



TYPHOON DRILL USELESS EXERCISE

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Gaming revenue to top 20pct growth in April

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BLOOMBERG

WORLD BRIEFS

KOREA South Korean President Moon Jae-in has shaken off a suggestion that he receive the Nobel Peace Prize, saying that U.S. President Donald Trump "can take the Nobel prize" as long as the Koreans receive peace in return.

JAPAN A convicted thief was recaptured yesterday three weeks after a rare escape from a Japanese prison and an island manhunt he may have eluded by swimming.
More on p12



AFGHANISTAN Two Islamic State suicide bombers struck in Afghanistan's capital yesterday, killing 25 people, including nine journalists who had rushed to the scene of the first attack. More on p13

SYRIA A missile attack targeting government outposts in Syria's northern region killed 26 pro-government fighters, mostly Iranians, a Syria war monitoring group said yesterday, amid soaring Mideast tensions between regional archenemies Israel and Iran.

More on backpage



Sulu Sou urges reclamation of Nam Van lands

Lawmaker Sulu Sou has called on the government to reclaim the land located at zone C and zone D of Nam Van Lake. Sou has urged the administration authorities to announce the invalidity of related lands as soon as possible, and to follow with the announcement of immediate procedures to reclaim the land. He also requested the government to learn from the Hong Kong Airport Core Program, with particular reference to the construction and architecture concepts, to combine the harbor development of Zone B in the new urban zone, and to develop the Nam Van land. In Sou's opinion, once the government reclaims the land, it should begin developing them to create a sustainable culture, sustainable ecosystem, and a sustainable leisure landmark on the south coast of the Macau Peninsula for the next generation.

School building works suspected of violating relics protection law

The ongoing engineering works at the Colégio Mateus Ricci is reportedly suspected of violating laws concerning the protection of cultural relics, according to a report by Jornal Cheng Pou. The works started at the beginning of this year on one of the school's buildings. It was reported that the relief on the external wall had been damaged. The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) said that "the current undergoing work consists of maintenance work on the architecture's internal and external walls according to its original design, including the maintenance work of the relief school badge on the front door of the building and the peeling and damaged decoration." The building, which was first built in 1868, started being used as a school facility in 1955. The IC has emphasized that the building is a property that has been evaluated as a structure with architectural value.

FOOTBALL

Benfica de Macau hoping to surprise in Taiwan

Renato Marques

LOCAL football club Benfica de Macau is hoping to make a "surprise" in its visit to Taiwan tomorrow for game five of six of the group stage of the Asia Football Confederation (AFC) Cup, where it will face Taiwanese team Hang Yuen FC. About the upcoming match, head coach Bernardo Tavares said, "we are going to try to do the best we can."

"If we can keep this attitude [during the match against 4.25 SC last week] when we are not in the possession of the ball, I think we can surprise there," Tavares said.

Tavares is still without some important players for the upcoming game, who are unavailable due to injuries. The exception is Gilchrist Nguema, who is not injured but suspended after he received his second yellow card against the North Korean side and will now be prevented from playing in Taiwan.

Tavares refuted the idea of Benfica being the favorite to win tomorrow's match noting that "the other team is very aggressive and will do everything to win at home."

To recall the first encounter between the two teams in the first of Benfica's games, the Macau team won at the Macau Olympic Sta-



Head coach Bernardo Tavares

dium in Taipa 3-2 in a nerve-racking match that saw the Macau team fall behind 0-2 by half-time.

At the moment, Benfica de Macau is playing only for pride and honor to participate in such an international competition, as the North Korean team 4.25 SC leads the group and has already secured the qualification for

the inter-zone play-off semi-finals after gathering 12 points from four wins in four matches. Benfica is second with six points, tied with the other North Korean team (Hwaebul Sports Club), but with advantage due to the away victory achieved by the Macau team in its second game.

Benfica will face the weakest

team of the group tomorrow, which has not yet accrued any points in the competition.

For the inter-zone play-off semi-finals, it was arranged from the start of the competition that the winners of groups D, E, and I would compose a group to be joined by the winner of the ASEAN Zone Final.

Typhoon drill criticized for being unrealistic

THE vice president of the Macau General Union of Neighborhood Association (UGAMM), Cheong Lai Zhen, criticized the government's latest typhoon drill for being unrealistic, according to a report by Jornal Cheng Pou.

Last Saturday, several government departments co-organized a typhoon drill. On the following day, Cheong was invited to the Macau Forum to discuss the drill.

During the program,

Cheong pointed out that the drill did not involve a single element of tension throughout the proceedings. She also noted that the people involved only managed to escape under an arranged situation.

In Cheong's opinion, the drill failed to teach people how to quickly escape from chaos during a real disaster.

She also believes that attempts to escape by residents during real typhoons will not resem-

ble this drill.

Cheong hopes that the government can provide different levels of disaster drills in order to increase our residents' knowledge about evacuations during natural disasters.

Besides Cheong, several attendees at the Macau Forum discussion expressed their hopes that the Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau can improve their typhoon alert system to allow residents to be better prepared during



Residents leave their Coloane neighborhood and head toward a typhoon shelter during the weekend drill

typhoon seasons.

However, in response to Cheong's criticism, a representative of the Unitary Police Service claimed that the drills need to start from a well-organized and orderly scheme.

During the forum, there were also opinions suggesting that the city's hotels should conduct typhoon drills as well, and that CEM should inspect its electricity supply facilities in advance.

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LABOR DAY

Cloee Chao says demonstrator numbers on the decline

Julie Zhu

CLOEE Chao, a frequent organizer and leader of protests held across the city, said she has noticed a decline in the number of participants in demonstrations.

Interviewed by the Times, Chao, founder of the Macau Gaming Industry Frontline Workers' Union, noted that "in Macau, residents are wholly disappointed at the government and at the companies. [Residents] think that despite coming out to express their opinions, the government will take note of their opinions but [the government] maintains the same attitude. [...] These people are desperate to the point where they have no hope nor courage to walk out and take part [in the demonstrations]."

"In the past, I used to feel we had many people [attending]. [After] we expressed our opinions, there would be improvements. [However, now] we see that our opinions are completely ignored," lamented Chao.

In Chao's opinion, the current situation has poor ramifications for the city.

When explaining the reasons behind the daily fading of people, who are enthusiastic to express their opinions through public activities, Chao indicated that the main reason lies in the administration system.

"The government officials and businessmen comprise [...] a single body. A government official is one person, the lawmaker is the same person and the boss is also that same person. They continuously rip off our benefits," complained Chao.

"[Groups which organize demonstrations] have been suppressed one by one, but there are still many of them. [...] The situation concerning the young generation has also deteriorated, [because] they were disappoint-



A scene from last year's Labor Day demonstrations

ed [in the beginning]. They [the youth] also worry that their company [employers] will create problems [due to their participation in demonstrations]," she added.

Several groups have planned to organize demonstrations on Labor Day, including associations from the gaming industry and those from the Pearl Horizon pre-sale buyers group.

Chao told the Times that she expects approximately 500 people to attend this year's demonstration, led by herself. Protestors will assemble today, at 3:30 p.m., in the NAPE area, and will start marching at 4 p.m.

The main goal of this particular demonstration is to ask casinos to give 14-month salaries per year; to increase salaries by a minimum of 5 percent annually; to cancel CCAS radiation gambling tables; and to better control smoking in prohibited areas.

Kou Meng Pok, president of the Pearl Horizon Proprietors Association,

told the Times through a phone interview that his group has applied for a permit from the police authority to organize a demonstration of 5,000 participants.

When questioned by the Times as to whether there are declining participants in their demonstra-

tions each year, Kou said "I don't have such a feeling. Sometimes, some people are tired, they take a rest [sit out the demonstration], but then others take their place."

Kou's group will start its demonstration today at the Polytec Group headquarters.

Last year, during International

Labour Day, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) reported that approximately 2,600 people participated in demonstrations.

According to a PSP statement which was released yesterday, one group and four Macau individuals applied to hold organized demonstrations today.

Police issues warning ahead of May 1

THE Public Security Police Force (PSP) issued a warning last week over the Labor Day demonstrations, which was reiterated yesterday during the police press conference.

In the note to demonstrators, the PSP appeals to organizers and participants to conduct their actions in a "legal and safe manner and following all the police orders and instructions on site." The PSP spokesperson said that demonstrators "should try not to affect the social order of the population."

The same spokesperson added as a warning to the participants to "not be affected by agitators

that would lead them to have irrational behaviors," noting that "if the law [regarding assembly and reunion] is breached the perpetrators will be accused of aggravated disobedience."

The police forces will not show any tolerance, the spokesperson added, warning "any illegal behavior will be prosecuted."

The police spokesperson also said that since "it is forecasted that the street marches will gather a lot of people [participants] the police will enforce all measures to control the activities" in order to prevent the disruption of the normal activity of the city. **RM**

EDUCATION

Majority of university students disappointed by course content

A survey conducted by the Macau Youth Research Association and the General Association of Chinese Students-Macau has found that nearly 57 percent of Macau's university students feel the content of their courses

has not met the expectations they had before entering university.

Some 35 percent of the surveyed students claimed that if they could, they would choose a different major to the one in which they are currently enrolled.

According to both associations, many students are not thorough when choosing subjects, and do not do enough research on the majors they ultimately choose.

About 65 percent of the

interviewees were admitted to their first choice in terms of preferred institutions.

Fifty percent of the students chose to pursue a further education degree for self-improvement and personal interest, 18

percent went to university to feel more accepted by society, 13 percent believed that going to a university meant having a good future, 11 percent went to university with the purpose of making more money in the future and 7 percent went to satisfy family expectations.

Approximately 50 percent of the students either "agree" or "strongly agree" when asked if they are satisfied with their time at university or not.

On the other hand, 14 percent of the students chose "disagree" and "strongly disagree" when asked if they were satisfied with their university life or not.

In total, 728 students were surveyed. Seventy-two percent of them were studying in Macau, 27 percent were studying in mainland China, and the remaining 1 percent were studying in Taiwan, with the exception of a single student, who was studying in Hong Kong.

