



### SHORT-FILM TACKLES ADDICTION EFFECTS

A locally produced short film, "Choices of Life", has been screened twice to the public over the past week

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### BNU MARKS ANNIVERSARY

Paulo Macedo, the CEO of BNU's mother company, stressed the bank's strategic positioning

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## WORLD BRIEFS



**SPAIN** Police arrested at least 12 people yesterday in raids on Catalan government offices, news reports said, as national authorities intensified a crackdown on the region's preparations for a secession vote that Spain says is illegal. It was the first time Spanish authorities have detained Catalan officials since the campaign to hold a vote on Catalonia's independence began to gather momentum in 2011.

**CHINA-SINGAPORE** Chinese President Xi Jinping welcomed Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at Beijing's Great Hall of the People yesterday, calling his three-day visit "a reflection of the closeness of the two countries' relations."

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**MYANMAR** The United States will contribute nearly USD32 million in humanitarian aid to help Rohingya Muslim refugees, the State Department said yesterday in the Trump administration's first major response to the mass exodus from Myanmar.

**INDONESIA** An Indonesian militant linked to the Islamic State group smiled and raised one finger toward heaven after a court yesterday sentenced him to 11 years in prison for leading a plot to attack a presidential guard-changing ceremony in Jakarta.

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# Tam appointed as the new top weatherman



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## Mexico: At least 225 killed in quake

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Lynzy Valles

A locally produced short film, "Choices of Life" has been screened twice to the public over the past week, aiming to relay positive messages on choices, hope and courage.

The plot is adapted from the true story of Hedy Kou, a local university student and artist, who grew up in a family that faced significant problems by the use of drugs and alcohol.

As drug addiction still remains a taboo and sensitive matter in the region, Kou said that she felt the need to share her personal story to show solidarity with youths who are also undergoing what she has experienced.

"Many tragedies were caused by the traditional belief of not fouling one's own nest and I'm glad to be lucky to find my way out. So I feel the need to share my story to those who are facing adverse challenges and tell them they are not alone," she said.

Kou is currently studying a bachelor's degree in social work, with the aim of assisting students who are surrounded by problematic families.

"A social worker at my school helped me a lot with the problems I faced, so I want to reach out to others who are facing the same difficulties," she remarked.

As seen in the movie, Kou's mother was sentenced for three years due to drug usage, and showed attempts of smuggling drugs from Zhuhai to Macau.

With the participation of Hong Kong actress Leila Kong and local drama actor Jacky Li, the movie was produced by SP Entertainment and organized by the Macau Volunteers

# Short-film tackles drug and alcohol effects on families

Association for Cultural Creativity and Arts.

Li remarked that the drug problem should be openly talked about, and stressed that this problem exists in the territory.

"We must talk about it because it's sensitive. We should face this sensitive topic and talk more about it because drugs and alcohol [addiction] is existent in Macau," said Li.

For the local association, the recently produced micro-film was its third micro movie-project.

Winnie Cheng, managing director of the association, agreed that the topic of the movie reflects a common pattern in society, hoping that the movie can bring educational and cultural value to the audience.

Speaking to the Times, Cheng noted that the short film is also aimed at promoting anti-drug awareness to the local youth.

"We also want to promote the local movie industry, yet at the same time, we want to let this story be heard and known so it could have some positive impact to the society," Cheng shared.

Meanwhile, director of SP entertainment Hyper Lo said that funding and sponsorship still remains a setback in the media and entertainment industry.

According to him, the entertainment company has received

sponsorship from local government institutions yet did not receive funding for the newly released short film.

"We were quite frustrated because we needed to start from scratch. [...] We aren't as famous as those from Hong Kong or China [but] we really found a lot of support [and sponsorship] from different [private] institutions in Macau," Lo expressed.

Meanwhile, the production company also expressed its interest in presenting its movie to any schools and institutions.



## 'Our Seventeen' screened at festival in Inner Mongolia



**L**OCAL film 'Our Seventeen' was screened at the 26th Golden Rooster and Hundred Flowers Film Festival last week in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia.

The film was shown during the "Hong Kong

and Macao Film Showcase" session of the festival, allowing the local audience in Inner Mongolia to gain exposure to Macau film culture.

'Our Seventeen' is a movie of local stories, which narrate the inner struggles of young people growing up. The film is also like a letter to the characters' youth, written as they live through tremendous changes. According to a statement issued by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the movie received a positive response from the public.

The Golden Rooster and Hundred Flowers Film Festival, is one of the most prominent film festivals in China, and has the longest history of any film festival in the country. During the event, the Macau delegation also exchanged views on the latest trends within the industry with representatives of film industries across the world.

# Before Hato, restaurants, retailers were optimistic for August

**F**ORTY percent of interviewed restaurants and similar establishments contacted last month by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) reported year-on-year revenue growth in July 2017. The proportion of retailers reporting growth was down by 5 percent compared to June.

According to the DSEC

survey, the corresponding proportions of western restaurants (20 percent) and local-style cafes, congee and noodle shops (39 percent) reporting year-on-year growth decreased by 25 percent and 9 percent respectively, while the share of Chinese restaurants (51 percent) increased by 7 percent.

On the other hand, 35 per-

cent of the interviewed establishments recorded a year-on-year decline in revenue, up by 2 percent from June. The corresponding proportions of western restaurants (65 percent) and local-style cafes, congee and noodle shops (37 percent) declined by 25 percent and 12 percent respectively, whereas the share of Chinese restaurants (23

percent) dropped 16 percent.

Before the arrival of Typhoon Hato in Macau, restaurants reportedly expected a slight improvement in their businesses in August, with 32 percent of restaurants anticipating a year-on-year rise in revenue, up by 4 percent from expectations in June, for July. More specifically,

around half of Chinese restaurants had predicted an increase, up by 14 percent over the previous month.

The DSEC survey also contacts retailers in the territory, finding in July that about half of those retailers reported a year-on-year sales increases that month, up by 3 percent from June.

The corresponding proportions of motor vehicle retailers (67 percent), watch, clock and jewelry retailers (72 percent) and department stores (44 percent) reporting growth climbed by 22 percent, 17 percent and

11 percent respectively.

On the other hand, 27 percent of interviewed retailers registered a year-on-year sales decrease, down by 7 percent over June. The corresponding proportions of motor vehicle retailers and department stores reporting a decrease both fell by around one-third.

Prior to the typhoon, retailers had expected no significant change in their business in August. The proportion of interviewed retailers predicting a year-on-year sales increase in August held steady at 24 percent in July.

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Renato Marques

A sharing session on trade experiences and the investment environment was held yesterday, attended by representatives from Portuguese-speaking countries and Chinese entrepreneurs.

The event was jointly organized by the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) and the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries – Macau (Forum Macau).

The event also served as an assessment on the current status of relationships in terms of trade and cooperation between the parties, recent event outcomes and the launch of future projects, namely the “Portuguese-speaking Countries Products and Services Exhibition” which will be held in Macau next month between the 19th and 21st as part of the 22nd Macau International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF). The MIF will feature a diverse range of sectors such as food and beverage tourism, electronic commerce, investment, and environmental products as well as several government bodies and departments.

As mentioned by the Executive Board Member of IPIM, Glória Batalha Ung, in the opening speech of the sharing session, trade has been growing significantly, registering in the first six months of this year “USD67.7 billion, which corresponds to a hike by 31 percent year-on-year.”

The trend is also followed by the direct investment of Chinese companies on the Portuguese-speaking countries which, from the beginning of the year until now, has reached USD50 billion, according to official estimates.

Such investment was conduc-

# IPIM claims China-PSCs trade ‘growing significantly’



China's Ministry Of Commerce representative Deng Le

ted in the infrastructure, agricultural, tourism, energy and finance sectors, among others.

Ung also noted that back in June of this year, at a meeting held between businessmen of all countries in Cape Verde, there were 10 cooperation protocols and memorandums signed. According to Ung, half of these involved Macau companies. “In the 2018 edition of the meeting that will take place in Portugal, we hope that there will be more participation by Macau companies from different sectors.”

During the event, the deputy secretary-general of the Forum Macau, Ding Tian, reaffirmed the extensive work of the Forum in promoting the growth in cooperation and trade between China and Portuguese-speaking countries. Tam further highligh-

ted the general growth that was reached in 2016 – USD90.87 billion, which was increased by 37.58 percent in the first half of 2017 alone.

For the future, Ding said the goal is “to extend the areas of cooperation for the 18 sectors

[noted by Central Government],” adding, “Macau has been performing a irreplaceable role [in the application of such guidelines].”

In conducting brief evaluation on the status of the cooperation and relations between China and countries of the group which are considered less developed (Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe), the third secretary for Commerce from China's Ministry Of Commerce (Division of Western Asia and Africa), Deng Le, highlighted the partnerships and trade figures between China and these African countries, specifically noting the “Blue Economy Initiative” in Cape Verde, in which she claimed that “China is a privileged partner.”

The commerce representative also took the opportunity to mention the current ongoing projects of the Cape Verdean government to privatize many of state-owned companies, inviting the entrepreneurs and business

owners present in the room to “be part of this investment.”

One of countries the official drew specific attention to was in relation to the smallest of the parties with whom China only recently reestablished relations – São Tomé and Príncipe. Deng said China is starting to cooperate with the state through projects in the areas of Agriculture, Health and Human Resources.

Such investments are, for the time being, amounting to between USD6 million to USD8 million.

Deng also noted the measures taken by China's government to exempt customs duties on the imports from such countries (in 8290 categories of products) as a support measure to try to balance commercial trade in which the China has the major share.

As she mentioned, this measure “is already in force since January 2015 for Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau,” and will be “extended soon [to São Tomé and Príncipe].”

## SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE FIRST PRESENTATION UNDER FORUM MACAU

THE SÃO Tomé and Príncipe delegate in Forum Macau, Gualter da Vera Cruz, presented for the first time his country and its investment potential to a panel of entrepreneurs at Forum Macau. The delegate highlighted the potential of the country in several areas, namely in regards to sea resources and tourism. Vera Cruz noted not only the dimension of the country composed by two islands but its connection to an area,

as he mentioned, “that comprises a total of 300 million people and that includes Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Angola.” São Tomé and Príncipe itself has a population of only 200,000 people. Besides beach and other outdoors tourism, Vera Cruz also highlighted the country's fishing sector potential, highlighting the 160,000 Square kilometers of maritime area included in the country's territory.



# East Asia's basketball club team tournament kicks off

Lynzy Valles

THE Super 8 Macau 2017, featuring top teams from China, Japan, South Korea and Taipei, kicked off yesterday, with club teams playing for a total of 16 games at the Studio City Event Center (SCEC).

Asia's premier commercial pre-season tournament will be played over a five-day period, with an initial group stage followed by the semi-finals and final rounds.

Each group will play three round-robin games. The best two teams from each group will advance to the top four, which will play the following day in a winner-takes-all Semi-Finals and Grand Final.

