



**ANGLICAN COLLEGE RESUMES CLASSES TODAY**

P5 EDUCATION



**BACK TO BASE**  
Cecilia Tse, who resigned as Cultural Affairs Bureau president this week, will be returning to MGTO

P7



**IKEA FORTUNE FALLS TO NO ONE**  
The company's structure was designed to ensure it would long outlive its founder, who died on Saturday

P9 BUSINESS

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**WORLD BRIEFS**

**TAIWAN** China is again heating up the rhetoric against rival Taiwan, with a spokesman saying yesterday that Taiwan's cancellation of added flights during the Lunar New Year holiday "hurt the feelings of people on both sides."  
More on p10

**VIETNAM** A court in Hanoi handed down prison terms up to eight years to three activists yesterday after finding them guilty of posting video clips on social media critical of the communist government, their lawyer said.



**PHILIPPINES** The military deployed a Japanese-donated patrol plane yesterday to a disputed shoal guarded by China in the South China Sea, and the aircraft did not encounter any Chinese resistance, officials said.

**AUSTRALIA** The government has launched an urgent investigation into the loss of thousands of classified documents that were sold with two second-hand filing cabinets.

**INDIA** Rescue workers yesterday recovered another body from a canal where a bus fell earlier this week, reportedly while its driver was talking on his cellphone, bringing the death toll to 43.

**KENYA** Former Kenyan Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka said yesterday that gunshots and a grenade were fired at his home in what he called "an assassination attempt."

More on backpage

**GAMING**

## Nevada board probes Wynn sex allegations

P2, 3



**STATE OF THE UNION**

## 'Rival' China tells Trump to lose 'cold war mindset'

P11

**HONG KONG**

## Second wartime bomb found in a week

P10

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Artist Kay Zhang

## ARTS

## Exhibition features works of former art students in Beijing

A month-long art exhibition featuring the works of eight local artists, who have lived and studied in Beijing, is currently being held at the Orient Foundation.

The collective exhibition features the individual works of local artists who studied at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing.

According to the curator, Lai Sio Kit, the exhibition has no solid theme as it aims only to showcase the different elements the artists can portray with a subtle influence of Beijing art.

"The individual artists have their own style and way of expression [which is] why it's called the artists' note," the curator explained.

One of the artists, Kay Zhang, expressed her belief that, "we are different from Macau artists because we've had this experience in Beijing."

Zhang created illuminated manuscripts with a collage of naked women. The artist noted that during the medieval period, illuminated manuscripts

were designed for bibles – something that is sacred.

However, the artist said that her work expresses that idea of how women see themselves, as it features different shapes and sizes of bodies.

"I want to give people the idea of sensuality, for you don't really get any divine and sacredness from my work," said the artist.

Zhang believes that though the city has acquired a sense of multiculturalism, local artists are not heavily influenced by the city's existing culture.

"You cannot see any 'Beijingness' in our works, but I think what we want to let the audience see is that we still keep our specialties as an individual."

"It's a good sign that people [in Macau] are seeing art as something important and something promising. [...] I think this kind of art gives you some profound influences [and the opportunity to create] effective good art."

The exhibition will be displayed until February 28. LV

**C**ASINO mogul Steve Wynn is under investigation after sexual misconduct allegations were leveled against him, Nevada gambling regulators announced yesterday [Macau time].

The Wall Street Journal reported Friday that a number of women said they were harassed or assaulted by Wynn, and that one case led to a USD7.5 million settlement with a manicurist.

Wynn has vehemently denied the allegations, which he attributed to a campaign led by his ex-wife.

The state Gaming Control Board said in a statement that it opened the investigation after completing a review, but it did not provide any further details. Its chairwoman, Becky Harris, declined to answer questions from The Associated Press seeking additional information.

"The Nevada Gaming Control Board will conduct its investigation in a thorough and judicious manner," according to the statement from the three-member panel.

State gambling regulations provide grounds for disciplinary action if any activity from the licensed operator, its agents or employees is deemed "inimical to the public health,

# Nevada gambling

safety, morals, good order and general welfare" of Nevada residents or discrediting of the state and its gambling industry.

Regulators could potentially levy fines against the company, place conditions on its license or even revoke it.

At the same time, the board of directors of Wynn Resorts has said a committee of independent directors would investigate the allegations. It will be headed by Patricia Mulroy, a Wynn Resorts board member and a former member of the Nevada Gaming Commission.

Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval, who appoints the members of the board, on Tuesday told The Associated Press he was "disturbed, saddened and deeply troubled" by the allegations.

"There is no place and there should be zero tolerance for sexual harassment in the workplace," he said. "As governor, I will continue to work to ensure that all Nevadans work in a safe and respectful environment. Anything less is unacceptable."

Since 2013, Wynn has contributed nearly \$2.4 million to GOP candidates and party or-

ganizations around the country, including Sandoval and 2017 special election winners. Some Republicans in Congress, including Nevada's Dean Heller, have already announced they are donating contributions they received from Wynn to charity.

Wynn resigned Saturday [Sunday, Macau time] as finance chairman of the Republican National Committee.

The union representing more than 50,000 casino workers in Las Vegas, including 5,500 housekeepers, cooks, bartenders and food and cocktail servers at Wynn's two casino-hotels, plans to strengthen the language against sexual harassment in contracts when it begins negotiations next month with the majority of operators, but not Wynn Resorts. The contracts of the company's unionized workers are not up for negotiations yet.

"We are deeply disturbed by these accusations against Steve Wynn and support a full and fair investigation regarding these allegations," Geoconda Argüello-Kline, the Culinary Union secretary-treasurer, said in a statement. The organiza-

## Republicans set to select Todd Ricketts as next finance chair

**T**HE Republican National Committee is set to select billionaire Todd Ricketts as its next finance chair, replacing casino magnate Steve Wynn, who resigned over the weekend over sexual misconduct allegations.

Three Republican sources with knowledge of the decision confirmed Ricketts' expected elevation, which needs the blessing of the 168-member committee at its winter meeting in Washington this week. They were not authorized to discuss the move publicly before it was announced.

Ricketts' selection has the blessing of President Donald Trump, the sources said. Ricketts,

an owner of the Chicago Cubs, funded anti-Trump spending during the 2016 Republican primaries before becoming one of Trump's largest supporters.

Ricketts was nominated by Trump to be deputy secretary of commerce, but withdrew from consideration for the post last year over difficulties complying with financial divestiture rules.

RNC chair Ronna Romney McDaniel said yesterday that the party will return contributions from Wynn only if he's found guilty of sexual misconduct allegations.

She told Fox News Channel that she finds the allegations against



Donald Trump shakes hands with Todd Ricketts

the Las Vegas billionaire "deeply troubling." She said an investigation will be conducted, and if Wynn's found guilty of wrongdoing "we will absolutely return 100 percent of that money. But we're going to let due process take place."

Wynn has denied the allegations, first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

Some Republicans in Congress have already announced they are donating contributions they received from Wynn to charity. AP

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# board after Wynn



tion will also ask “panic buttons” for every housekeeper.

Gambling regulators in Massachusetts are also looking into the allegations.

In addition, the China arm of Wynn’s casino empire has said it will comply with Macau regulators as they seek more information. Macau is

the world’s most lucrative casino market and the main source of profits for Wynn and other foreign gambling companies. **MDT/AP**

## S&P revises outlook amid case against Steve Wynn

A top financial ratings agency has downgraded its outlook for Wynn Resorts following bombshell accusations of sexual harassment against gambling mogul Steve Wynn, The Boston Herald Reported.

The move underscores the importance of its casino in Everett — now under construction — to Wynn Resorts as the Massachusetts Gaming Commission is set to begin its review of the allegations.

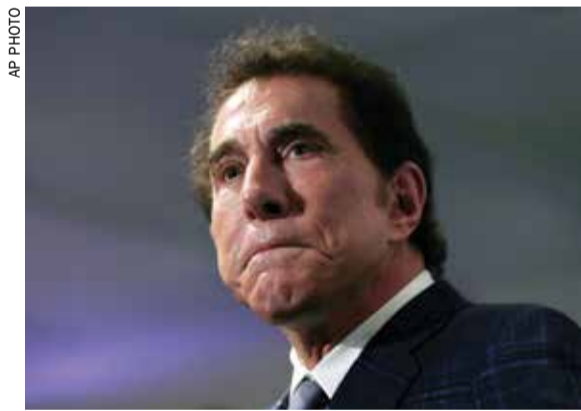
“The recent misconduct allegations against Wynn Resorts’ founder and CEO, which the company’s board of directors and at least one gaming regulator are investigating, could impair the company’s brand and ability to maintain or renew its gaming licenses,” S&P Global Ratings wrote in a research note. “The negative outlook reflects the significant uncertainty surrounding the resolution of various investigations into the misconduct allegations.”

According to the Herald, S&P said the investigation by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission and Wynn Resorts’ own internal investigation could mean trouble for the company. S&P also said the lack of a clear succession plan would be problematic.

“The negative outlook also reflects our limited transparency into potential succession plans in the event that Steve Wynn is forced to resign,” the cited by The Boston Herald report said.

Massachusetts gambling regulators are holding a special meeting to discuss sexual misconduct allegations against casino magnate Steve Wynn, whose company is building the USD2.4 billion casino in Everett outside Boston.

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission will receive an update on an investigation today [Macau time].



Republican Gov. Charlie Baker says if the allegations are true, Wynn would “fail to meet the suitability standard under the state gaming law.”

Under the 2011 casino law, a license is considered a “revocable privilege,” and can be suspended or revoked if a licensee is found “unsuitable to operate a gaming establishment.”

Steve Wynn’s reputation “will likely not recover if sexual harassment allegations check out,” said veteran Las Vegas reporter Jon Ralston in an interview with CNBC over the weekend.

“There is no bigger name in the casino business than Steve Wynn,” said Ralston, who has been covering business and politics in Nevada for 30 years and has interviewed Wynn himself multiple times over the years.

“His name is synonymous, not just because that casino says ‘Wynn’ on top of it,” Ralston told CNBC on “Fast Money.” “Steve Wynn is the biggest name in the history of Nevada gaming.”

“He is the man behind that [empire] and it’s hard to believe that it would not take a hit if something happens to him,” Ralston said.

**MDT/Agencies**

### THE STORY SO FAR

**Friday  
January 26**  
US TIME

Interviewing more than 150 employees and former employees of Wynn Resorts, the Wall Street Journal finds and reports a pattern of alleged sexual misconduct by company helmsman Steve Wynn. Among several allegations of sexual harassment and coercion, Wynn is said to have paid a manicurist to have sex with him and then paid out USD7.5 million at a later date to settle a harassment claim. Wynn denies the allegations, calling them “preposterous”.

**Friday  
January 26**  
US TIME

In Friday trading on the New York Stock Exchange, shares of Wynn Resorts plummeted 10 percent in response to the allegations, marking the biggest move in 13 months.

**Saturday  
January 27**  
US TIME

Steve Wynn steps down as Republican National Committee finance chair with the explanation, “the work we are doing to make America a better place is too important to be impaired by this distraction.”

**Sunday  
January 28**  
US TIME

After the board of Wynn Resorts announces it will launch an investigation into claims of sexual harassment, several gaming regulators in the United States say they will follow suit. Among them are the Nevada Gaming Control Board and the Massachusetts Gaming Commission, the entity responsible for the jurisdiction where a new Wynn casino is under construction.

**Monday  
January 29**  
MACAU TIME

Shares of Wynn Resorts’ subsidiary, Wynn Macau, slump 6.5 percent in Hong Kong trading, with several stock analysts downgrading their rating. Some analysts worry that the scandal will affect the subsidiary’s bid for a license renewal in the upcoming negotiations.

**Monday  
January 29**  
US TIME

Several Republican senators band together calling for the party to return donations made by Steve Wynn, should he found guilty of the sexual harassment charges.

**Tuesday  
January 30**  
US TIME

Wynn Resorts continues to deny the allegations and says Steve Wynn’s former wife, Elaine, was behind the Wall Street Journal scoop. Elaine Wynn is battling her former husband over a disputed 9 percent stake in Wynn Resorts. In a statement, the company says that “sufficient evidence exists to show that Elaine Wynn, personally and/or through her agents, instigated and facilitated the Wall Street Journal article.”

