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FRANCE REWARDS MIGRANT WHO SAVED DANGLING CHILD

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Wong praises joint borders, police body cams

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WORLD BRIEFS

SOUTH CHINA SEA The Philippine foreign secretary said yesterday that China has been notified of "red lines" in the South China Sea, including construction activities at a disputed shoal and extraction of oil and gas in the long-contested waters.



MALAYSIA New Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday that a planned high-speed railway that would cut travel time between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore to just 90 minutes will be axed because it isn't beneficial.
 More on p12



YEMEN-OMAN The death toll from Cyclone Mekunu that hit Oman and Yemen over the weekend rose to at least 13 yesterday, authorities said, as relief workers and aid arrived to hard-hit areas in the two Arabian Peninsula countries.

More on backpage



China approves 13 new Ivanka Trump trademarks in 3 months

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HONG Kong lawmaker Leung Yiu-chung brought the issue of public concern regarding an increase in vehicles on Hong Kong roads and the consequence on traffic congestion up in a legislative enquiry.

He said that residents in the neighboring SAR were "worried that the persistent increase in the quotas for cross-boundary vehicles will overload the local traffic network further, making the shortage of parking spaces more acute, and resulting in more traffic accidents."

In response, Hong Kong's Secretary for Transport and Housing, Frank Chan, argued that the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB) was expected to bring significant development benefits to the three regions of Hong Kong, Macau and south-coastal Guangdong, and that the cost in terms of an increase in the number of vehicles in Hong Kong was marginal.

"The total number of non-local cross-boundary vehicles is less than 1 percent as compared with the local vehicles registered in Hong Kong," said Chan, "and hence the impact is not significant."

The Secretary also said that the traffic accident rate of mainland cross-boundary private cars was much lower than that of local private cars. "Taking the figure in 2017 as an example, the average accident rate of the mainland cross-boundary private cars is 2.2 vehicles (per 1,000 vehicles) which is lower than the corresponding figure of 15.8 (per 1,000 vehicles) of local private cars," he said.

Hong Kong Secretary dismisses concerns over new bridge



Meanwhile, in a related matter, emergency rescue support for operations along the HKZMB have been prepared for the bridge's opening, according to a report by Macao Daily News.

Leung says the increase in the number of vehicles in HK will be marginal

At the end of last year, the HKZMB's main rescue service called for public tenders from the mainland, with the successful tenderer providing professional bridge facility rescue services for a three-year period. A batch of 45 vehicles specializing in emergency rescue and maintenance arrived at the bridge's responsible concessionaire in April.

HKZMB's management, last December, and during the following months of January and March, openly recruited staff for rescue operations. The staff will

serve around-the-clock in the bridge's operation.

The HKZMB rescue base is located mainly on Zhuhai and Macau's artificial island.

On the eastern part of the island, an integrated operation center combining transportation, management, rescue and sight-seeing functions, has been built. It also houses the rescue equipment.

Earlier, HKZMB's management department said that the bridge's management, rescue, and road administration, among other

services, have all been prepared according to professional and international standards.

Hong Kong authorities have previously said that, when an accident takes place on the HKZMB and an emergency rescue service is needed, both mainland and Hong Kong authorities will deploy rescue ambulances, with whichever is first to arrive is obliged to initiate the rescue operations immediately, taking into consideration the fact that the rescue does not involve immigration arrangements.

HEALTH

New Malo dental clinic expected to open next month

THE first of two dental clinics that Paulo Maló pledged to open in Macau one year ago to the Times will soon be launched in Central Macau, Maló told Lusa Agency in Beijing.

"The new space in central Macau will open this month or next," Maló said. This will be the first of two major projects in the region that will also include a second clinic located in Taipa Island, amounting to a total investment of MOP20 million.

According to an interview with the Times last year, Maló stated that

the clinics will operate with the support of local partners. The first clinic was built in partnership with Centro Médico Pedder (Pedder Clinic) which gave an investment of over MOP2 million.

The new clinic is a continuation of the first Maló-branded clinic, located at The Venetian Macao, which was then sold and rebranded as TaivexMalo Clinic.

About six months ago, the Health Bureau suspended the clinic due to concerns surrounding illegal assisted reproductive therapy, as well as the ille-

gal possession and administration of oncological medicines. These factors led to TaivexMalo's operating license being suspended for six months and later, to its eviction from the Cotai resort hotel. The clinic is 90 percent owned by the Chinese company, PHC-Pacific Health Care (PHC)

Although the closure was not directly related to the company, as Maló mentioned at the time, the order given to PHC affected his operations as it included a dental office from Malo.

To Lusa, Maló reaffirmed his intention to return to the space at The Venetian with PHC, in order to continue working on medical tourism (including dental care, cosmetic surgery, dermatology and pediatrics). However, he mentioned that this time he will take the lead in the management of the space.

"We need the space at The Venetian, which has become the largest medical tourism center in Asia, but we will not give up management control, because we have a lot to lose, as we saw by what hap-

pened this time – not only from an economic point of view, but also in [terms of our] reputation," he said.

Commenting on the case being brought by Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU) regarding a debt of about MOP59.6 million (EUR6.3m), Maló noted that such debt is not from his company but from PHC, and that the Malo Clinic is only the guarantor in this process.

"When we sold [90 percent] of Malo in Macau to the Chinese [PHC], the sale price included the debt [to BNU]. What

happens is that in the contract they [PHC] are responsible for paying the debt, and we [as guarantors] are liable [only] if they don't fulfill the payments." This was the case after the company ceased operations in Venetian.

Maló also added that in such a situation, his company will be liable for the debt. However, the payment will be directly related to the size of the share held by PHC, and, as the debt is progressively paid, Maló will gain control over a larger percentage of TaivexMalo Clinic. **RM**

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THE Secretary for Security is positive about the joint implementation of immigration checkpoints across all of Macau's land borders, Wong Sio Chak's office revealed yesterday in response to lawmaker Leong Sun Iok's written inquiry.

"The government has an open attitude regarding the comprehensive implementation of an innovative checkpoint mode of joint checkpoints and one checkpoint across all of Macau's land border gates," the office said.

"At the current stage, it has already been confirmed that the Macau-Zhuhai checkpoint of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge and the Qingmao border [new Macau-Guangdong border crossing] will both adopt the new checkpoint method," the office announced.

Concerning the most frequently used border - the Border Gate - the Office indicated that altering the situation is impractical.

"Due to the design and layout of the Macau Border Gate and the Gongbei Border Gate, nearly all usable spaces have been occupied. In addition, every year, there are 120 million crossings registered [across this border gate]; therefore implementing joint checkpoints will involve large-scale changes in terms of construction on the immigration buildings on both sides," the Office explained.

"The security authority needs to consider the impact of the construction project. After an evaluation of the Qingmao border gate, [the security authority] will then create a proper plan." **JZ**

Gov't: 'Innovative' joint border solution



New Beijing-Macau agreements inked

DURING a visit to Beijing, the Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, attended the launch ceremony the Beijing-Macau Cooperation Partnership 2018, where he called for "open-minded and innovative forms of cooperation," particularly in terms of how to advance the MSAR's participation in the Belt and Road initiative and in the development of the Greater Bay Area.

During yesterday's ceremony, Chui and the Chairman of the Beijing Municipal Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), Ji Lin, witnessed the signing of three agreements regarding respectively: vocational training; Macau's membership of the China World Tourism Heritage Promotion Alliance; and cooperation on winter sports.

The CE said since the inception in 2016 of the Beijing-Macau Cooperation Partnership program, the two places had helped encourage more frequent exchanges among young people and civil servants from both places, as well as patriotic education in Macau.

The government delegation arrived in Beijing on Sunday for a three-day visit. Prior to the launch ceremony of the Beijing-Macau Cooperation Partnership 2018, the delegation attended the 5th China Beijing International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), and the accompanying CIFTIS Global Trade in Services Summit.

The Chief Executive also held a meeting with the Secretary of the Beijing Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China, Cai Qi.

More police officers will be equipped with cameras

Julie Zhu

THE security authority plans to purchase another 100 cameras for frontline police officers, the Secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak, announced yesterday at the press conference about the crime statistics of the first quarter of 2018.

"On March 14, 100 cameras were already put into operation. Until last Saturday, cameras were used in four cases," Wong reported. "Not that every police officer should be equipped with cameras, but the equipment is necessary for law enforcement on some occasions. [We] will add another 100 cameras," he added.

Wong stated that the cameras will be purchased this year. In the first quarter of 2018, the Macau police force filed 3,547 criminal cases, 59 more than in the same period of 2017. An ob-



Wong Sio Chak (second from left)

Until last Saturday, cameras were used in four cases.

WONG SIO CHAK

vious increase has been recorded in robbery. In total, 23 robberies were recorded, representing a 27.8 percent growth.

However, the most significant growth was re-

gistered in the number of illegal appropriations.

In total, 691 of these cases were recorded, 281 more than that in 2017. Of these, 346 cases (up from 169 cases in 2017) were related to residents or tourists who lost their belongings in taxis, an increase of 104 percent.

Illegal imprisonment and drug trafficking offences decreased 41.9 percent and 18.6 percent respectively.

Some 6,886 mainland residents overstayed their visas in Macau, while only 373 people from other regions did so.

"If we can't deport [some people] immediately, [...] we will detain them for 60 days. If we can't keep detaining them [beyond the 60 day period], we will issue a temporary stay permit to them. Currently, there are ten people in this situation," said Wong. According to Wong, 188 people are presently detained at the Public Security Police Force detention center.

Regarding taxi violations, overcharging still topped all taxi infractions. In the first quarter, 1,878 taxi violations

were recorded, 587 more than in the same period of 2017, with 1,192 (63.5 percent) related to overcharging.

When addressing other matters, Secretary Wong revealed that the amendment of the city's national security law is expected to be completed by the beginning of 2019.

Recently, Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam mentioned she would communicate with Macau's government officials concerning entry denials to Hong Kong lawmakers, activists, and journalists.

"The Hong Kong Chief Executive is very aware of the fact that every place has its own immigration policies, and she expressed her respect for that," said Wong.

Wong believes that Macau's immigration policies will not present difficulties to the Greater Bay Area plan.

"On the contrary, the Greater Bay Area needs a safe environment," said Wong.

Once again, Wong noted that "Macau's security situation in 2017 remained, in general, stable and favorable."

CRIME

Baby abandoned at commercial area in Northern district

Renato Marques

RENATO MARQUES



A local woman is suspected of abandoning a baby in the lobby of a shopping center at the Avenida de Tamagnini Barbosa within the Northern district, the Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson said yesterday afternoon during a joint press conference at the PJ headquarters.