GAMING

April GGR growth likely to top 20 percent

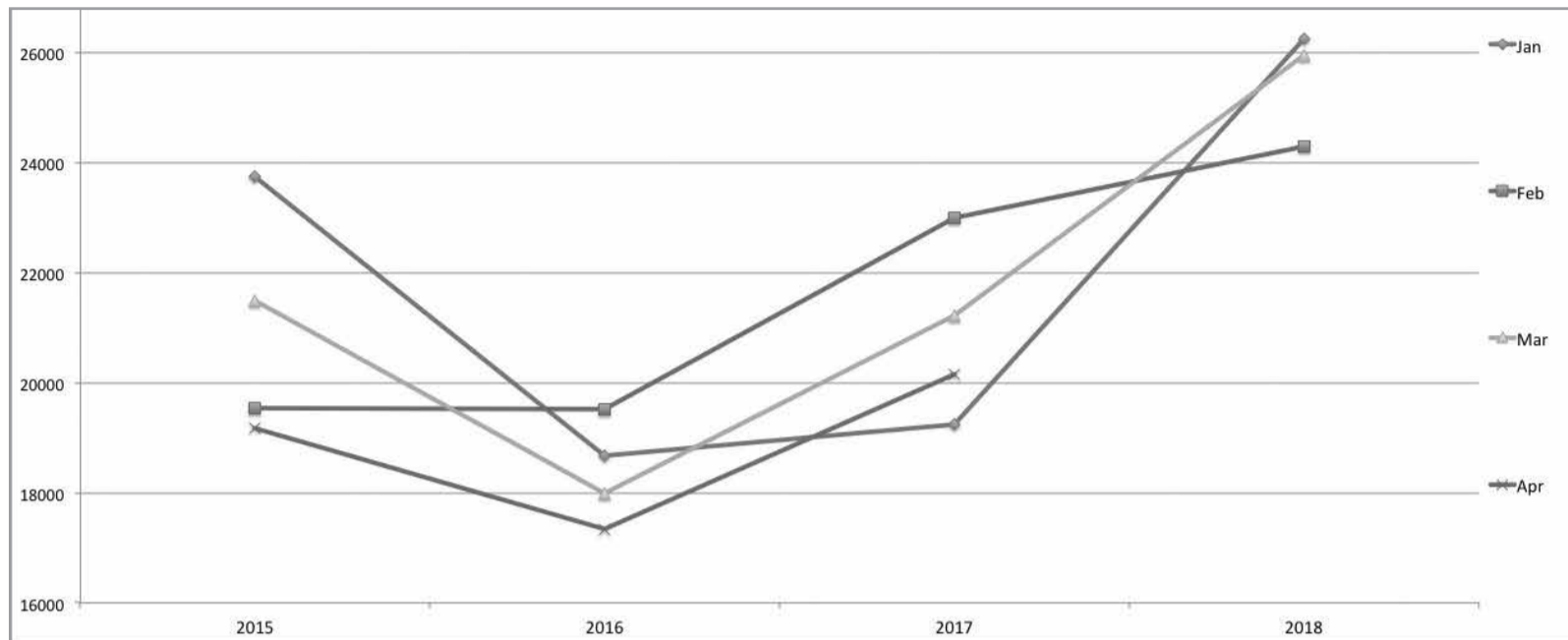
Daniel Beittler

ANALYSTS say they are expecting a healthy posting for April's gross gaming revenues, which are due to be announced tomorrow by the Macau Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau. According to the latest predictions, April's year-on-year growth is likely to top 20 percent.

April is often the weakest among the first four months of the year. However, should it fall broadly in line with the first three months - as it has for the past four years - gross gaming revenues ranging between MOP22 billion and MOP24 billion are expected. This would mark an increase by approximately 10 to 20 percent over the MOP20.16 billion recorded in the same month last year - and analysts are leaning toward the upper bound of the range.

Gross gaming revenues in the first quarter of 2018 continued to demonstrate broad strength in the economic recovery with all the major market components - VIP, premium mass and mass - on the rise.

Year-to-date revenues for the first quarter of 2018 stood at just over MOP76.5 billion, up 20.5



Monthly gross gaming revenue in MOP millions according to figures provided by the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau

percent from the same quarter in 2017, but still down about a quarter from the gaming peak in the first three months of 2014.

Analysts are in general consensus that the year-to-date growth will hold steady with the April results.

JP Morgan Securities (Asia Pacific) said that the fact growth was being propelled by a "genuine demand recovery" and not "artificially pulled forward"

by promotional activities was a good sign. The brokerage firm is expecting "a strong +21 percent growth year-on-year" for April.

Earlier this month, rival firm Nomura said it anticipated year-on-year growth of between 18 to 22 percent. Sanford C. Bernstein narrowed their prediction to between 20 percent and 21 percent, but said that there was a potential for "surprise on the upside."

The figures reflect strength in

the Macau gaming sector, in that they demonstrate consistent year-on-year growth despite a "seasonal slowdown" ahead of the Labor Day holiday weekend from April 29 until today.

Morgan Stanley indicated in a recent report that hotel booking rates for the Labor Day weekend were stronger than during the holiday last year. The report noted that Wynn's peninsula operations were witnessing full

occupancy for their standard rooms nearly two weeks ahead of the Labor Day weekend, and that StarWorld, Ritz Carlton and JW Marriott were almost fully booked for the April 27 to May 5 period.

It remains to be seen how the expected increase in visitors and spend on gaming activities during the holiday period will be distributed between the months of April and May.

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PAULO COUTINHO



TOURISM

Package tour visitor numbers increase in March

VISITORS on package tours rose by 12.4 percent year-on-year to 730,000 in March 2018, with a month-to-month increase of 19.3 percent, the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) informed in a statement yesterday.

The majority of package tour visitors continued to come from mainland China (558,000), the Republic of Korea (50,000) and Taiwan (55,000), rising by 10.4 percent, 28.1 percent and 51

percent respectively year-on-year.

In the first quarter of 2018, visitors on package tours totaled 2,144,000, up by 23.8 percent year-on-year.

Outbound residents using the services of travel agencies increased by 25.5 percent year-on-year to 134,000. Among them, residents travelling on package tours grew by 28.9 percent to 56,000, with those going to mainland China (32,000) rising by 4.6 percent.

In the first quarter of 2018, outbound residents using the services of travel agencies totaled 384,000, up by 14.9 percent year-on-year.

Meanwhile, the number of guests in hotels and guesthouses in March rose by 8.2 percent year-on-year to 1,143,000.

Guests coming from mainland China (768,000), the Republic of Korea (41,000), Hong Kong (131,000) and Taiwan

(39,000) increased by 9.5 percent, 11.2 percent, 1.2 percent and 4.1 percent respectively year-on-year.

The average length of stay of guests held steady, year-on-year, at 1.4 nights.

In the first quarter of 2018, guests of hotels and guesthouses totaled 3,352,000, up by 9.2 percent year-on-year. The average occupancy rate of hotels and guesthouses rose by 5.3 percentage points to 88.8 percent.

MGTO proposes licensing by location

THE Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) has confirmed that it has submitted a proposal to the Legal Affairs Bureau (LSAJ) outlining the scope of responsibility of licensing and supervisory entities according to their location.

“Considering that the launch of catering establishments in hotels involves modification of respective hotel facilities, the draft proposes putting their establishments under MGTO’s scope of supervision, while catering establishments which are not located in hotels will go under the supervision of the IACM [Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau],” the tourism body confirmed to Times.

The draft aims to divide the supervision of establishments between the MGTO and the IACM for easier discernment among applicants and the public.

Currently, the MGTO is in charge of issuing licenses to restaurants (deluxe, first class and second class), night clubs (deluxe and first class) and bars (deluxe and first class), as well as supervising their operation. The IACM is in charge of licensing and monitoring the food and beverage establishments.

The current laws designate the licensing entities for different establishments by class rather than by location. **LV**

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+ INFO



FOLLOW US

CRIME

Luxury cars at the root of turmoil

Renato Marques

TWO unrelated cases involving the acquisition of luxury vehicles have been reported by the Judiciary Police (PJ) as being the cause of turmoil in the city, a spokesperson informed yesterday at a press conference held at the PJ headquarters.

In the first case, a man from the mainland, who is the manager of a mainland company that exhibits luxury vehicles, filed a complaint to the PJ against another resident of China, a worker in a local company. The report is against a business that acquired a high-end luxury sports car, a Bugatti, valued at 3.46 million euros (MOP33.8 million).

The company manager said he had come to Macau in February to meet Chang, a 31 year-old sales manager representing a local luxury sports car importer, with whom the manager had made other deals before.

Chang said it was possible to import the car for the company manager and requested a deposit of RMB1.59 million for the acquisition.

After signing the contract, which had official stamps from both companies, Chang told the customer the vehicle's serial number, which most luxury brand cars have, due to being limited edition.

Following this, the manager of the mainland company went to Hong Kong and tried to acquire another version of the same vehicle from another importer.

After some time, the car he ordered in Macau arrived in Hong Kong and was shortly transferred to Macau, before heading to the mainland. At that time, the manager noted that the serial number matched the one provided by Chang in the first contract. After this point, he did not hear from Chang any further.

He decided to follow up on the case by seeking for the sales manager at his company.



A Bugatti Chiron at the Geneva Motor Show

Besides not being able to find Chang, the customer learned from the company that there were no records of an order of such a vehicle. The man realized that he had been scammed by Chang and promptly made the complaint.

During the investigation, the PJ requested that Chang testify, which he did. He denied being involved in any scam, saying that the money given by the manager was transferred to a Hong Kong company to purchase the vehicle.

But the PJ believes that there is enough proof to show Chang acted in misconduct to get the deposit money from the manager's company, and has charged him for swindling.

In the second case, which involves a luxury vehicle valued at almost HKD3 million, a man from the mainland filed a complaint with the PJ against a local man over a case of misconduct while taking care of a vehicle.

The story goes back to January 2017 when the victim, the car owner, had a double license plate vehicle for Macau and Zhuhai. The vehicle was in the mainland

for more than three consecutive months, which according to China's laws is not allowed and a penalty was incurred. The mainland authorities then decided that the vehicle had to leave Zhuhai and come to Macau, and would not be allowed in the Mainland territory for a period of one year.

Upon hearing the decision, the owner brought the car into Ma-

cau and left it under the care of his friend, the suspect in this case, for the duration of the penalty.

Just as the suspension was ending this month, the owner wanted information about the car in Macau, and learned that the vehicle was pawned for the amount of HKD280,000. The person who was taking care of the car had taken the money from the sale and loaned it to a third person,

who wanted to earn profits while exchanging cash for gaming chips at a casino.

Since the third person did not win anything, he did not repay the loan and hence the suspect was unable to retrieve the money that paid for the car. The victim presented charges against the local man, accusing him of the crime of breach of trust.

Tourism bus driver accused of provoking accident, failing to help victim

A resident, a driver of a tourism bus who is over 50 years of age, is being accused by another resident of having caused an accident and then failing to provide help to the victim, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) spokesperson informed yesterday at the joint press conference.

The accuser said he was riding his motorcycle in the special lane of the Sai Van Bridge on the evening of April 25 when he was hit by one of the flexible traffic separator poles that separates the motorcycle lane to the other vehicles' lanes, after the bus struck it with enough force to cause it to quickly snap back. In consequence of the event, the motorcycle rider lost control and fell over, being later transported to the Kiang Wu Hospi-

tal where he stayed until the next day. The accuser said that the bus driver failed to pull over and assist him.

After being released from hospital, the man went to police and filed the complaint and the PSP started to investigate the case. The police then found the driver of the bus and questioned him. The man told the police he was not aware of any accident or the fact that he had hit any separator on the bridge that day. However, the investigation revealed that the bus he was driving has marks that match with such an incident.

The man is being accused of abandonment of the victim in traffic accident. **RM**

corporate bits

WYNN PRESENTS SPRINGTIME MENUS



From now till May 31, SW Steakhouse, Mizumi and Andrea's at Wynn Palace Cotai, together with Wing Lei at Wynn Macau will be presenting a selection of seasonal

gourmet specialties designed for springtime enjoyment.

