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AD

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## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

# Man arrested for pouring oil, acid on wife

P2

## WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



**US-RUSSIA** Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin opened their long-awaited summit yesterday with a one on one talk behind closed doors before the American leader declared their meeting was off to a "very, very good start for everybody." More on p15,20

**CAMBODIA** The trial of an Australian filmmaker who could get five to 10 years in prison for flying a drone over a campaign rally last year was postponed yesterday for a second straight month to allow his new lawyer to get acquainted with the case. More on p12

**SRI LANKA** The European Union and other diplomatic missions yesterday sought verification from the Sri Lankan government on its stand to resume executions after a rise in crime. More on backpage



## FORMER AFP CHIEF IN MACAU

# Media literacy needed to counter fake news, should be taught in school

P7

## CRIME

# Cases of domestic violence cause 2 injuries, 1 serious

Renato Marques

**TOWARDS** the end of last week, two different, unrelated cases of disagreements between married couples left two people injured, and one in a serious condition, the Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson revealed yesterday during a press conference.

The case resulting in the most severe injury occurred on July 12 when, during a discussion between a couple at their home in Taipa, the husband, 40-years-old, resident of Macau, poured hot oil and a corrosive liquid on his wife (31). The wife sustained burns and other related injuries to about 40 to 45 percent of her body. She also suffered serious injuries in her eyes that may leave her blind, the spokesperson added citing her medical report.

The basis of the disagreement was allegedly recurrent arguments between the couple that led the woman to frequently

RENATO MARQUES



suggest a divorce during 2016. This suggestion was always refused by the husband.

In this most recent argument, the wife suggested they divorce and the enraged husband went

to the kitchen, found the two liquids and poured them over the woman. She immediately ran into the room of her domestic helper calling for help.

Due to the corrosive liquid,

the domestic helper in charge of taking care of the couple's six-year-old daughter also suffered several burns in the process.

The police were alerted to the case by a neighbor, who called

the authorities to help the injured women.

Taken into custody, the man admitted to the crime and was referred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) on July 14. He was accused of serious offences against physical integrity (bodily harm), and a judge decreed preventive custody as a coercive measure, while the man awaits trial.

In the second case, which occurred July 13 in the northern district, a couple 42 and 45 years old, who had been married for the past 20 years engaged in an argument in their house.

According to report, the couple were sleeping in the same room, but in a bunk bed, with the woman taking the upper bed, and the man the bottom one. After finishing her house duties, and while trying to climb to her bed, the woman unintentionally hurt her husband who was lying on his bed. The man then rushed to the kitchen, took a knife and cut one of the woman's arms.

The police were called to attend the emergency by one of the couple's daughters who lives with them.

The man is accused of a serious offence against physical integrity (bodily harm), and possession of forbidden weapon. He has been also presented to the MP.

## Ng Lap Seng wants prison postponement for medical reasons

**CONVICTED** Macau billionaire Ng Lap Seng is asking for another postponement to his prison sentence, this time on the basis of requiring medical treatment.

Ng, who was sentenced to four years in prison in May after having been found guilty of bribery and money laundering, was already given a two-month postponement before he needed to begin serving his time.

When that postponement elapsed, his lawyers requested another two months to allow the high-profile businessman to get his affairs in order.

Government prosecutors objected, according to an article in the New York Times, stating that the request was "unwarranted, inequitable and should be denied."



They argued that Ng was trying "to put off prison as long as possible on the ground that he is a successful businessman."

That request was ultimately denied by the judge, Vernon S. Broderick of Federal District Court in Manhattan. Nevertheless,

Ng's lawyers developed a second argument on the same day, this time concerning medical reasons.

Severe back pain and a small stroke are among the afflictions stated by Ng's lawyers as the justification for a second postponement of his sen-

tence. However, prosecutors are questioning the "timing and sincerity" of the real estate developer's claims.

There are a number of precedents for high net-worth individuals to enjoy different treatment to less wealthy convicted persons, including self-financed home detention. In recent years, several U.S. judges have started to deny such requests, finding them unreasonable as they foster unequal treatment in favor of a small number of criminal defendants.

Earlier this year Ng was told to surrender to authorities by July 10. Judge Broderick has ordered a hearing this week at which he will consider Ng's latest request for his surrender to be postponed.

## New approvals of residential mortgage loans on the rise

**NEW** approvals of residential mortgage loans in Macau rose in May, while those of commercial real estate loans decreased. According to statistics released by the Monetary Authority of Macao, new approvals of residential mortgage loans by local banks increased by 23 percent month-to-month to MOP4.9 billion (USD608 million) in May.

The monthly average of new approvals of residential mortgage loans between March and May was MOP5 billion, up by 18 percent from the previous period (February to April).

Meanwhile, new approvals of commercial real estate loans fell by 64.9 percent from a higher compa-

risson base of the previous month to MOP2.9 billion. The monthly average of new approvals of commercial real estate loans between March and May was MOP5.7 billion, down by 18.4 percent when compared with that of the previous period (February to April).

At the end of May, the delinquency ratio for new approvals of residential mortgage loans was 0.2 percent, down by 0.01 percentage point from the preceding month, yet up 0.01 percentage point when compared with over a year earlier.

The ratio for new approvals of commercial real estate loans was 0.14 percent, virtually unchanged from a month ago and from a year ago.

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# News At Hand



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## USJ hoping for British accreditation

The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) is hoping to be recognized by the British Accreditation Council next year, according to a TDM interview with rector Peter Stilwell. The university representative said that he hopes more students from Southeast Asia will be encouraged to study at USJ following the anticipated accreditation. "We are an English speaking university, so to be accredited by British Accrediting Agency would give us that stamp of approval that what we are saying [and what] we are selling is true," Stilwell told TDM. The university is targeting the Southeast Asia market because Beijing does not issue visas to mainland students who wish to study at USJ, as it is a Catholic institution.

## Wynn Macau announces special bonus

Wynn Macau has announced a special bonus equal to one month's gross salary for all Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace employees, except senior management. Some 13,200 people, or 95 percent of the current workforce, are eligible. The bonus is to be paid on August 15. In a statement, the firm said that the special bonus is being awarded to demonstrate Wynn Macau's "appreciation for strong business results and [employees'] hard work and dedication."



Protesters hold portraits of Jho Low illustrated as a pirate during a protest in Kuala Lumpur

# Jho Low might have altered his appearance

**MEDIA** in Malaysia are speculating that wanted businessman Low Taek Jho, also known as Jho Low, may have assumed a new identity in order to slip by international borders, despite an Interpol notice requesting his arrest.

Citing an unnamed source, Malaysia's The Star reported that Low might have undergone facial reconstruction surgery to alter his appearance.

He may also be using several different passports under at least one alias.

"We believe he may have altered his features and has assumed an alias," the unidentified source said.

The source also noted that authorities understand that Low used special "ground butler services" available for VIPs and celebrities to avoid normal immigration procedures.

"This explains why, despite the Red Notice issued by Interpol, Low has been travelling in and out of a number of Southeast Asian countries without much fuss," the source said.

Extensive facial reconstruction surgery might cost between USD10,000 and \$20,000, according to experts, well within the means of the 37-year-old billionaire.

Yesterday, The Star quoted a police source who said that Low was using a Saint Kitts and Nevis passport.

"We found out that he is still using the same name on the passport. It is an offence for a Malaysian national to have two passports," said Immigration Department director-general Datuk Seri Mustafar Ali. "We don't practise dual citizenship. Every citizen must have one nationality and one Malaysian passport," Mustafar told reporters.

Moreover, aside from the Saint Kitts and Nevis passport Low used, the authorities are also looking at the possibility that he is holding passports issued by other jurisdictions.

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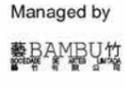
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# Chui Sai On says Inner Harbor floods show improvements needed

**T**HE Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, yesterday directed government departments to step up their efforts in addressing flooding issues, particularly regarding easing the effects of unstable weather conditions during the tropical cyclone season.

During a cross-departmental meeting to review anti-flooding measures, Chui said the flooding over the weekend at the Inner Harbor district, caused by heavy rain, had "highlighted the need to enhance flood control and prevention measures." According to a statement issued by the Government Information Bureau, Chui "called for closer cross-departmental effort to realize the Government's medium- and long-term plan regarding flood control and prevention."



The CE added that the government would enact all measures in the interim period, before the completion of its long-term flood control measures, in order to relieve flooding issues experienced by people and businesses in the Inner Harbor area.

During yesterday's meeting, a number of government departments reported on measures taken to address the flooding. The meeting also received a report on progress regarding the overall planning of the government's flood

control and prevention measures. Chui reportedly paid particular attention to issues concerning the operation of the existing pipe network, and pumping facilities. Close attention was also paid to the construction of additional pumping facilities and rainwater storage facilities in the Inner Harbor area, the coordination and effectiveness of proposed reinforced concrete walls alongside the Inner Harbor, and the construction of a cross-boundary flood control system.

To ease flooding issues in the Inner Harbor, the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau pledged to enhance the drainage pipe network in the area and optimize all of its monitoring equipment which do not always provide accurate information during weekends.

The Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau and other responsible departments said they would strive to install further monitoring equipment in waters away from the shore, in order to receive, in a timely manner, any data indicating a water level rise.

Chui Sai On pointed out the need to promote a greater range of ways by which the public can gain access to "real-time tidal information", a service launched by the Marine and Water Bureau and the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau.

# Tam: More physicians and nurses hired to better healthcare

**T**HE Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, has claimed that the hiring of a greater number of physicians and nurses for the public sector will serve to improve upon the quality of services provided to the people.

Tam was recently questioned by the media over cases in which nurses from the private sector were asked to quit their current jobs prior to being accepted in public tenders to be hired for the public sector.

To such allegations, the Secretary said that the public tender, launched by the Administration, for the contracting of several health professionals as well as other workers, strictly followed the legal process provided by the rules in force, granting equality, impartiality and transparency. The-

Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, has claimed that the hiring of a greater number of physicians and nurses for the public sector will serve to improve upon the quality of services provided to the people.

re, Tam noted that the safeguard of the interests and rights of those who participate in public tenders is ensured. The Secretary noted that the fact that private sector employees are applying to the public tenders show that such positions are attractive. According to figures cited by the Office of the Secretary, in 2017 a total of 35 nurses were hired by the Health Bureau, a figure that will increase to 48 this year.

Other measures, such as the extension of working hours of some health facilities until 10 p.m., and the hiring of physicians from abroad, are being implemented. Tam also said the inauguration of a new health center in the Ilha Verde district and a convalescent care facility in Ka Ho would take place soon.

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Renato Marques

# Wishart: Fake news causing an 'erosion of trust' in media

**T**HE phenomenon of so-called "fake news," which is disseminated mainly via social networks, is causing an "erosion of trust in the media," according to Eric Wishart, former editor-in-chief of the international news agency Agence France-Presse (AFP) and currently a member of AFP's global news management and special projects.

