



BEETHOVEN SEASON CLOSING CONCERT

The closing concert of the 2017/18 season of the Macao Orchestra will feature Beethoven's Symphony No. 9

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FINAL PREVIEW: YOUTH VS EXPERIENCE

It will be a final of contrasts: France has youthful exuberance whilst Croatia has a veteran roster

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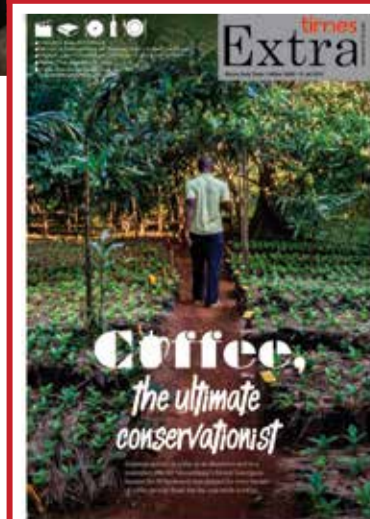
PHILIPPINES President Rodrigo Duterte came under renewed pressure yesterday to seek Chinese compliance to an arbitration ruling that invalidated China's claims to much of the South China Sea two years ago but has been ignored by Beijing and remains unenforced.

VIETNAM A court in south central Vietnam sentenced six people to up to two-and-a-half years in prison yesterday after finding them guilty of throwing rocks, bricks and gas bombs at police in protests against a proposed law on special economic zones.

JAPAN Authorities raided the apartment of a nurse who's in custody on suspicion of fatally poisoning at least two elderly patients at a terminal care hospital.

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The orchestra's music director Lu Jia

MUSIC

Beethoven season closing concert to be held on July 28

THE closing concert of the 2017/18 season of the Macao Orchestra (OM), will be held on July 28 at the Cultural Centre, at 8pm. OM's music director Lu Jia will conduct Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Op. 125. Several talented young Chinese vocalists in the international classical music scene have been invited to perform together with the Taipei Philharmonic Chorus.

The Op. 125, which consists of four movements, is the final complete symphony composed by Beethoven between 1818 and 1824. It is a well-known piece and is considered as Beethoven's magnum opus. After experiencing years of emotional struggle and creative blocks, the composer created this masterpiece when he was on the verge of becoming completely deaf and entering his later period of composition, being skillful, profound, exploratory and experimental.

According to a statement issued by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the famous Symphony No. 9 "fully demonstrates how Beethoven elevated the symphony from a traditional genre into an art carrier that possesses great dramatic significance and philosophical character, as well as touches upon great propositions and makes statements in front of the whole humanity."

OM has invited young Chinese vocalists including soprano Song Yuanming, mezzo-soprano Niu Shasha, tenor Shi Yijie and bass Guan Zhijing, who, together with vocal interpretation of the Taipei Philharmonic Chorus, will offer a perfect ending to the concert season.

A pre-concert talk on Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 led by Lu Jia will be held at the Cultural Centre Conference Room on the same day from 7 to 7.30 pm, aiming at allowing the audience to better appreciate and understand the concert.

Creative Macau turns 15 with exhibit launch



CREATIVE Macau – Center for Creative Industries will celebrate its 15th anniversary on August 28 with the launch of a special exhibition.

The non-profit organization,

which is managed by the Institute of European Studies of Macao (IEEM), assists in the development of the creative industries. Its exhibition space, located on the ground floor

of the Macau Cultural Center, is used to showcase art forms ranging from architecture and design to film, music and the performing arts.

Lúcia Lemos, founder of

Creative Macau, told the Times that the institution has had a "very positive impact" on Macau's cultural and creative scene.

"Our center was funded to promote and disseminate local creative products. That's what we've done for the last 15 years and what we will continue to do in a very humble, but effective way," said Lemos. "We are achieving what we have set out to do."

We are achieving what we have set out to do.

LÚCIA LEMOS
CREATIVE MACAU FOUNDER

Meanwhile, a representative of Creative Macau said that they are currently reviewing the submissions for the 2018 Sound and Image Challenge and expect to finalize the winners by the end of July. According to organizers, more than 4,000 films were submitted this year for consideration.

The winning films are likely to be screened in December.

CE tour of Greater Bay cities concludes in Dongguan

THE Macau government delegation led by Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On, which toured several cities comprising the "Greater Bay Area", has concluded its visit to the neighboring cities with a tour of the city of Dongguan on Wednesday.

In its last stop before returning to Macau, the delegation met with the Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Dongguan Municipal Committee, Liang Weidong, in a meeting in which the two sides discussed issues related to industry, economic matters and trade, transportation, as well as cooperation in youth development. After the meeting, the CE is said that the Macau delegation's visit



Chui Sai On (right) visits the Songshan Lake Exhibition Hall in Dongguan

will enable the region to learn from Dongguan's successes, and to explore feasible opportunities for enhanced cooperation between the two cities.

Previously, Liang had briefed the local delegation about the latest data on Dongguan, including its land area, population and economic development, no-

ting the city's upgrade and transformation during the past decade, which led to in-depth changes in the structure of its economy. The Secretary also no-

ted the high amount of added value created by Dongguan's manufacturing industry, which ranks fifth among mainland China cities in terms of foreign trade, calling on Macau's young entrepreneurs to invest more in Dongguan, helping to forge a close relationship between the cities.

Among the several advantages that Dongguan can provide, Liang noted its deep-water harbor, as well as transport connectivity, and added that cooperation could be strengthened and furthered between the two areas by launching ferry services between them.

The same high-ranked official also noted the city's interest in making use of "Macau's inherent advantages, and to help enterprises from Portuguese-speaking countries to establish businesses in the Pearl River Delta region."

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Gaming watchdog refuses Canidrome request

THE Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) has refused the request made by the Macau (Yat Yuen) Canidrome Company to extend its concession contract in order to continue exploring the facilities for another five years, even if greyhound racing has ceased. Last year, the Canidrome asked the government for permission to continue using the facilities to host the greyhounds. The Canidrome also requested permission to broadcast races held outside of the MSAR.

In a statement issued yesterday, the DICJ says that the Canidrome facilities should be empty by July 20, which is the date of the end of its concession. According to the gaming watchdog, the company initially failed to present a detailed proposal regarding the broadcast



and the greyhounds' fate. Following meetings, the Canidrome presented a written proposal on March 2018, which the DICJ has now rejected.

"Bearing in mind that social awareness about animal rights is increasing worldwide and greyhound protection has deserved special attention by the MSAR residents, and considering that the greyhound races in other regions

have been suspended for identical reasons [...] the proposal to broadcast the greyhound races held in other regions to the MSAR is a contradiction to the values of animal protection," the DICJ stated.

In the statement, the DICJ cites a study made by the University of Macau in 2016 arguing that the "exploitation of greyhound races has been

of little relevance over the years, namely in aspects such as taxes, job creation and related commercial activities." According to the study, the local Canidrome has also been negligible in terms of promoting local tourism or "offering an alternative leisure space to Macau residents."

The DICJ also states that "to broadcast greyhound races held elsewhere would change the recreational and touristic nature that greyhound races traditionally have and transform them into mere bets, something which does not match the political strategy of responsible gaming promoted by the Macau government."

Also yesterday, the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau has sent a letter to the Canidrome demanding the "immediate submission" of a plan to relocate the greyhounds. **PB**

Sino-PSC film festival concludes today

THE first edition of the "Encounter in Macau - Arts and Cultural Festival between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries", launched last week with the aim of displaying Macau's role as a bridge between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, will come to a close later today.

However, the exhibitions "Chapas Sincas—Stories of Macau in Torre do Tombo" and the "Annual Arts Exhibition between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries" will remain open for several more weeks.

Phase one of the exhibition named "Chapas Sincas—Stories of Macau in Torre do Tombo" is being held at the Handover Gifts Museum of Macau until August 7. It exhibits a number of documents and records internationally recognized

as holding cultural heritage value.

Meanwhile, the four exhibitions of the "Annual Arts Exhibition between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries": "Alter Ego", "The Universe", "Penetrate" and "Aiya" showcase contemporary works by several artists from Macau, China and Portuguese-speaking countries, which according to the Cultural Affairs Bureau "take visitors on a stunning visual journey."

The "China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Film Festival" featured several movies screened at Cinematheque Passion. The final film to be screened today will be the first movie of Portuguese master director Manoel de Oliveira, "Aniki Bóbo", as well as his first documentary, "Douro River, Fluvial Toil".

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Paradise Entertainment interested in gaming concession

THE Paradise Entertainment Group has expressed interest in applying for a gaming concession, according to a report by Inside Asian Gaming.

The city's 20-year gaming concessions will all come to an end in 2022 with two of them (SJM and MGM) expiring in 2020.

Earlier, in May, Paulo Martins Chan, director of the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ), said that the Macau gaming concessions will be re-auctioned, and that requirements for the new licenses are likely to be announced soon by the government.

However, Chan opted not to divulge a date for the release of this information.

Chief Executive Chui Sai On mentioned last year that there will be new information released this year regarding the future of the gaming licenses.

According to the Inside Asian Gaming report Paradise Entertainment's In-



Jay Chun, chairman of Paradise Entertainment Ltd.

vestor Relations Manager, Bob Shen noted that the company has not yet made a final decision regarding whether or not to apply for a casino license.

Such decisions will only be made after the Macau government announces details about the concessions.

Shen remarked that his company is looking forward to seeing the Macau govern-

ment granting a license to the company to strengthen competition in Macau.

Paradise Entertainment provides gaming management services to four Macau gaming venues: Casino Kam Pek Paradise, Casino Macau Jockey Club (SJM Holdings Ltd-licensed), Casino Waldo (Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd-licensed), and an electronic gaming hall at

Casino Lisboa.

In addition to hoping for a casino license, the company is also seeking opportunities to expand its business outside Macau.

Macau businessman David Chow had said, in May, that the government should consider granting another two gaming concessions to benefit Macau's overall development.

UM student wins translation contest prize

YANG Shanshan, a PhD student of linguistics from the Department of English, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Macau (UM), recently won a prize in the simultaneous interpreting invitational tournament, which was part of the Seventh National Interpreting Contest. During the contest, Yang competed with 15 students from 11 renowned universities.

The two-round simultaneous interpreting tournament was held at the simultaneous interpretation lab of Beijing Normal University, with a live broadcast on the internet.

In each round, contestants were required to interpret a speech from English to Chinese or vice versa for about 20 minutes. The speeches covered various topics such as climate change, human rights, social media, the refugee crisis, and political geography.

In the two rounds, Yang demonstrated strong interpreting expertise. She was ranked fifth among the 16 contestants and received a prize. She was also the only contestant from the Macau region to advance to the final of this year's contest.

Organized by the Translators Association of China, the National Interpreting Contest is considered the most prestigious, influential, and representative oral interpreting contest in the Greater China region. This year's event attracted over 5,400 contestants from 642 universities in mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, and countries covered in the 'One Belt, One Road' initiative.