The case occurred on Saturday around 7 p.m. when a passer-by sighted a baby alone in a stroller. The witness alerted the police officer on duty at the shopping center, who then transferred the case to the PJ.

According to surveillance camera footage, at 7.03 p.m. a woman entered the mall pushing the stroller. After leaving it in a corner of the lobby area, she used her mobile phone to record the baby before leaving.

The baby was taken to the Conde de Sao Januario Hospital for a check-up and is in a healthy condition. The stroller was found to contain all necessary items to feed and change

the baby. In addition, police found a Hong Kong passport, presumably belonging to the baby, and other mainland travel and medical documents.

While the case is still under investigation, there are few certainties about the facts. However, police suspect that the woman who abandoned the baby is a local 34-year-old woman who previously, on May 24, entered the N.2 Police Station located in the same area with a baby in a stroller

calling for help from the police.

The woman reported that she had been asked to take care of the baby by a friend with whom she had lost contact.

According to the PJ spokesperson, the woman presented documents matching those that were later found in the stroller.

The PJ is now trying to locate the woman to ascertain her motives for abandoning the child.

In a separate case, a local construction worker living across the border in Zhuhai has been accused of physically assaulting his eight-year-old son, who is also a resident of Macau.

The case was reported by the boy's school after the teacher found marks on the child's back, ears and arms.

An examination conducted by the Conde de Sao Januario Hospital indicated that the marks resulted from the infliction of physical violence.

The PJ then intercepted the father at the border crossing of Border Gate and detained him for interrogation.

The man then admitted to physically punishing the child on the evening of May 23, as he allegedly was not paying attention to his studies and continued to play electronic games after being warned not to. In a moment of anger, the man said that he used his belt and hands to physically punish his child.

He has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office to be charged with offences against the physical integrity of another.

Disability access deemed inadequate

NEARLY 70 percent of the city's accessible facility users are dissatisfied with them, according to the latest survey conducted by the Collective Wisdom Policy Center.

The survey collected a total of 1,689 questionnaires from 1,259 able-bodied respondents, and 430 disabled respondents, with 1,652 out of the total number of questionnaires containing valid responses.

More than 70 percent of respondents believe that both the type and quantity of Macau's existing accessible facilities are inadequate.

The Secretary of Macau Association of Support for the Disabled, Ho Kuok Meng, noted that many of the city's public administrative buildings, banks, theaters, malls and restaurants only have stairs, and do not provide means to access facilities for those with mobility issues.

In addition, Ho mentioned that some accessible facilities have also been misused. For instance, some accessible bathrooms were used by cleaning companies for storage. In some cases, these companies also blocked the entrance to the bathroom with items.

When suggesting that the government improve conditions for people with disabilities, the vice president of the think tank, Chan Ka Leong, said that there was a demand for the provision of more accessible facilities and additional types of these facilities across town.

The most urgently required installation called for by the center was the provision of ramps to access building entrances and exits, wheelchair lifts, and electronic pedestrian crossing sounders.

The center also proposed that the government extend the application for construction design instructions of accessible facilities to private projects through legislation.

Man accused of rape and aggravated theft

A 33-year-old man from mainland China is being accused by a 35-year-old woman, also a resident of the mainland, of rape and theft, the Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson informed at yesterday's press conference.

The case was disclosed after both parties were involved in a fight in a casino in Macau's central area and were stopped by casino security, who then called the police.

The woman then filed a case against the man, saying to the police that she met him the previous day and had played in the casino with him. After that she attested to going

to the man's room to rest. On May 20 around 9.30 a.m. the woman decided to go to her room, but she was followed by the man. When she entered the room, she gave evidence that he pushed her to the bed and raped her.

The woman then stated that she fell asleep and upon waking, noticed that HKD100,000 was missing from her bag. She returned to the casino to look for him.

The man has denied all accusations against him, but the PJ says there is sufficient evidence to transfer the case to the Public Prosecutions Office.

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MGTO licensing proposal may be presented to AL this year

Lynzy Valles

THE Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) is eyeing having its proposal, which was submitted to the Legal Affairs Bureau (DSAJ), presented to the Legislative Assembly this year.

MGTO's director Helena de Senna Fernandes recalled that the second draft it submitted to DSAJ still featured several basic tranches of legislation similar to the current law, yet asserted the possibility of temporary licenses for Food & Beverage outlets within hotel premises.

The proposal represents a significant change in comparison to the current licensing process.

"It's very difficult for us to work under the current legal framework. It's not possible for us to just drop over the legal procedures, we cannot selectively apply certain regulations. So the only thing we can do is to change the law, that's the big plan," the official explicated.

RENATO MARQUES



Helena de Senna Fernandes

Fernandes was speaking on the sidelines of a talk she gave at the British Business Association of Macau last week.

"They [DSAJ] have to look at it and give us some feedback as to whether or not the draft is good enough. [...] If everything goes well, that will be tabled to the Legislative Assembly this year, so with that there will be quite a lot of changes in terms of cur-

rent licensing procedure," Senna Fernandes added.

However, the MGTO head noted that the processing would still take some time as only a draft had been submitted and it has not yet progressed onto the next stage.

Briefly commenting on the rumor that Suncity Group Holdings Ltd had acquired the troubled Beijing Imperial Palace Hotel and Greek Mythology Casino, the MGTO head only expressed concern that it had not received any licensing application from the junket operator and AMAX International Holdings.

"At this point in time, there is nothing that MGTO can say because we haven't received any formal application from any party," she told the press.

"It is a building, but licenses have already been canceled – it is not a hotel at this time, and having not received any new applications from this party, we [MGTO] cannot tell for sure what's going to become [...] of it," Senna Fernandes said.

Meanwhile, the official laid out the bureau's plan for the next four years in regards to the 2018 Macau Year of Gastronomy, which will excel in a number of events and activities.

"We've actually done more than what we have promised to UNESCO in the four-year plan. [...] We're trying to get all our different partners together as to what is being done and what we need to fulfill in the next couple of years," Fernandes disclosed.

She added that members of the committee who have assisted in Macau's application to UNESCO to become a gastronomic city are currently working to fulfill activities that would be undertaken in the next four years.

With the MGTO chief elected as Pacific Asia Travel Association's (PATA) secretary-treasurer, Senna Fernandes said that Macau needs to be more active in these kinds of associations to help boost Macau's tourism image so it may continue to be featured on international platforms.

Unemployment rate continues to hold stable

The general unemployment rate (1.9 percent) and the unemployment rate of local residents (2.6 percent) both held stable in the February-April 2018 period as compared with the previous period, January-March 2018, according to the Statistics and Census Service. The underemployment rate was 0.5 percent, down by 0.1 percentage points. The total labor force amounted to 388,900 and the labor force participation rate was 70.5 percent. Total employment reached 381,500 and the number of employed residents totaled 280,800, up by 1,000 and 700 respectively from the previous period. Meanwhile, the number of unemployed dipped by 100 to 7,400 in the period, with fresh labor force entrants searching for their first job accounting for 5.1 percent of the total. In comparison with February-April 2017, the labor force participation rate and the unemployment rate dropped by 0.6 and 0.1 percentage points respectively.

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Community awareness of HIV prevention increasing

Lynzy Valles

HIV remains a social and cultural taboo in many cities, however, local residents have become more aware of this disease, leading to the increase in number of residents willing to take HIV tests.

Augusto Nogueira, president of Association of Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers of Macau (ARTM), said that more residents have become more concerned about their health.

“Over time [the sense of taboo] has changed and people [have started] to realize that HIV is just like any other chronic disease. People care more about their health and follow medications accordingly,” he told the Times.

To mark the 10th anniversary of its Needle Syringe Program (NSPs) on June 16, ARTM will be hosting a workshop, along with the Methadone Program of the Social Welfare Bureau, on



Augusto Nogueira

the importance of the NSP program on June 15.

To be held at Clube Militar, two speakers from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS have been invited.

This program is a type of ‘harm reduction’ initiative that provides access to sterile needles and syringe to reduce the transmission of HIV and other blood borne viruses from sharing injecting equipment.

“NSP’s program must continue and we need to continue

working hard to maintain a low prevalence on HIV new infections and [ensure] zero sharing needles among injection drug users,” Nogueira remarked.

“One of the [foci] also is to keep a close look on the patients to see if they have other health issues that require our attention, and also to motivate them to go for treatments,” he added.

The president said that over 350 residents are listed in their system, and that it is providing services to around 40 to 50 residents per month.

Nogueira noted that the pro-

gram also aims to inform affected residents about the consequences of sharing needles, noting that around 80 percent of its users return used syringes.

“This means that people are aware of the importance of returning the syringe back to use. We offer them some food and beverages to motivate them. [...] It’s a matter of public health,” the president said.

“We also focus [on] other issues like hepatitis C and [encourage] them to care for their own hygiene, and [provide] some other materials to use to prevent HIV infection among some wounds that people can have,” Nogueira explained.

Figures from the Health Bureau show that HIV was detected in 15 patients in Macau from January to September 2017.

In 2016, 30 HIV cases were detected, of which 15 cases developed into AIDS.

Rapid test awareness was a significant factor in the decrease in HIV cases last year.

Group wins prize at National English Debating Competition



The English Debating Team of the University of Macau (UM) recently defeated more than 100 teams and won the third prize at the 21st ‘FLTRP CUP’ National English Debating Competition held in Beijing. UM debaters Cheong Hoi Lam and Fong Cheok Wang were ranked fifth among 224 debaters. This year’s event attracted students from Tsinghua University, Peking University, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Fudan University, and the China Foreign Affairs University.

China to establish 30 overseas Chinese medicine centers

China has planned to establish 30 overseas Chinese medicine centers in countries involved in the Belt and Road strategy. Recently, in Thailand, a Chinese medicine forum was organized by the Macau SAR government and China’s Chinese Medicine authority.

Wang Xiaopin, the director of the Department of Medical Administration of the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, stated that Macau is an important platform for traditional Chinese medicine exchange among different parties, and that Macau will be particularly important for the development of Chinese medicine centers. In addition, China will build 50 international Chinese medicine centers.

Taxi surcharge to rise to MOP10, two added locations

THE taxi surcharge of MOP5 for boarding a taxi at the Macau International Airport, taxi station of Taipa Ferry Terminal or the campus of the University of Macau on Hengqin Island, will be altered ahead of the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau (HKZM) Bridge. The director of the Transport Bureau, Lam Hin San, mentioned the changes during a press conference late last week where



he addressed several topics related to public transportation and traffic adjustments ahead of the opening of the HKZM Bridge.