During the press conference yesterday, CEO of The Super 8, Matt Beyer, said that the tournament is one of the first in Macau as it brings together a collection of East Asia's top club teams, adding that it is the group's goal to assist the region in diversifying its economy and offerings.

Beyer noted that there is a lack of club-to-club basketball competitions in East Asia, thus the group hopes to create one in Macau.

“We would like to continue these efforts to open more events and to build the platform for greater exchange and communication between clubs,” he told the press.

“It's the future there needs to be more international

integration, and we believe this is just a start of that effort in East Asia,” the CEO added.

Supported by the Sports Bureau (ID) and Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO), The Super 8 plans to use the inaugural 2017 tournament to position itself as Asia Pacific's largest club-to-club competition platform in the region.

After the first tournament, competitions in 2018 will be expanded to include more top-level teams.

According to Beyer, the group plans to hold a tournament in February, July and September of 2018, with hopes of taking the platform across Asia; however he stressed that championship games will be

played in the region.

“Macau has all of these excellent venues, [...] I've been to [some] 50 arenas in Asia. This [SCEC] is the best I've been to,” said Beyer.

As Macau transitions from gaming to diversified entertainment, the type of events that integrates sports into Macau will “definitely lead to GDP growth,” he added, noting that the Las Vegas NBA Summer League has contributed USD30 million yearly, and has been in operation for ten years.

With the Summer League attracting over 72,000 spectators, Beyer believes that The Super 8 can also attract a significant audience over time, citing the city's affiliation with its neighboring regions.



Further, ID vice president Christine Lam said that international sports events such as The Super 8 could also develop the interest of young people in sport.

The president of Macau China Basketball Association also remarked, “We look forward to what lies ahead in the future in terms of bigger and better basketball events to promote the

sports, and engage local people on a more grassroots level.”

Teams from the four regions include Goyang Orion Orions, Pauian Archiland, Ryukyu Golden Kings and Shenzhen Leopard, which will play in Group A, while Chiba Jets, Fubon Braves, Samsung Thunders and Zhejiang Guangsha Lions will play in Group B.



## Macau-Johor Bahru route starts next month

Budget airline AirAsia has announced that direct flights from Macau to Johor Bahru will commence from next month, and a promotional offer will be launched for one year between November 28, 2017, and November 21, 2018. The offer will only be available for bookings between now and October 1, 2017. However, according to the booking information on AirAsia's website last night, the route from Macau to Johor Bahru is still unavailable. An executive at the company told the Malay Mail Online that the route was part of the company's long-term plan to develop Johor Bahru as a regional aviation hub for business travelers and Chinese investors. The company said that direct flights will be flown on a daily basis. Johor Bahru is across the border from Singapore and about three hours' drive from the popular destination of Malacca.

## UM to hold Teaching Excellence Award Seminar

The University of Macau will hold the UM Teaching Excellence Award Seminar on September 27. Li Zihao, an assistant professor from the Faculty of Education and the first recipient of the UM Teaching Excellence Award, will be the keynote speaker. He will give a talk titled "Teaching in a Digital Era with Wicked Approaches" in which Li will share his insights on innovative teaching methods and discuss ways to incorporate technology in the classroom. The UM Teaching Excellence Award was established in the 2016/2017 academic year to recognize, on an annual basis, a distinguished member of academic staff who has demonstrated excellence as an educator. The award also underlines the importance placed by the university on the pursuit of teaching excellence. The talk will take place at 5 p.m. in the Mr and Mrs Lau Chor Tak Lecture Theatre, of the Anthony Lau Building, UM (E4-G078). It will be conducted in Mandarin with simultaneous translation into English.

The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) has condemned the Macau government for denying entry to more than a dozen Hong Kong journalists in the past month. Questioning whether basic press freedoms are being respected in accordance with Macau's Basic Law, the IFJ joined its affiliate, the Hong Kong Journalists Association (HKJA), in criticizing the decision to bar the entry of some 15 journalists to the MSAR since August 26.

The IFJ Asia Pacific Office said, "Restricting the movement of journalists and media workers hinders their ability to freely report and ultimately impedes press freedom. The situation for Hong Kong journalists travelling to Macau remains unclear and raises questions about press freedom in the region."

According to a separate statement issued by HKJA, more than 10 Hong Kong journalists were denied entry to Macau by immigration officers last week. The journalists, from Apple Daily, HKO1 and the South China Morning Post, were said to be traveling to the MSAR to cover the legislative elec-

### PRESS FREEDOM

# Int'l journalist group condemns government

**The situation for Hong Kong journalists travelling to Macau raises questions about press freedom in the region.**

IFJ

tions held on Sunday.

A total of at least 15 Hong Kong-based journalists have been barred from Macau since Typhoon Hato struck on August 23. In addition, a number of lawmakers and activists from the neighboring SAR have also been



denied entry on the basis of allegedly constituting a threat to the city's stability and security.

HKJA said it was compiling a letter to the Macau government and the Security Bureau of the Hong Kong government to demand an explanation as to why the journalists were not allowed to enter Macau.

On Sunday, as he cast his vote in the Legislative Assembly election, Chief Executive Chui Sai On said he believed the Macau immi-

gration department's actions had "no direct link either to the work of the Electoral Affairs Commission or the Commission Against Corruption."

Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak has previously insisted that the decisions to deny the entry of certain Hong Kong residents bear no relation to their profession. He has also denied the existence of a 'black list' and said that such decisions are "normal practice" for every country worldwide.

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## AL ELECTION

## CE congratulates newly elected lawmakers

**CHIEF** Executive Chui Sai On has conveyed his congratulations by letter to those elected on Sunday to sit in the sixth Legislative Assembly. The letter, issued on Tuesday, followed the confirmation of results by the General Audit Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

Chui also expressed his gratitude on behalf of the government to those in the electorate who exercised their right to vote, as well as to all election teams for their participation.

He additionally thanked schools in the territory for providing polling center facilities, media outlets for their reporting of election-related news, and the public department and civil servants who, he said, were an in-

dispensable element in guaranteeing the success of the election.

Chui said that Sunday's election was held in accordance with the principles of "One Country, Two Systems", "Macau people governing Macau", and respect for the Basic Law and the Legislative Assembly Election Law. According to a statement released by the Government Information Bureau, he stressed that the government expects adherence to the one-country principle, while utilizing the two-system model.

The 2017 Legislative Assembly Election saw 14 seats elected by direct polling and a further 12 by indirect polling. The Chief Executive will soon appoint seven lawmakers, bringing the total number of legislators to 33.

## Raymond Tam appointed weather bureau chief

**THE** director of the Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA), Raymond Tam, was appointed as the new interim director of the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG).

A notice of the appointment was published yesterday in the Official Gazette, stating that Tam will integrate his new role with the DSPA directorship.

Tam's appointment follows a controversy involving the former SMG director, Fong Soi Kun, who resigned under heavy criticism over the bureau's weather forecasting during Typhoon Hato.

Fong is currently being investigated by the Commission Against Corruption to determine if the prediction of typhoons by the SMG was influenced by vested interests.

Tam was also involved in a controversy back in 2013 when he was leading the Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau. He resigned after being accused of involvement in the scandal surrounding irregular



grants of cemetery plots, but at trial was found not guilty. Shortly afterwards, Tam was appointed to the DSPA.

Commenting on the fact that Tam does not have an academic background in weather related issues, the chief executive Chui Sai On said yesterday

that there will be technicians at the SMG to support him. Chui praised Tam's managerial capabilities and said that his name was proposed as the new head of the DSPA by the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário. **PB**



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“ THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’ ”



# BNU is the gateway of China to Portuguese speaking countries, says Macedo

Lynzy Valles

AS Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU) celebrated its 115th anniversary yesterday, Paulo Macedo, the CEO of parent company Caixa Geral de Depósitos (CGD), reiterated that the local bank has been ideally placed to promote bilateral trade between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Macedo, who was Portuguese Health Minister from 2011 to 2015 before being appointed to the CGD, highlighted that BNU has a tight connection with Portuguese-speaking countries via its banking network which is present in seven lusophone countries.

"CDG Group and BNU are [...] supportive of the Chinese and local government's mission to make Macau a platform for closer commercial relations between China and Portuguese-speaking countries," said Macedo in his speech.

Speaking to the press, the CEO also highlighted that

BNU is cleared to trade in RMB in the region and that is a business the group intends to grow.

With the opening of a BNU branch in Hengqin earlier this year, Macedo pledged that the group will play a more active role in promoting businesses between Macau, China, and lusophone countries.

Macedo also noted that the group has a financial relationship with a substantial number of households and supports a significant number of large and small companies.

"BNU is a clear example that it is possible to be profitable while being socially and environmentally responsible," he said, stressing that BNU supports over 70 social responsibility projects annually. One such example cited by Macedo was BNU's post-typhoon SME & Individuals' support loan program to assist Typhoon Hato victims.

Macedo also assured of BNU and CGD group's engagement with the local government's vision to promote the territory



Paulo Macedo (left) and Pedro Cardoso

as a platform between China and lusophone countries.

"Through the implementation of this strategic movement, we are developing a suite of financial products and global financial service," he said.

Although the competition in the banking sector could be tough, CEO of BNU Pedro Cardoso said that the Portuguese bank has long-been operating in Macau and is currently serving one-third of the population.

Cardoso previously told the Times that BNU had to "leverage its position in the Portuguese-speaking countries" while also focusing on improving the quality of service and innovation by providing new services targeting the particular needs of millennials.

Meanwhile, Wilson Vong, executive director of the Administrative Committee of Macao Monetary Authority, highlighted in his congratulatory address that BNU has actively responded to the government's call for the development of the city's financial industry.

He remarked that BNU also participated in a RMB clearing center for the Portuguese-speaking countries and the financial services platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

## 15 candidates eligible for music album subsidy

The initial review of the "2017 Subsidy Program for the Production of Original Song Albums" is now complete, with 15 entrants eligible for a second review. A total of 33 applications were received this year. According to a statement from the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), eight successful applicants from the 15 candidates will be granted a subsidy of up to MOP220,000 to cover the expenses of production, promotion, and marketing of their original song albums. They may also be advised by "veteran music professionals" from the adjudicating panel, including Hong Kong music producer Edward Chan and musician Vicky Fung. The IC says that the program is designed to cultivate local musicians and producers and to encourage the development of the city's music industry.

## AMCM to launch free coin exchange service

The Monetary Authority of Macao (AMCM) will launch a free coin exchange service (including the exchange of coins for banknotes and vice versa) to the public, via the two note-issuing banks Bank of China and Banco Nacional Ultramarino, to "facilitate the circulation of currency coins." According to a statement issued by AMCM, the service will commence as of September 25 at the branches of the two banks. The coins to be exchanged should be classified by HKD/MOP denomination beforehand. Currently, some bank branches do not provide banking services for coins. The trial period for the free coin exchange service will last for six months, after which time the AMCM will review and assess the effectiveness of the service.

