



MASS DRIVES SOARING GAMING REVENUES
Casino revenue rocketed past even the most bullish expectations in April, soaring 28 percent

P2 ANALYSIS



LE FRENCH PIANISTS OPEN MAY FESTIVAL

P3 EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW



REAL MADRID ADDS TO ITS EUROPEAN DOMINANCE
Two-time defending champion Madrid will be playing its fourth Champions League final in five years

P19



THU.03
May 2018

T. 25°/ 31° C
H. 70/ 98%

facebook.com/mdtimes
+ 11,000

N° 3039
MOP 8.00
HKD 10.00



Times

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA The Dominican Republic has established diplomatic relations with China, breaking ties with Beijing's rival Taiwan in the latest blow to the self-ruled island democracy China has been trying to isolate on the global stage.

THAILAND A court in southern Thailand has sentenced six men to death for several bombings in 2016 that killed two people and wounded more than 20, an army spokesman said yesterday. *More on p13*



KOREA The rival Koreas have dismantled huge loudspeakers used to blare Cold War-style propaganda across their tense border, as South Korea's president asked the United Nations to observe the North's planned closing of its nuclear test site. *More on p12*

INDIA Suspected militants shot and killed three men in Indian-controlled Kashmir, police said, as the disputed region observed a strike to protest the killing of two rebels and a civilian this week during an Indian counterinsurgency operation.

NIGERIA A pair of explosions killed at least 28 worshippers at a mosque in northeastern Nigeria and wounded at least 56 others, with many of the victims caught in the second blast while trying to flee, police said yesterday.

More on backpage



Mayday for freedom of demonstration

P5,7



Peppa Pig latest victim of China censors

P11

Mak: More state security education

Lawmaker Mak Soi Kun has suggested that the Macau SAR government include content about state security in the city's school textbooks. In a written inquiry delivered to the government, Mak praised the recent exhibition on state security education, which was organized by the SAR government. He believes that the exhibition not only enhanced the knowledge of Macau residents about state security, but also sent a message of loving the country and loving Macau. As usual, Mak encouraged the government to organize more activities about state security. He asked the government whether it has considered including additional content on state security into the city's school textbooks, to help the younger generation learn more about it while they are still young. This way, children will know how to take the initiative to execute their obligations and responsibilities regarding protection of the state.

Lawmaker raises debate on investment immigration

Lawmaker Lei Cheng I has proposed that the Legislative Assembly (AL) have a debate on the city's investment immigration policy. In a letter delivered to the AL, Lei explained that Macau's laws on important investment immigration and highly skilled professional immigration have not been amended for nearly 20 years, and that existing approval standards and supervision are insufficient. Lei pointed out that in 2017, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) discovered forged documents concerning investment immigration cases, and that the CCAC has criticized Macau's investment immigration policy for being flawed. Lei concluded that Macau's investment immigration policy has a big loophole and requires urgent review and amendment.

Vendors unhappy with gov't proposals

The government's proposal concerning the management of vendors and street market stalls keeps gathering opposition due to the proposed regulation requiring vendors and street market stalls to apply for operation every six years. The proposal suggests that in the future, the first-time lease associated with each stall or vendor will last three years and can be renewed once. This means every six years vendors will be required to file a new application. Ung Sau Hong, coordinator for the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, said that all other regions in the world operate street markets on a contract system. He noted that if vendors and street market stalls operate well during the six-year period, then there will be a good chance they will be allowed to continue their operations.

GAMING

Macau casinos surprise analysts as mass market spurs growth

MACAU is beating analysts at their own game.

Casino revenue in the world's largest gambling hub rocketed past even the most bullish expectations in April, soaring 27.6 percent from a year earlier. The result was even more impressive as analysts had already revised their forecasts higher in the preceding weeks.

Figures from the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) showed revenues rose 27.6 percent to MOP25.73 billion (USD3.18 billion) versus analyst predictions of 18-22 percent growth. April, often the weakest month of the first four of the year, grew second-fastest in 2018 after January.

April's revenue shows a narrowing of the gap left by Macau's two-year gaming recession, with the 2018 posting now only 18 percent lower than the peak April performance seen in 2014.

"Both segments of the market are working so well right now," Grant Govertsen, analyst at Union Gaming Securities Asia Ltd., told the Times yesterday.

With respect to the VIP segment, Govertsen believes that the growth is reflective of a changing attitude among high-roller visitors, who have become acclimatized to President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign and see the danger receding.

He said that there had been an "abundance of caution" that is now peeling away.



While high rollers continue to flock to the enclave, Macau is also seeing more robust business from casual gamblers. Gaming receipts from that so-called mass market grew 20 percent in the first quarter.

Accumulated gross revenue this year is at MOP102.24 billion (\$12.6 billion), which represents a 22.2 percent increase year-on-year.

And gaming strength is likely to continue into May. The month has shown a higher posting than April every year since at least 2010, the earliest year for which DICJ data is available.

"The entire [gaming] market has been strong for the whole year," said Govertsen when asked about the prospects for next month. "There is no reason why that shouldn't continue into May."

This cycle is different from 2013, when growth was led

by high-stakes players, according to Lawrence Ho, Melco Resorts & Entertainment Ltd. chief executive officer. The industry has built new resorts to actively court the mass market that includes families and tourists,

which bring in higher profit.

"This time around it's both mass and VIP working side by side," Ho said on Bloomberg TV. "Margin on mass is four times higher than VIP. The mass customers are more sophisticated and coming to a new city to experience the different aspects of it."

Ho added that he expects full-year results to come in strong for Macau operators.

MGM China Holdings Ltd. led gains in Macau casino operators this week. Its shares climbed as much as 6 percent to their highest intraday level since March 14 in Hong Kong. SJM Holdings Ltd. and Wynn Macau Ltd. gained more than 5 percent, while the benchmark Hang Seng Index initially declined 0.5 percent. **MDT/Bloomberg**

JAPAN ON THE RADAR, HAINAN NOT A THREAT

IN AN interview yesterday with Bloomberg, Lawrence Ho said that while Japan continues to be a major target for his Melco Resorts and Entertainment, the casino entrepreneur does not see the development of the Chinese island of Hainan as a threat. "Other than Macau, I think Japan is the greatest [casino] opportunity, in the lifetimes of all the [gaming] operators," he said. "That's why we are committing so much effort toward it." On the other hand, Ho said

he doesn't think that Hainan will ever develop casino resorts to compete with Macau. "I think the [central] government is looking at horseracing and lottery [activities]. We are still in a good position because I think Macau will always be the only place within China where gaming is possible. As long as operators like Melco continue to deliver on our promises, I think the central government and the Macau government will continue to support us."

SJM profits take off even as market share slides

GAMING operator SJM Holdings yesterday announced its unaudited financial results for the first quarter of 2018, showing that the company's net profit climbed 25.8 percent year-on-year to HKD730 million, even as its market share continued to slide.

According to the statement, net gaming revenue in the first quarter amounted to HKD8.41 billion, up 6.7 percent from last year. Meanwhile, adjusted EBITDA increased 17 percent year-on-year to HKD987 million.

SJM said that the rise in company profit

was mainly due to an improvement in the mass market segment in self-promoted casinos. The mass market segment saw growth of around 9.5 percent year-on-year for the company, while VIP revenues were up just 1.1 percent. Slot machines, despite accounting for a

small proportion of gaming revenue, brought in 14.6 percent more than in the first quarter of 2017.

Speaking on the first quarter results, Ambrose So, chief executive officer of SJM Holdings Limited, said "we are very pleased that our efforts to streng-

then mass market and VIP businesses combined with cost controls have resulted in material increases in SJM's EBITDA and net profit during the first quarter."

Nevertheless, the holding company continued to see its market share in Macau recede at a dramatic pace. In the first quarter of 2018, the operator controlled a 14.7 percent share of Macau's casino revenue, as compared with 16.9 percent last year.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

+ 4 Million page views
PER MONTH

Thank You!

+12,000 like us on facebook.com/mdtimes

Times

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR) Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Viviana Segui
DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephone: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

Duo Jatekok to open Le French May

Lynzy Valles

To kick off one of the largest cultural events in Asia, Hong Kong and Macau's Le French May 2018 will present Duo Jatekok, who will perform tonight at the Military Club of Macau.

Duo Jatekok is in the city for the first time, and will open Le French May in Macau, following their recent performance in Kuala Lumpur.

The duo said that they had prepared a special repertoire for the local audience as they are set to play four hands at tonight's opening and at a master-class to be held at the University of Macau in the morning.

"We prepared something with Brazilian music and they can remember perhaps something like Portuguese [music] also. We are really happy to play French music because we specialize in this. So we're really pleased to present all these pieces," said Nairi Badal, one of the pianists.

This is the fourth time that Hong Kong and Macau's Le French May is kicking off in the region, and is organized by the University of Macau's Moon Chun Memorial College.

Following their performance in Macau today, the duo will be performing in Hong Kong this weekend as part of the festival, and then will be heading to



Nairi Badal (left) and Adélaïde Panaget

Shenzhen and Dalian.

The duo spoke about their excitement to perform to a local audience later today at the Military Club of Macau, citing the different setting and ambience of the location, which will also allow them to interact more with the local audience.

Meanwhile, the duo aims to break the stigma of classical music as it is often perceived as a genre that only caters to the elites.

"For us it's important to have all generations in the audience. So we try to break the image of classical music to make it reachable and not just for the elite," Panaget shared.

"It's important to speak about the music [that we play] because when the audience has an idea about the way of composing the pieces, and about us, it's easier for them to hear and enjoy the music," she added.

Panaget also remarked that

the duo has been collaborating with different artists, actors and musicians including heavy metal band, Rammstein.

In Hong Kong, the duo will be collaborating with a sand artist, Hoi Chiu, while they tell a tale of Butterfly Lovers, a Chinese legend of a tragic love story.

"It's important to mix a lot of cultures. This way, we can have other audience [types come] and think that classical music is great," said Panaget.

Echoing the same sentiments, Badal stressed that the duo aims to build bridges between classical music and other form of arts, breaking the culture of classical music.

"Some think that classical music can be strict but it's not true. You just need to relax and open your ears and allow the performers to lead you through their music," Badal noted.

The duo aims to break the stigma of classical music as a genre that only caters to the elites

It was a decade ago that Badal and Panaget formed their duo, after attending the National Superior Paris Conservatory.

Winning two major international piano duo competitions, the duo launched their second album two months ago titled "Les Boys" – a tribute to the American piano duet of Arthur Gold and Robert Fizdale, which features modern and classic repertoires.

The album will be available for sale at their performance today.

ART

MAM exhibition to explore 20th century ties Macau

A new exhibition showcasing traditional Chinese paintings, calligraphy and seal engraving at the Macau Museum of Art (MAM) will open on Friday featuring a total of 90 pieces and sets from artists who either lived in Macau or

had ties with the city in some way from the 1930s to the 21st century.

The exhibition, which is titled "In Love with Macao – Calligraphy and Paintings of Macao", showcases 58 Chinese paintings by 65 local artists and immigrants, 19

calligraphy works, one mixed media work, as well as 12 seals, seal collections and engravings used by artists of former generations.

Many Chinese residents of the mainland moved to or temporarily settled in Macau during the 20th

century because of – as a politely-worded statement from the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) reads – "a number of reasons." This emigration cultivated a period of development in Chinese painting and calligraphy.

Their work in the ter-

ritory is reflective of the relationships each developed with Macau and its people, according to the IC.

Moreover, the bureau said, "their works reveal the camaraderie established between master and students and be-

tween peers, fully displaying the fusion between personal feelings and artistic tastes."

The exhibition opens Friday and will last until August 12. It is open daily to the public, except on Mondays, and admission is free of charge. DB

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

+50m pageviews per year
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo




Times App
News at hand

Available on the App Store | Get it on Google play

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

Gloria Batalha Ung steps into Forum Macau

THE director of the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), Gloria Batalha Ung, has formally assumed the role of deputy secretary-general of the permanent secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and the Portuguese-Speaking Countries (Macau) since May 1, in addition to her role as IPIM chief, according to an official communication.

Ung was appointed by the Macau government to the position following the resignation for personal reasons of Echo Chan, an advisor to the Office of the Secretary for Economy and Finance.

The new deputy secretary-general is, in addition to being an executive member of IPIM, the secretary-general of the Commission for the Development of the Platform for Services for Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries.

Announcing the nomination of Ung, the Secretary for Economy and Finance of Macau said that Ung taking on two roles will help to pool the resources of Forum Macau and IPIM, further increasing the support of the institution in the



development of exchange activities on an economic and trade level between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries.

