



INVESTOR-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

The U.S. Department of State's latest report continues to view Macau as an investor friendly environment

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INT'L FIREWORKS CONTEST RETURNS

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STARTUP INCUBATOR PLEDGES TO WIDEN NETWORK

Parafuturo de Macau has been managing the Macau Young Entrepreneur Incubation Center since October

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AD

Join the fight against Dengue Fever

Vases or saucers under potted plants should be scrubbed, cleaned and have water changed at least once a week

MSARG Dengue Fever Prevention Working Group

Lawyers slam cameras monitoring jail cells

P3

WORLD BRIEFS



VIETNAM Flooding triggered by a tropical storm has killed at least 20 people and left over a dozen missing in northern Vietnam, local media reports said. [More on p13](#)

INDONESIA Activists yesterday criticized a six-month prison sentence given to a 15-year-old Indonesian girl who had an abortion after being repeatedly raped by her brother.



PHILIPPINES A leadership row erupted in the Philippine House of Representatives on live TV yesterday, delaying President Rodrigo Duterte's delivery of his annual state of the nation address and passage of crucial Muslim autonomy legislation aimed at ending one of Asia's longest Muslim rebellions. [More on p12](#)

More on backpage



Record high in Japan as heat wave grips a wide swath of the country

P13

52 chefs to compete in Chinese culinary contest

An awards ceremony to recognize the Lee Kim Kee International Young Chef Chinese Culinary Challenge 2018 under-40 winner will be held in Hong Kong in late September. Fifty-two chefs from participating countries and regions are expected to compete, including representatives from China, Hong Kong, Macau, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Czech Republic, France, the Netherlands, the United States, Canada, Columbia and Australia. According to organizers, the competition acts as an international platform for chefs to exchange ideas and learn from one another. According to Linda Ho, chairwoman of the competition's organizing committee, it also helps to raise the global standard of Chinese cuisine.

CEM, UM jointly offer higher diploma in Electrical Engineering

A graduation ceremony for participants of the one-year Higher Diploma in the Electrical Engineering Programme, jointly offered by Companhia de Electricidade de Macau (CEM) and the University of Macau (UM), was held recently. Officiating guests at the ceremony included Rui Martins, vice rector (research) of UM and Benjamin Yue, principal advisor of the Executive Committee of CEM. At the ceremony, diplomas were awarded to 22 graduates. Professor Martins expressed his appreciation to CEM, the Centre for Continuing Education and all the course instructors for their support and hard work, saying that UM will continue to support local engineers in their professional development and continuous learning. Benjamin Yue said that CEM hopes to encourage more young adults from Macau to pursue a career in electrical engineering by providing professional training in collaboration with the UM.

TDM holds Best of the Pop awards

The 16th TDM Best of the Pop awards concert was held at the Macau Cultural Center on the weekend, showcasing developments in the local music sector and allowing musicians to perform their work on stage. There were 70 songs entered into this year's TDM Best of the Pop competition. The various winners of the awards concert are eligible to join the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union TV Song Festival and the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Radio Song Festival on behalf of Macau. The awards concert was broadcast live on TDM multimedia platforms, including TV, radio, website and social media. It was also broadcast in other countries and regions, including mainland China, Taiwan, Thailand, Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand.

SPORTS

Guangzhou Long-Lions claims the Summer Super 8 title

ASIA League's Summer Super 8 tournament was concluded Sunday at the Macao East Asian Games Dome. Guangzhou Long-Lions defeated Seoul Samsung Thunders 78-72 in the final to claim the Championship, while ETland Elephants won 67-62 over NLEX Road Warriors, taking third place.

The two finalists had already met in the group stages with the South Korean team coming out on top at 78-73. Guangzhou dominated early on to take a 13-point lead at 23-10 at the end of first quarter. In the next two quarters, scoring was neck-and-neck, making it hard for the Samsung Thunders to close the gap. Guangzhou led by 12 points at 59-47 at the end of the third quarter. The Samsung Thunders then started to make 3-pointers rain

and scored a 11-0 run in the fourth quarter. They continued with this momentum to close in to as little as 3 points behind at 66-69. Under the leadership of Ju Mingxin, the Guangzhou Long-Lions held strong against their opponent's last stand to claim the Summer Super 8 crown with a final score of 78-72. Ju Mingxin, who scored 25 points in this game, was awarded Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the Championship game.

Asia League is Asia's elite FIBA-recognized off-season competition platform for club basketball. It aims to raise the standard of basketball in Asia through the creation of high-level basketball tournaments involving teams from Asia's top leagues.

Summer Super 8 is a new platform for coaches and teams to develop youth ta-

lent and strengthen their rosters. The tournament's primary aim is to establish a regional forum for professionals and players in Asia Pacific basketball to come together and showcase their skills.

The 2018 competition played host to eight of Asia's top teams — two from China, two from South Korea, two from the Philippines, one from Japan, and one from Taiwan at the East Asian Games Dome between July 17 and 22.

Top basketball will return to Macau in September with "The Terrific 12" tournament, to be held from September 18 to 23 at the Studio City Event Center. Asia League stated in a press release that "the event will see twelve elite club teams from across Asia's top basketball leagues go head to head on the court."



The final match of the tournament

CRIME

Local resident loses HKD17 million following investment in VIP room

Renato Marques

A local resident has reported a loss of about HKD17 million in an investment scheme involving a VIP gambling room of a local casino, the Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson said yesterday during a press conference.

The woman, about 40 years old, was apparently lured into the business by a friend, a local man, 49, who was part of the room's operations.

The case goes back to April 2015, when the suspect told the woman that she could invest with a high interest return (1.5 percent per month) in the VIP room that he was operating.

The victim accepted the deal and invested a total of HKD20 million in the scheme.

According to her testimony, the scheme ran as expected for about one year but after that she stopped receiving interest and chased the friend for the returns, who then claimed to have had problems with the room's operations. He said he could not return the money as he had used it for the operations of the room.

In total, the victim was said to have only been able to retrieve around HKD3 million, reporting a loss of around HKD17 million. Claiming breach of trust, the woman then presented a complaint to the PJ.

On July 19, the PJ finally managed to locate the suspect with the help of the immigration authorities, when he was preparing to enter Macau at the airport checkpoint.

The man confessed to the crime, saying that the money was in fact used for the operation of the room and that he had no means to return it to the owner.

He was presented to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) for breach of trust.

In a separate case involving the same type of crime, a manager from a seafood restaurant located in central Macau has also been accused of breach of trust by making use of his privileged position

to establish a scheme in which he would replace the cash collected by employees from patrons in the cashier, with coupons from the company, usually offered to high-roller gamblers.

The case dates back to May 11, when the restaurant administration filed a complaint against the manager. According to the report, the manager, under close scrutiny by the administration, was seen collecting the cash from the settled bills of some clients from the cashier, replacing it with coupons, on May 7. According to an internal investigation by the company, he had also instructed the other employees

from the restaurant that every time any patrons settled bills in cash, they should keep the cash and hand it to him, and then he would replace it with the coupons.

In total, the company claims to have lost at least MOP46,646. After the acknowledgement of the case, the manager was fired and fled to an unknown location.

On July 20, the suspect (47) and an employee of the restaurant since 2013, were caught while trying to enter Macau by the border gate checkpoint and were delivered to the PJ.

The suspect refused to cooperate with the police and was delivered to the MP under the charge of breach of trust.

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Times

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Lawyers express concerns over invasion of inmates' privacy rights

Lynzy Valles

THE Correctional Services Bureau (DSC) has announced its plan to install surveillance cameras in special jail rooms at Coloane Prison – an initiative which Macau-based lawyers believe raises serious privacy concerns.

The bureau, which has already made a case for surveillance cameras, said in a statement that some inmates are in need of strengthened supervision, particularly those who are incoming inmates, at risk of suicide, and those who are a risk to prison staff and other inmates.

The Office for Personal Data Protection (GDPD) had accepted the proposal to install special rooms, including an observation room, medical room or disciplinary room.

However, some lawyers disagree with the plan. Speaking to the Times, Jorge Menezes argued that the options open to inmates are already limited, as they already do not have freedom of movement or access to information.