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Regina Garcia Cano, Las Vegas

**O**FFICIALS with authority over the Las Vegas Strip on Tuesday decided to wait until the city of Denver approves the nation's first marijuana club before they further discuss licensing and regulating pot lounges in Sin City.

Nevada launched legal sales of recreational pot on July 1, and there's been heavy demand from tourists. But the law only allows it to be used in private homes, leaving visitors without a place to legally smoke the drug.

The initial discussion among commissioners in Nevada's Clark County came after attorneys for the Legislature recently concluded that nothing in state law prohibits local governments from allowing the lounges. The commissioners at first said they wanted an opinion on the issue from the district attorney's office, but as the discussion continued, they concluded they would rather wait.

"I don't know if we need to be first or not, I don't see any reason why we have to be the first, but we certainly have to be right," commissioner James Gibson said during the public meeting. "[...]We have to make sure that when we do our part, we're entirely consistent, we're thorough in the way we've done it [and]

# Las Vegas officials waiting for Denver to act on pot lounges

we don't make for ourselves a mess that it would take years to get out of."

Denver allowed businesses to submit applications to open marijuana clubs in late August, but it hasn't received any so far. The slow start was anticipated as the application is extensive, including a requirement that businesses get support from community groups.

## Public consumption is prohibited, including at Las Vegas' world famous casinos

Several companies still are exploring the idea and trying to line up the necessary support from community groups. At least one group called Denver Vape and Play hopes to file an application this fall with the city and released



A man shops for marijuana at The Source dispensary in Las Vegas

a Facebook video last week promoting their plans for a "vape bar" facility.

Adults in Nevada 21 years and older have been able to legally buy recreational marijuana since July 1. Public consumption is prohibited, including at Las Vegas' world-famous casinos, bars, restaurants, parks, concerts and on

U.S. property, from national forests to federally subsidized housing.

Gov. Brian Sandoval, a Republican former federal judge, initially opposed legalization of recreational marijuana voters approved last November but said he accepted the will of the people and pushed an early-sale program that began

in July instead of waiting six months later as scheduled to expedite collection of revenue from state pot taxes.

Sandoval said he's worried legalization of pot lounges might invite more federal scrutiny of Nevada's pot sales — an issue that commissioners also addressed during Tuesday's meeting.

Andrew Jolley, president of the Nevada Dispensary Association and a store owner, told The Associated Press after the meeting that a county advisory panel intends to present commissioners a plan involving a pilot project for a few lounges. He said the project would help better understand the "dos and don'ts and pitfalls" of operating the facilities.

"What I heard from the commission today is that they are open to the idea in concept, but they are not ready to move forward today," Jolley said. "My reading of the situation is that they are looking for more concrete and specific ideas to discuss and to debate when formulating their decision. **AP**

# Hitachi Metals claims Chinese companies stole trade secrets

Susan Decker

**H**ITACHI Metals Ltd. filed a complaint with a U.S. trade commission Tuesday, claiming Chinese manufacturers stole secret processes for making amorphous metal ribbon that's lighter and stronger than traditional steel.

China's Advanced Technology & Materials Co. and related companies ramped up production of the metal thanks to secret manufacturing processes stolen by a retired Hitachi Metals employee and his assistant, Hitachi Metals and its Metglas unit said in a complaint lodged with the U.S. International Trade Commission in Washington. They are asking that imports of all China-made versions of the product be halted at the U.S. border.

The amorphous metal ribbons are an alloy with glass-like qualities. Because it has high strength and improved magnetic abilities, it's used in medical de-



vices in place of titanium, to create stealth vehicles, and for high-efficiency transformers.

"In order to protect our advanced technologies as a source of global competitiveness for Hitachi Metals, we will continue to take decisive action against unfair competition in the future," the Tokyo-based company said Wednesday in a statement.

The Chinese companies have begun to enter the U.S. amorphous steel market with imports designed for the electricity grid, which is taking away Metglas business, according to Hitachi Metals' complaint,

which bought South Carolina-based Metglas from Honeywell International Inc. in 2003.

The theft of the trade secrets could "destroy or substantially" injure the U.S. industry, Hitachi Metals said in the complaint. "Metglas has had to reduce production capacity and head count to cope with the theft."

The issue comes as the Trump administration investigates China's intellectual property practices and allegations it's been stealing trade secrets from American firms. The U.S. Trade Representative's office last month opened the

investigation under authority granted by Section 301 of the 1974 Trade Act, which allows the president to impose tariffs and quotas on foreign goods to protect American companies from unfair trading practices.

The bipartisan Commission on the Theft of American Intellectual Property

estimates that intellectual-property violations cost the U.S. economy as much as USD600 billion a year, with China standing out as the top culprit.

China's amorphous metal ribbon production "has experienced an exponential growth in manufacturing capacity" that can only be the result of information given by the two retired employees, Hitachi Metals said in its complaint.

The company said it learned of the production growth after AT&M filed a

complaint with the Chinese Ministry of Commerce, accusing Hitachi Metals of dumping the product at cheap prices there. Hitachi Metals contends it was able to dominate the global market because others couldn't figure out its secret production process.

The commission will consider the complaint and decide within a month whether to investigate the claims. It typically completes such investigations in about 15 to 18 months. **Bloomberg**

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Protective bubble wrap sits in the fuselage interior of an Airbus A350 XWB passenger aircraft on the final assembly line at a factory in Toulouse

## ECONOMY

# Airbus seeks China goodwill with first wide-body site abroad

**A**IRBUS SE is courting China with its first wide-body jet facility outside Europe, positioning the company to chase billions of dollars in potential orders from an aviation market that's set to become the world's biggest within a decade.

Yesterday, Chief Operating Officer Fabrice Bregier inaugurated the USD200 million completion center in Tianjin, a site designed to give finishing touches such as painting and cabin installation to A330 aircraft. The city, near Beijing, is already home to an assembly plant that produces single-aisle A319s and A320s.

"There's a direct connection be-

tween your investment, your capabilities to demonstrate that you care about the Chinese industry and at the same time your market access," Bregier told Tom Mackenzie in a Bloomberg Television in Tianjin yesterday. To prove his point, he said the planemaker's market share has risen to almost 50 percent from 20 percent since their investment in the narrow-body assembly plant.

In a race to earn Chinese goodwill, Airbus and Boeing Co. are moving parts of their manufacturing and supply chains to a country the U.S. company estimates will need \$1.1 trillion of aircraft over two decades and where the

government still makes key purchasing decisions. For China, which has its own aviation ambitions, the A330 center is a coup of sorts in its chase to build its own commercial planes.

The Toulouse, France-based maker may even look at adding A350s to its China plan in the future, Bregier said. As traffic surges, the country needs more wide-body aircraft, he said, pitching for the A380 that hasn't found much demand beyond the five flying in China.

Besides the political decision to woo China, where policy makers want companies to manufacture locally under a "Made in China

2025" blueprint, the two aerospace giants are also moving delivery closer to customers in Asia to help ease the strain on the plane-makers' existing facilities. The first A330 off the new line will go to Tianjin Airlines. The facility aims to roll out two planes a month in a year.

Airbus is also building a helicopter plant in the coastal city of Qingdao while Boeing has started construction of a finishing center for its 737 narrow-body jets on Zhoushan island south of Shanghai. Besides these facilities, the two are also in joint ventures with units of state-owned Aviation Industry Corp. of China, or AVIC, to

supply aircraft parts.

"China naturally wants to capture back some of the value in its purchases," said Will Horton, a senior analyst at Capa - Centre for Aviation in Hong Kong. "Assembly and outfitting are a small portion of an aircraft's total value, and something Airbus and Boeing can part with in order to build their relationships in China."

China has placed billions of dollars in orders with the companies. In July, Airbus won contracts worth \$22 billion to supply state-owned China Aviation Supplies Holding Co. with 100 of the A320-series jets and 40 of its latest twin-aisle A350s. In 2015, plane-makers won orders valued at \$102 billion for some 780 aircraft.

**In a race to earn goodwill, Airbus and Boeing are moving parts of their manufacturing and supply chains to China**

A travel boom is making China a lucrative market for planes that can fly short and long haul. The number of people flying to, from and within China will almost double to 927 million by 2025, and reach 1.3 billion by 2035, according to the International Air Transport Association.

"China has always been thinking about being involved in all aspects of the aviation industry," said Mohshin Aziz, an analyst at Maybank Investment Bank Bhd. in Kuala Lumpur. "Manufacturing is the last part they need to build on, but it's also the most difficult part. Having a center for both wide- and narrow-body aircraft will be good for China." **Bloomberg**

China has announced a crackdown on violations of patents and trade secrets in an effort to mollify foreign companies ahead of a visit to Beijing by U.S. President Donald Trump.

The crackdown might give Beijing diplomatic ammunition to respond to mounting U.S. and European trade complaints. But it fails to address what foreign companies say are bigger problems with intellectual property protection.

The four-month campaign will attack theft of foreign trade secrets and violations of patents, copyrights and trademarks, according to a Ministry of Commerce announcement this month. It says the goal is to "increase foreign in-

## Authorities announce trade secrets crackdown to assure investors

vestment."

Investment into China fell in the first half of 2017 following two decades of regular double-digit annual increases. That reflects what business groups say is growing frustration with difficult operating conditions and regulatory and other hurdles.

Companies complained for years that China was the global center for unlicensed copying of goods ranging from Hollywood movies and designer clothes to drugs and computer

software. More recently, companies complain that Chinese entities try to steal technology and other trade secrets, sometimes with government encouragement.

Beijing has increased some penalties, but business groups say the Communist government needs to go much further in developing its enforcement and court system to protect intellectual property rights on which its economy increasingly depends.

"As welcome as fur-

ther public commitments to protecting IPR are, this cannot be achieved through a campaign-style approach," said Lance Noble, policy director for the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China.

"It requires a sustained commitment to enforcing existing laws and applying protections equally to foreign and domestic companies," Noble said in an email. "Doing so is in China's own interest."

In a survey this year, the American Chamber of

Commerce in China said the share of its member companies that cited China as a global priority dropped to 56 percent from a peak of 78 percent in 2012.

The chamber said American companies were reconsidering investment plans in China due to "unfavorable regulations" and "uncertainty about intellectual property protection." It said 72 percent considered positive U.S.-Chinese relations important to their business but 83 percent ex-

pected them to remain the same or deteriorate.

The two governments say Trump is likely to visit China this year, though no date has been announced.

The American president agreed in April to temporarily set aside trade disputes while Washington and Beijing cooperate over North Korea. But U.S. officials have criticized Chinese policy with increasing force in recent weeks.