At Wynn Palace, SW Steakhouse's Executive Chef Burton Yi has created

a number of dishes based around the season's best vegetables. These include the 'White Asparagus Salad' with a smoked Mangalitsa ham accompaniment, fava bean pesto and basil oil, and the 'Warm White Asparagus' served with hollandaise and chervil.

Meanwhile, Mizumi presents guests with truly authentic gourmet Japanese flavors and time honored culinary techniques in a contemporary and elegant setting, and Andrea's showcases authentic regional Chinese flavors with contemporary interpretations in a modern artistic backdrop.

Wynn Macau's Wing Lei

has curated a series of refreshing seasonal dishes for this beautiful Springtime occasion. Highlights include a selection of dishes made from bamboo shoots – dubbed the star vegetable of the Spring season – such as a 'Braised Sliced Sea Cucumber with Bamboo Shoots and Spring Onions'.

Moreover, renowned for its opulent grandeur and distinctive style, the two Michelin-starred Golden Flower has included a number of newly-created dishes that provide a broad display of the essence of the traditional Chinese dining culture.

SHERATON, ST. REGIS HOLDS DISCUSSION ON EMPOWERING WOMEN

Sheraton Grand Macao Hotel and The St. Regis Macao brought close to 50 senior hospitality professionals from the two hotels together, as well as peers from Sands China, JW Marriott Hotel Macao and The Ritz Carlton Macao.

Hosted by Janet McNab, managing director of Sheraton Grand Macao and The St. Regis Macao, the networking luncheon saw leaders in the region's hotel industry engage with a guest panel of three wo-

men including Michelle Ho, CEO of Golden Burger Food Co. Ltd., Ronna Chao, chairman of Novetex Textiles and CEO of Bai Xian Asia Institute, and Catherine Feliciano-Chon, founder and managing director of CatchOn & Company Ltd.

The afternoon's theme, "Changing The Conversation," addressed issues such as institutional and cultural barriers women still face today, according to a joint statement.



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Wayne Parry, Atlantic City

BRUCE Deifik gets it. He has carefully studied what went wrong at Atlantic City's former Revel casino and is fixing it before he reopens the star-crossed property as the Ocean Resort Casino.

When it opens this summer (a date has not yet been set), guests will be able to smoke, eat at a buffet, take bus trips to the resort and find their way around the place much easier.

The vertiginous "escalator to heaven" at the main entrance will now have glass safety panels on either side; a two-night stay will no longer be required; a wall blocking the casino off from easy Boardwalk access is being replaced by stairs welcoming foot traffic; the casino will offer more things for kids and families to do; and gamblers of all levels will be welcomed.

All those things were considered problems during the short existence of Revel, the USD2.4 billion casino that shut down in 2014 after little more than two years of operation in the most spectacular casino failure in Atlantic City history. Deifik, a Colorado developer, bought it in January for \$200 million.

Deifik, who has been living at the Tropicana casino for the past nine months as he readied Ocean Resort, detailed his plans for the property to The Associated Press.

"The first thing we did is pay very close attention to what people said about this place, positive and negative," he said. "We will listen; that's a difference-maker. Treat people with respect. Be glad they're here, and treat them as family members. The main difference is a completely different attitude concerning service to our customer. I think there was a huge disconnect there."

Some Revel patrons said they felt unwelcome there, from not being able to smoke, to a general feeling that higher-end guests were more valued. It took Revel management 14 months (and



The exterior of the Ocean Resort Casino in Atlantic City

GAMING

Ocean Resort owner reveals plans for former Revel casino

the first of two bankruptcies) to offer a "Gamblers Wanted" promotion, and by then, the die was cast for the money-losing casino.

Former Revel executives either declined comment or did not respond to requests for comment. The changes Deifik is making closely mirror those that former Revel customers told the AP in January they wanted to see instituted at the new property, and Revel changed some of its policies before shutting down in an attempt to reverse its decline.

"I'm a non-smoker, but there are groups of people out there that are smokers and you have to be respectful to those people when they come," Deifik said.

The casino floor is being reconfigured to make it easier to get from place to place. A confusing pedestrian flow through Revel was a common complaint among patrons. New signs are being put up, and employees will greet customers on arrival to direct them.

The popular HQ outdoor pool and dance club will return, and

Topgolf will offer virtual golf and other sports.

Actor and musician Mark Wahlberg will have a large presence at Ocean Resort, opening his Wahlburgers burger restaurant, and also will open a bar called "Entourage," Deifik said.

Kids will enjoy a large candy store, as well as "Cereal Town" an eatery "where you can go and have cereal for dinner, every kind of cereal from around the globe," Deifik said.

Deifik also guaranteed Ocean

Resort will reach a contract agreement with the city's main casino union, an assessment with which the union agreed; labor relations between the union and Revel were contentious.

He promises Ocean Resort will not open until it is truly ready.

"She doesn't have that luxury of being able to make a mistake without people saying, 'Aha!'" Deifik said of the property. "I think everybody is looking to find fault; I'm going to make sure that's not going to be the case." AP

Xiaomi's USD10b IPO risks a cash crunch in Hong Kong

HOSTING what's shaping up to be the world's biggest initial public offering of 2018 may be a double-edged sword for Hong Kong.

Chinese smartphone maker Xiaomi Corp. is preparing a share sale that will raise at least USD10 billion, people familiar with the matter said. The city's red-hot IPO market usually sees offerings oversubscribed - sometimes by hundreds of times - as investors borrow heavily to place orders.

For clues on how this

may play out, consider that China Literature Ltd.'s \$1.1 billion IPO last year locked up a third of the city's monetary base, the South China Morning Post reported at the time. When Ping An Good Doctor started taking orders from retail investors for its shares last week, the key interbank interest rate jumped by the most in nearly a decade. A higher Hibor rate affects the cost of everything from housing mortgages to corporate loans; and if everyone's using their

margin loans to subscribe for an IPO, that can mean less money sloshing around in the city's \$5.6 trillion equity market.

"We could expect a very notable increase in Hibor if an IPO is very oversubscribed," said Ronald Man, a strategist at Bank of America Merrill Lynch in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong interbank rates are already climbing after years at ultra-low levels as the city's monetary authority buys local dollars to defend a currency peg, thereby su-

cking up liquidity. Beijing-based Xiaomi declined to comment on the IPO, which could be the largest worldwide since Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. raised \$25 billion in its 2014 debut in New York. Xiaomi may submit its IPO application this week and may list as early as end-June, the Hong Kong Economic Journal reported, citing unidentified people.

Demand is likely to be strong for Xiaomi's offer. The world's fifth-largest

smartphone vendor, the company has hinted at strong profitability in its other services, which range from video streaming to online financing. Xiaomi also makes money on advertising via its own apps and by providing paid subscriptions for premium entertainment content such as web videos and books.

More big IPOs may be on the way after the Hong Kong stock exchange approved the biggest change to its listing rules in two decades, paving

the way for technology firms with dual-class share structures to list in the city.

On the upside, a spike in interbank rates may give the Hong Kong dollar a brief boost. The city's currency tends to strengthen up to two weeks before big listings as liquidity tightens amid subscriptions and funds get locked up, according to Goldman Sachs Group Inc. The Hong Kong dollar weakened 0.02 percent to 7.8488 per dollar yesterday. **Bloomberg**

TRADE WAR

Trump's dispute with China unsettle farming in US, ranching backers

Matthew Brown and Matt Volz

MONTANA rancher Fred Wacker had thousands of head of cattle fattening up along the Yellowstone River for export to China when President Donald Trump picked a trade fight with the Asian nation.

The dispute threatens a USD200 million deal that Wacker helped secure last year to ship Montana beef to China, yet the potential setback to his business plans hasn't diminished his stalwart support for Trump.

"I'm not going to follow him over the cliff, but I'll take a pretty good jump," Wacker said as a small team of cowboys on his Cross Four Ranch herded hundreds of cattle onto trucks headed for summer pasture.

Deep in Montana's ag country, ranchers' and farmers' support of Trump is being put to the test as the president's bellicose threats of a trade war risk their livelihoods. It's a constituency that voted heavily for Trump and that has a lot to lose, both in existing trade and new deals like the one involving Wacker that could send tens of thousands of Montana cattle to China over the next several years.

The conflict faced by Trump's supporters in Montana, where some 28,000 farms and ranches make agriculture a top economic driver in the state, is reflective of the one facing the larger U.S. agriculture industry, which also largely backed Trump but now risks becoming a casualty if a trans-Pacific trade war erupts.

Wacker, his white cowboy hat pulled down tight atop his head as he weighed the outgoing cattle, remains firmly in Trump's camp. He views the Republican president's aggressive stance on China as unsettling but necessary, and hopes it will bring parity to what has long been a lopsided trading relationship between the two nations.

That situation was beginning to reverse itself when Trump reached an agreement with Chinese President Xi Jinping last year to lift a 13-year ban on U.S. beef exports to China. That opened the door to the deal between Montana ranchers and Chinese e-commerce leader JD.com, Wacker said.

Since Trump challenged China on trade, JD.com has "gone silent," Wacker said, but he remains confident in the president's approach.

"We would not even be talking about this if it weren't for the Trump administration," he said of the deal he helped broker during a trip to Beijing last year.

This largely rural state, once

AP PHOTO



Mike Wacker (left) and Juan Ulloa move cattle at Cross Four Ranch before the animals are shipped to summer pasture in Sheffield, Montana

known for its independence in voting for candidates' individual qualities over political party, has grown a deeper shade of red over the past decade as voters increasingly break toward GOP candidates. That trend culminated in 2016 with Trump's 20-point trouncing of Democrat Hillary Clinton in Montana.

The GOP now hopes to use that momentum to oust the state's Democratic senator, Jon Tester, in this fall's election.

I'm not going to follow him over the cliff, but I'll take a pretty good jump.

FRED WACKER
MONTANA RANCHER

Trump over the weekend called for Tester to resign for what the president called false allegations that scuttled the nomination of Ronny Jackson to lead the Department of Veterans Affairs. Tester did not respond directly but said he would keep fighting for veterans.

Tester, who is seeking a third term, is himself a farmer from the little town of Big Sandy and

has already used the tariff issue to scold Trump.

"If you put me and my neighbors out of business — not you personally, but the administration — we've got a major problem here," Tester told Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue earlier this month.

Trump's victory paid off for farmers and ranchers in the form of rollbacks of environmental regulations imposed during the Obama administration that farmers and ranchers considered burdensome, including ones that could affect irrigation ditches, biotechnology and pesticides.

Trump's tactics on trade have been more unsettling for the industry. First, he announced plans to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement, which caused some Mexico importers to look to South America for crops like wheat. Then, he pulled out of a trans-Pacific trade deal that he viewed as unfavorable to the U.S.

After his threats to China elicited a proposal for a retaliatory tariff on U.S. beef, wheat and other products, Trump floated rejoining the trans-Pacific deal to get more leverage over Beijing. He abruptly dropped the idea days later.

The whipsaw changes roiled agriculture markets, and not everyone who makes a living off

the land retained the same fealty to Trump as Wacker.