**Tuesday  
January 30**  
MACAU TIME

The Macau Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau voices concerns over the scandal, prompting Wynn Macau to promise it will cooperate with any requests from local regulators.

**Tuesday  
January 30**  
US TIME

The Nevada Gaming Control Board launches a formal investigation into the allegations. The body has the authority to force Wynn out of the industry over the allegations of sexual harassment. **DB**

## Gov't to provide 100 additional special taxis

The government's plan to increase the number of special taxis this year was announced through a reply to lawmaker Lei Chan U's written inquiry. According to a report by TDM, a public tender will be opened for the right to operate the 100 additional special taxis. The government will also consider setting a certain quota of wheelchair-accessible taxis for the disabled. In November 2017, more than 50 percent of Macau's buses were wheelchair-accessible buses and 60 percent of all buses had low platforms.

## Eight food samples did not pass examination in 2017

Eight food samples did not pass the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) Food Safety Center inspections in 2017. In a statement released by IACM earlier this week, it was said that in 2017, the center collected a total of 3,078 food samples (50 from online shops). In the fourth quarter of 2017, the service collected 562 food samples, one of which did not pass the center's examination. The food samples were taken from restaurants, supermarkets, malls, online shops and takeaway food shops. The food samples include drinks and snacks.

# Five construction workers died in 2017

Julie Zhu

**F**IVE fatal work accidents this year in the construction sector were the direct outcomes of misconduct. This figure represents an increase of one death from 2016, said the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) in a press conference this week.

From January to September, Macau recorded 5,591 injuries (including the five deaths) from work-related accidents, 617 of which were from the construction sector.

The department found 234 incidents of misconduct that resulted in the issuance of MOP882,000 worth of fines and penalties, a growth of 48.36 percent.

The department issued a total of 89 work suspension orders (87 to the construction sector) in 2017, whereas in 2016, only 31 such orders were issued.

DSAL said that the department would work harder in



2018, hoping that incidences of poor work safety practices – especially those resulting in injury – will be scarcer in 2018.

The bureau intends to implement more measures to promote safety issues in the construction sector this year.

The number of complaints from workers regarding labor conflicts decreased 31 percent year-on-year, which is primarily attributed to the 30 percent decrease of complaints

filed in relation to the construction sector.

Despite the decrease in complaints in the construction sector, they still represent 33 percent of the total number of complaints.

In 2017, unhappy workers lodged 1,860 complaints (2,713 complaints in 2016) with DSAL.

The sectors which saw the second largest number of complaints were the hospita-

lity and catering industries, with 380 complaints filed in total.

The majority of complaints involving more than ten people were still filled by the construction sector (19 cases), with only four such cases filed by the catering and hospitality industries.

Most of the complaints relating to more than ten people were related to disputes regarding salary, mandatory holidays, and days off.

DSAL managed to resolve 90 percent of all cases raised in 2017. Of those which remain unresolved, ten percent were put forth for resolution by the judiciary authorities.

On average, each dispute took fewer than 51 days (down from an average of 70 days in 2016) to resolve. In 2015, the average procedure time was around three months.

DSAL has been conducting information seminars and workplace inspections to ensure that the government-mandated minimum wage for building administration workers was being adhered to.

The minimum wage has been in effect since January 2016. During 2017, the bureau received five cases regarding minimum wage, with six employees involved.

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# Anglican College resumes classes today

Lynzy Valles

**T**HE Macau Anglican College (MAC) will be resuming its classes today after testing showed that the air quality in and around the school is safe for the students.

In an email to parents, which the Times had access to, the school management stated that current real-time air quality reading for harmful substances is under 0.01, less than the 0.05 recommended maximum exposure.

Air quality testing will continue for the next seven days.

“According to the health department representatives, the short period of exposure to asbestos will not affect the health of students or the surrounding community,” the principal of MAC, Robert Alexander, said.

The email noted that meetings with the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ), the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the Environmental Protection Department (DSPA) and the school's parents' association were held yesterday.



“Material samples tested from the site contained a low percent of asbestos. The site is contained and a covered work structure will be erected for the cleaning of the area,” Alexander explained.

The school head said that DSPA will oversee and monitor the cleaning process and proper safety measures will be followed and continuous air quality testing will be conducted.

The cleaning process will not affect the school and its surrounding community,

Two compensatory school days are scheduled on February 3 and March 10 for secondary-level students, while compensatory classes for kindergarten and primary-level students will be held on March 24 and April 7.

Nearly 50 percent of students were absent on Monday as parents were concerned over the air quality within the vicinity of the school. Concern over air quality was sparked after the illegal demolition of a roof in a land plot near the school. It quickly emerged that the roof's



sheeting was made of asbestos material.

The school head previously informed the Times that the school was not informed of any kind of demolition works related to any hazardous material, and that the occurrence was only realized because it was observed by one of its faculty members.

As previously reported by the Times, some parents were dissatisfied with the actions of both the school and the government – while also arguing that the site owner should be investigated for

putting the public in danger.

A parent disclosed that school's winter concerts, Open Day and football training sessions had also been held as normal despite the danger.

To address the matter, the DSPA had contacted a Hong Kong company to conduct air quality tests. The results of these tests were meant to be provided yesterday, according to the school head on Monday.

The DSEJ has also provided the school with air purifiers and anti-pollution masks.

## UNESCO CREATIVE CITY

# Tam proposes six objectives for gastronomy

**A**CCORDING to a notice from the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO), the “Macau – Creative City of Gastronomy” meeting was held on Tuesday and the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam used the meeting to propose six objectives for Macau's development as a UNESCO Creative City.

The objectives of Tam's plan include creating new synergies between the field of gastronomy and other

creative fields covered by the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), devoting greater promotional efforts and raising the awareness of the title and what it reflects among residents and visitors. His proposal also covered offering vocational training programs as a means to encourage the next generation to choose career paths in the field of gastronomy and assist the Institute for Tourism Studies in establishing a culinary center of “consi-

derable scale”. Other proposed objectives included cooperation with industry partners to support well established catering businesses in the case of future financial downturns, and the promotion of coordination between “different circles” to create a favorable business environment for operators within the gastronomy sector.

Secretary Tam pointed out that even before Macau gained the new designation as a Creative City

of Gastronomy, the local government had been actively carrying out tasks to initiate integrated development between gastronomy and creative industries.

Tam gave the example of how the Committee of Cultural Industries established the Task Group for the Promotion of Gastronomy and Cultural Industries to foster related development.

Secretary Tam also said that the two powerful as-

sets in the city's portfolio – the listing of the Historic Centre of Macau as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the status of Macau as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy – will lead to “a new horizon of opportunities for the related industries and be a great boon for the city's transformation into a world center of tourism and leisure.”

The meeting, which was presided over by tourism chief Helena de Senna

Fernandes, was well-attended by government representatives, academic institutes and industry organizations, according to MGTO.

Macau was officially designated as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy on October 31, 2017. Following the designation, the MSAR government launched a four-year action plan that is focused on strategic endeavors to hopefully preserve Macau's worthy claim to the title.

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TOURISM

# More performers join CNY parade

Julie Zhu

**T**HE Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) announced at a press conference yesterday that it will present the "Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Dog" on the third and ninth day of the Lunar New Year to celebrate the occasion with residents and visitors.

The event will feature a range of spectacular activities such as the float parade and exhibition, large-scale performances, a firework display, and mobile phone games.

MGTO is making continuous efforts to augment the scale and impact of the local events and festivals, not only to attract visitors from diverse markets but also to encourage enthusiastic participation among residents.

Compared to the previous year's arrangements, the starting and finishing point of the parade will be reversed.

The opening ceremony of the Parade will be held at Sai Van Lake Square in front of Macau

Tower at 8 p.m.

Fifteen floats will proceed together, joined by over 1,000 local performers forming a total of 25 total performance groups and nine external performance groups participating from eight countries and regions.

Performers will divide into two groups, the first will stay and perform on stage at Sai Van Lake Square, while the other group will set off on the floats from Sai Van Lake Square, performing along Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen on the Macau Peninsula until they reach their destination, the Macao Science Center.

According to MGTO Director Helena de Senna Fernandes, the 2018 route will differ from the 2017 route. The change will allow the government to allocate more than 2,300 seats for the audience.

The budget for this year's parade is MOP27.9 million, representing a five percent increase (MOP26.6 million) year on year.

"The stage, this year, is more

magnificent," declared Fernandes.

Last year, 688 performers participated in the "Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Rooster". This year, there will be a total of 1,088 performers, representing a 60 percent increase compared to last year's edition.

"The software and hardware facilities, together with other works, resulted in an overall five percent increase in terms of budget. We think it is a reasonable budget, and we will try to control [the expenditure] to stay within the budget," said Fernandes.

According to Fernandes, approximately 60,000 visitors were recorded during last year's events.

"This year, we believe, if the weather is good, there will be approximately a 10 to 20 percent increase in the number of visitors," said Fernandes.

In addition, the MGTO director said that her department expects a 1 to 3 percent increase in the number of tourists during the Chinese New Year.



Helena de Senna Fernandes

## CECILIA TSE TO RETURN TO MGTO

**CECILIA TSE**, who resigned as Cultural Affairs Bureau president this week, will be returning to the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) as a consultant technician. This move was reported in an announcement made by MGTO director Helena de Senna Fernandes on the sidelines of a press conference

yesterday. "Now, we will follow the related procedures. According to the ordinary measures, she will return to her position at the MGTO as senior staff," said Fernandes, adding "she is temporarily on sick leave, [...] I just received her sick leave application today, and it will last until mid February."

## TRANSPORT STATISTICS

# New registration of motor vehicles surges in Q4

**Y**ESTERDAY the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) released their final data concerning transportation in the last quarter of 2017. The data shows a 3.6 percent drop in the total number of licensed motor vehicles year-on-year.

The most significant drop was registered in the number of light motorcycles, which decreased 20.7 percent, while light automobiles registered a decrease of 3.7 percent. Acquisitions of heavy motorcycle registrations increased by 3 percent. The results show a slight



BLOOMBERG

annual decrease, although the last quarter of 2017 was marked with a general increase in the acquisition of motorized vehicles registrations. The hike may be understood as a response to the consequences of the Typhoon Hato, which destroyed and damaged a large

number of vehicles.

The registration of motor vehicles in the fourth quarter rose by 29 percent. The most dramatic increase was the rise of heavy motorcycle registrations, which went up by 34.8 percent quarter-on-quarter.

According to DSEC, in

the fourth quarter there were 3,630 cases of traffic accidents; in these accidents the number of victims totaled 1,167. These figures reflect a decline of 16.4 percent and 8.5 percent, respectively, year-on-year. In total, across the whole year of 2017, the number of traffic accidents fell by 4.1 percent year-on-year to 14,717 cases, resulting in 4,714 casualties, with eight of them being fatal.

Regarding air traffic, the Macau International Airport recorded a total of 14,505 commercial flight-

ts in the fourth quarter of 2017, up by 13 percent year-on-year. For the whole year of 2017, commercial flights registered an increase of 2.3 percent year-on-year to 54,842. Flight movements to and from mainland China and South Korea grew by 4.3 percent and 64.2 percent respectively, while those to and from Thailand and Taiwan registered bigger drops, of 24.9 and 7.2 percent respectively.

The Macau International Airport handled 10,990 tons of air cargo in the fourth quarter of 2017, up by

8.9 percent year-on-year. In 2017, air cargo increased by 14 percent year-on-year to 37,493 tons, with inward cargo (6,643 tons), outward cargo (23,356 tons) and transit cargo (7,494 tons) rising by 3.4 percent, 19 percent and 9.5 percent respectively. For 2017, Taiwan was the major origin and destination for inward and outward air cargo, constituting 54.9 percent and 45.4 percent of the respective totals. Outward air cargo to Vietnam (2,987 tons) surged by 50.4 percent year-on-year.

## corporate bits

### 44 GRADUATE FROM SANDS CHINA BUSINESS MANAGEMENT DIPLOMA



Sands China and the University of Macau's Center for Continuing Education honored the third group of graduates for completing the customized one-year diploma

program in business management this week, with a graduation ceremony at the university. The 44 graduates represent various gaming and non-gaming

departments at Sands China, including table games, facilities, food and beverage, market development, surveillance, and others.