The proposal, discussed at the meeting of the Transport Advisory Committee held prior to the press conference, proposed to add two

more locations to the current three where there could be an additional taxi surcharge, as well as to increase the amount of the current one by MOP5 to MOP10.

On the topic, Lam announced, “for the time being, there are only three places [where drivers] can charge the extra MOP5. We propose to add two more... the taxi stand of the Cotai border [Lotus Flower Border crossing] and

the new taxi stand to be operating at the [HKZM] Bridge’s artificial island,” adding, “From three, we move to five locations [where the surcharge will be enforced] and we also propose to raise the amount from MOP5 to MOP10,” he said, noting, “the proposal was well received by the representatives of this sector [in the meeting].”

Lam also added that, on the artificial island and close to the east-side parking lot, “there will be a taxi stand and bus terminal with a capacity for 70 buses and taxis.” **RM**

Urban renewal company expected in three years

The proposed wholly-government-owned urban renewal company is expected to be established within two to three years, according to a member of the city’s Urban Renewal Committee, Wong Seng Fat. In Wong’s opinion, the sooner the company is established, the better. The committee has already delivered the company regulations to the Chief Executive, with the final approval expected shortly. Wong noted that since the company will be large, involving an extensive number of financial investments, he believes that the government will be cautious.

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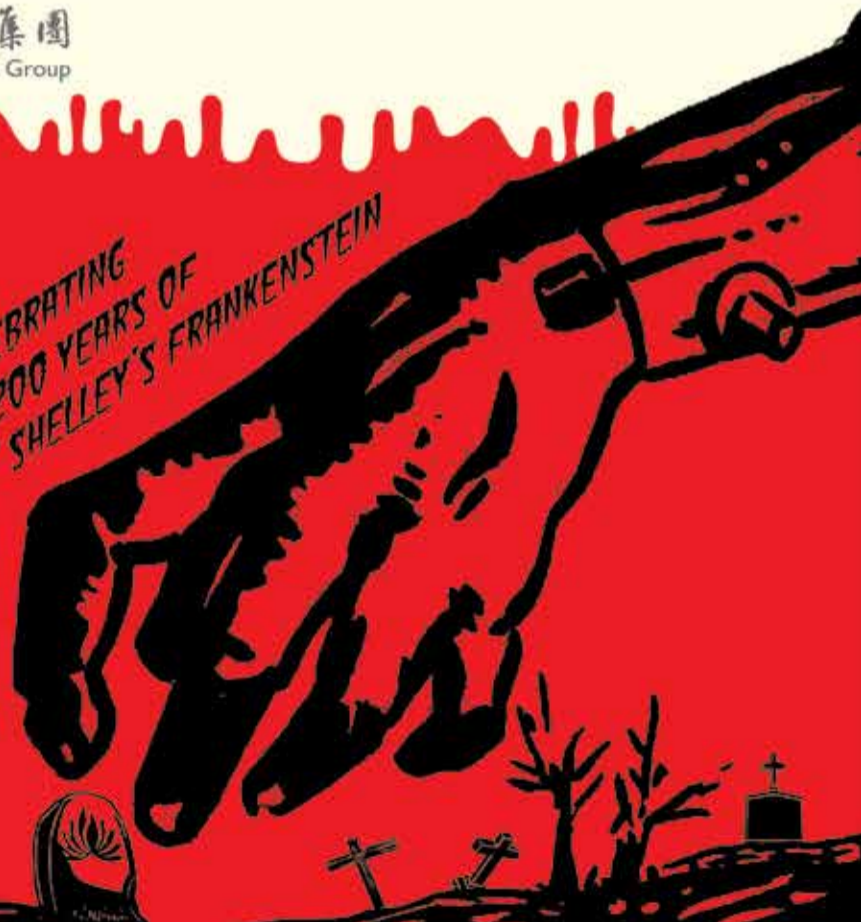
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VENUE: STARWORLD HOTEL, GRAND BALLROOM
DATE: SATURDAY 23RD JUNE 2018
DRINKS RECEPTION: 7:00PM
DINNER & DANCING: 8:00PM - 2:30AM FREE FLOW DRINKS
DRESS CODE: BLACK TIE & FANGS OR HORROR THEMED DRESS
TICKETS: MOP/HKD 1,750 TABLES OF 6 OR 8 ARE AVAILABLE,
OR MULTIPLES THEREOF



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Volkswagen to open new China factories

VOLKSWAGEN AG is opening three new factories in China with its local partner FAW Group as it steps up efforts to maintain leadership in the world's biggest auto market. Two of the new facilities will be in Tianjin and Foshan, VW said in an emailed statement, adding it opened one in Qingdao yesterday. The plants will focus on bringing more sport-utility and electric vehicles for local production, the fastest growing segments of China's auto market.

Wolfsburg, Germany-based VW is among automakers expanding local production of sport-utility and electric vehicles even as China eases access to its market by reducing import tariffs. The automaker boosted sales in China by 13.4 percent in the first quarter to 1.01 million units, mainly with the help of models manufacturing under its two local joint ventures. It plans to sell the compact sport-utility vehicle it developed with SAIC Motor Corp., its other partner, across the globe.

The Qingdao factory opened with the introduction of the new Bora on the MQB platform and will produce battery systems, according to the statement. The Foshan factory will open in June and the Tianjin facility in August.

Volkswagen has vowed to introduce 40 new locally produced new-energy vehicles over the next seven to eight years in China as it prepares to deliver up to 1.5 million NEV sales annually by 2025. The company and its partners will be investing 15 billion euros (USD17.5 billion) in the country for electrification, autonomous driving, digitization and new mobility service developments. **Bloomberg**



Famed chef Mario Batali's Vegas Strip restaurants will close

MARIO Batali's three Las Vegas Strip restaurants will shut down July 27, officials said Friday, as the celebrity chef faces sexual misconduct allegations from multiple women.

Batali & Bastianich Hospitality Group partner Joe Bastianich sent a letter to nearly 300 workers about the closures of Carnevino Italian Steakhouse, B&B Ristorante and Otto Enoteca e Pizzeria at The Venetian and Palazzo resorts. He promised to visit the restaurants to speak to employees.

The letter said Las Vegas Sands Corp., which owns both properties, was ending the business relationship. Sands Corp. issued a statement confirming the closure.

The move came days after police in New York confirmed an investigation into a woman's claim on "60 Minutes" that Batali drugged and sexually assaulted her in 2005. Batali denies assaulting the woman.

A Batali & Bastianich Hospitality Group representative said the company decided to close the Las Vegas restaurants before the "60 Minutes" report aired, reported the Las Vegas Review-Journal, which is owned by the family of Sands chairman and CEO Sheldon Adelson.

Batali stepped down in December from daily operations at his restaurant empire and cooking show "The Chew" after four women accused him of inappropriate touching over a period of 20 years.

Batali has apologized for those encounters. **AP**

PHILIPPINES

Air carriers poised to raise prices on Peso, fuel

AIRLINES in the Philippines are under pressure to raise ticket prices to offset rising fuel costs and the peso's plunge to an almost 12-year low, risking lower demand from travelers also hurt by the currency's decline.

"We will have to adjust

prices accordingly," said Lance Gokongwei, president of Cebu Air Inc., which owns the nation's largest budget carrier. Cebu Air and market leader Philippine Airlines Inc. said they've applied for regulatory approval to add fuel surcharges imposed on customers.

Philippine Airlines, owned by tycoon Licio Tan, incurs USD11 million a year in additional costs for every \$1 increase in the price of a barrel of fuel, President Jaime Bautista said in a mobile-phone message. The nation's largest carrier consumes about 11 million barrels

a year, while the price of jet fuel has risen by \$13 from January to April, he said.

Cebu Air's costs are increasing by 700 million pesos (\$13 million) a month from a year ago with jet fuel prices hitting \$87 per barrel and the peso declining to 52.50 against the

dollar, Gokongwei said. The currency's decline is already diminishing Philippine consumers' appetite for air travel, Bautista said.

Singapore jet fuel rose to \$92.73 a barrel on May 23, the highest in more than three years, and traded at \$87.97 at noon yesterday, according to Bloomberg Fair Value. The peso on May 25 fell to 52.705 per dollar, its lowest since July 2006, and is down 5 percent this year, among the worst performers in the region. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

MGM SUPPORTS TRAINING WORKSHOP OF IFT, UNWTO



MGM recently supported the 5th Training Workshop titled "Capacity Building for Destination Marketing & Tourism Development" organized by the Institute

for Tourism Studies' (IFT) Global Centre for Tourism Education and Training and The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

This training is part of the SAR's and UNWTO's joint initiative for enhancing cooperation between the two parties, to improve the quality of human capital and increase the competitiveness of tourism destinations to achieve sustainable tourism development.

Twenty-one representatives from countries along the "Belt and Road" regions, including Myanmar, Pakistan, mainland China, Macau and UNWTO participated in the training workshop, according to a statement by MGM.

The delegation attended a study visit in MGM Cotai on May 25, where management members of the gaming operator spoke about destination marketing and the branding strategies of MGM.

SANDS HONORS STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME



Sands China Ltd. celebrated the achievements of a group of 78 university students at a graduation ceremony yesterday at The Venetian Macao, recognising them for completing the company's Integrated Resort

Internship Programme.

According to a statement issued yesterday, Sands China created the Integrated Resort Internship Programme to give local university students opportunities to work full-time

at its integrated resorts on a short-term basis while earning academic credit. By interning full-time in one of 11 non-gaming departments including conventions and exhibitions, concierge, entertainment, e-commerce, food and beverage, and front office, students gain valuable integrated resort experience that is hard to find in the traditional hotel industry. Over 300 students have interned in the programme to date.

Thursday's graduating class completed their internships between January and May. The year 3 and year 4 students are from local educational institutions including the Institute for Tourism Studies, the University of Macau, City University of Macau and Macau University of Science and Technology, as well as Australia's Deakin University.



Filmmakers Li-Shin Yu (left) and Ric Burns

Film explores Chinese Exclusion Act as US immigration 'DNA'

Deepti Hajela, New York

POLITICIANS seizing on immigrants as an election issue. Newspaper headlines calling for action. Talk of legislation to institute a ban.

If viewers of "The Chinese Exclusion Act" documentary end up with a sense of déjà vu between the film's subject, a law from 1882 that barred Chinese people from coming to the United States, and current events, that's pretty much the point, according to its filmmakers.

"The 'A-Ha!' for anybody coming to it ... is oh, there's a history to how we have decided who can come and when they can come, who's a citizen and who's not a citizen," said documentarian Ric Burns, who made the film with Li-Shin Yu. It airs on the PBS television series "American Experience" today.