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Chinese official says Low not in China either

A Chinese official has denied that wanted Malaysian businessman Low Taek Jho, also known as Jho Low, has entered the mainland, just as Macau's Secretary for Security said Low was not in Macau either.

The South China Morning Post reported that an identified source told the newspaper that rumors Low is hiding on the mainland are unfounded and irresponsible.

"He definitely is not in mainland China," the source said. "Any claim that he is hiding in the mainland is irresponsible."

Earlier, several other unidentified sources claimed that Low had traveled from Macau to mainland China either by car or private jet, despite an Interpol notice requesting his arrest.

Statements by Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak on Wednesday implied that Low



Jho Low

was no longer in the city, where he arrived after spending two weeks in Hong Kong.

Low, is believed to be the mastermind behind the 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) financial scandal, which led to the arrest of former Malaysian prime minister Najib Razak. U.S. prosecutors

allege that Low was a central figure in looting and laundering at least USD4.5 billion from the 1MDB fund.

The local Judiciary Police (PJ) confirmed this week that it sent a response to Malaysia but would "not disclose personal entry and exit information."

However, Malaysia police said that they had received an email from Macau authorities indicating that Low had already departed from the MSAR.

"The email did not specify when Low left Macau. It is hard to trace him as he is believed to be using multiple passports," said Malaysia's Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Mohamad Fuzi Harun.

Malaysia's immigration department canceled Low's passport in June. Low is believed to be using a passport issued by another country in order to travel.

Meanwhile, in a statement sent to Reuters News Agency, the PJ criticized Malaysian police authorities for information they released earlier.

When asked about Low's movement, the Macau Public Security Police Force said that it would also not disclose the immigration information of individuals.



Red Market Library to reopen next week

THE renovation works at the Red Market Library have been concluded and the facility will reopen to the public on July 18.

Last year, the library was seriously affected due to the impact of Typhoon Hato. Thousands of books and various equipment, including air-conditioning machines, bookcases and furniture, were damaged. The affected wooden materials added to the problem of environmental hygiene in the venue, leading to its temporary closure.

The renovation works mainly included the supply and installation of air-conditioning equipment, resolution of water leakage problems, deep cleaning and disinfection of floors, inspection and maintenance of electrical switches, replacement of sockets and network cables, among others. According to a statement issued by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, "most of the facilities and furniture are moveable and can be reused in the future."

Currently, the Red Market Library features a collection of approximately 6,000 books and 65 seats, six computers with internet access, a self-check in machine, self-service book return system and a book sterilizer. It also provides library card application services, a loan and returns service, opportunities for the reading of newspapers and periodicals, 24-hour self-service book return, photocopying, free broadband internet access and electronic database search.

HEALTH

Almost 500 trade in antihypertensive medicine in first day following recall

THE contingency plan established by the Health Bureau (SSM) for the recall and replacement of six antihypertensive medicines, which were found to contain the impurity N-Nitrosodimethylamine in the antihypertensive medication, started on Wednesday. In the first of the three days stipulated for the plan, a total of 476 people had

already performed the exchange, the Bureau informed in a statement.

According to the numbers cited in the same statement, the figure represents some 38 percent from the estimated total patients affected by the prescription of the faulty antihypertensive medicines. The SSM also notes that, due to the current scarcity of the medicine

among suppliers as a result of the worldwide recall and replacement programs, for the time being, the patients are being provided with enough medicine for just one month. The measure was said to avoid stock break and guarantee a continuous supply of the drugs to the patients in need.

The SSM also added that a fast lane was es-

tablished at the external consultation services of the Conde de Sao Januario Hospital Center with the aim of avoiding long waits by the patients.

According to the figures disclosed by the Health authorities, the problem affected patients who had been prescribed "Valtensin Tablet" in 80 mg and 160 mg doses, "Valsar-

tan + Hydrochlorothiazide Generis" in 80 mg and 160 mg doses, and "Valtensin tablets HCT" in 80 mg and 160 mg doses in a total of 1,238 patients that have been alerted by the SSM by telephone as well as by the publishing of advertisements on the daily newspapers.

Medicines may be exchanged until 5 p.m. today. **RM**



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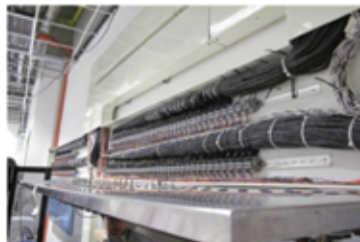


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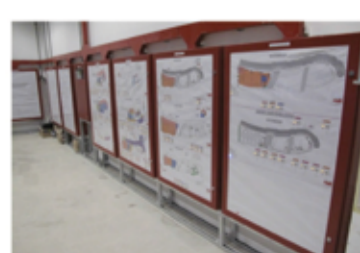


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AL PLENARY

Law banning casino staff from betting approved

Julie Zhu

A law banning gaming sector employees from entering casinos during non-working hours was passed by the Legislative Assembly (AL) yesterday.

The law proposed the inclusion of a provision prohibiting entry into casinos, in particular, the prohibition on entry of employees of concessionaires and sub-concessionaires into casinos.

These employees are those who work at gaming tables, gaming machines, cashiers, those who work in public relations, cleaning and security, and those who are in charge of the supervision of casinos.

Exemption only will be given during the first three days of the Chinese New Year, and under conditions for which relevant people can provide a justified reason, for example, with the purpose of training or participating in associative activities.

Currently, there are 56,634 employees in the gaming sector. Lionel Leong, Secretary for Economy and Finance, said that gaming employees represent the highest percentage of pathological gamblers.



Lionel Leong (center) said that casino workers are the majority of problem gamblers

Approximately 10 lawmakers voiced their concerns regarding the equality and implementation of the law, among other topics.

In Au Kam San's opinion, even though gaming employees represent the majority of pathological gamblers, they should still be allowed to enter casinos freely, although they should not be allowed to gamble.

Au also thinks that the law does not define which parties can enter the casinos clearly.

Leong Sun Iok said that "it might not be helpful for those

who are already pathological gamblers. The government should enhance education next to the public. Gaming operators should bear more responsibility." He also asked if the government had already given information of all civil servants to the casinos.

■ Sulu Sou suggested further restrictions should be applied to all Macau residents regarding access to casinos

Sulu Sou suggested further restrictions should be applied to all Macau residents regarding access to casinos, such as applying an entry levy for local residents.

Statistics show that somewhere around 70 percent of residents agree that casino employees should be banned from entering casinos off-duty.

Agnes Lam pointed out that those who are against the law

thought they would be misunderstood by the society who might consider them to be pathological gamblers.

She also asked whether punishing banned parties will affect their careers.

Lam also hopes the government can support research into females' gambling behaviors, as in recent years, many women have become pathological gamblers.

Si Ka Lon voiced that he hopes "the government can ensure that the related regulation will not contradict residents' civil rights, and that the law should not create disputes regarding equity."

Angela Leong recommended to the government, in light of the law, on enhancing the education of and mental consultation to gaming employees.

She also said that "many workers think [the law] is not fair for them because they have been labeled."

Leong, replying to all lawmakers, said that "civil servants accept this arrangement and understand that it is protecting them. For the casino employees, the reason is the same. We should do better in terms of educating casino employees. We hope to protect Macau residents and casino workers and therefore reduce the number of residents who become pathological gamblers."

Regarding restricting all Macau residents from entering casinos, Leong noted that "we cannot predict [a positive] effect [if Macau restricts its residents from entering casinos]. [We do not know] if a consensus can be reached within society."

The Secretary also claimed that the government did not provide civil servants' information to casinos.

Paulo Martins Chan, director of Gaming Inspection and Coordination, also remarked that the gaming watchdog would establish a reporting system to record instances of casino employees who entered the casinos.

ON THE LAWMAKERS' AGENDA

CIVIL LIBERTIES "The SAR government has become accustomed to using public security as a reason to extend the power of control of the police authorities," Sulu Sou said. The lawmaker suggested that the Macau government should make improvements to the city's demonstration and assembly law. "For instance, adjusting the notice regarding the government authority's restriction, and adjusting the period for appeal. [...] Changing the advance notice from working days to calendar days; amending, in accordance with the TUI ruling, the number of initiators from three people to one person to ensure that any individual can execute their [...] basic rights on any day," said Sou.

GAMING CONCESSIONS Ella Lei has urged the government to listen to the public's opinion regarding the requirement for gaming concessions tenders. "We are less than two years away until some gaming licenses expire, yet the government authority has not revealed relevant information, which has only given rise to conjectures of different parties but also concerns of the public about genuine inclusion in clauses of the requirements for the gaming casinos, such as how [...] gaming operators can ensure that their investment in the city will benefit Macau's development," said Lei.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF LAND Pereira Coutinho has questioned whether the government should proceed with the public sale of the available land. "One of the few solutions to increase housing supply would be to provide public land available for housing projects. [...] The government should have the courage to eliminate the various stages of administrative procedures of the current bureaucratic and painful process in the approval of construction, as well as the allocation of land for housing projects for civil servants," said Coutinho, adding that "carrying out public auctions for available public lands with appropriate prices, along with some restrictions for avoiding land speculation, will be a solution for buyers."

Marine management law motion passed

A motion concerning the management of the marine area was passed at the AL yesterday, with several lawmakers voicing their concerns regarding sea protection and the sea tenure.

Sulu Sou highlighted that the city's marine authority had once noted that it had sent out three teams to clean trash left in the sea, although the authority never managed to clean all the trash.

"Can the government promise that it will put sea environment protection as a priority when it [conducts the] marine development in the future?" Sou questioned.

Sonia Chan, Secretary for Administration and Justice, replied to Sou by saying "the SAR government will make a marine development plan, and it will include protection of sea environment, since protecting the sea environment is a principle we follow [so that Macau can] avoid sea pollution caused by over-usage and over-exploitation. [...] Sea environment is an important job of our works."

Sulu Sou and Au Kam San also suggested that there should be open tenders regarding the outsourcing of the sea area to any parties wishing to use the waters.

Sonia Chan noted that, currently, there are approximately 50 laws related to marine topics that are being implemented.

"We will come up with other laws to complement the marine management law. Regarding the law concerning the usage of the sea waters, we [the government] are still drafting it," informed Chan, who also noted that if there will be reclamations, and if they are approved by the Central Government, then the government will handle all relevant projects according to the city's land law.

The law regarding the sea area's usage will be delivered to AL once it is ready, according to Chan.

In addition, Chan's departments are also making mid-term and long term plans regarding Macau's sea usage.

MOTION TO DISCUSS CREMATORIUM REFUTED

THE LEGISLATIVE Assembly has voted down two motions proposed by Agnes Lam, Sulu Sou and Pereira Coutinho. The three lawmakers wanted the plenary to debate Macau's future burials projects. Lam proposed to debate the region's

future crematorium projects, and Sou and Coutinho proposed to promote green burials in Macau. Several lawmakers, including Ma Chi Cheng, said that these issues are better to be referred to other government departments.

