



LONGER MATERNITY LEAVE

Proponents of breastfeeding are calling for longer maternity leave, in line with international standards

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MORE GAMING CONCESSIONS

Macau businessman David Chow says that the government should consider granting more gaming concessions

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ZHUHAI STARTUP IS ONE OF THE HOTTEST IN CHINA

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SOUTH CHINA SEA The Philippine government has quietly protested after Chinese ships deployed a helicopter that flew “dangerously close” to a Philippine navy boat carrying supplies to Filipino marines based in a disputed shoal in the South China Sea.

PHILIPPINES The ousted Philippine chief justice yesterday appealed for the reversal of her unprecedented expulsion by fellow Supreme Court judges and warned it could lead to the destruction of judicial independence.

AP PHOTO



INDIA AND INDONESIA agreed yesterday to upgrade bilateral relations by signing more than a dozen agreements on a broad range of areas including defense, maritime affairs, trade and investment.

YEMEN Pro-government forces are planning an all-out assault on the Red Sea port of Hodeida, a lifeline for aid to the war-ravaged country, a military commander said yesterday.

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LYNZY VALLES



Christine Lam

Association calls for longer maternity leave

Lynzy Valles

PROPONENTS of breastfeeding are calling for longer maternity leave, wishing to extend the leave to a period of time in line with the International Labor Organization's ideal 96-day paid maternity leave.

The Macau Breastfeeding & Nurturing Promotion Association (APACIM) held a talk called "Breastfeeding and Child Nurturing talk: More Solutions than Challenges" on Tuesday, stressing the importance of nurtu-

ring the health of infants through breastfeeding.

The speaker, Christine Lam, noted that both Hong Kong and Macau have significantly improved in raising breastfeeding awareness, providing an atmosphere which is conducive to breastfeeding.

However, the nurse consultant, based in Hong Kong, noted that there is still significant room for improvement.

"There have been improvements. I think the government has started to encourage the

mothers to have nursing breaks [but] we should have a longer maternity leave so mothers are able to breastfeed the baby for longer," Lam said.

"If mothers have a nice place for them to breastfeed their babies in the public, then they would feel more comfortable feeding in public places," she added.

Lam also suggested that the government could further promote breastfeeding through advertisements to educate the public so as to facilitate the integration of breastfeeding mo-

thers in public places.

Citing research which shows that breastfeeding offers significant health benefits for infants and mothers, Lam urged new mothers to always opt for breastfeeding, despite the hardships faced particularly during the first two weeks which can include latching and post-partum depression.

"[Hospitals] can provide support to overcome this critical period. It's the most difficult time for mothers to adapt to motherhood and breastfeeding," she added, noting that the local hospitals should initially support these women.

Virginia Tam, chairlady of APACIM, said that the number of maternity leave days still remains a challenge for new mothers, noting that the current 70

days does not match the standard of ILO's recommended days.

"Maternity leave is an issue. 56 days is really not enough. The ILO recommended 98 days. Even in Macau, the civil servants' 90 days is not even up to the standard," Tam said.

According to Tam, the availability of lactation rooms has significantly improved in the past 18 months

"The association is happy about 56 days being bumped up to 70 days with the new labor law but it's still not really enough," the chairlady added.

Tam also questioned whether mothers get support from their workplaces – another challenge she claimed new mothers face.

According to Tam, the availability of lactation rooms has significantly improved in the past 18 months – a move she considers a big step forward.

"Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam really implemented this and asked all 15 organizations under his office to implement lactation rooms. We hope more enterprises would also follow," she said.

The association is also looking to encourage improved health-care professionals, citing the lack of professionals in this area.

"I think we see mostly health-care professionals are still a little bit behind their peers in other countries. I have to say that breastfeeding medicine is not so popular worldwide; in Macau it's probably a little bit left behind. We still have some room for improvements," Tam added.

Exam results revoked due to government's mistake

THE Legal Affairs Bureau (DSAJ) will organize another exam for the recruitment of technicians on July 1, with this exam intended to replace a previous exam that contained mistakes.

The results of the first exam, which was held

on March 31 of this year, have been annulled.

"A situation of violation of the principle of equality in the procedures followed in the knowledge test held on March 11 of 2018 [...] and all due consequences are all revoked," a dispatch published

in the Official Gazette reads.

The recruitment is meant to "fill a vacant post in the framework [of DSAJ] and of those that occur within two years, in the category of senior technical officers in the public relations area."

According to a report by Macau Concealers, a message sent by the DSAJ to the exam takers explained the reason behind the revocation.

"Repeated questions occurred in the original Chinese test, whereas no such situation occurred in the Portuguese-

se-test, and in order to ensure that the related test can be carried out under absolute fair and equal condition," the DSAJ said.

According to a report by Macau Concealers, 668 applicants for the DSAJ job will have to retake the exam due to

the mistake made by the government.

In its message to the applicants, the DSAJ apologized for the inconvenience caused, and claimed that it will review and improve the exam procedures in order to avoid similar mistakes in the future.

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US questions China's 'two systems' commitment

IN its latest policy report, the US State Department has questioned Beijing's commitment to China's "One Country, Two Systems" policy, referring to the recent incursions into Hong Kong's local autonomy.

BLOOMBERG



The actions of the PRC are 'inconsistent' with its rhetoric, the report says

According to RTHK, the report noted that although Beijing maintains its public support for the principle, it has flouted its obligations on several occasions. It said that the actions of the People's Republic of China were "inconsistent" with its rhetoric.

Specifically, the US State Department raised the issues of a re-

cent law to criminalize the improper use of the national anthem or flag and the plan to deploy mainland security agents at the West Kowloon terminus of the express rail link.

In spite of these violations, the State Department admitted that Hong Kong still enjoyed a high degree of autonomy in most

areas, for example in its economic and social policies, and its immigration and police force.

Naturally, the local government of the Hong Kong SAR rejected the State Department's comments, as it usually does with such foreign evaluations of what it terms the "internal affairs" of China.

In statement issued on Tuesday

night, the Hong Kong government wrote that the city had exercised a high degree of autonomy since the handover and that local people were administering the SAR "in strict accordance with the basic law."

"This demonstrates the full and successful implementation of the 'one country, two systems' principle, which has been widely

recognized by the international community," it said, adding that, "foreign governments should not interfere in any form in the internal affairs of the HKSAR."

China expressed strong dissatisfaction and resolute opposition to the report. "Hong Kong is China's special administrative region. Hong Kong affairs are China's internal affairs and no other country should interfere," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said yesterday, adding that China was strongly dissatisfied and resolutely opposed to the report, urging the United States to be cautious on issues related to Hong Kong and stop the wrong practice.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS WELL RESPECTED IN MACAU

IN ITS International Religious Freedom Report for 2017, the US State Department has found that religious rights are well respected in Macau. The report noted that residents enjoy the freedom to preach publicly, engage in religious activities, pursue religious education and develop and maintain relationships with religious groups abroad. Furthermore, the law states that the "government

does not recognize a state religion and stipulates all religious denominations are equal before the law." As for the religious demographic make-up of Macau, some 80 percent of the population are thought to be Buddhist. Meanwhile, there are approximately 30,000 Roman Catholics, 8,000 Protestants, 12,000 Muslims, 2,000 Bahais and an estimated 50 followers of Falun Gong.

Anima criticizes Canidrome for 'playing tricks'

ANIMA Macau has again slammed the Macau (Yat Yuen) Canidrome for not disclosing its plans to facilitate the adoption of greyhounds, saying that the Canidrome is only "playing a trick" with the government and the group.

President of the local animal rights association, Albano Martins, disclosed a letter issued to Anima this week by the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM), which proposes to increase its cooperation with the Canidrome with the adoption process,



Albano Martins

pledging to provide support.

Yesterday, the animal rights activist said that he phoned the Canidrome

and was instructed to fill in an adoption form on their website – a move which Martins condemned, as he claimed that

there were no such forms.

"We did what the government asked us to do. We phoned the Canidrome and they instructed us to ask friends to fill in an adoption form on the website. The website is not even working," Martins told the Times.

"There is no application for adoption, only an outline. So what are they telling us is only tricks. They are playing tricks with the government and with us," he added.

Martins recalled that Angela Leong, owner of the Canidrome, had al-

ready stated that it is easy for these greyhounds to be sent to China.

However, he reiterated that greyhounds are not allowed as pets in many cities including Zhuhai and Shenzhen – and would only be likely put into private tracks.

"What they say is rubbish. They never did anything," he said, pointing out that Anima had sent several letters to the company offering their assistance in re-homing their greyhounds.

"What they want is to stay there for a longer

time. This is a tricky business. I hope the Macau government will not lose their face," he said.

"They are just continuously postponing because they just want the land, they don't really care about the animals. They are playing a trick on all of us," he lamented. Martins added that he is not expecting the Canidrome to disclose its plans regarding the adoption of greyhounds by today.

The Canidrome is scheduled to close down on July 21. **LV**

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News at hand



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

Recent burglaries primarily took place in mornings

The majority of the city's recent burglary cases took place in the morning, the Judiciary Police (PJ) Director Sit Chong Meng revealed yesterday. From January to April, a total of 23 burglary cases were recorded, 13 more than in the same period of 2017. In total, a MOP7 million loss was recorded as a consequence of these crimes. Eighty percent of the crimes occurred in residences at high-levels. Sit noted that most thieves used fake keys or climbed into the houses.

5k fines proposed to illegal immigrants

A recently proposed immigration policy amendment suggests MOP5,000 fines for illegal immigrants. In a public consultation, Public Security Police Force (PSP) Commissioner Leong Man Cheong revealed the proposal. Some participants present in the consultation have suggested criminalizing illegal immigration. Leong said that illegal immigrants will be deported even if the proposal is passed. The same fine has also been suggested to be applicable to fishermen who engage in activities beyond their sea territory. Only when all fines are settled will these people be permitted to enter Macau.

Macau ranks joint highest on AIA Healthy Living Index

MACAU and the People's Republic of China have ranked joint-highest on the AIA Healthy Living Index 2018 with a total of 70 points each, according to Hong Kong's Ming Pao.

Meanwhile, the neighboring region of Hong Kong received just 58 points accredited to the fact that the average person in the territory exercised for just three hours per week.

AIA has been asking about people's attitudes to health since 2011 and this year surveyed 11,000 people in the Asia-Pacific region; namely the countries and territories of Australia, Cambodia, mainland China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Korea, Macau, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

This year the AIA Healthy Living Index average score is 64 for the Asia-Pacific region, unchanged when compared with the score from 2016. However, on aggregate satisfaction



with health declined from 84 percent in 2016 to 81 percent in 2018, while weekly exercise increased from 3.0 hours per week in 2016 to 3.6 hours per week in 2018.