The Chinese Exclusion Act was America's first and only immigration act that barred people from a specific country from coming to the United States. After its initial enactment for a 10-year period in 1882, it was regularly renewed and then made permanent in 1904. It was finally repealed in 1943.

Making the documentary was

an eye-opening experience for Burns and Yu, who had never heard of the law and believe most of the American public isn't aware of it either, but should be.

It was America's first and only immigration act that barred people from a specific country from coming to the US

"This is the DNA of American immigration policy," Burns said. "It is not a story about immigration, it is THE story about immigration and you're not going to understand any of the other aspects of it without understanding this thing: In 1848, you got off the boat and disappeared, in 1882 suddenly there was a racially invidious distinction being made."

The documentary, which Burns and Yu initially started several

years ago, starts several decades before the law's enactment on May 6, 1882. The Chinese had started coming to the West Coast, primarily California, in the middle part of the 19th Century, drawn by the possibilities of the California Gold Rush and looking to escape the unrest in China in the wake of the Opium Wars over the West forcing China to open to trade.

They became targets of prejudice by white miners and other Californians as gold became more difficult to come by, as well as politicians appealing to nativist sentiments and those concerned immigrants were depressing wages. But they were also vital labor in the building of the Western half of the transcontinental railroad, forced to work for lower pay and in worse conditions than white workers.

The documentary shows how, even though estimates put the Chinese population at about 100,000 or so when the overall country's population was about 50 million, there was a rising sentiment that the Chinese were a problem. That led to local laws around the West Coast limiting their livelihoods as well as acts like the federal 1875 Page Act, which instituted regulations

on women attempting to come to the United States from China that were onerous enough that they were almost completely excluded. There were also acts of violence, like the October 1871 massacre in Los Angeles, when a mob went to Chinatown and 18 Chinese immigrants were killed, many of them lynched.

When the exclusion act was passed, it prohibited most Chinese workers from coming, and preventing Chinese already here from ever becoming naturalized citizens.

But the anti-Chinese sentiment already stoked in the U.S. didn't abate with the law, and the documentary shows how acts of violence continued to be perpetrated against Chinese communities, as in the Snake River massacre in 1887, where almost three dozen Chinese miners were killed in Oregon.

The documentary also shows how Chinese immigrants and the next generation of Chinese Americans born in the United States fought back, filing thousands and thousands of lawsuits in the courts to push back against the limitations of the laws they were living under.

Some of the cases established principles that Americans now

take for granted and assume have been part of the country since its founding, Burns said. He pointed to the case of Wong Kim Ark, born in America to Chinese immigrant parents. He was returning to the U.S. after a visit to China and was barred from re-entry. His case went to the U.S. Supreme Court, and the judges decided that he was a citizen because of being born here, in accordance with the citizenship clause of the 14th Amendment, thus clarifying the precedent for birthright citizenship, regardless of whether a person's parents were citizens.

"The Chinese who came here and Chinese Americans saw more clearly what's best about our system and helped secure it," Burns said. "Every American who is born here assumes they're American because of something Thomas Jefferson wrote, not that Wong Kim Ark took his case to the Supreme Court."

With immigration a current hot-button issue, Burns and Yu hope the documentary gives viewers a clearer sense of America's immigration past, away from the romanticized notion that the country has always opened its arms to people from other nations, so that issues of today can be grappled with more accurately.

Americans are attached "to an idea of a kinder, gentler understanding of an American past," Burns said. "That kinder, gentler past, if it's wrong, isn't going to help you steer accurately in the present and the future." AP

Beijing approves 13 new Ivanka Trump trademarks in three months

Erika Kinetz, Shanghai

IVANKA Trump's brand continues to win foreign trademarks in China and the Philippines, adding to questions about conflicts of interest at the White House, The Associated Press has found.

This weekend, China granted the First Daughter's company final approval for its 13th trademark in the last three months, trademark office records show. Over the same period, the Chinese government has granted Ivanka Trump's company provisional approval for another eight trademarks, which can be finalized if no objections are raised during a three-month comment period.

Taken together, the trademarks could allow her brand to market a lifetime's worth of products in China, from baby blankets to coffins, and a host of things in between, including perfume, make-up, bowls, mirrors, furniture, books, coffee, chocolate and honey. Ivanka Trump stepped back from management of her brand and placed its assets in a family-run trust, but she continues to profit from the business.

Noah Bookbinder, the executive director of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, said on Twitter that the recent approvals create "more conflicts of interest and more potential for using the White House for self-enrichment." His government watchdog group was behind one of several lawsuits against President Donald Trump for violations of the emoluments clause of the constitution, which bars officials from accepting gifts



from foreign states unless they are approved by Congress.

As Ivanka Trump and her father have built their global brands, largely through licensing deals, they have pursued trademarks in dozens of countries. Those global trademarks have drawn the attention of ethics lawyers because they are granted by foreign governments and can confer enormous value. Concerns about political influence have been especially sharp in China, where the courts and bureaucracy are designed to reflect the will of the ruling Communist Party.

Chinese officials have emphasized that all trademark applications are handled in accor-

dance with the law.

More approvals are likely to come. Online records from China's trademark office indicate that Ivanka Trump's company last applied for trademarks — 17 of them — on Mar. 28, 2017, the day before she took on a formal role at the White House. Those records yesterday showed at least 25 Ivanka Trump trademarks pending review, 36 active marks and eight with provisional approval.

The World Intellectual Property Organization's global brand database also shows that her company, Ivanka Trump Marks LLC, won three trademarks in the Philippines after her father took office. Two of

them cover clothing, including lingerie and baby clothes, were filed on Feb. 8, 2017 and registered in June and November. The third, filed on Mar. 1, 2017, covers clothing and footwear and was registered in July.

Companies register for trademarks for a variety of reasons. They can be a sign of corporate ambition, but in many countries, like China, where trademark squatting is rampant, companies also file defensively, to block copycats from grabbing legal rights to a brand's name. Trademarks are classified by category and may include items that a company does not intend to market. Some trademark lawyers also advise

clients to register trademarks for merchandise that is manufactured in China, even if it's not sold there.

Ivanka Trump does not have a large retail presence in China, but customs records show that the bulk of her company's U.S. imports are shipped from China.

■ The trademarks could allow her brand to market a lifetime's worth of products in China

The brand's secretive Chinese supply chains have been the subject of some controversy. A year ago, three men working for China Labor Watch, a New York-based non-profit, were arrested while investigating labor abuses at Ivanka Trump suppliers in China. After thirty days in detention, they were released on bail, but continue to live under police surveillance.

Li Qiang, the group's founder, said yesterday that he hopes bail will be lifted soon and that the case will not go to trial.

Police in Ganzhou, the southeastern Chinese city where the men were detained, could not be reached for comment. The Chinese law firm that handles Ivanka Trump's intellectual property in China also did not immediately respond to requests for comment. **AP**

YIN JINBAO

Chairman of major bank found dead in apparent suicide

THE head of a major bank in northern China was found dead in his office in an apparent suicide, state media reported yesterday, in the latest in a recent string of deaths among government and ruling Communist Party officials.

Tianjin Rural Commercial Bank Chairman Yin Jinbao was found Saturday afternoon with both of his wrists slit, official state media said.

Yin also served as head of the bank's ruling Communist Party committee, giving him quasi-government official status.

Yin's bank was under inspection and he was under pressure over major losses and scandals at another bank in Tianjin where he served as chairman until last year, the reports said.

Other officials who have died or killed themselves in recent

days include a deputy secretary of the Beijing city government who reportedly suffered from depression.

Middle and upper-level Chinese officials are often under intense pressure to boost revenue and economic growth amid local government debt.

Meanwhile, President and party head Xi Jinping has been pursuing a relentless campaign against waste

and corruption that has seen well over a million officials punished over the past five years. Such penalties often come only after a lengthy and highly invasive investigation that can include being detained for lengthy periods without contact with family or legal counsel.

Depression and other psychiatric problems often go undiagnosed and untreated in China. **AP**

Earthquake shakes the northeast, but no apparent damage

A moderate earthquake shook northeastern China early yesterday, but no damage or injuries have been reported.

The quake near the city of Songyuan in Jilin province was 5.7 magnitude and 13 kilometers deep, China's national earthquake administration said. The U.S. Geological Survey measured the quake at a slightly weaker magnitude 5.1 and said it was 10 kilometers below the Earth's surface.

People rushed from their homes due to the intense shaking just before 2 a.m., and media

reports said rescue teams responded, but no reports of injuries or damage have been received hours later. The official Xinhua News Agency said the area's power supply was unaffected, but some mobile phone communications were disrupted.

A 1976 earthquake centered in the northeastern city of Tangshan killed at least 250,000 people. China's worst earthquake in recent years struck the mountainous western portion of Sichuan province in 2008, killing nearly 90,000 people.

NEW Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said that a planned high-speed railway that would cut travel time between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore to just 90 minutes will be axed because it isn't beneficial.

Mahathir said the 350-kilometer rail project slated to be completed by 2026 is too costly.

"It is a final decision, but it will take time because we have an agreement with Singapore," Mahathir said. "It is not beneficial. It is going to cost a huge sum of money. We will make no money at all from this operation."

The two countries signed an agreement in December 2016 to build the rapid rail line with speeds of over 300 kilometers an hour and dubbed a "game-changer" that will boost connectivity and strengthen economic ties between the neighbors. Currently, it takes at least four hours

MALAYSIA

Mahathir says it will axe high-speed railway to Singapore

to travel by car.

Mahathir said Malaysia may have to pay a penalty and will discuss the matter with Singapore, adding that "we will try to manage it at the least cost possible."

Mahathir's alliance won a stunning victory in May 9 elections to oust scandal-tainted former Prime Minister Najib Razak and end his coalition's 60-year grip on power.

The new government has said it will review large-scale infrastructure projects, including Chinese investment, to cut costs after revealing that national debt and liabilities was over a trillion ringgit (USD251 billion), or 80 percent of gross

domestic product, taking into account government guarantees and other payments.

The huge debt is partly due to a massive corruption scandal at the 1MDB state investment fund set up by Najib that led voters to abandon him, and sparked investigations in the U.S. and several other countries. U.S. investigators say Najib's associates stole and laundered at least \$4.5 billion from the fund.