Thus, the installation of surveillance cameras goes beyond what is acceptable within the constitutional right to privacy and also affects inmates' dignity.

"The notion of 'special rooms,' 'newcomer observation room' or 'those at risk of committing suicide' are clearly under-defined. Who has access to the cameras? How, and for how long are the videos kept? How are inmates and cells chosen?" the lawyer questioned.

"All these are relevant questions that would need to be addressed. Who will [watch] the guard when they place and check these cameras? I find this plan rather disturbing in principle," he added.



The system will be primarily used against the inmates' interests, rather than to protect their other interests.

JORGE MENEZES
LAWYER

Menezes argued that surveillance should be taken as a last resort and not the first measure to jump to when seeking to protect some interests.

"It is in many cases like attempting to kill a mosquito

with a grenade," the lawyer said.

"And I would not tend to fully trust those in power to have the culture of moderation and tolerance necessary in dealing with these encroachments to prisoners' private lives."

According to Menezes, from the government's rhetoric, it is difficult not to consider that of all the concerns expressed, "the system will be primarily used against the inmates interests, rather than to protect their other interests."

Echoing the same sentiments, Lawyer Frederico Rato contended that this plan could not be proposed arbitrarily by civil servants, explaining that it should be justified by the application of the law and not just by a simple regulation.

He said that the measure

should be legislated for, instead of proposed only in an administrative manner.

"It must be the law that takes care of these kinds of restrictions and rights of local residents especially [...] the right to human dignity and the right to a private life," he added.

"How do we treat all the data that was subject to the vigilance? Is it destroyed within a week or a year? What could be the destination of that kind of data?" Rato further questioned.

Recently, the SAR has been introducing measures in a bid to strengthen its security, including the body-mounted cameras used by on-duty police officers and the installation of the fourth phase of CCTV surveillance that is expected to be concluded in 2020.

According to another legal

practitioner, Pedro Leal, there is currently a "vigilance fever," which comprises other measures, such as the installation of hundreds of CCTV cameras on the streets.

Commenting on the bureau's plan, the lawyer told TDM that it could hardly prevent any suicide.

"If you are asking me if I agree with a camera operating 24 hours in a prison cell, I don't. In fact, it violates the privacy of the inmates. It's already enough for them to be arrested, [but now] they will have to be subjected to these privacy breaches all the time," he said.

The DSC has preliminarily consulted GDPD, following which the office agreed and found no conflict with principles of data protection, according to its statement.

US gov't finds Macau investor-friendly environment

In its latest report on global investment climates, the U.S. Department of State continues to view the Macau SAR as an investor-friendly environment.

Praising government-led efforts to maintain a transparent, free-market economy, the report said that local laws generally do not impede investment.

"There are no restrictions placed on foreign

investment in Macau as there are no special rules governing foreign investment. Both overseas and domestic firms register under the same set and are subject to the same regulations on business," the report noted.

It also said that "Macau does not follow a forced localization policy in which foreign investors must use domestic content in goods or technology."

Intellectual property ri-

ghts are well respected, and local laws are compatible with World Trade Organization standards.

The Department of State noted that foreign firms and individuals are free to establish "companies, branches, and representative offices without discrimination or undue regulation in Macau" and that there are no requirements for company directors to be local residents, except in the fields of education,

newspapers and magazines, and legal services.

Moreover, foreign judgments in civil and commercial matters may be enforced in Macau by the local courts, the Department of State wrote, adding that such enforcement is outlined in Articles 1199 and 1200 of the Civil Procedure Code.

However, the report also raised several issues with the investment climate.

Most notably, it says that

that Macau has no agency for reviewing transactions for competition-related concerns, nor does it possess a competition law.

Although the local government "states that existing provisions are adequate and appropriate given the scale and scope of local economy," such a lack of provisions is not conducive to preventing the formation of monopolies.

Another potential pro-

blem concerned unemployment in Macau, which has remained almost non-existent for the past decade. This has resulted in a shortage of available manpower and acts as a "top constraint" for the expansion of foreign businesses.

The U.S. government entity says that, over the last decade, American investment in Macau has amounted to an estimated USD23.8 billion.

10 fireworks contestants take part in int'l show



THE 29th Macao International Fireworks Display Contest will be staged above the sea area overlooked by the Macau Tower on September 1, 8, 15 and 24, and October 1. Ten pyrotechnic teams will present fireworks displays synchronized to music and laser lights.

A press conference held yesterday discussed the event to be organized by the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO). The bureau director Helena de Senna Fernandes said that the

event has "grown into a prestigious stage for top competitors to manifest their extraordinary artistry in pyrotechnics."

In order of performance, the contest pits ten teams from the Philippines, Korea, Japan, Belgium, France, Portugal, Germany, Austria, Italy and China against each other, among which the fireworks companies from Korea, Belgium, France and China will debut in Macau. According to the MGTO, "all the contestants boast rich experience in the creation

of mega multimedia fireworks shows. Some of their portfolios also include fireworks displays tailored for major national celebrations in different countries and a range of accolades garnered from international fireworks contests across the world."

Concurrently, MGTO and the General Union of Neighbors Association of Macau will jointly present the Fireworks Carnival next to the Macau Tower from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. every evening on which fireworks are scheduled.



TRANSPORTATION

DSAT head says bicycles in buses 'not practical'

LAWMAKERS have expressed concern about the few existing spaces for the use of bicycles and bicycle paths in Macau. During a Legislative Assembly plenary meeting last week, several lawmakers called on the government to extend and connect the existing paths to allow for an actual circulation of cyclists.

A representative of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) replied to the questions raised, noting, "We already extended the Taipa coastal area bicycle path to 3,200 meters and we are trying now to extend the one at Flor de Lotus area to another 600 meters, a total of

1,700 meters," he said.

The same official said that the work for the extension of such a path has already been awarded and would begin in August or September.

On the topic, the lawmaker Sulu Sou questioned the government regarding possible solutions to allow for a connection between the peninsula and the Taipa Island on foot and by bicycle, recalling a policy established for 10 years without any progress.

Such questions came without reply, with the DSAT director saying only, "It is not practical to allow transportation of bicycles in buses due to the high flow of passengers." **RM**

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“ THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’ ”

Startup incubator pledges to widen network for young entrepreneurs

Lynzy Valles

PARAFUTURO de Macau Investment and Development Limited has pledged to put more effort into training and development this year for the sake of its growing number of members.

The public company, which has been managing the Macau Young Entrepreneur Incubation Center since October, signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with Alibaba Cloud for setting up the "Alibaba Cloud Youth Entrepreneurship Training College" in May.

This move aims to attract more resources from around the world and provide more professional training courses for local entrepreneurs in May.

Speaking to the Times, Wilson Lam, director of the Macau Young Entrepreneur Incubation Center, said that the center is expanding its local and international development opportunities for its members, mainly in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area and the Portuguese-speaking countries.

Just last month, at the "China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries Enterprise Economic and Trade Cooperation Fair-Lisbon-2018", the center signed a cooperation agreement with the Portuguese incubator, Beta-i in Lisbon, agreeing to set up a "Beta-i Macao Interactive Zone" in Lisbon.

"This is actually the first "Macao Interactive Zone" located overseas. From then on, Beta-i and our members can apply for the use of each other's work space and enjoy each other's entrepreneurial services," said Lam.

"This intends to provide a platform for young entrepreneurs from Macau and mainland Chi-



Wilson Lam, director of the Macau Young Entrepreneur Incubation Center

na to go to Portugal for innovation and entrepreneurship, as well as attracting Portuguese startups to come over here," the executive added.

The Macau Young Entrepreneur Incubation Center is working on partnering with Brazil's incubator, Fábrica de Startups Rio, to extend the "Macao Interactive Zone" to Brazil and search for opportunities for local high-quality entrepreneurial projects to enter Macau and China.

A similar model to the "Macao Interactive Zone" has already been set up at the 760 Creative Industry Park in Zhongshan.

Since its takeover, Parafuturo de Macau has received 109 new applications as of May 31, and 70 of them have been already approved.