Earlier this week, the U.S. trade representative, Robert Lighthizer, complained in a speech in Washington that Chinese efforts to create industrial champions and induce foreign companies to hand over technology threaten the world trading system. **AP**



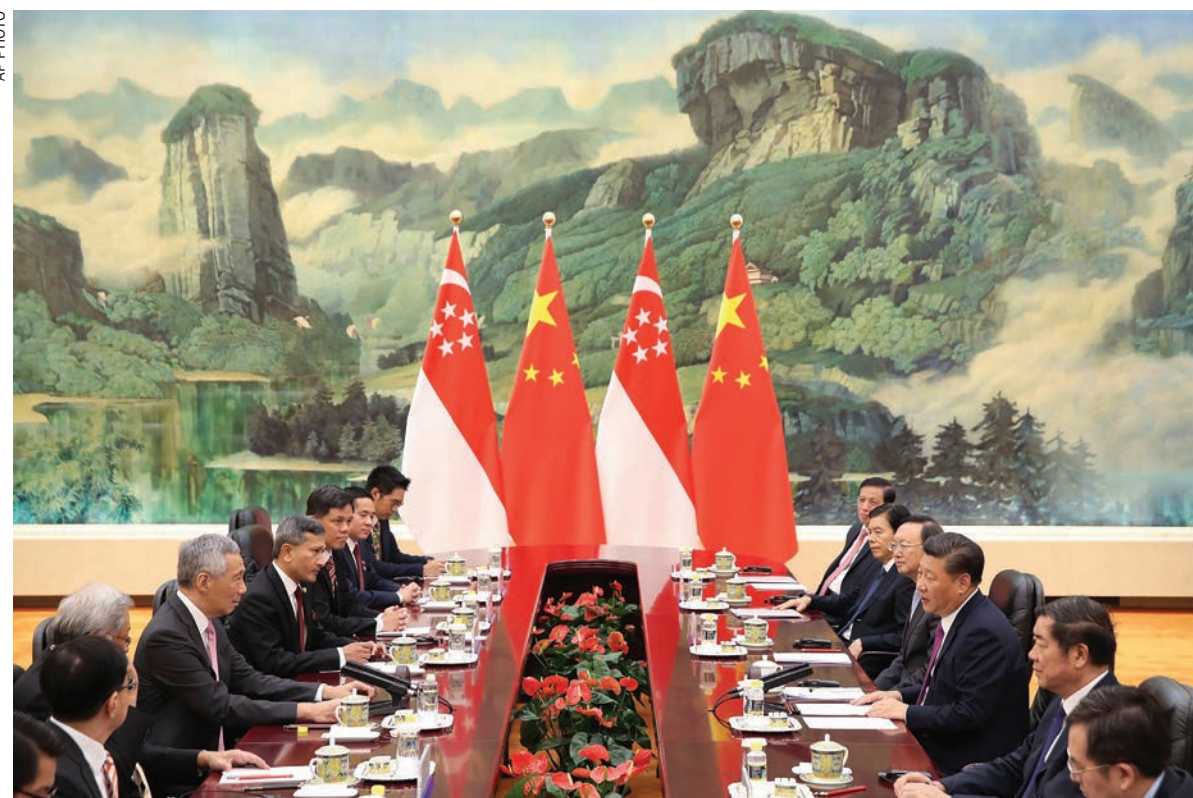
# Singapore cements China ties with pre-party congress visit

**S**INGAPOREAN Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's visit to China this week signals efforts on both sides to bolster relations that have showed strains over the past year - both in its timing and number of high-level meetings.

Chinese President Xi Jinping reaffirmed ties while welcoming Lee to Beijing yesterday, the high point of a three-day visit heavy with political overtones for both sides. Lee met four members of the Communist Party's supreme Politburo Standing Committee - Xi, Premier Li Keqiang, national legislature chief Zhang Dejiang and top graft-buster Wang Qishan - as they prepare for a twice-a-decade reshuffle next month.

"This is an extremely high-profile visit that happened at an extremely critical time," said Li Mingjiang, coordinator of the China program at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore's Nanyang Technological University. "It shows the high-level connection between the two nations is stable and they highly regard each other in the relationship."

Singapore expects to be at the forefront of the region's relations with China next year, when the city-state heads the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The bloc's summits have sometimes become a platform for the airing of grievances with China, especially over



Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (fourth from left) and Chinese President Xi Jinping (third from right) at the Great Hall of the People

its efforts to assert expansive claims to the South China Sea.

"We both value the foundation that previous generations of leaders from both countries provided and agreed to continue to promote the healthy development of the two countries' relationship," Xi told Lee at the Great Hall of the People. "Your visit this time is a further reflection of the consensus about our countries' friendship"

Lee cited North Korea's weapons testing and a new U.S. ad-

**This is an extremely high-profile visit that happened at an extremely critical time.**

LI MINGJIANG  
SCHOLAR

ministration that is "still developing its policies toward Asia" among shared concerns. "These are all events that impinge on countries both big and small, but they do not disturb our ability to work together and cooperate," he said.

The visit helps quiet speculation over Lee's relationship with Beijing after Hong Kong authorities detained a shipment of Singaporean armored personnel carriers returning from a training exercise with

China's rival, Taiwan. Singapore and China accounted for \$66 billion in two-way trade last year - representing 13 percent of the city-state's total - and Lee is eager not to miss out on Xi's "Belt and Road" global trade-and-infrastructure initiative.

Lee is also scheduled to visit the U.S. in October. Traveling to Beijing now fits with Singapore's longstanding efforts to navigate between the two powers, said Ja Ian Chong, an assistant professor of political science with the National University of Singapore.

"The Lee administration and the current Beijing leadership have incentives to smooth over relations before Singapore rotates into the Asean chair next year," he said. During a meeting with his Chinese counter, Li Keqiang, on Tuesday, Lee pledged to promote stronger Asean-China cooperation during Singapore's chairmanship.

The visit comes at a sensitive time for Xi, who's preparing for a party congress next month in which as many as five members of the Standing Committee could be replaced. A key question is whether Wang - the 69-year-old architect of Xi's historic anti-corruption drive - will be among the older members who retire to make way for new blood.

Exchanges between the leaders were sprinkled with personal touches that emphasized familiarity between the two sides. Xi's remark about "previous generations" appeared to be reference to Lee's father, the late Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew, who was vocal advocate for China's rise. Meanwhile, Lee is due Thursday to visit Fujian, a coastal southern province where Xi worked for more than 17 years. **Bloomberg**

## Patten urges Beijing not to see Hong Kongers as dissidents



Chris Patten delivers a speech at the luncheon of the Hong Kong Democratic Foundation in Hong Kong

**H**ONG Kong's last British governor urged Chinese President Xi Jinping yesterday not to treat the city's residents like dissidents.

Chris Patten's comments came amid flaring tensions over calls for independence on the semiautonomous region's college campuses.

Patten was Britain's top official in Hong Kong until Beijing took control of the colony on July 1, 1997.

In a speech during a visit to the city,

Patten said he hopes Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam, who took office earlier this year, will advise Xi to refrain from taking a hard-line approach.

"I hope that she makes it clear to Beijing that talking about democracy in Hong Kong is not an act of subversion," he said.

Hong Kong allows civil liberties unseen on mainland China, including freedom of speech. But calls for democracy by young activists in recent years have alarmed

Beijing, and the city's Beijing-backed government has clamped down on calls for independence.

Some activists began openly advocating the once-unthinkable idea of independence from mainland China after massive pro-democracy protests ended without resolution in 2014.

The day before, Patten said that calls for the city's independence from China dilute support for democracy, and residents should engage in dialogue and not hate speech.

He was speaking at a luncheon at The Foreign Correspondents' Club in Hong Kong. **MDT/AP**

### TAIWAN

## Two killed, three injured in rare shooting incident

Taiwan's official news agency says two people have been killed and three others injured in a rare shooting incident in a suburb of the capital, Taipei. The Central News Agency said rescuers discovered the victims in the town of Tucheng yesterday afternoon. It said two men, aged 19 and 30, were killed and a man and woman were struck with bullets and injured. Another woman was grazed. No suspects were identified or motive given for the shooting. Although Taiwan is home to organized criminal groups, firearms are difficult to obtain and violent crime is relatively rare.



## NORTH KOREA

# Trump's threat leaves Asia struggling to explain

Foster Klug, Seoul

**W**AS it a bluff? A warning that Washington would shoot down North Korea's next missile test? A restatement of past policy? Or simply just what it seemed: a straightforward threat of annihilation from the president of the United States?

Officials and pundits across Asia struggled yesterday to parse Donald Trump's vow Tuesday at the U.N. General Assembly to "totally destroy North Korea" if provoked.

In a region well used to Pyongyang's pursuit of nuclear weapons generating a seemingly never-ending cycle of threats and counter-threats, Trump's comments stood out.

South Korea officially played them down, while some politicians worried that Trump's words signaled a loss of influence for Seoul. Tokyo focused on his mention of Japanese citizens abducted by the North. Analysts across Asia expressed surprise, worry, even wry amusement, in one case, that Trump's words seemed to mirror threats normally emanating from North Korean state media.

Amid the speculation, the focus of Trump's belligerence, North Korea, remained silent in the hours after the speech.

Officials from the office of South Korean President Moon Jae-in, a liberal who has advocated dialogue with the North while being forced into a hawkish position by the North's weapons tests, called Trump's words a signal of Washington's strong resolve to deal with the North, but also essentially a repetition of the basic stance that all options will be considered when confronting Pyongyang.

Trump has previously threatened the North with "fire and fury." Pyongyang responded to those past remarks with a string of weapons tests, including its sixth and most powerful nuclear detonation and two missiles that flew over U.S. ally Japan.

Park Soo-hyun, a Moon spokesman, said that Trump's comments "reaffirmed the need to put maximum sanctions and pressure against North Korea's nuclear and missile provocations" so that Pyongyang realizes that abandoning its nuclear weapons is the only way forward.

Marcus Noland, a North Korea specialist with the Peterson Institute for Interna-



A TV screen showing U.S. President Donald Trump while reporting on his maiden address at the U.N. General Assembly, in Tokyo, yesterday

tional Economics in Washington, said in an online post that Trump's threat will feed a long-standing North Korean narrative that claims that the United States poses an existential threat.

"With those words, President Trump handed the Kim regime the soundbite of the century. It will play on a continuous loop on North Korean national television," Noland wrote.

**Amid the speculation, the focus of Trump's belligerence, North Korea, remained silent in the hours after the speech**

North Korea's regular weapons tests are an attempt to create an arsenal of nuclear missiles that can threaten U.S. troops throughout Asia and the U.S. mainland. Pyongyang tested its first two intercontinental ballistic missiles in July and claims that it can now accurately reach the U.S. homeland, though outside experts say the North may still need more tests before its weapons are fully viable. Each new test pushes the nation that much closer to that goal.

Some South Korean opposi-

tion politicians saw the comments as another sign that South Korea is losing its voice in international efforts to deal with the North's nuclear program.

Trump's U.N. speech came days after U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis created unease in South Korea by saying without elaboration that the United States has military options against North Korea that wouldn't involve the des-

truction of Seoul. The South Korean capital is within easy artillery range of the huge array of North Korean weapons dug in along a border only an hour's drive from greater Seoul's 25 million people.

Kim Su-min, a lawmaker in the People's Party, expressed worry that South Korean officials heard nothing from Washington before both Mattis' and Trump's remarks.