Sands China is the first company to have worked with the University of Macau to develop a one-year diploma program. Since its launch in the 2014/15 academic year, over 140 team members have earned diplomas.

"This unique diploma program helps Sands China's local team members grow academically, professionally and personally," said Antonio Ramirez, senior vice president of human resources for Sands China, "[so they] can further contribute to Macao's development as a world center of tourism and leisure."

### SOFITEL LAUNCHES SPA TREATMENT PACKAGES



So SPA of Sofitel Macau at Ponte 16 has launched a series of spa treatmen-

ts to celebrate Valentine's Day, including a two-hour spa package for lovers that

involves a 30-minute Provence lavender bath and a 90-minute massage.

Other promotions on offer during the week surrounding Valentine's Day include a hot stone massage intended to ease muscle stiffness, reduce stress and anxiety and improve sleep quality.

An "afternoon tea for two" package starts with a 45-minute body treatment with a choice of "relaxing massage", "detoxifying massage", "energizing massage" or "deep tissue massage". It continues with a tea set in the Deep Relaxation Room, complete with delicacies.

## Reports: DOJ, SEC probe Apple for slowing older iPhones

U.S. authorities are investigating Apple's slowing of older iPhones, according to published reports. The Wall Street Journal and



Bloomberg reported Tuesday that the Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission are probing whether Apple violated securities laws. In December, Apple apologized for the slowdown after a blogger's tests revealed the secretive practice. Apple has previously been rebuked by lawmakers, and faces a French probe and a slew of lawsuits that allege the company aimed to juice sales of newer models.

## German industrial union steps up strike campaign

Germany's biggest industrial union has launched a campaign of 24-hour strikes after talks on demands for wage raises and an optional shorter working week broke down. The IG Metall union called workers out starting with the night shift Tuesday evening at various companies in regions including the industrial heartlands of Baden-Wuerttemberg and North Rhine-Westphalia. News agency dpa reported that the companies targeted included truck maker MAN, and the union said yesterday that production at its main plant in Munich came to a standstill at midnight.

# Earnings surge for Samsung Electronics on huge chip profit

Youkyung Lee, Seoul

**QUARTERLY** earnings surged again for Samsung Electronics, thanks to its record-breaking chip business.

The South Korean company said yesterday that its October-December earnings jumped 74 percent to 12 trillion won (USD11.2 billion), compared with 6.9 trillion won a year earlier. It was slightly higher than analysts' consensus of 11 trillion won, according to financial data provider FactSet.

Sales and operating profit also rose in line with Samsung's earlier guidance. Sales rose 24 percent to 66 trillion won (\$61.6 billion) and operating profit was up 64 percent to 15 trillion won (\$14 billion).

Samsung's flagship semiconductor business continued making record-high profits. The division, which supplies chips that help data centers, servers, mobile devices and computers save data and run multiple programs rapidly, generated 10.9 trillion won (\$10.4



billion) in operating income during the quarter on sales of 21.1 trillion won (\$19.7 billion), an unusually lucrative record for a manufacturing company.

Other divisions, however, reported lower profit or less impressive profit gains. Profit from its mobile division dropped as Samsung increased marketing spending to promote Galaxy phones, while television and display divisions posted small gains.

Profits have not suffered from the vice chairman's bribery

conviction. Samsung heir Lee Jae-yong, a vice chairman and the only son of the ailing chair, is waiting for an appeal ruling next week after receiving a five-year prison term in corruption scandals that led to the removal of the country's president.

Samsung's run of strong profit is not about to stop any time soon. For the current quarter, Samsung said its memory chip division will continue to see strong demand from data centers around the world while its mobile business will see

an earnings improvement as the company is due to launch the Galaxy S9 smartphone in spring.

The company dispelled views that the memory chip industry may have passed its peak after impressive growth last year. Samsung's stock price has not recovered its top level in November on concerns that the boom in the memory chip business may not last.

But Samsung gave a bullish outlook on the memory chip industry saying that demand and market conditions will remain stable for flash memory chips while new data centers will continue to drive growth for memory devices called DRAM.

Following earnings reports, Samsung announced a 50:1 stock split that would make its high-priced stocks more accessible and increase the trading volume. It also announced sharply increased dividends to shareholders, spending 50 percent of its free cash flow to pay dividends. **AP**

AD



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Devon Pendleton

**W**HEN Ikea's Ingvar Kamprad died Saturday at age 91, he was ranked No. 8 on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index thanks to his control of a global retail fortune valued at USD58.7 billion.

It was a distinction he refused, having decades earlier placed control of the world's largest furniture seller into a network of foundations and holding companies designed to secure the long-term independence and survival of the Ikea concept.

The structure, which he established in the 1980s, assures that the Almhult, Sweden-based company stays outside the family's direct control, leaving his heirs with a more meager fortune derived from family-owned Ikano Group. The group operates a collection of finance, real estate, manufacturing and retail businesses - including Ikea stores in southeast Asia - and reported total assets of 8 billion euros (\$9.9 billion) and a solvency ratio of "close to 30 percent" in 2016, according to its website.

Kamprad's structure put ownership of most Ikea stores into the Stichting Ingka Foundation, a Dutch entity with the stated purpose of "supporting innovation" in design, accor-

# Ikea fortune falls to no one after billionaire founder's death

BLOOMBERG



■ The structure was designed to ensure Ikea, in its present form, would long outlive its founder

ding to its founding statute at the time. The company's trademarks, brand and concept were placed under the ultimate control of Vaduz, Liechtenstein-

based Interogo Foundation whose subsidiary, Inter Ikea, is the global Ikea franchisor.

"Interogo Foundation is managed by a Foundation Council

(Stiftungsrat) consisting of at least two members and a Supervisory Council (Beirat), as a principle consisting of seven members," Anders Bylund, In-

terogo's head of communications wrote in a Jan. 29 email. "The Kamprad family members in the Supervisory Councils have been and shall always be in minority."

Though called a foundation, the mission of the Stichting Ingka is only partly philanthropic. Its statutes also allow for profits to be reinvested in the company, according to Per Heggnes, the chief executive of the Ikea Foundation.

The structure was designed to ensure Ikea, in its present form, would long outlive its founder. Trust experts say the set-up emphasizes continuity by making it impossible for an individual, whether a manager or heir, to assume control after Kamprad's death. The Bloomberg Billionaires Index attributed the fortune to Kamprad in recognition of his role as founder with control over the entire structure.

Kamprad was "not interested in money," Heggnes told Bloomberg in 2012. "That is clear from the way he structured the ownership." **Bloomberg**



## China factory activity slows to 8-month low

Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

**C**HINESE manufacturing started the year off at a slower pace as factory activity eased to its weakest level in eight months on softer demand, especially for exports.

The official purchasing managers' index for January, released yesterday, slipped to 51.3, down from December's

51.6, though it remains above the 50-point mark signifying expansion on the index's 100-point scale.

The Federation of Logistics & Purchasing's survey found that output and new orders continued to grow but at a slower pace than the previous month.

Foreign demand for China's manufactured exports was elevated

ahead of Christmas but slowed in January, said senior statistician Zhao Qinghe of the National Bureau of Statistics, which released the data on its website.

The PMI is a widely watched gauge for manufacturing in the world's second-largest economy.

"The breakdown [of the numbers] shows a broad softening in

demand," said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics. He noted that the new export orders fell to a 15-month low, "raising questions about the strength of foreign demand."

China posted 6.9 percent economic growth last year, beating the government's official target and analyst forecasts. Economists expect activity to slow this year as the government strives to cool the property market.

Other signs of weakness include recent trade data that showed that imports and exports posted a solid annual increase but slowed in December. Tensions over U.S.-China trade loom after President Donald Trump slapped tariffs on washing machines and solar cells aimed at cheap Asian imports.

In an upbeat sign for the wider economy, China's services sector, meanwhile, regained momentum, according to the official non-manufacturing index, which rose to 55.3 in January from 55 the previous month. **AP**

## Beijing orders Muji to destroy catalog over 'problem map'

**C**HINA'S foreign ministry yesterday told foreign companies to "respect China's sovereignty" after Japanese retailer Muji was ordered to destroy a catalog that Beijing complained mislabeled Taiwan and omits disputed islands.

Muji joined a string of companies including hotel keeper Marriott and fashion brand Zara that Beijing has criticized this year for commercial materials that fail to reflect its territorial claims.

The government of President Xi Jinping has been increasingly assertive about its claims to self-ruled Taiwan and disputed areas of the South China Sea and East China Sea.

The national surveying administration complained a map of locations of Muji stores in a furniture catalog distributed in the southwestern city of Chongqing failed to show the Diaoyu Islands. The agency said the "problem map" contained "serious errors" in regard to Taiwan but gave no details.

"All foreign companies in China should respect China's sovereignty and territorial in-

tegrity," said a foreign ministry spokeswoman, Hua Chunying. "I believe it is a universal principle agreed upon by all countries."

The uninhabited Diaoyu islands in the East China Sea also are claimed by Japan, which calls them the Senkakus.

In Tokyo, Japan's chief Cabinet secretary said his government has officially complained to Beijing about the order to Muji.

"There is no territorial dispute to be settled over the Senkaku Islands. We can by no means accept the measure based on China's unilateral claims," Yoshihide Suga said at a news conference, according to Kyodo News.

Earlier, Marriott was ordered to close its mainland Chinese website for one week after the company listed Taiwan and Hong Kong as countries on a survey sent to customers.

Zara, Delta Air Lines and medical device maker Medtronic issued apologies after being criticized by Chinese internet regulators for calling Taiwan a country on their websites. **AP**



British Prime Minister Theresa May (left) and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang walk together during a welcome ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing

## On state visit, May focused on post-Brexit future

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

**BRITISH** Prime Minister Theresa May yesterday called for expanding the “global strategic partnership” between the United Kingdom and China, at the start of a visit to the world’s second-largest economy focused on hashing out new trade arrangements once the U.K. leaves the European Union.

Meeting with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, May referred to “a golden era” in relations between the two countries that London hopes will bring vast amounts of new job-creating investment from China’s fast-growing global firms.

“This is an auspicious time of the year to [...] think about and consider how we can build further on that golden era and on the global strategic

partnership that we have been working on between the U.K. and China,” May said.

May first visited the central industrial city of Wuhan before traveling to Beijing for talks with Li and later with President Xi Jinping, whose 2015 state visit to Britain initiated what China frequently refers to as the golden era in ties.

May is being accompanied on her visit by 50 British business

leaders, including the chief executives of Jaguar Land Rover and drug firm AstraZeneca. She will also visit the financial hub of Shanghai before heading home Friday.

In Li’s opening comments, he said he believed May’s visit would “bring new fruits, which will further elevate the golden era in China-Britain relations.”

Bolstering ties with China became more urgent after Britain voted in 2016 to leave the EU, compelling it to forge new trade agreements outside of the 28-nation bloc.

British exports to China are up 60 percent since 2010, and China is expected to be one of the U.K.’s biggest foreign in-

vestors by 2020.

British finance minister Philip Hammond visited in December, pledging to promote London as a center for transactions in China’s yuan currency and announcing up to 25 billion pounds (USD35 billion) in support for British businesses involved in the “Belt and Road” initiative, China’s megaplan for trade and infrastructure links across Asia.

But May appears more cautious about embracing Chinese investment than her predecessor David Cameron. She annoyed Beijing in 2016 by temporarily delaying approval for a Chinese-backed nuclear power plant in southwestern England. **AP**

### CNY HOLIDAYS

## China lashes out at Taiwan over cancellation of flights

**CHINA** is again heating up the rhetoric against rival Taiwan, with a spokesman saying yesterday that Taiwan’s cancellation of added flights during the Lunar New Year holiday “hurt the feelings of people on both sides.”

Spokesman for the Chinese Cabinet’s Taiwan Affairs Office Ma Xiaoguang said the move to cancel 176 flights over the holiday beginning Feb. 16 is creating inconveniences and is “foolish and unpopular.”

“The irrational action by the Taiwan authorities creates inconvenience for tens of thousands of travelers and difficulties to a great many families on both sides during the Lunar New Year,” Ma said at a bi-weekly news conference.

“It has hurt the feelings of people on both sides, for which the Taiwanese authorities

bear the full responsibility,” Ma said.