"When we took over the whole project, it grew very quickly. This always happens and it will [settle] down a little bit, but it's healthy. It's slowly growing in the right direction," said the executive.

na to go to Portugal for innovation and entrepreneurship, as well as attracting Portuguese startups to come over here," the executive added.

"We don't limit any startups. Basically, we're helping young people to grow their business. As long as they have a business plan, we always welcome them," Lam added.

Lam explained that the application and approval rates are gradually increasing. The approved entrepreneurs are mostly from technology, cultural, exhibition and tourism, trading and medical industries.

The center, which has offered 169 membership cards, features 56 co-working spaces and four individual rooms for accelerators, which provide 36 working spaces.

Startups are required to pay MOP8,000 for an open area, and enter an evaluation period after six months.

"If the business is doing well [...] we are entitled to be part of their shareholders, with approximately five percent [share]," said Lam.

"We actually provide the space

for them to start. However, more importantly, it's the connection, because this is all it is."

Meanwhile, the executive noted that the local business market itself is restricted and traditional, contending that related laws and systems are not up to date, which leads to the problem that the new local startup business have to stick with the relatively traditional business area.

"They should pay attention to their business models and see if they are too localized [...] and focus more on thinking how to adjust and bring their business "Macao Projects" out to the Greater Bay Area or other Portuguese-speaking countries which own a much larger and diverse market," Lam suggested.

He then added that the Central Government's scheme – the Greater Bay Area – will open new opportunities for young entrepreneurs, noting that its partnership in the city's neighboring regions, particularly for incubation centers, would increase.

"We suggest that Macau startups can explore and learn from the projects from mainland China and study and understand the entrepreneurial trends and the adaptability of the market for certain innovative ideas," the director proposed.

Meanwhile, Lam disclosed that the first "Parafuturo de Macau Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition" has introduced six projects to participate across three international competitions.

We're helping young people to grow their business; as long as they have a business plan, we always welcome them.

WILSON LAM

Two of them are "Next Generation Protein Analytical Products and Services for Clinical and Research Markets" and "An Ambient Cell-Transportation System (ACTS)" which have entered the "Fosun Protechtig - Startup Accelerator Program."

The participants went to their one-week boot camp in Lisbon, Portugal during mid-June.

After the pitch on the last day, the team became the only two representatives of the Chinese region to enter the final competition in November.

As for the Alibaba Cloud competition, the final instalment will be held in November.

TOURISM

Visitor arrivals reached 2.6m in June



VISITOR arrivals totaled 2.6 million in June 2018, up by 9.4 percent year-on-year, according to the latest data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). Overnight visitors totaled 1.44 million during the month, while same-day visitors numbered about 1.15 million, an increase of 7.2 percent and 12.4 percent respectively year-on-year.

Meanwhile, the average length of stay of visitors held steady year-on-year

at 1.3 days, with that of overnight visitors rising by 0.1 days to 2.2, while that of same-day visitors remained at 0.2 days.

Analyzed by place of origin, the number of visitors from mainland China increased 13.5 percent year-on-year to 1.75 million in June, coming mainly from Guangdong Province (698,000), Hunan Province (84,000) and Fujian Province (67,000).

Visitors from Hong Kong (501,000) and Taiwan

(92,000) increased by 2 percent and 7.8 percent respectively year-on-year. At the same time, the number of visitors from South Korea dropped 13.4 percent. Those traveling from the United States and United Kingdom registered modest year-on-year growth, while those from Australia and Canada decreased slightly.

Analyzed by mode of transport, arrivals via land grew 12.1 percent year-on-year, with those

arriving through the Border Gate also up 12.1 percent. Visitor arrivals by sea increased by 1.4 percent compared with June in the previous year, while arrivals by air were up by 24.7 percent.

June concludes the first half-year of 2018, during which time visitor arrivals reached 16.8 million, up 8 percent year-on-year, according to DSEC. Overnight visitors (8.76 million) and same-day visitors (8.04 million) increased by 8.3 percent and 7.8 percent respectively, while the average length of stay of visitors held steady at 1.2 days.



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Fiat Chrysler Europe chief to quit after being passed over



Mike Manley

Tommaso Ebhardt

FIAT Chrysler Automobiles NV's European chief has resigned after being passed over to replace ailing Sergio Marchionne as chief executive officer of the group.

The departure of Alfredo Altavilla, chief operating officer for the region, was confirmed yesterday by the company in a statement. His exit deprives new Fiat Chrysler CEO Mike Manley of crucial management experience as he tries to steady the ship following the sudden loss of Marchionne, who was forced to relinquish his post of 14 years due to declining health.

Altavilla, 54, was a close aide to Marchionne, having overseen Fiat Chrysler operations across the globe. He was considered one of the three leading candidates for the top job, along with Manley and Chief Financial Officer Richard Palmer. Manley was selected Saturday as the new CEO, only days ahead of the company's July 25 results presentation.

Altavilla's resignation raises the stakes for when Manley addresses investors for the first time tomorrow as CEO. He was already facing pressure to show he was capable of moving the Italian-American automaker forward without Marchionne. He now has the challenge of proving he can unify veteran managers around him and prevent further turmoil in the executive ranks.

Altavilla's resignation was reported earlier by La Repubblica and by Bloomberg News. He'll stay on until the end of August, the company said. Manley will be interim Europe chief, after taking direct oversight of the North American operations from Marchionne over the weekend. CFO Palmer takes on added responsibility for business development.

Manley is set to meet with Fiat

Chrysler's top managers in Turin, Italy, today [Macau time] for a group executive council meeting, the people said. The gathering marks the beginning of his tenure following Marchionne, who is credited with saving both Fiat and Chrysler during his 14-year tenure and increasing shareholder value 10-fold.

Fiat Chrysler began trading yesterday for the first time since it became clear Marchionne would be unable to return to work following shoulder surgery the automaker announced on July 5. Italian news agency Ansa said his condition is "irreversible," and he is in intensive care in a Zurich hospital following complications from shoulder surgery.

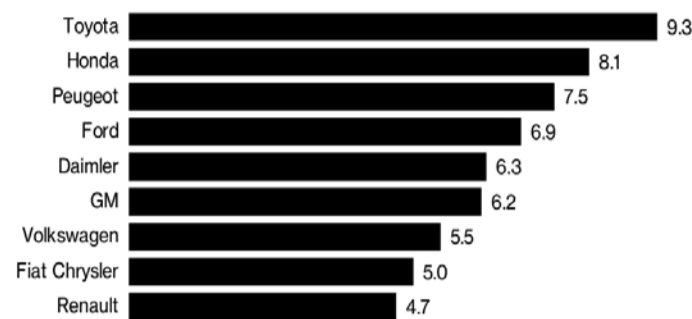
Manley faces "a difficult baptism" on tomorrow's earnings call, Bernstein & Co. analyst Max Warburton said in a research note. CNH, the maker of Iveco trucks and Case and New Holland farm equipment, replaced Marchionne as chairman with Suzanne Heywood, managing director of Exor. It reports results on Thursday, while Ferrari, which appointed Philip Morris International Inc. veteran Louis Camilleri as its CEO, makes its quarterly presentation on Aug. 1.

Ferrari may be down more by year-end than Fiat Chrysler, Warburton said. Camilleri "has an easy job operationally. But he inherits an absurd valuation, a product plan that's far from settled internally and 2021 financial targets that Sergio scribbled on a napkin and that may be difficult to deliver," the analyst said.

Manley has been head of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV's Jeep brand since 2009, the linchpin in the company's plan to double profit in the next five years. Already, the Jeep and Ram vehicles he oversaw were responsible for 67 percent of total U.S. volume in 2017, according

Manley's Challenge

Investor skepticism about Fiat Chrysler is reflected in its valuation



Note: Price-earnings ratio on 2018 estimated profit
Source: Bloomberg

Bloomberg

ing to Bloomberg Intelligence.

Marchionne, 66, had been set to retire in April 2019. His unexpected illness accelerated the timeline for a decision on succession that was already seen as a crossroads for the company. Who would run the Italian-American automaker was just the first of a number of pivotal choices - like whether to remain independent - facing Chairman John Elkann, an Agnelli family heir.