"There is a lot of discussion and a lot of studies [that point towards] an erosion of trust in the media [...] I think the fact that Donald Trump and others keep coming up and [speaking about] this fake news... Sections of the population will believe them. Yes, it has a corrosive effect," Wishart said in an interview with the Times on the sidelines of last week's British Business Association of Macau's (BBAM) Breakfast Business Briefings held at the St. Regis Hotel Macao, where the speaker was addressing the topics of the challenges of fake news and disinformation.

The specialist noted that besides the fact that fake news by itself can contribute to disinformation and to damage the image of some person or entity, it also contributes to a lack of confidence from the general public in media in general, "especially if [peo-

ple] keep repeating over and over again [the message that the mainstream media produces fake news], it does get through."

**“The technology is becoming sufficiently sophisticated that you can actually see a person speaking and saying things that he didn't actually say.”**

ERIC WISHART

In Wishart's opinion, the way to fight back and tackle that problem by the media has to do with "being much more transparent about your newsgathering" as well as to

produce a clear statement of media's guidelines and practices.

The specialist also noted that nowadays more people are interested in checking the stories on its original source. "If you write a story, people want to see the link to the original speech, to the original text. [...] So coming back [to] this need to be more transparent, I don't think is good enough to say: 'I'm a journalist, believe what I'm saying!' This is not good enough anymore," he noted, reaffirming that this will be a challenge to the media, forcing it to reevaluate the "way we do our work."

During his talk, Wishart presented several examples of what he called "real fake news" and "fake fake news" as well as drawing a clear line that separates a "bad report" or a journalistic report with mistakes from fake news that is "specifically maliciously fabricated with a clear intention to cause harm or to tarnish."

Referring to the particular case of one of the most known advocates using the term "fake news," the president of the United States of America, Donald Trump, Wishart explained that, as alike many others across the globe and including some well-known public figures in Asia, the use of such a classification has been abused, serving to classify "all media reports that are not favorable to his or their governance."

As advice for spotting and verifying the occurrence of "fake news reports," the specialist left some simple and practical advice, such as: "google it," to see who else it is reported, if at all; pay attention to the sources to see if they are reliable; check the web address (URL) carefully, as often fake news websites use web addresses that resemble reputed sources but in fact are not; and, last but



## Media literacy should be part of school curriculums

**T**HE future will bring new and more complex challenges in terms of media literacy, Eric Wishart said during his presentation at BBAM's Breakfast Business Briefing.

According to Wishart, "the next generation of fake news will be [...] fake videos. The technology is becoming sufficiently sophisticated that you can actually see a person speaking and saying things that he didn't actually say, that's the next dangerous step," he noted, calling for more than fact checking or verification, noting the need of an improvement in media literacy.

"A lot of young people are getting fed up with this and I think media literacy is very important [to tackle the problem]. Media literacy is essential and must be part of school curriculums in the future if we want to avoid this [expansion of fake news]," he said, noting that this should be the "core," because no matter how much effort companies like AFP, Google or Facebook do to try to verify and "fact check" the reports, they have no control over the creation of such content, and in this sense, the younger generations need to be taught how to spot, cross-check and verify their news on their own.

not least, "don't act on the headline," before sharing news, read the full story, check for mistakes, inaccuracies, the misspelling of names and other signs that might indicate that the report is not to be trusted.

And above all, "before sharing, think that someone else is going to read it," he said as advice.

Addressing the particular topic of the reports shared "by reading the headline only," Wishart noted the

cases of several Southeast Asian countries such as the Philippines and Myanmar, among others, where this phenomenon has a particular significance, as, he explained, "in these countries, data, namely mobile data, is relevant and if people only read the headline without actually clicking on the news, they don't use data," noting that this has contributed heavily to the growth and spread of fake news in such countries.

## Tourist Price Index rises 2.78pct in Q2

**T**HE Tourist Price Index (TPI) for the second quarter (Q2) of 2018 went up by 2.78 percent year-on-year to 129.86, according to information from the Statistics and Census Service. The rise was reportedly on account

of rising charges for hotel accommodation and restaurant services, higher bus fares and airfares, and dearer prices of local food products.

Among the various sections of goods and services, the price indexes of accom-

modation and transport and communications rose by 7.05 percent and 6.3 percent respectively, while food, alcoholic beverages and tobacco rose by 4.25 percent.

In comparison with the previous quarter, the TPI

for the second quarter of 2018 decreased by 5.17 percent, led by a significant drop of 22.6 percent in the price index of accommodation, owing to lower hotel room rates and airfares after the Lunar New Year.

For the first half of 2018,

the TPI went up by 4.48 percent year-on-year, with price indices of accommodation and transport and communications rising by 13.64 percent and 6.44 percent respectively.

Meanwhile, the average TPI for the last four quar-

ters ending in Q2 of 2018 rose by 4.21 percent from the previous period, with notable increases in the price indexes of accommodation and transport and communications.

The TPI reflects the price change of goods and services purchased by visitors, organized in categories according to the consumption patterns of tourists.



## Lin Fong Sports Center to extend opening hours

The Sports Bureau (ID) has announced that the Lin Fong Sports Center will extend its opening hours following the impending closure of the Macau Canidrome. During a TDM radio program on Friday, an ID representative said that longer opening hours at the sports center would encourage residents to participate in sport activities and build healthy sport habits. Currently, the sports center is available for playing football and for organizing other field sports. In order to allow all kinds of users to utilize the facility, the sports center has been allocating scheduled time to different groups.

# 'Broken Tooth' signs deal eyeing poker tournaments in Hainan

**T**HE former leader of Macau's branch of the well-known 14K triad, "Broken Tooth" Wan Kuok Koi, has partnered with a Beijing-based firm to allegedly support gaming tournament and events in the mainland China island of Hainan that include chess and poker, the South China Morning Post (SCMP) reported.

According to several reports, Wan's investment firm has partnered with Zhonggongxin Cosmos (Beijing) Internet Technology Limited (Zhonggongxin Cosmos) to establish a chess and poker tournament, to be held in October in Hainan.

Another report from the cryptocurrency-specific website Bitcoinist.com, cites a Zhonggongxin Cosmos staff member named Guo Jia, saying that the prize money for the tournaments should be the equivalent to around RMB10 million (over MOP12 million) and should consist of a mix between cash and block chain currency "HB" tokens.

The deal, which was facilitated by the launch of an Initial Coin Offering (ICO) operation for the



Wan Kuok Koi

HB tokens, reportedly gathered a total of USD750 million (over MOP6 billion) in less than five minutes after the launch.

Several reports note that the launch of Wan's ICO was held at an exclusive event, which took place in Cambodia. Wan continued to successfully sell his HB tokens in Thailand and the Philippines, reporting an overall sale of 450 million tokens out of a total of 500 million offered to the public. This ICO offering tour is set to conclude tomorrow in Malaysia, where the remaining 50 million will be offered to the public. The

total investment amount is set at one million tokens, but only 50 percent (500 million) will be offered to the public.

According to the SCMP, there are questions being raised over both the origins of the Chinese company and the chess and poker tournaments.

Zhonggongxin Cosmos is a subsidiary of Zhonggongxin Assets Management Limited, which has a large business-related investments portfolio including asset management and construction projects in Russia. There is some suggestion that it

is state-owned.

Information provided by the company's official website indicates that it reports directly to an advisory committee under the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council (SASAC), called the Advisory Committee on the Management of Financial and Energy Resources and Capital.

However, the SASAC in reply to the SCMP said that it did not have such an advisory committee, although it would not confirm whether Zhonggongxin Cosmos has ties to the Chinese state.

A lottery industry veteran, Su Guojing, quoted by the SCMP said that the use of cryptocurrencies as payment in chess and poker games in China is neither legal nor illegal, falling instead in an unregulated grey area.

"When chess and poker games are paid with tokens such as cryptocurrencies that can be converted to fiat currencies, it becomes a disguised form of gambling in China," adding, "there's a legal loophole on this issue."

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# Alibaba's Ele.me seeking at least USD2b in funding, sources say

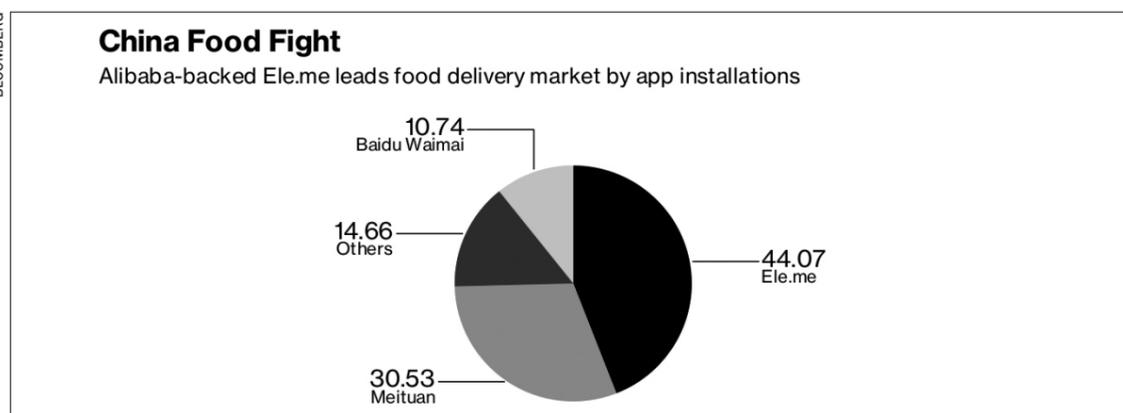
**E**LE.ME, the food delivery platform acquired by Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., is on the hunt for USD2 billion of new financing to help in its fight against Meituan Dianping, people familiar with the matter said.

The Chinese company is seeking funds from potential investors such as venture capital firms to expand a business that's burning enormous amounts of cash, according to the people, who requested not to be named because the matter is private. While it's unclear how big a stake is available in Ele.me, which was valued at \$9.5 billion in April's Alibaba acquisition, investors would get a piece of a company that's a candidate for a future initial public offering, the people added.

Ele.me and Meituan are incurring massive losses as they offer

heavy discounts on food orders to lure users in a bitter fight for market share. While that lowers prices for customers, both companies have to maintain payments to the armies of drivers on motorcycles that do their deliveries.

The market for on-demand services in China is surging as people increasingly turn to their smartphones to order meals, schedule beauty treatments and hire domestic helpers. It's also strategically important for Alibaba and Tencent Holdings Ltd., a key backer of Meituan, as a means of promoting their respective payment services. Alibaba declined to comment on



behalf of Ele.me. While Alibaba bought out the rest of Ele.me this year, founder Zhang

Xuhao remains chairman of the company and runs it somewhat independently. Meituan itself is mar-

ching toward an initial public offering that has been said to value the company at \$60 billion. **Bloomberg**

HONG KONG

## Tutoring firm Bexcellent soars 22 percent in debut

Fox Hu

**B**EXCELLENT Group Holdings Ltd., whose top tutor earns more than HKD40 million (USD5.1 million) a year, surged as much as 34 percent on the first day of trading in Hong Kong.