Environmental factors were seen to remain a key health concern with 62 percent saying that air pollution is negatively affecting their health, 43 percent admitted to having

tries anti-pollution masks. Meanwhile, 49 percent are concerned about food safety.

The AIA report also found that the cost of maintaining health is also a concern. Fifty percent of respondents said that they were concerned about the potential costs of critical illnesses, while 46 percent estimated that the cost of cancer treatment would cause serious

financial implications for them. People identified, on average, a financial shortfall of 36 percent in their ability to pay direct cancer treatment costs.

Since 2011, AIA has conducted four Asia-Pacific-wide Healthy Living Index Surveys with the aim of highlighting trends and offering advice to individuals and communities on areas for improvement.

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- Quantitative Research Methods
- Travel Agency Operations
- Visitor Management

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW | WILFRED WONG, SCL PRESIDENT

Renewed properties 'to cater to new trend of family travelers'

Paulo Coutinho

BE it the one-billion dollar transformation of Sands Cotai Central into The Londoner or the revamp of Four Seasons – due to open in 2020 and 2019 respectively – for Wilfred Wong much of the effort his company makes is to cater to a new and popular type of visitor: the three-generation family traveler.

“The grandparents, the children and the parents” are coming in ever greater numbers to Macau and filling hotel rooms across Cotai.

“Macau, as an attraction to different age groups, is gaining traction,” Wong said.

Also vital in Sands China Limited's new investment strategy is the growth of the Premium Mass customer that seeks better quality and variety of non-gaming offers, while keeping the doors wide open for the mass segment where the company leads the pack.

The first quarter results support this strategy.

“In the premium mass and mass we really outpace the market. If we look at the first quarter, the premium mass gaming revenue increased by 35 percent. Occupied room nights [increased] by 24 percent and retail sales by 33 percent, so the overall property visitations were up 18 percent year on year.”

In an exclusive interview with the Times, the ever-confident Sands China president explained why location-themed resorts appeal so much to mainlanders, who know The Venetian and The Parisian but most have never been to Europe. “We speak their language, we serve their food. It's easier for them,” and Macau doesn't present the hurdles that a visit to Venice or Paris does for those in China.

That was the strengths and opportunities side of our SWOT-interview with Wilfred Wong, which started with potential threats: U.S.-China “trade war,” Hainan and the Wynn scandal.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - Do you think the Wynn scandal has affected the Macau image somehow, or the gaming sector by association?

Wilfred Wong (WW) - No. Everything happens in the U.S., and you know the company - particularly Mr Steve's involvement in the company - was under scrutiny by gaming boards in the U.S. It is not something which I believe has any direct impact on Macau; because he has an indirect share in the Macau concession, which he sold. And therefore, the company is left to run on its own, without



Steve's involvement. Now, I cannot speak on behalf of them, but thinking as an individual investor, and he is not the controlling shareholder [anymore], the company is still very solid and very strong, and [the case] has had no impact on their performance so far. Macau has been performing quite well for them.

MDT - Regarding the development of Hainan into an entertainment hub with a gambling component, is it a threat to Macau?

WW - I do not think so. First of all, whether Hainan would be given the permission to run gaming is a big question mark. I do not believe it will come. [...] Because if you look at what was publicly announced, they would be allowed to experiment with sports gaming and lottery. Now these are of a very different nature to casino gaming. Hainan is still within China, and China being a socialist country has many limits within which they have to operate. Macau has already been given this special permission [to have casinos] because of tradition and [the pledge of] maintaining the status quo. The central people's government has the wisdom to allow Macau to continue as it is. But to open another 'frontier' in Hainan? I do not see it in the immediate or foreseeable future. I mean, they may experiment with lotteries, they may even experiment with horse racing, which already runs in some other cities in China - they are allowing that to happen - but to allow casino gaming which is 24/7 is another matter, particu-

larly in a remote or economically relatively under-developed place like Hainan. They have to be very careful in making that decision, so I do not believe it's an immediate threat.

MDT - Another potential threat is the so-called trade war between China and U.S. Do you think this environment can affect American businesses in Macau; Macau, China?

WW - I do not think Macau is so significant that it was a feature in this whole U.S.-China relations, because we are talking about major, major trade issues between the two countries, and Macau is probably the last area they want to look at. I think the national people's government right now are really focusing on how to resolve those major trade issues, reducing the deficit balance with the U.S., and looking at areas like high-tech and intellectual property rights; so these are the predominant topics they are really focusing on, and not really Macau.

MDT - What I meant to imply is as we are approaching the tender for the new licenses, that the trade negotiations may be a threat to the American concessionaires' status quo in Macau.

WW - I think the central government really is very pragmatic. On the one hand, they are looking at their trade issues, economic relations, [and] long-term U.S.-China relations. On the other hand, they would have to have total regard for Macau's own development

and [be cognizant that] by taking certain actions it will disturb the balance, the stability and harmony [of the MSAR]. Even if you were to do something to Macau, the impact it will have on the whole U.S.-China relations is minimal.

“ [Mainlanders] like Macau because, first, we all speak Chinese; and the food is still Chinese food, even in 'Venice'.”

MDT - Do you feel you are getting clear indications from the government concerning this new concession process?

WW - Well, I keep telling people that we take into consideration what the government says. The government says “we want diversification, [balancing] economic growth; we want non-gaming.” Well, we at Sands China are doing everything according to the government's lead. So SCL, if you look at the whole picture, is the first among peers to do that [non-gaming activities]. If you look at the six concessionaires together, we are 51 percent of the total hotel rooms, we are 53 percent of the retail malls, we are 87 percent of the MICE space, and we've already

achieved 16 percent of non-gaming revenue over total revenue, while in the Mid-Term Gaming Review commissioned by the government [May 2016], it was only recorded at about 9 percent. So, we are doing everything we can to push to the limit and our recently announced investment in The Londoner with the revamp of the Sands Cotai Central is also an indication of our commitment to the long-term future, of our confidence and a lot of those investments are in non-gaming.

MDT - Speaking of which, are there any new developments in The Londoner project?

WW - At this stage, all I can say is it is a total renovation [of SCC]; exterior, interior. Interior includes hotels, [the] addition of apartments, a shopping mall, common spaces, and there are many more features, like F&B - we will definitely have British Pubs, fish 'n' chips...

MDT - Will there be open-air areas?

WW - There will be a lot of skylights. But we believe that the Macau weather needs air-conditioning. So, even if we create something like an open space, it would be covered.

We are converting the Holiday Inn Hotel into The Londoner Hotel. Basically, the rooms will be similar to the size of the Venetian. We will also increase the accommodation offer with 350 new apartment units in the St Regis because we still have a lot of space there now. And those apartments will mainly be one to two bedrooms suites; about two-thirds one-bedroom and one-third two-bedroom suites. It will be a new type of accommodation with kitchenette to cater to this new clientele [the three-generation family travellers]. This is becoming popular. So, at The Londoner, having these new tourists in mind, the shopping mall will emulate the main London streets. There will be this London 'streetmosphere.'

MDT - You said recently that many tourists who come to Macau have never been to Europe. But I want to look at it the other way around: are mainland tourists going to the real places after visiting the Venetian, the Parisian?

WW - (Laughs) I think Chinese going overseas is becoming a trend. A lot of Chinese really want to visit overseas. But as you know, they need to apply for passports, and visas and, it is a lengthy and complex process, [...] they look at your income level and all that. [Coming] into Macau they never look at income level, so that is why it's easier to come here. And of course, these would not be the only attractions of Macau. Actually many of them told us they like us [Macau] because, first, we all speak Chinese; it's easier for them. Second, the food is still Chinese food, even in 'Venice' [laughs]. And third is that Macau has its own attractions as well.



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+ INFO



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Chow says gov't should consider more gaming concessions

Julie Zhu

MACAU businessman David Chow says that the government should consider granting another two gaming concessions for the benefit of Macau's overall development.

The Macau Legend Development Limited held its Annual General Meeting at the Legend Palace Hotel yesterday.

On the sidelines of the meeting, David Chow expressed his opinion and also discussed other topics concerning the development of his company.

"We have the contract with SJM, if we don't have the concession. [Or the concession open], and if I try to get one license, of course, for my individual private company, of course I am [going to] try to get our own license. If we don't have it, we still have to continue the contract," said Chow.

Yesterday, Chow noted that the money his company made from the recent sale of the Landmark building will be used for the development of the



David Chow

Fisherman's Wharf.

"We have to put more money in the development. [...] The valuation of the landmark does not mean anything. [...] [We want to] tell the world that there is the value [of the Fisherman's Wharf]. We try to concentrate on marketing and to put into the fisherman's wharf," said Chow, adding "in Macau, one location can't have four casinos, it's already enough."

"If [the company] doesn't sell the landmark to minimize the size and to put all effort in the fisherman's wharf, all the mo-

ney we get from the landmark we [will use for] the development in the fisherman's wharf," said Chow.

According to Chow, his company is still involved in the management of the Landmark.

Chow noted that many investors are interested in Macau and have approached him about doing so.

"A lot of people are considering coming to Macau to invest [...] because of the predicted conditions in Macau in the future. The traffic is perfect, the [Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau]

bridge, the Greater Bay, and the airport is going to redevelop again. I think it's good for Macau. [...] We [Legend Development] are solid," said Chow.

When addressing the hotel project at the Fisherman's Wharf, Chow emphasized that his company is still waiting for the government's approval.

Chow noted that he will not reveal the project's development cost at the current stage since the government has not yet issued approval.

"I get enough money to invest. Five billion US dollars, if the government wants," Chow said, who also stated that he is considering various projects in Portugal as well, which will be determined by what the country wants and needs the most.

Earlier, in February, Chow announced that he had applied to start a new banking institution in Cape Verde.

Chow disclosed he has already submitted the application to the Cape Verde government.

Within three months, Chow's company will announce updates regarding a project in Cambodia.

Package tour visitors surged 13pct in April

VISITORS to Macau on package tours totaled 757,000 in April 2018, according to newly-released information from the Statistics and Census Service, up by 12.9 percent year-on-year and 6.2 percent month-to-month.

Package tour visitors from mainland China (596,000) and South Korea (50,000) grew by 12.2 percent and 27.8 percent respectively year-on-year, while those from Taiwan (53,000) surged by 57.5 percent. In the first four months of 2018, visitors on package tours totaled over 2.88 million, up by 20.1 percent compared to the same timeframe in 2017.