Wheat farmers in particular worry about how tariffs would affect their market, which has gone through a turbulent stretch in recent years. More than 70 percent of Montana wheat is exported, primarily to Asia, according to the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee. Although less than 10 percent of that grain ends up in China, farmers say the potential for growth in the nation of almost 1.4 billion people is huge.

Larry Johnson, a Montana farmer who grows wheat, barley, peas and mustard on nearly 41 square kilometers near the small community of Kremlin, said he sells some wheat to China, but that's not his biggest concern. What he worries about is that North Dakota soybean farmers will switch to wheat because of Chinese tariffs on soybeans, putting them in competition with him.

"All of our crops are intertwined," he said. "That directly affects our bottom line. I could see a 10 percent loss of income easily."

Johnson described himself as a "progressive conservative" — conservative on financial matters and progressive on social issues. He wasn't in favor of either the Republican or Democratic presidential candidate in 2016,

but said the agriculture industry's support of Trump is giving way to the realization that the president doesn't understand the industry.

Trump's public comments serve only to create uncertainty in the market at an already uncertain time for many farmers, he said.

"One day the president puts a tweet out, and the next day the price of soybeans is down 45 cents," Johnson said. "It makes you very nervous."

The ag industry is keenly aware that China's trade policies have kept U.S. products out of the market there, said Montana Grain Growers Association President Michelle Erickson Jones. She said she agrees with Trump that China must be held accountable, but she favors more conventional routes, such as going to the World Trade Organization.

About 280 miles (450 kilometers) east of Johnson's Kremlin farm, Buzz Mattelin grows durum wheat, barley, beets and lentils in Culbertson. He said he is unhappy that his commodities are being used as bargaining chips in a potential trade war, and worries farmers like him will end up as collateral damage.

"I'm patriotic, and I'm going to do my share. But I don't want to bear all the pain, either," Mattelin said. **AP**



Factory activity eases, service sector gains in April

CHINESE factory growth has slowed slightly, according to a monthly survey released yesterday that showed activity in the world's No. 2 economy holding up despite worries over trade tensions with the U.S.

The official purchasing managers' index came in at 51.4 for April, easing from 51.5 in the previous month but still above the 50-point mark that separates expansion from contraction on the index's 100-point scale.

The latest numbers come amid simmering trade tensions between Beijing and Washington, with potential implications for China's sprawling export-oriented manufacturing sector.

The trade conflict will be in the spotlight again this week as U.S. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin leads a delegation to Beijing for talks aimed at defusing the threat to economic relations between the world's two largest economies.

The China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing's survey found that factory output was stable but new orders and new export orders weakened for the month, indicating waning demand.

"Imports and exports continued to maintain growth, [but] the growth rate has slowed down," said Zhao Qinghe, senior statistician at the National Bureau of Statistics, which released the data on its website.

The latest numbers assuaged fears about a slowdown in China's economy, which grew at an unchanged 6.8 percent pace in the first quarter. Forecasters are expecting growth to cool this year as Beijing tries to rein in rising debt levels.

"The official manufacturing PMI points to economic conditions having remained healthy in April," Chang Liu of Capital Economics said in a commentary. "Slower growth is likely in the months ahead as the drags on economic activity from weaker credit growth and the cooling property market intensify."

Activity in the rest of China's economy also held up fairly well, with further growth in the services sector, which is playing an increasingly important role as communist leaders in Beijing pivot the country away from its agricultural and industrial roots. The group's non-manufacturing purchasing managers' index rose to 54.8 from 54.6 in March. **AP**

Chinese foreign minister to visit North Korea this week

THE foreign minister of North Korea's chief ally China will visit Pyongyang this week following the historic summit between the leaders of the two Koreas.

The trip by Wang Yi comes as Beijing and Pyongyang continue an effort to repair ties that have suffered from tensions in recent years, and ahead of a planned meeting between President Donald Trump and the North's leader Kim Jong Un.

Foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang said in a statement that Wang will visit tomorrow and Thursday.

China is the North's only major economic partner, but trade has declined by about 90 percent following Beijing's implementation of economic sanctions imposed over the North's nuclear bomb and ballistic missile tests.

Kim last month made his first visit to Beijing since taking power six years ago, kicking off a flurry of diplomacy highlighted by his meeting with South Korean President Moon Jae-in last week. South

Korean officials said Kim told Moon that he would be willing to give up his nuclear weapons if the U.S. commits to a formal end to the Korean War and a pledge not to attack the North.

Kim also pledged to shut down the North's nuclear test site in May and disclose the process to experts and journalists from South Korea and the United States, Seoul's presidential office said.

China has long called for dialogue between the parties and welcomed the summit as a vehicle for reducing tensions. Analysts say China's sanctions implementation may have helped prompt the North's diplomatic initiatives although the secretive regime in Pyongyang has made no public comments on the issue.

China says sanctions are intended to further diplomacy rather than punish the North and opposes any measures that could topple the regime, possibly bringing a tide of refugees across its border and leading to the stationing of U.S. and South Korea troops in the North. **AP**



Wang Yi

Q&A HUI CHENG JD.'S SILICON VALLEY RESEARCH CENTER

JD.com looks to Silicon Valley center for innovation

SELF-DRIVING delivery vehicles that are polite to pedestrians? Faster and more precise robotic arms? JD.com, the largest challenger to Alibaba's e-commerce empire in China, is investing in technology to speed up warehouse operations and delivery to shoppers who want service quickly.

In China, it's testing drone delivery, has opened an automated warehouse that's improved on manual sorting, and it's testing deliveries using unmanned vehicles at universities in Beijing. It also uses these self-driving vehicles that look like rolling ice cream carts to move goods inside its warehouses.

Though it does not sell in the United States, the Beijing-based online retailer is also leaning on its 2-year-old research and development lab in Silicon Valley to recruit top talent and get access to tech startups. The goal: Bring that



expertise back to China.

Dr. Hui Cheng, the head of robotics research at JD.'s Silicon Valley Research Center, recently spoke with The Associated Press about the priorities of the lab, the "spoiled" Chinese consumer and the prospect of talking robots. Under Cheng, who previously worked on Amazon Go's cashier-less store project, JD is working on areas

like artificial intelligence.

Cheng says the center's main goal is to serve people in China and Southeast Asia. He says he's not planning to use the center as a foothold to launch in the U.S. and directly challenge Amazon.

- How is the Chinese consumer different from the American consumer?

Hui Cheng - [Chinese consumers] are a bit spoiled. It's all about free service. Also, they're expecting high-quality products. We can directly deliver to people's doors, a bit different from the U.S. where they just drop it off. Our delivery employees are in charge of certain geographical areas and are very familiar with the customers in those areas. They know when they'll be home. They call when they get there. They're very accommodating.

- What are your main priorities at the Silicon Valley center?

HC - We've been testing indoor and outdoor autonomous deliveries. Robotic arms. We're developing state-of-the-art technologies in many areas like artificial intelligence and natural-language processing.

- What about the autonomous cars?

HC - We are emphasizing social robots.

How are they going to be part of the social environment? How are they going to interact with pedestrians? How will they be polite? We don't want them to be considered threatening or dangerous.

- Will they be able to talk?

HC - We are developing a lot of natural-dialogue capabilities so they will know how to speak in the future.

- Has the Uber pedestrian crash slowed research into autonomous vehicles?

HC - Our vehicles operate on sidewalks at about five or six miles per hour and they're much smaller than passenger cars. They're extremely safe.

- Are you testing drone work in Silicon Valley?

HC - There's some cutting-edge technology [in Silicon Valley], but we are not actively testing or developing software in drones.

AUSTRALIA

Court set to rule on whether cardinal stands trial

Rod McGuirk, Melbourne

THE most senior Vatican official to be charged in the Catholic Church sex abuse crisis will return to an Australian court today to learn whether he must stand trial on charges that he sexually abused multiple victims decades ago.

Magistrate Belinda Wallington will rule in the Melbourne Magistrates Court on whether the prosecution's case against Australian Cardinal George Pell is strong enough to warrant a trial by jury.

Lawyers for Australia's highest-ranking Catholic argued during a four-week preliminary hearing in March that the accusations were untrue and should be dismissed. Pell has said through his lawyers that he will plead not guilty if the magistrate decides against dismissing the charges.

Pell, Pope Francis' former finance minister, was charged last June with sexually abusing multiple people in his Australian home state of Victoria. The details of the allegations against the 76-year-old have yet to be released to the public, though police have described the charges as "historical" sexual assault offenses — meaning the crimes allegedly occurred decades ago.

His alleged victims testified in the first two weeks of the preliminary hearing via a video link from a remote location to a room closed to the media and public.

Defense lawyer Robert Richter told Wallington in his final submissions two weeks ago that the complainants might have testified against one of the church's most powerful men to punish him for failing to act against



Cardinal George Pell

abuse by clerics.

But prosecutor Mark Gibson told the magistrate there was no evidence to back Richter's theory that Pell had been targeted over the church's failings.

Since Pell returned to Australia from the Vatican in July, he has lived in Sydney and flown to Melbourne for his court hearings. His circumstances are far removed from the years he spent as the high-profile and polarizing archbishop of Melbourne and later Sydney before his promotion to Rome in 2014.

Pell wore a cleric's collar and a face showing little emotion while attending court during his hard-fought and extraordinarily long preliminary hearing.

He was frisked for weapons in standard security procedures as he entered the high-rise court building, and shared its corridors with alleged drug dealers, thieves, thugs and drunk drivers during breaks in court proceedings.

The case places both the cardinal and the pope in potentially perilous territory. For Pell, the charges are a threat to his freedom, his reputation and his career. For Francis, they are a threat to his credibility, given he famously promised a "zero tolerance" policy for sex abuse in the church.

Advocates for abuse victims have long railed against Francis' decision to appoint Pell to

the high-ranking position in the first place. At the time of his promotion, Pell was already facing allegations that he had mishandled cases of clergy abuse during his time in charge of Melbourne and Sydney, Australia's largest cities.

So far, Francis has withheld judgment of Pell, saying he wants to wait for justice to run its course. And he did not force the cardinal to resign, though Pell took an immediate leave of absence so he could return to Australia to fight the charges. Pell said he intends to continue his work as a prefect of the church's economy ministry once the case is resolved.

In recent years, Pell's actions

as archbishop came under particular scrutiny by a government-authorized investigation into how the Catholic Church and other institutions have responded to the sexual abuse of children.

Australia's Royal Commission Into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse — the nation's highest form of inquiry — revealed last year that 7 percent of Catholic priests were accused of sexually abusing children in Australia over the past several decades.

In testimony to the commission in 2016, Pell conceded that he had made mistakes by often believing priests over people who said they had been abused. And he vowed to help end a rash of suicides that has plagued abuse victims in his hometown of Ballarat.

Pell testified to the inquiry in a video link from the Vatican about his time as a priest and bishop in Australia. He did not attend in person because of a heart condition and other medical problems.

Police said at the preliminary hearing that they had planned to arrest Pell for questioning had he returned to Australia in early 2016 to testify.

His lawyers argued in court that Pell was targeted for "special treatment" by detectives from a police task force that investigated historical sex abuse. Police witnesses denied that accusation.