Taiwan complains it was not properly consulted about the opening of route M503 and that it poses a danger to planes landing and taking off from on islands near the Chinese coast controlled by Taiwan. The move announced by Beijing on Jan. 4 also takes aircraft near a Taiwanese military zone.

Taiwan announced in response that China Eastern Airlines and Xiamen Airlines will not be allowed to add flights during the holiday, the most important time of the year for family gatherings in Taiwan, China and other parts of Asia.

China and Taiwan divided amid civil war in 1949 and Beijing threatens to use force to take control of the self-governing island republic. It has been increasing economic

and diplomatic pressure on the island since the inauguration of independence-leaning President Tsai Ing-wen in 2016.

Tsai has refused to endorse Beijing’s contention that Taiwan is part of a single Chinese nation that must eventually be unified. China’s ruling Communist Party, which wields the world’s largest standing military, has refused to rule out the use of force to achieve that goal.

China sent bombers and fighter planes to fly around Taiwan twice in December and this month sent its sole operating aircraft carrier through the 160-kilometer-wide Taiwan Strait with its battle group.

The Chinese planes flew near South Korean and Japanese air space, prompting Japan to dispatch fighter planes to intercept them. **AP**

### HONG KONG

## Experts deployed after unexploded bomb found

**HONG** Kong police sealed off part of a busy downtown neighborhood yesterday after an unexploded wartime bomb was found during construction work in the Asian financial center.

Explosive ordinance disposal officers deployed to the scene in the city’s Wan Chai district were working to stabilize and defuse the bomb.

Police diverted traffic, while shops and offices in surrounding towers were shuttered for the rest of the day and ferry service at a nearby pier was halted.

Bomb disposal experts identified it as an American-made 1,000 pound general purpose bomb, the same



Police officers from explosive ordinance disposal arrive the scene in the Wan Chai district yesterday

type as one unearthed and defused just days earlier at the site for a cross-harbor commuter rail link.

“However, there are some additional challenges” this time, said bomb disposal officer Alick McWhirter. “The bomb is in dangerous condition. The fuse mechanism is severely damaged.”

He added that the bomb’s position made access difficult and the bomb disposal team

was preparing to carry out stabilization and disposal operations overnight. Pictures on the Hong Kong police department’s Facebook page showed the bomb embedded in the side of a slope.

Both bombs are believed to have been dropped by warplanes during World War II, when the then-British colony was the scene of fighting between Allied and Japanese occupation forces. **AP**

**O**N international affairs, Trump warned of the dangers from “rogue regimes,” like Iran and North Korea, terrorist groups, like the Islamic State, and “rivals” like China and Russia “that challenge our interests, our economy and our values.”

Calling on Congress to lift budgetary caps and boost spending on the military, Trump said that “unmatched power is the surest means of our defense.”

In Beijing, China called on the U.S. to drop what it terms a “Cold War mentality and zero-sum ideology.”

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chuying said that common interests outweigh differences between the sides and the U.S. should view the relationship “correctly.”

China’s USD275 billion trade surplus with the U.S. has been a constant source of tension, alongside their growing rivalry for military supremacy in Asia and accusations of intellectual property theft.

Trump’s fiery comments on North Korea reflected confidence that his campaign of pressure and sanctions on the country is working, South Korean analysts said yesterday.

The experts said it also means Washington will continue to deny Pyongyang meaningful dialogue unless it’s willing to discuss serious changes to its nuclear weapons program and human rights conditions.

In his first State of the Union address, Trump warned that North Korea would “very soon” threaten the United States with nuclear-tipped missiles.

He also warned of the dangers from other “rogue regimes,” like Iran, terrorist groups, like the Islamic State, and “rivals” like China and Russia “that challenge our interests, our economy and our values.” Calling on Congress to lift budgetary caps and boost spending on the military, Trump said that “unmatched power is the surest means of our defense.”

Du Hyeogn Cha, a visiting scholar at Seoul’s Asan Institute for Policy Studies, said that for North Korea, it has to hurt that Trump declared the country as a regime that cannot co-exist with the founding values of the United States.

“He made it clear that his ‘maximum pressure and engagement’ policy will continue to be the only way going forward,” he said. “It was probably the worst message he could deliver to the North without issuing a direct military threat.”

Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert at Seoul’s Dongguk University and a security adviser to South Korea’s presidential office, says Trump likely saw North Korea’s outreach over the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics as a clear sign that pressure and sanctions are working.



## STATE OF THE UNION

# Trump speech bashed in Beijing, welcomed in Seoul, Tokyo

News of the speech was not immediately broadcast in North Korea yesterday, which is not unusual. It often takes a day or more before the North responds officially and few North Koreans were likely even aware that Trump was to make a major address before the nation and the world.

The North’s state-run media has, however, amped up its anti-U.S. rhetoric lately, accusing Washington of trying to create tensions ahead of the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics. Pyongyang has also stepped up its warnings that the U.S. is preparing for a possible war by sending aircraft carrier battle groups and advanced stealth bombers and fighters to the region.

## China called on the US to drop [the] ‘Cold War mentality and zero-sum ideology’

Japan has praised Donald Trump’s pledge of putting maximum pressure on North Korea to abandon its nuclear and missile threats.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga says Japan “highly praises President Trump for sending a powerful message in his own words” as North Korea continues to pursue its ambitions.

Suga reiterated Tokyo’s support for the U.S. and vowed to

cooperate closely between the two allies and with South Korea, as well as others including China and Russia in order to get the North change its policy.

## CHINA SEA OMISSION

In the Philippines, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told The Associated Press that it did not really matter that Trump failed to mention U.S. policy on the South China Sea disputes involving China, the Philippines and four other governments, but that Manila would lend its support to fighting terrorism whenever the efforts of the two nations coincide.

“If our efforts against terrorists coincide, well and good, we cooperate,” he said. “But in reality, each country will be addressing its own security problems by any legal means at its disposal.”

The U.S. deployed surveillance aircraft to help Philippine forces quell an Islamic State group-linked siege in southern Marawi city last year.

Iran’s Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said that Trump has confirmed his “ignorance” in remarks on Iran in his address.

Zarif tweeted: “Trump again confirms his ignorance of Iran & region. Everyone knows where he stands; and it’s certainly not with Iranians.”

Earlier, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said the people of Iran will continue supporting the Islamic Republic despite foreign pressure.

Rouhani said in remarks broadcast by state TV: “The

Iranian nation will never give up Imam Khomeini’s legacy; Islamism and Republicanism. Return is impossible.”

## TENSIONS ON CAPITOL HILL

Trump addressed the nation with tensions running high on Capitol Hill. An impasse over immigration prompted a three-day government shutdown earlier this year, and lawmakers appear no closer to resolving the status of the “Dreamers” — young people living in the U.S. illegally ahead of a new Feb. 8 deadline for funding operations. The parties have also clashed this week over the plans of Republicans on the House intelligence committee to release a classified memo on the Russia investigation involving Trump’s presidential campaign — a decision the White House backs but the Justice Department is fighting.

The controversies that have dogged Trump — and the ones he has created — have overshadowed strong economic gains during his first year in office. His approval ratings have hovered in the 30s for much of his presidency, and just 3 in 10 Americans said the United States was heading in the right direction, according to a poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. In the same survey, 67 percent of Americans said the country was more divided because of Trump.

At times, Trump’s address appeared to be aimed more at validating his first year in offi-

ce than setting the course for his second. He devoted significant time to touting the tax overhaul he signed at the end of last year, promising the plan will “provide tremendous relief for the middle class and small businesses.” He also highlighted the decision made early in his first year to withdraw the U.S. from a sweeping Asia-Pacific trade pact, declaring: “The era of economic surrender is totally over.”

He spoke about potential agenda items for 2018 in broad terms, including a call for \$1.5 trillion in new infrastructure spending and partnerships with states and the private sector. He touched only briefly on issues like health care that have been at the center of the Republican Party’s policy agenda for years.

Tackling the sensitive immigration debate that has roiled Washington, Trump redoubled his recent pledge to offer a path to citizenship for 1.8 million young immigrants — but only as part of a package that would also require increased funding for border security, including a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, ending the nation’s visa lottery method and re-vamping the current legal immigration system. Some Republicans are wary of the hardline elements of Trump’s plan and it’s unclear whether his blueprint could pass Congress.

“Americans are dreamers too,” Trump said, in an apparent effort to reclaim the term used to describe the young immigrants in the U.S. illegally. **MDT/AP**

## SOUTH KOREA

# Behind chip boom, worries over future

Youkyung Lee, Seoul

**T**HE craze for smartphones, social media and universal connectivity is generating immense wealth but also deep unease in South Korea, source of a large share of the computer chips that make them work.

Soaring demand for microchips used in smartphones, computer servers and data centers is driving profits for chip and smartphone maker Samsung Electronics and its smaller rival SK Hynix sky high, helping sustain growth in Asia's fourth largest economy.

Samsung reported yesterday that its annual net profit rose 84 percent to a record 41.3 trillion won (USD38.6 billion) in 2017 on annual sales of 239.6 trillion won (\$223.7 billion), up 19 percent from the previous year.

But pressures are building as youth unemployment approaches 10 percent and many elderly Koreans scrimp and scavenge to get by.

Combined, Samsung and SK Hynix control about three quarters of the global market for DRAM semiconductors, used to devices that help gadgets and data centers run more programs and data faster. They hold about half the market for NANDs, which store pictures and other digital data.

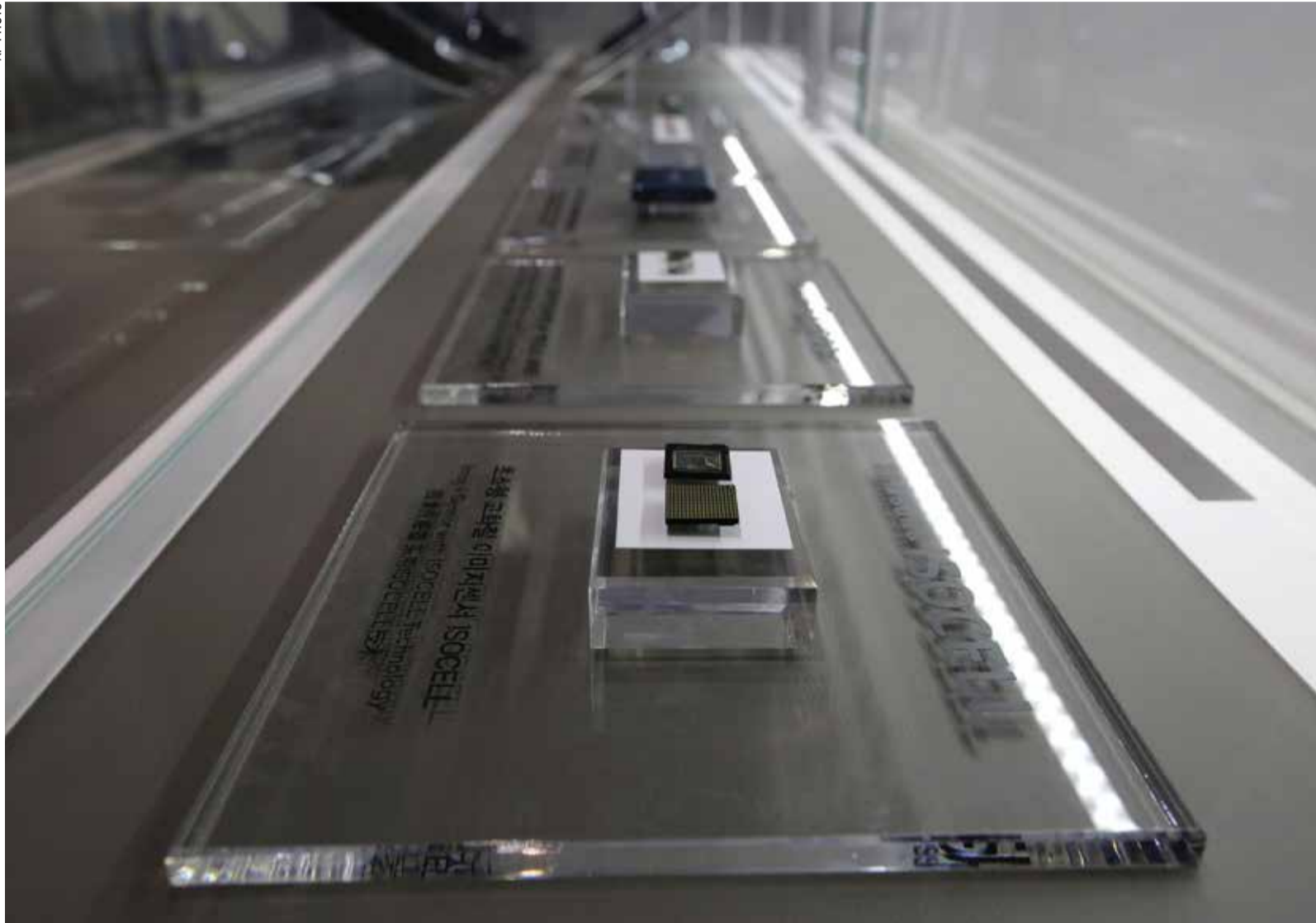
In 2017, Samsung and SK Hynix had combined revenues totaling 270 trillion won (\$251.5 billion), equivalent to about 17 percent of South Korea's GDP.