Outbound residents using the services of travel agencies increased by 8.1 percent year-on-year to 120,000. The number of residents travelling on package tours in April decreased by 8.9 percent year-on-year to 41,000, with those going to mainland China dropping by 22.4 percent to 27,000.

In the first four months of 2018, outbound residents using the services of travel agencies totaled 501,000, up by 12.6 percent year-on-year.

There were 115 hotels and guesthouses operating at the end of April 2018, eight more than the previous year. The number of guest rooms grew by 6 percent year-on-year to 39,000, with 5-star hotel rooms rising by 7.9 percent to 24,000, accounting for 61.2 percent of the total.

The number of guests in hotels and guesthouses in April rose by 7.6 percent year-on-year to 1.16 million, with those coming from mainland China (792,000) and Taiwan (43,000) increasing by 16.8 percent and 4.5 percent respectively, while those from South Korea (35,000) and Hong Kong (135,000) dropped 3.6 percent and 19.5 percent respectively.

In the first four months of 2018, the number of guests of hotels and guesthouses was just under 4.52 million, up by 8.8 percent year-on-year.

Local film director Tracy Choi in Cannes

THE Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) supported local film director Tracy Choi as she brought her movie "Sisterhood" to participate in activities with the Cannes Film Festival. According to a statement issued by the MGTO yesterday, the sponsorship aimed to "further enhance Macau's reputation

in the international film industry" as well as to boost the region's tourism development.

During the festival, Choi attended different exchange sessions where she met international filmmakers.

The 71st Cannes Film Festival was held from May 8 to 19 in France. Aside from the highly

anticipated competition section and award winners, 70 countries and regions set up pavilions in the Village International, aiming to showcase their film industry development in this reputable film interchange platform. Among the pavilions, the Village International China Pavilion offered a series of even-



Tracy Choi (second from right) in Cannes

ts, among them a "Meet Macau by Her Culture Treasure" promotion session.

Tracy Choi and the MGTO took the opportu-

nity to promote the 3rd International Film Festival & Awards Macao (IFFAM), which will be staged between December 8 and 14.

corporate bits

MGM LAUNCHES 'HEALTHY MIND HEALTHY LIFE' CAMPAIGN



Between May 20 and June 8, MGM launched a three-week "Healthy Mind Healthy Life" campaign with a wide array of wellbeing-related activities. Around 10,000 team members and their family took part in the cam-

paign and learned about the importance of healthy lifestyle, both at work and at home.

The Campaign kicked off with "5.20 - Let's Walk for Love" co-organized by Fuhong Society of Macau

and MGM, aiming to promote social inclusion and create awareness on mental health. It was then followed by a series of fun-filled events across MGM MACAU and MGM COTAI.

In support of "World Challenge Day" co-organized by Sports Bureau, Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau and Health Bureau of the Macao SAR government, MGM held fun workout challenge events at Grande Praça of MGM MACAU and the Spectacle of MGM COTAI simultaneously on May 30.

More than 320 team members were invited to come together for a 15-minute fitness challenge led by MGM fitness trainers.

PLANET 21 DAY INSPIRES ACCORHOTELS IN GREATER CHINA



This year's Planet 21 Day, the annual date calling for action by hotels to promote

sustainable development, was celebrated on April 21 by AccorHotels in Greater

China.

This year's theme was Every Ecogesture Counts, which inspired a variety of innovative and creative initiatives involving stakeholders across all levels from the local community to hotel owners, partners, guests and staff members.

As an adherent to hospitality corporate social responsibility, Planet 21 demonstrates the group's ambitious goal of sustainable development by 2020, based around four major pillars - employees, customers, partners and local communities. Special events focused on diverse subjects from education, NGO support, sports, clean-up, food waste to urban gardening.

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GAMING

Startups are preparing to jump into the sports betting market

Joshua Brustein

AS the chief executive officer of a fledgling sports gambling company, Tom King said there have been two watershed moments in the last year. One, of course, was the Supreme Court's recent move to let states legalize sports gambling. The other was the rise of HQ, the smartphone trivia app that draws over one million people to compete for cash in its twice-daily games. The Supreme Court gave King confidence that his company, Readyfire Inc., would be able to offer new gambling products legally; HQ showed him that people would use them.

In the short term, the primary beneficiaries of the Supreme Court's decision are likely to be the established casinos and gaming companies in New Jersey that handle the action from Jets fans visiting their local horse track. But Readyfire is betting that legal sports betting will expand until it's commonplace for people to place wagers on their phones during lulls in the action instead of checking Twitter. As it aims to create many new gamblers, Readyfire is developing games that will appeal to people who are unlikely ever to set foot in a casino or cultivate a relationship with the neighborhood bookie.

A lot of stars have to align before a startup can start taking bets through a smartphone app. Even if many states do liberalize their laws, each will likely have different standards and licensing requirements. It will be very expensive to navigate this world. Officials could support sports gambling while balking at signing off on smartphone apps striving to make compulsive gambling as simple as Candy Crush. Chris Grove, managing director at



Eilers & Krejcik Gaming, a research and consulting firm, predicted that there will be an uneven patchwork rather than a single nationwide gambling market for the foreseeable future. "We won't have a 50-state sports betting market in our lifetime," he said.

Readyfire's first product, Halftime Live, is a sports-themed HQ lookalike that takes place during the halftime of sporting events. It launched in February, and its average game draws about 6,000 people, handing out prizes in the USD400 range. Running a trivia game for cash is already legal, but King sees Halftime Live as a way to build up an audience open to experimenting with other types of smartphone-based sports games for money. Some of these aren't gambling at all; some would fall under existing rules regulating fantasy sports; and still others would require changes to state law. "Now that it's legal, there will be a broadening of the market, where people are open to doing sports bets," King said.

King lays out a scenario where someone would come to an app and decide, say, that she liked Tom Brady. Putting down \$5 would set off a series of bets paying out different amounts if he threw for two touchdowns, or if the Patriots won, or if he had more yards than any other quarterback playing that day. The user could either look under the hood to check the odds of and wisdom of each bet or—more likely—not worry much about it. Each aspect of the game might fall into a different legal category. Part of Readyfire's service would be to convert all that complexity into the simply pleasure of a digital dopamine drip. Every time Brady completes a pass, the player on her phone would be a step closer to winning, without having to bother with the exact mechanisms of the game.

Another company that has been building an audience it hopes to convert to sports gambling in the near future is WinView Inc., whose investors include Graham Holdings Company, former owner of the

Washington Post, TV company Discovery Inc., and Monumental Sports & Entertainment, which owns several sports teams. WinView offers a quiz-like game where people make series of predictions about what will happen in a particular match. Because smarter players outperform others, such contests are considered games of skill, rather than gambling, and are allowed.

Readyfire is developing games that will appeal to people who are unlikely ever to set foot in a casino

Tom Rogers, the former CEO of TiVo, is WinView's executive chairman. He said his company's technology could be used to offer proposition bets, where people wager on something other than the outcome of a game, like whether a kicker will make the next field goal. Such games are popular in Europe, where sports betting is legal. They would require further legal changes to become broadly accepted in the U.S., though, and he's content to wait. "We will certainly be active in the gambling market, I don't want to say it changes our roadmap," he said.

Paul Martino, a general partner at the venture capital firm Bullpen Capital and a co-founder of Readyfire, thinks the ambiguity of the marketplace favors startups willing to take risks larger

companies are too prudent for. Martino was an early investor in FanDuel, the daily fantasy sports company which launched a product that felt like gambling but, the company argued, fell under a separate legal category. The nascent industry attracted large audiences, albeit by spending heavily on marketing and never actually turning a profit. It also barely survived a bruising, years-long legal battle.

In the end, the daily fantasy sports companies seem to have come out well-positioned to capitalize on the legalization of sports betting. A week after the Supreme Court made its decision, FanDuel was acquired by Paddy Power Betfair, a European gambling giant.

Readyfire's plan, said Martino, draws from that lesson. It plans to walk right up to the line of what lawmakers will tolerate, snapping up customers while more cautious companies wait for the legal situation to clear up. "Only startups are going to do this," he said.

Others question the wisdom of this strategy. Any company wading into legal gray zones risks imperiling its chances of getting the licenses that states will inevitably require, according to Eilers & Krejcik's Grove. The cost of securing these licenses, fulfilling compliance requirements, and surviving what is sure to be a heavy tax burden tilts the tables heavily in favor of large companies, said Justin Park, CEO of RotoQL Inc., a company that sells data subscriptions to daily fantasy sports players and gamblers. Monthly subscriptions cost between \$13 and \$100, and the company has revenue in the millions of dollars, according to Park.

Park thinks startups will do best providing services that benefit from gambling. He doubts they'll be able to compete with large companies when it comes to operating actual gambling platforms, once the profit-squeezing taxation structures and politicized licensing processes are set in place. "This is going to become a big-boy game," he said. "You're going to have to come in with some serious money to compete." **Bloomberg**

IMF says China should open more to world, ease trade tension

CHINA has made progress on reforms but should allow market forces to play a more decisive role and accelerate its opening up to the rest of the world, the International Monetary Fund said.

While credit growth has slowed, it remains too fast, and policy makers should de-emphasize growth targets and focus on higher-quality growth, the fund said in a statement released yesterday in Beijing at the conclusion of its mis-

sion for the 2018 Article IV Consultation.

Embracing market forces means reducing public sector dominance over many industries, opening markets to the private sector, and ensuring competition, the fund said, adding that the trade and investment remain restrictive. The fund's recommendations chime with the criticisms that the Trump administration has leveled at Beijing in the course of the current trade dispute.

"Faster opening up would not only support China's own high-quality growth agenda, but also benefit the global economy," the IMF said in the statement. "Recent efforts to defuse trade tensions are welcome and efforts should continue to seek a negotiated settlement that strengthens the global economy."

The comments came hours after U.S. President Donald Trump saying he'll move ahead with tariffs on

\$50 billion of Chinese imports, and ahead of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross's return to Beijing this week for more talks from June 2. The IMF encouraged all sides to ease trade tensions and strengthen multilateral trade and investment.

The IMF's senior resident representative for China, Alfred Schipke, told reporters at a briefing that rising protectionism is a risk and unilateral actions can be counter-



productive. He added that the country's further opening of its financial sector should be gradual.