Marchionne, 66, had been set to retire in April 2019. His unexpected illness accelerated the timeline for a decision on succession

Manley's do-list ranges from electrifying the lineup to boosting luxury brands Alfa Romeo and Maserati, to raising the profile of Jeep in China. He also faces the test of meeting rigorous fuel-economy standards in Europe and China, along with managing through political uncertainty in Italy, and trade fears in the Nafta zone and between the U.S. and European Union -- both important areas for Fiat Chrysler.

"People are going to wonder - the products are there, the decisions have been made, but who's going to be driving the strategic options?" said Brian Johnson, an analyst at Barclays Plc. If there are deals to be made for Magneti Marelli, the parts unit set to be spun off to shareholders, for example, "Who's on point for that?"

Altavilla, 54, was a Fiat veteran

who was head of business development and chief operating officer for Europe, the Middle East, and Africa, operations he returned to profit after years of losses. The Taranto, Italy, born-executive was deeply involved with Marchionne in the acquisition of Chrysler, attending all the meetings and holding talks with the U.S. government. His father owned a Fiat dealership.

Altavilla is also a director at Telecom Italia SpA, Italy's biggest phone company. He was part of the slate proposed by Elliott Management Corp. that defeated Vivendi SA to take control of the carrier's board in May.

Manley, a Briton, is known for having a good rapport with dealers, which makes sense because he used to be one. He started working at Swan National Motors in Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1986, and rose up through the U.K. system before joining DaimlerChrysler in 2000 to run its dealership network in the country.

He was named head of Jeep at the start of Fiat's five-year acquisition, and led the transformation of the iconic American brand into a cash machine. Analysts estimate that Jeep alone could be worth the entire market value of Fiat Chrysler.

Colleagues describe Manley as serious and driven, a ferociously hard worker who inspires loyalty among his top lieutenants. He's candid, true to his word, and a good listener, but he also does not suffer fools, said David Kelleher, a Philadelphia-area Jeep, Ram and Chrysler dealer who has worked with Manley during his decade-long stint on the company's U.S. dealer council.

"When he sits in a room, if you're not a guy that works 80 hours a week, you're going to have a tough time keeping up with him," Kelleher said. "He doesn't know what a weekend is; he's very much a protege of Mr. Marchionne." **Bloomberg**

Ryanair profits slide as company battles labor strife



Labor strife is starting to weigh on Ryanair Holdings Plc. The discount airline posted a 20 percent drop in first-quarter profit, and warned that sporadic walkouts by trade unions, along with regional traffic-control strikes, are starting to make customers hesitant to book flights. That's fed into a drop in prices, just as fuel costs rise and the Irish carrier shells out for 20 percent pay increases already granted to pilots. Fares fell 4 percent during the period ended June 30, and the pricing environment remains weak, Ryanair said. The company kept its profit full-year outlook, but said it was "heavily dependent" on fares this quarter, crew strikes, traffic-controller strikes and other wild cards such as Brexit.

HK property bears rear their heads (yet again)

Hong Kong's property market has a habit of humbling the bears, shattering predictions that the laws of gravity must eventually prevail. But now, a crosscurrent of headwinds - from a slowing Chinese economy to upcoming interest-rate hikes and a reinvigorated regulatory push to tame home prices - have emboldened some longstanding skeptics to renew calls that a correction could be imminent. Citigroup Inc. last week called time on the party, predicting a 7 percent second-half slide, and Bocom International Holdings Co.'s Hao Hong sees the possibility of a decline of more than twice that. "Property stocks are telling you that the correction is coming," Hong said, citing equity declines as a leading indicator, as the Hang Sang Property Index is down 14 percent from a Jan. 26 peak. "I won't be surprised to see prices coming down 15 percent in the coming months."

Facebook's London office with space for 6,000 workers

Facebook Inc. will double the amount of space it occupies in London as technology firms continue to expand in the U.K. The new office buildings in the city's King's Cross district will have room for more than 6,000 people, compared with a target of 2,300 workers by the end of this year. Facebook's statement on Monday did not say how many jobs will be created as part of the expansion. Workplace, Facebook's enterprise collaboration tool, is wholly built and run out of London, and the U.K. capital is also home to the engineering team responsible for the security of the social network's community. Its London teams also work on virtual reality products.

ANALYSIS

Stealth yuan devaluation catching Trump's attention

Gregor Stuart Hunter
& Enda Curran

FOR more than a month, China seemed to be enjoying the advantage of exchange-rate depreciation without the global backlash and panicky capital outflows that accompanied the bout of yuan weakening in 2015. Then Donald Trump took issue.

The U.S. president's charges that China is "manipulating" a currency that's been "dropping like a rock" came at the end of a six-week slide in the yuan that took it to its lowest level in more than a year against the dollar. The remarks, in a tweet and an interview with CNBC, suggested to market participants that the U.S.-China trade war is now broadening to include currencies, putting fresh scrutiny on Chinese management of the yuan.

After overseeing a slide in the yuan of almost 5 percent since mid-June, the question for Chinese officials now is whether to turn to other policy measures to support growth in the face of headwinds to exports. Wang Tao at UBS Group AG is among those predicting China will use other tools than the exchange rate to "cushion the blow" from the trade war.

"The central bank will work to stabilize the currency," Wang, UBS's head of China economic research in Hong Kong, said in a Bloomberg Television interview. "So



what can China do? At this moment I think they can ease some of the tightening" in credit and fiscal policy, to support infrastructure investment, she said.

China set the reference rate for the onshore yuan at 6.7593 yesterday, compared with a forecast 6.7554. It was trading down 0.1 percent at 6.7935 as of 5:15 p.m. in Shanghai.

Trump's criticism aside, China watchers have highlighted how the yuan's depreciation this time around is better understood by investors as a reflection of economic fundamentals, rather than the 2015-style shock.

"A few years ago we didn't have a story to justify the yuan weakening," said Iris

Pang, greater China economist at ING Bank in Hong Kong. "It was the PBOC that triggered the sudden yuan devaluation, without any notice or without any hints," she said of the People's Bank of China in 2015.

While the yuan has had effects on markets - for example, futures contracts on the S&P 500 Index, Asian equities and oil all dropped for a time Friday after China cut the yuan's daily reference rate the most in more than two years - the impact has been limited.

The S&P 500, for example, remains on track for a fourth consecutive month of gains, compared with its 6.3 percent decline of August 2015. While Chinese stocks

have entered a bear market, with the CSI 300 Index down about 20 percent from its January peak, that's occurred alongside softening growth and worries over rising corporate defaults.

MARKET DRIVEN?

As China's officials determine whether to respond to Trump's yuan manipulation charge, economists say there are clear arguments for a cheaper Chinese currency, justifying the current weakness.

"The currency should be depreciating from a broad macro perspective - you have the Fed hiking and PBOC easing, so at some point it will be reflected in the FX market," Frederic Neumann,

co-head of Asian economics research at HSBC Holdings Plc in Hong Kong, told Bloomberg Television. "This is still in line with the broader PBOC policy of introducing more volatility and letting the market play itself out."

Bloomberg Economics estimates that the yuan is around 6.6 percent overvalued, based on economic fundamentals. Fielding Chen and Tom Orlik wrote in their analysis Friday that "there's a sense that the decline is in line with Beijing's wishes and - if they want - under their control."

Even so, China has reasons to avoid sustained declines in the yuan. Earlier this decade it burned through about \$1 trillion of reserves to stem an exodus of capital. And this June saw \$10.7 billion in cross-border outflows, Morgan Stanley estimates.

Chinese authorities have taken steps to ensure the slide doesn't get unwieldy. After a 2 percent drop over the space of a week, PBOC Governor Yi Gang and other senior officials in early July underscored that China favored a stable currency. Again on Friday, after the morning tumble in the yuan began unsettling Asian investors, there were signs of action to stem the decline.