The investigation of Pell began in 2013 before any complainant had come forward to police, whom Richter accused of running "a get Pell operation."

Pell's lawyers told the court in February that the first complainant approached police in 2015, 40 years after the alleged crimes, in response to media reports about the royal commission.

Pell was charged by summons in Rome and agreed to return to Australia to face the allegations. **AP**

JAPAN

Inmate recaptured three weeks after escape, island manhunt

A convicted thief was recaptured yesterday three weeks after a rare escape from a Japanese prison and an island manhunt he may have eluded by swimming.

Tatsuma Hirao escaped from a low-security prison in Ehime prefecture on April 8 during a work assignment while serving a 5 1/2 year sentence for theft. The escape caused anxiety in the region and attracted national attention.

After escaping, he allegedly drove a stolen car along

a highway connecting several islands.

Police believe he arrived on the island of Mukaishima, where more than 1,000 police searched for him daily. They said his fingerprints were detected at the scenes of several reported thefts of clothes and food after the jailbreak.

Hirao, 27, was arrested yesterday after being spotted walking on a street in Hiroshima after an internet cafe reportedly notified police that a man resembling him visited. In

a video of the arrest broadcast on TV Asahi, a man identified as Hirao tried to climb over a concrete wall to escape, but was pulled down, thrown to the ground and seized by several policemen.

The island has abundant places to hide. It has about 1,000 houses made vacant by an aging and shrinking population and is also only 200 meters from the Hiroshima coast.

Media reports say Hirao told police that he swam from Mukaishima to a city

in Hiroshima prefecture to escape the manhunt, then took a train west to Hiroshima city. Hirao said he hid in vacant houses while on the island, but became tired of evading police, public broadcaster NHK reported.

Hirao was arrested in 2013 for a series of robberies in southern Japan.

Japan has a relatively low crime rate, and prison escapes are rare. Its population is declining and the average age is rising quickly. **AP**



Recaptured: Tatsuma Hirao

AFGHANISTAN TERROR

Double Kabul suicide bombing kills 25, including 9 reporters

Rahim Faiez & Amir Shah, Kabul

A coordinated double suicide bombing by the Islamic State group hit central Kabul yesterday, killing at least 25 people, including nine Afghan journalists, officials said.

An AFP photographer, a cameraman for a local TV station and several reporters for the Afghan branch of Radio Free Europe were among the fatalities, police said.

At least 45 people were wounded in the twin attacks, according to Kabul police spokesman, Hashmat Stanekzai, who also said four policemen were among those killed.

The attack was the latest in a relentless string of deadly large-scale bombings and assaults that have struck Kabul and elsewhere in Afghanistan so far this year. And even as the Afghan capital reeled from the assault, a suicide car bombing a few hours later in the southern province of Kandahar killed 11 children, a police spokesman said.

In a statement posted on an IS-affiliated website, the Islamic State group said two of its martyrdom seekers carried out the double Kabul bombings, targeting the headquarters of the "renegade" Afghan intelligence services.

The blasts took place in the central Shash Darak area, home to NATO headquarters and a number of embassies and foreign offices — as well as the Afghan intelligence service.

Stanekzai, the police spokesman, said the first suicide bomber was on a motor bike. The second explosion was meant to hit those scrambling to get to the scene to help the victims of the first blast, he added.

The second attacker was on foot, in a crowd of reporters rushing to the site of the first attack, pretending to be one of the media, the spokesman said. The bomber then detonated his explosives while still among the reporters, Stanekzai said, adding that the attacker obviously intentionally targeted journalists.

Agence France-Presse said the news agency's chief photographer in Kabul, Shah Marai, was among those killed. AFP said Marai died in a blast that struck journalists who had rushed to the scene of the earlier suicide attack.

Media watchdog Reporters Without Borders said along with the nine journalists killed, six others were wounded. However, Sediqullah Tawhidi, an official with the Afghan Journalist Sa-



Victims in double explosions lie on the ground in Kabul

fety Committee, said only five journalists wounded. Conflicting casualty tolls are common in the immediate aftermath of big attacks.

In a statement posted online, the IS said two of its martyrdom seekers carried out the double Kabul bombings

The Paris-based group named the journalists, working for media organizations from multiple countries, adding that yesterday's attack was the deadliest targeting reporters since the fall of the Taliban in 2001. The group, also known by its French acronym RSF, said 36 media workers have been killed in Afghanistan in attacks by IS or the Taliban since 2016.

RSF urged the Afghan government to do more to protect journalists.

Police officer Jan Agha said all the journalists died in the second blast, which also wounded two police officers.

Survivors and witnesses recounted scenes of mayhem.

Jawed Ghulam Sakhi, a 28-year-

old taxi driver said "when the explosion happened, everywhere was covered with dust and fire, it was such a horrific scene" with bodies and body parts "thrown about on the street and the pavement."

"I saw journalists covered with blood, this time they targeted the media," Sakhi added.

Masouda, a young woman who was with her husband nearby, assailed the authorities. Her husband was wounded and was taken to the Wazir Akbar Khan hospital.

"I don't know who is responsible for all these attacks, every day we lose our loved ones and no one in this government is taking responsibility for the killing of these innocent people," she said.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani condemned the attacks. The presidential palace released a statement saying that attacks targeting innocent civilians, worshippers inside the mosques, national and democratic processes, reporters and freedom of speech all are war crimes.

The U.S. Embassy also condemned the "savage bombings" in Kabul and reiterated its support for the Afghan people and Ghani's government in their fight against terrorism.

"We extend our deepest condolences to the families, friends, and colleagues of all the victims, including a number of brave journalists among the dead and injured," it said, adding that "where media are in danger, all other human rights are under

greater threat."

Kabul chief of police Dawood Amin said the area hit was quickly sealed off and authorities were investigating. Mohammad Mousa Zahir, director of Wazir Akbarkhan Hospital, said several people suffering injuries from the blasts were being treated at his hospital.

In its claim of responsibility, the Afghan affiliate of IS, known as Khorasan Province, said the first martyrdom seeker detonated his explosive vest near the intelligence service in central Kabul, forcing officers to head to the area of the explosion. The statement said the second attacker detonated his explosives vest after that. The statement, which exaggerated the overall death toll as militant claims often do, did not say journalists were specifically targeted.

In the Kandahar attack, an Af-

ghan official said a suicide bomber targeted a NATO convoy in the district of Daman but killed 11 children from a religious school located by the roadside from where the explosion occurred.

Matiullah Helal, deputy spokesman for the provincial police chief, said 16 people were also wounded, including five NATO soldiers, nine civilians and two policemen. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the Kandahar bombing and no comment from NATO.

The children from the madrasa had gathered around the NATO convoy for fun when the bomber struck, said Abdul Rahim Ayubi, a lawmaker from Kandahar.

In other violence, an Afghan police officer was killed and four people were wounded in an explosion also yesterday in eastern Nangarhar province, said At-tuhullah Khogynai, spokesman for the provincial governor. He said the slain officer was the chief of the criminal investigations unit for Behsud district.

No one claimed responsibility for the Kandahar and Nangarhar attack. The IS affiliate in Afghanistan first emerged in Nangarhar a few years ago, then expanded its footprint to elsewhere across the country.

IS and the more firmly established Taliban carry out regular attacks, with the Taliban usually targeting the Afghan government and security forces and IS targeting members of the country's the Shiite minority, whom the affiliate perceives as apostates.

The relentless assaults underscore the struggles that Afghan security forces have faced to reign in the militant groups since the United States and NATO concluded their combat mission at the end of 2014. Both groups want to establish strict Islamic rule in Afghanistan.

Last week, an Islamic State suicide bomber attacked a voter registration center in Kabul, killing 60 people and wounding at least 130 others. There were 22 women and eight children among the fatalities.

And the month before, an IS suicide bomber targeted a Shiite shrine in Kabul where people had gathered celebrating the Persian new year. That attack killed 31 people and wounded 65 others. AP



Security forces run from the site of a suicide attack after the second bombing

AP PHOTO



Bill Cosby at the court

USA

Convicting America's Dad: Inside the Bill Cosby prosecution

Michael R. Sisak, Norristown (Pa.)

IN the tense moments before a jury convicted Bill Cosby of sexual assault, the prosecutor who had branded him a “con man” and called him out for laughing during closing arguments started to worry about the global implications if the #MeToo era’s first big trial went the other way.

Accuser Andrea Constand’s allegations that Cosby had drugged and molested her at his suburban Philadelphia mansion in 2004, revived out of nearly a decade of dormancy by another comedian’s viral joke, had coalesced into a movement of women who said he violated them, too.

Prosecutor Kristen Feden told The Associated Press she was “nervous for Andrea and for sex crime victims as a whole” at Cosby’s retrial.

“I felt like this verdict could dictate something more,” Feden said. “If they found him not guilty, I felt like they were feeding into every character assassination on sex crime victims.”

Feden and prosecutor Stewart Ryan spoke to the AP over the weekend about the nearly three-year journey from reopening the Cosby case to last week’s verdict, how they restructured their approach after last year’s hung jury and the sacrifices they faced along the way.

Cosby, 80, is now a prisoner in his own home and faces the prospect of spending the rest of his life behind bars as he awaits sentencing within the next three months on three counts of aggravated indecent assault. He has maintained his innocence. His publicist has declared his conviction a “public lynching,” and his lawyers have vowed to appeal.

■ Cosby, 80, is now a prisoner in his own home and faces the prospect of spending the rest of his life behind bars

But Feden, Ryan and their boss, District Attorney Kevin Steele, said they are confident Cosby’s conviction will stand.

Prosecutors started thinking about a retrial as last year’s deliberations wore on for six days, Ryan said.

“We could kind of see the writing on the wall with the first jury,” he said.

Two days after Cosby’s conviction, law books and papers were still strewn on a long table in the war room where prosecutors plotted their strategy: leading off with an expert to educate the jury in victim behavior, successfully fighting to call five additional accusers and fending off the defense’s allegations that Constand was a scammer framing Cosby for a big payday.

The additional accusers allowed prosecutors to uncloak the man once revered as America’s Dad as a manipulative predator who used his built-in trust to trick women into taking powerful intoxicants so he could violate them. One woman pointedly called Cosby a “serial rapist,” and another asked him through her tears, “You remember, don’t you, Mr. Cosby?”

Feden said she felt “that needed to be exposed.”

“That was the most sickening part of this all,” she said. “When people in positions of power use that power to victimize people, I find that to be beyond disgusting.”

Then-District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman reopened the Cosby investigation in July 2015 after a federal judge, acting on a request from the AP, unsealed portions of Cosby’s deposition testimony from a civil lawsuit he settled with Constand in 2006 for USD3.4

million. In the testimony, which was read to jurors at both trials, he described giving quaaludes to women before sex in the 1970s and his encounters with Constand, a Temple University women’s basketball administrator.

Ryan likened Cosby’s description of a purported sexual encounter with Constand to “reading some disgusting pornography novel.” He said the testimony, far more explicit than what Cosby said in his lone police statement, showed “exactly what’s going on” in his mind.