China's economic expansion will likely slow to 6.6 percent this year and to about 5.5 percent by 2023, according to the IMF. Economists surveyed by

Bloomberg project 6.5 percent growth this year. Reforms have made progress in safeguarding the financial sector, slowing credit growth, reducing overcapacity, cutting pollution and opening up the economy, the fund said. **Bloomberg**

INNOVATION

Robot boats propel Zhuhai startup

Blake Schmidt

IN the vast, freezing Ross Sea, China's "Snow Dragon" ice-breaker needed to find a safe anchorage before it could begin its mission to set up China's fifth Antarctic research station. The solution was to deploy one of Zhang Yunfei's freezer-tested boat drones to map the ocean floor.

For Zhang, it was the latest in a string of government contracts — from surveying Tibetan lakes to testing river pollution — that have helped him turn a university project into China's largest unmanned surface vessel company, one that has fired the interest of some of China's biggest venture capitalists. In a pending round of funding, Oceanalpha Co. Ltd. may be valued at USD780 million — about 40 times revenue — despite never having turned a profit.

"If you look at Chinese traditional culture, we're not as close to the ocean as Western countries. But now we're getting closer," Zhang, 34, said at his offices in Zhuhai, a seaside city next to Macau. "We want to change the relationship that human beings have with the sea."

Outside, workers are building the company's new \$40 million waterfront headquarters on land leased at a steep discount from the government, fashioned like a giant 10-story catamaran, including topographical pools for testing. Alongside a private dock are prototypes of various sizes, from boats that can fit several people to motorized life savers for rescue missions.

While Shenzhen-based DJI led the charge in the competitive consumer market for aerial drones and China has used unmanned submersibles to probe the depths of the South China Sea, Oceanalpha is one of a handful of companies around the globe specializing in ocean-going drones that operate on the surface.

"Zhang found a unique niche," said Derrick Xiong, a co-founder of EHang Inc., which is developing aerial drones for swarms, deliveries and air taxis in nearby Guangzhou.

Oceanalpha's advantage is being in China, where capital is readily available and leader Xi Jinping is promoting both technology to move up the manufacturing value chain and maritime industries to enhance the nation's overseas interests.

As its trading empire has grown, so has China's interest in the oceans, with the construction of a modern navy, trading ports and an armada of merchant vessels. It's a turnaround from what China's textbooks call the "century of humiliation," when the



nation's weakness at sea allowed a period of foreign interventions beginning with the Opium Wars.

Zhang says venture capitalists began hounding him ever since his start-up won the China Innovation & Entrepreneurship competition in 2013. Zhen Fund and GGV Capital are both investors.

Workers are building the company's new USD40m waterfront headquarters on land leased at a steep discount from the government

Now, after nearly a decade focusing on research and development, Oceanalpha is expanding from water sampling and hydrological surveys into search and rescue, surveillance and other segments. The company may seek a public listing after 2020.

The big prize is cargo. Zhang has a new partnership with Wuhan University of Technology, China's Classification Society and Zhuhai municipal government that will use artificial intelligence to direct autonomous container vessels. "There will be

a huge revolution in the maritime industry within three years," Zhang said. "Cargo ships will be autonomous before cars."

The project, called Cloudrift — a reference to the Chinese legend of the monkey king, who could summon a cloud on which he traveled — is racing against rivals to build an unmanned cargo ship this year. Norway has created a test area for pilotless vessels in the Trondheim Fjord in a joint effort by the Norwegian University of Science Technology and companies including Rolls Royce.

Cloudrift's ship would be battery powered and use China's BeiDou satellite navigation system. The 50-meter vessel would have a loading capacity of 500 metric tons and a range of 500 nautical miles per charge. The company is building a test site of its own among islands about 50 kilometers from Zhuhai and the group is investing \$10 million in cargo technology and \$50 million in USV field-test development.

Zhang is in the right place. Zhuhai was one of the fastest-growing commercial ports in China last year and the Pearl River Delta, now calling itself the Greater Bay Area as it turns high-tech, is one of China's two giant logistics regions for container ships, along with the area around Shanghai.

Raised largely in Shenzhen by parents who worked at state-owned Chinese IT companies, Zhang's path into boat drones began across the bay at Hong

Kong University of Science and Technology, whose alumni include Frank Wang, founder of DJI and the first drone billionaire. Zhang and two PhD schoolmates, Cheng Liang and Wang Mingyu, convinced a chemistry professor to sell them sensors, which they mounted on a prototype to test the local seawater.

The three went on to found Oceanalpha, which now employs 260 people. Wang later left to join DJI. Cheng is general manager at Oceanalpha.

With the results of the university project, Zhang went on the road in 2009 for 10 months, showing local environmental agencies in nearly a dozen provinces how the vessels could help them collect water samples. He scored deals and started making boats that could suck water samples up through the hull and detect illegal pipelines spewing effluent into rivers.

"That trip gave us the confidence that the market needs this kind of technology," he said over sugary coffee with milk and pla-

There will be a huge revolution in the maritime industry within three years.

ZHANG YUNFEI
OCEANALPHA FOUNDER

tefuls of toffee candies.

Water sampling and hydrological surveying for government agencies and local authorities gave Oceanalpha cashflow to support research and explore other opportunities, including surveillance. In the factory paint shop, where workers put the finishing touches to different colored drones, a camouflaged version will help China's Coast Guard monitor port security.

A recent tie-up with industry giant Teledyne Technologies Inc. will also explore strategic opportunities, Zhang said. The Thousand Oaks, California-based company didn't respond to a request for comment.

But its Zhang's ties with Chinese government agencies that remain the impetus behind the company, in which the Zhuhai government holds a small stake. A wall of awards in his office shows photographs of Zhang with high-level Party officials. In one, he hands a model drone to Premier Li Keqiang in front of Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev. Li heads China's Made in 2025 initiative, which targets 10 areas for innovation, including maritime engineering. The program's subsidies have become a point of tension in U.S.-China trade talks.

One day Zhang hopes to have a picture with Xi, who may lead the country beyond 2023 after China recently scrapped presidential term limits. "Perhaps you'll see it next time you visit," he said. **Bloomberg**

Joe McDonald, Beijing

Beijing vows to fight Washington on tariff hike

CHINA'S government accused the Trump administration of hurting its credibility by acting erratically on trade and vowed yesterday to fight back if Washington goes ahead with a threatened tariff hike.

A foreign ministry spokeswoman complained the U.S. decision to renew a threat to raise duties on a USD50 billion list of Chinese goods conflicts with an agreement in mid-May aimed at settling that dispute. Treasury Steven Mnuchin said then the conflict was "on hold" after Beijing promised to buy more U.S. goods to help narrow its multi-billion-dollar trade surplus with the United States.

The spokeswoman, Hua Chunying, declined to say whether Tuesday's announcement might disrupt plans for Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross to visit Beijing on Saturday for more talks. The Commerce Ministry didn't immediately respond to questions about the status of the meeting.

Hua gave no indication whether Beijing planned to act on its own threat to retaliate by raising duties on a \$50 billion list of American goods including beef and soybeans.

"Every flip-flop and U-turn of a country will be simply depleting and squandering its own credibility," Hua said at a regular briefing.

"We do not want a trade war, but we are not afraid of one. We will fight back," she said. "We will definitely take forceful measures to defend our legitimate interests."

The White House announcement said Tuesday it also would impose curbs on Chinese investment and purchases of high-tech exports.

Asian financial markets tumbled on renewed worries about a U.S.-Chinese trade spat. China's



main market index fell 2.5 percent and Japan's benchmark lost 1.5 percent.

The White House's latest tariff action focuses on advanced technologies, including those such as robots and electric cars that China has said it wants to develop under its "Made in China 2025" program. The White House said a list of products would be announced June 15.

Trump's surprise announcement reflects his frustration at criticism of his earlier deal with Beijing, Eurasia analysts said in a report. They said he appears less concerned that he needs Chinese support for his proposed meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un.

"Trump is going on offense, reverting to his earlier instincts on China and re-empowering the trade hawks in his cabinet," Eurasia Group said. "This dynamic

makes it likely that both tariffs and investment restrictions will go into effect."

The American Chamber of Commerce in China said companies are uneasy about the threat of export and investment controls but see them as a possible way to make progress on longstanding complaints about market access and investment curbs.

As a result of Trump's tariff threat, Washington is in very intense negotiations with Beijing "in a way that we haven't been for so many years," said the chamber chairman, William Zarit. He said companies hope Beijing can be persuaded to "level the playing field" by easing curbs on foreign investment and business activity in its state-dominated economy.

"I wouldn't say we are in favor of, specifically, export controls, investment restrictions," Zarit

said at a news conference. But he said American companies want equal treatment, "and this seems to be one of the ways to do that."

Trump has focused on pressing Beijing to narrow its multi-billion-dollar trade surplus with the United States, but Zarit said American companies see other issues as higher priorities.

As Chinese companies expand abroad, the United States, Europe and other trading partners are pressing Beijing to ease curbs that keep their companies out of industries including banking, insurance, telecoms and health care.

"China's success means that it can no longer credibly defend protectionist policies on the grounds that it is still a 'developing country'," the American chamber said in a report yesterday.

The tariff threat is a "very

powerful" negotiating tactic, said Lester Ross, chairman of the American chamber's policy committee. However, he said tariffs are a tax on American consumers and a blunt tool to address "very complex problems that hamper trade and investment relationships."

Analysts in the United States suggested the newly confrontational stance also might be aimed at appeasing congressional critics of a deal the Trump administration made Friday that allowed Chinese telecom giant ZTE Corp. to stay in business.

ZTE agreed to remove its management team, hire American compliance officers and pay a fine. That would be on top of a \$1 billion penalty ZTE paid for selling high-tech equipment to North Korea and Iran in violation of U.S. sanctions.

In return, the Commerce Department lifted a seven-year ban on ZTE's purchase of U.S. components that it imposed earlier in May. Trump said last month the ban threatened too many Chinese jobs and he wanted to get the company back in business.

Chinese leaders have promised piecemeal trade-related changes including allowing full foreign ownership in their auto industry by 2022.

However, American companies have "major concerns" about unfair conditions, and the recent moves haven't done enough to alleviate those concerns, said the American chamber's Ross.

European companies also complain they are blocked from acquiring most assets in China while Chinese companies are on a global buying spree. **AP**

HONG KONG

Property millionaires fuel a 49-year-old brokerage

Alfred Liu

ONE of Hong Kong's oldest brokerages is boosting its wealth management operations in the city, where millionaires are being minted by a property boom.

Everbright Sun Hung Kai Co., a unit of China's Everbright Securities Co., plans to add 100 relationship managers specializing in clients with at least HKD8 million (USD1 million) of investable assets, said Deputy Chief Executive Officer Kevin Tai. The hires will take place over the next year or two and raise

the team's overall strength to about 500.