REAL ESTATE MATTERS Saving the environment through real estate

Sam Lee is a marketing manager and property consultant at JML Property. JML was established in 1994 and offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.



SAM LEE

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When you think of environmental pollution, what comes to mind? It's probably the exhaust spewing out of the millions of vehicles and the waste that leaks out of the factories and into the water system. Our collective environmental awareness is growing, evidenced by the popularisation of electric vehicles, pressure placed on countries that produce indiscriminate pollution and general effort to reduce waste and promote recycling. What we often fail to realise however is that the very homes in which we leave can also leave a harmful imprint on the environment, both through the use of environmentally damaging construction materials and through inefficient use of energy. Some 27 percent of the UK's carbon emissions comes from the residential housing sector, and I imagine that figure is not

much different in Macau. We cannot always control how the buildings are built and what materials are used, but we do have some control over how energy efficient our homes are through taking simple steps such as installing double-glazed windows to increase insulation or using more energy-efficient lightbulbs. Although helpful if adopted at a larger scale, these simple changes are unlikely to dramatically change real estate's environmental footprint. We need a more fundamental change, starting right from where the properties are developed. Chances are that you've been thinking of 'sustainable real estate' as something you occasionally see in a funky architecture magazine in a doctor's waiting room. When it comes to 'actual' property, our primary concern is usually with the investment value of the proper-

ty and not the environmental impact, thinking that one is at odds with the other. Not necessarily. There is a company set to build the homes of the future, today. Based out of the UK, Verto builds zero-carbon smart homes that produces more energy than it needs, and actually sells energy back to the grid. Yes, you can go back and read the last sentence again. 'Sustainable Living' is not just a simple buzzword for them. They have also borrowed and repaid over GBP 10 million through crowd-funding, proving their financial track record and bringing international investors including from Macau and Singapore great returns in the process. It's not hard to see why they've been awarded "Housebuilder of the Year 2018" by the National Federation of Builders in the UK.

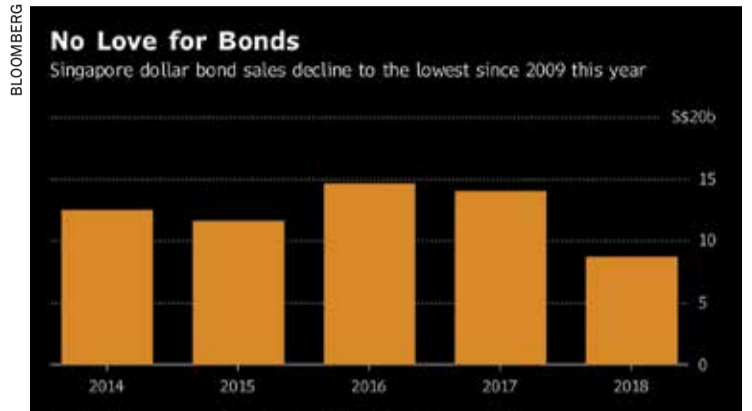
Singapore's rich turn wary of bonds sold by smaller firms

SINGAPORE'S smaller companies will likely have to pay more to roll over borrowings in the local bond market ahead of unprecedented maturities, as the wealthy investors who constitute a key buyer base get cold feet.

Recent defaults along with rising borrowing costs for private banking investors have hurt demand, according to Eastspring Investments portfolio manager Danny Tan, who helps manage the Singapore Select Bond Fund. The fund had SGD854 million (USD628 million) of assets under management as of May 31.

Fresh signs have emerged of stress among smaller borrowers in the local debt market this year. CW Group Holdings Ltd., a precision machine tool maker, defaulted on a bond in June. Hyflux Ltd., a water treatment and power firm, started a court-supervised debt reorganization process in May, and has defaulted on its perpetual securities.

Investors who borrow to buy local debt also face rising funding costs. Singapore's three-month swap offered rate, a reference rate for financing costs, has soared to near the highest in over two years.



"The greatest risk you will have is the refinancing risk of the SMEs," said Tan, referring to small- and medium-sized enterprises. Borrowers will have to issue at much higher coupons to entice private banking investors whose leverage costs have gone up, he said.

The average yield on Singapore dollar bonds has increased 48 basis points this year to 3.51 percent, according to an ICE BofAML index.

The nation's borrowers excluding banks face record bond maturities in 2020, with a total of SGD23 billion due from now through that year, according to Bloomberg-compiled data. Singapore dollar bond sales have slumped 37 percent this year

compared with the same period in 2017, hitting the lowest in nearly a decade, according to Bloomberg-compiled data.

Despite this, Singapore's bond market isn't likely to see a spike of defaults and the sense is that larger companies will be able to refinance with loans, according to Tan.

Amid the volatility, the fund manager prefers blue chip corporate bonds, including those sold by rated real-estate investment trusts and large companies listed on the Singapore stock exchange. With central banks tightening policy and rates rising, the fund is paring duration and looking at five- to seven-year bonds, Tan said. Bloomberg



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UK releases long-awaited and already derided Brexit plan

Jill Lawless, London

THE British government released detailed plans yesterday for what it calls a “principled pragmatic and ambitious” Brexit — plans that have already triggered the resignation of two top ministers, and which face likely resistance from the European Union.

The long-awaited document proposes keeping Britain and the bloc in a free market for goods, with a looser relationship for services.

Prime Minister Theresa May's government is trying to present plans that satisfy Britons who voted for their country to leave the bloc and set an independent course, but without hobbling businesses, security agencies and other sectors that are closely entwined with the EU.

But the plan has infuriated fervent Brexit supporters in May's Conservative Party, who think it would limit Britain's ability to strike new trade deals around the world. Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson and Brexit Secretary David Davis both quit the govern-



ment this week in protest.

Davis' replacement, Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab, said the plans called for an “innovative and unprecedented economic partnership” between Britain and the EU.

Britain is currently part of the EU's single market — which allows for the frictionless flow of goods and services among the 28 member states — and its tari-

ff-free customs union for goods. That will end after the U.K. leaves the bloc in March. The plans laid out in a 98-page government paper give Britain's most detailed answer yet to the question of what will replace it.

Under the plans, Britain would stick to a “common rulebook” with the EU for goods and agricultural products in return for free trade, without tariffs or bor-

der customs checks. That would avoid disruption to automakers and other manufacturers who source parts from multiple countries.

The government said Britain would act “as if in a combined customs territory” with the EU, using technology at its border to determine whether goods from third countries are bound for Britain or the EU, and charging the appropriate tariffs in those cases.

Britain says that will solve the problem of maintaining an open border between Northern Ireland, which is part of the U.K., and EU member Ireland.

It's unclear, though, how long it would take to phase in the new customs arrangements. Britain and the EU have agreed on a transition period until December 2020, but installing new technology and procedures could take longer than that.

Free trade would not apply to services, which account for 80 percent of the British economy. The government said that would give Britain “freedom to chart our own path,” though it would mean less access to EU markets than

there is now.

The plan also seeks to keep Britain in major EU agencies, including the European Aviation Safety Agency, the European Medicines Agency and the police agency Europol.

When the U.K. leaves the EU, it will end the automatic right of EU citizens to live and work in Britain. But Britain said EU nationals should be able to travel visa-free to Britain for tourism or “temporary business,” and there should be measures allowing young people and students to work and study in Britain.

Some elements are likely to anger Brexit-backers, including Britain's willingness to pay the EU for access to certain agencies and the suggestion some EU citizens could continue to work in Britain visa-free.

And while Britain will no longer fall under the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice — a longtime bugbear of Brexit supporters — British courts will “pay due regard” to European court case law in relevant cases.

The proposals also may fall foul of EU insistence that the U.K. cannot “cherry pick” the benefits of EU membership, such as access to the single market, without accepting the responsibilities, including free movement.

EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier has warned Britain it can't treat the EU's single market like a “big supermarket.” AP

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BLOOMBERG

US Inc. keeps faith in China despite trade row, AmCham says

U.S. companies operating in China plan to increase investment in the Asian nation this year as rising consumer spending and improving profits offset trade tensions.

Almost 62 percent of companies surveyed by the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai expect to boost investment, led by technology hardware, software and services companies, as well as aerospace and aviation firms, the group said in a report yesterday.

"Despite U.S.-China trade frictions clouding the bilateral relationship over the past year, most U.S. businesses continue to perform well in China," the chamber said. "Uncertainty about U.S.-China trade policy had a limited impact on investment and more companies are producing goods solely for the Chinese market."

But given the survey was conducted before U.S.-China trade tensions ratcheted up this month, the firms may be overly optimistic. The Trump administration on July 6 imposed 25 percent duties on USD34 billion in Chinese imports. China immediately retaliated with duties on the same value of U.S. goods, including soybeans and cars. Earlier this week the U.S. unveiled a list of Chinese imports worth \$200 billion that could face higher duties.

"There's an impact for sure," Stephen Shafer, Greater China president at 3M, said on the sidelines of a media briefing about the survey. "We are more of an importer in China and we are impacted more by the Chinese tariffs."

Ken Jarrett, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, said there are concerns among some U.S.

companies in China that they will be targeted by the Chinese government as a result of the trade conflict.

"For companies at the moment they have been going through a mental check list of what they could encounter in the forms of retaliation. There are other ways that China can show its unhappiness," Jarrett said. "Typically it could be a form

of regulatory harassment. For example, things coming into the country held up by customs."

Companies surveyed by the chamber saw broadly positive operating results as the yuan kept stable against the dollar, financial deleveraging continued, consumer spending remained firm, and the global economy supported demand. About 15 percent of the companies sur-

veyed reported "very profitable" businesses in China, the highest proportion since 2004, while another 62 percent said their businesses were "profitable."

About 85 percent of the companies planning to expand investment this year are in the technology hardware, software, and services space, according to the report.

Still, regulatory barriers and persistent government favoritism toward local companies impede U.S. companies, and market access restrictions and the distorting effects of China's industrial policies concern members, according to the survey of 434 companies conducted between April 10 and May 10.

Companies surveyed by the chamber saw positive operating results as the yuan kept stable against the dollar

Lack of intellectual property rights protection and enforcement, and difficulties in obtaining required licenses remain the top two challenges foreign firms face in China, the chamber said.

"As China looks to the future, it should note lessons from the past," the chamber said, citing Japan's failed experiment with state industrial policies to finance and nurture companies. "Far better would be to improve market access, better protect IP, respect data security and thus create the conditions for national success." **Bloomberg**

Chicago mayor meets Chinese VP amid dispute

CHICAGO Mayor Rahm Emanuel, on a mission to salvage business deals threatened by a tariff war, said yesterday that Chinese officials expressed confidence they can survive the spiraling dispute with Washington.

The mayor met with Vice President Wang Qishan and China's commerce minister this week in an effort to lock in a USD1.3 billion deal for a Chinese company to assemble rail cars in Chicago.