Feden questioned Constand. Ryan cross-examined star defense witness Marguerite Jackson. Together they delivered a closing argument that wrested the “con artist” label from the defense and pushed back at suggestions the case was outside the statute of limitations.

Feden, a point guard in her basketball days, said she pivoted immediately when she saw Cosby out of the corner of her eye, smirking as she spoke about the similarities in Cosby’s conduct with Constand and the five other accusers.

“He’s laughing at the cost of these women? And then Andrea Constand’s in the courtroom? I’m furious,” Feden said. “No one in this courtroom is laughing. I understand that you’re a comedian, but this is not funny. This is

not your stage. This is what you did wrong.”

Judge Steven O’Neill’s court crier called Ryan with the news that a verdict was in around lunchtime, about 14 hours after jurors started deliberating.

Ryan quickly relayed the news to Steele and Constand, who testified that she wanted justice. Then he called Feden, who had been so dedicated to seeing the case through that she worked out a deal to stay as a special prosecutor after leaving for the Philadelphia law firm Stradley Ronon. Feden and Ryan spent months of long days working on the case away from their families: she, her husband and their two young sons; he, his wife and their 9-month-old son.

Ryan said the boy, born soon after the first trial, lifted him from hard days with a bright smile. Feden said she often thought of her late aunt, an OB-GYN, who had championed women and her career as a prosecutor.

Cosby’s case drew worldwide attention. The courtroom gallery was filled with reporters, and cameras lined the railings outside the courthouse. But to Feden and Ryan, the man known for playing Dr. Cliff Huxtable on “The Cosby Show” was just another predator whose victims were finally being heard.

“There was someone who had been sexually assaulted, someone who deserved to hear 12 people say that not only do we believe you but we’re going to hold the person who did it accountable,” Ryan said.

The Associated Press does not typically identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault unless they grant permission, as Constand has done. **AP**

SYRIA

Missile attack kills 26, mostly Iranians

A missile attack targeting government outposts in Syria's northern region killed 26 pro-government fighters, mostly Iranians, a Syria war monitoring group said yesterday, amid soaring Mideast tensions between regional arch-enemies Israel and Iran.

Iranian media gave conflicting reports about the overnight incident amid speculation that it was carried out by neighboring Israel.

The attack came hours after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu talked to President Donald Trump on the phone. The White House said the two leaders discussed the continuing threats and challenges facing the Middle East, "especially the problems posed by the Iranian regime's destabilizing activities."

A day earlier, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo ratcheted up the Trump administration's rhetoric against Iran and offered warm support to Israel and Saudi Arabia in their standoff with Tehran.

"We remain deeply concer-

ned about Iran's dangerous escalation of threats to Israel and the region and Iran's ambition to dominate the Middle East remains," Pompeo said after a nearly two-hour meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "The United States is with Israel in this fight," he added on his first trip abroad as America's top diplomat.

Israel has cited Iran's hostile rhetoric, support for anti-Israel militant groups and development of long-range missiles.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said yesterday's attack appears to have been carried out by Israel and targeted an arms depot for surface-to-surface missiles at a base in northern Syria known as Brigade 47. The Observatory said four Syrians were also among the casualties.

It said the death toll could rise as the attack also wounded 60 fighters and there were several others still missing.

Iranian state television, citing Syrian media, reported the attack.

However, an Iranian semi-official news agency denied reports that Iranian fighters were killed or that Iranian-run bases were hit. The Tasnim news agency quoted an unnamed Iranian informed official in its report but did not elaborate on the denial.

Another semi-official news agency, ISNA, said the strike killed 18 Iranians, including a commander, in a suburb of the central city of Hama. It cited "local sources and activists" for its report.

The missiles targeted buildings and centers which likely include a weapons depot, ISNA reported.

The Syrian government-owned Tishrin newspaper quoted what it called "sources on the ground" as saying that the attack on military positions in Aleppo and Hama provinces consisted of nine ballistic missiles fired from American-British bases in north Jordan. The report could not be independently confirmed.

There was also no immediate comment from Israel,



which rarely confirms or denies its attacks in Israel. Israeli media reported that the security cabinet will hold an unscheduled meeting on the subject of the nuclear deal with Iran.

President Donald Trump has set a May 12 deadline to decide whether to pull out of the Iran nuclear deal — something he appears likely to do despite heavy pressure to stay in from European and other parties. AP

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what's ON



TREASURE FROM THE DEEP SEA - EXHIBITION OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RELICS OF THE NANHAI NO. 1

TIME: 10am-6pm, last admission at 5:30pm
(Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays, free admission on Tuesdays and the 15th of every month)

UNTIL: July 31, 2018

VENUE: 3/F, Macau Museum, No. 112, Praceta do Museu de Macau

ADMISSION: MOP15 (free for Macau residents, children of 12 years old or below and seniors of 65 years old or over)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911 & 8394 1208

LA PARISIENNE - CABARET FRANCAISE

TIME: 8pm (Tuesdays to Fridays)

2pm & 8pm (Saturdays)

2pm & 5pm (Sundays)

UNTIL: June 17, 2018

VENUE: Parisian Theatre, Parisian Macau

ADMISSION: MOP188, MOP388, MOP488

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8818 / 2855 5555

DISCOVER MACAU: MUSEUM OF TAIPA AND COLOANE HISTORY

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

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ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

THE WEIGHT OF CONTEXT - WORKS BY LEONG FEI IN

TIME: 11am-7pm (Closed on Mondays and mandatory holidays)

Until: May 13, 2018

VENUE: 1st Floor, Macau Art Garden, No. 265, Av.

Dr. Rodrigo Rodrigues

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6064

Offbeat

'INFINITY WAR' OPENS WITH RECORD USD250M, PASSING 'STAR WARS'



A whole lot of superheroes added up to a whole lot of ticket sales. The superhero smorgasbord "Avengers: Infinity Wars" opened with predictable shock-and-awe, earning USD250 million in box office over the weekend and edging past "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" to set the highest opening weekend of all-time.

"Infinity War," which brings together some two dozen superheroes in the 10-year culmination of Marvel Studio's "cinematic universe," also set a new global opening record with \$630 million even though it's yet to open in China, the world's second-largest movie market. It opens there May 11.

According to the Walt Disney Co.'s estimates Sunday, "Infinity War" overwhelmed the previous global best ("The Fate of the Furious" with \$541.9 million) but narrowly topped "The Force Awakens" in North America. The "Star Wars" reboot debuted with \$248 million in 2015, which would translate to about \$260 million accounting for inflation.

But both intergalactic behemoths belong to Disney, which now owns nine of the top 10 opening weekends ever - six belonging to Marvel releases. That includes "Black Panther," which has grossed \$1.3 billion since opening in February and still managed to rank fifth at this weekend's box office, thanks partially to Marvel fans self-programming a double-feature.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
15:40	Miscellaneous
16:10	NOS League: Maritimo x FC Porto (Repeated)
17:50	Brazilian Soap Opera (Repeated)
18:40	TDM Sports (Repeated)
19:50	Portuguese Serie Sr.1
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Interview
21:30	Triangle
22:10	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:50	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

01 MAY



AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

ROOM 1

2:30, 6:00, 9:00pm

ROOM 2

4:00pm

Director: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo

Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 149min

TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY

ROOM 2

2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Chan Tai-Lee

Starring: Teresa Mo, Ling Man Lung, Ray Lui, Bonnie Xian

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 91min



SECRET SUPERSTAR

ROOM 2

06:045pm

Director: Advait Chandan

Starring: Aamir Khan, Zaira Wasim

Language: Hindi (English & Chinese)

Duration: 150min



RAMPAGE

ROOM 3

2:15, 07:30, 9:30pm

Director: Brad Peyton

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Naomie Harris, Malin Akerman

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 107min

this day in history



1973 THOUSANDS STRIKE OVER PAY AND PRICES

About 1.6 million workers joined the Trades Union Congress' call for a one-day strike today in protest at the government's pay restraint policy and price rises.

The worst affected industries were the railways, car manufacturing, newspaper production, mining and docks.

Despite the large turn-out many of the big unions voted against industrial action and thousands of workers carried on working when they could. Many were sent home as factories closed because essential staff were on strike and many more simply could not get to work due to transport problems.

Almost all rail services were disrupted or halted after the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) stopped work.

The much larger National Union of Railwaymen had voted against strike action but its members were unable to operate services with their Aslef co-workers.

The rail strike affected the Post Office and has resulted in a huge backlog of mail - even though members of the two largest Post Office unions did not join the day of action.

British Leyland car plants were severely hit by the strike by engineering workers in the Midlands, North-West and Scotland.

Vauxhall, Ford and Chrysler plants were also at a standstill losing the companies millions of pounds.

Other major engineering factories affected were Rolls-Royce at Bristol, GEC at Trafford Park, Manchester, Hawker Siddley and British Aircraft Corporation in the North-West and Dunlop tyres at Birmingham and Speke.

British Steel Corporation saw 30,000 of its 230,000 workers walk out and 113 of the National Coal Board's 281 pits were on strike with further support for the action in South Wales and Scotland.

Strikes were accompanied by huge protest rallies in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow.

In Liverpool, the leader of the Transport and General Workers Union, Jack Jones, told supporters: "The government would be foolish to ignore the very sincere feelings not only of those protesting today but those millions of others who are fed up with the way prices are continuing to rise."

A new round of talks is due to take place later this month between the government and the TUC over counter-inflation measures.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The then Conservative government under Edward Heath had a policy of limiting wage increases to control rising inflation.

This policy was legally enforced but under Harold Wilson's Labour government which won the election of 1974, pay increases were limited by voluntary agreement with the unions.

That year, the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) was set up to help settle industrial disputes.

But food and house prices still managed to outstrip wage rises and labour unrest continued on into 1979 and the infamous "winter of discontent" when strikes crippled the country.

Prolonged industrial action discredited not only the unions but also the Labour Party with which they were associated. They had much to do with Labour losing the 1979 election leading to a prolonged period of Conservative rule under Margaret Thatcher.

Her government imposed major restrictions on the unions in the 1980s and made secret ballots before a strike compulsory. "New" Labour has loosened its traditional links with the unions in the mid-1990s.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Some days are perfect for making big ideas and plans come to life. Other days are better suited for taking care of the smaller details. This is one of those other days.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Don't hold back. If there's something beautiful out there that you want (and there will be plenty), go for it. The more beauty you surround yourself with, the happier you'll be.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Tempting as it is to get right in the center of things and let everyone know exactly where you stand, you'd be better off holding back. Focus on something else instead. Get your bills paid, reorganize your bedroom.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
That may not actually be music in the air, but it's sure going to sound that way to you - and once you start talking (oops, warbling) to the person you're with, your voice will sound equally musical to them.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
So, it looks like introverted tendencies can happen even to you. Rare as these occurrences may be, you need to deal with them from time to time just like everyone else.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Why would you want to do that? So that when you all go out tonight, none of you will have anything in the back of your minds preventing you from having complete and total fun. Enjoy!