It was a message that Ung had already argued when news first broke that she would be assuming the post. In April, the IPIM chief said taking on both positions would improve communication between the

two entities under her purview and allow for a better work flow

Forum Macau is headed by China-appointed secretary-general Xu Yingzhen and has three deputy secretaries-general appointed by China (Ding Tian), Macau (Echo Chan) and the Portuguese-speaking countries (Rodrigo Brum). **MDT/Macauhub**

Trade deficit widens on 27 percent rise in import value

FOR the first quarter of 2018, the total value of merchandise import increased by a significant 27.2 percent year-on-year to MOP22.62 billion, while the total value of merchandise export increased only marginally by 0.8 percent to MOP2.97 billion. Accordingly, the merchandise trade deficit widened to MOP19.65 billion, as per the latest data from the Statistics and Census Bureau.

Analyzed by place of origin, mainland China continued to be the largest market for merchandise imports into to Macau, accounting for MOP7.68 billion in the first quarter, followed by the European Union at MOP5.97 billion. Imports from Portuguese-speaking countries and the Belt and Road participating countries outside of greater China amounted to MOP200 million and MOP1.92 billion respectively.

Imports of consumer goods increased 23.9 percent in the first quarter to MOP14.64 billion, with the value of imports of beauty, cosmetic and skin-care products (MOP1.15 billion) and motor cars and motorcycles (MOP470 million) rising by 52.9 percent and 45.3 percent respectively.

In addition, the value of imports of mobile phones (MOP2.17 billion), fuels and lubricants (MOP1.56 billion) and construction materials (MOP598 million) grew by 74 percent, 22.9 percent and 30.1 percent respectively.

As for merchandise exports, the majority of the MOP2.97 billion in the first quarter was headed for Hong Kong (MOP1.92 billion), followed by mainland China (MOP471 million). The value of merchandise exports to the United States declined 21.7 percent year-on-year to MOP32 million.

AD



MAKE-UP

FOR ALL OCCASIONS

- BRIDAL / WEDDINGS • PHOTO SHOOTS • PARTY •
- GRADUATION • SPECIAL EVENTS •

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

TEL / WHATSAPP: (853) 6685 3323 | WECHAT: MISSJ_23
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JULIANAC.MAKEUPARTIST



New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.

Cleaning Specialists

FREE ESTIMATES

- Residential
- Move In / Out
- One-Time Cleanings
- Window Cleaning
- Office / Home General Cleaning
- Pest Control-Home / Offices
- Marble Crystallization
- Office / Home Carpet Cleaning
- Restaurant / Kitchen Cleaning
- Industrial Garbage Removal
- Grease Trap Pumping
- Portable Chemical Toilet Hiring & Daily Cleaning

Call: 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry



CENTRO MEDICO PEDDER

• 仁德醫療中心 •



We bring high quality of medical service to Macau

General Surgery : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Kwong Man, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong

Breast Surgery : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

Urology : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao

Paediatric Surgery : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

Paediatrics : Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

Obstetrics & Gynaecology : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery : Dr. Lam U Lin

Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

ENT : Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang

Cardiology : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin

Gastroentero-Hepatology : Dr. Zhan De Juan

General Medicine : Dr. Ng Kam Hong, Dr. Lam Weng Chio

Dietitian : Chan Lai U Joey

Avenida da Praia Grande No 599, Edifício Comercial Rodrigues 14 e 15 Andar, em Macau
T. 2832 2298 / 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 19:00 Sat 10:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed

Government accepts AL suggestions to amend demonstration law

Julie Zhu

THE First Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly (AL) has suggested that the government amend the city's laws on the rights of demonstration and the rights of public meetings. Ho Ion Sang, chairman of the AL First Standing Committee, revealed this information yesterday, after the committee had a meeting with government representatives.

"Regarding the overall future amendment of this law, the government has agreed with the suggestions and opinions proposed by the committee," said Ho Ion Sang, adding that "the government said that, in case the law needs to be amended comprehensively, it [the amendment] must go through a public consultation. Only then the related [law amendment] works can proceed. However, the government does not yet have a confirmed schedule [regarding the amendment]."

According to Ho, the First Standing Committee's



Lawmaker Ho Ion Sang

lawmakers are proposing that the government amend the demonstration law for several reasons.

For one, the Court of Final Appeal has, on several occasions, arrived at different verdicts for similar cases concerning demonstration applications that involve both the government and the applicants.

According to Ho, the court said that disparities in verdicts regarding disputes between the government and demonstration applicants are caused by ambiguity in the city's legal articles.

"Because of this, the government should, in the future, in terms of the articles and time and location restrictions, have

clearer articles in [the demonstration law]," said Ho, declaring that "the government has heard our suggestions."

Ho further explained that "after our analysis, we found out that this law [has been used] for a rather long time. Some of its content is not adequate in view of [society's] development, therefore we indicated some [of the law's] problems caused by phrasing. We brought up our suggestion [and] the government agreed."

"The government said that, in the future, it will carry out the amending of the related law. [The government said that] the amendment cannot be [completed just] by the administration authority's own lawmakers; [...] it needs a public consultation," said Ho.

When talking about transferring the authorization of the demonstrations from the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) to the Public Security Police Force (PSP), Ho noted that the government had previously explained that the change would not decrease the resi-

dents' rights of demonstration.

Ho claimed that in the future "demonstrations and public meetings [will] not need to be approved. [They] just need to notify [the related government department]."

He reaffirmed that the amendment only "changes the department which the applications are delivered to."

According to Ho's introduction, previously, there were eight locations, under the administration of IACM, where demonstration applicants could visit to deliver their applications.

After transferring the responsibility, the PSP will also have eight places available for the public to submit relevant notifications: five in Macau, one in Coloane, and two in Taipa.

The new locations' opening hours will be between 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., longer than those of the previous offices.

The government will continue to meet with the AL First Standing Committee to discuss other technical matters concerning the latest amendment.

AD

MACAU RUGBY CLUB
澳門龍球會

MACAU BATS RUGBY CLUB
澳門蝙蝠欖球會

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-15 適合男生和女孩5-15歲

New players welcome. Saturdays 10am, Taipa Stadium.
新玩家歡迎。星期六上午10點,澳門運動場

Email: macaubats@gmail.com Macau Bats Rugby

醫療券 Vale de Saúde

Healthcare Subsidy Scheme 2018
Electronic healthcare vouchers, more convenient and time-saving

Details

Beneficiaries: Holders of valid or renewable Macao Special Administrative Region Permanent Resident Identity Card as of 30th April 2019

Amount: MOP600.00 for each beneficiary

Vouchers can be used 1st May 2018 to 30th April 2020 during the period :

Transfer of vouchers

Method 1 Transfer of vouchers can be processed at any self-service kiosk

Method 2 Registration of mobile phone number at self-service kiosk enables online transfer of vouchers via the Health Bureau website or mobile app

Method 3 Staff will assist in the transfer of vouchers in person at the Health Subsidy Scheme Support Centre

自助服務機

www.vs.gov.mo 2822 5050 2822 3030

澳門特別行政區政府衛生局
Bureau of Health of the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region



MALO CLINIC

THE ART OF CREATING SMILES

*Sculpting smiles
with detail and
precision*

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

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

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

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

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

A. Go to one of our 18 Malo Clinic clinics in Mainland China, all of which, together with Macau MALO CLINIC, operate under MALO CLINIC China Management, following the exact standards and medical protocols as any international MALO CLINIC.

Macau MALO CLINIC will provide the transport to and from our clinics in Guangzhou or Shenzhen. Macau MALO CLINIC will manage the necessary bookings in all MALO CLINICS in China, as well as follow-up and medical records will be provided to our colleagues in China.

B. For all patients who will be in Portugal during this period, Macau MALO CLINIC will manage the necessary bookings, follow-up and patients' medical records to our colleagues in any MALO CLINIC in Portugal.

C. For those patients who are willing to wait for MALO CLINIC in Macau to proceed with the treatments, we are putting all our efforts in finding a partnering healthcare organization at the moment in order to continue our practice.

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

Office phone

8862 2208 / 8862 2206

Cellphone

00853—6826 9099

Wechat

MALODENTAL853
(Can be contacted at any time)

Email

service.mimc@maloclinics.com.cn

Website

<http://www.maloclinics.com.cn>

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

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

Yours Sincerely,

WORLDWIDE

Guimarães | Oporto | Gaia | Aveiro | Coimbra | Sintra | Cascais | Lisbon | Almada | Portimão | Faro | Funchal | Windsor | Verona
Mönchengladbach | Oslo | Warsaw | Gdansk | Athens | Ioannina | New York | Rutherford | Jersey City | Elizabeth | Miami | Portland
Toronto | Montreal | Trois-Rivières | Brossard | Bogotá | Melbourne | Sydney | Perth | Brisbane | Hobart | Gold Coast | Luanda
Tel Aviv | Ramat-Hasharon | Dubai | Karachi | Chennai | Macao | Hong Kong | Beijing | Shanghai | Guangzhou | Shenzhen | Taiyuan
Zhengzhou | Chengdu | Qingdao | Haikou | Shenyang | Fuzhou | Hangzhou | Tokyo | Sapporo | Bangkok | Phuket | Singapore



INFO



FOLLOW US

Labor Day demonstrations cooled off the streets

Renato Marques

THE May 1 – International Workers' Day demonstrations in Macau have historically been accompanied by days of turmoil, with many demonstrators on the streets frequently clashing with police, involving injuries, arrests, and gun shots fired by authorities to contain the fury of unhappy demonstrators.

Those days look to be long gone judging by the official numbers of the protesters that hit the streets on May 1 this year. A mere 800 protested this year, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) told the media.

From the three main groups who requested authorization to conduct street protests that day, the Pearl Horizon demonstration gathered the most participants, similar to previous years. Around 520 demonstrators attended, according to police figures, although the figure reported by organizers is between 600 and 700.

Still, such figures are a significant reduction from last year, when the combined demonstrations were said to have gathered a total of over 2,600 people.

Two petitions were delivered to the government by a group that marched from the Area Preta area. Starting at 2 p.m., the group marched a route that stopped at the Central Government Liaison Office, where the first petition was delivered, and concluded at the government's headquarters, where the second petition was delivered.

As in several past demonstrations, the group, led by Kou Meng Pok, demanded that the government and project developer and contractor (Polytec)



solve the unresolved class action between several thousands of small buyers of housing units that were ultimately not developed. Kou is the head of the Pearl Horizon Condominium Owners United Association and was a candidate for the Legislative Assembly during last year's elections. The government has since claimed back the land due to the non-development of the project within the deadline of the land concession. This time, the group is attacking on two fronts – one towards the government and the other towards the company, shouting through megaphones: "The Government has no credit and Polytec has no heart."

Another of the groups that marched along the streets of Macau demanding government and employer action was the

New Macau Gaming Staff Rights Association. The group is one of several groups led and represented by gaming workers' rights activist Cloee Chao, who,

followed by a group of casino workers, marched from the surroundings of the Wynn Macau resort to the government's headquarters. This group called

for added benefits to gaming workers similar to those offered to civil servants, such as 14 months of wage per year as well as continuing its campaign against smoking inside the gaming areas of the casino, especially in VIP rooms.

Chao, who previously told the Times that she expected over 500 participants to join the protest, saw her figures reduced to about 300, according to the police.

Earlier in the day, the Macao Federation of Trade Unions also walked to the government headquarters in order to submit a petition. In the petition, the organization calls for an acceleration of the procedures for the review of the Labor Relations law. This is in line with their representatives at the Legislative Assembly, who have been urging the government to approve several changes in the law to give greater benefits to workers, in particular the compensation of public holidays that fall on weekly rest days of the workers, among others.

According to the PSP, a total of 250 officers were assigned to follow the demonstrations and to make sure that they ran without any problems. All of the demonstrations took place in a peaceful manner and the protesters were able to deliver their petitions to the intended places.

HK Pearl Horizon buyer refused entry into Macau

A resident of Hong Kong, who is believed to be one of the pre-sale buyers of the Polytec's Pearl Horizon development, saw his entry into the region refused by the Public Security Police Force (PSP), according to the leader of the Pearl Horizon Condominium Owners United Association, Kou Meng Pok.

Kou made the comments while speaking to the media as his group delivered a petition to the government's headquarters on Tuesday.

According to Kou, the man was travelling to Macau from Hong Kong in the company of his wife to participate in the rally on May 1, but was

barred by the Macau authorities at immigration.