The foreign ministry said Wednesday that China will take "firm and forceful measures" if President Donald Trump goes ahead with a second round of tariff hikes on Chinese goods in a dispute over Beijing's technology policy.

"They wanted to communicate, obviously, that this is not their preference," Emanuel told The Associated Press. "They would rather work something out, but they're not scared if this is where it goes."

After meeting with executives from the Chinese railway car manufacturer, Ema-



Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel

might be disrupted.

The Democratic mayor said he hopes to "hermetically seal" off Chicago, a city of 3 million people, from the impact of the dispute, in which the two nations' governments have raised tariffs on billions of dollars of each other's goods.

The railway venture is expected to create more than 200 jobs, and cargo from China also contributes to Chicago airport revenues.

"We don't want our relationships to be influenced by the winds of where the trade and tariff battles are," Emanuel said.

Emanuel said he had not initially expected to meet with Wang, an adviser of Chinese President Xi Jinping who is believed to have an outsize influence on foreign policy.

Last week, Washington imposed 25 percent tariffs on \$34 billion in Chinese products. Beijing responded by imposing similar duties on the same amount of U.S. imports. **AP**

nel said he is committed to completing the project. The factory construction will soon be finished and employees from Chicago are due to arrive in China for training, he said.

The U.S.-Chinese conflict has rattled businesses that worry trade and investment



An archaeological site in the Loess Plateau in China



Scientists believe stone tools like this could have belonged to our evolutionary forerunners that lived 2.1 million years ago

Chinese find suggests human relatives left Africa earlier

Emiliano Rodriguez Mega,
New York

STONE tools recovered from an excavation in China suggest that our evolutionary forerunners trekked out of Africa earlier than we thought.

Until now, the oldest evidence of human-like creatures outside Africa came from 1.8 million-year-old artifacts and skulls found in the Georgian town of Dmanisi. But the new find pushes that back by at least 250,000 years.

"It's absolutely a new story," said archaeologist Michael Pe-

traglia of the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History in Jena, Germany, who did not participate in the study. "It means that early humans were getting out of Africa way earlier than we ever realized."

That exit came long before our own species, *Homo sapiens*, even appeared. The researchers believe the tools were made by another member of the *Homo* evolutionary group.

The items included several chipped rocks, fragments and hammer stones. The 96 artifacts were dug up in an area known as the Loess Plateau, north of the Qin-

I am sceptical, I suspect this discovery will change very little.

GEOFFREY POPE
ANTHROPOLOGIST

ling mountains, which divide the north and south of China.

Some of them were as old as 2.1 million years, according to the study in Wednesday's journal

Nature.

"We were very excited," said Zhaoyu Zhu, a professor at the Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, who led the field work. "One of my colleagues suddenly noticed a stone embedded in a steep outcrop. After a short while, more artifacts were found — one after another."

The tools were distributed throughout layers of dirt, suggesting our unidentified ancient relatives came back to the same site over and over, possibly following animals to hunt. Researchers also found bones of pigs and deer, but were not able to provi-

de proof that the tools were used for hunting.

Some experts not involved in the research think that the findings need to be taken with caution.

"I am skeptical," said Geoffrey Pope, an anthropologist from William Paterson University in New Jersey. "I suspect this discovery will change very little."

The problem, he said, is that sometimes nature can shape stones in a way that they look as if they were manufactured by hand. Scientists know, for example, that rocks smashed together in a stream can acquire sharp edges.

But Sonia Harmand, an archaeologist at Stony Brook University in New York, disagrees.

"This could be, frankly, one of the most important [archaeological] sites in the world," said Harmand, who studies stone tools. **AP**

SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY

Professor suspended following misconduct complaints

A leading Chinese university has suspended a prominent primatologist in a victory for China's slow-building #MeToo movement.

Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou said yesterday in a statement on social media that it would suspend Zhang Peng and revoke his

honorary titles after confirming two complaints from female students. The university did not disclose the allegations, but said it had "zero tolerance" for teacher misconduct and would resolutely safeguard students' legal rights.

Zhang held visiting positions at the University of

Wisconsin and University of Kyoto and had been inducted into the Chang Jiang national fellowship program in China. His suspension comes after several prominent professors have been dismissed for sexual misconduct in recent months.

Zhang did not immedi-

tely respond to an email seeking comment.

The #MeToo movement has slowly gained traction on Chinese campuses despite facing bouts of censorship.

Students say authorities sometimes take down online petitions, or their institutions try to pressure

them into dropping their calls for accountability.

In April, a student at prestigious Peking University accused administrators of trying to intimidate her after she demanded that the university disclose information about the case of Shen Yang, a former professor accused of raping a

student in 1998.

The discussion has drawn in Chinese state media, including the Communist Party's official mouthpiece, the People's Daily newspaper, which urged schools to listen to "young people's voices" and address complaints without being evasive. **AP**

Jake Coyle, New York

HOLLYWOOD

Producers plan movie about Thai cave rescue

THE boys are out of the cave. Now Hollywood wants in.

The producers behind Christian films like "God's Not Dead" are already in Thailand with plans to develop a movie about the 18-day saga of the soccer team trapped in a flooded cave. Though the drama of headline-grabbing rescues often doesn't carry over the big screen, Pure Flix Entertainment co-founder Michael Scott believes the story about the 12 boys and their 25-year-old coach is ripe for movie adaptation.

"We realized that this would make an incredibly inspiring movie," Scott said yesterday [Macau time], speaking by phone from Thailand. "Like a lot of people, we know there's not a lot of positive news in the world today."

Scott said he feels a personal connection with the story. His wife is Thai and he said he was spending the summer in Bangkok when the soccer team went missing. Scott and fellow producer Adam Smith recently traveled to the area around the cave in the northern Thailand, and they have begun talking to some of the participants about their "life rights."

But they also stressed that they aren't yet pursuing most of the families of the boys, who on remained recuperating in a hospital.

"For us it's not a huge race," said Smith. "It's about making sure we get the authenticity right."

Many hurdles await. Most films that enter development never get produced, and the producers are just beginning to seek a screenwriter. Other film productions companies will surely show interest, and

AP PHOTO



they could leapfrog ahead with a larger production.

And while the Arizona-based Pure Flix has found some success with low-budget Christian films ("The Case for Christ") and conservative documentaries ("Hillary's America: The Secret History of the Democratic Party"), it's far from a Hollywood heavyweight. Others in TV and film are already looking to capitalize. Discovery has scheduled one-hour documentary special to debut Friday.

But Pure Flix hopes they can beat any fiction-film rush.

"I don't think this is a religious film," said Scott. "I think this is an inspirational film."

There's also some reason to doubt the box-office appeal of the tale. Ripped-from-headlines movies have not been setting the world on fire. Though Clint Eastwood's "Sully" was a success, his 2018 docudrama about the 2015 Thalys train attack, "The 15:17 to Paris," disappointed. Michael Bay's "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi" (2016) was the director's worst performing release. Peter Berg's 2016 big-budget drama about the 2010 oil rig explosion "Deepwater Horizon" likewise fizzled.

The best comparison would be 2015's "The 33," about the

2010 mining disaster in Chile that trapped 33 miners for two months. Though boasting a starry cast of Antonio Ban-

deras, Josh Brolin and Juliette Binoche, it made barely a blip at the box office, with USD24.9 million worldwide.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED AND BOYS HEALTHY, RESCUERS HEAD HOME

THE THAI and foreign rescuers of the youth soccer team trapped in a cave for 18 days have been heading home, as doctors said the boys they saved have so far not shown any significant ill effects from their ordeal. Members of the Thai navy SEAL team who were among the first searchers to penetrate the watery depth of Tham Luang Nang Non cave and the last divers

out flew yesterday to their base at Sattahip on the Gulf of Thailand, where they received a heroes' welcome. Foreign helpers, including some of the world's best cave divers, also began their journeys home. Doctors treating the 12 boys and their coach who survived their misadventure said their health is normal, although a few have low fevers and mild ear infections.

JAPAN

Thousands still in shelters after deadly flooding

MORE than 7,000 people were still in evacuation shelters and many more were struggling with basic needs yesterday after severe flooding and landslides last week in western Japan that caused at least 200 deaths.

The disastrously heavy rainfall caused damage over a widespread area, with most of the deaths in and around Hiroshima. Power and water outages were common, and damage to roads and railway tracks disrupted deliveries of food and relief supplies.

Water shortages were even affecting some of the evacuation centers,



which are usually priority destinations for relief supplies.

Takao Kusunoki, an evacuee staying at a junior high school in Ehime,

said he has not been able to take a bath for four days now, and could only clean himself with a wet towel. "I'm so sweaty, and I want to take a bath

as soon as possible," he told the Mainichi newspaper. "We need our water system restored."

Floodwaters have subsided in most places but left behind massive debris including broken trees, furniture and mangled cars that still need to be moved out of the way.

Disrupted distribution systems are keeping lives in the disaster zone difficult. Convenience stores are open shorter hours, and dozens of outlets of major chains such as Family Mart, 7-Eleven and Lawson were closed due to delayed deliveries, supply shortages or flooding in Hiroshima, Okayama and Ehime.

McDonald's said five outlets in Hiroshima and another in Ehime were without water.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at a disaster response meeting yesterday recalled seeing "horrendous" damage during his visit the previous day to Kurashiki city, where a river broke through its embankment and flooded a wide area.

"After seeing that, I even feel more strongly about doing whatever it takes so that the people who were affected could live safely again as soon as possible," said Abe, who had canceled a trip to Europe and the Middle East to respond to the

disaster.

Abe said the government obtained temporary housing for people whose homes were damaged or lost so they could move in and be more comfortable.

More than 700 houses were destroyed or damaged, and more than 23,000 were flooded, according to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters 200 deaths had been confirmed and another person was found without vital signs. Suga said 21 people are missing and about 40 others are still out of contact with their families. **AP**

JAPANESE authorities yesterday raided the apartment of a nurse who's in custody on suspicion of fatally poisoning at least two elderly patients at a terminal care hospital.

Local media have reported the woman confessed to police she poisoned about 20 patients to have them die when she was off-duty and could avoid the trouble of explaining the deaths to their families.

Kanagawa prefectural police said they searched 31-year-old Ayumi Kuboki's apartment in Yokohama, near Tokyo, for more evidence in the case.

Kuboki was arrested on Saturday on suspicion of killing two men in 2016 by injecting disinfectant into their intravenous drips at the former Oguchi Hospital, since renamed Yokohama Hajime Hospital, a Kanagawa police official said on condition of anonymity, citing department rules.

Prosecutors have more than two weeks to decide whether to indict the former nurse.

The hospital has acknowledged a higher death rate around that time, raising speculation the poisoning may have been systematic and more widespread. In 2016, a hospital lawyer told The Associated Press that 46 other patients had died on the same floor from July 1 until late September that year. It was about a year after Kuboki started working at the hospital.

Around that time, whistleblowing emails sent to the city's health department described problems at the hospital such as a nurse's bottled drink being laced with bleach, a uniform slashed, or missing medical records of patients, according to investigation results published by a city committee last year.