"Chasing USD/CNY higher is probably the wrong trade," Goldman Sachs Group Inc. strategists including Zach Pandl in New York wrote in a note to clients Friday, referring to the dollar-yuan currency ticker. The yuan "will be more stable, as the U.S. could interpret further depreciation as a form of retaliation," they said, sticking with a three-month forecast of 6.7 per dollar. "For now." **Bloomberg**

BANKING

Analysts are downgrading small banks at record pace

ANALYSTS are taking note of the struggles in China's banking industry, which is being battered by an official deleveraging drive.

At least five smaller lenders have been downgraded by credit-rating companies this year, a record pace for the sector. Spikes in the volume of non-performing loans and an increase in loans overdue are among the reasons. One of the lenders - Guizhou-based Guiyang Rural Commercial Bank Co. - saw its bad debt

balloon nearly tenfold in the space of two years, according to the assessor that slashed its rating.

China's campaign to clean up its financial industry and crack down on a USD10 trillion shadow-banking system is a double whammy for smaller lenders: it's pushing up the costs for them to seek funding from each other, and makes their investments in opaque asset-management plans less secure. Recent regulatory moves to widen the definition of non-perfor-

ming loans also added to the strain, forcing some banks to report more bad debt and a reduction in their capital-adequacy ratios.

"Small and medium banks are the weakest link in the deleveraging process, because of a lack of deposits and their dependence on market funding," said Grace Wu, head of China bank ratings at Fitch Ratings Ltd. in Hong Kong. "Because the lenders do a lot of business with non-bank financial institutions, their own risks can become con-

tagious and affect the whole system."

Other lenders that have been downgraded include Jilin Jiaohe Rural Commercial Bank Co., whose 3 billion yuan (\$443 million) of investments in wealth management products were troubled by a default earlier this year. Shandong Zouping Rural Commercial Bank Co. saw a rating cut from Golden Credit Rating International Co. after its non-performing loans ratio surged to 9.3 percent last year from about 2 percent in 2016.

Guiyang Rural Commercial's asset quality is improving, and it will deal with its bad loans in accordance with regulatory requirements, an official at the bank who asked not to be named said by phone last week.

Ratings companies have also cut their outlook for at least six smaller lenders to negative from stable since the start of 2017, citing reasons including deterioration of asset quality and weaker profitability, Industrial Economics Research & Con-

sulting Co. analysts led by Xu Hanfei wrote in a recent research note.

Chinese policy makers made their latest move to crack down on shadow financing last Friday, with the government issuing draft rules to regulate banks' issuance of wealth management products. Banking shares in Shanghai and Hong Kong rallied yesterday, led by Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd., Hang Seng Bank Ltd., and BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Ltd. **Bloomberg**

FAKE RECORDS

Chinese leaders order probe over vaccine scandal

Gerry Shih, Beijing

CHINESE leaders are scrambling to shore up public confidence and oversight of the pharmaceutical industry after a rabies vaccine maker was found faking records, the latest in a slew of public health and safety scandals that have outraged Chinese parents.

Premier Li Keqiang said in a statement that Changchun Changsheng Life Sciences Ltd., which is accused of fabricating production and inspection records, “violated a moral bottom line.” He pledged an immediate investigation of the company and to “resolutely crack down” on violations that endanger public safety.

President Xi Jinping echoed those remarks, while police in Changchun, a city in northeastern China, announced that the company’s chief executive and four other executives had been placed under investigation.

Li’s remarks were aimed at assuaging Chinese parents who complain about worrying over fake food, milk and medicine in a society that seems to lack a “moral bottom line” — and also competent, uncorrupt regulators.

“Defective vaccines are like child abuse and trafficking — it touches on the most sensitive, vulnerable part of the public’s hearts,” wrote Xi Po, a columnist for The Paper, a popular online news outlet backed by the Shanghai government. “But unlike in cases of child abuse, the vaccine scandals involve layers and layers of broken regulators and interest groups.”



AP PHOTO

There were no reports of injuries due to the rabies vaccine, but the disclosure has ricocheted around social media, touching a raw nerve for Chinese parents. Two years ago, a similar scandal erupted after police broke up a criminal ring that had sold millions of faulty baby vaccines — but did not disclose the case for months.

Regulators announced last week that Changchun Changsheng, China’s second-largest rabies vaccine manufacturer,

was ordered to stop production and recall its rabies vaccine. Days later, provincial authorities in northeast China announced that batches of DPT, or diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus, vaccine were found to be defective. More than 250,000 doses of the DPT vaccine had been sold, China’s state broadcaster reported.

Public anger ratcheted up swiftly over the weekend following a report by an anonymous author disclosing that

regulators found production problems at Changchun Changsheng as early as November but did not publicize their findings or announce a recall until July. The post was widely shared and was censored by Sunday even as Chinese leaders launched a public relations response.

In his statement, Li acknowledged the government’s lapse and pledged to punish offenders and regulators found in “dereliction of duty.” State media chimed in, with the China Daily

urging the government to handle the matter in a “transparent manner,” while the Communist Party-owned Global Times called on authorities to “follow up on people’s security demands, and supervise and regulate more effectively.”

Government censors have employed a relatively light touch, allowing online news outlets like The Paper and Caixin to pursue the story while giving internet users some space to vent their frustration. By yesterday afternoon, the hashtag “Changchun Changsheng makes fake vaccines” had garnered more than 100 million views on Weibo.

Defective vaccines are like child abuse and trafficking — it touches on the most vulnerable part of the public’s hearts.

XI PO
THE PAPER

The company’s phone lines were busy for several hours and executives could not be reached for comment.

Yang Yuze, another writer at The Paper, bluntly questioned whether national policies to prop up pharmaceutical companies were “opening the door” to corruption.

“The main problem is insufficient regulation, missing regulation, powerless regulation,” Yang wrote. “It’s easy to see how [lax regulation of the vaccine industry] are fig leaves and excuses for the transaction of money and power.” **AP**

BELT & ROAD

Rwandan leader says China relates to Africa ‘as an equal’

RWANDAN President Paul Kagame is praising China’s treatment of Africa “as an equal,” calling it “a revolutionary posture in world affairs” and “more precious than money.”

Kagame made the remarks yesterday after signing bilateral agreements with the visiting Chinese president, Xi Jinping. Xi is the first Chinese president to visit Rwanda.

Jinping arrived in Rwanda on Sunday from Senegal and will also be visiting Mauritius and South Africa, where he will attend

a summit of the BRICS emerging economies.

Some African governments increasingly depend on loans from Chinese banks to finance ambitious infrastructure projects.

Senegal’s decision to become the first African country on the Atlantic coast to sign up to the Belt and Road Initiative shows how quickly the transport network project connecting China by land and sea to Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Africa is expanding.

Lending by China to Afri-

ca rose to about USD12 billion in 2015 from little more than \$100 million in 2000. Bloomberg Economics expects China to make significant policy declarations on its lending to Africa and other economic initiatives at the next forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing in September.

China is Africa’s largest trading partner and it also seeks closer military ties.

China opened its first military base on the continent last year in the Horn of Africa nation of Djibouti. **MDT/Agencies**



AP PHOTO

Rwandan President Paul Kagame (right) and Chinese President Xi Jinping, followed by their wives Jannette Kagame and Peng Liyuan arrive at Rwanda’s State House yesterday

PHILIPPINES

Chaotic congress row stalls Duterte speech, rebel deal

Jim Gomez, Manila

A leadership row erupted in the Philippine House of Representatives on live TV yesterday, delaying President Rodrigo Duterte's delivery of his annual state of the nation address and passage of a crucial Muslim rebel autonomy deal.

As Duterte arrived on a helicopter in the heavily secured congressional complex, Rep. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, backed by dozens of allied legislators, took the main seat in the center stage of the House's plenary hall in a sign that she was taking over the post of House Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez.

Arroyo, a former president, tried to speak from the stage during the dramatic standoff but her microphone was turned off. She tried to yell, apparently to explain what was happening, but later stepped away from the stage, waving at the crowd.

Alvarez, along with Senate President Vicente Sotto III, fetched Duterte and led the visibly confused leader to a holding room as the dispute over House leadership unfolded in the chamber, which was packed with diplomats, legislators and other dignitaries for Duterte's speech. Alvarez and Arroyo are both Duterte allies.

