bialowieza forest before a European Union court and implied that it knows better about the preservation of nature than western Europe.



**FRANCE-GERMANY** Maintaining healthy ties with President Donald Trump is essential despite clear differences of opinion, the leaders of France and Germany said yesterday. German Chancellor Angela Merkel said that last week’s G-20 summit in Hamburg showed common ground, for instance on fighting terrorism.

**BRAZIL** Former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva launched a defiant public defense yesterday after being convicted of corruption and money laundering, accusing his political opponents of trying to prevent him from becoming president again. More on p15

**Poker Pro Ivey goes all in at UK’s top court cheating case**

Jeremy Hodges

**A**LL bets are off as professional poker player Phil Ivey seeks to prove to the U.K.’s top court that he didn’t cheat to win 7.7 million pounds (USD9.9 million) at a Genting Bhd. casino.

The 10-time winner of World Series of Poker bracelets is taking the issue of whether dishonesty is a necessary element of cheating to the U.K.’s top court for the very first time. He originally sued for the winnings in 2014.

Ivey won the money playing Punto Banco, a form of baccarat, at Crockfords casino in London in 2012. He admitted using a technique called edge sorting, which involves arranging cards to take advantage of slight design differences or flaws to give a player a better idea of high and low-value cards.

“He certainly gained an advantage,” Richard Spearman, Ivey’s lawyer, said in court Thursday. “Whether he gained a legitimate advantage is the question that we are all buzzing around.”

Ivey didn’t touch any of the cards but persuaded the croupier to rotate the most valuable ones by saying he was superstitious, according to a court summary of the



BLOOMBERG

case. He said it was a legitimate tactic to gain an advantage over Crockfords, which is owned by Southeast Asia’s biggest casino operator.

Unlike in some versions of baccarat, Punto Banco is a “game of pure chance,” Christopher Pymont, Genting’s lawyer said. “This is not the sort of game you can obtain advantage by gamesmanship.”

“What Mr. Ivey set out to do was to obtain information about the lie of the cards before they were dealt,” he said of the player’s attempts to gain an advantage.

A judge in a lower court said Ivey was an honest witness but still ruled against him while a majority of Court of Appeal judges said he “achieved his winnings through manipulating” the odds in his favor.

“Cheating requires dishonesty,” Spearman said. Cheating has always meant “to act fraudulently, practice deceit and so forth.”

“There is no finding at all in the judgment below that Mr. Ivey was dishonest in any sense,” Spearman said. Lawyers for Crockfords said that Ivey operated a scam that “deprived the game of its essential character,” Spearman said while summarizing their case.

Ivey has career earnings of more than \$23 million from gambling, according to the Card Player website.

“I am hopeful that the Supreme Court will reverse the decision against me and that I will finally receive my winnings which I consider to be the just and proper outcome to this dispute,” Ivey said in a statement. **Bloomberg**

**times square by rodrigo**



TIMES