JAPAN

Authorities search home of nurse in hospital poison deaths

AP PHOTO



Police investigators head to the house of suspect Ayumi Kuboki (inlet) in Yokohama

Kuboki, who had left the job since, denied any responsibility when asked about the deaths by Japanese television networks last year.

The case surfaced on Sept. 20, 2016, when the hospital informed police of a possible poisoning after 88-year-old Nobuo Yamaki died while receiving an

intravenous injection. Police confirmed his IV solution had been contaminated with a disinfectant.

Police then found there was another victim, Sozo Nishikawa, who died two days earlier. Police got hold of his body just before cremation and conducted an autopsy, which showed he had

been poisoned with the same disinfectant.

Investigators have found traces of the same disinfectant only on her nurse uniform, according to the Asahi newspaper.

Investigators also reportedly found tiny puncture marks in 10 of about 50 unused intravenous bags stored at the nursing sta-

tion on the fourth floor, which handles the terminally ill.

The hospital, which stopped taking new patients and changed its name, installed security cameras and took other safety steps. It also apologized to its patients and families over the alleged crime and the patients' deaths. **AP**

PAKISTAN

Police arresting Sharif's supporters

PAKISTANI police were detaining scores of supporters of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, his party said yesterday, claiming it was an attempt to prevent them from staging a welcome-home rally upon the ousted leaders return from London.

The Pakistan Muslim League said scores of its members were nabbed in the sweep in eastern Punjab province. The police meanwhile said about 100 were detained "to avoid violence."

Sharif, ousted by the Supreme Court for corruption last July, was convicted last week and sentenced to 10 years over

purchases of luxury apartments in London. His daughter, Mariam Nawaz, was sentenced to seven years in a case stemming from documents leaked from a Panama law firm.

Both were sentenced in absentia while in Britain, where Sharif's critically ill wife is in hospital.

Sharif has not yet appealed his conviction and is likely to be taken into custody as soon as he lands in Lahore, the provincial capital of Punjab where most of the arrests took place yesterday. His brother, Shahbaz Sharif, who now heads the Pakistan Muslim League, said the former premier is due back today.

Shahbaz Sharif condemned the arrests, demanded they stop and that everyone detained be immediately released. He told reporters in Lahore that he plans to be at "the rally tomorrow to welcome Nawaz Sharif who is returning home with his daughter."

Meanwhile, authorities in Lahore set up shipping containers and other barricades to block key roads leading to the airport to prevent Nawaz Sharif's supporters from rallying there.

In a televised appeal to supporters from London on Wednesday, Sharif said he was not afraid of prison and asked people to vote

for his party in the July 25 vote. The Pakistan Muslim League, which has since Sharif's ouster elected a new leadership, still hopes to win the vote and form the next government.

Sharif also used the opportunity to again criticize Pakistan's powerful military, which has ruled the country directly or indirectly for most of its 71-year history, saying Pakistan now has a "state above state".

During his term in office, Sharif had criticized the military's involvement in civilian affairs and its efforts in fighting extremists.

Sharif offered condolences for the suicide bom-

AP PHOTO



bing this week that killed secular politician Haroon Ahmed Bilour and 20 others during a political rally. The Pakistani Taliban had claimed that attack, which took place in the city of Peshawar.

Yesyesterday, Pakistan's army chief Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa and caretaker prime minister,

Nasir-ul-Mulk, visited Bilour's residence to offer condolences.

The bombing Tuesday was the first election-related violence. It came just hours after the army said it would deploy more than 370,000 security forces to polling stations to ensure free, fair and transparent national elections. **AP**

YEMEN

Amnesty urges 'war crimes' probe on UAE-run prisons

Samy Magdy, Cairo

An international rights group yesterday called for an investigation into alleged disappearances, torture and possible deaths in detention facilities run by the United Arab Emirates and its allied militias in southern Yemen as potential war crimes.

Amnesty International's call comes months after The Associated Press reported that the UAE and allied militias were running a network of secret detention facilities where torture and abuses were widespread, outside the control of Yemeni President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi's government.

In a report titled "God only knows if he's alive," Amnesty said it documented "egregious violations going unchecked, including systemic enforced disappearance and torture and other ill-treatment amounting to war crimes."

The UAE issued a statement promptly rejecting Amnesty's report, describing it as "politically motivated to undermine" Emirati efforts as part of the Saudi-led coalition in support of the Yemeni government.

In Yemen's 3-year-old civil war, the UAE is part of a Saudi-led coalition battling Iranian-backed Shiite rebels known as Houthis who have taken over most of the



A former detainee covers his face for fear of being detained again, as he shows how he was kept in handcuffs and leg shackles while held in a secret prison at Riyan airport in Mukalla last year

country's north. Ostensibly, the Emiratis and Hadi's government are allies in the fight, but tensions between them have been high.

The UAE has built up militias across southern Yemen that government officials say are only loyal to the Emiratis. Those forces have taken over wide swaths of territory in the south, including towns and cities.

Amnesty said that these militias were "created, trained, equipped and financed" by the UAE and are "operating outside the command of their own government." The Emiratis, it added, have also built alliances with Yemeni security officials that bypass the Yemeni government.

The UAE has repeatedly denied it is involved in unlawful

detention practices in Yemen. On Sunday, Anwar Gargash, the UAE state minister for foreign affairs, dismissed reports that his country controls prisons as "fake news." Amnesty said the denials come "despite all the evidence to the contrary."

Amnesty said it investigated the cases of 51 men allegedly detained by UAE-backed militias between March 2016 and May 2018 in Aden, Lahj, Abyan, Hadramawt and Shabwa provinces. It said most of the cases involved forced disappearances, and 19 of the men remain missing.

"The families of these detainees find themselves in an endless nightmare where their loved ones have been forcibly disappeared by UAE-backed forces," said Tirana

Hassan, crisis response director at Amnesty. "When they demand to know where their loved ones are held, or if they are even still alive, their requests are met with silence or intimidation."

Amnesty said it had documented "widespread use of torture and other ill-treatment in Yemeni and Emirati facilities." Current and former detainees and families gave "horrific accounts of abuse including beatings, use of electric shocks and sexual violence," the watchdog said.

In the report 'God only knows if he's alive,' Amnesty documented 'egregious violations going unchecked'

The report quoted an unnamed detainee as saying that he saw a fellow detainee being carried away in a body bag after being repeatedly tortured.

"Ultimately these violations [...] should be investigated as war crimes. Both the Yemeni and UAE

governments should take immediate steps to end them and provide answers to the families whose husbands, fathers, brothers and sons are missing," Hassan said.

In the AP's investigation last year, former prisoners and security officials described widespread torture at prisons run by the Emiratis and their militias. Thousands of Yemenis swept up in the U.S.-backed campaign against al-Qaida have been held in the prisons without being charged or tried. Some have been interrogated by U.S. personnel inside the facilities, the AP found.

"The UAE does not manage or run prisons in Yemen," said the Emiratis' statement yesterday. "Prisons in Yemen are under Yemeni authority and fall under the jurisdiction of the country's institutions."

On Monday, Yemeni Interior Minister Ahmed Al-Maysari demanded the UAE shut down or hand over secret prisons. It was the first time he had gone public with the demand in talks with an Emirati official, seeming to contradict the UAE's repeated denials that it has authority over any prisons in Yemen.

Dozens of detainees have been freed from the facilities since the AP did an investigation in June detailing sexual abuse and torture at the sites. Sexual abuses were filmed as a way to turn suspects into informants, detainees reported.

Amnesty's report also urged the UAE's counter-terrorism partners, including the United States, to "take a stand against allegations of torture, including by investigating the role of U.S. personnel in detention-related abuses in Yemen." **AP**

EUROPE-US

Trump back at NATO after rattling allies, condemning Germany

PRESIDENT Donald Trump renewed his pressure tactics on fellow NATO nations to increase their defense spending yesterday, hammering U.S. allies on Twitter as he attended a second day of meetings with leaders of the military alliance.

Trump, in a series of tweets from Brussels, said that, "Presidents have been trying unsuccessfully for years to get Germany and other rich NATO Nations to pay more toward their protection from Russia."

He complained the United States "pays tens of Billions of Dollars too much to subsidize Europe" and demanded that member nations meet

their pledge to spend 2 percent of GDP on defense, which "must ultimately go to 4%!"

Trump has taken an aggressive tone during the NATO summit, questioning the value of an alliance that has defined decades of American foreign policy, torching an ally and proposing a massive increase in European defense spending.

Under fire for his warm embrace of Russia's Vladimir Putin, Trump on Wednesday turned a harsh spotlight on Germany's own ties to Russia, alleging that a natural gas pipeline venture with Moscow has left Angela Merkel's government "totally

controlled" and "captive" to Russia.

He continued the attack yesterday, complaining that, "Germany just started paying Russia, the country they want protection from, Billions of Dollars for their Energy needs coming out of a new pipeline from Russia."

"Not acceptable!" he railed before arriving late at NATO headquarters for a morning of meetings that will include talks with the leaders of Azerbaijan, Romania, Ukraine and Georgia. In the afternoon, he heads to his next stop: the United Kingdom.

Peter Navarro, director of the White House National Trade Council,

echoed Trump's rhetoric, telling Fox Business Network that "Germany is a tremendous problem, both for Europe itself, and for the United States in this sense."

"What's more surprising, the fact that the President Trump is calling them out on that or that previous presidents haven't?" he asked. "It's really extraordinary that Donald Trump has to be the person to point out that the emperor in Europe has no clothes."

The tough rhetoric against a core ally comes just days before Trump is set to meet one-on-one with Putin in Finland.

With scorching language, Trump questioned the necessity of the



President Donald Trump with (from left) Greek PM Alexis Tsipras, Portuguese PM Antonio Costa and Hungarian PM Viktor Orban

alliance that formed a bulwark against Soviet aggression, tweeting after a day of contentious meetings: "What good is NATO if Germany is paying Russia billions of dollars for gas and energy?"


During the meetings, he demanded via tweet that NATO countries "Must pay 2% of GDP IMMEDIATELY, not by 2025" and then rattled them further by privately suggesting member nations should spend 4 percent

of their gross domestic product on defense — a bigger share than even the United States currently pays, according to NATO statistics.