"The property market is a main reason," Tai said in an interview on Monday. "A lot of our clients may have made a profit in the property market, therefore, they are showing an increasing demand for asset appreciation and protection."

The brokerage is looking to leverage relationships built since 1969, helping its clients invest gains from a market where house prices have surged more than 50 percent over the past five years. It joins local rival Haitong International Se-

curities Group Ltd. in competing with global banks such as UBS Group AG and HSBC Holdings Plc in tapping Hong Kong's wealth.

The wealth of Hong Kong's high net worth individuals rose 4.7 percent to \$769 billion in 2016, according to latest data from Capgemini SE. This may accelerate as the economy grew last quarter at the fastest pace since 2011.

Property prices have also defied concern about higher interest rates. Centaline Property's Centa-City Leading Index of existing home prices hit a record

this month and has risen about 10 percent this year.

Everbright Securities bought a majority stake from Sun Hung Kai & Co. in 2015 to create Everbright Sun Hung Kai. It manages about HKD140 billion of assets, with businesses ranging from asset management to structured finance. Tai sees wealth management eventually surpassing the brokerage business, though he didn't say by when. Revenue is currently equally split.

At a time when banks are boosting digital services rather than traditional branches, Everbright



Sun Hung Kai may add to its three outlets in Hong Kong and Macau, said Tai. It could also provide a wider range of choices from plain-vanilla products to those that are only suitable

for professional investors, he said.

"Wealth management is a business that requires face-to-face services," Tai said. "We have a lot of flexibility." **Bloomberg**

Andy Sharp, Kanga Kong

ANALYSIS

Kim Jong Un's quest to make North Korea normal again

MOMENTS after Kim Jong Un became the first North Korean leader to cross into the south last month, he convinced his counterpart Moon Jae-in to step back with him across the border.

The message? Things will only be done on Kim's terms.

That's becoming ever clearer in the run-up to Kim's planned meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump in Singapore next month. The on-again, off-again summit remains in doubt as the U.S. tries to figure out what it will take for Kim to trade away his nuclear arsenal.

Discerning the motives of Kim — a 30-something leader often lampooned in the West as an overweight madman with a funny haircut — will be key to understanding what kind of deal is possible. Judging from his public statements and state-run media, at least two things appear evident: He wants a deal to ease sanctions, but he won't give up his nuclear weapons until he feels safe enough to retain power without them.

"The word that defines Kim Jong Un's current state is anxiety — fear for both his life and the security of his leadership," said Youngshik Bong, a researcher at Yonsei University's Institute for North Korean Studies in Seoul.

"He wants to be the leader of an ordinary country, but the justification of abandoning nuclear weapons and missiles in return for economic prosperity isn't guaranteed to be welcomed by the entire political elite," Bong said. "Opponents will be quiet as long as there is a viable inflow of economic prosperity and a sudden improvement of living standards with the lifting of economic sanctions."

In many ways, the world is just getting to know Kim, presumed to be the third and youngest son of former dictator Kim Jong Il. Prior to his recent outreach, some of the only insight on his personality came from former NBA star Dennis Rodman — who said last year he's "always calm, he's always smiling, especially when he's with family."

His recent interactions with the outside world — including two meetings each with Chinese President Xi Jinping and South Korea's Moon — showed another side to the brutal dictator presumed to have killed his family members in a bid to consolidate power. He's proven to be a skillful diplomat who can use humor, humility and flattery to achieve his goals.

In March, Kim made his first trip overseas, a secretive journey by train to meet Xi in Beijing — repairing ties with North Korea's largest trading partner. Xi told Kim that China had made a "strategic choice" to have friendly ties with North Korea, and they would "re-



Kim Jong Un and Moon Jae-in shake hands at the village of Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in North Korea

main unchanged under any circumstances." The two leaders followed it up with another meeting in early May.

Kim's two summits with Moon have revealed even more about his personality. In April, when Kim walked into South Korea, both leaders declared "a new era of peace" and sought a formal end to the seven-decade-old Korean War.

On that day, Kim joked that Moon no longer needed to wake up in the middle of the night to deal with missile tests, and mentioned that North Korea's transportation system "is deficient and you might find it uncomfortable." He capped the day off with an address to reporters—the first time he has ever spoken live to the world.

Last weekend, Kim abruptly requested a meeting with Moon to discuss relations with the U.S. Afterward, Moon said that Kim was worried about whether he could trust the U.S. to "guarantee the security of his regime after his denuclearization."

The possibility of getting overthrown is a real worry for Kim. U.S. National Security Adviser John Bolton amplified those concerns by calling on him to give up his nuclear weapons before getting sanctions relief while citing the case of Libyan dictator Moammar Qaddafi, who took that approach before he was murdered in an uprising.

North Korean statements vilifying Bolton and Vice President Mike Pence for referencing Libya prompted Trump last week to cancel the planned

June 12 summit in Singapore. North Korea then flattered the U.S. president the next day, saying the "Trump formula" might lead to a resolution. Trump has since indicated that the meeting may proceed as scheduled.

The word that defines Kim Jong Un's current state is anxiety — fear for both his life and the security of his leadership.

YOUNGSHIK BONG
YONSEI UNIVERSITY RESEARCHER

While Kim has said he's open to "complete denuclearization," the definition of that remains unclear. He may demand the U.S. remove troops from the Korean Peninsula or American nuclear assets from the region. Trump, for his part, has recently shown more flexibility on how denuclearization would occur.

Kim has been worried about internal threats since he took power in 2011, purging many senior officials including his own uncle. Last year, he had his half-brother Kim Jong Nam killed with a chemical weapon at

an airport in Malaysia, according to South Korean authorities, a move that removed one of his last remaining rivals for power in the bloodline.

At the same time, Kim accelerated his quest to obtain the capability to strike the U.S. with a nuclear weapon, testing three intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of reaching the American mainland. Trump responded by tightening international sanctions and threatening to unleash "fire and fury" against his regime.

Just as talk picked up in Washington about a potential "bloody nose" military strike, Kim pulled back. He declared his nuclear program complete and sought to engage with the world.

In a New Year speech, Kim promised that 2018 would be a turning point in improving for North Korea. He said the "life-threatening sanctions and blockade" had been hard on the country's 25 million people, whose neighbors in South Korea collectively earn 46 times more than them.

North Korea wasn't always an international outcast. It was once firmly part of the Soviet bloc, with luxurious embassies in Eastern Europe and frequent interaction with the international community. The country had a per capita gross national product equal to South Korea's as late as 1976.

Yet central planning took an increasing toll on the economy, along with the collapse of the Soviet Union. A famine killed millions in the 1990s—a time when Kim was off attending

school in Switzerland. The United Nations first imposed sanctions on North Korea in 2006 for its nuclear push, and has tightened them ever since.

Once in power, Kim Jong Un moved away the doctrine of "songun," or military first, pushed by his father. He quickly adopted a new strategy of "byongjin," or simultaneously pursuing nuclear weapons and economic growth. He began to visit food processing plants and farms — he was even photographed hugging people, drawing a distinction from his father.

"It is the party's firm resolution that we won't force our people to tighten their belts again," Kim said in his first speech in April 2012.

Last month, Kim told a ruling party meeting that North Korea would suspend further tests of atomic weapons or long-range missiles and "concentrate all efforts of the whole party and country on the socialist economic construction." Posters would soon appear in Pyongyang exhorting the workers to "accelerate the advance of our revolution by channeling all efforts into socialist economic construction!"

"He has his nukes, now he needs economic assistance and development," said Ralph Cossa, president of Hawaii-based Pacific Forum. "That requires the lifting of sanctions. He also seeks legitimacy, and he is getting that."

Kim has done certain things to make himself more palatable to the global community. He's started wearing modern suits, brought his wife to public events and showed up at a South Korean pop concert in Pyongyang.

A meeting with Trump would go a long way to normalizing both himself and his regime. Besides winning some sort of sanctions relief, he would also get the legitimacy that comes from a summit with a sitting U.S. president—a photo opportunity craved by both his father and grandfather that shows North Korea is a country that commands respect from the world's most powerful nation.

"Kim Jong Un's top priority is regime survival and he views nuclear weapons as a guarantor of his regime, so he will not trade them away lightly, if at all," said Kelsey Davenport, director for nonproliferation policy at the Arms Control Association. "With an established nuclear deterrent, Kim has little to lose and everything to gain by coming to the table now." **Bloomberg**

Shruti Srivastava, Anurag Kotoky

AirAsia Tumbles as CEO under India probe for alleged graft

AIRASIA Group Bhd. shares fell to their lowest level in six months after India said it's investigating Chief Executive Officer Tony Fernandes and other officials for allegedly paying bribes to influence local policy.

India's Central Bureau of Investigation said Tuesday that the budget airline's executives bribed Indian officials through middlemen to sway government decisions on aviation, including obtaining a flying permit for the local unit and approvals to operate internationally. Emails and calls to Fernandes elicited no response, while a spokeswoman said he isn't available for an interview.

AirAsia's stock fell 7 percent to 3.08 ringgit yesterday, the lowest closing price since Nov. 28. It slid as much as 11 percent earlier in the day in Kuala Lumpur.

The probe poses uncertainties to AirAsia's expansion plans. Fernandes has identified India as one of the main pillars of his pan-Asian dream as he seeks to capture a share of a market dominated by Gulf-based carriers and Air India. With the India unit, he's planning more domestic flights, while international operations are on the cards early next year.

The company's India unit denied any wrongdoing and is cooperating with authorities, Shuva

Mandal, the unit's director, said in an emailed statement. The company began criminal and civil proceedings against a former chief executive officer in 2016 and hopes to bring an "early resolution to all such issues," Mandal said.

The Southeast Asian airline's local unit has been previously under investigation in India. Last February, after a probe into its

■ **The probe poses uncertainties to AirAsia's expansion plans. Fernandes has identified India as one of the main pillars of his pan-Asian dream**

AP PHOTO



ownership, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation in New Delhi said its flying permit remains valid and the brand licensing pact doesn't dilute the "substantial ownership and effective control" by Indian nationals.

After more than a decade of de-liberation, India in 2016 scrapped a restrictive rule that only granted international licenses to carriers with five years of domestic operations and a minimum of 20 aircraft in their fleet. The new rules

allow airlines to fly abroad if they deploy 20 planes or 20 percent of capacity, whichever is higher, on local routes. The easing opened up room for the local affiliates of AirAsia and Singapore Airlines Ltd. to start overseas flights sooner.