The leadership row earlier prevented the House from ratifying a Muslim autonomy deal that many hope will settle one of Asia's longest-raging Muslim separatist rebellions.



Earlier yesterday, the Senate unanimously ratified the bill, which aims to establish a new Bangsamoro autonomous region in the country's south, but House members adjourned early due to the leadership row. The government negotiated the pact for more than two decades with the country's largest Muslim rebel group.

Duterte had been expected to sign the autonomy bill into law as early as yesterday and highlight it in his state of the nation speech as an early legacy of his presidency, which has come under heavy criticism over his human rights record and deadly anti-drug crackdown.

Thousands of protesters rallied outside the House, where Duterte was to speak.

"We find it unfortunate that the Bangsamoro Organic Law was not ratified before the adjournment of today's session," presidential spokesman Harry Roque said. "We consider this as a temporary setback."

There was no immediate reaction from the Muslim rebels over the latest difficulty in achieving the Malaysian-brokered peace deal, which seeks to replace an earlier poverty- and conflict-wracked autonomous region with a potentially larger, better-funded and more powerful region for minority Muslims in the south of the

largely Roman Catholic nation.

In 2008, a planned signing of a preliminary pact was scuttled when opponents went to the Supreme Court, which declared the agreement unconstitutional. New fighting erupted when three rebel commanders attacked Christian communities, leaving more than 100 people dead and about 750,000 villagers displaced before a cease-fire ended the violence.

Presidential adviser Jesus Duraza said House legislators had no issue with the autonomy bill but that it was accidentally embroiled in the House leadership row, adding that he expected the legislation to be ratified at some point.

The proposed deal is the latest significant attempt by the government to negotiate an end to nearly half a century of on-and-off Muslim fighting that has left more than 120,000 people dead and displaced about 2 million others.

The two largest Muslim rebel groups in the south have dropped their demands for a separate Muslim state in exchange for autonomy and have renounced terrorism. Western governments, however, have worried about the presence of small numbers of Islamic State group-linked militants from the Middle East and Southeast Asia seeking combat training and collaboration with Filipino insurgents.

Last year, heavily armed Filipino insurgents who have sworn allegiance to the Islamic State group, along with dozens of foreign fighters, laid siege to the southern Islamic city of Marawi. Troops, backed by U.S. and Australian surveillance aircraft, routed the militants after five months of airstrikes and ground assaults that left more than 1,200 people, mostly Islamic fighters, dead and the mosque-studded city in ruins.

Aside from the Muslim autonomy pact, Duterte was expected to reaffirm his resolve to fight illegal drugs and introduce a draft constitution that would shift the country to a federal system of governance. The moves, including opening the country's 1987 constitution to amendment, have been opposed by several groups and opposition politicians, who fear they are designed to prolong Duterte's rule and give him dictatorial powers.

Duterte, who took office in 2016, has played down such fears, saying he is ready to step down as early as next year and cut short his six-year term before a new federal government is put in place. **AP**

SOUTH KOREA

Prominent politician found dead in possible suicide

A prominent liberal South Korean politician embroiled in a corruption scandal was found dead yesterday, police said, in what appeared to be one of the country's highest-profile suicides in recent years.

The body of three-term lawmaker Roh Hoe-chan of the small opposition Justice Party was found near a Seoul apartment building. Police said they believe Roh, 61, leapt to his death from the building after leaving a suicide note.

"Dear fellow citizens, I'm sorry. It's entirely my fault, so please punish me and I'd like you to



An office of lawmaker Roh Hoe-chan is seen in Changwon, South Korea

continue to support the Justice Party," Roh said in a note addressed to party members. He said he accepted 40 million won (USD36,260) in

2016, but without granting any political favors in return.

South Korean media reported that Roh wrote two other suicide notes

to his family but their contents weren't made public.

Roh faced an investigation over an allegation that he received money

from an associate of an influential blogger jailed in an online opinion-rigging scandal. The allegation tarnished the clean and reform-minded image of Roh, a former labor activist who has been a symbol for progressives in South Korea.

Roh's death triggered an outpouring of sympathy from many South Koreans.

President Moon Jae-in said his "heart really aches" over "the sad news" of Roh's death. The independent counsel investigating the rigging scandal, Huh Ik-bum, told a televised briefing that he felt dis-

tressed by the "tragic news" of Roh's death. Huh said he respects Roh and will pray for his soul.

South Korea has one of the highest suicide rates among developed countries. A string of business executives, K-pop stars and other celebrities have killed themselves in recent years.

If Roh's death is officially determined a suicide, he would be the highest-profile politician to kill himself since former President Roh Moo-hyun jumped to his death in 2009 amid a corruption scandal involving his family. **AP**



JAPAN

Record high as heat wave grips the region

Mari Yamaguchi & Hyung-Jin Kim, Tokyo

JAPAN recorded its highest temperature ever yesterday as a deadly heat wave continued to grip a wide swath of the country and nearby South and North Korea.

The mercury hit 41.1 degrees Celsius in Kumagaya, a city in Saitama prefecture about 65 kilometers northwest of Tokyo, the Japan Meteorological Agency said. That broke the previous record of 41.0 C in Ekawasaki on the island of Shikoku on Aug. 12, 2013.

Two lingering high pressure systems have trapped warm and humid air above the region, bringing record-high temperatures for nearly two weeks. More than 40 people have died in Japan and about 10 in South Korea.

"It is so hot these days that I cannot figure out whether I am in [South Korea] or in Southeast Asia," said Kim Sung-hee, a student in downtown Seoul, where the temperature rose to 35.7 C (96 F).

Ten people have died in South Korea of heatstroke and other heat-related causes this summer, seven of them last week, the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said. About 1,040 people have fallen ill because of hot weather from May 20 to July 21, an increase of 61 percent over the same period last year, it said.

South Korea's highest-ever morning low was recorded in the city of Gangneung, where the temperature was 31 C at 6:45 a.m. The morning low in Seoul was 29.2 C, a record for the country's capital, according to South Korea's weather agency.

The mercury hit 39.9 C in the southeastern town of Hayang, the highest temperature in the country so far this year.

In North Korea, residents fanned themselves on crowded trolleys or protected themselves from the sun with brightly colored parasols as temperatures in Pyongyang, the capital, reached 34 C. Weather reports said even higher temperatures were recorded on the country's eastern coast.

Thousands of people in Japan have been rushed to hospitals with heat stroke symptoms during the heat wave. Kyodo News agency has tallied more than 40 deaths. Many of the victims have been elderly people who were not using air conditioning.

Yesterday, nine people died from heat-related causes across Japan, Kyodo said. NHK national television tallied seven deaths.

The temperature reached 39 C yesterday in central Tokyo, the highest temperature this year. The worst of the heat wave is expected to be over this week.

■ The mercury hit 41.1 degrees Celsius in Kumagaya

Tourists in Tokyo's historic Asakusa district struggled with the heat. Cosett Romero from Mexico said she and her family were getting headaches.

"It's difficult for us because we don't have this heat in Mexico," she said.

Authorities warned people to stay inside and use air conditioning.

"The weather recently in Tokyo

and across Japan is like being in a sauna," Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike said at a news conference that highlighted the 2020 Summer Olympics, which open in Tokyo two years from today.

She said that the city has been working to address heat concerns for both fans and athletes.

The marathon and some other outdoor Olympic events will start early in the morning. Other steps include developing road pavements that emit less surface heat, setting up mist sprays and planting tall roadside trees.

Koike also cited traditional ways of cooling in Japan, such as hanging straw screens and spraying water on road surfaces.

"But our traditional wisdom is not enough to beat the heat like this," she acknowledged, "so we will be using cutting-edge technology." AP

VIETNAM

Flooding kills 20, leaves over a dozen missing



A village is submerged in flood water in the suburb of Hanoi yesterday

FLOODING triggered by a tropical storm has killed at least 20 people and left over a dozen missing in northern Vietnam, local media reports said.

Ten people drowned in floods caused by heavy rain in Yen Bai province after Tropical Storm Son Tinh hit the country's northern region last week, the Tuoi Tre newspaper reported.