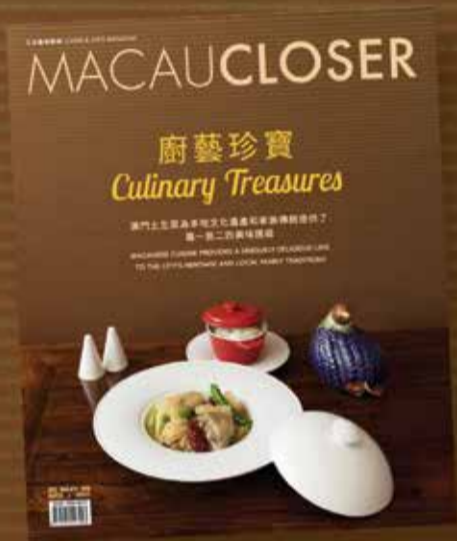
It was the most recent in a series of demands and insults that critics fear will undermine a decades-old alliance launched to counterbalance Soviet aggressions. And it comes just days before Trump sits down with Putin at the conclusion of his closely watched European trip. **AP**

MACAUCLOSER

生活藝術雜誌 LIVING & ARTS MAGAZINE

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FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
18:25	Destiny
19:10	World Cup Diary
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	Portuguese Mini Serie (100% Portuguese)
22:10	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:50	Movie
01:25	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
02:10	RTPi Live

SATURDAY

10:30	Comedy
11:35	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast (PT)
15:00	Miscellaneous
18:35	Miscellaneous
19:10	World Cup Diary
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:00	Grimm Sr. 3
22:30	Miscellaneous
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Talk Show
23:55	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:10	RTPi Live

SUNDAY

10:25	Kids Serie
11:00	Sunday Mass (Live)
12:00	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
17:40	Got Talent Portugal
19:20	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-daily Portuguese News
22:00	Documentary
23:00	TDM News
23:55	Miscellaneous
00:25	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:05	RTPi Live

Offbeat

DAILY DOSE OF NATIONAL ANTHEM IN HOSPITALS STUNS EGYPTIANS

A decision by Egypt's new health minister to have intercoms in state hospitals play the national anthem every morning, followed by a recitation of the Hippocratic oath, has set off a storm on social media across the country.

The minister, Hala Zayed, insisted this week's decision will help promote "patriotism and loyalty" of all hospital staff members as well patients in the state-owned facilities. She also stressed the recitation of the Hippocratic oath — generally taken by all new physician receiving a medical degree and attributed to Hippocrates of ancient Greece, often called the Father of Medicine — would remind doctors of their "professional ethical code and humanitarian role."

Ministry spokesman Khaled Megahed defended the decision, saying it's "in the interest of doctors" and would be enforced in all state hospitals in Egypt.

However, many Egyptians took to networking sites yesterday, ridiculing the move. Some suggested Zayed should instead focus on improving conditions in derelict and overcrowded state hospitals, which often lack basic supplies.

Veteran comedian Adel Imam mockingly suggested a hospital should "play the national anthem both when it receives a patient and when he is discharged."

Prominent journalist Anwar el-Hawary called for the minister to be sacked. "Mental health is an important condition for public office tenure," he wrote on Facebook.

Zayed's edict may simply be seen as a case of patriotic overdose amid a wave of new-found devotion for all things Egyptian.

Since taking power in 2014, President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who led the military overthrow of the elected but divisive Islamist President Mohammed Morsi in 2013, has struck a patriotic chord among Egyptians.

The president is known to frequently repeat his favorite mantra of "Long Live Egypt!"

The surge in patriotism has to a large extent been fanned by state-run media.

cinema



CINETEATRO

12 - 18 JUL



ANT-MAN AND THE WASP

ROOM 1

2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Evangeline Lilly, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 118min



SKYSCRAPER

ROOM 2

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

Director: Rawson Marshall Thurbe

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Neve Campbell, Chin Han

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 102min



BEIRUT

ROOM 3

2:30, 4:30, 7:15pm

Director: Brad Anderson

Starring: Jon Hamm, Rosamund Pike

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

CODE GLASS LELOUCH OF REBELLION III - GLORIFICATION

ROOM 3

9:15pm

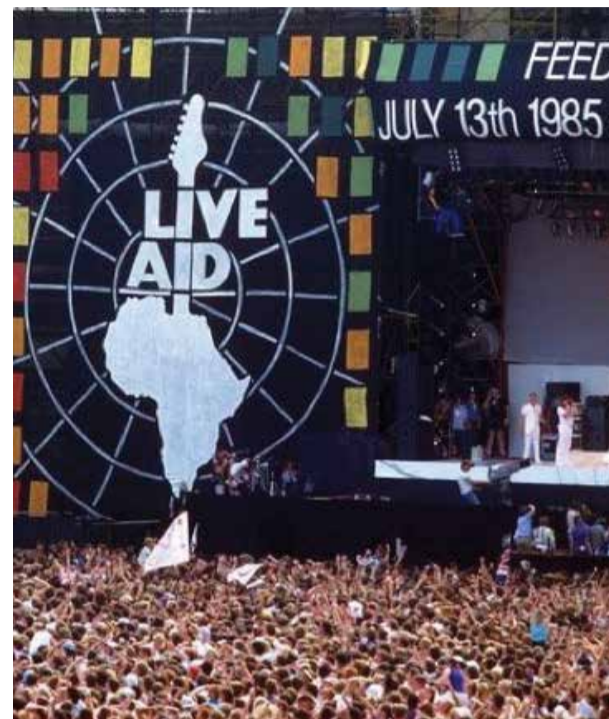
Director: Goro Taniguchi

Starring: Jun Fukuyama, Takahiro Skurai, Yukana

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 140min

this day in history



1985 LIVE AID MAKES MILLIONS FOR AFRICA

The Live Aid concert for the starving in Africa has raised triple the £10m expected.

And as the London event draws to a close at Wembley Stadium, Britain had contributed £1,100,000 to the global total of £30m.

Described as the Woodstock of the eighties, the world's biggest rock festival was organised by Boomtown Rats singer Bob Geldof to raise money for famine relief in Africa.

Wembley was packed with a crowd of 72,000, and TV pictures, co-ordinated at BBC Television Centre, have been beamed to over 1.5 bn people in 160 countries in the biggest broadcast ever known.

The transatlantic concert began in London's midday sunshine with a fanfare for Prince Charles and Princess Diana and Status Quo performing Rocking All over the World.

Stars were flown in by helicopter into the arena in a line-up that included David Bowie, Wham and royal favourites Dire Straits.

Frequent appeals by Bob Geldof reminded viewers of the motive for the occasion: "Don't go to the pub tonight. Please stay in and give us your money. There are people dying now."

He himself took the call from the ruling family in Dubai who made the biggest single donation of £1m.

Across the UK eight appeal centres were set up with 200 phone lines to handle - mainly credit card - donations of up to £2,000.

In the US 22,000 pledges were received within five minutes of the Beach Boys taking to the stage in the simultaneous concert at JFK Stadium, Philadelphia.

The 16-hour music marathon is being completed there tonight with acts including Bob Dylan, Duran Duran and Paul Simon.

Nine months after the droughts, disease and famine in north eastern Africa were brought to the media's attention the UN has warned that 160m people are still affected.

Governments have begun a global relief operation but there are still problems of distribution in the worst hit areas - mainly Sudan and Ethiopia.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

After seeing BBC news reports of the African famine Bob Geldof and Midge Ure from Ultravox wrote the song Do They Know It's Christmas to raise money for the crisis. Mr Geldof went on a crusade to attract other stars to the cause.

Performing under the name Band Aid, they released the song on 7 December 1984. It was the fastest selling single ever and raised £8m.

Live Aid eventually raised £40m. Half of the money was spent on food and half on long-term development.

Bob Geldof was given an honorary knighthood in 1986.

On 2 July 2005 Bob Geldof organised Live 8 - a series of rock concerts around the world to raise awareness about global poverty and put pressure on the leaders of the G8 nations to tackle the problem. Six days later the G8 summit at Gleneagles in Perthshire, Scotland, agreed a \$50bn aid package for Africa.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

The universe is downright insisting that you turn your attention toward your checkbook. And that doesn't mean just balancing it, either. You need to go over all your finances with a fine-tooth comb.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

You've never been known for being shy, retiring or afraid to speak your mind on your own behalf - or for others you believe in, for that matter. You're also a good friend.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

That higher-up who seems to have it in for you? The one who seems to have you constantly under a microscope? You may be right about them, that they're watching you carefully.

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

Just when you were thinking it might be safe to come out, and that the intrigue of the past few days might be over - well, you've just discovered that it's not. Fortunately, the secrecy is over.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

A very intense situation that comes up at work will lead you to wonder if you ought to say what you know, or whether you should just keep quiet - and honestly, isn't that always your personal dilemma?

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Back when therapists started talking about the dysfunctional family, you started giggling. Isn't everyone's family dysfunctional in one way or another? Of course they are.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Your world-famous passion is nothing to sneeze at - especially now. The heavens are energizing your sign - your personality and appearance - and that means you're an irresistible magnet at the moment.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

No matter who you associate with or how long you've actually known them, ever notice that you just can't seem to avoid being put in charge of something? You're probably used to it by now.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Someone you haven't seen or heard from in what seems like forever has had you on their mind for a while now - just like you've been thinking about them. So what have you two been waiting for?

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You may end up communicating with them in a quite surprising fashion, but then, there's nothing like surprises to inspire that creative push we all need, so it's an absolute given that no one will mind.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You're famous for your ability to sense something brewing, especially in a business sense, well before it's begun to brew. In this case, with the heavens putting out all kinds of perceptive energies.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

You've never been famous for saying anything that might deliberately hurt someone - not if there's a kinder, gentler way to do it. Words can be weapons, and you know that first-hand.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

5x5 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle.

Easy+

5x5 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle.

Medium

5x5 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle.

Hard

5x5 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle.

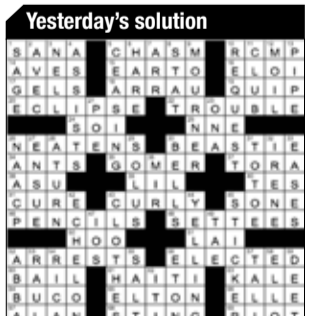
WEATHER

Weather forecast table for China and World cities, including min/max temperatures and conditions.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Get into hot water?; 6- Not base; 10- Wholly; 13- Shaft shot from a bow; 14- Brief letter, paper money; 15- To ___ (just so); 16- Belgian city; 17- Christmas carol; 18- Intend; 19- "Consarnit!"; 20- Highest singing voice in women; 22- Adhesive; 24- Egg yolk; 28- States as fact; 31- Free of frost; 32- Fiddlesticks; 34- Charlemagne's realm: Abbr.; 36- Three-player card game; 37- Second-century date; 38- Chemical-free; 41- Windy City trains; 42- Sauce brand; 44- Actor Brynner; 45- City in Tuscany; 47- Togetherness; 49- Spotted; 51- Italian sausage; 53- Water channel; 56- To midpoint; 59- Yarn; 61- Official records; 64- James ___ Jones; 65- Broadcaster; 66- Visualized; 67- Per ___; 68- Italian white wine; 69- He's a doll; 70- Sea eagles; 71- Pays to play;