At the time Kou did not provide any concrete reason given by the PSP for the man's refusal of entry, but accused authorities of trying to reduce the number of participants in the demonstration.

A woman, said to be the wife of the barred man, corroborated the story but did not provide further details.

The PSP said in a statement, "[the force] does not comment on individual cases," adding, "all procedures [performed by the PSP] are in accordance with the rules of the Immigration Services."

corporate bits

SANDS CHINA CO-ORGANIZES CHARITY WALK



Sands China and Macau IC2 Association have come together to organise the IC2 Charity Fund Fun Walk event, to be held this Saturday.

According to a statement issued by the gaming opera-

tor, a total of 35 associations and 350 participants are being invited to the event, including children with special needs, their family members and volunteers.

Organized by a group of

IC2 members with intellectual disabilities, the event aims to raise awareness of the wellbeing of people with intellectual disabilities and to promote green travel, and to also encourage more social interactions between the disabled and the able-bodied.

Funds raised by the event will be used to support the association's operating expenses. The entry fee is MOP50 per person.

Two booths featuring handmade artwork and latte art demonstrations will be set up at Cotai Expo Hall D to showcase some of the children's talents.

Macau IC2 Association is a self-help and non-profit organisation that offers regular training courses and organises different kinds of events and visits for its members.

MEG-STAR UNVEILS TOP WATCH-THEMED VIP CLUB



Meg-Star International and Switzerland Swiss Time held an "Inauguration of Global Partnership" at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in the City of Dreams in Macau, unveiling

the first top watch-themed VIP club of Meg-Star at the gaming resort.

The new VIP Club of Meg-Star International is located on the second floor of

the Nüwa Hotel in City of Dreams Macau.

The opening is Meg-Star's sixth VIP club in Macau, following the opening of Meg-Star Lian Sheng VIP Club at Wynn Macau, according to a statement issued by the group.

It is the world's first VIP Club with the theme of top-level watches and will present guests with a rare global overview of watch collections, showcasing Swiss fashion and watch culture.

The Swiss Time Group covers all aspects of watch collection, appreciation, trading, top-level clubs and private wealth management, and also gathers the world's top watch collectors, with a focus on the watch trading platform and watch club business.

PRESENTED BY



BBAM'S HORROR-BALL

CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN

VENUE: STARWORLD HOTEL, GRAND BALLROOM

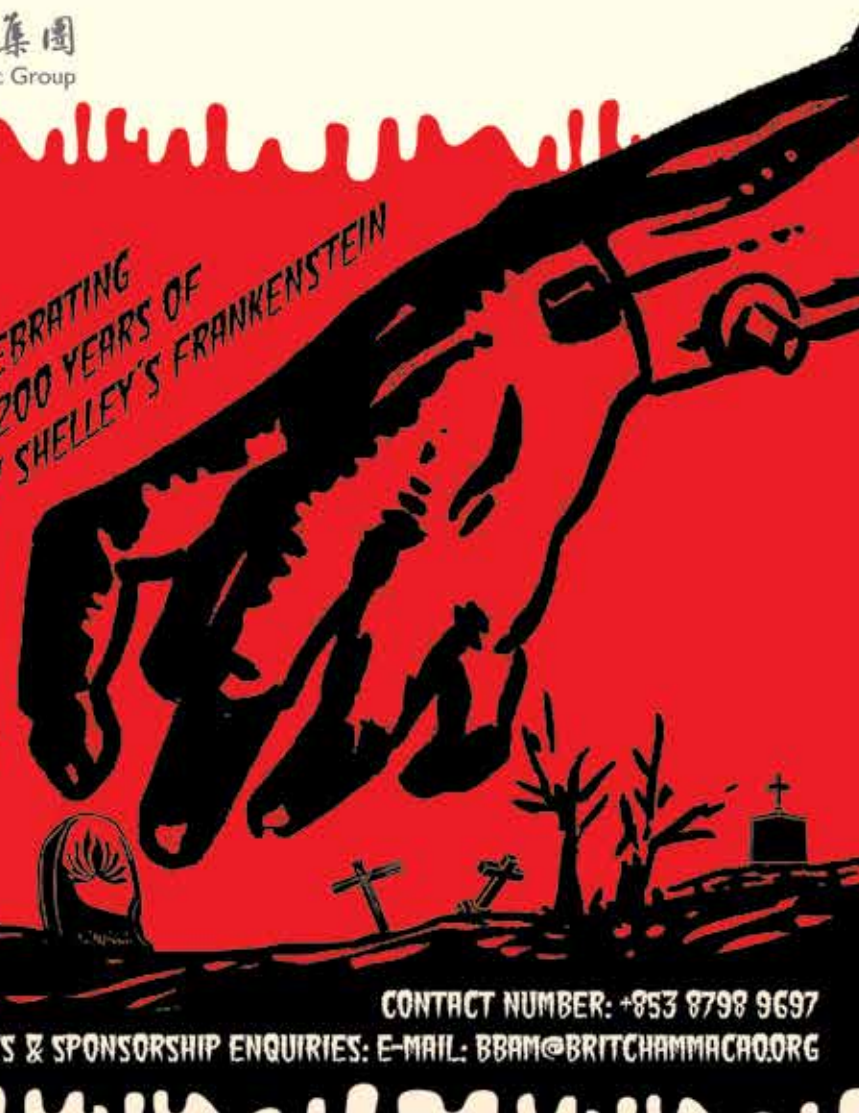
DATE: SATURDAY 23RD JUNE 2018

DRINKS RECEPTION: 7:00PM

DINNER & DANCING: 8:00PM - 2:30AM FREE FLOW DRINKS

DRESS CODE: BLACK TIE & FANGS OR HORROR THEMED DRESS

TICKETS: MOP/HKD 1,750 TABLES OF 6 OR 8 ARE AVAILABLE, OR MULTIPLES THEREOF



CONTACT NUMBER: +853 8798 9697

TICKET SALES & SPONSORSHIP ENQUIRIES: E-MAIL: BBAM@BRITCHAMMACAO.ORG

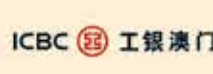
Yellow Diamond:



Diamond Crown:



Ruby Crown:



Jubilee Sapphire:



Principal Media Partner:



MAGNUS SECURITY SERVICES

馬格納斯 保安 (澳門) 有限公司

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

Avenida Leste do Hipodromo N.S 25-69

Edif. Ind. Fok Tai, 12 floor "B", Macau SAR

Tel.: (853) 2822 1341

Fax.: (853) 2822 0824

License No. 5/2010

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD



- SECURITY SERVICES
全面保安服務
- EVENTS SECURITY
活動場地保安
- SPECIAL OPERATIONS
特別行動
- SECURITY SYSTEMS
保安及安全系統
- RISK ASSESSMENT & RISK MITIGATION
風險評估及應對措施
- SECURITY FORCE TRAINING & EVALUATION
保安部隊訓練及評核

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

www.magnus-security.net

"MAGNIFYING YOUR SECURITY"

contact@magnus-security.net



Apple earnings show growing immunity to smartphone malaise

Mark Gurman

APPLE Inc.'s results confirmed that, while the days of double-digit smartphone industry growth are over, Chief Executive Officer Tim Cook has a plan to withstand the slowdown.

The shares gained in late trading yesterday after the company reported iPhone sales in line with analysts' expectations, gave a bullish revenue forecast and highlighted a surging services business. A new USD100 billion stock repurchase plan and higher dividend also helped.

The numbers show that Cook's strategy of selling a growing array of services through a base of more than 1.3 billion Apple devices is working. The smartphone sector saw shipments fall 2 percent in the past year, according to Strategy Analytics, so the company must evolve beyond its reliance on a device that still accounts for more than 60 percent of revenue.

"Slowly but surely, [Apple] is morphing into more than just an iPhone story and is displaying ability to sustain revenue growth irrespective of iPhone trajectory," Amit Daryanani, an analyst at RBC Capital Markets, wrote in a research note.

The company reported iPhone unit sales grew just 2.9 percent in the fiscal second quarter. While the flagship iPhone X may not have matched the hype from its launch late last year, the device's \$999 starting price helped boost

phone revenue growth 14 percent. Cheaper iPhone models for emerging markets, and wearable gadgets like the Apple Watch, also drove revenue growth.

"Growth in the near-term will come from higher iPhone X pricing, a lower-cost iPhone SE update, selling more services like Pay to its premium subscribers, and increasing output of its surprisingly popular Watch portfolio," said Neil Mawston, an analyst at Strategy Analytics.

Revenue from services surged 31 percent to a record \$9.2 billion in the quarter. The App Store, Apple Music, iCloud storage and Apple Pay all generated record sales, Cook said. The company is expanding these offerings with original videos and a news subscription service.

As long as Apple continues to sell around the same number of devices each year -- 217 million iPhones, more than 40 million iPads, and almost 20 million Macs in fiscal 2017 - it can sell users of these devices a growing list of services that integrate tightly with the hardware.

"You have to start thinking about Apple differently going forward," Dan Morgan, senior portfolio manager at Synovus Trust Company, wrote in a recent note. "Apple can support the stock as the investment thesis evolves from one of product cycle to services-led growth."

An Apple Music subscription costs \$10 per month (unless they're on a family plan), and the number of paying users recently

hit 40 million. The middle tier for iCloud storage costs \$2.99 a month. The company now has 270 million paid subscribers across applications and its own services, up by 100 million from the same period a year ago.

Cook suggested new services are in the works and that Apple's installed base of devices grew by double digits from a year earlier. "This is just a huge opportunity for us and we feel very good about the track that we're on," he said.

Thanks to this new stream of recurring revenue, the health of the smartphone industry is becoming less relevant to Apple. Several iPhone suppliers and manufacturers reported disappointing results in recent weeks, sparking concern that Apple's numbers would be weak. But these companies don't gain from Apple's expanding services offerings.

Some Asia suppliers did rally after Apple's report, with South Korea's LG Innotek Co. up

as much as 7.3 percent. But the reaction was muted for most partners given the limited growth in iPhone sales.

Synovus's Morgan recently estimated that services will drive about 60 percent of Apple's revenue growth over the next five years. That's a big change from the previous half-decade when 86 percent of the company's growth came from iPhone sales.

"The Services segment will grow between 13 percent and 20 percent per year over the next five years driven by continued growth in existing services along with new, innovative services," Gene Munster, co-founder of Loup Ventures and a veteran Apple analyst, wrote in an email following the results on Tuesday.

Cook hinted at additional sources of growth in terms of both geographical areas and product categories. He said India is an attractive new market for iPhones, similar to China several years ago.

"There's obviously huge opportunities there for us and we have extremely low share in that market overall and so we're putting a lot of energy there," Cook said on Tuesday's call with analysts.

Still, he rejected the idea that the smartphone market has become saturated. There were still a half a billion feature phones sold in the world last year, he noted. "Over time, every phone sold will be a smartphone and so it seems to us that with that many feature phones being sold, that's a pretty big opportunity," the CEO told analysts.

Cook also discussed additional opportunities in health care. "It's an area of great interest where we think we can make a big difference," he said on the call. Apple has continued to add new health tracking features to the Apple Watch and ships its iPhones with an app to manage health data and records. **Bloomberg**

What's good for Apple isn't always best for iPhone suppliers

APPLE Inc. turned in a strong quarter with revenue, profit and forecasts all coming in ahead of analysts' estimates. But that isn't necessarily good for the hundreds of iPhone suppliers around the world, contrary to the market's initial bounce.

Apple's better-than-expected results stemmed in part from the sale of ancillary goodies from games to cloud storage. None of those benefit hardware partners such as Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. and Hon Hai Precision Industry Co., whose fortunes are more closely tied to iPhone unit sales - which rose just 2.9 percent in the March quarter despite a 10th-anniversary device that was supposed to drive a super-cycle of demand.

Even a slight slowdown in iPhone sales can mean a huge hit to those suppliers. It's the price of participating in Apple's production chain: companies build expensive factories in advance of gadget cycles so even modest misses hammer profits.

Take Taiwan's Pegatron Corp., which assembles the iPhone 8 and ramped up capacity in anticipation of a surge in business last year. A subsequent shortfall in demand led to lower utilization rates across its factories and operating margins almost halved to 1.61 percent last year. Both Pegatron and Hon Hai - Apple's principal assemblers - reported net income falls in 2017 even as their biggest customer racked up record profits.

"Apple is benefiting from increased average selling price. Yet volume, which is key to suppliers' financials, is only growing a little," said Arthur Liao, an analyst at Taipei-based Fubon Securities.