The provider of tutoring services to Hong Kong secondary school students was so popular that individual investors placed orders for about 289 times the stock initially available to them. Bexcellent raised HKD135 million in its initial public offering after pricing shares near the top of a marketed range. That's a contrast to Xiaomi Corp., which priced its initial public offering at the low end two weeks ago.

Shares of Bexcellent closed at HKD1.32 for a 22 percent gain from its IPO price of HKD1.08.

Courses and products provided by Bexcellent's top five tutors accounted for more than half of its total revenue last year, the company said in its IPO prospectus. Remuneration payable to the top tutor was HKD43.4 million in the year through July 2017, the document showed. That's more than Bexcellent's net income of HKD34.1 million in the same period.

Rival firm Hong Kong Education International Investments Ltd. ran a newspaper advertisement in 2015, offering to pay Bexcellent's top tutor Lam Yat Yan an annual salary of HKD85 million. Shares of Hong Kong Education have plunged 97 percent since its 2011 IPO, while Lam has remained a tutor and shareholder of Bexcellent. **Bloomberg**



## Anbang is said to consider sale of health insurer Hexie

Manuel Baigorri, Vinicy Chan

**A**NBANG Insurance Group ACo. is weighing a sale of its Hexie Health Insurance Co. unit as the troubled Chinese firm reviews its assets for possible divestment, according to people familiar with the matter.

The insurer is in discussions with financial advisers about a possible disposal of the unit after receiving interest, the people said, asking not to be identified

because the matter is private. The health insurance firm could attract Chinese insurers as well as private equity funds, one of the people said.

A sale of Hexie Health would be the first major local asset sale for Beijing-based Anbang since the government seized temporary control of the insurer in February amid a campaign to curb financial system risk. After gaining renown for an aggressive global acquisition spree, the

Chinese firm said earlier this year it was reviewing all of its overseas assets.

Hexie Health provides services ranging from disease management, medical care, disability care, health care and accident insurance in the world's most populous country. Its net income jumped more than fivefold to 2.7 billion yuan (\$405 million) in 2016 from the previous year, after revenue from premiums more than tripled, its latest annual report shows.

Considerations about a possible sale of Hexie Health are preliminary, no formal process is under way and discussions may not result in a deal, the people said. A spokesman for Anbang said the company doesn't comment on speculation.

China picked banks earlier this year to advise on potential disposals of Anbang's assets, Bloomberg reported in May. Anbang is exploring a sale of Belgian insurer Fidea, people familiar with the matter said this month. **Bloomberg**

### corporate bits

#### SANDS CHINA HOSTS COMPANY-WIDE BLOOD DRIVE



Sands China has once again teamed up with the Macau Blood Transfusion

Centre to host a company-wide blood drive at the company's properties.

Over 170 team members, including senior executives, responded promptly to this year's call and signed up for the blood drive held between July 4 and 13 across Sands China properties. It is the 14th consecutive year that the company has organized the annual event. Since 2005, over 1,600 team members have volunteered to give blood for the worthy cause. Sands China's annual blood drive is part of the company's ongoing corporate social responsibility efforts to contribute to the local community. Sands China is presenting gifts to team members who have donated blood more than 10 times, as a token of appreciation and to encourage more people to donate blood regularly.

#### MGM ORGANIZES ART TOUR FOR NINGXIA STUDENTS



To facilitate cultural exchange between Macau and mainland China, MGM has welcomed students from

Ningxia to MGM Cotai, to experience Macau's rich East-meets-West cultural heritage.

On July 15, approximately 90 top students from Ningxia visited MGM Cotai and were welcomed by MGM management. They were amazed by the world's largest area of permanent indoor LED screens at the Spectacle, according to a statement from the company, which showcase an exclusive array of digital art collected from around the globe.

The students then toured the MGM Cotai art collection to learn more about the display of over 300 artworks from world-renowned artists.

Ho Ka Lon, Standing Committee Member of the Ningxia Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, offered his appreciation to MGM for organizing the tour.

# China hears rumbles of company discontent in rare open session

THE ink had barely dried on the first joint statement between China and the European Union in three years before the complaints began.

Following a rare decision to allow reporters inside a session with business leaders in Beijing yesterday, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang heard unfiltered comments from senior EU officials about the everyday reality for Europeans of conducting commerce in China.

EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom, who is responsible for negotiations to resolve a dispute with the U.S. over metal tariffs, pointed to a decline in EU investments in China and cited "a broad range of barriers" facing companies on both accessing the Chinese market and operating in the country.

"China has made strong pleas to keep markets open and fight protectionism. This is reassuring to the EU and its business community," Malmstrom told the session. "However, we would like to see these encouraging words translated into more concrete action from China to further open up investment."

EU Commission President Jean-



European Council President Donald Tusk (second from right) and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker (third from right) in a meeting with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang

Claude Juncker said there was a need for "relevant trading partners" to observe the EU's "very strict regulations" on state aid, while citing government subsi-

dies in manufacturing as another area of concern. "The EU is open, but it is not naïve," Juncker said.

The session highlighted a source of friction between the two econo-

mic giants as they attempt to present a united front against President Donald Trump's confrontational trade policies. While the Europeans might not approve of

the U.S. leader's tariffs and decision to work outside existing multilateral bodies, they share some of his concerns about market access to China.

## The EU is open, but it is not naïve.

JEAN-CLAUDE JUNCKER  
EU COMMISSION PRESIDENT

The exchange with Li took place immediately after an EU-China summit that agreed to a joint statement, a success that eluded the previous two annual meetings. Among the progress hailed was an exchange of offers aimed at moving toward a bilateral investment treaty, the establishment of a "China-EU co-investment fund" and a plan to enforce intellectual property rights.

Li, whose government is facing U.S. tariffs on USD200 billion of goods, seemed keen to act on the pledges made.

"I want to hear if any big company here would like to make a complaint here on the theft of intellectual property, so that I will take great measures," he told a BMW executive.

To an Airbus representative, he was even more helpful: "Whatever problems you have, we will solve them," Li said. **Bloomberg**

## INNOVATION

# Huawei may beat Samsung to 5G in its own backyard

Sam Kim

WHILE Samsung Electronics Co. has become synonymous with technology in South Korea, a controversial rival could upstage it in the race to build fifth-generation wireless networks in its own backyard.

Huawei Technologies Co., the Chinese company slammed in the U.S. Congress as a security threat, is in the running to supply equipment to all three of South Korea's national mobile carriers. At stake: initial contracts that could be worth 10 trillion won (USD9 billion).

As South Korea pushes to become the first nation to roll out 5G networks, suppliers from around the world are vying to sell switches, base stations and other gear needed to make them work. While Samsung is best known for its smartphones and memory chips, having its equipment shut out of the most advanced wireless networks in its homeland

would be a setback for a company that has suffered a number of recent black-eyes.

Huawei has grown to become the largest network gear maker and is pushing deep into 5G technology, investing heavily in research and becoming one of the biggest holders of patents. Its prospects came into focus earlier this year when President Donald Trump blocked Broadcom Inc. from buying Qualcomm Inc. as the U.S. cited risks that the deal could help the Chinese company take the lead in developing next-generation networks.

"Huawei has been aggressive and started development earlier than others," Park Jin-hyo, executive vice president of SK Telecom Co., said in an interview. "We are looking with an open stance and no bias whatsoever."

While aware of security concerns surrounding Huawei, Park said South Korea's largest carrier is looking at other factors including technology and

costs, adding the firm wouldn't be considering the Shenzhen-based company if it fell short of global security standards.

SK Telecom and smaller rivals KT Corp. and LG Uplus Corp. have more than 56 million subscribers, a number greater than the country's population of just 51 million. Cost is a critical factor in deciding their equipment needs after they agreed last month to fork out 3.6 trillion won for 5G wireless spectrum.

LG Uplus has expressed willingness to choose Huawei while SK Telecom and KT are weighing the Chinese company as

## South Korea is pushing to become the first nation to roll out 5G networks

well as Samsung, Nokia Oyj and Ericsson AB. This week, the country's technology minister is scheduled to meet with the heads of Korea's three wireless carriers to go over their 5G rollout blueprint - a confab at which Huawei will almost certainly come up.

The appeal of 5G technology comes down to its ability to transmit data fast enough to aid the operation of self-driving cars or download feature-length movies in seconds.

While Samsung has never had a huge share of the global market for wireless network gear, it has always been able to rely on hometown support. In Huawei, it faces a competitor that can undercut it on price but also seeks to emulate its reputation for customer service.

"Huawei's appeal is its price competitiveness," said Kim Hyun-yong, an analyst at Ebest Investment & Securities Co. "And it has a lead with its 5G devices developed well enough to be put to work



immediately."

Still, questions remain about Huawei and security. The company was founded in 1987 by a former Chinese military officer and it says it's now owned by workers. But the U.S. has accused it of maintaining close links to the government and enabling spying by the mainland. It's effectively been blocked from selling network equipment to the biggest U.S. carriers and struggled to get support for its mobi-

les in the country.

Security allegations resonate in South Korea, which is a U.S. ally hosting almost 30,000 American troops but at the same time needs China's support to remove nuclear arms in North Korea. Petitions have appeared on the South Korean presidential website seeking to ban Huawei from the country, which after becoming the first major market to reach full 4G coverage wants to extend that to 5G. **Bloomberg**

# Economic growth cools amid trade tensions

Joe McDonald

**C**HINA'S economic growth slowed in the quarter ending in June, adding to challenges for Beijing as its tariff battle with Washington escalates.

The world's second-largest economy expanded by 6.7 percent over a year earlier, down from the previous quarter's 6.8 percent, the government reported yesterday.

Key drivers of growth including spending on construction and other investments were weakening even before the dispute with Washington erupted. Forecasters have expected a slowdown since Beijing tightened lending controls last year to rein in surging debt.

Growth was "generally stable" but "the uncertainties of the external environment are mounting," said Mao Shengyong, a spokesman for the National Bureau of Statistics.

Chinese leaders have expressed confidence their USD12 trillion-a-year economy can survive the tariff war with U.S. President Donald Trump. Beijing is resisting American pressure to change industrial policies Washington says are based on stealing or pressuring foreign companies to hand over technology and might threaten U.S. industrial leadership.

But forecasters said the downturn is likely to deepen as Beijing tightens financial controls and trade tensions worsen.

"There are risks that Chinese growth will slow more abruptly," Citigroup economists said in a report.

Washington imposed an additional 25 percent tariff on \$34 billion of Chinese goods on July 6. Beijing retaliated with similar penalties on the same amount of U.S. imports. Washington fired back last week with a threat of 10 percent tariffs on an additional \$200 billion list of goods.

Trade contributes less to China's economic growth than it did a decade ago



A popular mall in Beijing

but still supports millions of jobs. Even though Trump's first tariff hike didn't take effect the current quarter, exporters say American orders started to fall off as early as April.