Libra
Sep.23-Oct. 22
Bills are coming up, your email is getting way too backed up, your closet's so disorganized you couldn't find a matching pair of shoes. There's so much going on, it's completely overwhelming.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
You've got things pretty well under control right now. So instead of focusing on yourself, maybe you should take a look at what your friends are up to. It's possible that one of them is in need of a favor.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Oh, goodness, that boss of yours can sure drive you crazy sometimes, can't they? Well, don't let it get to you. Everyone has to deal with difficult authority figures from time to time.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
You're grounded, you're focused and you can accomplish anything you set your mind to. How about setting your mind to something a little more unusual, for a bit of a change of pace?

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
You already know this, but it must be said anyway - things aren't always what they seem. And that's especially true in your business affairs. So make sure you're paying close attention to every detail.

Pisces
Feb.19-Mar. 20
Don't think about it. That's right: Don't plan, don't vacillate, don't consider what could go wrong, don't do anything that could slow you down. Just close your eyes and jump.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	13	25	cloudy/overcast
Harbin	3	19	cloudy
Tianjin	14	20	overcast/shower
Urumqi	13	27	clear/cloudy
Xi'an	18	31	overcast
Lhasa	4	16	drizzle/shower
Chengdu	18	28	drizzle/cloudy
Chongqing	20	27	drizzle/moderate rain
Kunming	13	26	cloudy
Nanjing	20	28	overcast/thundershower
Shanghai	22	28	drizzle
Wuhan	21	27	drizzle/moderate rain
Hangzhou	22	30	cloudy/shower
Taipei	24	30	overcast
Guangzhou	24	30	shower
Hong Kong	25	30	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	9	23	drizzle
Frankfurt	8	14	drizzle
Paris	8	15	drizzle
London	4	12	drizzle
New York	7	21	drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Anthology of artwork; 6- Glasgow gal; 10- Isn't wrong?; 14- TV producer Michaels; 15- Not a dup.; 16- Agitate; 17- Tartan; 18- Parent's sister; 19- Own; 20- Droop; 21- We ___ please; 23- Mends a shoe; 24- Breathing organs of fish; 26- Composer Copland; 27- Polish seaport; 29- Dull finish; 31- Currency unit of France and Germany, among others; 32- Wispy clouds; 33- Sephia maker; 36- In spite of; 40- Draft org.; 41- Destitute; 42- Wings; 43- ___ lunch; 44- Conductors' rods; 46- Bullwinkle, e.g.; 48- Experiment; 49- ___ Selassie; 50- Champagne buckets; 52- Suffix with meteor; 55- Folk singer Guthrie; 56- Greek portico; 57- Free to attack; 59- Nothing, in Nice; 60- Active one; 61- Vote into office; 62- Actress Helgenberger; 63- Lays down the lawn; 64- A bit, colloquially;

DOWN: 1- Swiss peaks; 2- "Damn Yankees" role; 3- Vain boasters; 4- Verse starter?; 5- Military decorations; 6- Fertile soils; 7- Stuck in ___; 8- Prefix with Tibetan; 9- Cpl.'s superior; 10- On dry land; 11- Novelist Calvino; 12- Best Actor of 1958; 13- Very, in Versailles; 22- Variety; 23- Glossy fabric; 25- ___ pronounce you...; 26- Big name in razors; 27- Mil. leaders; 28- Couples; 29- Botch; 30- Pretentious; 32- Guitarist Atkins; 33- Unit of volume; 34- ___ instant; 35- Matures, as wine; 37- Busy; 38- Head of France?; 39- Statistics, collection of facts; 43- Chinese tea; 44- It's cold!; 45- Bridal paths; 46- "West Side Story" song; 47- Exxon Valdez, e.g.; 48- Rips; 49- Injure; 50- Langston Hughes poem; 51- Like some dorms; 53- Diplomacy; 54- Blues singer James; 56- '60s campus gp.; 58- "Evil Woman" band;

Yesterday's solution

A	W	E	D	S	B	O	N	Y	P	O	P	E
T	A	M	E	P	A	R	E	E	A	P	R	S
T	I	W	I	N	I	R	I	N	A	R	E	A
P	A	T	T	I	G	E	R	M	A	N	Y	
A	B	O	U	T	S	N	A	G				
D	Y	S	A	L	I	A	S	A	U	A		
R	E	O	R	E	A	D	Y					
I	R	A	T	S	E	R	I	E	S			
S	E	V	E	L	A	E	S	O	P	N	I	A
S	E	L	E	S								
A	N	C	I	L	L	A						
N	C	A	A									
T	R	I	S									
P	E	R	T									

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



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	<p>Riveria Tower 2, Unit N Macau 3 Bedrooms Apartment Available From - June 2018 HKD 15,500 / 1,173 sq ft Ref: 18030671</p>	<p>Soi Cheung Studio, Taipa Village Taipa Furnished Apartment Great Location HKD 8,500 / 660 sq ft Ref: 18040675</p>	<p>Coloane, 4 Storey Commercial Building Coloane Licensed Commercial Space Located In a Wonderful Area HKD 168,000 / 4,003 sq ft Ref: 17040646</p>	<p>Car Park, Manhattan Taipa Single Car Park Available For Rent HKD 1,800 / sq ft Ref: 17075528</p>

Bernie Wilson, San Diego

BASEBALL

ADRIAN Gonzalez had a spectacular homecoming at Petco Park.

Facing the hometown team he once played for, Gonzalez homered, doubled and drove in five runs yesterday [Macau time] to help the New York Mets overwhelm the San Diego Padres 14-2.

"It's always good to be here, be in front of family and friends and loved ones, and overall just try to do what you can to help the team win," Gonzalez said.

He had plenty of help. Zack Wheeler struck out nine in five innings. The 14 runs and 19 hits were season highs for the Mets, who took two of three in San Diego. The Mets batted around in both the seventh and eighth innings, scoring five runs each time.

Gonzalez hit a three-run homer to left off Jordan Lyles with one out in the seventh, his third. He hit a two-run double off starter Bryan Mitchell in the third. He singled in the ninth, leaving him a triple shy of the cycle. Eight other Mets players had two hits apiece.

The 35-year-old Gonza-



New York Mets' Adrian Gonzalez (right) hits a two-run double as San Diego Padres catcher A.J. Ellis looks on

lez played for the Padres from 2006 until being traded to Boston on Dec. 6, 2010. He was traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers on Aug. 25, 2012, and then

sent to Atlanta last Dec. 16. He was released by the Braves after just two days and signed with the Mets a month later. He was the first pick overall in the

2000 draft, going from Eastlake High in Chula Vista to the Marlins.

With the Padres starting left-handers the first two games of this series, Gonzalez didn't play Friday night and pinch-hit Saturday night, when he was loudly booed.

Any boos by Padres fans were drowned out by cheers from Mets fans.

"I went into the game just trying to feel how my timing was and looking for good pitches to hit," he said. "Got behind on

the second at-bat but I think he made a mistake, left the ball middle-away." That was his two-run double.

Gonzalez hit a fly ball to deep right-center with two on and two outs in the fifth, but right fielder Franchy Cordero raced over and made a running catch at the wall in right-center.

Manager Mickey Callaway said while results haven't been there, Gonzalez has been taking good swings.

"In the long run, things always even themselves out. I think that's one of those games that's going to start to even things out for the way he's performing," Callaway said.

Todd Frazier hit a two-run homer in the eighth, his fourth, and Jose Reyes hit an impressive solo shot, his first.

Batting around in consecutive innings "was pretty fun," Callaway said.

Wheeler (2-1) allowed two runs and six hits in five innings and walked two. The righty helped the Mets bounce back from a 12-2 loss Saturday night by keeping young Padres sluggers Franchy Cordero and Christian Villanueva in the yard. Cordero hit a three-run, 453-foot home run on Saturday and Villanueva hit a two-run shot.

Bryan Mitchell (0-3) failed again to get his first win with the Padres. He was obtained along with Chase Headley from the New York Yankees in an offseason trade that is becoming increasingly unpopular with San Diego fans. The Padres liked Mitchell so much that they were willing to take on Headley's \$13 million contract. But both players have underperformed.

Mitchell allowed four runs and five hits in 4 2/3 innings, struck out five and walked four.

"Honestly, today's the best I've felt," said Mitchell, who has a 16.50 ERA in the first inning this season and a 6.07 ERA overall. "I felt like it was the best repertoire I've had. [...] I've just got to limit those walks."

Mitchell has walked 23 in 29 2/3 innings and struck out only 14.

"It's a performance game," manager Andy Green said. "We acquired him because we believed in his potential. It's about time we see him starting doing that. I think he knows that."

Freddy Galvis hit a two-run single off Wheeler in the third. In the first, Galvis came up with the bases loaded and two outs and struck out. **AP**

AD

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CYCLING

Former ski jumper Roglic wins Tour of Romandie

PRIMOZ Roglic won the Tour of Romandie title yesterday [Macau time], giving the Slovenian former ski jumper his second stage-race victory in April.

Roglic protected his lead over Egan Bernal — in a stage won by sprint specialist Pascal Ackermann of Germany — to add the Romandie title to his Tour of the Basque Country win.

Riding for the LottoNL-Jumbo team, Roglic ended the six-day race eight seconds ahead of Colombia's Bernal.

Defending champion



The overall leader Primoz Roglic from Slovenia of team Lotto NL-Jumbo poses with the yellow jersey

Richie Porte of Australia stayed third, trailing Roglic by 35 seconds.

At the end of Sunday's 182-kilometer ride into Geneva, Ackermann got

a perfect lead round the final corner. He eased to the stage win over Michael Morkov of Denmark. Roberto Ferrari of Italy had the same time in third.



FOOTBALL | CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Madrid hopes to avoid semis setback at home

Tales Azzoni, Madrid

Wednesday, 2:45am
Real Madrid v Bayern Munich
H 2.17, D 4.15, A 3.3

DESPITE a 2-1 victory at Bayern Munich in the first leg of the Champions League semifinals, Real Madrid is worried.

Madrid hosts Bayern in the second leg today [Wednesday, 2:45am], but the European champions have struggled in decisive matches at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium and are wary of more surprises.

"We have to think about the good things that we did in the first leg in Munich and learn from the match against Juventus at home," said backup Madrid goalkeeper Kiko Casilla, referring to the 3-1 loss in the quarterfinals. "If we put all that together and stay focused, we can make history by reaching another final."

Against Juventus, Madrid won 3-0 in Italy in the first leg. There was a festive atmosphere for the second leg, which was supposed to be a mere formality.

But Madrid was surprised by Juventus from the start, quickly squandering its advantage by conceding twice in the first half and once after half-time. The 12-time champions only escaped an embarrassing home elimination thanks to a controversial late penalty from Cristiano Ronaldo.

"We need our fans cheering us on just like they did against Juventus," Casilla said. "We are going to need them. Champions League nights at the Bernabeu are special."

Madrid also relinquished its lead against Bayern in the quarterfinals last season, when it also won 2-1 in Munich in the first leg.

A week later, Bayern sent the

match into extra time. Ronaldo, who got both goals in the first leg and one in regulation in the second, scored twice in extra time to complete a hat trick and save Madrid from elimination.