The longer term offers a brighter outlook. The chip and component makers that remain in Apple's orbit could still benefit as smartphones incorporate bells and whistles from augmented reality to artificial intelligence - all of which need more processing muscle and silicon. **MDT/Bloomberg**

'Amazing China' documentary more fiction than fact

Erika Kinetz
& Elias Meseret, Shanghai

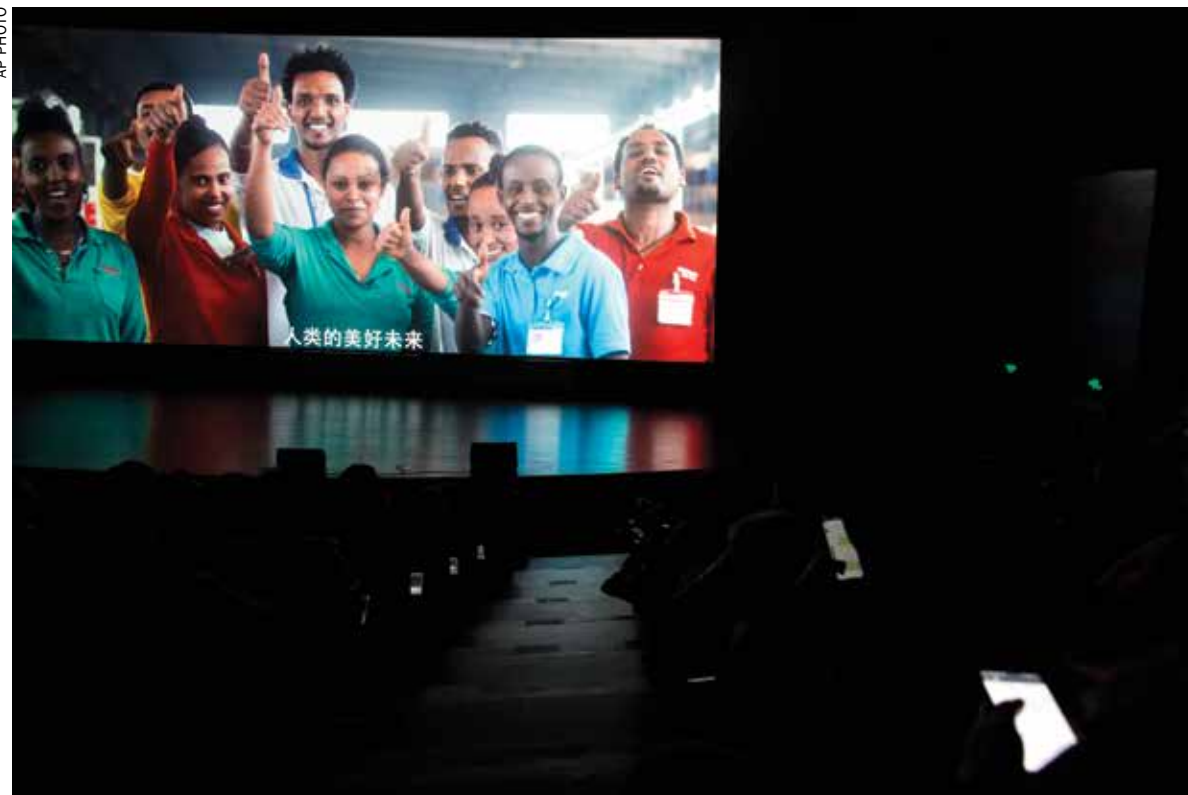
A company that made shoes for Ivanka Trump and stands accused of serious labor violations plays an unexpected role in a blockbuster propaganda film about China's renaissance under President Xi Jinping.

The state-backed documentary "Amazing China" portrays the Huajian Group as a beneficent force spreading Chinese influence and prosperity — in this case, by hiring thousands of Ethiopians at wages a fraction of what they'd have to pay in China. But in Ethiopia, Huajian workers told The Associated Press they work without safety equipment for pay so low they can barely make ends meet.

"I'm left with nothing at the end of the month," said Ayelech Geletu, 21, who said she earns a base monthly salary of 1,400 Birr (USD51) at Huajian's factory in Lebu, outside Addis Ababa. "Plus, their treatment is bad. They shout at us whenever they want."

With epic cinematography, "Amazing China" articulates a message of how China would like to be seen as it pursues President Xi Jinping's vision of a globally resurgent nation, against a reality that doesn't always measure up. The film demonstrates the scope of China's propaganda machine, which not only crafted the stirring documentary but also helped manufacture an adoring audience for it.

The star of "Amazing China" — duly noted by IMDb.com — is Xi himself, who appears more than 30 times in the 90-minute film. The movie was released three days before China's rubber-stamp legislature convened to amend the constitution and allow him to potentially rule for life.



The film's director, Wei Tie, said he wasn't aware of the controversy surrounding Huajian until the AP informed him. That's not surprising given the years of positive coverage Huajian has enjoyed in China's Communist Party-controlled media, and the fact that many foreign news sites are blocked.

Wei said he featured the company because it is "introducing China's experience of prosperity to Africa."

The film celebrates Huajian as a model of the inclusiveness at the heart of a much larger project: Xi's signature One Belt One Road initiative, a plan to spread Chinese infrastructure and influence across dozens of countries so ambitious in scope it's been compared to the U.S.-led Marshall Plan after World War II.

"In opening to the outside world, China's pursuit is not to only make our lives better, but

to make the lives of others better," the film's narrator says.

But four current and former Huajian employees told the AP their wages were so low that they struggled to pay their bills. They said they had no protective gear, were forced to work long hours, were barred from unionizing and yelled at by Chinese managers.

"There are chemicals that hurt our eyes and nose, and machines that cut our hands," said Getahun Alemu, a 20-year-old who quit Huajian last year. "They have no idea about hand gloves! If you refuse to work without that protective gear, then you will be told to leave the company."

Few harbor illusions about the main incentive for Huajian's investment in a country where there is no legal minimum wage.

"These companies are moving out of Asia and coming to Africa

to save labor costs," said Fitsum Arega, who recently stepped down as head of the Ethiopian Investment Commission to become an adviser to the new prime minister. He said the government pushes companies to protect workers and praised Huajian for employing more than 5,000 Ethiopians, but added that they "could have done better."

Li Qiang, founder of the New York nonprofit China Labor Watch, said Huajian had some of the worst conditions he's encountered in China, including excessive overtime, low pay, and verbal and physical abuse — all charges Huajian has denied. The company declined to comment to the AP.

Three men working with China Labor Watch were arrested in China last year after their investigation of Ivanka Trump's suppliers zeroed in on Huajian. They are out on bail, but remain

under police surveillance.

Ivanka Trump's brand said it no longer does business with Huajian and "continues to take supply chain integrity very seriously."

"Amazing China" has smashed box-office records for documentary films. Midday screenings during the week sold out immediately, suggesting either unquenchable public appetite or organized bulk ticket sales.

None of the viewers surveyed by the AP had purchased their own tickets. Instead, they got them from state-run companies, neighborhood committees or government departments that handed them out as part of their "party building work."

The state-backed documentary portrays the Huajian Group as a beneficent force spreading Chinese influence and prosperity

Douban, a popular film review website in China, blocked users from commenting on the movie. The only entries came from official media, which gave it an 8.5 out of 10 ranking — a far cry from the single star awarded on Amazon's IMDb.com.

But for some, "Amazing China" came as welcome reaffirmation of China's readiness to resume its rightful place in the community of great nations.

"I did not know how good our country is until I watched this movie," said Zuo Qianyi, a 68-year-old retiree. "I have been to many countries, Britain, Spain, and they are not as good as China, at least not as Shanghai. I am very happy, and I will love my country more." AP

Chinese imports threaten ancient craft of Dutch reed cutters

THE drone of his small outboard motor cuts through the early morning silence as Wout van de Belt navigates his flat-bottomed punt through the twisting waterways of the eastern Netherlands.

The 57-year-old is one of a small remaining group of professional Dutch reed cutters, harvesting, cleaning and drying reed that is used to thatch houses. They're practitioners of an ancient trade that is dee-

ply interwoven with the watery landscape of the low-lying Netherlands.

"I never have to sit in traffic jams," Van de Belt says as he heads toward his office, passing clumps of reeds lining the banks of a marshy nature reserve in the Weerribben-Wieden National Park, about 120 kilometers east of Amsterdam. "We start at first light and finish when it gets dark."

He first cut reed when

he was just 12 and established his own business when he was 18. The trade is in his blood — his father and grandfather before him also cut reed. But van de Belt says the industry is now under threat from cheaper Chinese reed imports. He wants the Dutch government to lower sales tax on locally cut reed to level the playing field.

While their profession is steeped in history, reed cutters have moved with

the times. These days, they use brush cutters, hedge trimmers and specially adapted rice mowing machines that chew through stands of reeds, spitting out the stalks that are cleaned, tied into bigger bundles and stacked in large barns to dry out.

The work is cold and hard, though cutters don't work if it is raining as reed cut when wet is lower quality.

Van de Belt says the tou-



Wout van de Belt on the deck of his flat-bottomed punt next to stacks of reed in the national parc Weerribben-Rieden in Belt-Schutsloot, Netherlands

gh physical labor means that cutters often lose up to 10 kilograms body weight in their season, which generally starts around

Christmas and ends in mid-April. "That's when the brooding season starts and we give the area back to the birds," he said. AP



Peppa Pig toys on display for sale at the British's Hamleys toy store in Beijing

Peppa Pig wins street cred, attracts censors

Yanan Wang, Beijing

A cherubic British cartoon character has become an unlikely target of China's censors as fans use her porcine likeness in rap videos and "gangster" tattoos.

The bright pink swine's subversive alter-ego has made her a viral hit but also an apparent target of government workers who police the internet.

Videos with the hashtag #PeppaPig could not be searched yesterday on Douyin, a popular video app. The catchphrase, "Get a tattoo of Peppa Pig, give a round of applause to 'gangsters,'" was also not searchable

on the Weibo microblogging platform, which posted a message saying it was acting "in accordance with relevant legal regulations."

Regulators have been ratcheting up control over Chinese blogs and apps in recent months.

A controversial cybersecurity law was introduced last June as part of President Xi Jinping's efforts to tighten control over what China's public can see and say online while still trying to reap the economic benefits of internet use.

It was not clear whether the censorship of Peppa on Douyin was prompted by a government mandate. Bytedance, the com-

pany that owns Douyin, did not respond to requests for comment.

Bytedance saw its social networking app Neihan Duanzi shut down by the State Administration of Radio and Television last month. The app was a hub for GIFs, memes and often-vulgar humor which the authorities deemed "unhealthy." The company's chief executive, Zhang Yiming, said in an apologetic statement at the time that he would increase the size of the content-monitoring team to 10,000 employees.

Chinese media said there had been at least 30,000 clips under Peppa's hashtag on Douyin. Variations on the name, such as

"PigPig" or "PeppaPeppa" are still searchable.

In a statement to The Associated Press, Douyin denied that it has "banned" Peppa Pig. But a source close to the company who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak on its behalf said Douyin removed some user-generated videos featuring Peppa Pig that the company deemed inappropriate.

Internet users have aligned Peppa with the culture of "shehui-ren" — literally "society people" — which connotes a gangster attitude and street smarts.

The Global Times, a state-run newspaper, wrote Monday that the moniker "refers to people who run counter to the mainstream value and are usually poorly educated with no stable job. They are unruly slackers roaming around and the antithesis of the young generation the [ruling Communist] Party tries to cultivate."

The party newspaper People's Daily likewise warned last week that Peppa "should not be allowed to destroy children's childhoods." It noted that Peppa has been used to sell merchandise not connected with the original brand.

Xi, who strives to rally citizens around the idea of a "China Dream," has emphasized in speeches the importance of young people's contributions to the country's "rejuvenation" following foreign incursions and civil war over the last 150 years.

Despite such entreaties from the Communist Party, a number of internet subcultures fueled largely by young Chinese — from despondent "sang" people to lackadaisical "Buddhist youths" — have resisted the president's call to "roll up your sleeves and work harder."

Peppa Pig is not the first fictional creature to be targeted by China's censors for political and sociological reasons. References to Winnie the Pooh

were recently scrubbed from the internet after users began employing the cuddly bear as a proxy for the somewhat corpulent Xi when he engineered a move this year to remove presidential term limits from the constitution. Among the popular postings, Winnie was shown hugging a jar of honey alongside the quote, "find the thing you love and stick with it."