More broadly, anxiety about tariffs "is already dampening business confidence and delaying investment," said Louis Kuijs of Oxford Economics in a report.

Unless the two sides restart negotiations, "the conflict will escalate further, with major economic implications for themselves and the global economy," said Kuijs.

Of greater concern than trade is "slowing domestic demand within China's economy," said Tom Rafferty of the Economist Intelligence Unit in a report.

China is the No. 1 trading partner for its Asian neighbors and buys oil, iron ore and other raw materials from Australia, Brazil and elsewhere. Chinese consumers are an increasingly important market for food, clothes, electronics and other goods.

Investment in factories, housing and other fixed assets decelerated in the latest quarter. It rose by 6 percent in the first half, down 1.5 percentage points from the first quarter.

Chinese leaders are in the midst of a marathon effort to encourage self-sus-

taining growth driven by domestic consumption and reduce reliance on exports and investment.

Beijing has responded to previous downturns by flooding the state-dominated economy with credit. But that has swelled debt, prompting concerns about risks to the banking system. The ruling Communist Party has made controlling financial risks a priority this year, suggesting it will resist easing lending controls.

Consumer spending has risen more slowly than planned, leaving economic growth dependent on debt-supported investment.

Retail spending in June rose by 9 percent over a year earlier, a half-percentage point higher than in May. The increase was driven by rapid growth in the sales of higher-end consumer goods such as cosmetics and audio-video equipment.

Forecasters say if threatened tariff hikes by both sides are fully carried out, that could cut China's 2019 growth by up to 0.3 percentage points.

Mao, the statistics bureau spokesman, declined to say how much the dispute might hurt Chinese economic growth.

"But generally speaking, trade frictions unilaterally started by U.S. will have an impact on the economy of both countries," Mao said. **AP**

## Beijing files WTO challenge to USD200b tariff plan

**C**HINA announced it filed a World Trade Organization challenge yesterday to U.S. President Donald Trump's proposal for a tariff hike on USD200 billion of Chinese goods, reacting swiftly amid deepening concern about the economic impact of their spiraling technology dispute.

The one-sentence Commerce Ministry statement gave no legal grounds for the challenge or other details. It was an unusually rapid move for a trade case, coming less than one week after the U.S. Trade Representative announced the

tariff plan, which wouldn't take effect until at least September.

The USTR said last week that it proposed the levy in response to Beijing's decision to retaliate for U.S. tariff hikes over complaints China is hurting American companies by stealing or pressuring foreign enterprises to hand over technology.

China criticized the move but has yet to say whether it would retaliate for the second round of tariffs. Its lopsided trade balance with the United States means it has only \$80 billion of annual imports of American goods



Chinese made children shoes carrying a Chinese map and U.S. flags are on display for a sale at a shop in Beijing

left for retaliation following its earlier measures.

Beijing has stepped up diplomatic efforts to recruit

support from Europe, South Korea and other trading partners but so far without success. **AP**

### opinion

#### BEIJING LOVES XIAOMI, JUST IN ITS OWN SPECIAL WAY

Tim Culpan, Bloomberg

Xiaomi Corp. has caught a lot of breaks from Hong Kong and its stock exchange. China isn't playing ball. Yet.

The Hong Kong-Xiaomi relationship is crucial, and symbiotic. For one, Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. ended a ban on dual-class listings that allowed founder Lei Jun to keep control of the smartphone maker and have his IPO too. It also allowed HKEX to bag a high-profile tech unicorn. The bourse lost Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., and didn't want to miss out again.

Xiaomi didn't have too many other options, either. A China listing was out of the question because it doesn't have a track record of profitability. A U.S. listing was possible, but the poor performance of wearables subsidiary Huami Corp. in New York shows skipping this avenue may have been a smart choice.

Hang Seng Indexes Co. joined the Xiaomi lovefest by fast tracking its entry into the Hang Seng Composite Index and a handful of other benchmarks.

China, on the other hand, isn't making life easy. Much has been made of Xiaomi's fumbled attempt to list China depository receipts at the same time as its Hong Kong debut. This never made sense and I suspect Xiaomi was just playing along to appease Beijing. Remember, Chinese policymakers are just as desperate to land a big tech listing as Hong Kong. Exhibit A: Foxconn Industrial Internet Co. and its red-carpet treatment.

But Beijing doesn't seem keen on bending its listing rules for unprofitable companies, or rewarding those that opt for dual-class structures. The fact Lei Jun chose to implement voting rights that give his stock 10 times the weight of ordinary shareholders may not have been well received.

As a result, China's stock exchanges said over the weekend they won't allow mainland investors to buy shares with weighted voting rights in Hong Kong. In other words, the Hong Kong-China stock connect is closed to Xiaomi.

That news was cited as reason for Xiaomi's drop of as much as 9.6 percent Monday morning, but after an 11.4 percent climb on Friday, it's probably just profit-taking.

Investor protection was the grounds given for China's restriction, which includes a ban on trading in foreign firms and stapled securities. I think this is a red herring, as it pertains to Xiaomi.

While 10:1 voting rights that favor Lei Jun are a bit egregious, I don't imagine that a dual-class structure, on its own, creates much of a hazard. The fact Xiaomi has an untested business model that's chronically unprofitable ought to be of greater concern.

By preventing investors from buying Xiaomi via the stock connect, Beijing secures for its own bourses a monopoly over mainland trading in a hot stock once CDRs do eventuate.

China will want to avoid launching CDRs to a lukewarm reception. News last week that the first batch of CDR-focused mutual funds only raised about one-third of their upper limit shows this is a real possibility. There's every likelihood Xiaomi's CDR listing will come - I predict within a year.

So while it looks on the surface that Chinese regulators don't love Xiaomi as much as those in Hong Kong do, it's likely Beijing simply wants to maximize the CDR bang for its buck when it does eventually pull the trigger.



BLOOMBERG



The list of the U.S. soldiers who were killed in the Korean War is displayed at the Korea War Memorial Museum in Seoul

## Pompeo: US, N. Korea hold 'productive' talks on war remains

U.S. and North Korean officials held "productive" talks yesterday [Macau time] to discuss the return of U.S. service members' remains missing since the Korean War, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said.

Pompeo, who was not part of the talks, said in a statement that working level meetings between U.S. and North Korean officials would begin today "to coordinate the next steps, including the transfer of remains already collected" in North Korea.

It was not immediately clear who took part in this weekend talks, held at the tense inter-Korean border. Pompeo said

they were "the first General Officer-level talks" with North Korea since 2009.

He said the meeting "was aimed at fulfilling one of the commitments" made by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at last month's summit with President Donald Trump in Singapore.

"Today's talks were productive and cooperative and resulted in firm commitments," Pompeo said.

"Additionally, both sides agreed to re-commence field operations in the DPRK to search for the estimated 5,300 Americans who never returned home," he said. North Korea is officially known as the De-

mocratic People's Republic of Korea.

North Korean officials skipped a planned meeting with U.S. officials over the war remains last week, citing lack of preparations. South Korea's Foreign Ministry said the North then requested higher level talks with the U.S.-led United Nations Command.

There's speculation that Pyongyang is trying to fast-track discussions on more critical issues, such as reaching a declaration to formally end the war, which stopped on an armistice and not a peace treaty.

Sunday's meeting came a week after Pompeo traveled to Pyongyang to begin follow-up

talks to last month's Singapore summit in which Trump and Kim issued vague aspirations for a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula without describing when and how it would occur.

Last month, the U.S. military moved 100 wooden coffins to the inter-Korean border to prepare for the return of U.S. war remains, which was a rare tangible commitment the North made during the Trump-Kim summit.

About 7,700 U.S. soldiers are listed as missing from the Korean War, and 5,300 of the missing are believed to be in North Korea. The war killed millions, including 36,000 American soldiers. Richard

Downes, executive director of the Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs, said recently that he had been told the North may have the remains of more than 200 American service members that were likely recovered from land during farming or construction.

Efforts to recover U.S. war remains have been stalled for more than a decade due to tensions over North Korea's nuclear program and a previous U.S. claim that security arrangement for its personnel working in the North was insufficient.

From 1996 to 2005, joint U.S.-North Korea military search teams conducted 33 recovery operations that collected 229 sets of American remains. The last time North Korea turned over remains was in 2007, when Bill Richardson, a former U.N. ambassador and New Mexico governor, secured the return of six sets. **AP**

### CAMBODIA

## Spy trial of Australian filmmaker postponed again

THE trial of an Australian filmmaker who could get five to 10 years in prison for flying a drone over a campaign rally last year was postponed yesterday for a second straight month to allow his new lawyer to get acquainted with the case.

James Ricketson arrived at a Phnom Penh court in his orange prison uniform for a hearing on the charge of endangering national security, which in legal terms is tantamount to espionage.

He insisted to reporters

outside the courtroom in June at was supposed to be the trial's opening that he was innocent of any wrongdoing. But in a letter to long-serving Prime Minister Hun Sen earlier this month published in the pro-government Khmer Times newspaper, he apologized for his "mistake" in his statements about his situation.

The court rescheduled the trial's opening to Aug. 16. Cambodia holds a general election on July 29, which is certain to return Hun Sen to office. Ricket-

son had been seen as sympathetic to his opposition, and it is not clear how the election results may affect his fate. The country's courts are considered to be very much under government influence.

Ricketson was arrested in June last year after using a drone to film the final rally of the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party before local elections. The party has since been dissolved, as part of a sweeping crackdown on the opposition and media critical of the government.

According to his family, the 69-year-old Ricketson has been detained in a 6-by-16-meter cell along with 140 other prisoners, and in May he was reportedly taken ill with a chest ailment and moved to the prison hospital.

At last month's hearing, where the court granted Ricketson a delay in order to have more time to study the evidence, Ricketson spouted defiantly to reporters covering the trial.

"I'm hoping that I'll find out today which country I'm spying for," he said.

"I haven't been informed which country I am spying for, yet. I would love to know."

However, his tone shifted significantly in the July 1 letter he addressed to Hun Sen.

"May I please, respectfully, send my sincerest apologies to yourself and the Cambodian Government. I now realize that my statements I have made in the press and other media are disruptive and I'll-informed. These statements were made from a place of foreign naivety and ig-

norance about the complexities and difficulties of governing Cambodia," he wrote.

"I apologize unreservedly and without condition for any distress I may have caused as a result of my ignorance of Cambodian issues. If there is anything I can do to remedy my mistake, please let me know as I only want the best for you and Cambodia," the letter said.

Ricketson acknowledged to journalists covering yesterday's session that he had written the letter. **AP**

Johnson Lai, Mae Sai

THAILAND

# Statelessness a hurdle for some rescued boys

**T**HE 12 boys and coach of the Wild Boars youth soccer team who were rescued from a cave in northern Thailand last week share a characteristic with many of the professional European clubs its teenage members idolize: They are a multi-ethnic, cross-border crew.

But while the stars of the major European leagues, no matter what their origins, can stake a claim to fame and fortune, some of the Wild Boars cannot even count on a permanent home.