In Thanh Hoa province, a flash flood swept through a small village in Lang Chanh district and carried away a dozen stilt houses last week.

"The floods came so quick and gave us so little time to escape," said local resident Luong Van Hung. "Some managed to run to high ground, but others got swept away in the floods."

The floods took away a family of four as they were sleeping, said Nguyen Xuan Hong, chairman of Lang Chanh district. Two people were found dead in the debris left by the flooding while the body of the family's 5-year-old daughter was recovered yesterday morning in a stream 3 kilometers from their home.

A rescue group of 300 people were looking for the fourth member of the family, who is still missing, Hong said.

Casualties were also reported in Phu Tho, Lao Cai, Hoa Binh and Son La provinces, where heavy rain caused landslides and cut off roads.

The rain stopped over the weekend, but the national weather forecast agency said another tropical depression is heading toward northern Vietnam this week.

Vietnam is prone to destructive storms and floods that kill hundreds of people every year. AP

CANADA

Man firing into Toronto cafes shoots 14 people, killing one

A man firing a handgun into restaurants and cafes as he walked along a Toronto street shot 14 people, killing one of them, before dying after an exchange of gunfire with police yesterday [Macau time], authorities said.

Police Chief Mark Saunders did not rule out terrorism as a motive in the shooting in the city's Greektown neighborhood.

"Other than the shooter we have a young lady that is deceased," the police chief said.

Saunders also said a girl aged 8 or 9 was in critical condition.

A video from one witness shows a man dressed in black clothes and a black hat walking quickly and firing three shots from the sidewalk into at least one shop or restaurant. Toronto's Greektown is a lively residential area with crowded Greek restaurants and cafes.

The condition of the other victims was not known yet, police spokesman Mark Pugash said.

Witnesses heard many shots and described the suspect walking past restaurants and



Police work the scene of a shooting in Toronto

cafes and patios on both sides of the street and firing into them.

John Tulloch said he and his brother had just gotten out of their car when he heard about

20 to 30 gunshots.

"We just ran. We saw people starting to run so we just ran," he said.

An army of police, paramedics and other first responders

soon descended on the scene, while area residents, some in their pajamas, emerged from their homes to see what was happening.

Toronto Councillor Paula

Fletcher told CP24 she heard that the gunman was emotionally disturbed.

"It's not gang related. It looks like someone who is very disturbed," Fletcher said.

Councillor Mary Fragedakis also said she heard the gunman was disturbed.

Fletcher said for this to happen in an area where families gather for dinner is a tragedy.

Mass shootings are rare in Canada's largest city.

"We were so used to living in a city where these things didn't happen," Toronto Mayor John Tory said. "But there are things that happen nowadays and they are just unspeakable."

This past weekend Toronto police deployed dozens of additional officers to deal with a recent spike in gun violence in the city. Tory said the city has a gun problem.

"Guns are too readily available to too many people," Tory said.

Police urged people to come forward with video or witness testimony.

The mass shooting comes a few months after a driver of a van plowed into pedestrians on a Toronto sidewalk, killing 10 people and injuring 14. Authorities have not disclosed a motive. But they have said the arrested driver, Alek Minassian, posted a message on social media referencing a misogynistic online community before the attack. **AP**

USA

Deadly LA market shooting started with domestic feud

A man's feud with his grandmother turned into a bizarre and deadly confrontation that ended with a supermarket worker dead and dozens of people held hostage in a store miles away.

Gene Evin Atkins, 28, was booked Sunday on suspicion of murder after an explosion of violence that a relative said may have been brewing for weeks.

Melyda Corado, 27, was shot to death Saturday at a Trader Joe's market in the Silver Lake neighborhood after a gunfight that shattered the store's glass doors, witnesses said.

"I'm sad to say she didn't make it. My baby sister. My world," her brother, Albert Corado said on Twitter.

Yesterday, grieving family members, coworkers and customers remembered Corado as lively, hardworking

and always smiling. A makeshift memorial of flowers, candles and notes grew on the sidewalk outside of the store.

"Yesterday marks the saddest day in Trader Joe's history as we mourn the loss of one our own," company spokeswoman Kenya Friend-Daniel said in a statement.

The violence began when Atkins shot his 76-year-old grandmother several times at their South Los Angeles home after she complained about his having too many television sets on, said a cousin, Charlene Eglend.

Mary Elizabeth Madison was taken to a hospital in critical condition but Eglend said she underwent surgery and was improving Sunday.

Madison raised Atkins from the age of 7 and he had never been violent toward her but recently



had seemed upset and distant, Eglend said.

"He didn't seem right to me," Eglend said.

For the past two or three weeks, the two had argued over Atkins' girlfriend, who was staying at their home, Eglend said.

"She didn't want the girl over there anymore," Eglend said.

Eglend said she was

walking toward the house when she heard about six gunshots. Another cousin, who lives in the house, came running from the porch and shouted to Eglend, "I think Gene shot my mama!"

Police said Atkins' girlfriend was grazed in the head by a bullet, but the injury is not life threatening.

Eglend ran to call 911 but Atkins allegedly forced his wounded girlfriend into his grandmother's car and drove away.

A stolen-car device helped police track the car to Hollywood but Atkins refused to pull over, police said.

During the chase, Atkins fired at officers, blowing out the car's

back window, and there was more shooting before the car crashed into a pole outside the Trader Joe's, followed by another shootout with police, Police Chief Michel Moore said.

Customers and employees frantically dove for cover and barricaded themselves inside store-rooms and bathrooms as bullets flew.

Trader Joe's said the store — known by customers as a neighborhood hangout with great customer service — would remain closed for the foreseeable future.

Atkins, who has two daughters, bounced between several jobs, including working as a security guard, but had been repeatedly fired, Eglend said. His grandmother had tried to help him find employment and "was just trying to make him do better," she said. **AP**

Nasser Karimi & Will Lester, Tehran

IRANIANS yesterday shrugged off the possibility that a bellicose exchange of words between President Donald Trump and his Iranian counterpart could escalate into military conflict, but expressed growing concern America's stepped-up sanctions could damage their fragile economy.

In his latest salvo, Trump tweeted yesterday [Macau time] that hostile threats from Iran could bring dire consequences.

This was after Iranian President Hassan Rouhani remarked earlier in the day that "American must understand well that peace with Iran is the mother of all peace and war with Iran is the mother of all wars."

Trump tweeted: "NEVER EVER THREATEN THE UNITED STATES AGAIN OR YOU WILL SUFFER CONSEQUENCES THE LIKE OF WHICH FEW THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAVE EVER SUFFERED BEFORE."

Within hours, Iran's state-owned news agency IRNA dismissed the tweet, describing it as a "passive reaction" to Rouhani's remarks.

On Tehran streets, residents took the exchange in stride.

"Both America and Iran have threatened one another in different ways for several years," shrugged Mohsen Taheri, a 58-year-old publisher.

A headline on a local newspaper quoted Rouhani as saying: "Mr. Trump, do not play with the lion's tail."

Prominent Iranian political analyst Seed Leilaz downplayed the war of words, saying it was in his opinion "the storm before the calm."

Leilaz told The Associated Press he was not "worried about the remarks and tweets," and that "neither Iran, nor any other country is interested in escalating tensions in the region."

Citing harsh words the United States and North Korea had exchanged before the high-profile summit between Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, Leilaz said Trump and Kim got "closer" despite the warring words.

Trump's eruption on Twitter came after a week of heavy controversy about Russian meddling in the U.S. 2016 election, following the Helsinki summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Meanwhile, the tweet was reverberating across the Mideast.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu praised the U.S. president's "strong stance" after years in which the Iranian "regime was pampered by world powers."

Trump earlier this year pulled the U.S. out of the international deal meant to prevent Tehran from developing a nuclear weapon and ordered increased



Trump and Rouhani escalate war of words

MIDDLE EAST

Iran dismisses Trump's explosive threat to country's leader

American sanctions, as well as threatening penalties for companies from other countries that continue to do business with Iran.

With the economic pressure, Trump said earlier this month that "at a certain point they're going to call me and say 'let's make a deal,' and we'll make a deal."