"If they don't get it despite complying with the 5/20 rule, we need to relook at AirAsia India's business viability," said Mohshin Aziz, an analyst at Maybank Investment Bank Bhd. in Kuala Lumpur.

AirAsia India, in which conglomerate Tata Sons Ltd. and local directors control a 51 percent stake, has floated a tender to lease as many as 40 Airbus SE A320 jets. The airline has vowed to eliminate its annual losses this year.

Fernandes has established affiliates over the years in Indonesia, Thailand, India, Japan and Vietnam, trying to take advantage of world-beating traffic growth in the region. AirAsia has ordered hundreds of planes worth billions of dollars from Airbus SE to meet its expansion plans and is in the process of selling a plane-leasing unit to raise more cash.

India, the world's fastest-growing major aviation market, has been a focus for AirAsia, as an emerging middle class with enough disposable income flies for the first time. Fernandes has talked about a potential initial public offering for the unit, which could boost the value of the parent company by USD200 million, Crucial Perspective, a specialist in Asian transportation equities, said in January. **Bloomberg**

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USA

Legal hurdles loom for prosecutors in USC gynecologist case

Brian Melley, Los Angeles

THE University of Southern California has received hundreds of complaints about a former school gynecologist suspected of conducting inappropriate exams for decades, prompting the resignation of the school president and a police investigation.

More than a dozen lawsuits have been filed and police are talking to more than 50 women who complained, so far.

Whether Dr. George Tyndall faces charges, though, depends on if complaints about creepy comments, improper photos in the exam room and uncomfortable probing went beyond dubious doctoring and into the criminal realm.

The university has come under fire since the Los Angeles Times reported earlier this month that complaints and comments about Tyndall's care went unheeded by the school for decades and that USC failed to report him to the medical board even after the school quietly forced him into retirement last year.

Two administrators were fired and President C.L. Max Nikias agreed to step down after criticism for leadership failures during a string of scandals that included reports by the Times that the university's former medical school dean used drugs with criminals and was present when a woman overdosed in a Pasadena hotel room.

Lawsuits accuse Tyndall, the school's staff gynecologist for nearly three decades, of using his authority to sexually abuse women between 1990 and 2016. The suits allege the school concealed the conduct.

Tyndall was a "serial sexual predator" who groped breasts and used his fingers to penetrate rectums and vaginas for no medi-



Dr. George Tyndall

cally necessary purpose, attorney John Manly said in a suit filed Friday. Tyndall is also accused of taking close-up photos of genitalia and commenting on the bodies of women, their race and sexual activity.

In some instances, Tyndall is accused of conducting vaginal exams without gloves when students were only seeking birth control.

Tyndall, 71, denied wrongdoing in interviews with the Times. He didn't return phone calls or an email from The Associated Press. It wasn't known yesterday if he has an attorney.

USC concluded in 2016 that Tyndall violated policies on harassment and making racially discriminatory and sexually inappropriate remarks, but two criminal law experts it consulted said there was no criminal activity to report, the school said.

The allegations have similarities with the case of Larry Nassar, the disgraced former sports

doctor at Michigan State University and USA Gymnastics now serving multiple life terms in prison. Michigan State agreed to a USD500 million settlement with more than 300 of his victims.

One key difference with the high-profile case involving Olympic champions, though, is that Tyndall as a gynecologist could argue his treatments were within the scope of his medical expertise.

Internal investigations by USC got mixed reviews on Tyndall's practice of using a finger before inserting a speculum during pelvic exams. One expert said it could be considered acceptable, though another review found it outdated.

Some women who have spoken about their encounters — some of whom were on their first visits to a gynecologist — said they didn't realize their treatment was improper until they saw recent news stories.

"These women had no idea they

were being sexually abused," said attorney Ron Labriola, who is working with Manly. "They said it was odd, it was weird, but that's different from [perceiving it] as a sexual assault."

That could make it challenging but not impossible for authorities to pursue charges against Tyndall, particularly given the potential number of complaints.

A jury in Casper, Wyoming, recently convicted a gynecologist who touched women in ways they said were unusual and made them feel uncomfortable. Prosecutor Mike Blonigen said there is often no physical evidence or eyewitnesses in such cases and the difference between proper care and a crime can be subtle.

"Some of the challenges are distinguishing between clumsy execution in the procedure and illegal touching. That's hard to do," Blonigen said. "The thought that my doctor is molesting me is a hard thing to process."

Dr. Paul Harnetty was senten-

ced to 20 to 30 years in prison on two counts of second-degree sexual assault.

Successful prosecutions almost always involve multiple women who can provide corroborating testimony, Blonigen said. In Harnetty's case, six patients testified against him, though he was cleared of several counts.

If there's a single victim, the case can devolve into a he said-she said dispute, said Michele Goodwin, a law professor at the University of California, Irvine. In the medical environment, a typical defense is that it was part of an exam and there were no supporting eyewitnesses or video.

In Tyndall's case, female nurses or medical assistants known as chaperones who often accompany male gynecologists during exams, had complained about his behavior, including his use of a camera, the Times reported. Those colleagues could provide valuable testimony.

■ The university has come under fire since [because] complaints about Tyndall's care went unheeded for decades

But Goodwin pointed out that chaperones can't see everything in such an intimate setting.

"A gynecological exam can include things that are very graphic," Goodwin said. "That is also what makes these types of cases so frightening for these young women [...] The abuse happens to be hidden in the worst way."

If investigators can't find physical evidence of abuse, they will see if women reported incidents at the time to roommates, family members or others and whether medical records match up with when they said they were abused. **AP**

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UKRAINE

Russian journalist reported killed shows up alive

Nataliya Vasilyeva, Moscow

RUSSIAN journalist Arkady Babchenko turned up at a news conference in the Ukrainian capital yesterday less than 24 hours after police reported he had been shot and killed at his Kiev apartment building. The country's security services said Babchenko's death was faked to foil a plot to take his life.

Ukrainian police said Tuesday that Babchenko, a strong critic of the Kremlin, was shot multiple times in the back Tuesday and found bleeding there by his wife. Authorities said they suspected he was killed because of his work.

Vasyl Gritsak, head of the Ukrainian Security Service, announced at a news conference yesterday that the security agency and the police had solved Babchenko's slaying. He then startled everyone there by inviting the 41-year-old reporter into the room.

To the applause and gasps of the press, Babchenko took the floor and apologized to the friends and family who mourned for him and were unaware of the plan.

"I'm still alive," he said.

AP PHOTO



Arkady Babchenko

Before ushering Babchenko into the room, Gritsak said investigators had identified a Ukrainian citizen who had been recruited and paid USD40,000 by the Russian security service to organize and carry out the killing. The unidentified Ukrainian man in turn hired an acquaintance who had fought in the separatist war in eastern Ukraine as the gunman.

Babchenko, one of Russia's best-known war reporters, fled the country in February 2017 after receiving death threats. He spoke and wrote about leaving the country because of the threats against him and his family. He said his home address was published

online and the threats he received were made by phone, email and social media.

Ilya Ponomarev, a former Russian lawmaker who also moved to Ukraine, said yesterday that Babchenko continued being threatened after he settled last fall in Kiev, where he worked as a host for the Crimean Tatar TV station. Babchenko did not take the intimidation too seriously, according to Ponomarev.

Moscow's annexation of Crimea and support for separatist insurgents in eastern Ukraine were topics on which the journalist was scathingly critical of the Kremlin. AP

GREECE

Workers join general strike as end of bailout looms

A general strike in Greece against plans to extend austerity measures has halted ferry services to the islands, and disrupted flights, public transport and other services yesterday. The 24-hour strike called by the country's largest unions also closed schools and left public hospitals running on emergency staff.

Government budget austerity measures are due to continue for at least two more years after the international bailout ends in August, starting with another major round of pension cuts next January.

Thousands of protesters gathered in central Athens and the country's second largest city of Thessaloniki. In the capital, more than 8,000 people marched through the streets in separate demonstrations, while about 3,000 more protested in Thessaloniki.

"The government is continuing disastrous po-



licies for society and the economy, forcing unsustainable measures onto the backs of wage-earners and retired people," the country's largest union, the GSEE, said.

Greece is currently negotiating the terms of its bailout exit with European creditors, including how its finances will be monitored and the conditions of a promised debt relief package. But the talks, due to be concluded in a few weeks, have been overshadowed by the political crisis in Italy and the resulting financial turmoil. AP

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what's ON



IN LOVE WITH MACAU – CALLIGRAPHY AND PAINTINGS OF MACAU

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

UNTIL: August 12, 2018

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

TAIPA ANCHORAGE: NAMES OF THE PAST AND THE PRESENT

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

UNTIL: June 18, 2018

VENUE: Taipa Houses – Nostalgic House

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

THE EXHIBITION “SWISS STYLE NOW”

TIME: 10am-9pm

UNTIL: June 17, 2018

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

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except on Thursdays; open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Science Center

ADMISSION: MOP25 (Exhibition Centre)

MOP60 (Planetarium 2D dome or 2D sky shows)

MOP80 (Planetarium 3D dome or 3D sky shows)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

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

Offbeat



A view of Led Zeppelin guitarist, Jimmy Page's Kensington home

NO STAIRWAY TO BASEMENT HEAVEN JUST YET FOR BRITISH SINGER

There will be no stairway to basement heaven just yet for British singer Robbie Williams.

Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page, Williams' next-door neighbor, has persuaded local authorities to postpone a decision on the pop star's plan for an underground gym and swimming pool.

Page and the former member of boy band Take That have been battling for years over Williams' plans to extend his home in the affluent Holland Park area of west London.

Page doesn't have a whole lotta love for the project, saying building work could damage his own 19th-century Gothic-revival mansion, Tower House.

At a meeting this week, Kensington and Chelsea Council's planning committee decided not to grant Williams planning permission until it received further legal assurances.

Page said he was “really pleased at the outcome.”