Three of the players — Mongkol “Mark” Boonpium, 13, Adul Samon, 14, and Pornchai “Tee” Khamluang, 16 — and 25-year-old assistant coach Ekapol “Ake” Chanthawong are stateless, living in a limbo that puts serious restrictions not only on their upward mobility, but even on their right to travel outside of Chiang Rai, the northern province where they live.

It is no anomaly that four of the 13 trapped in the cave are not Thai citizens, the Wild Boars’ head coach, Nopparat Kanthawong, said in an interview. Of the 70-80 boys in the team’s four age brackets, around 20 are stateless.

The cave ordeal should help put a spotlight on the issue of statelessness in Thailand. Nopparat hopes it will advance his players’ sporting ambitions.

“I would ask media to highlight this situation they are facing,” he said. “All of the kids who join the team, they all wish that they would be professional soccer players. But they would not be able to do so if they don’t have nationalities.”

He explained that the most glaring problem is that if his stateless players want to travel outside the province, they must get a pass with official permission, whether for personal affairs or a soccer competition. Getting a passport to take up various European clubs’ in-

AP PHOTO



Wild Boars football team (in black) play a local team in Mae Sai over the weekend

vitations to watch them play is an even bigger task.

There are 488,105 stateless people registered in Thailand, according to government statistics. The actual number of stateless people could be as high as 3.5 million, according to the International Observatory on Statelessness. The group says that stateless people in Thailand are unable to vote, buy land, seek legal employment, work in certain occupations or travel freely.

Northern Thailand, whose porous borders have long been a boon to migrants, refugees and smugglers, is a melting pot of ethnic groups, including the Akha, Lahu, Lisu,

Yao, Shan, Hmong and Karen. In neighboring Myanmar, the frontier regions are dominated by ethnic minority groups, but underdevelopment and conflict make opportunities scarce. Some people flee for their lives to Thailand; others just seek a better life.

■ **Three of the players and 25-year-old assistant coach are stateless, living in a limbo**

It is not necessarily an uncomfortable transition. There are settled communities of minority groups on both sides of the border, and Thailand generally takes a laissez-faire attitude.

Adul’s parents sent him from Myanmar to get a decent education in Thailand, which is impossible in his home state, Wa, which is plagued by armed conflict and instability. He is a star pupil, and a bit of a celebrity for being the sole English speaker among the 13 trapped in the cave. He also is reported to speak Thai, Burmese and Chinese.

“We found that in many cases, those who migrated here

and those who fled life-threatening situations to come here aren’t able to return to their origin countries,” Angkhana Neelapaijit of Thailand’s National Human Rights Commission said yesterday. “If they have clear intentions to establish residency here, even if they were born in neighboring countries but have children and residency here, at least the rights of children from these families should be protected.”

She said those seeking to gain Thai citizenship must enter a verification process to prove that they either have Thai parents or were born in Thailand. The process can be difficult and complicated, she added, as officials also have to be vigilant over the many fraudulent and corrupt methods that are used to gain citizenship.

Activists say the naturalization process is too difficult, especially for less educated rural migrants who were never documented in their country of origin and who are outsiders as far as local Thai authorities are concerned. Navigating the paperwork is arduous at best, and corruption is a hazard.

In late 2016, Thailand’s military government agreed to a plan under which an estimated 80,000 stateless people would be eligible for citizenship.

Applicants would have to be born in Thailand to parents from ethnic minority groups, registered by the Interior Ministry and have lived in Thailand for at least 15 years, or be born in Thailand to foreign residents and be university graduates.

Coach Nopparat said he is particularly keen to help the stateless boys who were rescued from the cave.

“Those three play well, they are determined when they practice,” he said. “Now I have heard of the good news that they will be considered to have Thai nationality. Those kids are stateless, but when they leave [the hospital] and recover, I could take them through the process of documents and through the official government process.” AP

INDONESIA

# Mob kills hundreds of crocodiles after man dies

AP PHOTO



People look at the carcasses of crocodiles slaughtered by villagers in Sorong, West Papua

**A** mob slaughtered nearly 300 crocodiles at a breeding ground in Indonesia’s West Papua province in retaliation for the death of a local man, officials said yesterday.

A total of 292 crocodiles were killed by hundreds of villagers on Saturday following the funeral of a 48-year-old man who was killed by crocodiles after

entering the area around the breeding pond, said Basar Manullang, the head of the local Natural Resources and Conservation Agency.

The man was believed to have entered the sanctuary in the Klamalu neighborhood of Sorong district to cut grass for his cattle.

“Since killing the crocodiles is illegal, we are

coordinating with the police for the investigation,” Manullang said.

The agency said in a statement that the villagers were armed with machetes, hammers, shovels and other sharp weapons. They killed two large crocodiles of up to 4 meters and many babies measuring 50-150 centimeters.

Witnesses said about

40 policemen came to the scene but were too outnumbered to stop the mob.

Police said about five witnesses have been questioned but no suspects have been named.

Police are encouraging mediation between the victim’s family and Mitra Lestari Abadi, the company that operates the sanctuary. AP



## US Billionaires fuel powerful Washington state charter groups

Sally Ho, Seattle

**D**OLLAR for dollar, the beleaguered movement to bring charter schools to Washington state has had no bigger champion than billionaire Bill Gates.

The Microsoft co-founder gave millions of dollars to see a charter school law approved despite multiple failed ballot referendums. And his private foundation not only helped create the Washington State Charter Schools Association, but has at times contributed what amounts to an entire year's worth of revenues for the 5-year-old charter advocacy group.

All told, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has given about USD25 million to the charter group that is credited with keeping the charter schools open after the state struck down the law, and then lobbying legislators to revive the privately run, publicly funded schools.

It's an extreme example of how billionaires are influencing state education policy by giving money to state-level charter support organizations to sustain, defend and expand the charter schools movement across the country.

Since 2006, philanthropists and their private foundations and charities have given almost half a billion dollars to those groups, according to an Associated Press analysis of tax filings and Foundation Center data. The review looked at 52 groups noted by a U.S. Department of Education website as official charter

school resources in the 44 states plus Washington, D.C., that currently have a charter law, as well as the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools.

Most of the money has gone to the top 15 groups, which received \$425 million from philanthropy. The Walton Family Foundation, run by the heirs to the Walmart fortune, is the largest donor to the state charter advocates, giving \$144 million to 27 groups.

"We ought to be paying more attention to who these organizations are, and what kind of vision they have, and what drives them. A lot of these organizations have extraordinary influence, and it's often pretty quiet influence," said Jon Valant, an education policy expert at Brookings.

Charters aren't subject to the same rules or standards governing traditional public schools but are embraced by Gates and other philanthropists who see them as investments in developing better and different ways to educate those who struggle in traditional school systems, particularly children in poor, urban areas. Studies on academic success are mixed.

The charter support groups, as nonprofits, are typically forbidden from involvement in political campaigns, but the same wealthy donors who sustain them in many cases directly channel support to pro-charter candidates through related political action committees or their own contributions. In one indication of the philanthropy's success in asserting its priorities, Georgia's lieu-

tenant governor was recorded saying he was motivated to support school choice laws to curry the Walton foundation's favor for his gubernatorial campaign. The Walton family has denied any connection to the candidate.

Nationwide, about 5 percent of students attend charters. They have become a polarizing political issue amid criticism from some, notably teachers unions, that they drain resources from cash-starved schools and erode the neighborhood schooling model that defines communities.

### ■ Charters aren't subject to the same rules or standards governing traditional public schools

The Walton foundation notes the groups it funds have resources that often pale in comparison to the war chests of teachers unions, the usual foes in their battles over state education policy.

"The philanthropic support is essential for a small group of schools" that represents disadvantage families without their own political power, said Robin Lake, director of the Center on Reinventing Public Education, a University of Washington-affi-

liated think tank that has in the past been funded by the Gates foundation to do work supporting charter schools.

But John Rogers, an education policy expert and UCLA professor, said it's a problem for democracy that billionaires who back a certain model of education reform can go toe-to-toe with a critical mass of professional teachers.

"A handful of billionaires who are advancing their vision of education reform is very different than having 200,000-some odd teachers across the state representing their understanding of public education through their union representation," Rogers said.

In California, the Waltons are the biggest backers of the powerhouse California Charter School Association, which has gotten more than \$100 million since 2006 with support coming also from Gates, Michael and Susan Dell and the Mark Zuckerberg-backed Silicon Valley Community foundations.

"We're proud of our partners and very open about our desired outcomes, and that is, honestly, access to more better schools," said Marc Sternberg, who leads the Walton foundation's education program.

Sternberg said the foundation doesn't set the agenda but wants to empower the local vision, which has included the charter association's fight for more money and access to public school buildings through lawsuits against Los Angeles Unified, the

country's second-largest school district. The California charter group said it works aggressively when painted into a corner.

A political arm of the association also has been a force in Golden State politics. It's now focusing on pushing pro-charter candidates in the November election, including former charter schools executive Marshall Tuck for state schools superintendent, and a number of legislative seats.

In Washington state, charter skeptics say Gates single-handedly propped up the entire charter school network. He gave at least \$4 million to help pass a state charter school law, though the concept had failed three times at the ballot. Voters eventually approved a charter school law in 2012, making Washington one of the last states to adopt the schooling model.

After the state's highest court ruled in 2015 that the charter law's funding model was unconstitutional, the Gates-backed state charter group shepherded almost \$5 million to keep the lights on at six charter schools and urged legislators to pass a new law. In 2016, its political arm called Washington Charters Action was created, and an affiliated political action committee has already given small amounts to dozens of state lawmakers up for election this fall.

Today, the state's teachers union is challenging the second version of the law. The Washington Educators Association's spokesman Rich Wood said the charter group inserted itself into the case after the union sued the state.

The Washington charter group — and all the charter schools in the state — wouldn't agree to be interviewed. The Gates foundation said in a statement it is not involved with the lawsuit but values the association's technical work helping charter schools blossom.

Some critics say money can define the advocacy itself, so not all charter support groups accept money from the billionaire philanthropists.

A second statewide charter support organization in California, the Charter Schools Development Center, relies on programming fees to preserve its independence, according to director Eric Premack.

Though the two California charter groups share many similar values, Premack said, they're on different sides of the testing issue: how to and how much to use test scores to determine educational quality. Premack said he rejects test-based accountability — embraced by the California Charter Schools Association and many of its business mogul donors — as antithetical to the charter movement's innovative spirit.

"You often find them being close political bedfellows — if not the same — who support high-stakes testing," Premack said. **AP**

Jonathan Lemire, Jill Colvin  
& Vladimir Isachenkov, Helsinki

US-RUSSIA SUMMIT

# Trump, Putin sit down a bit late for closely watched meeting

**P**RESIDENT Donald Trump opened a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin yesterday by predicting that their countries will end up having “an extraordinary relationship” but without mentioning Moscow’s meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election in his opening remarks.