"The government should comprehensively review its diplomatic and national security system and do its absolute best so that our stance on critical issues related to the existence of our country and the lives of our people doesn't go ignored," Kim said.

Diplomacy meant to rid the North of its nukes has been moribund for years, and Pyongyang has made huge strides over the last several years in its quest for nuclear tipped missiles that can reach anywhere in the world. Trump has pushed Beijing, which is the North's only major ally, to do more to influence Pyongyang's behavior, so far to no avail.

A Chinese expert on North Korea was surprised by the vehemence of Trump's speech, saying "his rhetoric is full of military force."

Cheng Xiaohu of Renmin University said in an interview that he initially thought that

"the U.S. had nearly declared war on North Korea." The speech signals that "if North Korea conducts another missile test, the U.S. is very likely to intercept."

Officials in Tokyo, meanwhile, welcomed a reference by Trump to North Korea's abduction of Japanese citizens in the 1970s and '80s.

"I think it means an understanding has gotten through" to the United States and other countries, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Yasutoshi Nishimura said, according to Kyodo News service.

Trump said, "We know it kidnapped a sweet 13-year-old Japanese girl from a beach in her own country to enslave her as a language tutor for North Korea's spies."

The girl, Megumi Yokota, was one of at least 17 people that Japan says North Korea kidnapped.

Andrei Lankov, a North Korea expert at Kookmin University in South Korea, described Trump's threats as similar to the type of bluffing that North Korea has used for decades.

"It's a bit funny to see how the U.S. president behaves in exactly the same way, using exactly the same words his North Korean counterparts have been using for decades," Lankov said.

Rhetoric that isn't followed by action will eventually undermine the U.S. image internationally. "It makes American threats far less efficient," he said.

Lankov said he expects North Korea to respond to Trump's threats with "equally powerful [...] equally comical" and "probably more ridiculous rhetoric." **AP**

## Melania asks UN 'to step up' to protect children; Kerry says speech too harsh

**F**IRST lady Melania Trump is calling on world leaders to "step up" to improve the lives of children.

She will deliver the remarks early today during a luncheon at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York. The White House says the audience will include spouses of world leaders, among others.

In prepared remarks, Trump says that children are often "hit first and hardest in any country" when it comes to drug addiction, bullying, poverty, disease, trafficking illiteracy and hunger.

She says, "We need to step up, come together, and ensure that our children's future is bright."

Former Secretary of State John Kerry says President Donald Trump's United Nations speech may have put America in isolation and danger.

Appearing on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" sho, Kerry criticized



Trump's harsh rhetoric against North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Kerry said, "You have to ask yourself: Is America safer because of 'rocket man'?" He was referring to Trump's characterization of Kim.

Kerry said that kind of harsh language will make it harder for the United States to engage in diplomacy on North Korea and other international issues.

Kerry also charged that Trump emphasized his "America First" mantra mostly to please his supporters at home rather than the world community. "You give a speech at the United Nations to bring people to the table," he added.

President Donald Trump spoke to the General Assembly, vowing that he would "totally destroy" North Korea if forced to defend the U.S. or its allies. **AP**



Nick Perry, Wellington

**N**EW Zealand Prime Minister Bill English is fighting to keep his job when the nation votes in the general election on Saturday.

He was finance minister for eight years before taking the top job in December when his predecessor, John Key, unexpectedly resigned. English, 55, is campaigning on his success steering the economy, pointing to budget surpluses and economic growth of between 2 and 4 percent over the past five years. He is promising tax cuts.

His conservative National Party was well ahead in opinion polls until last month when Jacinda Ardern took over as leader of the opposition and led a stunning revival in the fortunes of her liberal Labour Party. Recent polls have been volatile but indicate a close race.

English talked to The Associated Press about his previous failure as National Party leader 15 years ago, when he led the party to its worst-ever election defeat, as well as the importance of his large Catholic family and his aspirations for the South Pacific nation of nearly 5 million people.

"New Zealand's done well, but of course it's not enough for a lot of people who are just starting their business or just entering the workforce, or want to get hi-

AP PHOTO



New Zealand Prime Minister Bill English takes a selfie with a resident during a visit to a retirement village in Christchurch, New Zealand

NEW ZEALAND | INTERVIEW

## PM English wants to extend economic gains

gher incomes. So the election will be, to a large extent, about how to take the New Zealand economy forward, to deliver more benefits, and also how to spread them right across the community. Because people can now see the

power of a successful economy and being able to lift everybody."

"Look, there's been some concern about immigration. But we take the view we should remain open to trade, open to investment, open to getting from over-

seas the skills we need for the jobs that we have. That's what's going to make us a confident economy that can deliver benefits to everybody."

On U.S. and China, English stressed, "It is encouraging to see

that while there are all sorts of international tensions, there's a fundamental recognition by the U.S. and China that they need each other for each other's success. They need the stability."

Concerning the upcoming elections, the seating PM recognizes it is "the low point of politics for me, that's for sure, but not necessarily the low point in my life, because that was an opportunity to think pretty hard about what you're trying to achieve, how to best use your skills. I had a family and thought it was important to demonstrate to my children what I'd always said to them, which is 'If you get knocked down, you have to get up again.' And so if I didn't do that, they'd read about it in the newspaper."

"I think the accomplishment over the last nine years has been getting New Zealand onto such a stable economic footing at the same time as we are addressing some of these issues that are so important to our long-term future. The spreading of the benefits of growth, the kind of long-term investment that we need in infrastructure and in people. The opportunity in this election is to build on that success, in a way that enables us over the next five, ten years to really change people's expectations about how they can realize their dreams here in New Zealand," English concluded. **MDT/AP**

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# Hurricane Maria hits Puerto Rico after slamming Dominica



A woman and a child rest on cots while waiting at Humacao Arena refugee center for the imminent impact of Maria, a Category 5 hurricane

Danica Coto, San Juan

ONE of the strongest hurricanes to ever hit Puerto Rico pummeled the island

yesterday, tearing off roofs and sending doors flying from hinges as officials warned Hurricane Maria would decimate the power

company's crumbling infrastructure and force the government to rebuild dozens of communities. Maria, which has killed at

least nine in the Caribbean, made landfall early yesterday in the southeast coastal town of Yabucoa as a Category 4 storm with winds of 250 kph winds, and it was expected to punish the island with life-threatening winds for 12 to 24 hours, forecasters said.

People calling local radio stations reported that doors were flying off hinges and a water tank flew away in the island's southern region. Meanwhile, widespread flooding was reported in the capital of San Juan, with water running down one apartment's interior staircase.

"This is going to be an extremely violent phenomenon," Gov. Ricardo Rossello said. "We have not experienced an event of this magnitude in our modern history."

Metal roofs were already flying and windows were breaking as the storm approached before dawn, with nearly 900,000 people

without power and one tree falling on an ambulance. Those who sought shelter at a coliseum in San Juan were moved to the building's second and third floors, reported radio station WKAQ 580 AM. The storm was moving across Puerto Rico yesterday at 17 kph, with a gust of 182 kph reported in the capital of San Juan, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Maria, which had previously been a Category 5 storm with 281 kph winds, hit Puerto Rico as the third strongest storm to make landfall in the United States based on a key measurement that meteorologists use: air pressure. The lower the central pressure a storm the stronger it is and Maria's pressure was 917 millibars, lower than Irma's U.S. landfall of 929 millibars in the Florida Keys earlier this month.

Puerto Rico had long been spared from a direct hit by hurricanes that tend to veer north or south of the island. The last Category 4 hurricane landfall in Puerto Rico occurred in 1932, and the strongest storm to ever hit the island was San Felipe in 1928 with winds of 160 mph. AP

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Mark Stevenson, Christopher Sherman & Peter Orsi, Mexico City

A powerful earthquake shook central Mexico yesterday [Macau time], collapsing buildings in plumes of dust and killing at least 225 people. Thousands fled into the streets in panic, and many stayed to help rescue those trapped.

Dozens of buildings tumbled into mounds of rubble or were severely damaged in densely populated parts of Mexico City and nearby states. Mayor Miguel Angel Mancera said buildings fell at 44 places in the capital alone as high-rises across the city swayed sickeningly.

Hours after the magnitude 7.1 quake, rescue workers were still clawing through the wreckage of a primary school that partly collapsed in the city's south looking for any children who might be trapped. Some relatives said they had received Whatsapp message from two girls inside.

The federal Education Department reported later that 25 bodies had been recovered from the school's wreckage, all but four of them children. It was not clear whether the deaths were included in the overall death toll of 225 reported by the federal civil defense agency.

President Enrique Pena Nieto visited the school earlier in the night. At the time, he said 22 bodies had been found, and added in comments broadcast online by Financiero TV that 30 children and eight adults were reported missing. Rescuers were continuing their search and pausing to listen for voices from the rubble.

Later, Pena Nieto issued a video message urging calm and saying the initial focus of authorities is on finding people trapped in fallen buildings.

"The priority at this moment is to keep rescuing people who are still trapped and to give medical attention to the injured people," he said.

The quake is the deadliest in Mexico since a 1985 quake on the same date killed thousands. It came less than two weeks after another powerful quake caused 90 deaths in the country's south.

Luis Felipe Puente, head of the national Civil Defense agency, reported early Wednesday that the confirmed death toll had increased to 225.

His tweet said 117 dead had been counted in Mexico City and 55 in Morelos state, which is just south of the capital. It said 39 were known dead in Puebla state, where the quake was centered. Twelve deaths were listed in the State of Mexico, which surrounds Mexico City on three sides, and three in Guerrero state.

The federal government declared a state of disaster in Mexico City, freeing up emergency funds. President Enrique Pena Nieto said he had ordered all hospitals to open their doors to the injured.

Mancera, the Mexico City mayor, said 50 to 60 people were rescued alive by citizens and emergency workers in the capital. Authorities

AP PHOTO



A man is rescued from a collapsed building in the Condesa neighborhood of Mexico City yesterday after the biggest quake since 1985

## MEXICO

# At least 225 killed as 7.1 quake fells buildings in the capital

said at least 70 people in the capital had been hospitalized for injuries.

The federal interior minister, Miguel Angel Osorio Chong, said authorities had reports of people possibly still being trapped in collapsed buildings. He said search efforts were slow because of the fragility of rubble.

"It has to be done very carefully," he said. And "time is against us."

At one site, reporters saw onlookers cheer as a woman was pulled from the rubble. Rescuers immediately called for silence so they could listen for others who might be trapped.

Mariana Morales, a 26-year-old nutritionist, was one of many who spontaneously participated in rescue efforts.

She wore a paper face mask and her hands were still dusty from having joined a rescue brigade to clear rubble from a building that fell in a cloud of dust before her eyes, about 15 minutes after the quake.

Morales said she was in a taxi when the quake struck, and she got out and sat on a sidewalk to try to recover from the scare. Then, just a few yards away, the three-story building fell.

A dust-covered Carlos Mendoza, 30, said that he and other volunteers had been able to pull two people alive from the ruins of a collapsed apartment building after three hours of effort.