Regulators have been ratcheting up control over Chinese blogs and apps in recent months

On her show, Peppa and her animal friends partake in mundane activities such as bike riding and swimming. But "society people" have co-opted innocuous lines from the program for their own satirical takes, such as playing lewd rap songs after a scene in which Peppa says: "I like this. It's very grown-up."

The topic "Society Person' Peppa Pig" has been viewed nearly 30 million times on Weibo, with fans sharing photos of themselves and Peppa paraphernalia along with the tag "society person." Some users have juxtaposed images of Peppa with racy pop lyrics, or edited Peppa videos to include techno lighting.

Users also encouraged one another to get Peppa tattoos. Tens of thousands have purchased temporary tattoos featuring the pig on e-commerce site Taobao.

In a post reflecting on Peppa's puzzling popularity, verified Weibo blogger Cao Zhi mused, "Peppa Society People have added a bit of fun and merriment to our dry, tedious lives." AP

Foreign minister Wang in North Korea seeking role for Beijing

Kim Tong-Hyung, Seoul

CHINA'S foreign minister arrived in North Korea's capital yesterday and could meet with leader Kim Jong Un while trying to ensure a larger role for Beijing in the new round of nuclear diplomacy with Pyongyang that had been driven by Seoul and Washington.

Wang Yi's visit came days after Kim and South Korean President Moon Jae-in vowed to work toward the "complete denuclearization" of the Korean Peninsula, though

they did not mention specific plans or timetables.

They also agreed to work toward formally ending the 1950-53 Korean War and push for three-way talks with Washington or four-way talks that also include Beijing to do so. The Koreans can't officially end the war themselves because South Korea wasn't a direct signatory to the armistice that stopped the fighting but left the peninsula technically in a state of war.

More substantial discussions on the North's denuclearization — inclu-

ding what, when and how it would occur — are expected between Kim and President Donald Trump, who could meet in May or June. The North's state-media have not yet commented on Wang's arrival in Pyongyang.

Wang is likely to use his visit to further ensure that Beijing would not be sidelined in the high-stakes discussions surrounding the North. Some South Korean analysts believe Wang would specifically seek Kim's commitment that the process on formally ending the

war would include China.

The meeting between Kim and Moon at the border truce village of Panmunjom on Friday came a month after Kim made a surprise visit to Beijing and met with Chinese President Xi Jinping. Kim's Beijing visit was widely seen as a move to strengthen his leverage ahead of his talks with Trump by re-introducing China as a major player in the global diplomatic push to resolve the nuclear standoff.

Analysts say Kim would have asked China, Nor-

th Korea's only major ally and main economic lifeline, to soften its enforcement of sanctions aimed at the North. Kim also may have sought Chinese commitments to strongly oppose any military measure the United States might take should his talks with Trump fall apart and the North starts testing missiles again.

While the Kim-Trump talks is shaping up to be crucial, there's still widespread doubt whether Kim will ever agree to entirely abandon his nuclear weapons when he apparently sees them as providing his only guarantee of survival in a region surrounded by enemies.

Seoul has said Kim expressed genuine interest

in dealing away his nuclear weapons. But North Korea for decades has been pushing a concept of "denuclearization" that bears no resemblance to the American definition, vowing to pursue nuclear development unless Washington removes its troops and the nuclear umbrella defending South Korea and Japan.

Kim's move to re-insert China as a major player in the process has been seen as a sign that the North's traditional stance essentially remains. Beijing has been calling for a "dual suspension" — of the North's nuclear and missile activities and of the large-scale military exercises between the U.S. and South Korea. AP

Two Koreas dismantle propaganda loudspeakers at tense border



South Korean soldiers move loudspeakers that had been set up for propaganda broadcasts near the demilitarized zone separating the two

Hyung-Jin Kim, Seoul

THE rival Koreas dismantled huge loudspeakers used to blare Cold War-style propaganda across their tense border this week, as South Korea's president asked the United Nations to observe the North's planned closing of its nuclear test site.

The dismantling of dozens of loudspeakers was in line with an agreement on reconciliation by the leaders of the Koreas at their historic summit last Friday. It is still unclear if such measures can bring permanent peace because no major breakthrough in the North Korean nuclear standoff was produced at the summit.

South Korean soldiers disassembled loudspeakers in multiple front-line areas in the presence of journalists before pulling them away from the border, the Defense Ministry said.

A South Korea military officer said later that North Korea had also begun taking down its propaganda loudspeakers earlier in the day. He requested anonymity, citing department rules.

Both Koreas had turned off the propaganda broadcasts along the 248-kilometer-long border last week before the summit.

They had restarted their propaganda warfare in early 2016 when tensions rose sharply after North Korea's fourth nu-

clear test. South Korea broadcast K-pop songs as well as criticism of the North's abysmal human rights conditions, world news and weather forecasts. The North broadcast anti-South messages and praises of its own political system.

North Korea is extremely sensitive to any outside criticism of its system, and most of its 24 million people are not allowed access to foreign TV and radio programs. In 2014, North Korean soldiers opened fire after South Korean activists sent anti-North leaflets over the border with large balloons, prompting South Korea to return fire. There were no reports of casualties.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has suspended nuclear and missile tests and placed his nuclear program up for negotiation, but skepticism lingers about how serious his offer is and what disarmament steps he would eventually take. Some experts say Kim's sincerity will be tested during his planned meeting in several weeks with U.S. President Donald Trump, in what would be the first North Korea-U.S. summit talks since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War.

Trump said Monday he likes the idea of going to the southern side of Panmunjom, the location of the Korean summit, to meet Kim, though he said Singapore was also under con-

sideration.

Ahead of that meeting, the leaders of South Korea, Japan and China are to meet next Wednesday in Tokyo for a regular trilateral summit that is expected to focus on North Korea's nuclear program and other regional issues.

During their meeting last Friday, Kim told South Korean President Moon Jae-in that he would shut down his country's only known nuclear test site and allow outside experts and journalists to watch the process. He also said he would be willing to give up his nuclear programs if the United States commits to a formal end to the Korean War and pledges not to attack the North, according to South Korea's presidential office.

During a telephone call with U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres yesterday, Moon said he wants the U.N. to observe the closure of the Pung-

■ Moon asked Guterres for UN support 'to verify the imminent closure' of North's nuclear test site

gy-ri test site. Moon also asked the U.N. to formally declare its support for his summit declaration with Kim. Guterres responded that he will try to contribute to the establishment of peace on the Korean Peninsula, according to Moon's office.

U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said that Moon asked Guterres for U.N. support "to verify the imminent closure" of North Korea's nuclear test site. He said the South Korean leader also asked the secretary-general for U.N. support in implementing the agreement by Moon and Kim "to transform the demilitarized zone into a peace zone."

Dujarric said "the secretary-general reiterated the full support of the United Nations to furthering the inter-Korean dialogue and in this regard pledged that the United Nations stands ready to discuss possible forms of support."

Some experts downplayed the closure of the Punggy-ri site, saying the six underground nuclear explosions that have been conducted there may have made it too unstable for more testing. Kim denied such views, saying the site has two additional underground tunnels that could be used for new tests.

A major source of outside suspicion about Kim's sincerity is his use of the term, "the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula" instead of "the de-

nuclearization of North Korea." North Korea has long used the first term, and has argued it can disarm only when the United States withdraws its 28,500 troops from South Korea and removes its so-called "nuclear umbrella" security commitment to South Korea and Japan.

A joint summit statement issued by Kim and Moon said they will work together to achieve "a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula through complete denuclearization."

It was the first time that Kim has proposed negotiating away his nuclear weapons, and some analysts say he could reveal more substantial disarmament measures in his meeting with Trump, including the possible scrapping of his long-range missile program that has posed a direct threat to the United States.

Prospects for the Kim-Trump talks remain unclear because Kim prefers a gradual, step-by-step disarmament process in return for corresponding rewards, while the United States wants complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization.

On Monday, Moon shook off a suggestion that he receive the Nobel Peace Prize for reducing tensions with North Korea, saying Trump "can take the Nobel prize" as long as the Koreans receive peace in return. **AP**

THAILAND

Court sentences six to death for southern bombings

A court in southern Thailand has sentenced six men to death for several bombings in 2016 that killed two people and wounded more than 20, an army spokesman said yesterday.

Col. Pramote Prom-in of the Internal Security Operations Command said 10 defendants had originally received death sentences on Monday from the Pattani Provincial Court. Because of their cooperation, three had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment and another to 40 years in prison.

The prosecutors had charged the defendants for five bombings between June and December 2016 in Pattani and possession of pistols and bomb-making materials.

Thailand's three southernmost provinces of Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat have been plagued for over a decade by Muslim insurgents seeking autonomy from predominantly Buddhist Thailand. More than 6,500 people have been killed in the violence since 2004.

It is unclear if the convicted men will be put to death, since Thailand has apparently not carried out a death sentence in more than eight years.

However, just over a month ago it saw another case in which six men were sentenced to death in one case in southern Thailand for the massacre of eight members of one family, including three children, over a land and loan dispute.

Several defendants in the case in Krabi province had pleaded guilty to some charges, which would normally result in a reduction of their sentence, but the court said it did not commute the sentences because the crime was "deeply upsetting and causing public fear." AP

Trevor Marshallsea, Sydney

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron and Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull yesterday issued a reminder to China to respect a "rules-based" order in the South Pacific amid concerns about Beijing's growing influence in the region.

Macron also stepped up his calls for the renegotiation of the Iran nuclear agreement, regardless of the outcome of the May 12 deadline for President Donald Trump to decide whether to abandon the deal and reimpose sanctions against the country.

Macron's comments came during a three-day visit to Australia, during which the two nations signed a range of agreements, including a pact to strengthen defense ties.

The two leaders were also expected to discuss China's growing influence in the South Pacific. Australia has become concerned about increasing Chinese investment in infrastructure projects in the area, especially reports — denied by Beijing — that it wants establish a permanent military base in Vanuatu. This follows China's contentious claiming of islands in recent years in the South China Sea.

Macron was scheduled to depart today for New Caledonia, a French-controlled island near Vanuatu, which will hold a referendum in November on breaking away from France's protection and becoming a republic.

While Macron and Turnbull did not specifically confirm they discussed China during their Sydney meetings. But when asked about Beijing's South Pacific push at a joint news conference, the two

France, Australia call on China to observe rules

leaders were eager to stress the need for lawful development in the area.

"China's rise is very good news for everybody. It's good for China itself, its middle classes, and it's good for global growth, and regional growth," Macron said. "What's important is to preserve a rules-based development in the region, especially in the Indo-Pacific region, and to preserve the necessary balances in the region."

"And it's important not to have any hegemony in the region," he said.

Turnbull said the economic rise of China was made possible "by a ruled-based order in our region".

"We welcome further Chinese investment in our region. We welcome the benefits of the growth of China. But of course we are committed to the maintenance of the rules-based international order, to good governance, strong standards, that will enable us all to continue this remarkable arc of prosperity that has been enabled by that rule of law," Turnbull said.

Turnbull cited an oft-used quote from former Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew in pushing for mutual respect among nations in Asia, saying "big fish cannot eat little fish, and little fish cannot eat shrimps." Macron added: "And especially New Caledonian shrimps."

France is the only European nation with direct territorial links

to Pacific region countries, which play a role in its defense building. It has more than 1.5 million citizens and 8,000 military personnel spread across several territories in the Pacific and Indian oceans.

Macron said he was keen for France to build a broader strategic relationship with Australia. Already, a French company Naval Group is building Australia's new fleet of 12 submarines at a facility in Adelaide, under a deal worth \$36.3 billion.

Also as part of Macron's visit, France and Australia signed pacts to strengthen military ties, both through cooperation in maritime activities and the establishment of an annual Franco-Australian defense industry symposium.

Macron also expressed a desire for France to be "at the heart" of the Indo-Pacific region.

"I believe we have one shared goal, that is to turn our two countries to place them at the heart of a new axis, an Indo-Pacific axis," Macron said.

Asked about growing tensions about Iran's nuclear weapons capabilities, Macron said that regardless of Trump's May 12 decision a new agreement should be negotiated with Teheran.

Macron, who visited Washington last week, said Trump responded "positively" to his recent suggestion for a new agreement while he had also "exchanged about that" in the past few days with Iranian President Hassan

Rouhani and Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

Macron said whatever Trump's coming decision, a broader deal was needed because "nobody wants a war in the region and nobody wants an escalation in terms of tension in the region."