Mahathir has reopened an investigation into 1MDB that was suppressed during Najib's rule. Najib, who denies any wrongdoing, and his wife have been barred from leaving the country. AP



PM Mahathir Mohamad (right) speaks during a press conference in Petaling Jaya yesterday

ANALYSIS

East Timor fair and democratic elections, 16 years on

Jean A. Berlie, Dili
Special to MDT

DUE to the inability of last year's elected government to rule in its own right, Timor-Leste President Lo Olu was compelled to dissolve Parliament. In January he announced an early election for 12 May 2018, hoping to stabilize the Government.

This is the first time in the Republic's 15-year history that such a political stalemate has resulted in a six-month budget impasse.

In Dili, on 8 May, I followed the final days of the AMP's political campaign. Some observers said that 40,000 supporters of Xanana's CNRT, Matan Ruak's People's Liberation Party (PLP) and Khunto were present at Tasi Tolo, not far from the airport.

The three parties which comprised the AMP Alliance were all there. Former pro-Indonesian commander Gil Alves made a speech – for the first time, in enthusiastic support for Xanana Gusmao.

Many trucks, overflowing with supporters (mainly youths), took to the streets that day. The



following day, Fretilin trucks and many motorcycles gathered around Tasi Tolo in another well-attended rally.

And then it was Election Day. At 6.15am, I began my observation duty at the Chinese School polling station in Bidau. By 6.30am, I observed the integrity of the ballot boxes in room 3 (Sala 3), noted the seal numbers and watched them as they were sealed. I repeated this process in other rooms at the polling station.

At the end of the Voting Day at 3pm, the boxes were checked again to

ensure that seals were intact and that the numbers matched. Half an hour later, we observed the seals being cut as each box was emptied in front of the Electoral Staff.

The counting soon began.

In my opinion – from my observations – this election was fair and democratic.

I agree with Lirio Da Fonseca of Reuters who stated, "East Timor has been largely peaceful in recent years."

However, there were a few incidents reported in Oecussi new Region and Manatuto.

Back in 2007, I stayed several days in the Oecussi village of Oenunu to study the Atoni people of this small rural community. During this recent election, there were some problems with the vote-counting process – but, according to Baris de Araujo, the President of the CNE (National Commission of the Elections), the problem is now resolved.

Only the Court of Appeal (Tribunal de Recurso) can make the final judgment.

As to the view that some people find no difference between Fretilin and

CNRT, I do not agree. As one successful supermarket manager, well-known since 2001, has suggested, the business environment will remain about the same.

We cannot deny the economic competence of PM Mari Alkatiri, but East Timor still does not receive enough foreign investments. This has been a problem for every government since 2015.

On the election day this year, in Becora Prison, there were no issues with registration because the prisoners were registered as voters in advance by the CNE (National Electoral Commission). Almost all 584 prisoners cast their votes.

I had the chance to interview a prisoner who still had two more years to serve. He was obviously touched and happy to see somebody he knew there that day – because all he expected was his lawyer or his family, who are only permitted to visit for 15 minutes per visit each week.

They are his only visitors.

In contrast, short term hospital patients and medical staff rostered in the emergency department, whose schedules may be

unpredictable, faced problems attending voting booths and thus were unable to vote.

Many western democracies may envy the success and turnout rate of Timor-Leste's 2018 election. It seems that out of 784,286 registered voters, 633,245 cast their votes on 12 May – over 80 per cent – and voting is not compulsory.

Surprisingly, the 2017 presidential election saw the lowest voter turnout since 1999.

Since the independence on 20 May 2002, for the first time, a rigid alliance called AMP was established before the elections and formed one party against Fretilin, allied with the Democratic Party. These two last parties will be in the opposition in the coming month of June. AMP has won an absolute majority; Fretilin unfortunately lacked three seats to easily rule the parliament between July 2017 and now. On the 16th anniversary of the Independence, on 20 May 2018, the majority of the leaders were present, including the President Lu Olo, PM Mari Alkatiri and his ministers and the AMP ex-lawmakers. Xanana Gusmao surprisingly did not appear.

US team in North Korea raises expectations of a Trump-Kim summit

A U.S. team was in North Korea to plan a summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, according to President Donald Trump, raising expectations that the on-off-on meeting would indeed take place.

Both the State Department and South Korea's Foreign Ministry said the American and North Korean officials have been engaged in talks at the Korean village of Panmunjom, which straddles the border inside the Demilitarized Zone, or DMZ. One can cross the border simply by stepping across a painted line, but moving beyond several footsteps into the North at Panmunjom would be rare for U.S. officials.

Trump withdrew from a planned June 12 Singapore summit with Kim last Thursday, but quickly announced it could still happen. His tweet yesterday [Macau time], which offered praise for the longtime U.S. adversary, was the latest signal that his concerns about the North's stance toward the summit had been allayed.

"Our United States team has arrived in North Korea to make arrangements for the Summit between Kim Jong Un and myself," he tweeted. "I truly believe North Korea has brilliant potential and will be a great economic and financial Nation one day. Kim Jong Un agrees with me on this. It will happen!"

South Korean President Moon Jae-in gave details about his surprise meeting Saturday with Kim in Panmunjom, saying Kim had committed to sitting down with Trump and to a "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo tapped veteran American diplomat Sung Kim, the U.S.

AP PHOTO



President Moon Jae-in writes on a visitor's book as Kim Jong Un stands at the northern side of Panmunjom in North Korea

ambassador to the Philippines, to handle pre-summit negotiations. On a separate but complementary track was the CIA team Pompeo set up last year when he headed the spy agency. And on a third track was a White House logistical group sent to Singapore over the weekend to prepare in case the summit takes place. It was led by Joe Hagin, White House deputy chief of staff for operations.

The Korean leaders' second summit in a month saw bear hugs and broad smiles. But their quickly arranged meeting appeared to highlight a sense of urgency on both sides of the world's most heavily armed border.

The talks, which Moon said Kim Jong Un requested, capped a whirlwind 24 hours of diplomatic back and forth. They allowed Moon to push for a U.S.-North Korean summit that he sees as the best way to ease animosity that had some fearing a war last year.

Kim may see a meeting with Trump as necessary to easing pressure from crushing sanctions and to winning security assurances in a region surrounded by enemies.

Moon told reporters that Kim said he's willing to cooperate to end confrontation and work toward peace for the sake of the successful summit with Trump.

Moon said he told Kim that Trump has a "firm resolve" to end

hostile relations with North Korea and initiate economic cooperation if Kim implements "complete denuclearization."

"What Kim is unclear about is that he has concerns about whether his country can surely trust the United States over its promise to end hostile relations [with North Korea] and provide a security guarantee if they do denuclearization," Moon said.

"During the South Korea-U.S. summit, President Trump said the U.S. is willing to clearly put an end to hostile relations [between the U.S. and North Korea] and help [the North] achieve economic prosperity if North Korea conducts denuclearization," he said.

Kim, in a dispatch issued by the North's state-run news service, "expressed his fixed will on the historic [North Korea]-U.S. summit talks." During Saturday's inter-Korean summit, the Korean leaders agreed to "positively cooperate with each other as ever to improve [North Korea]-U.S. relations and establish a mechanism for permanent and durable peace."

They agreed to have their top officials meet again June 1. Moon said military generals and Red Cross officials from the Koreas will also meet separately to discuss how to ease military tensions and resume reunions of families separated by the 1950-53 Korean War. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Lee Myung-hee

SOUTH KOREA

Wife of Korean Air chief summoned over abuse allegations

SOUTH Korean police yesterday summoned the wife of Korean Air Chairman Cho Yang-ho to question her about allegations she abused and assaulted employees.

Lee Myung-hee has been accused of physically or verbally abusing more than 10 former and current employees of Cho's Hanjin conglomerate, the parent of Korean Air.

Lee told reporters she felt "sorry for causing troubles" after arriving at a Seoul police agency for questioning yesterday.

The Cho family has been under mounting public criticism after company employees alleged they were subjected to mistreatment and tantrums.

Lee's eldest daughter, Cho Hyun-ah, who was formerly the head of the airline's cabin service,

received worldwide notoriety in 2014 after her onboard "nut rage" tantrum delayed a flight. She was sentenced to one year in prison for violating aviation law but was released early when a higher-level court suspended the sentence.

Last week, Cho Hyun-ah was investigated by South Korean immigration officials over allegations that she unlawfully

hired housekeepers from the Philippines.

Cho Hyun-ah's younger sister, Cho Hyun-min, is under investigation for allegedly hurling a cup of water during a business meeting.

South Korean authorities are also looking into suspicions that the Cho family, including Cho Yang-ho, evaded taxes and used airline services to smuggle luxury goods. **AP**

FRANCE

Macron rewards migrant hero who saved dangling child

Sylvie Corbet, Paris

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron met yesterday with a migrant from Mali lauded as a hero for scaling an apartment building to save a young child dangling from a balcony. Macron said 22-year-old Mamoudou Gassama would be rewarded for his "exceptional act" with papers to legalize his stay, citizenship if he wants and a job as a firefighter. "Bravo," Macron said to Gassama during a one-on-one meeting in a gilded room of the presidential Elysee Palace that ended with the awarding of a medal from the prefecture for "courage and devotion."

Gassama's feat went viral on social media, where he was dubbed "Spiderman" for climbing up five floors, from balcony to balcony, and whisking a four-year-old boy to safety Saturday night as a crowd screamed at the foot of the building in Paris' northern 18th district.

The young man said he has papers to legally stay in Italy, where he arrived in Europe after crossing the Mediterranean after a



long, rough stay in Libya. But he wants to join his older brother, who has lived in France for decades.

Gassama, dressed in blue jeans and white shirt, recounted his experience which took place at around 8 p.m. Saturday when he and friends saw a young child hanging from a fifth-floor balcony.

"I ran. I crossed the street to

save him," he told Macron. He said he didn't think twice. "When I started to climb, it gave me courage to keep climbing."

God "helped me," too, he said. "Thank God I saved him."

Gassama said he began to tremble with fear only when he took the child into the apartment.

"Because this is an exceptional act [...] we are obviously, today, going to regularize all your

papers," Macron told him, also offering to begin naturalization procedures so he can become French.

Macron is behind a bill toughening French immigration law, and he stressed there is no contradiction between rewarding Gassama for his act of bravery and holding firm on immigration, which the president wants to stop at its source.

"An exceptional act does not make policy," he later told reporters, vowing to maintain a policy that is "exigent, respectful of our principles" on asylum and "rigorous" regarding the migratory flux.

The special treatment for Gassama comes as authorities prepare to evacuate some 2,400 migrants in makeshift encampments in the French capital, the subject of a heated debate between the Paris mayor, who wants to ensure the uprooted will be sheltered, and Interior Minister Gerard Collomb, who was present at the Elysee.