"We saw this and came to help," he said. "It's ugly, very ugly."

Alma Gonzalez was in her fourth floor apartment in the Roma neighborhood when the quake pancaked the ground floor of her

building, leaving her no way out — until neighbors set up a ladder on their roof and helped her slide out a side window.

Gala Dluzhynska was taking a class with 11 other women on the second floor of a building on trendy Alvaro Obregon street when the quake struck and window and ceiling panels fell as the building began to tear apart.

She said she fell in the stairs and people began to walk over her, before someone finally pulled her up.

**The priority at this moment is to keep rescuing people who are still trapped and to give medical attention to the injured people.**

PENA NIETO

"There were no stairs anymore. There were rocks," she said.

They reached the bottom only to find it barred. A security guard finally came and unlocked it.

The quake sent people throughout the city fleeing from homes and offices, and many people remained in the streets for hours, fearful of returning to the structures.

Alarms blared and traffic stopped around the Angel of Independence monument on the iconic Reforma Avenue.

Electricity and cellphone service was interrupted in many areas and traffic was snarled as signal lights went dark.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude 7.1 quake hit at 1:14 p.m. (2:15 p.m. EDT) and was centered near the Puebla state town of Raboso, about 76 miles (123 kilometers) southeast of Mexico City.

Puebla Gov. Tony Gali tweeted there were damaged buildings in the city of Cholula, including collapsed church steeples.

In Jojutla, a town in neighboring Morelos state, the town hall, a church and other buildings tumbled down, and 12 people were reported killed.

The Instituto Morelos secondary school partly collapsed in Jojutla, but school director Adelina Anzures said the earthquake drill that the school held in the morning was a boon when the real thing hit just two hours later.

"I told them that it was not a game, that we should be prepared," Anzures said of the drill. When the shaking began, children and teachers filed out rapidly and no one was hurt, she said. "It fell and everything inside was damaged."

Earlier in the day, workplaces across Mexico City held earthquake readiness drills on the anniversary of the 1985 quake, a magnitude 8.0 shake that killed thousands of people and devastated large parts of the capital.

In that tragedy, too, ordinary citi-

zens played a crucial role in rescue efforts that overwhelmed officials.

Market stall vendor Edith Lopez, 25, said she was in a taxi a few blocks away when the quake struck Tuesday. She said she saw glass bursting out of the windows of some buildings. She was anxiously trying to locate her children, whom she had left in the care of her disabled mother.

Local media broadcast video of whitecap waves churning the city's normally placid canals of Xochimilco as boats bobbed up and down.

Mexico City's international airport suspended operations and was checking facilities for damage.

Much of Mexico City is built on former lakebed, and the soil can amplify the effects of earthquakes centered hundreds of miles away.

The new quake appeared to be unrelated to the magnitude 8.1 temblor that hit Sept. 7 off Mexico's southern coast and also was felt strongly in the capital.

U.S. Geological Survey seismologist Paul Earle noted the epicenters of the two quakes were 400 miles (650 kilometers) apart and said most aftershocks are within (60 miles) 100 kilometers.

There have been 19 earthquakes of magnitude 6.5 or larger within 150 miles (250 kilometers) of Tuesday's quake over the past century, Earle said.

Earth usually has about 15 to 20 earthquakes this size or larger each year, Earle said.

Initial calculations showed that more than 30 million people would have felt moderate shaking from Tuesday's quake. **AP**



## what's ON



### MOMOKO SOLO EXHIBITION

TIME: 11am-6pm (Closed on Mondays and public holidays)

UNTIL: September 27, 2017

VENUE: 10 Fantasia, No. 10, Calçada da Igreja de S. Lázaro

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

### IN SEARCH OF THOSE JOURNEYS - A

RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION OF THE FERRY

TRANSPORT BETWEEN MACAU AND THE ISLANDS

TIME: 10am-7pm (Last admission at 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: October 5, 2017

VENUE: Nostalgic House of Taipa Houses

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: 8988 4000

### EXHIBITION BY WONG NGA PENG

TIME: 11am-6pm (Closed on Mondays and public holidays)

UNTIL: October 8, 2017

VENUE: 10 Fantasia, No. 10, Calçada da Igreja de S. Lázaro

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

### DISCOVER MACAU: MUSEUM OF TAIPA AND COLOANE HISTORY

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (last admission at 5:30pm; Closed on Mondays)

ADDRESS: Rua Correia da Silva, Taipa

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000; 2882 5631

### REPRESENTING WOMEN THROUGH MAM COLLECTION - 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY

TIME: 10am-7pm, last admission at 6:30pm (Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: December 10, 2017

VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

### MACAO ARTS WINDOW 2017 - HUNDRED SPECIES - WORKS OF PEGGY CHAN

TIME: 10am-7pm, last admission at 6:30pm (Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: October 8, 2017

VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

## Offbeat

### MICHIGAN LOTTERY TICKETS WITH FOUR ZEROES ARE WORTH USD5,000

When are four zeroes worth USD5,000? When four zeroes are the winning numbers in a Michigan lottery drawing.

Officials say 1,079 players had winning tickets in Michigan's Sunday evening Daily 4 game. Each ticket is worth \$5,000.

It's the first time that four zeroes were drawn in the game, which has been played since 1981. Each play costs a dollar. The Daily 4 game is played twice a day every day.

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:10	CTT League: Benfica - Braga (Repeated)
18:50	The Cariocas (Repeated)
19:15	Non-daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:40	Yes, Chef!
22:10	Brazilian Mini Serie - Premiere
22:40	Seven Deadly Sins
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:55	RTPi Live

## cinema



### CINETEATRO

21 SEP - 27 SEP



#### KINGSMAN: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

(2D) ROOM 1

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

(3D) ROOM 1

7:15 pm

Director: Mathew Vaughn

Starring: Colin Firth, Julianne Moore, Halle Berry

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min



#### IT

ROOM 2

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

Director: Andres Muschietti

Starring: Bill Skarsgård, Jaeden Lieberher, Finn Wolfhard

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 135min



#### A TAXI DRIVER

ROOM 3

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

Director: Jang Hoon

Starring: Song Kang-ho, Thomas Krestschmann, Yoo Hai-jin

Language: Korean(Chinese & English)

Duration: 137min

## this day in history



### 1998 CLINTON'S GRAND JURY TESTIMONY RELEASED

Bill Clinton's testimony about his relationship with a young female assistant has been released to the United States public.

The video of the American president's 17 August interview in front of the Grand Jury was taken to a television station at 0910 local time (1410 BST) and broadcast immediately by many US networks.

During the examination President Clinton was questioned by prosecutors about the exact nature of his affair with Monica Lewinsky - and whether he had previously lied under oath.

The president's defence against the accusations relied on elaborate definitions of certain words.

The interview was originally taped on the insistence of the investigating team for the benefit of a jury member who could not attend the hearing.

But members of the House of Representatives justified the release of the tape by saying the public had the right to see all the evidence of the Starr Report.

"It's not a pretty sight... But the key thing we've all got to focus on is what is the truth", said Charles Canady - a republican on the House Judicial Committee.

A visibly uncomfortable President Clinton was forced to defend previous statements about his affair with Miss Lewinsky by quibbling over the precise definition of his words.

In particular he said "sexual relations" did not to him mean "sexual intercourse" - which he denied having with the former White House intern.

Challenged later in the hearing, he argued the meaning of the smallest of words contained in one of his lawyers' statements.

"It depends upon what the meaning of the word 'is' is. If 'is' means 'is and never has been' that's one thing - if it means 'there is none', that was a completely true statement," he said.

After facing the Grand Jury, the president now awaits the verdict of the American people.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

On 9 December 1998 the House Judiciary Committee proposed four articles of impeachment against the president.

Ten days later - after a bitter debate between republicans and democrats - the House of Representatives voted to confirm the recommendation.

Bill Clinton became only the second president in American history to face such an indictment, but he refused to resign.

His trial began on 7 January 1999 and ended on 12 February when senators voted to acquit him of the impeachment charges of perjury and obstruction of justice.



YOUR STARS



Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

The problem this individual may have - and may not have thought of before they started this campaign against you - is that you've been following all the rules, and they haven't.



Taurus

April 20-May 20

Well, you can be sure that the green-eyed monster isn't far away. If you're an outside observer, you might want to have a nice, objective chat with all parties concerned.



Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Your passions are running on high today - very high. Which could be good or bad, depending on what you're feeling. If everything is going smoothly, you'll want to be as close to your special someone as possible.



Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Every now and then, you use your talents to manipulate things to your favor. What's the big deal? Everyone does it, especially in the defense of someone or something that can't defend itself - like now, for example.



Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You've probably gotten yourself into a bit of trouble lately - you and that impetuous way you have of saying exactly what's on your mind. And you've been even more rash than usual lately.



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You have something to say or do that's going to leave a bad taste in your mouth - but you have to go for it, nonetheless. So what good will guilt do? None at all. Do what it takes to make things right.



Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

Someone out there is positively steaming mad - not at you, exactly, but certainly about you. They're upset because you have something they want, something they feel they deserve more than you do.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

A trace of tension is in the air - okay, more than just a trace - and you're not quite sure what comes next. Obviously, you can only do one thing: sit tight and see what happens.



Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

If you're out shopping, you'd better have company - the kind that's big enough to wrestle that plastic out of your hands. You'll feel darned near compelled to buy whatever makes you feel the way you want to feel.



Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You've had just about all the fun you can stand with these feelings you've been keeping to yourself, and you're finally ready to talk about everything. If someone else will be affected, consider that before you start.



Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Someone has to start the ball rolling, and it might as well be you. If you can feel the tension in the air, and you know how to get rid of it, do what you do best: Be honest.



Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

The green-eyed monster is here, yet again. You've been feeling it coming for a while, and you've tried your best to help a dear one see the err of their ways. But sometimes you just have to give in...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Clammy; 5- Mayberry boy; 9- Packs tightly; 14- Eternally; 15- Coffee servers; 16- Royal; 17- Fair; 18- I did it!; 19- Call to mind; 20- In the place of; 22- Spoken; 24- Shakespearean villain; 25- Pester; 26- Allege; 29- Mindlessly stupid; 31- Garden figure; 32- Diving duck; 33- AOL, e.g.; 36- 1972 treaty subj.; 37- Most profound; 40- Costa del \_\_\_\_; 41- Nipper's co.; 42- Hollow grass; 43- Author Calvino; 45- Japanese mushroom; 47- Gory; 48- Pressed; 51- Crystal gazer; 52- Baccate; 54- Sully; 58- Parsley piece; 59- Second hand, took advantage of; 61- \_\_\_\_ time (never); 62- "Love Story" author Segal; 63- Opaque gemstone; 64- Antelope's playmate; 65- Taboos; 66- Cut-price retail event; 67- Black cat, maybe;

DOWN: 1- He loved Lucy; 2- Mary Kay competitor; 3- Untidy condition; 4- Common isotope of hydrogen; 5- Power problem; 6- Madrid museum; 7- Neither Rep. nor Dem.; 8- Twin in Genesis; 9- King Minos, for one; 10- Venerate; 11- Greek marketplace; 12- Creates; 13- Luges; 21- Alleviated; 23- Melts; 26- Food thickener; 27- "Power Lunch" network; 28- Deep unconscious state; 29- Rock and Roll Hall of Fame architect; 30- Exigency; 32- Look for; 33- Golfer Aoki; 34- Auctioneer's cry; 35- Clever maneuver; 38- Wear down; 39- Floor worker; 44- Violent whirlwind; 45- Physicist Fermi; 46- Equine sounds; 47- Parish officer; 48- "Peer Gynt" playwright; 49- Dupe; 50- Hatch on the Hill; 51- Great bargain; 53- Couples; 55- Tabloid tidbit; 56- Dagger; 57- Word with French or English; 60- Health club;

Yesterday's solution

A	M	T	S	E	D	I	N	A	I	T	S	Y
S	I	A	M	X	E	R	O	X	D	U	R	A
A	R	L	O	H	E	I	N	E	I	T	A	L
P	A	I	L	L	A	S	S	E	R	O	U	S
D	E	L	A	S	E	M	E	T				
F	O	R	E	S	E	H	A	B	I	T	A	T
O	N	E	R	S	A	S	O	K	C	U	R	E
S	A	N	A	S	T	R	O	L	O	P		
S	I	D	E	L	E	N	S	A	R	I	S	E
A	R	S	E	N	A	L	E	S	C	A	P	E
A	D	M	I	T	P	A	P	E	R	B	A	C
F	R	E	E	T	U	L	L	E	L	A	M	E
T	A	N	S	O	R	I	E	L	E	R	O	O
S	M	U	T	I	L	E	D	E	S	E	N	S

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PJ (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300

IACM 28 387 333

Tourism 28 333 000

Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Water Supply – Report 2822 0088

Telephone – Report 1000

Electricity – Report 28 339 922

Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



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## James Rodriguez stars for Bayern Munich

James Rodriguez starred on his first Bundesliga start for Bayern Munich, scoring one goal and playing a role in the others for a 3-0 win at Schalke on Tuesday. James, who switched from Real Madrid in the offseason, earned a penalty and then scored in the first half, before brilliantly setting up Arturo Vidal to wrap up the win in the second. "James played very well, very much for the team with good combination-play, but physically he is not yet at 100 percent," Bayern coach Carlo Ancelotti said.

## Karim Benzema to stay with Real Madrid

Real Madrid says it has extended the contract of Karim Benzema until the end of the 2021 season. The French striker's current contract was valid until the end of the 2019 campaign. Spanish media says Benzema's buyout clause will remain at USD1.2 billion, similar to Cristiano Ronaldo's clause. The 29-year-old Benzema has been playing with Madrid since 2009. He will be 33 if he stays until the end of his new contract. Madrid recently also extended the contracts of veteran left back Marcelo, attacking midfielder Francisco "Isco" Alarcon and right back Dani Carvajal.

### FOOTBALL

# Klopp angry as Liverpool eliminated from League Cup

Steve Douglas

LIVERPOOL failed to finish off a slew of chances and conceded a sloppy goal in a 2-0 loss at Leicester in the English League Cup, arousing the ire of its frustrated manager Jurgen Klopp on Tuesday.

It is becoming a familiar narrative for the Reds in a disappointing month when they haven't won any of their four matches. Questions are now being asked the team's efficiency at both ends of the field.

Liverpool over-ran Leicester in a dominant first-half display, with Philippe Coutinho orchestrating the attacks from midfield. But the visitors struggled after the Brazil playmaker was substituted at halftime of the third-round match in a pre-planned move from Klopp.

In another game-changing substitution, Shinji Okazaki came on in the 53rd minute for Leicester, scored 12 minutes

later with a deflected shot after Liverpool's defense was beaten to two headers, and then laid the ball on for Islam Slimani to drive home a stunning second goal at King Power stadium.

"Second ball from a corner and a goal from a throw-in — I'm sick of goals like this, to be honest. Unbelievable," Klopp said.

Referring to the first goal, Klopp added: "We didn't push up together — I say it one time, I say it a thousand times. It's not nice to concede these goals."

Since beating Arsenal 4-0 in the Premier League before the international break, Liverpool has been thrashed 5-0 by Manchester City and drawn 1-1 at home to Burnley in the league, conceded late to draw 2-2 with Sevilla in the Champions League, and has now been eliminated from the League Cup.

Klopp is easing Coutinho back to full match sharpness after the midfielder missed Li-



Leicester City's Shinji Okazaki (left) and Liverpool's Ragnar Klavan battle for the ball

verpool's first six games of the season — officially because of injury and illness — while he was the subject of three transfer bids from Barcelona.

Leicester couldn't handle Coutinho's passing and movement in the first half, and only came into the game when he was off the field.

"They've got a world-class player in Coutinho," Leicester manager Craig Shakespeare said. "I was very relieved when

he went off."

Liverpool finished the game having had 21 shots, but only three on target. Against Burnley on Saturday, the Reds only scored once from 35 shots.

Tottenham was among the other Premier League teams to win on a night when top-flight sides mostly fielded fringe players for what is regarded as the inferior cup competition on the English calendar, compared to the FA Cup. AP

AD



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# Phelps has 'no desire' to return to swimming

Paul Newberry

**M**ICHAEL Phelps wondered if watching others compete at the world championships would pique his desire for another comeback. Nope.

Phelps said Tuesday he has "no desire" to return to competitive swimming, but he is eager to stay involved with the sport and cheer on those who follow in his enormous wake.

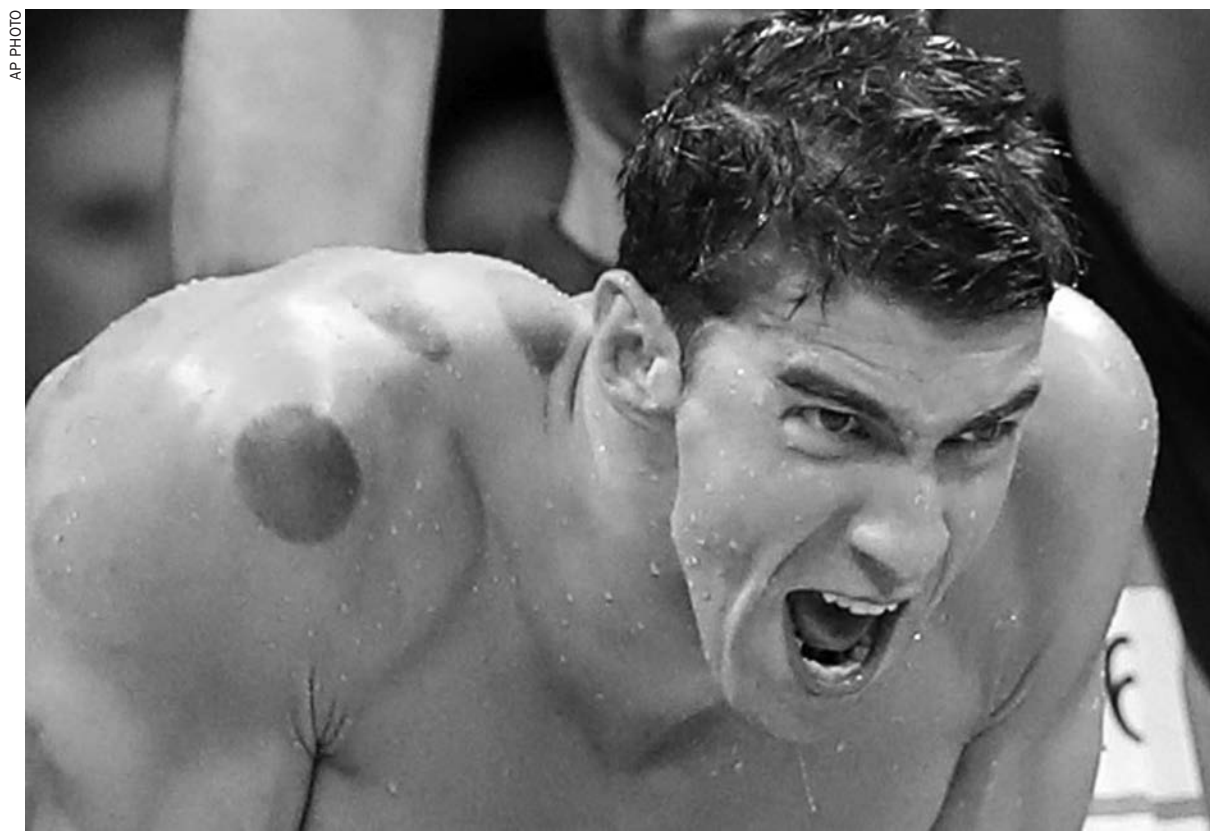
In an interview with The Associated Press while promoting a healthy pet food campaign, Phelps said he is excited about having his second child and building a life beyond swimming.

"For me, it's about being happy where I am and happy where my family is," Phelps said. "We have more goals we want to accomplish outside the sport."

It was around this time four years ago when Phelps got serious about ending his first retirement, but he now seems content with his decision to step away again after the Rio Olympics. His wife, Nicole, is about four months pregnant. The couple already have a 16-month-old son, Boomer.

"I've got no desire — no desire — to come back," the 32-year-old Phelps said flatly.

Phelps has attended a handful of swimming meets since the Rio Games, where the winningest athlete in Olympic history added to his already massive career haul by claiming five gold medals plus a silver. A few months ago, he



conceded to the AP that he wasn't sure how he would feel about a possible comeback after watching the worlds in Budapest, Hungary.

"We'll see if I get that itch," he said in April. Turns out, it had no impact. Phelps said the second-biggest meet after the Olympics "truly didn't kick anything off or spike any more interest in coming out of retirement again."

He is excited to follow the development of his heir apparent, Caeleb Dressel, who emerged as the sport's newest star by winning seven gold medals at Budapest.

The 21-year-old Floridian joined Phelps and Mark Spitz

as the only swimmers to accomplish that feat at a major international meet.

"I'm happy Caeleb decided to go off this year instead of last year," quipped Phelps, who won 23 golds and 28 medals overall in his Olympic career. "I'm kind of happy to see him swimming so well when I'm not there."

While he still travels extensively for his many sponsors, Phelps said he's much more involved in his wife's second pregnancy than he was before Boomer's birth, when he was consumed by full-scale training for the Olympics. "It's definitely different going through it again," he said.

Boomer, meanwhile, is a chip off the old block. "He skipped the walking part and went right to running," Phelps said, chuckling. "He just scoots around the house. It's funny when we get him in the pool. He basically just splashes around the whole time. He's literally nonstop. As soon as he wakes up from a nap or his night's sleep, he's just go, go, go. There's no time for slow moving in our family. He likes to go fast. I guess that's a good thing."

Boomer is even starting to show some good form in the pool. His mom and Phelps' longtime coach, Bob Bowman, have detected a bit of the stroke that was his father's

strongest.