With trade talks also a key part of the visit, Macron said France would support formal talks on a free trade deal between Australia and the European Union after it found solutions to concerns it had on agriculture.

The countries also signed agreements to counter cyberwarfare and on committing to strategies addressing climate change, including working to make coral reefs in the Pacific more resilient.

Macron also used a ceremony commemorating Australia's wartime cooperation with France to highlight a global worldview as a counter to nationalism.

A week after criticizing Trump's "America first" policies on his trip to Washington, and hours after a May Day gathering of European anti-immigration populist leaders and violent right-wing protests in his home country, Macron said the Australia's wartime sacrifice in Europe should serve as "a powerful message at a time when nationalism is looming, entrenched behind its borders and its hostility to the rest of the world."

"No great nation has ever been built by turning its back on the world," he said. AP



Macron (left) puts his arm around Turnbull

USA | RUSSIAGATE

No collusion? Leak shows Mueller wants to ask Trump about it

Mary Clare Jalonick, Washington

PRESIDENT Donald Trump is angrily protesting a leaked list of questions that the Justice Department's special counsel may want to ask him, while at the same time contending the list shows anew there was no crime or collusion with the Russians by his presidential campaign. But the questions suggest that investigators want to focus on collusion and obstruction of justice.

The questions, some 49 in all, were published by The New York Times, which said they were compiled by Trump's lawyers during negotiations with special counsel Robert Mueller's investigators over a possible interview with the president himself. The Times said it got the list from someone "outside Mr. Trump's legal team."

A person familiar with the matter, who insisted on anonymity to discuss ongoing negotiations, told The Associated Press that the Trump lawyers extrapolated a list of expected questions based off conversations with Mueller's team. The questions contained in a document posted online by the Times yesterday [Macau time] reflected questions that defense lawyers anticipated rather than verbatim queries that Mueller's team provided, the person said.

The leak was "so disgraceful," Trump tweeted yesterday. "No questions on Collusion," he said, "collusion that never existed." That's the idea that his presidential campaign collaborated with Russians who were trying to help him to the Oval Office. As for obstruction of the investigation after he took office, he scoffed, "It would be very hard to obstruct justice for a crime that never happened!"



There's still no word from the White House as to whether Trump will sit down to answer these questions or others for the investigation.

Some takeaways from the list:

OBSTRUCTION IS A KEY FOCUS

It has long been clear that Mueller is interested in whether Trump may have obstructed justice. The questions published by the Times show just how much of a focus it could be.

Although Mueller's team has indicated to Trump's lawyers that he's not considered a "target" of the probe, investigators want to interview him about several episodes early in his term.

The bulk of the questions focus on the firing of FBI Director James Comey, Trump's relationship with Attorney General Jeff Sessions, whom he has angrily criticized for recusing him-

self from the Russia probe, and his former national security adviser, Michael Flynn. According to Comey, Trump encouraged Comey to drop an investigation into Flynn.

The questions attempt to drill down into Trump's conflicting public answers for his reasons for firing Comey — in one interview he referenced "this Russia thing" — and ask him about the decision more directly.

"Regarding the decision to fire Mr. Comey: When was it made? Why? Who played a role?" reads one question.

COLLUSION IS STILL A FOCUS, TOO

Despite Trump's dismissal of the idea, the list does appear to indicate that Mueller is looking into possible collusion or coordination with Russia. Some touch on Russian meddling in the U.S. election and whether the

Trump campaign coordinated in any way with the Kremlin. One question asks what Trump knew about members of his campaign staff, including former campaign chairman Paul Manafort, reaching out to Moscow.

Mueller has brought several charges against Manafort already, including money laundering and bank fraud. None of the charges relates to allegations of Russian election interference and possible coordination with Trump associates, and Manafort has denied having anything to do with any such effort.

Another question asks what discussions Trump may have had regarding "any meeting" with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Still another asks what the president may have known about a possible attempt by his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, to set up a back channel with Russia before the U.S. inauguration.

MUELLER IS WATCHING TRUMP'S TWEETS

At least two questions directly address tweets from the president.

One asks: "What was the purpose of your May 12, 2017, tweet?" That references a tweet Trump posted after reports that Comey described a private dinner with the president in personal memos. Comey wrote in a memo that Trump repeatedly asked him for loyalty.

"James Comey better hope that there are no 'tapes' of our conversations before he starts leaking to the press!" Trump tweeted.

Another question asks about tweets in which Trump suggested Comey should be investigated for the way he handled an investigation into Hillary Clinton's emails.

The questions also reference television interviews that Trump has given.

WILL TRUMP ACTUALLY FACE THESE QUESTIONS?

It's still unclear whether Mueller's investigators will be able to ask Trump any questions — or whether these are the ones they would ask. Trump has said he wants to talk to Mueller. But more recently, he and his team of lawyers, which has undergone changes in recent months, have not said when — or if.

It's also not clear whether the leak of the questions was meant to somehow influence whether Trump will do the interview.

Comey, in an interview, gave an opinion that steered clear of politics and sounded like the law enforcement official he used to be: "Just as we've done in many investigations, you want to develop a complete understanding of the facts and then check them with the subject and see what they say about it."

In the meantime, Mueller's investigation continues. On Tuesday, the special counsel's office and Flynn, a key cooperator, agreed to put off setting his sentencing date for another 60 days, saying the delay was necessary "due to the status" of the investigation. **AP**

MAY DAY

109 in custody in Paris over demonstrations violence



A total of 109 people were in custody yesterday after May Day protests against reforms by French President Emmanuel Macron turned violent in the French capital, Paris police said.

Heated demonstrations on Tuesday saw six cars torched, a McDonald's restaurant smashed up and vandalism at automobile shops.

Those in custody yesterday are suspected of offenses that include carrying prohibited weapons and firing projectiles.

Though several people were injured — including a police service worker — and even hospitalized, France's Interior Minister said yesterday on France 2 Television he was pleased "no one was seriously injured."

Opposition figures seized upon Macron's absence — on a visit to Australia — to paint an image of disorder in a country without a leader amid criticism that police did not act quickly enough to pacify the violence.

Macron responded from Sydney: "There is a government. There is a state that's being run and it will continue to react."

Paris Police Prefect Michel Delpuech said that the violence was carried out by masked attackers from a libertarian group called the Black Blocs that numbered around 1,200 people in total and were on the margins of the 20,000-strong protest.

He added that "the desire of the radical activists was to spiral the day out of control."

INTERNET

Facebook's new dating feature is questioned at Nordea funds

Kati Pohjanpalo

THE Nordea funds that black-listed Facebook Inc. for privacy risks are now questioning the social media giant's decision to expand into a dating service that will rely on highly sensitive personal information being shared.

"Facebook needs 3 years to fix the data and privacy issues, but just found time to launch a dating feature and take on Tinder," Sasja Beslik, head of sustainable investing at Nordea Asset Management, wrote on Twitter.

Facebook unveiled the dating feature earlier this week, sending shares of competing services lower. Chief Executive Officer Mark Zuckerberg acknowledged that the company needs "to do more to keep people safe but we will also keep building."

Ali Mogharabi, an analyst with Morningstar Investment Service, said such a service could give Facebook a whole new avenue for growing its advertising business.

In an effort to address concerns about privacy and data collection, Facebook



BLOOMBERG

says it's working on a "clear history" tool that will give users the option of scrubbing their accounts of data sent to the social network via outside websites and apps. The Menlo Park, California-based company said the feature, which will take several months to build, is a response to feedback showing that users want more control over their personal information.

Despite the data scandal, Facebook reported a 49 percent jump in revenue in the first quarter, beating analysts'

estimates and sending the company's shares about 10 percent higher on April 26, when it published the results.

Beslik is known for taking strong stances on stocks where he thinks there might be problems with environmental, social and governance issues. In March, he blocked Nordea's sustainable funds from investing in Facebook, citing privacy risks. Beslik once even banned the fund from adding Nordea Bank AB shares, amid a tax avoidance probe. **Bloomberg**

Watchdog: Global military spending up by 1.1 percent

GLOBAL military spending rose to USD1.739 trillion last year, a 1.1 percent increase on 2016, a Swedish arms watchdog said yesterday.

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, or SIPRI, said China continued its upward trend that has lasted for more than two decades, Russian expenditure fell for the first time since 1998, and the United States' military spending remained constant for the second consecutive year.

Presenting the report, SIPRI chairman Jan Eliasson said that "continuing high world military expenditure is a cause for serious concern," adding that "it undermines the search for peaceful solutions to conflicts around the world."

SIPRI said the five biggest spenders in 2017 were the United States, China, Saudi Arabia, Russia and India, which together accounted for 60 percent of the total.

Military spending accounted for 2.2 percent of global gross domestic product in 2017.

Nan Tian, a SIPRI researcher said that, globally speaking, "the weight of military spending is clearly shifting away from the Euro-Atlantic region."

Tian added that the hike in military expenditure is largely due to substantial growth in spending by countries in Asia, Oceania and the Middle East, singling out China, India and Saudi Arabia.

The institute said military expenditure in Asia and Oceania rose for the 29th successive year.

China increased its military spending by 5.6 percent to \$228 billion in 2017. Its share of global military expenditure has risen from 5.8 percent in 2008 to 13 percent in 2017.

Russia, at \$66.3 billion, made the largest decrease, down 20 percent on 2016. **AP**

WELCOME TO Playmate's Club
花心公子俱樂部

WILD NIGHT OUT

EVERY WEDNESDAY
ALL GUEST DRINKS & BLACK LABEL BOTTLE
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE ALL NIGHT
所有杯裝飲品 & 支裝黑牌威士忌
全晚買1送1

D2 CLUB
www.d2clubmacau.com

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edif. New Orleans 111
澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良路 111
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

WELCOME TO Playmate's Club
花心公子俱樂部

WILD NIGHT OUT

*Come and buy a Standard drink Mop45 only
You can see a European Striptease Show*

Business Hours: 8:00pm-4:00am

Attention
No admission under 18

Address: Basement, Hotel Guia, Macau Tel: 28532081 www-macauplaymatesclub.com

what's ON



IN LOVE WITH MACAU – CALLIGRAPHY AND PAINTINGS OF MACAU

TIME: 10am-7pm (last admission 6:30pm; closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: August 12, 2018

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

VISUAL THINKING – CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

TIME: 2pm-7pm (Closed on Sundays)

UNTIL: May 19, 2018

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: Center for Creative Industries, G/F Macau Cultural Centre Building, Xian Xing Hai

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 3282

TAIPA ANCHORAGE: NAMES OF THE PAST AND THE PRESENT

TIME: 10am-7pm (Closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: June 18, 2018

VENUE: Taipa Houses – Nostalgic House

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

THE EXHIBITION “SWISS STYLE NOW”

TIME: 10am-9pm

UNTIL: June 17, 2018

VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery, located at No. 95, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

MONKEY KING

TIME: 4pm & 8pm daily (except on Thursdays)

VENUE: Sands Cotai Theatre

ADMISSION: MOP380, MOP480, MOP680, MOP980, MOP1280

COTAI TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818

KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

Offbeat

PHILLY NAKED BIKE RIDE TO FEATURE BODY-PAINTING EXHIBITION



Participants of the naked bike ride in Philadelphia in 2011

The City of Brotherly Love apparently loves getting naked.

The annual ride of naked bicyclists through Philadelphia's streets has been so popular organizers are teaming up with the artist behind New York City's Bodypainting Day to launch another body-painting event. Philly Bodypainting Day will debut Sept. 8, the day of the 10th Philly Naked Bike Ride.

Nude public body painting will take place before the bike ride starts.

The ride protests dependence on fossil fuels, advocates for bike safety and promotes positive body image. About 3,000 cyclists and artists from around the country are expected.

Philly Bodypainting Day is being presented by Bodypaint.Me and Human Connection Arts, a nonprofit organization that promotes artistic expression and body acceptance through events such as NYC Bodypainting Day.

Bodypaint.Me artist Matt Deifer says he's excited "to showcase all of this art."