The chip boom reflects South Korea's success in adapting to changing times, but such a heavy reliance on one sector of the economy, which one economist likened to Saudi Arabia's oil-driven wealth, is a mixed blessing.

"I see a huge risk. It's not a time to be rejoicing over South Korea's 3 percent growth," Yoo Seung-min, an opposition lawmaker and economist said in an interview. "Except for the semiconductor illusion, there is nothing to be relieved about."

Led by robust exports of computer chips, the South Korean economy in 2017 expanded at its fastest rate in three years and is forecast to grow 3 percent this year. But while the computer chips industry is thriving, the reality is less rosy for the rest of the country: youth unemployment was 9.9 percent in 2017, the highest rate since the country began compiling data under revised standards in 2000. Overall,

AP PHOTO



the jobless rate is 3.7 percent, but almost half of South Koreans 65 and older live in poverty.

During the decades of fast growth after the 1950-53 Korean war, South Korea's economy revolved around big, family-controlled industrial groups called chaebol. Industrial groups like Daewoo and Samsung enjoyed strong government and public support, backed by a belief that the wealth created by those big exporters would trickle down to the rest of society, creating jobs as demand rippled throughout the economy.

That formula worked, for the most part, in an era when automakers, shipbuilders, steel mills and other big industrial groups prospered, creating millions of stable jobs with solid ages and benefits.

Now, many of those older industries are in decline. Tens of thousands of jobs have been wiped out in painful restructuring, with still more likely to be eliminated.

"At night, the lights are off in this area," said Kang Gi-seong, a union leader at Sungdong Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering Co., the last shipyard remaining after five others in Tongyeong shut down since the 2008 financial crisis.

Sungdong once employed up to 10,000 people in the scenic coastal city of 130,000. Now it

hires fewer than 1,300. Most are on paid leave.

"There is no more work left," Kang said by phone.

For now, there seems to be no end in sight for the chipmakers' record-breaking run.

Both Samsung and SK Hynix reported record high sales and profits in 2017 and are forecasting similar performances in 2018.

Young South Koreans like 24-year-old college student Min Shinee views the semiconductor sector as a winning bet.

## Young South Koreans view the semiconductor sector as a winning bet

"As a person majoring in semiconductors, I feel lucky to have a future for my career," said Min, who plans to get a master's degree before seeking a job at a chip maker. "I feel bad to say this, but it must feel terrible to be majoring in architecture or shipbuilding."

But even in the semiconductor sector, there's no such thing as a sure thing. Techno-

logies change, chip prices rise and fall and the industry itself has become increasingly automated, with investments increasingly going to equipment and technology rather than production-line workers.

The net increase of jobs among all semiconductor companies — Samsung Electronics, SK Hynix and 53 others listed in South Korean stock markets — was about 4,000 people during the first half of 2017, the Bank of Korea estimates. That includes hires by Samsung's display business.

"Compared with the huge growth of revenues, the number of employees did not increase as much," said Kang Taesu, an economist at Bank of Korea. "It is not a kind of industry that increases output by adding people."

In 2018, semiconductor exports will be the single pillar driving South Korea's growth. Goldman Sachs estimated that semiconductor products will contribute three quarters of South Korea's export gains this year. Growth of exports of autos, steel, cell phones, ships, cosmetics and other products combined will amount to one-third of those semiconductor export growth.

Looking ahead, South Korea needs to consider future strategies.

Already, growth of the global DRAM market is slowing.

After hitting \$72.2 billion in 2017, up from \$41.5 billion the year before, it is forecast to grow to \$84.4 billion this year, according to research firm IHS Markit.

Just as South Korean chipmakers raced to catch up with the Japanese and Taiwanese in the 1980s and 90s, Chinese foundries are maneuvering to win market share.

"The more lucrative the industry becomes, the higher the risks. Every player wants to join," said Chung Chang Won, a tech analyst at Nomura. "The biggest risk is China."

President Moon Jae-in took office in May 2017 promising to make jobs and higher wages his main economic focus. Job creation strategies include financial incentives to encourage young South Koreans to start their own companies. The government raised the minimum wage by 16 percent in 2017, to about \$7 per hour with plans to increase it to \$10 per hour by 2020.

Now is the time to plot out how South Korea will cope, says shipyard worker Kang.

"Some people, including those in the labor union, said 10 years ago that when the shipbuilding industry was doing well, that's when it should prepare for a possible downturn," he said. "The government didn't listen to us then." AP

Jill Colvin, Washington

# Crutches, tears humanize North Korean threat in Trump speech

**P**RESIDENT Donald Trump put a human face on the threat posed by North Korea in his State of the Union address yesterday [Macau time], sharing the powerful story of a defector now living in South Korea and the pain of parents who lost their child after his imprisonment.

In one of the most emotional moments of the evening, legislators cheered as defector Ji Seong-ho waved aloft the crutches he had used to escape North Korea after a train ran over his limbs.

Trump, who often fills his public remarks with superlatives about himself, instead put the spotlight on the guests his team had invited to sit in the gallery with first lady Melania Trump. Trump described them as witnesses "to the ominous nature" of the North Korean regime as he pledged his resolve.

It was a very different approach for a president whose past remarks about North Korea have included taunting leader Kim Jong Un as "Little Rocket Man" and threatening to unleash "fire and fury" if Pyongyang escalates its nuclear program.

Trump described how, as a boy, a starving Ji lost consciousness while taking coal from a train car to barter for food during the country's famine. Ji woke up as

the train ran over his limbs, and he "endured multiple amputations without anything to dull the pain," the president recounted. The White House said he lost his left hand and foot.

Trump described Ji's siblings giving him what little food they had to help him recover while they instead ate dirt, stunting their growth. Trump said Ji was later tortured by North Korean authorities after returning from a brief trip to China, but eventually escaped.

"Seong-ho traveled thousands of miles on crutches all across China and Southeast Asia to freedom," Trump said. He now has a new leg and works to resettle fellow defectors and broadcast information into North Korea. But Ji still keeps his crutches as a reminder of how far he's come, Trump said.

After Trump told the story, Ji stood and waved the crutches triumphantly in a made-for-TV moment, his face filled with emotion.

Also among Trump's guests: the parents of Otto Warmbier,



Ji Seong-ho holds up his crutches after his introduction by President Trump during the State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington

the American college student who died of injuries suffered in North Korean custody. Fred and Cindy Warmbier, their faces pained and fighting back tears, stood and received a round of

applause.

Their son spent 17 months in North Korean captivity before being released to the U.S. He died four days after his return.

"You are powerful witnesses

to a menace that threatens our world, and your strength truly inspires us all," Trump told them. "Tonight we pledge to honor Otto's memory with total American resolve." AP

AD

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USA

# Health care's Three Amigos? The big names behind a new push

Marley Jay, New York

**T**HREE guys walk into a bar. They're Warren Buffett, Amazon.com's Jeff Bezos and JPMorgan Chase's Jamie Dimon. They decide to transform the American health care system.

That's probably not how these three men decided to form a new company to address health care costs for their U.S. employees, and possibly for many more Americans. The three companies, with a combined market cap of USD1.62 trillion, did not provide details of how the collaboration between their CEOs came about. And while their announcement yesterday [Macau time] didn't include many specifics, based on their very different business backgrounds it's possible to see what each might bring to the table.

Bezos, 54, runs one of the world's biggest retail operations and by some measurement he's now the wealthiest person on the planet. Amazon grew from a book retailer into one of the world's most valuable companies in part because it's extremely skilled in distributing products. It's long been willing to lose money in order to offer customers lower prices than its competitors can bear — and in the process gain a loyal customer base. That's what millions of Prime members love about it.

AP PHOTO



From left to right: Warren Buffett, Jeff Bezos and Jamie Dimon

■ **The companies said their project will focus on technology that provides simplified and transparent care**

Amazon has never been consistent at turning profits because of its focus on sales growth. That's what many investors fear about it. Investors in health care have long thought Amazon was going to get into that field

and force companies that make and distribute medications or medical devices to drastically lower their prices.

When the three companies said they want to create a partnership "free from profit-making incentives and constraints," Amazon would seem to be the blueprint.

By contrast, few associate fear with Buffett, the 87-year-old "Oracle of Omaha." He's respected for his 70 years of successful investing, beloved by many for giving billions to charity — he has said he plans to give away at least half his fortune — and appreciated for a common touch that includes a prodigious Coca-Cola habit and a love of junk food, along with his personal frugality. But most significant in this context

is that his company, Berkshire Hathaway, owns a number of insurers including GEICO. That means he brings a lot of experience in evaluating and insuring risks.

And he's a longtime critic of the health care system. Yesterday was not the first time Buffett had talked about growing health care costs as a "tapeworm" that harms the growth of the American economy.

Dimon, 61, is the head of the largest U.S. bank in terms of both assets and deposits. If that weren't enough to get him entry into the conversation, JPMorgan Chase just received a big tax cut. Dimon himself earned a lot of respect for his handling of the 2008-09 financial crisis. Unlike many of its competitors, JPMorgan Chase didn't have to

be bailed out by taxpayers as a result of its bad bets on mortgage-backed securities.

That doesn't mean he's exactly beloved: Like its rivals, the bank did pay billions to settle allegations surrounding its sales of mortgage-backed securities prior to the crisis. He's also known for speaking his mind in blunt terms. In July, he complained about politicians arguing about "stupid [expletive]" instead of solving problems.

The companies said their project will focus on technology that provides simplified and transparent care. Based on the executives who have been named to top roles at the new company, Jefferies & Co. analyst Brian Tanquilut said there is a good chance it will eventually try to negotiate prices directly with health care providers like hospitals, bypassing companies that act as middlemen. That could reduce costs in the medical and pharmaceutical supply chains.

"The initial plan for the new entity will be on partnering with and/or acquiring various consumer-orientated health care technology capabilities (i.e. a venture capital strategy) and eventually using them to influence and incentivize health care cost-reducing behavior," he said, basing his speculation on the executives picked to shepherd the new company along.

Whatever the new company's scope, investors in health care companies were deeply concerned: On Tuesday health insurer Cigna dropped 7.2 percent, biotech drugmaker AbbVie fell 5.3 percent, and drugstore chain-pharmacy benefits manager CVS Health lost 4.1 percent as the sector took broad losses in New York exchanges. **AP**

## Amid publicity tour, porn star denies affair with Trump

**A**DULT film star Stormy Daniels, in the midst of a publicity tour fueled by past allegations of a 2006 sexual relationship with a then-married Donald Trump, said in a statement yesterday the alleged affair never occurred.

Keith Davidson, a lawyer for Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, confirmed the statement was authentic but didn't offer any further details.

The statement came at a curious time for Clifford, who appeared after the president's State of the Union address on ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" In recent weeks she has changed production companies, given a television

AP PHOTO



Stormy Daniels (left) laughs with host Jimmy Kimmel on ABC show

interview and promoted strip club appearances with a risqué play on Trump's "Make America Great Again," campaign slogan.

Michael Cohen, Trump's personal lawyer, has denied there was any affair.

On Kimmel's show, Clif-

ford ducked most of his questions about the alleged affair by either remaining silent or cracking jokes. She addressed, vaguely, the legitimacy of the new statement.