DOWN: 1- Hairless; 2- Met highlights; 3- Lott of Mississippi; 4- Gluttonous; 5- Female sheep; 6- Pesters; 7- Poultry enclosure; 8- Roman road; 9- Postpone; 10- Corroded; 11- Grazing spot; 12- Author Deighton; 15- Soap plants; 20- Airplane; 21- Beatty of "Superman"; 23- "The Godfather" Oscar nominee; 25- Compare; 26- City near Gainesville; 27- Dampens; 29- Synagogues; 30- Hockey's Bobby; 32- Primary strategy; 33- Seal; 35- Effortlessly; 37- Leg unit between tarsus and femur; 39- Calendar abbr.; 40- In ___ of; 43- Jazz fan?; 46- Version; 48- Vocalist Sumac; 50- Old Testament book; 52- ___ France; 54- Unit of weight in gemstones; 55- Parisian pupil; 57- Free from bias; 58- Brownish songbird; 60- "___ Tu" ('70s hit); 61- Invite; 62- Bee follower; 63- 1980's movie starring Bo Derek and Dudley Moore; 65- Simile center;



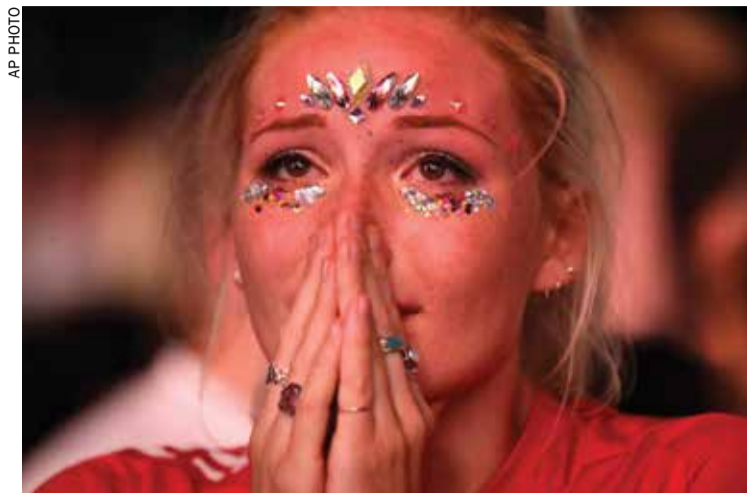
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Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' listings for various properties in Macau and Taipa, including Choi Long Meng Chui, Old Macau, The Buckingham, Violet Court, Lakeview, Warehouse, and Manhattan D unit.



WORLD CUP 2018

Sexism tops racism as a fan problem in Russia

SEXISM has been a bigger problem than racism at the World Cup in Russia, according to anti-discrimination experts advising FIFA.

Fans harassing female broadcasters while they worked are among about 30 cases of "sexism on the streets" reported to FIFA by the Fare network.

Analyzing the World Cup's issues at a briefing yesterday, the head of FIFA's diversity program also acknowledged wanting fewer images of attractive women in stadiums to be shown on future broadcasts. Federico Addiechi said FIFA plans to talk with national broadcasters and its own TV production team about the issue.

Racism was predicted to be the main World Cup problem because of longstanding issues in Russian soccer and other European fan bases.

"There haven't been a great deal of incidents of the type we expected," Fare director Piara Powar said, praising Russian people who "played a magnificent role making people feel welcome."

Instead, soccer's treatment of female media workers and fans provoked debate.

Powar said about half of those reported incidents involved female broadcasters being "accosted while on air." He estimated up to 10 times more unreported cases where Russian women were targeted.

With World Cup costs for travel and tickets — USD105 for the cheapest seats at group games for visitors — always rising, the different audience for games helps explain changing patterns of behavior.

Powar said with Russian authorities also keeping home-grown hooligans away from games, the World Cup had an international crowd "very different to the fans that come to domestic football."

"If you come to this tournament with prejudices, and don't like people from a different nationality, then generally you're in the wrong place," he said.

Still, FIFA did impose fines during the tournament on soccer federations including Serbia, Russia and Poland for racist, nationalist and offensive banners displayed by fans at games. The fines started at 10,000 Swiss francs (\$10,100) for a first incident.

FIFA and Russian organizers worked to identify fans linked to incidents of discrimination in Russia, and the most public violent incident was when Argentina fans attacked Croatia fans inside a stadium.

Addiechi said some of the 1.5 million people issued with fan identification laminates had them stripped, and were deported. About 700,000 of the Fan IDs went to international visitors, he said.

FIFA worked with Fare to ensure three expert monitors attend each of 64 World Cup games.

At future tournaments, FIFA hopes hundreds of millions of television viewers worldwide will get a more respectful view of women at games.

Addiechi said FIFA's stance was "a normal evolution," and broadcasts in Russia have already improved from the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

FIFA has already intervened with broadcasters "on a case-by-case basis when some cases arose, and they were pretty evident," Addiechi said.

Taking lessons from the World Cup in Russia, Powar said he hoped for more coordination between FIFA and its six continental governing bodies to ensure a consistency of monitoring and punishing discrimination cases.

Russia has won praise for its hosting of the World Cup, including embracing some social programs FIFA requires of host nations.

Addiechi acknowledged FIFA could have "a limited impact" from next week, and looked to former Russia player Alexei Smertin to continue leading its anti-discrimination work.

"We definitely expect and count on the support of Alexei," Addiechi said, "and the Russian football union." **AP**

WORLD CUP FINAL PREVIEW

Youthful, energetic French

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.
France v Croatia
H 2, D 3-34, A 5

A World Cup of surprises concludes with a final of contrasts. Powered by the dynamism of Kylian Mbappe, France has youthful exuberance in a side packed with some of soccer's highest-value talent. It also has pedigree — winners in 1998 and finalists in 2006.

Croatia has a veteran roster that has been stretched to the limit but continues to win in Russia. The Croats never give in,

prevailing in a shootout against Denmark, again on penalties against Russia — after being stung by a late equalizer — and then recovering from conceding early against England.

Just don't suggest Croatia will be weary in Sunday's final when it returns to the Luzhniki Stadium on Sunday.

Croatia's star midfielder Luka Modric said "we will see who will be tired" was the team ethos going into Wednesday's semifinal, feeling Croatia had been under-estimated by the English.

Modric, along with Mario Mandzukic, are the 32-year-olds who have propelled Croa-

tia to its first major soccer final. In the previous four World Cups: Croatia failed to qualify in 2010 and was ousted in the group stage the other three occasions.

Before then, in its World Cup debut in 1998, Croatia did reach the semifinals, where it lost to France.

When Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic visited the team hotel in Moscow on Wednesday that 1998 game was on his mind — even before beating England.

"We might have the chance for the revenge in the finals with the French," Plenkovic said.

Croatia in final for first time, beats

CROATIA'S legs seemed heavy, burdened by the accumulated toll of consecutive penalty-kicks needed to get this far. England had gone ahead with a free kick just five minutes in, dominated play and appeared headed to its first World Cup final since 1966.

Then the second half started and it was as if a different Croatian team had replaced the lethargic one.

Ivan Perisic tied the score in the 68th minute, Mario Mandzukic got the go-ahead goal in the 109th and Croatia shocked England with a 2-1 victory yesterday [Macau time] that advanced a nation of just over 4 million to a World Cup final against France.

"Mentally strong team," midfielder Ivan Rakitic



said. "It's just unbelievable to get back in the game in this way."

When the final whistle blew and they knew they were going to their first World Cup final, the Croats ran to their jumping and cheering

fans in their iconic red-and-white checkered jerseys. Croatia joined an exclusive club of 13 nations that advanced to a World Cup final, doing it in a tournament where powers Brazil, Germany, Argentina and Spain

made early exits.

"They've had an incredible route to the final. They've shown remarkable character," said England coach Gareth Southgate, who for now will be remembered more for a fashionable waistcoat



vs experienced Croats

Now they get it.

Croatia advanced to its first World Cup final with a 2-1 extra-time win over England on Wednesday night. France beat Belgium 1-0 a night earlier.

"We have a good opportunity to give them something back for 20 years ago when they reached the final," Croatia defender Dejan Lovren said. "Maybe it's our time to revenge something but it's a tough game and it will be difficult."

A country of 65 million, France has stars like 19-year-old sensation Mbappe, midfielder Paul Pogba and striker Antoine Griezmann.

Croatia is the fourth-smallest country of the 32 World Cup teams with just over 4 million people. It has a chance to be the least-populous nation to win since Uruguay took the title in 1950, when it was a nation of just over 2 million.

Saturday, 10:00 a.m.
Belgium v England
H 2.25, D 3.8, A 3.35

England and Belgium have already played each other once in this tournament — a lackluster 1-0 Belgium win in a game both coaches stuf-

fed with reserve players since they'd already qualified for the knockout stage. England coach Gareth Southgate all but conceded he wanted to lose that one so as to avoid a harder

The Road to the Final

France 2 Australia 1
France 1 Peru 0
Denmark 0 France 0
France 4 Argentina 3
Uruguay 0 France 2
France 1 Belgium 0

Croatia 2 Nigeria 0
Argentina 0 Croatia 3
Iceland 1 Croatia 2
Croatia 1 Denmark 1 (3-2)
Russia 2 Croatia 2 (3-4)
Croatia 2 England 1 (ET)

England 2-1

than ending a half-century of hurt.

France, which won its only title at home in 1998, will have an extra day of rest after beating Belgium 1-0 on Tuesday.

Croatia, coming off 360 intense minutes at soccer's highest level, faces its biggest sporting moment since becoming an independent nation in 1991.

"We started slowly, but we've shown our character, just as we did in the previous two knockout rounds when we were one-goal down," Perisic said.

Fans back home in Zagreb took to the streets to celebrate, lighting flares and waving flags in a sea of exuberance.

"We are a nation of people who never give in, who are proud and who have character," said coach Zla-

tko Dalic, who wore a checkered jersey to his post-match news conference. "There's no weakness in a team that is in the final."

England was not among the top 10 nations in ticket sales before the tournament, but the team's progress caused galling supporters to flock to Moscow.

The front of the stands behind one goal was filled with more than two dozen white banners with a red Cross of St. George, pledging support from many of the island's clubs, from Bradford to Wolverhampton. Back home, a crowd of 30,000 was in London's Hyde Park for a large-screen viewing, the British Beer and Pub Association predicted supporters would buy 10 million extra pints at pubs during the match, and

No.1 Court at Wimbledon was less than one-third full for the men's quarter-final between John Isner and Milos Raonic.

Promise seemed about to be fulfilled when Kieran Trippier curled in a free kick in the fifth minute for his first international goal, above leaping Dejan Lovren and Mandzukic and past the desperate dive of goalkeeper Danijel Subasic. Choruses of "God Save the Queen" began in England's end.

"We had a couple chances after that to get the second, give ourselves a bit more breathing room," England captain Harry Kane said.

Football will not be coming home to England, and there will be no title to match the 1966 triumph at Wembley Stadium. Kane & Co. will deal with the same disappointment that felled Shearer and Platt, Gazza and Wazza, Beckham and Gerrard.

And Southgate, whose penalty-kick failure led to England's previous semifinal loss in a major tournament, in the 1996 European Championship semifinals.