“Our two countries, frankly, we have not been getting along well,” Trump said as he and Putin sat down at the Presidential Palace in Finland’s capital. “I really think the world wants to see us get along.”

Putin, for his part, said he and Trump have maintained regular contact, including talking by phone and meeting at international events. Speaking through a translator, the Russian leader said “the time has come to have a thorough discussion on various international problems and sensitive issues.”

The summit got under way hours after Trump blamed the United States, and not Russian election meddling or its annexation of Crimea, for a low-point in U.S.-Russia relations. The drama was playing out against a backdrop of fraying Western alliances, a new peak in the Russia investigation and fears that Moscow’s aggression may go unchallenged.



Trump, Putin shake hands during their meeting in the Presidential Palace in Helsinki yesterday

about a half hour behind schedule in another display of the Russian’s leader famous lack of punctuality. Trump seemed to return the favor by waiting until Putin had arrived at the palace before leaving his hotel. Putin has been late for past meetings with the pope and British Queen, among many others.

Trump and his aides have repeatedly tried to lower expect-

tations about what the summit will achieve. He told CBS News that he didn’t “expect anything” from Putin, while his national security adviser said the U.S. wasn’t looking for any “concrete deliverables.” Trump told reporters during a breakfast with Finland’s president that he thought the summit would go “fine.”

Trump said he and Putin would discuss a range of is-

suues, from trade to the military, along with missiles and China. They shared a brief handshake before reporters were ushered out so they could begin their one-on-one talks in the palace’s opulent Gothic Hall.

They’ll continue their discussions with an expanded group of aides and over lunch in the Hall of Mirrors, once the emperor’s throne room. The leaders will conclude by taking

questions at a joint news conference.

Observers have raised concerns about the fact that the leaders will be alone during their first meeting, but for a pair of interpreters, meaning there will be no corroborating witnesses to accurately represent what was said during the conversation.

“Our two countries, frankly, we have not been getting along well.”

TRUMP

The meeting comes as questions swirl about whether Trump will sharply and publicly rebuke his Russian counterpart for the election meddling that prompted a special counsel probe that Trump has repeatedly labeled a “witch hunt.” AP

“The time has come to have a thorough discussion on international problems and sensitive issues.”

PUTIN

“Our relationship with Russia has NEVER been worse,” Trump tweeted earlier yesterday, blaming “many years of U.S. foolishness and stupidity and now, the Rigged Witch Hunt!”

The summit, which was being closely monitored by rattled world capitals, was condemned in advance by members of Congress from both parties after the U.S. indictment last week of 12 Russian military intelligence officers accused of hacking Democrats in the 2016 election to help Trump’s presidential campaign. Undeterred, the American president was set to go face to face with Putin, the authoritarian leader for whom he has expressed admiration.

The summit started late because Putin arrived in Helsinki

HELSINKI PROTESTS

## Human rights for all - and save the planet

**O**NE sign in Helsinki read: “Build saunas not war!”

Activists used yesterday’s summit between U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin to hold two days of high-profile protests in the Finnish capital over a variety of grievances.

Abortion-rights activists dressed up in bulging bellies and Trump masks. Anti-fascist protesters carried signs with expletive-laden insults. Free traders, anti-war Ukrainians, environmentalists and rainbow flag-waving gay rights supporters all vied for attention from the world’s media.

In a city proud to defend the right to protest, demonstrators were scattered about. Some stayed at barriers erected by police to try to register their complaints as the wor-



Protesters hold a sign “Stop Putin In Ukraine, Save Europe” during a demonstration in Helsinki

ld leaders sped by in armor-plated vehicles for their summit at Finland’s presidential palace.

Others marched by Helsinki landmarks, far away from the leaders’ gathering but in clear view of curious residents and tourists.

At the city’s Senate Square, about 20 male “pregnant Trumps” and 20 women wearing pink gags railed

against a Trump order reinstating what critics call a “global gag rule” that bans providing federal money to international family-planning groups that perform abortions or provide information about them.

Another march that drew hundreds of people was a mishmash of messages — some supporting German Chancellor Ange-

la Merkel and some shouting “Fascists go home!” Some marchers questioned the legitimacy of Trump’s election victory since he lost the popular vote. Another sign read: “A woman’s place is in the Resistance.”

“I don’t think the two people meeting today are going to care whether we are here or not, frankly,” said

Helsinki protesters Tina Aspiala, 43. “It’s more of a global solidarity against a lot of things that are messed up, and I think that that’s why it’s worth coming out.”

Some marchers had professionally designed banners while others scrawled slogans like “Not Welcome” onto homemade posters or warned of a looming apocalypse.

On Sunday, 1,500 people marched through the city to promote human and sexual rights, democracy and environmental issues. Organizers for “Helsinki Calling” said the protest wasn’t aimed directly against the U.S. or Russian presidents but was designed to focus on key global issues.

“We celebrate the Helsinki spirit here,” said Timo Heikkinen, a 50-year-old from Helsinki. “And we welcome everybody who respects human rights and democracy and doesn’t share fake news.” AP

## what's ON



## MONKEY KING

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

VENUE: Sands Cotai Theatre

ADMISSION: MOP380, MOP480, MOP680, MOP980, MOP1280

COTAI TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818

KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

## CATALOGUE EXHIBITION IN CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MACAO MUSEUM

TIME: 10am-6pm (closed on Fridays)

UNTIL: August 30, 2018

VENUE: Kun Iam Ecumenical Centre

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 1516

## ANNUAL ARTS EXHIBITION BETWEEN CHINA AND PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES - ALTER EGO

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

UNTIL: September 9, 2018

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Old Court Building, Tap Seac Gallery, Taipa Houses Museum

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

## TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

TIME: 10am-5pm daily (closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, Rua do Seminário

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

## EXHIBITION OF NEW WORKS IN MAM COLLECTION

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

UNTIL: October 26, 2018

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

## Offbeat

## RHODE ISLAND GOVERNOR TO HOLD OFFICE HOURS AT THE BEACH



Rhode Island Democratic Governor Gina Raimondo

Rhode Island's governor says she's holding summer office hours at the beach.

Democratic Gov. Gina Raimondo will hold the first event today [Macau time] at Scarborough State Beach in Narragansett. She'll be joined by members of her Office of Constituent Services to help connect residents with various services.

While there, she plans to sign an executive order to reduce reliance on single-use plastics that can end up in the state's waters.

Raimondo says she looks forward to hosting office hours and hearing directly from residents at some of the state's most popular destinations. She plans to go to East Matunuck State Beach on July 23 and Lincoln Woods State Park on Aug. 3.

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
15:45	Miscellaneous
17:15	Portuguese Documentary
18:25	TDM Sports (Repeated)
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	Documentary
21:40	Chinese Documentary
22:20	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Miscellaneous
00:25	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:20	RTPi Live

## 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



President Anastasio Somoza Debayle

## 1979 SANDINISTA REBELS TAKE NICARAGUAN CAPITAL

Fighters of the left-wing Sandinista National Liberation Front have overthrown the regime in the central American republic of Nicaragua and taken the capital, Managua.

The notorious US-trained National Guard has crumbled and its surviving commanders are negotiating a surrender.

In the last six weeks Sandinista fighters have gained control of 27 cities around the capital as well as the southern part of Nicaragua that borders Costa Rica.

President Anastasio Somoza Debayle - the third member of the Somoza dynasty to rule Nicaragua since 1937 - has fled to the United States.

This evening he abandoned the battle-torn capital with about 45 other people in five planes that landed at Homestead US Air Force base near Miami, Florida.

Earlier, he had presented his resignation to the Congress and handed over to the chairman of the lower house, Francisco Urcuyo, who is now caretaker president.

Mr Urcuyo has declared the Sandinistas will have no part in his new government and demanded they lay down their arms.

But the Sandinista-backed provisional government currently based in the city of Leon is expected to force Mr Urcuyo to resign.

The Sandinistas, named after Nicaraguan resistance leader Augusto Cesar Sandino, was set up in 1962 by Carlos Fonseca Amador, Silvio Mayorga and Tomas Borge. For the last seven years they have waged a civil war against the Somoza government.

Fighting has been at its most intense in the last two months and thousands have been killed and about half a million left homeless.

Last year, the assassination of the leader of the opposition Democratic Liberation Union, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, triggered a general strike and brought together moderates, the Roman Catholic Church and the Sandinistas in a united front against Mr Somoza

The Americans have long supported the Somoza regime but realising that the Sandinista rebels had the upper hand in the war, US officials have spent the last few weeks trying to persuade President Somoza to step down assuring him that his Liberal Party and the National Guard would survive.

Last week, William Bowdler, a special American envoy, began talks with members of the provisional government asking them to enlarge the junta by including representatives of the National Guard and Liberal Party. His request was rejected.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

President Urcuyo fled to Guatemala the following evening and the Sandinistas established a revolutionary government two days later on 20 July. Led by Daniel and Humberto Ortega, they published a guarantee of civil rights and appointed a council of state, prior to an elected national assembly and a new constitution.

General Somoza was killed in a gun and bomb attack on him in Paraguay in September 1980.

In November that year, Ronald Reagan was elected US President and Nicaragua's relations with the US deteriorated rapidly.

The Reagan administration tried to destabilise Nicaragua's left-wing government by supporting the counter-revolutionary forces, the Contras.

Total US aid to the Contras was \$300 million.

Covert Central Intelligence Agency operations, including the mining of Nicaraguan harbours in 1984, were condemned by the International Court of Justice in 1986.

The Sandinistas won a decisive victory in 1984 elections and Daniel Ortega was made president.

In 1988 the Nicaraguan leadership held talks and signed a peace agreement with the Contras.

But in elections two years later, a US-backed centre-right National Opposition Union defeated the Sandinistas, ending their decade-long spell in power.

The US lifted its economic embargo in March. By the end of June 1990 the Contra rebel army had been disbanded.

**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You want to travel so badly that if you could, you'd be in a cab on your way to the airport right now, passport in hand. If duty calls, however - especially if it calls loudly enough to keep you off that plane.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21

Don't even think about leaving the building if you really don't want to. Your friends, siblings and neighbors may try to talk you out of it, but if you don't feel like budging, don't budge.

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22

One more day of hiding out from the world - and even you aren't sure why - and you'll be ready to take your place back onstage again, regardless of where or what that stage happens to be.

**Libra**  
Sep.23-Oct. 22

Going out? Bet you are. Bet you're really looking forward to it, too. After the day you've had, it's not surprising, but it's also quite possible that a dear one has arranged an impromptu gathering at their place.

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You've never been known for being shy, retiring or afraid to say what's on your mind. So when you exhibit those qualities today and everyone around you seems just a bit shell-shocked, you'll want to explain.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Let that certain someone know just how much you enjoy their company - and how much more of it you want to enjoy between now and the end of the month. Don't you dare waste this on late-night television.

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20

Getting together with your main squeeze will be easier said than done. Your responsibilities to your friends and family will necessarily take precedence over any type of romantic tryst.