Kimmel began by displaying a copy and comparing her signature on it

to other examples. They didn't match, he said, asking if she had signed it.

"I don't know, did I?" she said. "That doesn't look like my signature, does it?"

The ABC host asked if that was an admission that the statement was written and released without her approval, which drew a smile, coy look and a giggle from Clifford.

The rest of the interview went on in the same vein, as Clifford skirted whether she had signed a non-disclosure agreement; if an In Touch magazine interview was accurate — "Not as it is written," she replied — and if the magazine's full transcript of her comments was accurate.

When Kimmel started to read details of her alleged

encounters with Trump, Clifford interrupted: "I thought this was a talk show, not a horror movie. Because this is a whole different pay scale."

Clifford's allegation, first made in 2011 and then again a month before the election, went mostly unnoticed until the Wall Street Journal reported earlier this month that Cohen brokered a USD130,000 payment to Clifford to keep her from publicly discussing it.

A week after that report, In Touch magazine printed a 5,000-word interview it conducted with Clifford in 2011 but never published after Cohen threatened the tabloid with a lawsuit, the Associated Press has previous-

ly reported.

In that interview, Clifford described a single sexual encounter with Trump in 2006 when he was recently married to his third wife, Melania, as well as a subsequent years-long relationship with the reality TV star. The magazine said it corroborated her account with friends and that she passed a lie detector test.

In her statement yesterday, Clifford said she wasn't denying the affair because she was paid "hush money," but rather "because it never happened."

Neither Cohen nor Clifford have addressed whether she was paid \$130,000, and if so why. **AP**

# 2017

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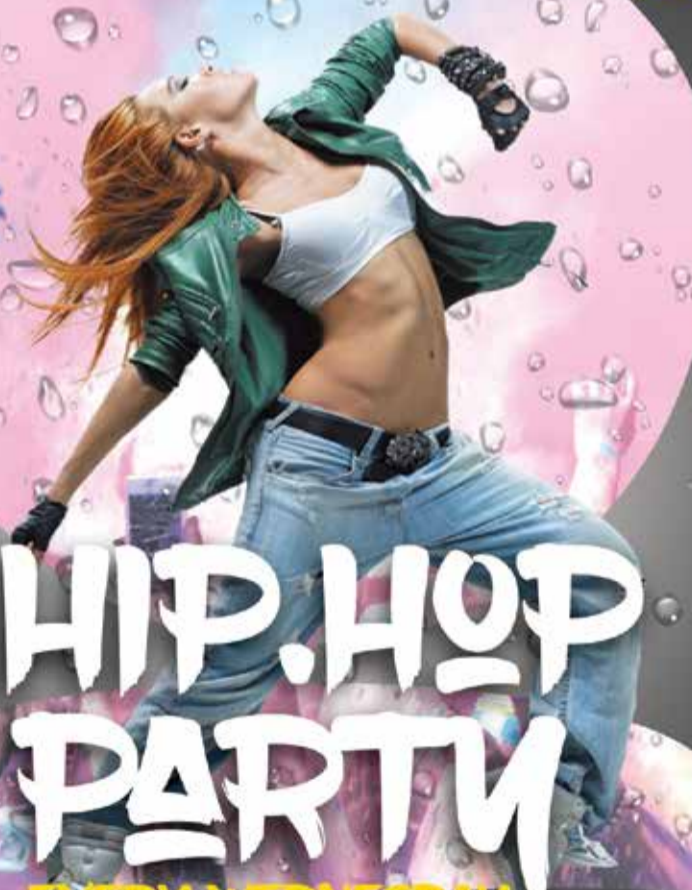
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## what's ON



## CRAYON SHIN-CHAN KASUKABE ADVENTURE 2017 (MACAU)

TIME: 2pm-9pm (last admission 8:30pm)

UNTIL: February 14, 2018

VENUE: 2/F, Broadway Macau

ADMISSION: From MOP128, available at Kong Seng Ticketing Service

ENQUIRIES: (853) 6288 9485 / 2855 5555

## IMAGINARY BEINGS – ILLUSTRATIONS BY ANA ARAGÃO

TIME: 12pm-8pm (closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: February 21, 2018

VENUE: Taipa Village Art Space

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2857 6118

## THE MEMORABLE TIME – THE TRADITIONAL HANDICRAFT INDUSTRIES OF MACAU

TIME: 10am-6pm (closed on Mondays; open on public holidays)

UNTIL: February 25, 2108

VENUE: Macau Museum

Admission: MOP15

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

## A CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORY OF MACAU – EXHIBITION

TIME: 10:30am-5:30pm (closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: March 31, 2018

VENUE: Gallery of Carmo Post Office in Taipa

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2837 8138

## 11TH MACAU DESIGN BIENNIAL (HGM)

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

UNTIL: March 31, 2018

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

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

## Offbeat

## MERYL STREEP, DEBBIE HARRY NAMED TO NEW JERSEY HALL OF FAME



Academy Award winner Meryl Streep, former New York Yankees pitcher Al Leiter and E Street Band member Steven Van Zandt are among the 20 newest members of the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

The class of 2017 also includes singers Debbie Harry and Frankie Valli and "Cake Boss" reality TV star Buddy Valastro for the performing arts. Authors Harlan Coben and Anna Quindlen represent arts and letters.

The inductees for public service are astronauts Mark and Scott Kelly, late Republican Rep. Millicent Fenwick and Army nurse Clara Maass, who died as a result of volunteering for medical experiments to study yellow fever.

Other class members are real estate developer Jon Hanson, magazine publisher Steve Forbes, politician Joe Buckelew and running champion Mary Decker.

All will be inducted during a ceremony in May.

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
16:10	CTT Cup: Sporting x Porto (Repeated)
18:00	Miscellaneous
18:35	What's Up
19:00	Brazilian Soap Opera (Repeated)
19:50	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:35	Non-daily Portuguese News
21:40	Yes, Chef! Sr 2
22:10	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Interview - Jens Stoltenberg
23:55	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:30	RTPi Live

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

1 Feb - 7 Feb



## MAZE RUNNER: THE DEATH CURE

ROOM 1

(2D) 02:15, 04:45, 9:345pm

(3D) 07:15pm

Director: Wes Ball

Starring: Rosa Salazar, Thomas Brodie-Sangster

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 142 min



## THE POST

ROOM 2

02:30, 04:45, 7:15, 9:30pm

Director: Steven Spielberg

Starring: Tom Hanks, Meryl Streep, Sarah Paulson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 116min

## STAYCATION

ROOM 3

2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Johnson Lee

Starring: Johnson Lee, Louisa So, Ti Lung, Chin Siu-ho,

Andrew Lam, Yuen Chau

Language: Cantonese (Chinese &amp; English)

Duration: 101 min



## FATE/STAY NIGHT: HEAVEN'S FEEL - I. PRESAGE FLOWER

ROOM 3

5:00, 9:30pm

Director: Tomonori Sudô

Starring: Ayako Kawasumi, Jôji Nakata, Noriaki Sugiyama

Language: Japanese (Chinese)

Duration: 120 min

## this day in history



## 2003 COLUMBIA SHUTTLE DISINTEGRATES KILLING SEVEN

The US space shuttle Columbia has broken up as it re-entered the Earth's atmosphere killing all seven astronauts on board.

This is the first time there has been an accident on landing in the 42 years of American space flight.

President George Bush told a nation in shock: "The Columbia is lost. There are no survivors."

Six of the seven astronauts were US citizens. They were Rick Husband, William McCool, Michael Anderson, David Brown, and female astronauts Laurel Clark and Indian-born Kalpana Chawla.

The seventh - fighter pilot Colonel Ilan Ramon - was Israel's first astronaut and was carrying with him a miniature Torah scroll of a Holocaust survivor.

Columbia disintegrated just 16 minutes before it was due to land at Cape Canaveral in Florida.

At 0900 local time (1400 GMT) Mission Control lost all data and contact with the crew.

The US space agency Nasa then sent search teams to the Dallas-Fort Worth area amid reports of "a big bang" and TV pictures showing smoke and fireballs in the sky.

In an emotional announcement, Nasa's administrator Sean O'Keefe, said: "This is indeed a tragic day for the Nasa family, for the families of the astronauts and likewise, tragic for the nation."

Flags at the Kennedy Space Center have been lowered to half-mast.

Debris from the shuttle is scattered across eastern Texas and western Louisiana and has crashed into car parks, forests, backyards, a reservoir, a rooftop and a dentist's office.

Nasa has temporarily suspended shuttle flights. Shuttle programme manager Ron Dittmore told a news conference in Houston, Texas, "We will not fly again until we have this understood. Somewhere along the line we missed something."

The finger of blame points to a piece of insulating foam from an external fuel tank that hit the shuttle's left wing as it took off 16 days ago.

Some experts say this could have damaged tiles that protect the craft from intense heat on re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere.

But the lead flight director in mission control, Leroy Cain, assured journalists engineers had concluded any damage to the spacecraft was considered minor.

The shuttle was the world's first reusable space vehicle and Columbia was the oldest of a fleet of four and flew her maiden voyage in April 1981.

Her sister ship Challenger exploded soon after take-off 17 years ago killing six astronauts and schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Three days later President Bush led a memorial service to the seven astronauts at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

In a statement the families of the astronauts insisted the tragedy should not hamper future space programs.

An independent investigation team spent months studying data recovered from computers tracking Columbia's final moments, and thousands of pieces of recovered debris.

The final conclusions of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board, published in August 2003, confirmed the view that a breach of the shuttle's heat shield on take-off caused it to break up on re-entry.

But it was also highly critical of Nasa itself, saying management blunders were as much to blame as technical problems for the destruction of the shuttle.

It also said that while the space shuttle was not inherently unsafe, a number of mechanical changes should be made in order to ensure safety before flights resume.

It made 29 major recommendations aimed at both a short-term return to space and continuing exploration in the long term.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Life is easy today, especially with the universe in such a generous mood.

Taurus April 20-May 20

Stretching out in someone's doorway and refusing to leave until they agree you're right is always an option.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21

You may tend toward overconfidence - or even laziness - on the job today, but they must be avoided at all costs.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22

If you're feeling somewhat fragile, handle yourself with care - and let your people know you need some warm fuzzies from them as well.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You need a little sympathy today if you want to soothe your troubled soul.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Watch out for calendar overload today. It can be hard, especially since so many amazing opportunities are flying your way.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22

You're feeling a little less wild and quite a bit milder. You're not ill - you just need a change of pace.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Cynicism is the easy way out, and it helps no one in the end. It's way too easy to grouch about how hard life is now.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Old memories might be overwhelming today, so beware of any situations that could trigger nostalgia or remind you of past pain.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Romance can be an awful lot of fun - unless the rules keep changing. In that case, it's no fun at all for any of the players.