TV canal macau



| | |
|-------|--|
| 13:00 | TDM News (Repeated) |
| 13:30 | News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast |
| 15:00 | Miscellaneous |
| 17:50 | Miscellaneous |
| 18:35 | What's Up |
| 19:00 | Brazilian Soap Opera (Repeated) |
| 19:50 | Portuguese Serie |
| 20:30 | Main News, Financial & Weather Report |
| 21:00 | Miscellaneous |
| 21:35 | Non-daily Portuguese News |
| 21:40 | Portuguese Serie |
| 22:15 | Brazilian Soap Opera |
| 23:00 | TDM News |
| 23:30 | Champions League Highlights |
| 23:50 | Miscellaneous |
| 00:25 | Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated) |
| 01:05 | RTPi Live |

cinema



CINETEATRO

03 - 09 MAY



AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

ROOM 1
2:30, 6:00, 9:00pm

ROOM 2
4:30pm

Director: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo

Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 149min



RAMPAGE

ROOM 2
2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Brad Peyton

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Naomie Harris, Malin Akerman

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 107min



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

THE THROUGH

ROOM 3

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

Director: Nick Cheung

Starring: Nick Cheung, Xu Jing Lei, He Jiong, Miu Kiu Wai

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

this day in history



1990 LATVIA TO DECLARE INDEPENDENCE

Members of the new parliament of the Soviet republic of Latvia have met to discuss independence from Moscow.

Leaders of the Latvian Popular Front are confident they can muster the majority they need to change the constitution.

In March this year, neighbouring Lithuania became the first Soviet republic to pass a unilateral declaration of independence. In retaliation, the Kremlin shut off supplies of crude oil and natural gas.

Latvia is hoping to avoid a similar confrontation with the USSR's President Mikhail Gorbachev by calling for a transition period before full independence takes effect.

This morning, their elected representatives led a procession to a memorial in the capital, Riga, dedicated to those who fought and died for Latvian independence after World War 1.

The Lithuanian president, a guest at today's opening of parliament, had this advice for the Latvians - "Courage!"

One strategy put forward was to adopt parts of the Soviet constitution to avoid being accused of breaking the law.

"We have to avoid any confrontation because it would be useless, unproductive," said Nikolai Neiland, head of the Independent Communist Party.

Russian demonstrators outside the parliament building held up banners reminding politicians inside that almost half of Latvia's population is ethnically Russian and that independence might provoke a backlash.

Also out on the streets of Riga were groups of Soviet paratroops. They say they are here for a parade but nationalists believe their presence is a crude reminder of Soviet power.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The following day the Latvian parliament declared "de jure" independence of Republic of Latvia. President Gorbachev could not resist pressure from hardliners in Moscow determined to prevent the break-up of the Soviet Union, and he issued a decree annulling the declaration.

Then in January 1991 Soviet special troops stormed and took over Latvia's Interior Ministry building.

The occupation continued until the failed Moscow coup in August that year, when the Latvian parliament voted for full independence and banned the Communist Party.

A few weeks later, on 7 September, Russia's President Boris Yeltsin recognized the independence of Latvia and its Baltic neighbours Estonia and Lithuania. All three were admitted into the United Nations the same month.

Moscow hardliners were particularly concerned for the large numbers of ethnic Russians and other migrants who live in the Baltic states.

In fact, tough legislation was soon introduced making it very difficult for Russians to gain Latvian citizenship.

But the law was eventually modified after international criticism.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19

It's not that you live for conflict, competition, and aggression - not at all. It's just that you happen to be, well, an adrenaline junkie.

Taurus April 20-May 20

You've never been famous for your love of surprises and sudden change. Still, if anyone knows about all work and no play, it's you - so when something unusual and unexpected happens.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21

When you meet someone new, you have a very specific way of 'interviewing' them for the position of friend, lover, or long-term partner.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Regardless of what the weather happens to be, you're in the mood for a rainy day - not because you're depressed, though.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Every now and then, life has a funny way of putting us in positions we're not happy about, one of which is being forced to make a decision we'd rather have absolutely no part of.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Still thinking a lot more about staying in and getting to know your babe better than you have in some time? Well, then, you go right ahead.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22

Your loyalty to a friend, family member or lover is about to be rewarded - big time. You won't expect it, because you didn't do whatever it was to be recognized or given a great big pat on the back.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You've never been a big fan of the spotlight - that's no secret - but when you're forced into it, whether it's for a second or an afternoon, you rise to the occasion like a champ.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Every sign has at least one 'guilty pleasure.' Travel is at the very top of your sign's list right now, and you may not have indulged yourself in it for what seems like a very long time.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Most people buy gifts when the occasion calls for it, like birthdays, holidays or congratulatory events, for example. Not you. You're far more prone to give someone something...

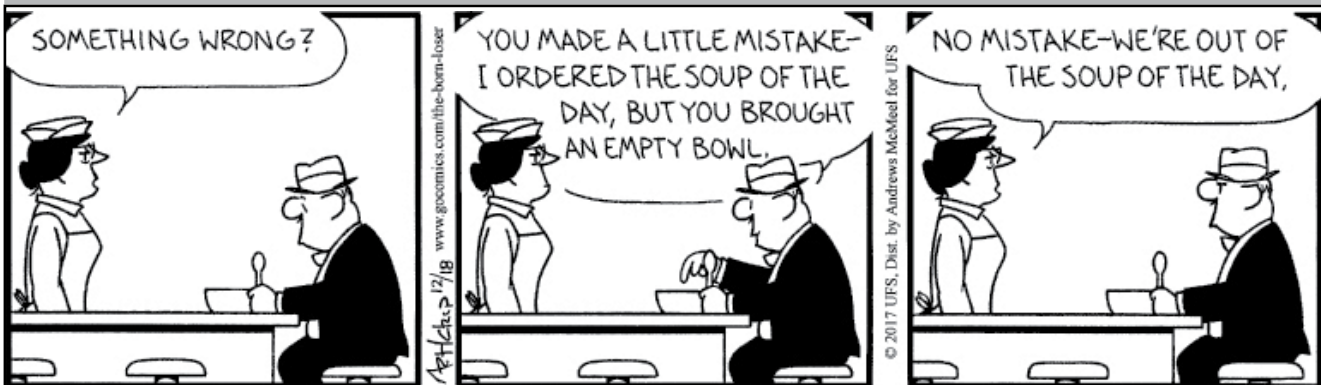
Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18

So when - someone who cares a great deal for you suddenly makes a grand demonstration of their feelings for you don't be embarrassed if a bit of color comes to your cheeks.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20

If anyone out there is familiar with the concept of melodrama, it's you - because when your emotional cup is full, it really runs over. That may well be the case now.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

Easy Sudoku grid with numbers 3, 2, 8, 1, 1, 2, 2, 8, 7, 4, 2, 8, 7, 9, 6, 4, 7, 9, 5, 6, 8, 5, 7, 3, 5, 6, 4, 7, 2.

Easy+

Easy+ Sudoku grid with numbers 3, 1, 8, 1, 7, 3, 8, 6, 3, 7, 6, 9, 5, 1, 7, 3, 7, 4, 1, 3, 7, 4, 2, 4, 8, 4, 5, 7.

Medium

Medium Sudoku grid with numbers 3, 8, 2, 4, 6, 1, 5, 9, 4, 2, 5, 3, 7, 6, 8, 1, 1, 4, 2, 5, 6, 3, 7, 1, 8, 4, 5, 9.

Hard

Hard Sudoku grid with numbers 5, 3, 2, 1, 4, 3, 7, 6, 5, 1, 8, 2, 6, 7, 4, 5, 2.

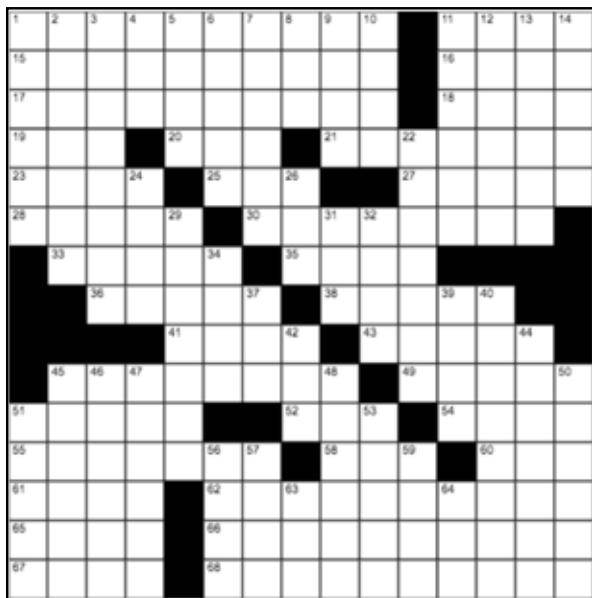
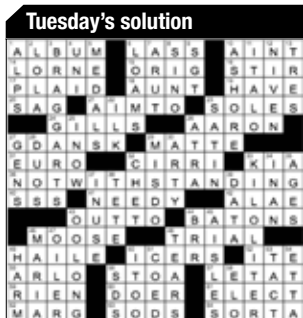
WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns: CHINA, MIN, MAX, CONDITION. Lists cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc. and world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Capital of California; 11- Freelancer's encl.; 15- Constraint; 16- Rent-; 17- Art of government; 18- Prefix with drama; 19- Cigarette ingredient; 20- Singer's syllable; 21- Eye issue; 23- homo; 25- Keats work; 27- "Mule Train" singer; 28- Janeiro; 30- Class; 33- Father; 35- Greek island in the Aegean; 36- Fertile soils; 38- I can help it; 41- Silver screen; 43- Battery type; 45- Surroundings; 49- Harvest goddess; 51- Wedge; 52- Moines, Iowa; 54- Univ. recruiting group; 55- Shrink; 58- Definite article; 60-S.A. country; 61- South American monkey; 62- Full of speech; 65- Individuals; 66- Authorization to sell; 67- Open infection, painful; 68- Appraisal;

DOWN: 1- Female sibling; 2- Tums, e.g.; 3- Carbonaceous material; 4- Mus. slow-up; 5- Assist, often in a criminal act; 6- Small beginning; 7- Online brokerage; 8- Actress Vardalos; 9- Bean curd; 10- Airing; 11- From an Aegean island; 12- Pertaining to vinegar; 13- Salty; 14- Uneven, as if gnawed away; 22- Flexible; 24- Corn of the taro; 26- North American deer; 29- Appetite; 31- Poet's dusk; 32- Continue; 34- Primordial giant in Norse myth; 37- Cone; 39- Champagne bucket; 40- Fierce; 42- Wrap up; 44- Exit a railroad conveyance; 45- Pacific weather phenomenon; 46- Less cluttered; 47- Suitcase; 48- Colonize; 50- Carve; 51- The Younger and The Elder; 53- Clogs, e.g.; 56- Fizzy drink; 57- Very, in Vichy; 59- Slips; 63- Small batteries; 64- Belief;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



AD

Real estate advertisement for JML Property. Includes 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' sections with details for properties like Chun Hung Garden, Caçada da Surpresa, The Buckingham, Violet Court, etc. Includes JML Property logo and contact info.



ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

Services

TRANSLATIONS,
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

Languages:

ENGLISH, CHINESE,
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,
KOREAN, SPANISH,
FRENCH, ARABIC,
RUSSIAN

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms. Amy Yang

Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo

Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edf. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

FOOTBALL | CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Real Madrid reaches third straight final

Tales Azzoni, Madrid

LAST time, it was a late penalty. This time, a goalkeeping blunder. Real Madrid keeps finding ways to get out of trouble in the Champions League.

Madrid conceded early again at home and barely held on for a draw 2-2 against Bayern in yesterday's semifinal match, advancing 4-3 on aggregate to stay on track for a third consecutive European title. But with Cristiano Ronaldo held scoreless for the second time in as many games, Madrid needed a blunder from Bayern goalkeeper Sven Ulreich to gift them their second — and crucial — goal on the night.

"It's a Champions League semifinal. You will always suffer," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "Nothing is easy. Football is like that, you have to suffer. And when you win, it feels even better, although it's not too good for your heart."

Joshua Kimmich scored for Bayern in the third minute to set the stage for another comeback at the Santiago Bernabeu, like the one Juventus nearly pulled off in the quarterfinals before Ronaldo converted an injury-time penalty.

But the hosts reacted quicker this time, with Karim Benzema equalizing early in the first half and scoring again just after halftime after an embarrassing mistake by Ulreich when he allowed a back pass into the area to go underneath him.

Bayern went within a goal of eliminating the European champions when former Madrid player James Rodriguez scored in the 63rd, and it pressured the hosts until the end, but it was not enough to avoid a third straight elimination against the Spanish club.

"We were the best team in both games but we were not able to reach the final," Bayern coach Jupp Heynckes said. "We dominated. They should thank [goalkeeper Keylor Navas for his performance, especially toward the end of the match]."

The German club, which has now been knocked out in the Champions League semifinals in four of the last five seasons, had several good chances in the final minutes but was unable to capitalize.