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
17:50	Miscellaneous
18:35	Miscellaneous
19:00	Brazilian Soap Opera (Repeated)
19:50	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Miscellaneous
21:35	Non-daily Portuguese News
21:40	Portuguese Serie
22:15	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Interview - Fernando Santos
23:50	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:50	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

31 MAY - 06 JUN



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 WALL

ROOM 2

2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Doug Liman

Starring: Aaron Taylor-Johnson, John Cena

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 119min

WHEN SUN MEETS MOON

ROOM 2

4:15, 6:00, 7:45pm

Director: Benny Lau

Starring: Kathy Yuen, Daichi Harashima, Aimee Chan

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 149min

LOVE CHUNIBYO AND OTHER DELUSIONS

ROOM 3

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

Director: Tatsuya Ishihara

Language: Japanese (Chinese)

DESTINY: THE TALE OF KAMAKURA

ROOM 3

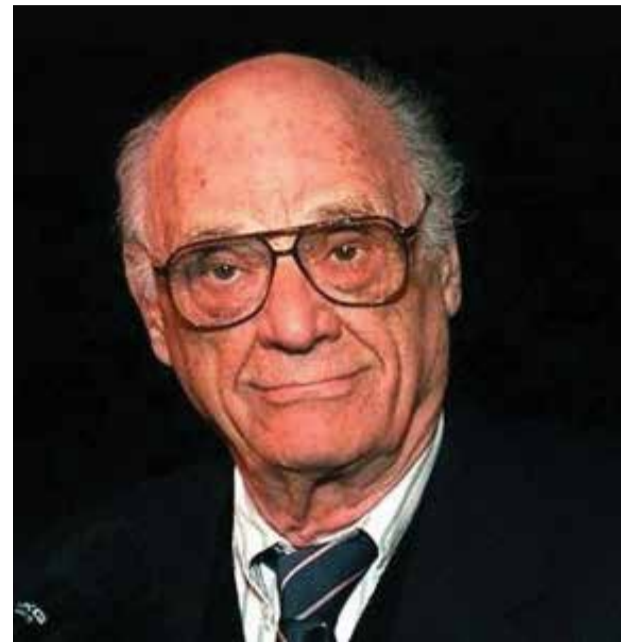
7:15pm

Director: Takashi Yamazaki

Starring: Masato Sakai, Mitsuki Takahata

Language: English (Chinese)

this day in history

1957 ARTHUR MILLER
GUILTY OF CONTEMPT

US playwright Arthur Miller has been convicted of contempt of Congress.

The conviction relates to an investigation last year by the House of Representatives' Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) into a Communist conspiracy to misuse American passports.

During the investigation 41-year-old Mr Miller, who is married to Hollywood movie star Marilyn Monroe, refused to reveal the names of alleged Communist writers with whom he had attended five or six meetings in New York in 1947.

He was said to be co-operative in all other aspects of the hearing but told the committee his conscience would not permit him to give the names of others and bring possible trouble to them.

The guilty verdict was announced in a 15-page “opinion” today by Federal Judge McLaughlin who presided over a six-day trial, which ended last week.

During the trial Mr Miller's counsel, Joseph Rauh, had claimed that the questions his client had refused to answer had no reasonable connection with a passports inquiry.

He argued that the committee had simply wanted to expose the playwright and that “exposure for exposure's sake” was illegal.

But Judge McLaughlin found that HUAC did have a valid legislative purpose in looking into the passport regulations and that Mr Miller had indeed experienced his own difficulties in obtaining a passport from the State Department.

The trial was told by the government that Mr Miller had joined the Communist party in 1943 but this was denied by the defendant who said that to the best of his belief he had never been a party member.

He did, however say that “there were two short periods - one in 1940 and one in 1947 - when I was sufficiently close to Communist Party activities so that someone might honestly have thought that I had become a member”.

Mr Miller was not in court when the guilty verdict was announced. The maximum punishment for contempt of Congress is one year in jail, a fine of £357 or both.

No date was fixed for sentencing but it is understood the case will automatically go to appeal.

After the trial Mr Miller, who will remain on bail pending the next legal step, said through a spokesman: “I have no comment to make, nor has my wife.”

The case is now bound to call into question the whole system of Congressional inquiries and their impingement on individual rights.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) was set up in 1938 to investigate fascists as well as communists within federal government.

In 1947 it turned its attention to the arts. A group of writers, directors and actors known as the Hollywood Ten were subsequently convicted of contempt of Congress for refusing to answer questions about their political beliefs.

They were blacklisted by Hollywood and over the course of the next 10 years some 320 people were barred from work in the film studios over their alleged membership of the Communist party.

A few weeks after the Miller case, John Watkins won an appeal in the Supreme Court quashing a similar conviction.

On 7 August 1958, after a two-year legal battle to clear his name, Washington's Court of Appeals quashed Miller's conviction for contempt of Congress.

As more convictions of contempt were quashed by the courts of appeal, the committee's influence declined and it was abolished in 1975.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You're in the mood to work hard now - really hard. As fiery as you are feeling, when you get an idea set in your mind, you don't take kindly to anyone who gets between you and your goal.

Taurus April 20-May 20 In a nutshell, you appreciate quality, so much so that it's tough for you to refrain from being obviously bored when you're not around it - and that's just when it comes to things.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You're thinking about how nice it might be to spend some quiet time, either completely alone or with just one quality person. You won't have to look far for someone who'll want to spend it with you.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You just can't stop that stream of quick, witty, entertaining conversation from pouring out of your mouth, can you? Your loved ones will be more than pleased.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Don't let anyone coerce you into giving them a single dime if you're not completely comfortable with why you're signing it over. And if you're not sure of exactly how much you have in your checkbook.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Once every month, for at least a day or so, we all have no choice but to reveal exactly what we're feeling. The universe absolutely insists on it and won't allow it to be any other way.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Even though you're definitely the most sociable of all creatures, you're just not in the mood to mingle right now. That's going to come as quite a shock to your loved ones.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 If you weren't satisfied with yesterday's selection of brand-new people to interview for the position of brand-new best friends/long-term lovers - well, not to worry.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You're not known for doing anything 'just a little.' As far as the rest of the world is concerned, that pertains mostly to fun things, but in truth, you can't even do the more serious things 'just a little,' either.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Cleaning and organizing still have you completely captivated. You can't think of anything you'd rather giving harmony to your place. Once everything is exactly where you want it to be.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Well, let's just say that you won't even be able to convincingly fake being satisfied if you're not, and that goes for just about any department in life. When it comes down to the issue of love.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 If anyone has seen you alone for the past day or so, it's quite surprising. You're in the mood to be part of a couple - a very close couple - and if there's anything you can do to keep your guest list pared down to one.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

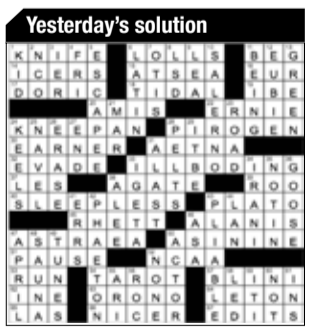
Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each category contains a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. It lists weather for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Dudley Do-Right's org.; 5- Brazilian port; 10- What's ___ for me?; 14- Switch ending; 15- Valuable violin; 16- Pipe; 17- "Swan Lake" leads; 19- breve; 20- Repair shop fig.; 21- Mex. miss; 22- Bank employee; 24- Select; 26- Sitarist Shankar; 27- Capital of Utah; 33- Sudden rushing forth; 36- One on track?; 37- ___ Paulo, Brazil; 38- Langston Hughes poem; 39- Bolshevik leader; 40- Problem with L.A.; 41- Calendar abbr.; 42- Seeps; 43- ___ nova; 44- Coloration; 47- Garage sale sign; 48- One-fifth of the atmosphere; 52- Hunting dog; 55- "Rule Britannia" composer; 57- Lennon's mate; 58- Ah, me!; 59- Feeble; 62- Irritate; 63- Orchestra string; 64- Et ___ (and other men); 65- AAA suggestions; 66- Ruhr city; 67- Hey, over here! DOWN: 1- Renaissance fiddle; 2- Collide; 3- Very, to Verdi; 4- Campaign pro; 5- Cylindrical wooden container; 6- Discharge; 7- Turner of "Peyton Place"; 8- Greek letter; 9- Wrong; 10- Sloping letter; 11- Invalid; 12- Adjective-forming suffix; 13- Rip; 18- Short literary composition; 23- At all times; 25- 1952 Winter Olympics site; 26- Bigot; 28- Picks up the check; 29- Sri ___; 30- Doctrines; 31- Santa Fe Trail town; 32- Indian exercise method; 33- Fool; 34- Yours, in Tours; 35- Protracted; 39- Mildly laxative; 40- Walkman maker; 42- ___ majesty; 43- Crates; 45- Hoi polloi; 46- Sea off Greece; 49- Soccer scores; 50- Bandleader Skinnay ___; 51- Tag line?; 52- Roseanne, formerly; 53- Came down to earth; 54- Ad word; 55- Mil. addresses; 56- Dominion; 60- Fire starter?; 61- Drain;



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Electricity - Report 28 339 922
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AP PHOTO



Portugal coach Fernando Santos

“We are fully aware that we are not the favorites.”

FERNANDO SANTOS

FOOTBALL

Portugal tries to repeat its European success

Tales Azzoni

AFTER finally breaking through with its first major title at the European Championship two years ago, Portugal will use the same formula at the World Cup.

The European champions will travel to Russia with many of the players from the squad that won Euro 2016, including Cristiano Ronaldo, and it will also carry the same low-key mental-

ity it had when it succeeded in France.

“We are fully aware that we are not the favorites,” Portugal coach Fernando Santos said. “History shows it, as do all the titles of the other teams that will be playing at the World Cup. Before the European Championship I also didn’t believe we were the favorites.”

Santos said Portugal can be considered a “candidate” for the title but it still shouldn’t be

included among the top contenders despite being European champions.

“We have the same three or four teams that were favorites in the European Championship — Germany, Spain, France — and now we add Brazil and Argentina. These teams are the favorites, then there is a group of candidates in which we can naturally include Portugal,” he told Portuguese television channel RTP.

Portugal won its first major title in 2016 — after coming close a few other times in the Ronaldo era — by avoiding all those traditional favorites until the final against host France, when it won in extra time. It played Hungary, Iceland and Austria in the group stage, then faced Croatia, Poland and Wales in the knockout matches.

Santos said this time he can make the same type of promise he made to the Portuguese people before the European Championship.

“We will give our best and we will be a contender to win every match,” he said. “I have the same confidence in my players and in my team that I had before the European Championship. We will have the same goal now that we had then.”

Nine of the players who started in the final against France are back with the World Cup team, with the only absences being veteran forward Nani and young midfielder Renato Sanches.

In total, 13 players from the Euro 2016 squad will be in Russia. Among those not going to Russia are Ricardo Carvalho, Andre Gomes and Eder, who scored the title-winning goal in the extra time against the hosts.

“It hurts not to be able to include all the players who were with us in the European Championship,” said Santos, who opted to add a few younger players to the World Cup squad. “All of them helped us write a brilliant page in the history of Portuguese football.”