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Oh, you've earned this if anyone has, and you're going to enjoy it. It's time for some serious fun, complete with a lavish, extravagant evening out. Now - about the financial arrangements.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22

In your book, there's nothing like having options, is there? It makes everything better, knowing that if Plan A doesn't work out, Plan B looks good, and Plan C is ready to go.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

The rest of the world may be thinking of going out, but you're not. Your place, the right company and all the right provisions handy will suit you just fine. Besides, you've got something - or is it someone?

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Do what you have to do to take care of your responsibilities to others, then be sure to save some energy to take care of your responsibility to yourself. You know what they say about all work and no play? It's true.

**Pisces**  
Feb.19-Mar. 20

You've been on an emotional roller coaster lately, and you've had all the fun you can stand with trying to figure out what's going to happen next. Enough. Just for the next couple of days, stop pushing.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

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

**Easy+**

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

**Medium**

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

**Hard**

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

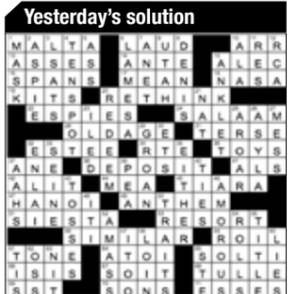
**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	23	27	thundershowe/moderate
Harbin	23	31	heavy rain/drizzle
Tianjin	26	32	thundershower
Urumqi	21	31	cloudy
Xi'an	26	36	overcast/cloudy
Lhasa	12	21	drizzle/overcast
Chengdu	23	29	moderate rain/shower
Chongqing	28	38	cloudy/clear
Kunming	18	26	shower
Nanjing	27	35	cloudy
Shanghai	27	34	cloudy
Wuhan	27	37	cloudy
Hangzhou	27	36	clear/cloudy
Taipei	27	34	drizzle/cloudy
Guangzhou	26	33	cloudy/thundershower
Hong Kong	27	31	cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	20	27	drizzle
Frankfurt	17	27	drizzle
Paris	18	24	drizzle/cloudy
London	14	21	drizzle/clear
New York	24	33	drizzle

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Condiment; 8- Oscillate; 15- Puzzled; 16- Bess's predecessor; 17- Ancient country in N Africa; 18- Nuclear-fission apparatus; 19- Acapulco aunt; 20- Workers' rights org.; 22- "Endymion" poet; 23- Molten material; 25- Floe; 26- Devour; 29- One on slopes; 31- Suffix for human; 34- Beaten egg dish; 36- Aliens for short; 37- As to; 38- Italian seaport; 40- Eternal; 42- Supermodel Sastra; 43- Old California fort; 45- Expects confidently; 46- Henpeck; 47- Throat problem; 49- Lauder of cosmetics; 50- Dog; 52- Summer camp transport; 54- Biscuitlike quick bread; 56- Greek goddess of the earth; 57- Prefix with content; 60- Spendthrift; 62- Striped; 65- Person to whom property is transferred; 66- Vientiane native; 67- Communication; 68- Extend;

**DOWN:** 1- "Critique of Pure Reason" author; 2- Ornamental case; 3- Writer Janowitz; 4- Second-century date; 5- Coal scuttle; 6- Putting to work; 7- Old Testament book; 8- Action word; 9- Land in la mer; 10- Drinking cup; 11- One on track?; 12- Opponent; 13- Horn sound; 14- Miscalculates; 21- Autumn tool; 23- Some hybrids; 24- Imitator; 25- Attack from all sides; 26- Red fluorescent dye; 27- Appliance brand; 28- Clairvoyance; 30- Give rest!; 32- Hopping mad; 33- Thick; 35- Govt. security; 37- Busy; 39- Bobby of hockey; 41- Cream-filled cookie; 44- Word form for "ten"; 47- Breastbones; 48- Spanish rice dish; 51- Pays to play; 53- Water nymph; 54- Did the butterfly; 55- Racer Yarborough; 56- Merriment; 57- Principal; 58- Rat; 59- Carson's successor; 61- Hosp. readout; 63- Tacit assent; 64- DDE's bailiwick;



**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

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



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Colombia's Rigoberto Uran (left) rides in the pack over a cobblestone section of the ninth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 156.5 kilometers

CYCLING | TOUR DE FRANCE

# Creamy cheese in 'Venice of the Alps'

Joseph Wilson & Andrew Dampf, Roubaix

At long last, it's time to climb. But while the Tour de France's cyclists face the first of a triple-header of mountain stages in the Alps, the mere mortals in tow can relax in the "Venice of the Alps" and dip into France's second largest lake as well as taste some extra creamy cheese.

After yesterday's rest day — following the cobblestones of Stage 9 — beside lovely Lake Annecy, riders face a 158.5-kilometer haul from Annecy that takes them over four serious climbs before a descent to Le Grand-Bornand.

Here's a gastronomic, sporting and

cultural glance at today's Stage 10 route:

**BAGUETTE AND BUTTER:** Pay attention to the day's second climb up the beyond-category Montee du Plateau des Glieres, whose steep slope includes two kilometers of gravel.

**PLAT DU JOUR:** So close to Switzerland, the Savoie region shares the traditional Swiss melted cheese dishes of fondue and raclette.

**VIN DU JOUR:** A glass of Apremont white wine. Dry and light, there is perhaps nothing better to take in the Alpine peaks.

**CULTURE:** With its canals, river and lakeshore, Annecy has earned the nickname of the "Venice of the Alps."

Its "Bridge of Love" offers great views of the 12-kilometer long Lake Annecy that fills a mountain gorge at 448 meters above sea level.

**HISTORY:** Lake Annecy has revealed evidence of prehistoric dwellings that were constructed on its surface atop poles. Researchers have found remains of 40 such sites in the lake, France's second largest after Lake Bourget.

**STAT OF THE DAY:** 3— The number of riders that have won both a cobbled stage at the Tour and the Paris-Roubaix single-day cobbled race after John Degenkolb won Sunday's Stage 9.

**DESSERT:** Nibble on a Roseaux du Lac (Reeds of the Lake), an Annecy specialty. They aren't pulled up from the water's depths but are sugar sticks covered in chocolate and filled with a local liqueur such as chartreuse or genepey.

**QUOTE OF THE DAY:** "Suffering like I've never suffered before" — Lawson Craddock after riding over the jarring cobblestones of Roubaix with a fractured shoulder.

**FROMAGE:** Le Grand-Bornand is home to reblochon cheese. This whole-milk cheese comes in two varieties. A green label means all the milk comes from one cow herd, while a red label shows it comes from various herds. It can be bought at a market that sets up shop in the village every Wednesday dating back to 1795.

**NEXT ORDER:** Stage 11 tomorrow is Part II of the mountain trilogy: a 108.5-kilometer ride from Albertville to the top of the La Rosiere summit. AP

BOXING

# Joshua to fight Povetkin in London in September

Anthony Joshua will defend his WBA, WBO and IBF heavyweight titles against Alexander Povetkin of Russia in London on Sept. 22.

Joshua's promoter Eddie Hearn confirmed the fight, which will take place at Wembley Stadium.

Povetkin is the mandatory challenger to the WBA title. The 28-year-old Joshua has been in training while negotiations with WBC champion Deontay Wilder stalled, but could yet

face the American in April 2019.

Joshua said in a statement: "Povetkin is a serious challenge that I will prepare meticulously for. He has serious pedigree and only a fool would underestimate what he brings to the table."

Povetkin, 38, beat David Price on the undercard of Joshua's victory over Joseph Parker in March, having previously fought for the titles Joshua now holds in a 2013 defeat to Wladimir Klitschko.



AD

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**A**NTOINE Griezmann's father emigrated from Germany, and the France forward's mother is of Portuguese descent.

Paul Pogba's parents arrived from Guinea.

Kylian Mbappe's dad is from Cameroon, his mom Algerian.

Immigrants, sons of immigrants and grandsons of immigrants bonded together with scions of families that have been French for generations, all for the rouge, blanc et bleu. And for only the second time, France is the World Cup champion.

About two-thirds of Les Bleus' roster included players with immigrant backgrounds, a mini-United Nations of soccer talent.

"That is the France that we love," Griezmann said through a translator after Sunday's 4-2 victory over Croatia ended the most exciting World Cup final in decades. "It's beautiful to see it."

Griezmann's free kick was headed in by Mario Manduzkic for the opening own-goal in the 18th minute, and then Griezmann converted a penalty kick for a 2-1 lead in the 38th after video review spotted a handball by Ivan Perisic.

Mbappe's speed led to the third goal in the 59th. He added a goal of his own in the 65th, at 19 becoming the second-youngest scorer in a World Cup final behind 17-year-old Pele in 1958.

Vive la diversite!

A day after Bastille Day, the party was on.

"The diversity of the squad is in the image of this beautiful country that is France," midfielder Blaise Matuidi, whose parents are from Angola and Congo, said through a translator ahead of the match.

France won on a humid night in Russia, with thunderclaps during play and a downpour during the trophy presentation. Quite different from that indelible summer evening at Stade de France in 1998, when fans in the arena and throughout Paris sang "La Marseillaise" until dawn and young teenagers drove cars while their intoxicated parents sat in passenger seats.

People called that team "Black, Blanc, Beur," noting how black, white and North African players came together.

Zinedine Zidane, a son of Algerians, headed in a pair of first-half corner kicks against heavily favored Brazil. Patrick Vieira, born in Senegal, fed Normandy-born Emmanuel Petit for the third in the 3-0 win.

AP PHOTO



WORLD CUP 2018

# Vive la France! And a lot of other nations, too

This year's team was perhaps even more diverse.

Defender Samuel Umtiti was born in Cameroon and backup goalkeeper Steve Mandanda in Zaire. Others descended from Algeria, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco and Senegal, plus Germany, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

"There may be players who come from different origins, but we do have the same state of mind," Griezmann said. "We all play for the same jersey, the cockerel. For our country, we give everything we have. As soon as you wear the jersey, we do everything for each other."

He scored the go-ahead goal after the first video review-created penalty kick in a World Cup final. During a delay of about four minutes that might have unnerved less-composed players, Griezmann told himself to pretend it was a league match.

**That is the France that we love. It's beautiful to see it.**

ANTOINE GRIEZMANN

"Carry on and do the same thing as I normally do," he remembered thinking.

At 27, he is in his prime but in the penumbra of Spanish soccer powers at Atletico Madrid, toiling in a league that Barcelona and Real Madrid dominate. He led the 2016

European Championship with six goals and tied for second with four at the World Cup, three on penalty kicks, earning the Bronze Ball as third-best player behind

Croatia midfielder Luka Modric and Belgium forward Eden Hazard.

Griezmann kissed the trophy, knowing his generation will be revered in the same way Zidane, Petit, Thierry Henry, Lilian Thuram and Fabien Barthez remain renowned from Calais to Cannes.

"From tonight on, I'm sorry for them, but they are going to be different," coach Didier Deschamps said. "Those 23 players will be linked forever, forever. Whatever happens — they might follow different paths, but they will be marked forever and they will be together thanks to this event."