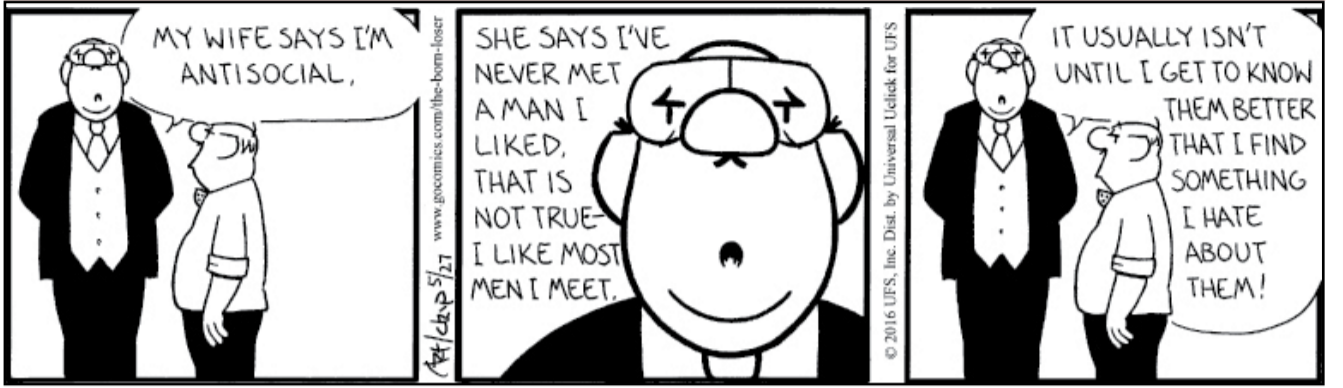
Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Your life feels like it's on fast-forward, but your financial issues, primary relationships, and home responsibilities all cry out for extra attention.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20

It's not exactly comfortable when someone decides that you're going to solve all their problems for them.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table of weather forecasts for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

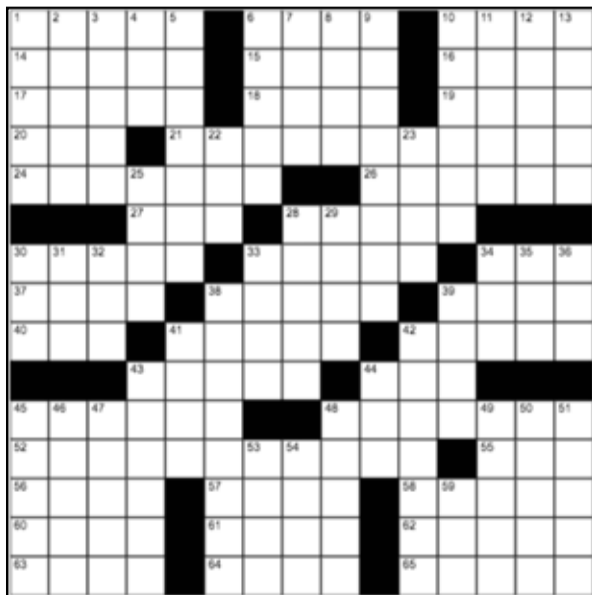
WORLD

Table of weather forecasts for world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Stone marker; 6- Super server; 10- Bustles; 14- Shakespearean forest; 15- Bundle; 16- Price tag; 17- Stroll; 18- I'd hate to break up...; 19- Entr'...; 20- Ox tail?; 21- Person who breaks open safes; 24- Mark boundaries; 26- Prolific inventor; 27- Not too bright; 28- Sleep issue; 30- Columbus's birthplace; 33- Eyeglasses, for short; 34- Small island; 37- Russian range; 38- "Til \_\_\_ do us part"; 39- Bones found in the hip; 40- Hanoi holiday; 41- Style; 42- Polite denial; 43- Big name in hotels; 44- Crow call; 45- Place in bondage; 48- Illicit drug; 52- Meditate; 55- Dorm overseers, for short; 56- Neeson of "Rob Roy"; 57- Previously owned; 58- Inclined; 60- \_\_\_ silly question...; 61- Nicholas II was the last Russian one; 62- Knight's weapon; 63- New driver, often; 64- To be, in Paree; 65- Great Lakes tribesmen;

DOWN: 1- Palatable; 2- Commerce; 3- Ford flop; 4- Levi's rival; 5- Loss of the sense of smell; 6- Behind; 7- Beer buy; 8- Util. bill; 9- Reduce; 10- Gum arabic source; 11- Wharves; 12- Bony prefix; 13- Severe; 22- Intent; 23- Cool drinks; 25- Billy \_\_\_ had a hit song with "White Wedding"; 28- Separated; 29- Sneaky guy?; 30- Kind of reaction; 31- Before, to Burns; 32- Writer Hentoff; 33- Posted; 34- Gore and Hirt; 35- "Rocky \_\_\_" (1982); 36- Paving material; 38- Unable to hear and speak; 39- Caucus state; 41- Circular course; 42- Balloon car; 43- Cossack chief; 44- Portable bed; 45- Acclaim; 46- Racket; 47- Reptile; 48- Training group; 49- Teheran native; 50- John \_\_\_ Garner; 51- Adlai's running mate; 53- Attention getter; 54- Cordelia's father; 59- Decoration at the top of a chair leg;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88

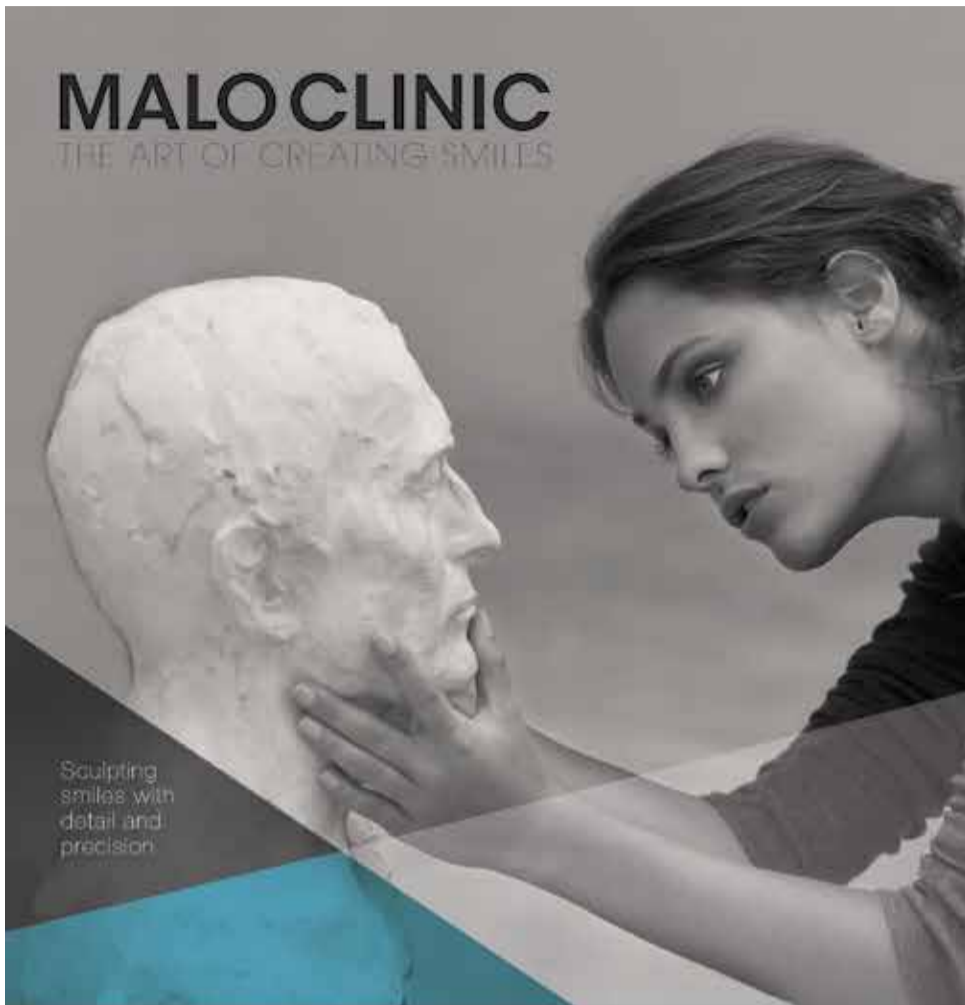


AD

Real estate advertisement for JML Property with 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' sections listing various properties like Grande Plaza, Kinqlight, and others.



AD



### Dear patients and friends of Taivex Malo Hospital Dental Clinic/Macau MALO CLINIC,

We at Macau MALO CLINIC Dental Care would like to apologize to you all.

The Macau Health Bureau has notified the hospital to stop all operations for 6 months, thus the dental clinic won't be able to provide you with dental services either.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

#### Within this time period, patients may choose the following options:

- A.** Go to one of our 18 MALO CLINIC clinics in Mainland China, all of which, together with Macau MALO CLINIC, operate under MALO CLINIC China Management, following the exact standards and medical protocols as any international MALO CLINIC.
- Macau MALO CLINIC will provide the transport to and from our clinics in Guangzhou or Shenzhen. Macau MALO CLINIC will manage the necessary bookings in all MALO CLINICS in China, as well as follow-up and medical records will be provided to our colleagues in China.
- B.** For all patients who will be in Portugal during this period, Macau MALO CLINIC will manage the necessary bookings, follow-up and patients' medical records to our colleagues in any MALO CLINIC in Portugal.
- C.** For those patients who are willing to wait for MALO CLINIC in Macau to proceed with the treatments, we are putting all our efforts in finding a partnering healthcare organization at the moment in order to continue our practice.

If any urgent situation arises or if you have any enquiries, please feel free to contact us.

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 Email: service.maloclinic@maloclinics.com.cn  
 Website: http://www.maloclinic.com.cn  
 (Can be contacted at any time)

Once again, we would like to apologize for all the inconvenience this has put on you all.

Thank you all for your understanding and support.

We hope to find solutions for everyone's cases as soon as possible so that we may keep providing quality dental service to you all.

Yours Sincerely,

WORLDWIDE

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 Lisbon | Almada | Portimão | Faro | Funchal | Windsor | Verona  
 Mönchengladbach | Gdansk | Warsaw | Gdansk | Athens | Ioannina  
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 Montreal | Trois-Rivières | Brossard | Bogotá | Melbourne | Sydney | Perth  
 Brisbane | Hobart | Gold Coast | Luanda | Tel Aviv | Ramat-Hasharon  
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+ INFO



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## FOOTBALL

# Aubameyang joins Arsenal for club record USD80m

Steve Douglas

**A**RSENAL paid a club-record fee of 63.75 million euros (USD80 million) to sign Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang from Borussia Dortmund yesterday, completing the overhaul of the team's attack that was triggered by Alexis Sanchez's departure to Manchester United.

In potentially the most significant move in the Premier League on the final day of the January transfer window, Aubameyang joined Arsenal in a deal that should result in Olivier Giroud leaving the club in the coming hours — reportedly to London rival Chelsea.

The 28-year-old Aubameyang will compete with, or maybe complement, offseason signing Alexandre Lacazette up front as Arsenal looks to make up an eight-point deficit to the Champions League qualification positions in the Premier League.

Another new face in Arsenal's attack is Henrikh Mkhitaryan, the playmaker who arrived from Manchester United last week as part of the swap deal that took Sanchez to Old Trafford. Mkhitaryan and Aubameyang linked up to great effect when they played together at Dortmund in the 2015-16 season, scoring 62 goals between them in all competitions.



Mkhitaryan welcomed Aubameyang in a video message on Arsenal's Twitter feed.

In total, Aubameyang scored 98 goals in 144 games for Dortmund in the German league after joining from Saint-Etienne in 2013 and was the top scorer last season with 31. Only eight players from Europe's top five leagues have scored more goals than the Gabon striker since the start of 2014-15 season.

Arsenal inadvertently posted a video on its website in the early hours of yesterday, during which manager Arsene Wenger confirmed the signing of Aubameyang in an in-house interview after the Premier League game against Swansea on Tuesday. The video was quickly taken down.

Arsenal lost to Swansea 3-1 in a game that exposed its weakness up front without the explosive Sanchez around. It left Wenger's team in sixth place with 13 matches left.

The fee for Aubameyang was identical to that paid by Manchester City for France under-21 international Aymeric Laporte on Tuesday. That was also a club record — but it could be broken a day later if City manages to bring Leicester winger Riyad Mahrez to Etihad Stadium.

City has reportedly made its move for English soccer's Player of the Year for the 2015-16 season following an injury to Leroy Sane that has ruled the Germany winger out for up to seven weeks. **AP**

## Azeglio Vicini, Italy's coach at 1990 World Cup, dies at 84



**A**ZEGLIO Vicini, who coached Italy to a third-place finish as host of the 1990 World Cup, has died. He was 84. The Italian football federation said yesterday that Vicini died in his hometown of Brescia, without providing further details.

Vicini coached Italy from 1986-91 and also guided the Azzurri to the semifinals of the 1988 European Championship.

During the 1990 World Cup, Italy's only loss was a penalty shootout defeat to Argentina and Diego Maradona in the semifinals. "He was a man who was hugely important for my footballing life," said Salvatore "Toto" Schillaci, who won the Golden Shoe award at the 1990 World Cup with a tournament-high six goals. "He made me known all around the world.

He believed in me and if I am what I am, 80 percent of the merit belongs to coach Vicini," Schillaci added.

Stephen Wade, Mari Yamaguchi

**T**HE price tag for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics keeps going up despite attempts to rein in the spending.

Over the last year, organizers have shifted several venues away from central Tokyo and have looked for existing facilities instead of building new ones.