Gassama told Macron that he arrived in Italy in 2014 after more than a year in Libya, where he was arrested and beaten, "but I wasn't discouraged."

The French president said Gassama's actions made him deserving of special treatment.

"You saved a child. Without you, no one knows what would have become of him," the president said. "You need courage and the capability to do that."

Working as a firefighter corresponds with his skills, Macron said, and opened the door for him to join.

"You have become an example because millions have seen you" on social media, the president said.

The French media reported that the father of the small child was detained for alleged parental neglect. **AP**

ITALY

Ex-IMF official tapped to head government firmly backs euro

THE man tapped to head a neutral government in Italy after two populists failed in their bid is a former official at the International Monetary Fund who is a firm believer in the euro and in the necessity of Italy cutting its stubbornly high-debt load.

Carlo Cottarelli, an economist, has previous government experience under the short-lived center-left government of Enrico Letta, tapped to identify areas where government spending could be trimmed. He found 32 billion euros (USD37 billion) in cuts, but left embittered when the government soon changed hands at the obstacles he found within the bureaucracy resisting cuts.

Yesterday, President Sergio Mattarella tapped Cottarelli to try to form a government that can bring Italy to a new election, which Cottarelli said could come as early as this

autumn.

In his first remarks, Cottarelli sought to calm markets and Italy's European partners, assuring that his government would guarantee "prudent" management of Italy's debt, which at 132 percent of gross domestic product is Europe's heaviest after Greece.

While vowing to press Brussels to respond to the concerns of Italians, Cottarelli said any such dialogue must be in "full recognition that as a founding country of the European Union, our role in the union is essential, as is our continued participation in the eurozone."

Cottarelli received an undergraduate degree in economics and banking from the University of Siena and a master's degree from the London School of Economics. He worked seven years at the Bank of Italy and then one at oil company Eni, both in research positions, before

heading to the IMF, where he worked for 25 years, specializing in monetary policy, capital markets and fiscal affairs.

Since October, he has headed an observatory on Italian public accounts at the Catholic University of Milan, where he has a healthy Twitter feed of 15,000 followers.

He recently wrote a book, "The Seven Capital Sins of the Italian economy," which might be read as a mission statement for a new government. He lists the sins as corruption, tax evasion, bureaucratic mire, the slow pace of justice, the low birth rate, the gap between north and south, and the difficult acceptance off the euro.

In his current role, Cottarelli has made frequent appearances in Italian media to evaluate the fiscal plans of the populist parties that had hoped to form a government together, the anti-establish-

ment 5-Star Movement and the euroskeptic League. Their attempts to form a government foundered on insistence on an economics minister with anti-euro views, which Italy's president said put Italians' savings and investments at risk.

Cottarelli told Italy's Radio Radicale two weeks ago that the two parties' primary error was "making people in some way believe that without the euro, all problems would disappear. ...Now they are trying to say that we are genetically incompatible with the euro."

He rejected that argument saying Italy isn't structurally weaker than Germany, but that the message needed to be underlined that "if we want to share currency, we need to behave in a different way." He noted that Italy's inflation level is currently below Germany's, making Italy more competitive industrially.



Economist Carlo Cottarelli

"To abandon the thing at this point seems to me to be a mistake," he said.

He also has emphasized the need to bring down Italy's enormous debt load, which costs about 60 billion euros a year to service through interest payments, in order to free Italy from market forces.

Such credentials made him a natural pick for Mattarella. But the prospect of a neutral government ignited a backlash among the leaders of the two populist parties, who viewed it as yet another move by special interests to control Italy against the will of the people. **AP**

AFTER legalizing abortion and same-sex marriage in recent times, Portuguese lawmakers will decide today on another issue that has brought a confrontation between faith and politics in this predominantly Catholic country: whether to allow euthanasia and doctor-assisted suicide.

The outcome of the vote is uncertain and is likely to be close, but Portugal could become one of just a handful of countries in the world to permit euthanasia under certain circumstances.

Euthanasia — when a doctor kills patients at their request — is legal in Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. In Switzerland, and some U.S. states, assisted suicide — where patients administer the lethal drug themselves, under medical supervision — is permitted.

A series of left-leaning governments determined to bring about what they call a “modernization” of the country, as well as the Catholic Church’s waning influence, have opened the door to deep cultural changes in Portugal. That trend has included permitting abortion on demand in 2007 and same-sex marriage three years later.

A 2016 petition by right-to-

PORTUGAL

Parliament considers allowing euthanasia, assisted suicide



AP PHOTO
People stand on the steps of the Portuguese parliament in Lisbon during a protest against euthanasia

die activists pushed the contentious and divisive issue of euthanasia onto the political agenda. It got more than 8,000 signatures — more than double the amount needed to force a parliamentary debate last year.

The petition said allowing euthanasia would be “a concrete expression of an individual’s

rights to autonomy, to religious freedom and freedom of conscience, which are rights enshrined in the Constitution.” It added: “It is of the utmost importance to end pointless and useless suffering, imposed by the convictions of others.”

In response, a petition by the Portuguese Federation for Life

a few months later collected more than 14,000 signatures and told lawmakers that society and the state have a duty to protect human life.

Now, four left-leaning political parties — the governing center-left Socialist Party, the radical Left Bloc, the Green Party, and the People, Animals, Nature party — have tabled bills proposing euthanasia and doctor-assisted suicide. Inciting or assisting euthanasia is currently punishable by up to three years in prison.

The Socialist government’s bill has the best chance of success, having the most lawmakers of the parties proposing legislation, though there is little difference between the four parties’ proposals.

The Socialist bill covers patients who are “in a situation of extreme suffering, with an untreatable injury or a fatal and incurable disease.” Two doctors, at least one of them a specialist in the relevant ill-

ness, and a psychiatrist must sign off on the request to die. The case then goes to a Verification and Evaluation Committee, which can approve or turn down the procedure.

The process is postponed if it is legally challenged, or if the patient loses consciousness, and doctors can refuse to perform the procedure on moral grounds. Oversight is provided by the General-Inspectorate for Health.

To discourage people from traveling to Portugal to end their life, the bills all stipulate that patients must either be Portuguese citizens or legal residents.

Before the debate, the Portuguese Episcopal Conference has been distributing 1.5 million pamphlets arguing against legalizing euthanasia, arguing it would be “a backward step” for society.

“Life cannot be regarded as an object for personal use,” the pamphlet says. **AP**

AD

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what's ON



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

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

UNTIL: July 31, 2018

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

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

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911 & 8394 1208

LA PARISIENNE - CABARET FRANCAISE

TIME: 8pm (Tuesdays to Fridays)

2pm & 8pm (Saturdays)

2pm & 5pm (Sundays)

UNTIL: June 17, 2018

VENUE: Parisian Theatre, Parisian Macau

ADMISSION: MOP188, MOP388, MOP488

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8818 / 2855 5555

DISCOVER MACAU: MUSEUM OF TAIPA AND COLOANE HISTORY

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

ADDRESS: Rua Correia da Silva, Taipa

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

Offbeat



Jason Seaman, science teacher at Noblesville West Middle School

TEACHER WHO STOPPED SHOOTING SAYS HE HAD TO ACT

An Indiana congresswoman says a teacher who stopped a school shooting has been released from a hospital.

U.S. Rep Susan Brooks says she met over the weekend with Jason Seaman at the Noblesville, Indiana, school where the shooting occurred Friday. She says Seaman is a "hero teacher" who stopped the violence.

Seaman and a student were shot by another student at Noblesville West Middle School. Ella Whistler's family says she's in critical but stable condition.

Seaman is credited with knocking a gun away and tackling the shooter.

President Donald Trump is praising the suburban Indianapolis science teacher who stopped a shooting inside his classroom.

The Indiana teacher said yesterday his swift decisions were the "only acceptable action" to save his students.

Jason Seaman spoke publicly for the first time, three days after he tackled and disarmed a student with a gun at Noblesville West Middle School.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
15:35	Miscellaneous
16:10	Miscellaneous
17:35	Brazilian Soap Opera (Repeated)
18:25	TDM Sports (Repeated)
19:35	Portuguese Serie Sr.1
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Interview
21:30	Documentary
22:10	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Road to the 2018 FIFA World Cup
00:05	Champions League Magazine 2017/2018
00:40	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:15	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

24 - 30 May



SOLO: A STAR WARS STORY

ROOM 1

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

Director: Ron Howard

Starring: Alden Ehrenreich, Woody Harrelson, Emilia Clarke

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 135min

THE CRIMES THAT BIND

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:45 7:00pm

Director: Katsuo Fukuzawa

Starring: Hiroshi Abe, Nanaki Matsushima, Junpei Mizobata

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 119min



AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

ROOM 2

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

Director: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo

Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 149min



I CAN ONLY IMAGINE

ROOM 3

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

Director: Jon Erwin & Andrew Erwin

Starring: Dennis Quaid, J. Michael Finley, Madeline Carroll

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 110min

DESTINY: THE TALE OF KAMAKURA

ROOM 3

7:15pm

Director: Takashi Yamazaki

Starring: Masato Sakai, Mitsuki Takahata

Language: English (Chinese)

this day in history



1968 MANCHESTER UTD WIN EUROPEAN CUP

Manchester United have become the first English club to win the European Cup beating Portuguese side Benfica by four goals to one.

Ten years after the Munich air crash, which killed eight of Matt Busby's young team, Manchester United have reached the pinnacle of European football.

Celtic became the first Scottish and British club to win the cup the previous year.

United's star player, George Best, was named European Footballer of the Year - just a fortnight after being named the football writers' Footballer of the Year.

Tonight's match at Wembley was watched by a crowd of 100,000 and an estimated 250 million TV viewers. It was the biggest television audience since the World Cup final two years before.

As both teams wear red kit, United opted to play in their blue away strip for the game.

The first half passed in a flurry of fouls before Bobby Charlton headed the opening goal in the second half to make it 1-0.

With only 10 minutes left to go, Benfica scored the equaliser - and very nearly won the match when their feared striker Eusebio broke away from Nobby Stiles, the player tasked with marking him, and blasted the ball towards the net.

But it was saved by keeper Alex Stepney and the game went into extra time.

Two minutes into extra time Best put United ahead again, slipping round the keeper and gently tapping it over the line.

It was followed by two more United goals, from 19-year-old Brian Kidd and captain Bobby Charlton, taking the final score to 4-1.

Manager Matt Busby said: "They've done us proud. They came back with all their hearts to show everyone what Manchester United are made of. This is the most wonderful thing that has happened in my life and I am the proudest man in England tonight."

Busby was seriously injured in the crash which claimed the lives of his so-called Busby Babes and there was speculation at the time that the club had been so badly damaged it would have to fold.