Griezmann, man of the match in a World Cup final, will be on posters throughout the republic, asked for endorsements, a mainstay of commercials. He will be pestered for autographs for the rest of his life.

"I'm going to be in the history of French football with my team," Griezmann said. "We don't quite realize it yet. Our children will very proud to have our names." AP

## WC afterglow lifts up conflicted country

**E**TERNAL Happiness said yesterday's headline in sports daily L'Equipe, summing up the mood of many who can't imagine the euphoria will ever fade.

France is readying to welcome home the national soccer team for a parade down the Champs-Elysees, where tens of thousands thronged after the team's 4-2 victory over Croatia.

President Emmanuel Macron exulted on the field and in the locker room with the players, and is hoping their victory gives him a boost, too.

The French, though, are more enamored of the players, like 19-year-old star Kylian Mbappe, and of their coach, Didier Deschamps, with a parody photo circulating online suggesting renaming Paris' most famous avenue "Deschamps Elysees."

Sports Minister Laura Flessel said on Europe-1 radio that the victory allows France's youth — like those in the poor suburbs where many of the players grew up — "to dare to believe in their dreams."

The victory glow brightened the yesterday morning Paris commute, with young people in cars still shouting in celebration.

In the eastern Paris neighborhood of Belleville, with the Eiffel Tower visible in the far distance, Vincent Simon said, "Both teams deserved to win. France won, and that's good for the country, that will do us good for some months."

Fellow Parisian Florian Sca-

AP PHOTO



ven only caught glimpses of the final from the maternity ward with his wife as she had a baby during the final. "We vibrated with the horns in the street. We are happy. Long live France."

It was France's second-ever World Cup win, and came at a time when the people feel needy.

"It represents enormous things," said Goffrey Hamsik, dressed in a hat resembling a rooster — the French national symbol — and a shirt with the No. 10 for Kylian Mbappe, the breakout star who hails from the Paris suburb of Bondy.

"We've had lots of problems in France these past years," he said, recalling deadly terror attacks. "This is good for the morale [...] Here, we are all united. We mix. There is no religion, there is nothing, and that's what feels good."

Hundreds of police in riot gear were discreetly lined up on side streets to monitor revelers. Typically, celebrations in France end up with some broken shop windows and other destruction, and Sunday was no exception. Tear gas was lobbed at one point on the Champs-Elysees. About 4,000 police watched over the fan zone — packed to its 90,000 capacity — during the match, then moved to the Champs-Elysees and neighboring streets.

As night fell, The Eiffel Tower flashed 1998-2018 to mark France's two World Cup titles. The Arc de Triomphe was awash in the national colors, lit with the rooster, the faces of the winning team and the words "Proud to be Blue," or French.

The celebrations were spread across the nation. AP

opinion

**World Views**  
 The Editors, Bloomberg

**BREAKING UP FACEBOOK WOULD DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD**

Facebook Inc. bestrides the Earth. It attracts nearly 1.5 billion users a day, commands a fifth of global online advertising revenue, and has a market capitalization that exceeds the GDP of many countries. An average user spends nearly an hour a day on its various platforms — about as much time as they spend eating and drinking.

Any business of such dominance would raise concerns about fair competition, and Facebook is no exception. A number of activist groups are even demanding that the company be broken up. Increasingly, they have sympathetic ears on Capitol Hill and in the media.

Although tempting, this is the wrong approach. As preeminent as Facebook is, breaking it up would do little to stimulate competition, while causing plenty of harm. Far better to remedy its specific abuses, while taking care not to wreck a thriving American company in the process.

The most obvious problem with breaking up Facebook is that many consumers enjoy using it, and pay nothing for the privilege.

Market forces would also likely impede such an effort. The main way Facebook and its fellow tech behemoths have grown so powerful is through network effects: The more people who join Facebook, the more useful it becomes; the more useful, the easier to attract more users.

Breaking it up wouldn't reverse this dynamic. One of the new MiniBooks would in all likelihood emerge as better than the rest — bringing in disproportionate users, data, and advertising dollars, and thus achieving dominance just as Facebook has.

Dominance, moreover, shouldn't be mistaken for a lack of competition. As successful as Facebook is, there's little stopping other companies from doing things better. In fact, they already are: Nearly all of Facebook's constituent services — messaging, video sharing and so forth — face competition from apps around the world. One result is that Facebook's market share is quickly eroding among younger users, who prefer cooler and less intrusive services. Although the colossus is safe for now, there's no shortage of alternatives for consumers, and no reason to think government intervention would improve matters.

That said, Facebook isn't blameless when it comes to hindering competition. Its boldest ploy involves a security application called Onavo Protect. Through this tool, Facebook gathers data on nearly everything its users do online: what apps they install, sites they visit, stuff they download and so on. That information is stored in a database, which the company uses to determine what rival products are becoming popular. It then may acquire the company producing the app — as it did with WhatsApp — or develop a competing product of its own, as it did with live-video streaming.

Regulators must keep a close eye on this sort of thing, and shouldn't hesitate to intervene when it's being abused. The Federal Trade Commission should ensure that Facebook isn't collecting such data under false pretenses — Onavo, audaciously, markets itself as tool to “keep you and your data safe” — and any new Facebook acquisitions should be greeted with due skepticism by antitrust officials.

More broadly, lawmakers should consider ways to discourage any company from using its data trove to deter new competitors. One might be to offer a “fiduciary” standard that would encourage companies to compete on how responsibly they handle personal information. Another could be ensuring that a user's data is “portable,” as Europe's new privacy regulations require, which could help ensure that startups aren't stymied by the inherent data advantages that come with scale.

Such remedies may seem less satisfying than simply breaking Facebook into pieces. But they would respond to specific threats to competition — not to perceived problems with bigness per se. For all its faults and failures, Facebook shouldn't be vilified. It should simply be held to account when it behaves badly. Let the market take care of the rest.

(Abridged)

**THE ROYALTY, THE POPE, AND NOW**  
**BUZZ TRUMP - PUTIN MAKES EVERYONE WAIT**

Famous for his tardiness at official talks, President Vladimir Putin did it again — to U.S. President Donald Trump.

Putin long has sought to meet with Trump, but the Russian leader was 35 minutes late to arrive at their closely watched summit in the Finnish capital.

The delay followed a long tradition set since Putin's first election in 2000.

Famous victims of his lack of punctuality included Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and Pope Francis

among many others.

In 2014, he was hours late for a meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, after his previous stop in Serbia lasted longer than usual, involving a protracted military parade.

Some Kremlin watchers saw Putin's lack of punctuality as a deliberate tactic of trying to throw his vis-a-vis off balance, but others pointed out that it appears to be more of a personal trait than a well-calculated strategy.

**Food sent to migrants off Sicily as Italy awaits EU offers**



Frances D'emilio, Rome

**A**NOTHER day's worth of food and beverages was sent to a pair of military ships off Sicily as Italy waited for more European nations to pledge to take a share of the hundreds of migrants on board before allowing the asylum-seekers to step off onto Italian soil.

Germany, Spain and Portugal each agreed to accept 50 of the migrants, following similar offers by fellow European Union members France and Malta, Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte said.

But the Czech Republic rebuffed the appeal, calling the distribution plan a “road to hell.”

Italian Interior Minister Matteo Salvini has vowed to prohibit further disembarking in Italy of migrants who were rescued while crossing the Mediterranean Sea unless the burden is shared by other EU countries.

Salvini, who leads the right-wing League party in Italy's populist coalition government, told reporters Sunday the “aim was for brotherly redistribution” of the 450 rescued passengers on the two military ships.

Conte contacted fellow EU nation leaders over the weekend, asking them to take some of the rescued migrants. But Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babis tweeted that his country “won't take any migrants,” dismissing Italy's approach as a “road to hell” that would encourage more migrant smuggling.

While campaigning for Italy's March election, Salvini

praised the hard-line stance on immigration taken by several eastern European countries, among them the Czech Republic. The same intransigence is being experienced by the Italian government.

Italy's Conte insisted the “solidarity” strategy was working, citing the offers from France, Malta and Germany.

“This is the solidarity and responsibility that we have always sought from Europe,” the premier said on Facebook. He added that Italy would “continue on this path, with firmness and in respect of human rights.”

More than 600,000 migrants were rescued in the central Mediterranean and brought to Italian territory in the last few years. Many were economic migrants ineligible for asylum. Since their home countries often don't facilitate repatriation, Italy has been left to shelter many of them, although thousands have slipped out of Italy to seek work or relatives in northern Europe.

Finding takers for all of the asylum-seekers on the military ships waiting off Sicily, in the grips of a heat wave, could be a long process.

Baby food, milk and juice were among the provisions being delivered Sunday so the people aboard will have necessities for another 24 hours.

A fishing boat, launched Friday from Libya by human traffickers and crowded with some 450 migrants, sailed to tiny Linosa island off Sicily, passing through both Libya's and Malta's search-and-rescue areas.

Off sparsely populated Linosa, a vessel for European border agency Frontex and an Italian border police boat took aboard the migrants and brought them to waters outside the Sicilian port of Pozzallo.

By Sunday evening, roughly 70 passengers either had been taken or were about to be taken off the ships and brought ashore in Pozzallo, Italian media said. They included people suffering from dehydration, pregnant women and some babies, including a newborn a few days old. Some of them needed to be hospitalized.

Among the evacuated was a woman weighing 35 kilos after months in Libya.

Many of the rescued passengers originally are from Eritrea. The Eritrean husband of a pregnant woman who was experiencing abdominal pain was one of the few men allowed off, Italian state TV said.

In offering to take in 50 migrants, the German government cited the context of “ongoing talks about greater bilateral cooperation on asylum.”

According to EU figures, Germany received almost 1 million asylum applications in 2016 and 2017, the most of any bloc members. Italy came in second with about 250,000.

The number of migrants arriving in Italy so far this year is down about 80 percent compared to 2017. Salvini has vowed to stop all arrivals except for war refugees and people in a few other select categories, such as pregnant women or young children. **AP**

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

SOURCE: DSI/MG

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**MALAYSIA** Lawmakers took their oath in Parliament yesterday, including former Prime Minister Najib Razak, who has been charged in a massive corruption scandal that led to his coalition's electoral defeat.



**PAKISTAN** Police say a trailer truck has hit a parked passenger bus carrying wedding guests on a busy highway near the southern city of Hyderabad, killing at least 15 people.

**AFGHANISTAN** The Taliban stormed a police checkpoint in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province and killed seven policemen.



**SYRIA** Rebels and government forces clashed over a reconnaissance point near the frontier with Israel, a monitoring group said yesterday, as the government pressed forward with military operations in the country's southwest.

**BRITAIN** A former U.K. Cabinet minister from the ruling Conservative Party yesterday called for a new Brexit referendum, an idea long assailed by the prime minister.



**MEXICO** President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said he plans to earn less than half of what his predecessor makes when he takes office in December as part of an austerity push in government.