Portugal began its World Cup preparations with a 2-2 draw against Tunisia on Monday, when it was without Ronaldo because he played with Real Madrid in the Champions League final on Saturday. All three Sporting Lisbon players in the squad also were not available because they played in the Portuguese Cup final.

“We are just beginning our World Cup preparations,” Portugal midfielder Joao Mario said after the home draw against Tunisia. “We will keep working to fix our mistakes and arrive at the World Cup in the best possible form.”

Portugal will play two more warm-up matches before the World Cup — against Belgium on Saturday and Algeria on June 7.

The team was drawn into Group B at the World Cup, along with Morocco, Iran and Iberian rival Spain. Portugal’s opener will be against the Spaniards on June 15 in Sochi in one of the most anticipated matches of the tournament.

“It will be the game between the favorite and the candidate,” Santos said. “We will need to be very careful in this group, but if Portugal doesn’t advance it will be disappointing.” **AP**

ON THE ROAD TO WORLD CUP

Is the Battle of Santiago the most lawless match?

GOOD evening. The game you are about to see is the most stupid, appalling, disgusting and disgraceful exhibition of football, possibly in the history of the game.”

Those were the words of BBC commentator David Coleman as he introduced the British broadcaster’s coverage of a group match between host Chile and Italy at the 1962 World Cup.

During his commentary, he described what he was watching as the “Battle of

Santiago.” It is a label that has stuck to describe what is likely the most lawless match in World Cup history.

The backdrop to the game had already added an edge to the match. Two Italy players — Jose Altafini and Humberto Maschio — hailed from South America, while Italian reporters had maligned Chile as a country. Italian football was also in the vice-like defensive grip of “catenaccio,” which literally translates as a door bolt.

It was a toxic brew. The 66,000 fans at Chile’s national stadium witnessed spitting, two-footed challenges, punches, scuffles and even police intervention.

Italy got much of the blame but Chile wasn’t immune — Maschio’s nose, after all, was broken following a punch from Leonel Sanchez.

Amazingly, Sanchez, the son of a professional boxer, stayed on the field — referee Ken Aston and his assistant missed the punch.

But Italy defender Mario David was looking for revenge after he had been felled by a Sanchez left hook. Soon after, he high-kicked at Sanchez’s throat and was sent off, joining teammate Georgio Ferrini, who had earlier been ejected for lashing out at a Chile player.

Italy, down to nine men, held on until two late goals saw Chile come out a 2-0 winner. Chile eventually came third in the tournament while Italy went home in disgrace. **AP**



Italian forward Georgio Ferrini (center) is sent off by British referee Ken Aston after an incident during the first half of the match against Chile

opinion

Made in Macao

Jenny Lao-Phillips



A THOUGHT ON CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

I believe lots of Star Trek lovers, especially those from North America, have played a drinking game. It goes like this. Whenever Mr. Spock says “fascinating”, we down one shot. Whenever Dr. McCoy says “he’s dead, Jim”, two shots. I cannot remember the condition for three shots, but I guess you get the idea. To make government official announcements more fun, we could apply a drinking game.

In recent years, the Macao government has cultivated a significant list of often-used words that can get everyone in the audience drunk before a speech is finished. Imagine, for every time the words “economic diversity” is mentioned, we take one shot of a spirit of your choice. “Chinese and Portuguese speaking countries”, deserves two shots, “creativity”, three shots, “Greater Bay Area”, four shots. If I hear “One-Belt-One-Road” again, I’ll probably down the whole bottle. For those lightweight drinkers, you can always secretly use those words in playing bullshit bingo, just to make life in Macao more fun.

This year, we have another new term: “gastronomy” or to be exact – “creative gastronomy”. Let’s give these terms five shots for sure, as we will be hearing them all the time. At a luncheon where the Director of MGTO gave a brief talk about Macao’s application to UNESCO to be a Creative City of Gastronomy, I was fascinated by the efficiency and administrative effectiveness that she explained were demonstrated in how the government quickly gathered information needed for the application, organized international gastronomy events to invite members of creative gastronomy cities – who, by the way, have voting rights to determine whether Macao could join or not – and organized related events around the theme of gastronomy. Basically, the government added food to everything.

Now, having done all that and finally secured a place in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) within a year, this was impressive. But why do we want to be in the creative cities network? And why creative gastronomy?

According to a statement by the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture published in the Macau Daily Times, he explained that “gastronomy [is] a driver to preserve Macau’s cultural identity, while promoting sustainable development and expanding its international cooperation.” However, the creativity of Macao’s gastronomy has not been accounted for.

Don’t get me wrong, I am one hundred percent supportive of this initiative and I believe that Macao totally deserves to be a creative city of gastronomy, but not only for the reasons of future development. For one thing, we already have an intangible cultural heritage in the area of gastronomy; our Macanese cuisine. And that has not been mentioned in the publicity around why we want to join the UCCN. Our Macanese cuisine is already a creative invention combining local Chinese and Portuguese cuisine through herbs and ingredients gathered by our ancestors along the Portuguese navigation route. Not many cities have food as creative as ours.

Moreover, we have another intangible cultural heritage: the Drunken Dragon Dance Festival which includes a banquet of hundreds of people serving special kinds of rice and dishes. Another piece of proof of our already-creative gastronomy. Not to mention the different fusion restaurants and snack shops all over the city selling food that is locally created or developed from traditional recipes.

What I am trying to express is that we don’t need to hold several international gastronomy events in Macao, or add the topic of food to the title of every event. Creative gastronomy already exists everywhere in Macao. All we need is “creativity” to promote existing “gastronomy” to the “Greater Bay Area” and “Chinese and Portuguese speaking countries” to achieve “economic diversity”. That sentence deserves 15 shots of vodka.

THE BUZZ INTRUDER ARRESTED AFTER SCALING SCAFFOLDING AT UK PARLIAMENT

British police have arrested an intruder who scaled scaffolding and got onto the roof of Parliament. London’s Metropolitan Police force says officers were called late yesterday morning “to reports of a man acting suspiciously” near an entrance to the building. The man then climbed a fence and scaled scaffolding to the roof.

Parliament’s Big Ben clock tower is currently covered in scaffolding for repair work.

The force says officers arrested the man for trespassing. The incident is not being treated as terrorism-related.

Photos showed armed police officers in the scaffolding after the arrest. The intruder entered the grounds of Parliament at the Carriage Gates entrance. That’s where a police officer was stabbed to death in March 2017 by an attacker who also ran down several pedestrians on nearby Westminster Bridge.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	25-45 Good	
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	
Ambient	25-45 Good	

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

Former head of China’s Anbang group appeals prison sentence

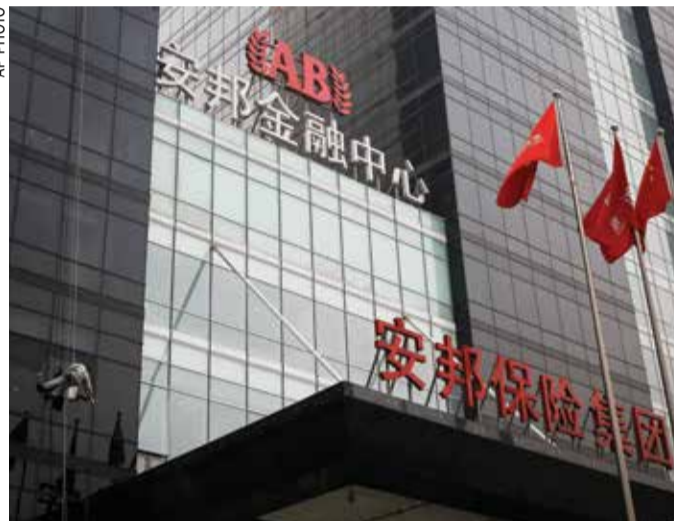
The founder and former head of the sprawling Chinese insurance group that owns New York’s famed Waldorf Astoria Hotel is appealing his sentence of 18 years in prison for fraud.

A lawyer for Wu Xiaohui told The Associated Press yesterday that his client would seek to have the charges against him dismissed. Lawyer Chen Youxi said the charges were not supported by evidence, but declined to provide further information.

Prior to Wu’s sentencing earlier this month, his Anbang Insurance Group acquired a vast range of global assets and discussed possibly investing in a Manhattan skyscraper owned by the family of U.S. President Donald Trump’s son-in-law and adviser, Jared Kushner. Those talks ended last year with no deal.

The Shanghai No. 1 Intermediate People’s Court said Wu pleaded guilty at trial to fraudulently raising billions of dollars from investors.

The court also ordered



The Anbang Insurance Group building in Beijing

the confiscation of 10.5 billion yuan (USD1.6 billion) in assets from Wu, who founded privately-owned Anbang in 2004.

Wu was accused of misleading investors and diverting money for his own use. He was detained last year and regulators seized control of Anbang in February. He was shown on state TV in March admitting guilt.

Wu initially had denied his guilt at his one-day trial, according to a court statement.

Court documents quoted by state media said

Wu concealed his ownership of shares in companies controlled by Anbang, filed false statements with financial authorities and lured investors by offering a rate of return above that offered elsewhere. Much of the business relied on selling insurance products to raise investment capital.

They said he used more than 100 companies under his control to manage funds and used his position to misappropriate 10 billion yuan (\$1.5 billion) in Anbang’s deposits. **AP**



RUSSIA Journalist Arkady Babchenko turned up at a news conference in the Ukrainian capital yesterday less than 24 hours after police reported he had been shot and killed at his Kiev apartment building. The country’s security services said Babchenko’s death was faked to foil a plot to take his life. **More on p15**

CYPRUS A spokeswoman for the United Nations’ refugee agency says the bodies of nine Syrian migrants who drowned off Cyprus’ northern coast have been buried in the breakaway north of the ethnically divided island.

SPAIN Catalan President Quim Torra has appointed a Cabinet composed of members not being investigated in a judicial probe into last year’s independence bid, paving the way for an end to the seven-month vacuum in the regional government.



PORTUGAL Lawmakers have narrowly rejected a proposal to make Portugal one of only a handful of countries in the world allowing euthanasia and doctor-assisted suicide.

MEXICO The governor of Mexico’s Jalisco state says the cartel of the same name has hired ex-soldiers from Colombia to train recruits. The Jalisco New Generation cartel is one of Mexico’s most violent drug gangs, directly attacking police and army troops.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Geert Vanden Wijngaert



A woman lays flowers yesterday on a memorial at the scene of a shooting in Liege, Belgium. A gunman killed three people, including two police officers, in the Belgian city of Liege on Tuesday. Police later killed the attacker, and other officers were wounded in the shooting.