But they struggled on to complete the 1958/59 season and when Busby returned to the manager's role the following season he began the task of rebuilding the side.

The club won the league in 1965 and 1967, but today's win marks the pinnacle of the club's achievements.

Charlton and Bill Foulkes were the only survivors of the crash who played in today's final.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The European Cup marked the highlight of Matt Busby's long career at Manchester United and he later received a knighthood. He retired after the following season to become the club's general manager.

For George Best it was the highlight of his footballing career. The same year he was also named European Footballer of the Year.

He was regarded by many as one of the greatest footballing talents in the world, ranked alongside the Brazilian great Pele.

He was the first footballer to gain superstar status - but his fame led him into a life of womanising and alcohol.

By 1972 he had announced his retirement from the game - he returned to United a year later but by early 1974 he had left for good.

In 2002 he had a liver transplant. He died in November 2005.

Bobby Charlton had a distinguished playing career for England and Manchester United. He scored 48 goals for England, a record which still stands. He was knighted in 1994.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Time to take care of the mundane details - the shopping, the mopping, the laundry, the stuff on the last-minute to-do list. It may be tough to squeeze it all in since you're so busy.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Something unexpected could happen at work now - something that could have you working unexpectedly hard. It's unfortunate, considering how much else you have to get done.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Tackle your errands and attend to the details - with the energy the stars are sending your way, it shouldn't be much of a challenge at all. In fact, you can be a powerhouse now...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You've got the capacity to focus on smaller issues now, and your ability to communicate is very good - no being tongue-tied at this juncture. You'll probably even enjoy getting organized.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You're much less impulsive now than usual - in fact, you're capable of doing some real strategizing, whether in the realm of work, home or even romance. Those around you may find you a little introverted today.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Your particular talents are making you a definite all-star at the moment, so be ready to revel in the glory. Getting things all in order and shined up for fun is one of your specialties.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You're always a good listener, but your capacity in this area right now is extra noticeable - in fact, you may find yourself on the receiving end of a confidence that you may or may not want to hear.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You need a plan, and the right ideas just aren't coming to you. Don't panic - call in an expert in the area, namely one of your friends who's as resourceful and determined as you usually are.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Yikes - today definitely isn't the day to ask for a raise. In fact, whoever's in charge of your paycheck could be a royal pain in the behind right now. You're really chafing under their authority.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You're extra grounded, which is a good place to come from if you have to tell some difficult truths. Do a little bit more research to make sure you've got all the facts, then position yourself to say it like it is.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Get yourself grounded - maybe this involves tidying up your desk or your house, and clearing your thoughts as you do so. Then you'll be ready to handle some pertinent details.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Someone needs your famous helping hand and/or listening ear. If you're spending time with family, a relative may have a story to share that you'll be expected to react to with action.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized as Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION for various cities in China and the World.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Go out with; 5- Bang-up; 9- Suckle; 14- Excuse me; 15- Family group; 16- Golf clubs; 17- Offering opposition; 19- Gives up; 20- One giving a ring; 21- Dynamic beginning; 23- This is what eyes do; 24- Hurt; 26- Tabula ...; 28- Photographer Adams; 30- Actress Kidman; 34- ... see it...; 37- An organization; 39- Wise one; 41- New Zealand parrot; 42- Tons; 43- Going forward; 48- Ave. crossers; 49- The Dog Star; 50- Slow mover; 52- Thrust with a knife; 54- Firstborn; 57- City official; Abbr.; 60- Wall covering slab for a kitchen or bathroom; 62- Less fatty; 64- Orange Bowl site; 66- Personified; 68- Hay bundles; 69- Sports figure?; 70- 1982 Disney film; 71- Notre Dame's Fighting ...; 72- ... Like it Hot; 73- Vintner's prefix; DOWN: 1- Jeanne ... (French saint); 2- Lots; 3- Inventor Nikola; 4- Iago's wife; 5- Girl on film; 6- Suffix with pay; 7- Grandma; 8- Keyboard key; 9- Capital of Cyprus; 10- Suffix with fail; 11- Staffs; 12- Dagger; 13- Latin being; 18- Medicinal shrub; 22- Punjabi princess; 25- Student tables; 27- Proceedings; 29- Silt deposit; 31- Painter's medium; 32- Booty; 33- Tolkien tree creatures; 34- Snakes; 35- Dress often worn by Hindu women; 36- Aviation pioneer Sikorsky; 38- The ... Mutiny; 40- Auspices; 44- Lustful; 45- Lou's "La Bamba" costar; 46- Bordered by a ridge; 47- Down source; 51- Simple shed; 53- Rapture; 55- Trap; 56- Grand ... National Park; 57- Prefix with dextrous; 58- Person who is liable to tell untruths; 59- Surrealist Salvador; 61- Within (prefix); 63- Gambling haven; 65- Parisian possessive; 67- Engine part;

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

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



Real estate advertisement for JML Property with listings for various properties in Macau and Taipa.

TENNIS

Venus Williams: two first-round Slam exits in row for first time

Venus Williams has lost her opening match at two consecutive Grand Slam tournaments for the first time in her illustrious career.

Her coach, David Witt, thinks the quick exit at the French Open yesterday [Macau time] was because Williams did not do a good enough job of switching tactics on the red clay that has never been her best surface.

Williams bowed out in the first round in her 21st appearance at Roland Garros, beaten 6-4, 7-5 by 85th-ranked Wang Qiang of China. That follows an equally abrupt exit for the 37-year-old American at the Australian Open in January.

“The girl’s weapon is her forehand, but Venus kept hitting second serves to her forehand. You’ve got to realize what’s going on out there when you’re losing. And you’ve got to change. She didn’t change,” Witt said after watching Williams’ match from a guest box behind one of the baselines at Court Suzanne Lenglen.



“I’m sitting there, going, ‘OK, you can’t keep making that mistake,’ but she does,” Witt said.

“It’s easier said than done. Somebody watching can see it. Somebody that’s playing so-

metimes can’t see it, regardless if they’ve played 20 years or more.”

The ninth-seeded Williams offered mostly terse answers in her news conference.

“I mean,” she said, “nobody plans on this.”

As for whether there were things she thought she could have tried to do differently yesterday, she replied: “Yeah, I think ‘differently’ is win the point.”

She actually built a 3-0 lead in the second set, then frittered that away. Over and over, she would shank a shot — backhands, more than anything — then look over in Witt’s direction with a hand on her hip. Her often-terrific serve was not on target, either, with only 56 percent of first serves landing in and four double-faults.

Over the course of 100 minutes on a muggy afternoon, Williams offered up 12 break points, four of which Wang converted. Williams made 16 of the match’s first 25 unforced groundstroke errors. She finished with 35 unforced errors in all, 21 more than Wang.

“I just wanted to play no mistakes — not too many mistakes — and if I get a chance [at a winner], I just go for it,” said Wang, who entered the day with only six victories in 20 previous Grand Slam matches.

Those 14 losses include one apiece against Williams at the French Open and Wimbledon in 2017. **AP**

AD

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

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

The Macau Health Bureau has notified the hospital to stop all operations for 6 months, thus the dental clinic won't be able to provide you with dental services either. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Office phone: 8862 2208 / 8862 2206 Cellphone: 00853-6826 9099 Wechat: MALODENTAL853 Email: service.maloc@maloclinics.com.cn Website: http://www.maloclinics.com.cn
(Can be contacted at any time)

Once again, we would like to apologize for all the inconvenience this has put on you all. Thank you all for your understanding and support. We hope to find solutions for everyone's cases as soon as possible so that we may keep providing quality dental service to you all.

Yours Sincerely,

Gumardes | Gports | Gale | Avelis | Coimbra | Sines | Cascais | Lisboa | Almada | Portimão | Faro | Funchal | Windsor | Voores
München | Berlin | Oslo | Warsaw | Cracow | Athens | Istanbul | New York | Rochester | Jersey City | St. Louis | Miami | Portland
Toronto | Montreal | Tulsa | Phoenix | Broward | Bogotá | Melbourne | Sydney | Perth | Brisbane | Hobart | Gold Coast | Leeds
Tel Aviv | Ramat Hasharon | Dubai | Karachi | Chennai | Macau | Hong Kong | Beijing | Shanghai | Guangzhou | Shenzhen | Taipei
Zhangzhou | Chengde | Qingdao | Hainan | Shenyang | Fuzhou | Hangzhou | Tokyo | Sapporo | Bangkok | Phuket | Singapore

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RUGBY

Kolisi first black player to be appointed Springboks captain

Gerald Imray

SIYA Kolisi became the first black player to be appointed captain of the South Africa rugby team yesterday, a significant moment in the Springboks' 127-year history.

Kolisi was named captain for the three-test home series against England next month.

He had already become the first black player to temporarily captain South Africa in a test last year when Eben Etzebeth was injured during a game in Wales.

Another black player, Chiliboy Ralepelle, captained a South Africa team against a World XV in a 2006 game that didn't have test status.

Etzebeth and Warren Whiteley, who has been South Africa's regular captain for the past two years, are out injured and there is no timeframe on their return, so Kolisi was formally given the job by new coach Rassie Erasmus ahead of the start of the season.

Springboks captain is the biggest job in South African sport, and Kolisi's appointment is seen as a pivotal moment for a team and a country still trying to fully emerge from decades of white racist rule under the apartheid regime.

During apartheid, only whites were allowed to play for the Springboks, the team viewed as an extension of



South Africa's Siya Kolisi takes a selfie with teammates

apartheid and which remains under scrutiny at home because of the predominance of white players.

Kolisi is among a new breed of black players to break through that barrier, though, 24 years after apartheid officially ended.

The 26-year-old Kolisi grew up in a poor township in South Africa's Eastern Cape province before being spotted by rugby scouts and earning a scholarship to one of the top schools in the region.

The flanker made his debut for the Springboks against

Scotland in 2013 as a fifth-minute replacement and was named man of the match.

Kolisi's success has been embraced by many South Africans as an inspiring achievement in the face of adversity.

South African politicians, soccer teams, and even Olympic champion runner Wayde van Niekerk all posted messages congratulating Kolisi on social media.

Erasmus chose to rest Kolisi and other senior players for South Africa's first test of the season — against Wales in Washington D.C. on Saturday

— so lock Pieter-Steph du Toit will captain the Boks in that game for the first time.

There were 13 non-white players in Erasmus' 26-man squad to travel to the United States for the one-off test against Wales next weekend, including Ralepelle. The squad is a largely experimental group, with 13 of them uncapped at test level and five of them with five test caps or less.