However, in the last week Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike has explained that the city will need to more than double the billions it is already budgeting to stage the games. The International Olympic Committee and Tokyo organizers contest this, saying the city's added costs are for many projects that would have been done — with or without the Olympics.

In late December, Tokyo Olympic organizers said the games would cost 1.35 trillion yen, which is about USD12.4 billion at the present exchange rate of 109 yen to the dollar. But at a news conference last Friday, Koike said the city would spend an added 810 billion yen (\$7.5 billion), bringing total games-related spending to 2.16 trillion yen (roughly \$20 billion).

Tokyo organizers and the International Olympic Committee have talked openly about the need to cut rising costs, which have plagued recent Olympics and driven away possible bidding cities.

In emails to The Associated Press, the IOC and organizers said the new spending should not be viewed as part of the Olympic costs.

# 2020 Tokyo Olympic costs keep rising despite efforts to cut



The IOC called the expenses “regular administrative costs” for the city that fall “outside the overall games budget.” Local organizers said the same thing.

Koike contradicted their position.

She said the new costs were for “projects directly and indirectly related to the games.” She included building barrier-free facilities for Paralympic athletes, training programs for volunteers, and advertising and tourism plans.

She said the budget numbers still needed to be studied, and city's legislature still needed to approve the spending.

“We just presented the rough scale of the costs,” she said. “Tokyo will be the one to cover it, so I presented it because I wanted the Tokyo residents to be aware of it.”

**Tokyo's winning bid in 2013 was listed at 730 billion yen, about one-third of the list price now**

Asked about further cost-cutting sought by the IOC, Koike said “it's not a task only for Tokyo, but the effort should be made as a whole.”

She also played up the decades-long impact of the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, which showed the world a modern, fast-moving and rebuilt country following World War II.

“Think about what still remains as legacies from the 1964 Tokyo Olympics — the metropolitan expressway and the bullet-train system, for instance,” she said.

Tokyo's 2020 Olympics are being funded largely by public

money. The 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics were billed as a split between public and private money. The eventual price tag was about \$13 billion — and some estimates put it at \$20 billion.

Under Koike's plan, the Tokyo city government will now chip in 1.41 trillion yen (\$13 billion), and the national government will spend 150 billion yen (\$1.4 billion). This represents 72 percent of spending to prepare the Olympics. The remaining part comes from the local organizing committee, which will add 600 billion yen (\$5.5 billion) in private money.

Tokyo's winning bid in 2013 was listed at 730 billion yen, about one-third of the list price now.

Bent Flyvberg, in a 2016 study at Oxford University, found the Olympics “have the highest average cost overrun of any type of megaproject. Moreover, cost overrun is found in all games, without exception.”

Flyvberg added in his study that “for a city and nation to decide to stage the Olympic Games is to decide to take on one of the most costly and financially most risky type of megaproject that exists, something that many cities and nations have learned to their peril.” AP

## South Korean skiers arrive in North for joint training event

**S**OUTH Korean skiers flew to North Korea yesterday to train with its athletes in a conciliatory gesture the countries planned to mark the Winter Olympics in the South.

The chartered flight carrying a delegation of 45 — including 24 alpine and cross-country skiers, support staff and journalists — arrived in North Korea's Kalma Airport before the athletes went to the Masik ski resort, Seoul's Unification Ministry said.

The skiers are reserve members of South Korea's national team and won't be participating in the Pyeongchang Games that start Feb. 9.

The South Koreans are to fly back Thursday accompanied by 10 North Korean athletes — six skiers, two figure skaters and two short-track speed skaters — who have been

invited to participate in the Olympics, according to a pool report. Twelve North Korean female ice hockey players arrived in South Korea last week and are practicing with South Korean teammates for a unified team that will compete in the Olympics.

The South Korean skiers briefly practiced among themselves at the Masik ski resort yesterday, according to the pool report. The South Korean and North Korean skiers didn't talk or ski together, although they later chanted “we are one” during a group photo. The skiers are scheduled to participate in joint training sessions and friendly competitions at the resort on Thursday.

“I feel a bit tense, but I think this will be a fun experience,” South Korean alpine skier Kim Hyun-soo said before departing for

North Korea, according to the pool report. “When else would I be able to visit North Korea?”

South Korea is preparing to host hundreds of North Koreans during the Olympics, including officials, athletes, artists, journalists and a 230-member cheering group. Liberal South Korean President Moon Jae-in sees the games as an opportunity to resume meaningful contact with North Korea following an extended period of tension and a diplomatic stalemate over its nuclear and missile programs.

Uncertainties surrounded yesterday's trip, which South Korea wasn't able to confirm until less than two hours before the athletes departed from Yangyang International Airport. South Korea held discussions with the United States until the last minute to ensu-

re the trip wouldn't violate U.S. sanctions against the North.

Washington agreed to consider the flight an exception to sanctions announced by the Trump administration in September that include banning vessels and aircraft that have visited North Korea from visiting the United States within 180 days, said Unification Ministry spokesman Baik Tae-hyun, who didn't elaborate further on the talks.

He said the North Korean skiers who travel to South Korea today will head to the athletes' village in Gangneung, a coastal city that will host the skating, hockey and curling competitions during the Olympics.

North Korea late Monday scrapped a joint cultural event in the North, citing unspecified negative me-



South Korean skiers on the chartered flight wave to the media before taking off to North Korea

dia reports in the South.

Other conciliatory gestures the Koreans have agreed to hold during the Olympics include a joint march under a “unification” flag during the Feb. 9 opening ceremony and fielding a unified team in women's ice hockey. A dozen North Korean hockey players have been training since last week with their South Korean teammates led by Canadian coach Sarah Murray.

While many South Koreans have welcomed North Korea's presence at the Olympics, others express

unease and view the North's overture as an attempt to weaken U.S.-led international sanctions against the North while it further advances its nuclear weapons program.

Yesterday's flight was the first direct South Korean flight to North Korea since 2015, when South Korean labor unionists flew to Pyongyang for a goodwill soccer match with North Korean workers, the ministry said. The Kalma Airport on North Korea's eastern coast was the launch site for multiple midrange missile tests in 2016. AP

opinion

**Girl About Globe**

Linda Kennedy



**LIBERTE, EQUALITE, BOULANGERIE**

**French** President Emmanuel Macron will receive the first state dinner to be given by President Donald Trump.

That handshake in Paris – the one that went on and on – formed a special bond, it seems.

But are we also seeing the rise of French soft power? French soft, fresh-from-the-oven power?

Something is happening right under our noses. President Macron has backed a campaign for the baguette to be on UNESCO's list of world intangible cultural heritage. Yes, the French stick. The baton.

This presidential boost for the baguette came shortly before Macron was a big draw at the World Economic Forum in Davos, where he effectively declared: France is back. And is bread part of his strategy?

The signs all point in the same direction, Inspector Clouseau. Macron is a realist. He knows France can't dominate the world politically. Or economically. But culinarily? Instagrammatically? If it's intangible cultural heritage, a baguette is much more than breakfast. #treasure #crustlust #culturenotcalories

Remember, France last year had a go at becoming the tech zone of the future, with Macron inviting techies to come to Paris. That got a few headlines but didn't lead to the Loire Valley fearing it might be renamed Silicon. He moved on. He forgot cookies. He decided France might better rule the world with a rolling pin. He'd just seen Neopolitan pizza get recognised by UNESCO. Why not French dough? Duh.

The bid to have the baguette promoted to cultural heritage impresses on many levels. The French are always keen to preserve their traits. The Academie Francaise is the custodian of the French language; why not the Boulangerie Francaise as custodian of its carbs?

It's nationalism-lite. To get elected, President Macron beat Marine Le Pen, who championed economic nationalism, which is the preference of domestically advantageous policies. This is Macron's more palatable version. Buy baguettes. Not immigrants like soda bread and spelt sourdough, chapatis and baps.

Internationally, Macron is seeking a new way for his country to stay relevant, as the French wine market sees cuts in volume, and French fashion houses appear out of touch. If the baguette is a cultural treasure, it can be exported all over the world. It combats China, as that nation's vaunted rise is nothing compared to a baguette's in the oven. And forget the ambiguity of Make America Great Again. Macron is specific: Make French Bread Again. If any nation starts show attitude – it's just bread, monsieur – there's something else about the baguette. It is shaped liked a nuclear warhead.

European politicians have been caught out by Macron's realisation that shaping the world's tastes is how a country can remain influential. Did Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon think of proposing her nation's favourite, the Mother's Pride plain loaf, for the UNESCO list? No. Nor did Prime Minister Theresa May put up the crumpet. This might have changed the conversation. Bread-is-it! Not Brexit.

Last year, Hong Kong announced its first local representative list of intangible cultural heritage, which included the technique of Hong Kong milk tea making. Milk tea is loved by many but it's no baguette – partly as it's a hard sell globally given coffee's popularity but mostly because still brown water looks like a polluted pond on Instagram.

Back to that state dinner. Macron will surely take baguettes to the White House. They're long and thin – just how Trump likes his ties. And perfectly baked, they'll turn out Trump Tower gold.

In fact, I only see one problem: if Trump suspects Macron is mocking him with this innovative campaign for French supremacy. Baguettes are no stable genius – but they're a genius staple.

**THE HONG KONG APPROVES BAN ON LOCAL IVORY TRADING BY 2021**

Hong Kong lawmakers have given final approval to a government proposal banning local ivory trading in the Chinese territory by 2021.

Lawmakers voted yesterday in favor of amending the existing law to outlaw sales of ivory in Hong Kong, which researchers say is the world's biggest retail ivory market.

The proposal also includes significantly stiffer penalties for wildlife smuggling to deter black

market sales.

Under the new law, the maximum sentence will increase to a HKD10 million fine or 10 years in prison, up from the current two years.

Wildlife activists applauded the move, even as Hong Kong moves more slowly than Beijing. Mainland China banned ivory sales at the start of the year after shutting all carving factories and shops last March.



**First super blue blood moon in 35 years**

**Marcia Dunn, Cape Canaveral**

**T**HE moon is putting on a rare cosmic show yesterday.

It's the first time in 35 years a blue moon has synced up with a supermoon and a total lunar eclipse.

Hawaii and Alaska have the best seats, along with the Canadian Yukon, Australia and Asia. The western U.S. should have good viewing, too, along with Russia. The U.S. East Coast, Europe and most of South America and Africa are out of luck for the eclipse.

The second full moon in a calendar month is a blue moon. This one also happens to be an especially close and bright moon, or supermoon. Add a total

eclipse, known as a blood moon for its red tint, and it's a lunar showstopper.

NASA is calling it a lunar trifecta: the first super blue blood moon since 1982. That combination won't happen again until 2037.

The space agency plans to provide a live stream of the moon from ground telescopes, throughout the eclipse.

A lunar eclipse occurs when the sun, Earth and moon line up perfectly, casting Earth's shadow on the moon.

Scientists are keen to study the sharp, sudden drop in temperature at the lunar surface, as Earth's shadow blankets the moon. During the more than one hour of totali-

ty, the temperature will plunge 38 Celsius, said lunar scientist Noah Petro of Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. He's deputy project scientist for NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, circling the moon since 2009. His team is taking special precautions to keep the spacecraft warm during the eclipse.

Perhaps just as important, Petro and others are hoping the big event gets more people looking up – not just yesterday, but every day.

For the trivia crowd, the moon will be 360,200 kilometers away at the peak of the eclipse, close enough for supermoon status. **AP**



St. Petersburg, Russia

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

SOURCE: DSMG

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**IRAN** President Hassan Rouhani says the people of Iran will continue supporting the Islamic Republic despite foreign pressure.



**TURKEY** A court in Istanbul sentenced three people to life prison terms yesterday for their involvement in an Islamic State group suicide bombing in 2016 at Istanbul's historic Sultanahmet district that killed 12 German tourists.

**VATICAN** The Vatican effectively rebuked the retired archbishop of Hong Kong for suggesting that Pope Francis was out of the loop on negotiations between the Holy See and China.

**GERMANY** A 20-year-old German man has been convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison for killing a child and a 22-year-old acquaintance.



**BRAZIL** A high court judge rejected a request by lawyers for former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva to block his arrest for a graft conviction that was upheld last week.

**PERU** The political party loyal to former President Alberto Fujimori has expelled the ex-strongman's son as a rift widened between his two children over the party's botched attempt to oust Peru's current president in December.