"I don't know how significant the first-leg advantage will be. We know what happened against Juventus and against Bayern last year," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "We will need a huge performance. We will need to play like never before this year to be able to advance. We are prepared and

we are going to give it all we've got to make it to the final."

Sloppy defense was key for Madrid's home struggles both against Juventus and against Bayern last year. Madrid didn't play poorly but couldn't stop its opponents on the few chances they created. Against Juventus, all three goals came when the Madrid defense failed to clear routine crosses into the area.

Bayern remembers last year's match well.

"I think they were floundering for every cross and for every long ball, so we know what we have to do," Bayern striker Sandro Wagner said.

The defense could be a problem for Madrid again today as right back Dani Carvajal is out injured and Zidane has few options to replace him. Youngster Achraf Hakimi is Carvajal's immediate substitute but he has not impressed this season.

Nacho Fernandez, a central defender who has played at right back on other occasions, is coming off an injury and it's not clear if he will be available to play.

Zidane said he may consider using forward Lucas Vazquez in defense, as he did after Carvajal had to leave the first leg because of his injury.

Madrid is trying to win a third straight European title, and fourth in five seasons. Bayern, a five-time European champion, is looking to return to the final after four seasons. **AP**

'I believe' is Roma's slogan vs. Liverpool in CL semifinal

Thursday, 2:45am
Roma v Liverpool
H 2.6, D 4.05, A 2.62

ROMA already erased a three-goal deficit once in this season's Champions League.

The Giallorossi believe they can do it again against Liverpool tomorrow [Thursday, 2:45].

"We've already shown we're capable of coming back and we should have the belief that we can do it again," Roma coach Eusebio Di Francesco said.

Liverpool won the first leg 5-2, so Roma needs a repeat of its 3-0 second-leg victory over Barcelona in the quarterfinals to reach next month's final in Kiev.

A 4-1 win — Roma's result against Chievo Verona on Saturday — would also suffice.

"I believe. That's my slogan and that's what I want to transmit to my players," Di Francesco added.

However, Roma will have to find a way to stop its former striker, Mohamed Salah, who scored the opening two goals of the first leg.

Security will also be a concern following clashes at the first leg that left a Liverpool fan in critical condition.

Italian state police said "special attention" will be paid to the arrival and movements of 5,000 Liverpool supporters in the capital.

Tomorrow's game is a rematch of the 1984



European Cup final that Liverpool won in a penalty shootout in Roma's stadium.

Liverpool should have its devastating front three intact for the second leg, with coach Juergen Klopp saying Sadio Mane will be fit after a minor thigh injury.

Mane, who missed the 0-0 draw with Stoke in the Premier League on Saturday, will link up again with Salah and Roberto Firmino — reuniting the players who scored all of Liverpool's goals in the first leg. They have scored 28 goals between them in this season's Champions League, more than any other team in the competition.

Klopp does have issues in midfield, thou-

gh, with Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain out for the rest of the season after sustaining a serious knee problem in the first leg to join fellow midfielders Adam Lallana and Emre Can on the injury list. Jordan Henderson, James Milner and Georginio Wijnaldum are Klopp's only fit senior midfielders.

Liverpool, a five-time European champion, has proved to be the master of the counterattack domestically and in the Champions League this season, so is the last team that Roma will want to be gung-ho against. The Reds did, though, squander a three-goal cushion against Sevilla in the group stage to draw 3-3. **AP**

opinion

World Views

Justin Fox, Bloomberg

BABY BOOMERS' LONG REIGN ISN'T ENDING JUST YET

Generations are an overused framework for understanding why people think and act the way they do, as psychology professors David P. Costanza of George Washington University and Lisa M. Finkelstein of Northern Illinois University put it in a 2015 survey article.

There is little solid empirical evidence supporting generationally based differences and almost no theory behind why such differences should even exist.

Still, when the U.S. Census Bureau comes out with new estimates of the country's population by age, as it did this month, it's hard to resist thinking in terms of generations at least a little.

The beginning and end of the baby boom are easy enough to see here: There were an estimated 880,819 more 70-year-olds than 71-year-olds in the U.S. in the middle of last year, and 241,811 more 52-year-olds than 51-year-olds. With the millennials, there's not quite such a sharp delineation, but there are clearly tons of people in their late 20s.

Out of curiosity, I added up population by generation, using the generational start and end years chosen by Pew Research Center. These aren't a perfect fit with the Census Bureau data, since the generations are defined by birth year and the population numbers are as of July 1. But close enough! I replaced Pew's new "post-millennial" tag with "iGen," in part because "post-millennial" is so uncreative and in part because my son, one of the older members of said generation, suggested iGen (or maybe it was "iGeneration") years before Jean M. Twenge did. I also chose an end date for iGen, which Pew hasn't done yet, by simply assuming that it will cover the same number of years as the millennials and Generation X.

So the boomers remain the biggest generation; Pew predicted recently that they'll finally give way to the millennials in 2019. This is to some extent a meaningless distinction, given that the baby boom covers three more birth years than the millennial generation does. That inconsistency came about because the baby boom more or less defined itself, while subsequent generations have been artificially delimited by Pew as 16-year spans. Still, one does get the sense that the baby boomers continue to have an outsized influence on our culture and our politics — and it's clear from the latest Congressional Budget Office projections that they (we, actually; I was born in 1964) will be having an outsized influence on the country's fiscal situation for years to come.

It's not that individual baby boomers are radically different from, say, individual Gen Xers; my musical tastes, for example, are much more like those of an Xer than of a boomer. But having an especially large cohort of people of a certain age does seem to matter. After Evan Soltas noted on Twitter that the average age of U.S. Congress members has risen by almost 10 years since 1980, I dug into the Voteview database that he got this information from to see what the boomer share of the current Congress is. It's huge.

For comparison, I looked back to when the oldest baby boomers were the same age (53) as the oldest Gen Xers are today. The baby boomers held a far greater share of seats than the Xers do now, and this disparity is much bigger than the population differential.

Maybe this is just the result of the overall aging of the U.S. population. But I'm guessing it's more than that, and that members of bigger generations get extra influence. The boomers have most of the political clout now, and while younger candidates will surely make gains in this year's midterm elections, we may have to wait for the political maturation of the millennials — the youngest of whom can't even run for Congress yet (the minimum age for the House is 25; for the Senate, it's 30) — for them (sorry, us) to be nudged aside.

THE BUZZ COSBY JUROR: COMEDIAN'S OWN WORDS LED TO HIS CONVICTION

A juror on the Bill Cosby sexual assault retrial case says the comedian's own words sealed his fate.

Harrison Snyder, in an interview aired yesterday on ABC's "Good Morning America," said that it "wasn't an open and shut case." But the 22-year-old says Cosby's deposition — in which he admitted giving women drugs to have sex with them — was the evidence that made him believe he was guilty.

He says that he had no doubt the jury made the right decision in convicting Cosby. NBC's "Today" show said the Cosby jury issued a statement saying its decision was not influenced in any way by factors other than what was seen and heard in the courtroom.

Snyder was the youngest member of the jury. He says he didn't know much about the 80-year-old comedian before the trial and knew nothing of the allegations. (More on p14)

UK

May replaces minister as immigration scandal widens



Government Cabinet Minister Sajid Javid arrives for a meeting at 10 Downing Street

Jill Lawless, London

BRITISH Prime Minister Theresa May yesterday appointed the first ethnic-minority politician to the key post of home secretary, as the government struggled to contain a scandal over the mistreatment of long-term residents from the Caribbean.

Sajid Javid replaces Amber Rudd, who resigned early yesterday [Macau time], saying she had "inadvertently" misled lawmakers about whether the government had deportation targets.

The Windrush immigration scandal has dominated headlines in Britain for days and sparked intense criticism of the Conservative government's tough policies.

The furor began when the Guardian newspaper reported that some people who came to the U.K. from the Caribbean in the decades after World War II had recently been refused medical care in Britain or threatened with deportation because they could not produce paperwork proving their right to reside in the country.

Immigration is a divisive issue in Britain, with cutting the inflow of migrants a major factor for many voters who in 2016 backed leaving the European Union. The government has an oft-stated but long-unmet goal of reducing net immigration below 100,000 people

a year, less than half the current level. Opponents say the government should drop that target.

May is facing opposition calls to take responsibility for the tough immigration policies that started when she was home secretary in 2012.

Those affected belong to the "Windrush generation," named for the ship Empire Windrush, which in 1948 brought hundreds of Caribbean immigrants to Britain, which was seeking nurses, railway workers and others to help it rebuild after the devastation of World War II.

They and subsequent Caribbean migrants came from British colonies or ex-colonies and had an automatic right to settle in the U.K. But some have been ensnared by tough new laws intended to make Britain a "hostile environment" for illegal immigrants.

Some of these legal migrants have been denied housing, jobs or medical treatment because of requirements that employers and doctors check people's immigration status. Others have been told by the government that they are in Britain illegally and must leave.

Javid, whose parents came from Pakistan, has expressed anger at the treatment of the Windrush generation, telling the Sunday Telegraph: "That could be me."

In recent weeks Rudd and May have apologized repeatedly to the Windrush generation, saying that all pre-1973 Commonwealth immigrants who don't already have British citizenship will get it and those affected will get compensation.

But Rudd's position worsened after she told lawmakers last week that the government did not have targets for deporting people — only for a 2017 memo to emerge that mentioned specific targets for "enforced removals."

Rudd said she didn't see the memo, but The Guardian later published a leaked letter she wrote to the prime minister discussing an aim of increasing removals by 10 percent.

In a resignation letter to the prime minister, Rudd said she had "inadvertently" misled lawmakers. May said she accepted that Rudd had spoken "in good faith" and was sorry to see her resign.

The Windrush scandal is also causing anxiety for the 3 million European Union citizens living in Britain who are concerned about their immigration status after the country leaves the EU next March. The British government says they will be allowed to stay.

May's office said Javid's former job, Britain's communities secretary, is going to James Brokenshire, the former secretary of state for Northern Ireland. AP

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	35-55 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	😊
Ambient	45-65 Moderate	😞

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

LIBYA's oil agency says a transport plane has crashed just outside one of the country's largest oil fields, killing three crew members.



RUSSIA Some 10,000 people were rallying in Moscow yesterday to protest against recent restrictions on internet freedom in Russia.

POLAND will oppose a European Union proposal to cut funding to countries where the rule of law is deemed under threat, the foreign minister said yesterday, calling it unfair political pressure.

ITALY's political leaders are eyeing the country's latest regional election in hopes the outcome would strengthen their hand after eight weeks of wrangling over the makeup of the next national government.



CARIBBEAN A police operation across the Caribbean and South America has freed nearly 350 people from human trafficking networks and led to the arrests of 22 people.

PERU Archaeologists in northern Peru say they have found evidence of what could be the world's largest single case of child sacrifice. The pre-Columbian burial site, known as Las Llamas, contains the skeletons of 140 children who were between the ages of five and 14 when they were ritually sacrificed.

HOLIDAY TIMES

Macau Daily Times will not be published during the holiday. The Times will be back on the stands on Thursday May 3. However the MDT website will be updated with breaking news during the recess period. We wish our readers, advertisers and friends the best of times.