Most of the senior Springboks, including Kolisi, will stay at home to prepare for England. **AP**



Algerian soccer fans show money to photographers, in Gijon, Spain, after the World Cup soccer match between West Germany and Austria

ON THE ROAD TO WORLD CUP

Cynicism wins as West Germany beats Austria in 1982

FIFA had been warned in 1978 that final group games should be played at the same time to ensure fairness.

Four years later in Spain, one of the most controversial World Cup matches took place when West Germany played Austria in the "Disgrace of Gijon." Similar to earlier circumstances when Argentina routed Peru 6-0 to make it to the World Cup final, both teams took the field of play knowing the stakes.

In the latter case, the two teams knew that a 1-0 win for West Germany would be enough for both to progress to the next round because they both had superior goal differences compared to Algeria, which had won its final group game against Chile the day before.

After West Germany took an early lead through a goal by Horst Hrubesch, neither team did much to try to score the rest of the way. There were 40-yard back passes to the goalkeeper and endless passages of play involving sideward moves.

The crowd, which included fans of Algeria, grew restless. The final minutes of the match were particularly drab.

Though there is no indication that it was fixed, the match has gone down as one of the most cynical ever to be played. Algeria's fans waved banknotes to illustrate their fury at what had taken place on the field.

It prompted FIFA to change the rules. From 1986, the final group games would be played at the same time.

Algeria met eventual world champion Germany in the round of 16 at the 2014 World Cup, and the memory of the "Disgrace of Gijon" remained a motivation tool for coach Vahid Halilhodzic.

"Rigging kept us from going further," Halilhodzic said ahead of the match, which Algeria narrowly lost 2-1.

LI Junhui and Liu Yuchen survived two match points before beating Keigo Sonoda and Yuta Watanabe 17-21, 21-19, 22-20 to give China its 10th Thomas Cup men's badminton title with a 3-1 win over Japan over the weekend.

Li and Liu fought back from trailing 18-20 in the decider to beat the Japanese duo in a 70-minute encounter.

China last won the tournament in 2012.

Japan started in style when Kento Momota stamped his authority over Rio Olympic gold medalist Chen Long 21-9, 21-18, his second win over the fourth-ranked player after the Asian Championships final last

BADMINTON

China wins its 10th Thomas Cup title after Japan scare

month in Wuhan.

Liu Cheng and Zhang Nan put China back on track with a 21-10, 21-18 win over Takuto Inoue and Yuki Kaneko.

Third-ranked Shi Yuqi beat No. 14 Kenta Nishimoto 21-12, 21-17 as China took the lead before Li and Liu sealed victory.

Japan reached both the Thomas and Uber Cups finals. Its women's team beat Thailand 3-0 for their sixth Uber Cup win on Saturday.



China's Li Junhui (left) and Liu Yuchen

opinion

Our Desk
 Daniel Beitler



FAKE IT UNTIL YOU MAKE IT

Macau's approach to becoming a service platform for Sino-Lusophone trade most closely resembles the saying, "fake it until you make it."

It's unclear how effective Macau has been in facilitating trade, even as every public organization in the city - and most private ones - pledge to stand behind the so-called "One Platform" directive. In fact, from the rhetoric, you might think that the directive has already proved a major success.

The idea was for Macau to tap into its historical, social and cultural resources to facilitate trade between the mainland and the approximately 280 million people who live in Portuguese-speaking countries.

But China hardly needs Macau's input to develop trade links; the whole world - with the exception perhaps of US President Donald Trump - is itching for closer trade ties with China. Instead, the Platform concept was gifted by China as a helping hand in the city's economic diversification plan - and, as a gift, how much is Macau expected to do to earn it?

The Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute boasts that local initiatives have made a significant impact in increasing bilateral trade between China and the Portuguese-speaking world to a total of USD90.9 billion by 2016. This, the Institute says, represents a nine-fold increase in trade volumes compared to 2003, when the Forum (Macao) was first held.

It's hard to tell how much of this can be accredited to Macau.

A good place to start is by examining trade volumes between China and other world economies of a similar size to the combined economies of the Lusophone sphere.

The total gross domestic product of the Lusophone sphere is approximately \$3 trillion, on par with the world's fourth, fifth and six largest economies - according to IMF estimates from last year - Germany (\$3.42 trillion), the UK (\$2.5 trillion) and India (\$2.45 trillion).

Trade between China and the UK stood about 8.2 times higher in 2016 than in 2000, while trade between China and Germany grew 5.6-fold in the same period. On the other hand, Sino-Indian trade volumes grew from less than \$3 billion in 2000 to \$70.7 billion in 2016, representing a whopping 23-fold increase.

Though there are clearly country-specific factors in determining how fast the relative trade volumes have grown - namely the relative distance, types of goods and services produced by the countries, as well as the political incentives for Chinese investment - the similar pace of growth seen in other major world economies surely diminishes the role that Macau is supposed to have played.

Brazil is an obvious example. Accounting for about 55 percent of the Lusophone economy, it is Beijing's single most attractive target among the nine countries, not least because of its natural resources.

But despite several attempts since the 1980s, Brazil has had little success in developing cultural and economic ties to Macau, even as trade between China and Brazil has been on the rise.

As Paul Spooner of the Macau University of Science and Technology wrote in a 2016 paper, bilateral trade relations between China and Brazil appear to have developed "without any involvement of Macau or any effort to insert Macau in the China-Brazil link."

As for Macau's personal participation in Lusophone trade, that too has been very limited. In 2017, the trade volume between Macau and Portuguese-speaking countries amounted to approximately MOP649 million (about \$80 million), or not quite 0.01 percent of all China-Lusophone trade.

In per capita terms, the average person in Macau engaged in only twice as much trade with Portuguese-speaking countries as the average person on the mainland. Given the close links to the Portuguese-speaking world, that can only be described as disappointing.

In the meantime, the Platform will continue to be hailed as a success and Macau will go on faking it.

THE STORM ALBERTO MAINTAINS STRENGTH AS IT APPROACHES GULF COAST

Subtropical Storm Alberto headed toward anticipated landfall sometime yesterday on the northern Gulf Coast, where white sandy beaches emptied of their usual Memorial Day crowds.

And just as the long holiday weekend marked summer's unofficial start in the U.S., Alberto gave it the unofficial start of what forecasters recently predicted would be an active hurricane season.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami said

at 11 a.m. EDT Monday that Alberto was maintaining its strength as it approached the Florida Panhandle and was centered about 80 kilometers south of Panama City, Florida. The storm that was expected to make landfall later Monday had maximum sustained winds of 95 kph and was moving north at 13 kph.

Forecasters warned of life-threatening surf conditions, the possibility of a few brief tornadoes in much of Florida and parts of Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama.

New Zealand to kill 150,000 cows to end bacterial disease



Nick Perry, Wellington

New Zealand plans to slaughter about 150,000 cows as it tries to eradicate a strain of disease-causing bacteria from the national herd.

Politicians and industry leaders announced the ambitious plan yesterday. They say it will cost hundreds of millions of dollars, and, if successful, would be the first time an infected country has eliminated Mycoplasma bovis.

Farming is vital to the economy in New Zealand, whose isolation has helped protect it from some diseases which affect herds elsewhere.

Last July, Mycoplasma bovis was found in the country for the first time. Found in Europe and the U.S., the bacteria can cause cows to develop mastitis, pneumonia, arthritis and other diseases. They are not considered a threat to food safety, but do cause production losses.

Officials say they plan to kill all cows on any farms where the bacteria are found, even if some of the animals are healthy. They say many of the cows will be slaughtered at processing plants and used for beef, but some cows will have to be killed and buried on the

farms or dumped in approved landfills.

Officials have the legal authority to forcibly enter farms and kill animals even in cases where a farmer might resist, but they said they hope they don't have to use those powers.

Katie Milne, the national president of the advocacy group Federated Farmers, said it was important to try to get rid of Mycoplasma bovis while there was still a chance. She said they would try to make sure affected farmers had all the support they needed, including adequate compensation.

"This is a tough time, and the pain and anguish they're going to go through is really hideous," she said of the affected farmers. "And we have to support them as neighbors, community members, farmers, friends."

New Zealand is home to some 10 million cows, about double its human population. About two-thirds are dairy cows and the rest beef cattle. Milk products represent the country's largest single export, and much of it is sold to China and used in infant formula.

Mycoplasma bovis has so far been found on 38 farms throughout New Zealand, officials say, a number they expect to rise to at least 142

farms based on computer modeling. They say all the infections found so far can be traced back to a single farm, and that the bacteria likely arrived in New Zealand 18 months before they were first identified. Officials are still trying to figure out how the bacteria got into the country despite strict biosecurity controls.

About 24,000 cows have already been killed in recent months and at least 128,000 more will have to be culled, most over the next year or two. The cost of the eradication program is estimated at 886 million New Zealand dollars (USD616 million) over ten years. The government plans to pick up about two-thirds of the tab while farmers and the cattle industry will pay the rest.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said she believes it's still possible to eradicate Mycoplasma bovis.

"We don't know, in the long-term, what impact it could collectively have on an industry that is incredibly important to New Zealand's economy," she said. "So if we have an opportunity to be the country that eradicates this disease, then we'll take it."

Officials say they expect to know by the end of the year whether the eradication plan is working. **AP**

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	80-110 Moderate	
High Density Residential Area	70-100 Moderate	
Ambient	80-110 Moderate	

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

AUSTRALIA The government announced yesterday that the Senate will vote in June on cutting corporate tax rates after an opinion poll suggested the contentious reform had popular public support.

SYRIA A state-run newspaper said that the government will keep fighting "terrorists" despite U.S. warnings against a new offensive against rebels in southern Daraa province.



NATO-RUSSIA Poland's prime minister yesterday called a planned Russian gas pipeline, Nord Stream 2, a "new hybrid weapon" and says Moscow wants to use it to undermine NATO and the European Union.

SPAIN Lawmakers agreed yesterday to subject Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy to a vote of no confidence this week in the wake of graft convictions of businesspeople and officials tied to his conservative Popular Party.

PORTUGAL After legalizing abortion and same-sex marriage in recent times, lawmakers will decide today on another issue that has brought a confrontation between faith and politics in this predominantly Catholic country: whether to allow euthanasia and doctor-assisted suicide. **More on p15**



COLOMBIA's presidential election is heading into a divisive runoff between two ideological opposites as the conservative first-place finisher in Sunday's voting took a hard line against the country's peace deal while his rival pledged to champion the poor and excluded.

BRAZIL President Michel Temer announced a handful of measures aimed at getting truckers to end a crippling strike that has had a wide impact in Latin America's largest nation.