By successfully defending its 2-1 win from last week, Madrid stayed on track for a third consecutive European title, and fourth in five seasons.

Europe's most successful club with 12 trophies, Madrid will play the final against either Liverpool or Roma, which played today in Italy [after closing time].

"It was a crazy match," Zida-



Real Madrid's Karim Benzema celebrates after scoring his side's opening goal

ne said. "We struggled in the beginning, conceding early and not being able to play our game. But it was a lot better in the second half. We pressed up front and got the second goal."

Bayern started well and easily created scoring chances, while Madrid tried to control possession but only threatened on counterattacks with the speed of Ronaldo and Marco Asensio up front.

Kimmich netted from inside the area after Madrid captain Sergio Ramos failed to clear a ball crossed into the area by Corentin Tolisso.

It was an eerily similar start

to Madrid's match against Juventus, when it conceded in the second minute while trying to protect a 3-0 first-leg advantage. Madrid conceded twice more in that game but eventually advanced thanks to Ronaldo's injury-time penalty.

This time, Madrid reacted a lot more quickly, with Benzema equalizing in the 11th with a firm header after a well-placed cross from the left by Marcelo.

Benzema hasn't been playing regularly as a starter and was a surprise addition to the lineup by Zidane. He had scored only once in his last 12 appearances in all competitions.

"It was a perfect night for me and for everyone," Benzema said.

The French striker gave Madrid a 2-1 lead after Ulreich's howler. The goalkeeper appeared to lose his footing while trying to get to the ball and seemed to hesitate to stop it with his hands before missing it entirely as he went to the ground. That allowed Benzema to run onto the ball for an easy finish into an open net.

"It was tough to concede that goal so early in the second half," Heynckes said. "It was a gift."

Bayern wasn't done yet and Rodriguez equalized with a low shot from inside the area. The

Colombian playmaker didn't celebrate, instead raising his hands in an almost apologetic gesture to the home fans.

Bayern unsuccessfully appealed for a handball by Marcelo just before halftime, when the Madrid defender appeared to be just inside the area.

"I'd be lying if I said the ball didn't touch my hand," the Brazilian left back said. "And if it touched my hand, I think it was [a penalty]."

We struggled in the beginning, conceding early and not being able to play our game. But it was a lot better in the second half.

ZIZOU

Meanwhile Robert Lewandowski continued to struggle up front, as he went a fifth straight Champions League game without a goal for the first time in his career.

Madrid, playing in its 250th Champions League match, is the first team to make it to three European finals in a row since Juventus from 1996-98. AP

Madrid keeps adding to its European dominance

SURROUNDED by fans and holding a microphone in his hand, Real Madrid captain Sergio Ramos joined the Santiago Bernabeu faithful in song: "Kings of Europe. We are the kings of Europe."

There is still one more Champions League match to go, but Madrid certainly has a claim to that throne.

"We are happy, and for good reason," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "It's not normal to make it to the final in three consecutive seasons. Definitely it's not normal. But here we are again, and we will try to defend our title any way we can."

Two-time defending champion Madrid reached yet another Champions League final by eliminating Bayern Munich in the semifinals. It will be the team's fourth appearance in the final in the last five years.

Already a 12-time champion, Madrid will now try to become the first team to win three consecutive titles in the current Champions League format. Last season, it became the first to win two in a row.

"It's not about this team, it's about this club," Zidane said. "It has a long history, one that started a very long time ago. And now we are adding another chapter to it. Others have done it before us, and now it's our time to do it."

Zidane was still a player when he helped

Madrid win its ninth Champions League title in 2002, but after that the club went more than a decade without even making it to the final. It wasn't until Carlo Ancelotti took over that Madrid returned to glory in 2014, and then Zidane — in his first head-coaching job — led the team to consecutive trophies in 2016 and 2017.

"What we have is this never-give-up attitude," Zidane said. "Even when facing significant difficulties, as it happened against a great rival like Bayern. We keep believing and we keep fighting, and that's how we reach our goals."

Madrid has become the first team to twice play in three straight finals in the top European club competition. It first did it when it won five straight titles when the competition started from 1956-60. Its other trophies came in 1966, 1998 and 2000.

AC Milan is the team closest to Madrid in European titles with seven. Ajax (1971-73) and Bayern (1974-76) are the only other teams besides Madrid to have won with three consecutive trophies.

It hasn't been an easy path to the final for Madrid this season. After eliminating Paris Saint-Germain in the last 16, it nearly squandered a 3-0 lead against Juventus in the quarterfinals. And yesterday it came very close to relinquishing a 2-1 advantage



against Bayern.

"We've beaten three enormous teams," Zidane said. "You are not going to do that without suffering. We need to be very happy with what we've done."

Madrid conceded early against Bayern, just like it did against Juventus, but Karim Benzema scored twice — including after an embarrassing mistake by Bayern goalkeeper Sven Ulreich — and the hosts held on after James Rodriguez left the Germans a goal away from avoiding their third consecutive elimination against the Spanish powerhouse.

"It's not easy to get to four finals in five years," Madrid midfielder Luka Modric said. "We are very happy because we are doing incredible things, it's amazing. We are one step away and I hope we can get our hands on another trophy." AP

opinion

Made in Macao

Jenny Lao-Phillips



CHINESE COMFORT FOOD FOR 'MACAOIANS'

During an attempt to survey the local Chinese on what they believe are comfort foods for us – as Macaroni and Cheese is to North Americans – some interesting findings came up. While the concept of comfort food is nothing new to western people, especially for English speakers, I was surprised to realize that, after so many years of East meets West in Macao, there is no translation or even similar phrase for the concept in Chinese.

In fact, after consulting the mighty world-wide-web the only translation offered was a literal kind involving the two words 'comfort 舒服' and 'food 食物', but putting these two together to say "comfortable food" makes no sense at all in Chinese.

So, to better communicate the concept, I explained to my interviewees, who did not understand the English concept of comfort food, that it refers to food that is usually something simple, which we would miss when we are away from home. And even when we are at home, whenever we are feeling down, comfort food is what we feel like eating to make ourselves feel good. With this explanation, I received a few suggestions for comfort food that fit the western definition of the concept, foods which provides nostalgic value and are often high in calories and carbohydrates.

At the top of the list is 白粥+腸粉, plain congee and steamed vermicelli roll, a popular choice for breakfast by people in Hong Kong and Macao. For those who haven't tried this local comfort food, the steamed vermicelli rolls are made by rolling up a flattened piece of dough made from rice paste, and then are cut into small round cubes and served with thick sesame sauce and sweet sauce.

I remember when I was in primary school, there were a few small shops selling plain congee and steamed vermicelli rolls nearby, and many families would enjoy this super high calorie breakfast together before sending their children to school. They are a bit like fast food – the congee is often pre-made and the rolls of steamed vermicelli just need to be cut up and they can be served quickly. What's more, customers can choose what kind of and the amount of sauce they want, enjoying customization. That's probably why lots of people in Macao enjoyed a breakfast like this before going to work. Even convenience stores like the Circle K at commercial districts now sell plain congee and steamed vermicelli rolls at breakfast time.

The second most popular Chinese comfort food is wanton noodles. Noodles of any type have always been my comfort food, but to many people, it is not merely noodles they crave, but specifically wanton noodles that give them comfort. Wonton noodles are considered the classic noodles in Hong Kong, but in Macao, many people also consider it 'the' noodles, meaning when they go into a noodles shop, they order wanton noodles without a second thought. Perhaps the familiarity of choosing wanton noodles make one long for them when away from home.

Finally, and most surprisingly, a few people told me their comfort food is the egg tart, but not the Portuguese egg tart in Macao. The old-style steamed, sweet-eggs-on-the-inside, fluffy crust kind of egg tart often found in a traditional Hong Kong style café. With so many kinds of pastries nowadays, we have forgotten that the Chinese egg tart used to be one of very few choices available. And yet, after tasting different kinds of pastries and desserts from different parts of the world in the various shops and restaurants available in Macao, we long for the simple old-style egg tart. From the responses about comfort food, I think the Macanese are people who like efficiency, do not like too many choices, and yet, want a certain level of uniqueness.

THE BUZZ BENFICA MACAU TRASHES TAIWANESE TEAM 4-1 IN TAIPEI

Benfica de Macau last night beat Taiwanese team Hang Yuen FC 4-1 at the Taipei Municipal Stadium in the second leg of the Asia Football Confederation (AFC) Cup group stage.

The local club opened the score with a potent kick by Nicholas Torrão at minute 10, but the Taiwan side leveled 8 minutes later with Chinghsuan Chen. In a very disputed first-half Benfica scored again with an own-goal by a Taiwanese defender to take over the leadership of the match until the final whistle, scoring two goals in the second half by Edgar Teixeira (76 min) and, again, by Torrão (88 min).

Benfica won the first leg match last month at the Macau Olympic Stadium in Taipa 3-2 in a nerve-racking match that saw the Macau side



fall behind 0-2 by half-time. Benfica is placed second in Group I of the AFC Cup. Only the first team of each group advances to the knock-out phase.

| Station | Air quality | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---|
| Roadside | 25-45 Good | 😊 |
| High Density Residential Area | 25-45 Good | 😊 |
| Ambient | 25-45 Good | 😊 |

WORLD BRIEFS



ARMENIA The opposition leader spearheading weeks of protests in Armenia warned the government yesterday not to deploy troops as his supporters blocked roads, cut access to the country's main airport and occupied at least one municipal building.

LIBYA Islamic State suicide bombers attacked Libya's election commission in the capital yesterday, killing at least 14 people in the worst such attack in years that aimed to disrupt a nation-wide vote planned for later this year.

GERMANY Chancellor Angela Merkel says the nuclear treaty with Iran should be preserved, but urged Israel to quickly share the purported new intelligence about Tehran's nuclear program with the International Atomic Energy Agency.



SPAIN The Basque militant group ETA says it has "completely dissolved all its structures" after a 60-year armed independence campaign, but the Spanish government vowed yesterday not to abandon the investigation of crimes from the group's violent past.

BRAZIL Several thousand people have protested the jailing of former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in the southeastern Brazilian city where he is serving a sentence for corruption.

US-CANADA A group of Democratic senators says the U.S. should audit the job Canada is doing to protect endangered whales, but the Canadian government and some U.S. scientists are reacting coolly to the idea.



President of France, Emmanuel Macron (center) holds up his glass to Lucy Turnbull, wife of Australian PM Malcolm Turnbull, during a dinner hosted at the Sydney Opera House

Faux pas: Macron says Turnbull's wife 'delicious'

Trevor Marshallsea, Sydney

WAS it a Freudian slip by French President Emmanuel Macron? A joke linked to French gastronomy? Or even, a week after his visit to Washington, a parody of President Donald Trump's infamous comments about Macron's wife?

Whatever the case, Macron raised eyebrows in Sydney yesterday by calling Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's wife "delicious."

Wrapping up a joint news conference during his brief Australian visit, Macron moved to thank the Turnbulls for their hospitality.

"I want to thank you for your welcome, thank you and your delicious wife for your warm welcome," he said.

The comment quickly sparked some lighthearted reaction on social media and in the Australian press amid lively conjecture about the French leader's intent.

"Macron just said he wanted to thank Mal-

colm Turnbull and his 'delicious wife'. You can take the man out of France but ...," tweeted Alice Workman, a journalist.

■ 'You can take the man out of France but ...,' tweeted Alice Workman, a journalist

Australian ABC News tweeted, "Lost in translation: Emmanuel Macron thanks the PM's 'delicious wife.'"

Despite Macron's deadpan delivery, some observers felt he may have been making a joke. Turnbull had just mentioned Macron's imminent lunch with members of Sydney's French community, and had followed with comments about French gastronomy and wine.

Pardoning generalizations about the French obsession with food, Ma-

cron minutes earlier had also been talking about shrimp, picking up on Turnbull's comment relating to China's growing influence in the South Pacific, when the Australian leader said that "big fish cannot eat little fish, and little fish cannot eat shrimp."

Others felt Macron may simply have slipped up in his use of English, since the French word for delicious – délicieux – also translates as "delightful."

The more mischievous may have even considered Macron's comment to possibly be a tongue-in-cheek reference to Trump's visit to Paris last year, when he was caught telling Macron's wife, Brigitte, that she was "in such great shape," before looking to her husband and saying, "Beautiful."

In any case, the moment made headlines in Australia as a somewhat comedic ending to a serious news conference focusing on violent May Day protests in Paris, the Iran nuclear deal and China's growing influence. AP