"Nicole and Bob both say he's got a good butterfly technique that he's working on," Phelps said. "I guess he's seen his dad doing it a couple of times and kind of picks it up. He's also now in a stage where it's like all five senses are coming together. He feels everything, recognizes everything. It's really fun to watch, as a dad, just watching these transitions in his life."

In his latest business endeavor, Phelps is spearheading a marketing campaign for Nulo Pet Food, which he describes as a healthy alternative for dogs and cats. He's an investor in the company and accompanied in ads by his French bulldogs, Juno and Legend.

"Our bodies are like a high-performance car. You have to make sure you're putting the correct fuel in your body," Phelps said. "We obviously treat our pets like human beings. I'd like my animals to be fed in the right way, with good nutrition and healthy foods. If we can do that with a company that's putting good, natural ingredients into a pet food, it makes sense for me with what I'm doing in my own life. It's something that goes hand in hand."

With Dressel and Katie Ledecky now leading the American team, the U.S. is expected to remain the world's dominant swimming country heading into the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Even without Phelps. "It's time to kind of move on," he said, "and watch other people come into their own." **AP**

## Romario seeks senate probe into Rio Olympic organizer Nuzman

Stephen Wade, M. Savarese

**B**RAZILIAN Senator Romario de Souza Faria, the star of Brazil's 1994 World Cup winning team, hopes to open a congressional investigation into Carlos Nuzman, who headed the local organizing committee of last year's Rio de Janeiro Olympics.

Nuzman, an honorary IOC member, was held for questioning earlier this month by Brazilian and French authorities in an alleged vote-buying scheme to land the Olympics for Brazil. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Romario's office told The Associated Press on Tues-

day that the former Barcelona star wants to confirm a "preliminary committee of inquiry" by the end of the week.

Two years ago, Romario called the head of the Brazilian football confederation — Marco Polo del Nero — before a similar panel looking into corruption in the game in Brazil. He has called Del Nero a "cancer" on the game, although Del Nero continues to head the CBF.

The International Olympic Committee has remained largely silent about Nuzman. It has said it is awaiting word on any charges against the Brazilian, and

presumes his innocence.

The 75-year-old Nuzman was detained by police two weeks ago in Rio. French and Brazilian authorities say he is a central figure in channeling USD2 million to Lamine Diack through an account held by his son, Papa Massata Diack. The elder Diack is a former IOC member from Senegal who was a force in the IOC African voting bloc when Rio was picked by the IOC in 2009.

Police said they found about \$150,000 in cash in Nuzman's apartment, divided into five currencies. Three passport were also seized — one Brazilian, one

Russian, and a diplomatic passport.

Nuzman's lawyers have asked that his seized assets be released.

They argue in a document sent to AP that a crime committed under French law may not be a crime in Brazil.

His lawyers called actions by French authorities against Nuzman "illegal, abusive."

"Brazil is not a French colony and it has independent laws that are different from the European country," Nuzman's defense said in public documents sent to the court in Rio de Janeiro.

Nuzman's lawyers said only his Brazilian passport



Senator and former footballer Romario

was valid and the other two were not. Nuzman said he has a Russian passport through the nationality of one of his grandparents. He rejected claims it could have been offered by Russian authorities as a favor.

He also said the \$150,000 in five different currencies was needed because he travels frequently on sporting business.

Dozens of sports venues in Rio sit empty a year after the games ended. Construction on many games-related projects has been linked to a sweeping graft scandal.

Brazil officially spent \$13 billion to organize the Olympics, though some put the figure at \$20 billion. Organizers are reported to still owe creditors about \$30 million. **AP**



opinion

Girl About Globe  
Linda Kennedy



BRAIDS? BEWARE THE  
DOUBLECROSSING DUTCH

Strategies to avoid heatstroke during Hong Kong's summer are much discussed. But there's another issue: how to dodge heatwaves. You know, the kind that hair crinkles into when the thermometer outstrips anti-frizz serum.

For several hot days, you might pretend the trend for athleisure wear has expanded to athleisure hair and sport a ponytail only suitable for the gym. But these are 'hairdon'ts' not a 'hairdos'.

Soon thereafter, with the swipe of a sweaty finger, a dame arrives on You Tube. There, a panoply of tutorials exist for top buns, 'super-simple running-late' French chignons, and braids.

Braiding is this summer's hot hair ticket; some instructional videos have more than a million views which means, at any given time, globally, there is a huge number of braidsmaids.

I scroll around these updos. I seek the simplest explanation on how to take three strands of hair, and turn them into a braid that goes all the way round my head, elevating hair away from the neck. It's called a crown braid. There are Dutch crown braids and French crown braids. The Dutch braid is under, the French braid is over. (Not old-fashioned; the strands go 'over', not 'under'.)

I click on a highly-viewed tutorial by a blogger, assuming 300,000 other women cannot be wrong. We are hair sisters, after all. I watch and assume the braiding start position: hands above head, facilitating the taking of three strands and the crossing of them under each other. I work down past my ear. Cross left side, cross right side. At a point on the skull's contour, I change my hands to an undergrip whereupon the strands become indistinguishable. I double-cross one side, and the braid becomes snarled up. I wonder why the hair blogger didn't tell me to fix the strands with coloured ponytail bands before I changed hand position. Yellow for the one you just crossed over, blue for the middle, green for the next one to cross. Like wiring a hair plug. Hair DIY.

It's clear why it's called the Dutch braid. Doing the 'nether-land' – the lower, back section of your head – is the difficult bit.

From an acute angle, behind my elbow, I check the viewing figure again. Yep, 300,000 views. Either those other women are impressively nimble-fingered or the views are all by the one person who still hasn't got the technique. Being this kind of braidsmaid is rubbish – no free hands for drinking.

After six tries, and 45 braiding minutes, I am saying the female Lord's Prayer: 'Give us each day our daily braid'. I'm also bored. Might at least You Tube tutorials develop into a new genre: hair satire videos? 'Top Bun' - a film starring Hair Craze, all about the high altitude adventures of a knot of hair. Can it survive? Will it lose height and tumble to shoulders above sea level?

The point of braiding is that it's a hair cheat in high heat, or when you don't have time to do anything else. Something quick. Not this. I've been misled, by the doublecrossing Dutch.

Swinging my arms to get the blood back, I wonder if there is another way – say, a wig rental start-up. If they're looking for investors. I am in. There must be lightweight breathable wig materials these days, with wicking to allow the scalp to breathe. There's high tech fabric, why not high tech hair? Could 'smart hair' be a bubble? An actual bubble, not just bad big hair?

Any wig entrepreneurs out there, link your crowd-funding bid to a You Tube braiding tutorial with a million hits. You'll get the money.

THE BOXER LAMOTTA, IMMORTALIZED IN  
BUZZ 'RAGING BULL,' DIES AT 95

Jake LaMotta, the former middleweight champion whose life in and out of the ring was depicted in the film "Raging Bull," for which Robert De Niro won an Academy Award, has died, his fiancée said yesterday. He was 95. LaMotta died Tuesday at a Miami-area hospital from complica-

tions of pneumonia, according to fiancée Denise Baker. "Rest in Peace, Champ," De Niro said in a statement. The Bronx Bull, as he was known in his fighting days, compiled an 83-19-4 record with 30 knockouts, in a career that began in 1941 and ended in 1954.



SOURCE: D5M6

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	35-55 Good	
High Density Residential Area	35-55 Good	
Ambient	35-55 Good	

BANGLADESH

Pelting rain, relocation  
add to woes in Rohingya  
Muslim camp

Muneeza Naqvi, Cox's Bazar

WEARY and uncertain, they carried whatever they could on their backs, trudging through monsoon rains and enduring relocations and extortion attempts as they struggle to find small patches of land that can be their own, at least for a moment.

Groups of Rohingya Muslims who fled Myanmar were on the move again over the past two days, forced by the rains to salvage what was left of their shanties and move toward drier ground in hopes of some relief – if the mudslides don't come next.

Several Rohingya camps in this Bangladesh coastal city are flooded from three days of unrelenting downpours. People in the camps were pelted with heavy rain while desperately packing their meager belongings into plastic sacks and trying to find fresh shelter.

The initial arrivals in the most recent exodus from violence in Myanmar simply settled on whatever patch of land they could find, building shelters of bamboo sticks and plastic sheets.

But as their numbers soared to more than 420,000 in a matter of weeks, the local government has started moving them to newly allocated



refugee camp areas. Many refused to move, terrified of being without shelter at all. But the rains washed away many shanties or made them uninhabitable.

So they're moving again. Most of them are being sent to the new settlement of Balukhali in Cox's Bazar.

If the rain doesn't ease soon, the flimsy homes may become useless at best and dangerous at worst. The area is prone to mudslides during the seasonal monsoon that have already proven deadly this year.

For Abul Bashar, that concern will come later, if at all. For now, he needs to shelter his family of 12 from the rain.

They were made to pull up the shelters they had first built

on an open field. Now they've moved to Balukhali.

But like all crises, the Rohingya exodus is an opportunity for exploitation and a camp mafia is taking advantage.

Bashar doesn't have the 2,000 taka (USD24) to pay them to set up a shelter in this camp.

The family slept in the tent of an acquaintance, but things are tight for everyone, and Bashar says he must find a shelter of his own soon.

He has plastic sheets and bamboo sticks. Just no money to buy a spot.

In the vast open ground where the new refugees had built their first shelters now lie piles of things they simply stuff into bags and carry to their new homes. AP

THE  
DECISIVE MOMENT

Christian Merz/Keystone via AP



Sunflower Seeds. Chinese artist Ai Weiwei's artwork is displayed during a press tour ahead of the opening today of the exhibition "Ai Weiwei. D'ailleurs c'est toujours les autres." at the Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts in Lausanne, Switzerland.

WORLD BRIEFS

IRAN A group of hackers suspected of working in Iran for its government is targeting the aviation and petrochemical industries in Saudi Arabia, the U.S. and South Korea, a cybersecurity firm warned yesterday.



KENYA's Supreme Court said yesterday it nullified President Uhuru Kenyatta's re-election largely because the electoral commission refused scrutiny of its computerized voting system. The court judges said they had no option but to agree with the claim by Kenya's opposition leader Raila Odinga that the computerized data of the August presidential elections had been interfered with.

EUROPE More than half of the migrants who entered Europe amid a mass influx in 2015 and 2016 were still awaiting decisions on asylum applications by the end of the period, and only a small percentage had been turned down and sent home, according to a study released yesterday.



VENEZUELA A violinist who became the young face of anti-government protests in Venezuela may soon seek political asylum in the United States. Wuilly Arteaga became well-known after playing somber renditions of Venezuela's national anthem while standing amid clouds of tear gas.

UNITED NATIONS Countries yesterday began signing the first treaty to ban nuclear weapons, a pact backed by over 100 countries but spurned by those with nuclear arms. The treaty requires all countries that eventually ratify it not to develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons "under any circumstances."