"Impossible to say anything to them that is going to make them feel better at this point," Southgate said after England's fourth straight loss in a major tournament semifinal.

Croatia tied the score after Rakitic switched the ball from left flank to right, where Vrsaljko crossed. Kyle Walker attempted a diving header to clear. Perisic jumped and from behind raised his left boot over Walker's head to poke the ball past goalkeeper Jordan Pickford from about 8 yards for his fourth World Cup goal, including two in this tournament.

Mandzukic scored after Walker stuck out a leg to block Josip Pivacic's cross. The ball popped up, and Perisic outjumped Trippier

route to the semifinal, and his strategy worked, right up until Croatia's Mario Mandzukic beat England 'keeper Jordan Pickford in the 109th minute.

Now England and Belgium meet again in the match no one wants to play in. That's exactly what Southgate and England captain Harry Kane called it immediately after losing to Croatia, using terms that losers of past World Cup semifinals have tossed around too.

"It's not the game we wanted to be in. I'm sure Belgium didn't want to be in it," Kane said. "But it's a game that's part of the World Cup. [...] so we'll put in that performance and give it the best we can."

Conventional wisdom holds that Belgium and England will send out the second string again, play a minimum of defense and try to avoid getting any of their high-priced players hurt right before their club seasons begin.

But the third-place match can hold some surprises: The record for the fastest goal in World Cup history still belongs to Turkey's Hakan Sukur, who buried one 11 seconds into the third-place game against South Korea in 2002. **MDT/AP**

Croatia president celebrates win at NATO summit



It has been a successful NATO summit for Croatia President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic. The World Cup took care of that. With a come-from-behind 2-1 win over favored England, Grabar-Kitarovic could eat her NATO gala dinner with that bit more gusto. "We followed the game over dinner," a beaming Grabar-Kitarovic said as she entered the last sessions of the NATO summit yesterday. "It was wonderful because all the allies were cheering for all of us, mostly," she said. She was at the table together with French President Emmanuel Macron yesterday and the two will meet again on Sunday — at the Moscow stadium where France plays Croatia in the final. "This will be a successful summit and we will win on Sunday," Grabar-Kitarovic confidently predicted.

Mick Jagger went to see England and England lost, again



In a literal case of life imitating art, Mick Jagger went to see England and England lost. The Rolling Stones frontman was at the Luzhniki Stadium to see Croatia beat England 2-1 in extra time in the World Cup semifinals. Last year, Jagger unexpectedly released a pair of solo songs. One of the songs was called "England Lost," and its starts with the tale of someone ostensibly going to watch England play a soccer match and finishes with some political commentary about Britain's exit from the European Union. "I went to see England, but England's lost," Jagger sings. "And everyone said we were all ripped off." Jagger arrived in Russia for the World Cup after he and his bandmates completed a short European tour in Warsaw on Sunday. He attended Tuesday's match between France and Belgium in St. Petersburg and then came to Moscow to see his home national team play — and lose to — Croatia.

opinion

Kapok
Eric Sautédé



PUTTING A CAP

Greece roughly receives the same number of tourists as Macao; around 32 million per year. Tourism in Greece represents about 20% of GDP and, directly or indirectly, provides a job to one Greek in four: easily imagined is the distress felt when this number fell to 10 million in the wake of the financial crisis in 2010.

Yet, because of the sheer pace of the rebound, people are starting to see (and feel) the negative effects the return of mass tourism is having not only on everyday life but also on tourism itself. Striking a balance between the imperative of “sustainable tourism” and the dangers of “overtourism” has become a necessity, and this despite a whopping 23% national rate of unemployment.

The stress imposed by this massive influx of tourists is even more revealing in the tiny islands of the Cyclades, and especially in the one from which I write: Santorini. When I first visited the iconic caldera exactly 40 years ago, one would necessarily arrive at the small pier of Skala from where one would have to climb 580 steep serpentine steps leading to Thira, the island’s capital, 260m up the cliff under an excruciating sun. Mules were available, but mainly to carry backpacks.

Now there is a cable car, and even though the mules are available for the occasional selfie, only the small connecting vessels from gigantic cruising ships make it to the old pier: island hoppers riding regular ferries arrive at Athinios, the new port, from which a road gives easy access to the whole island. In short, one does not “deserve” his or her stay in Santorini anymore and during day (and sunset) time it has become nearly impossible to stroll along the dedalum of the tortuous vennels of Oia overlooking the volcano without bumping into packs of fellow visitors.

The marbled ridge path going from Thira to Firostefani feels like a shopping road of Mongkok on a busy Saturday afternoon and every single house has been turned into either a shop, a bar or a hotel — “boutique hotel” carries its true meaning in Santorini! Still small in size — one floor only — all are painted in immaculate white and the occasional marine blue to safeguard the visual coherence of the whole. Yet, Santorini’s mayor Nikolaos Zorzos laments that “11% of the island has been concreted over.”

Two million visitors on a tiny island of 76 square kilometers is proving too much for the 25,000 inhabitants: not only the traffic jams and the overcrowding are proving problematic, but also the fast-rising water and energy bills. Thus Zorzos, among other things, has taken the bold decision to limit the number of cruise visitors per day to just 8,000, down from as much as 18,000 in the past. Zorzos also illustrates the imbalance of the development of the tourism industry by highlighting that there are now 1,000 hotel rooms per sq. kilometer in Santorini, more than any nearby island. I wonder what the Aegean mayor would have to say about Macao where the supposedly “green lung” of Coloane shrinks by the day and the number of hotel rooms stands at 1,250 per sq. kilometer. Are problems different depending on longitude?

In the 2017 report “Coping with Success: Managing Overcrowding in Tourist Destinations” by the World Travel and Tourism Council, challenges posed by overtourism appear to be the same everywhere: alienation of local residents, degradation of tourist experiences, overloading of infrastructure, damage to nature and threats to culture and heritage. Among the measures recommended by the WTTC, of which Macao is part, figures the capping of daily visitors. Macao might not be as bad as Venice, but it does belong to the category of hotspots with the highest risk of over-crowding, similar to Dubrovnik where visitor numbers per day has already been capped even beyond the recommendations by UNESCO, from which Macao derives its World Heritage status.

THE LAWYER: STORMY DANIELS WILL PLEAD NOT GUILTY AFTER ARREST

The lawyer for Stormy Daniels says the porn actress will plead not guilty to charges of allowing patrons to touch her after being arrested at an Ohio strip club.

Michael Avenatti posted on Twitter yesterday that Daniels will enter the not guilty plea to three misdemeanor charges.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, is accused of letting

patrons touch her, which is a violation of a state law. She was taken into custody during a night show in Columbus, Ohio.

Avenatti says during the performance, some patrons touched her in a “non-sexual” way. He says they will fight all charges, which he called “bogus.”

An Ohio law prohibits anyone who isn’t a family member to touch a nude or semi-nude dancer.



Station	Air quality
Roadside	20-40 Good
High Density Residential Area	15-35 Good
Ambient	20-40 Good

WORLD BRIEFS



YEMEN An international rights group yesterday called for an investigation into alleged disappearances, torture and possible deaths in detention facilities run by the United Arab Emirates and its allied militias in southern Yemen as potential war crimes. [More on p14](#)

SYRIA Rebels have agreed to surrender the southern city of Daraa, the first to revolt against President Bashar Assad in Arab Spring-inspired protests earlier this decade, activists said yesterday.



FRANCE has taken in a group of 78 asylum-seekers, mainly from Eritrea and Sudan, after their charity rescue ship was blocked from ports in Italy and Malta.

BRITAIN The government released detailed plans yesterday for what it called a “principled pragmatic and ambitious” Brexit — plans that already triggered the resignation of two top ministers and split the governing Conservative Party. [More on p9](#)

ARGENTINA A Spanish fishing trawler sank in rough weather off the coast of Argentina and at least one crewmember died, Argentina’s Navy said. Twenty-five crewmembers were rescued and one was missing.



MEXICO President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said he will cancel the pending purchase by Mexico’s navy of eight armed Lockheed Martin MH-60R helicopters from the U.S. government.

EL SALVADOR’s Supreme Court has ordered President Salvador Sanchez Ceren to present any information he has on the fate of a South African diplomat who was kidnapped by leftist guerrillas in 1979.

Show tells backstory of icons like Mount Rushmore, Lady Liberty

Beth J. Harpaz

DID you know that the original symbolism of the Statue of Liberty had nothing to do with welcoming immigrants? And that Mount Rushmore was basically built as a scheme to get road-trippers to make the trip out to South Dakota?

You’ll hear the inside story on these icons and others from Geoffrey Baer, host of the PBS television series “10 That Changed America,” in three new episodes airing this summer. In addition to famous monuments, other episodes focus on streets that changed America — like New York’s Broadway — and on modern marvels like the Hoover Dam.

Baer is based in Chicago, where he works for the local public television station WTTW and also gives tours for the Chicago Architecture Foundation. He spoke about the show and the backstory of some of the monuments featured in the episode airing July 17 in an interview with AP Travel’s weekly podcast “Get Outta Here !” Here are some excerpts from the podcast, edited for brevity and clarity.

MOUNT RUSHMORE

When cars were a new form of transportation, “a state official in South Dakota really didn’t think in the early days of the road trip that scenery was going to be enough” to lure people to drive all the way there, Baer said. So he decided to “create the world’s biggest roadside attraction.” Originally the carvings were going to depict heroes of the American West, but that wasn’t deemed a big enough draw, so the concept was changed to presidents.

STATUE OF LIBERTY

The Statue of Liberty was a gift from France to America, but what was the meaning of the gift?

Baer says America was seen in the late 19th century as a “beacon of democ-



Mount Rushmore



Statue of Liberty

cracy and freedom” in an era when French democracy was eroding. So the French used the statue as a way of sending “a message” to their own country by giving “America a gift of this great French figure of liberty.”

The statue is often romanticized as a symbol of welcome for immigrants, partly due to its location within sight of Ellis Island, where millions of immigrants arriving in the U.S. were processed. They could see Lady Liberty as their ships pulled into the harbor. But Ellis Island didn’t open until 1892, six years after the statue was dedicated in 1886.

“So it wasn’t until later that the statue took on this additional new meaning as a kind of beacon to immigrants,” Baer said.

LINCOLN MEMORIAL

Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation declaring “all persons held as slaves” to be free. But almost nothing

at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., mentions slavery.

That’s because the intended message of the Lincoln Memorial was “that the Civil War was really brother against brother and now we’ve reconciled,” Baer said. Two of Lincoln’s speeches — his second inaugural address and the Gettysburg Address — are engraved on the walls, but not the Emancipation Proclamation.

“It only was later that the monument became a platform for the civil rights movement,” Baer added. That tradition began in 1939 when the great opera singer Marian Anderson was denied permission to sing at Constitution Hall in Washington because she was African-American. Instead she sang on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Later in the 1960s, the monument became a site for civil rights protests, including Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I have a dream” speech. **AP**