Iran has rejected talks with the U.S., and Rouhani has accused the U.S. of stoking an "economic war."

Rouhani also suggested Iran could immediately ramp up its production of uranium in response to U.S. pressure. Potentially that would escalate the very situation the nuclear deal sought to avoid — an Iran with a stockpile of enriched uranium that could lead to making atomic bombs.

Trump's tweet suggested he has little patience with the trading of hostile messages with Iran, using exceptionally strong language and writing the all-capitalized tweet.

"WE ARE NO LONGER A COUNTRY THAT WILL STAND FOR YOUR DEMENTED WORDS OF VIOLENCE & DEATH. BE CAUTIOUS!", he wrote.

Another Tehran resident, Mehdi Naderi, fretted that the U.S. measures and his own go-

vernment's policies are damaging the lives of the average Iranian.

"America is threatening the Iranian people with its sanctions and our government is doing the same with its incompetence and mismanagement," said the self-employed 35-year-old.

Neither Iran, nor any other country is interested in escalating tensions in the region.

SEED LEILAZ
POLITICAL ANALYST

Trump has a history of firing off heated tweets that seem to quickly escalate long-standing disputes with leaders of nations at odds with the U.S.

In the case of North Korea, the public war of words cooled quickly and gradually led to the high profile summit and denuclearization talks. There has been little tangible progress in a

global push to rid North Korea of its nuclear weapons program since the historic Trump-Kim summit on June 12.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo flew to Pyongyang for follow-up talks earlier this month, but the two sides showed conflicting accounts of the talks. North's Foreign Ministry accused the United States of making "gangster-like" demands for its unilateral disarmament.

Some experts say Kim is using diplomacy as a way to win outside concessions and weaken U.S.-led international sanctions.

Many in Iran have expressed frustration that Trump has seemed willing to engage with North Korea, which has openly boasted of producing nuclear weapons, but not Iran, which signed the landmark 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

Since Trump pulled out of the deal, other nations involved — Germany, Britain, France, Russia and China as well as the European Union — have reaffirmed their support for the deal and have been working to try and keep Iran on board.

"Iran is angry since Trump responded to Tehran's engagement diplomacy by pulling the U.S. out of the nuclear deal," Iranian lawmaker Heshmatollah Falahatpisheh

told the AP.

He added, however, the war of words between the two presidents was to be expected, since official diplomatic relations between the two countries have been frozen for decades.

"They express themselves through speeches since diplomatic channels are closed," said Falahatpisheh who heads the influential parliamentary committee on national security and foreign policy.

Over the weekend, in California, Pompeo was strongly critical of Iran, calling its religious leaders "hypocritical holy men" who amassed vast sums of wealth while allowing their people to suffer.

In the speech at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, Pompeo castigated Iran's political, judicial and military leaders, accusing several by name of participating in widespread corruption. He also said the government has "heartlessly repressed its own people's human rights, dignity and fundamental freedoms."

He said despite poor treatment by their leaders, "the proud Iranian people are not staying silent about their government's many abuses," Pompeo said.

"And the United States under President Trump will not stay silent either." AP

what's ON



MARC CHAGALL, LIGHT AND COLOUR IN SOUTHERN FRANCE
 TIME: 10am-7pm (last admission 6:30pm; closed on Mondays)
 UNTIL: August 26, 2018
 VENUE: Macau Museum of Art
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

SCULPTURE – A JOURNEY, EXHIBITION BY ANTÓNIO LEÇA
 TIME: 3pm-8pm (Mondays)
 12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)
 UNTIL: October 21, 2018
 VENUE: A2 Gallery, Albergue SCM
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550

KAMEN RIDER EXHIBITION (MACAU)
 TIME: 1pm-8pm daily (last entrance 7:30pm)
 UNTIL: AUGUST 26, 2018
 Venue: 2/F EXHIBITION HALL, BROADWAY MACAU
 ADMISSION: MOP128, MOP180 (Tickets are available at Kong Seng Ticketing Service www.macauticket.com)
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2855 5555

DISCOVER MACAU: MUSEUM OF TAIPA AND COLOANE HISTORY
 TIME: 10am-6pm daily (last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Mondays)
 ADDRESS: Rua Correia da Silva, Taipa
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

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

TREASURE FROM THE DEEP SEA - EXHIBITION OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RELICS OF THE NANHAI NO. 1
 TIME: 10am-6pm, last admission at 5:30pm
 (Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays, free admission on Tuesdays and the 15th of every month)
 UNTIL: July 31, 2018
 VENUE: 3/F, Macau Museum, No. 112, Praceta do Museu de Macau
 ADMISSION: MOP15 (free for Macau residents, children of 12 years old or below and seniors of 65 years old or over)
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911 & 8394 1208

Offbeat

ART DEALER BUYS STORAGE LOCKER FOR USD15,000, FINDS TREASURES

A New York City art dealer who bought the contents of a New Jersey storage locker filled with paintings for USD15,000 says he got more than he bargained for. He found half a dozen paintings he believes were done by artist Willem de Kooning, whose works have sold for millions of dollars at auction. The New York Post reports David Killen bought the contents of the Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey, locker last year. The paintings were originally from the studio of art conservator Orrin Riley, who died in 1986, and his partner, Susanne Schnitzer, who died in 2009. The paintings aren't signed, but Killen reached out to an expert who's confident they were done by de Kooning, an abstract expressionist from the Netherlands who moved to the United States and died in 1997.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
16:15	Miscellaneous
17:35	Portuguese Documentary
18:00	Maternity
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	Documentary
21:45	Chinese Documentary
22:25	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Miscellaneous
00:25	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:10	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

19 - 25 JUL



INCREDIBLES 2

ROOM 1

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

Director: Brad Bird

Starring: Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Sarah Vowell

Language: Cantonese (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



ANT-MAN AND THE WASP

ROOM 3

2:15, 7:00pm

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Evangeline Lilly, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 118min

CODE GLASS LELOUCH OF REBELLION III - GLORIFICATION

ROOM 3

4:30, 9:15pm

Director: Goro Taniguchi

Starring: Jun Fukuyama, Takahiro Skurai, Yukana

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 140min

this day in history



1959 KHRUSHCHEV AND NIXON HAVE WAR OF WORDS

Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev and US Vice-President Richard Nixon have had a tense exchange of words about the merits of communism versus capitalism.

This is the latest and most public of a series of impromptu debates between the two leaders which started yesterday on Mr Nixon's arrival in the USSR at the start of his 11-day visit.

This time, the two men were touring the American trade exhibition in Moscow's Sokolniki Park ahead of its opening this evening. They stopped in front of a mock-up American kitchen displaying the latest gadgets - washing machines, toasters and juicers.

Mr Khrushchev dismissed the exhibits and said: "You Americans expect that the Soviet people will be amazed. It is not so. We have all these things in our new flats."

Mr Nixon replied: "We do not claim to astonish the Soviet people. We hope to show our right to choose. We do not wish to have decisions made at the top by government officials who say that all homes should be built in the same way."

Reporters, government officials and workmen putting the finishing touches to the stands looked on amazed and then began to applaud their respective leaders.

Mr Khrushchev went on to demand both sides remove "foreign bases". "The one who is for putting an end to foreign bases is for peace. The one who is not, is for war," he said.

Mr Nixon retorted: "The moment we place either one of these powerful nations, through an ultimatum, in a position where they have no choice but to accept dictation or fight, then you are playing with the most destructive power in the world."

Pointing his finger just inches from Mr Nixon's face, Mr Khrushchev replied sternly, "Who is giving the ultimatum?"

He said Russia would answer threat with threat and had the means to do so. "Ours are better than yours," he said, referring to Russia's rockets.

"We are well aware of that. We have some too," said Mr Nixon.

In the end, Mr Nixon apologised for being a poor host and the two men agreed to thank the exhibit hostess for letting them argue in her kitchen.

The exhibition was formally opened this evening, with Mr Nixon passing on a message of goodwill from President Eisenhower and Mr Khrushchev inviting the president to visit the USSR.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The so-called "kitchen debate" took place during a time of increasing tension in the Cold War, starting with the Russians' launch of Sputnik in 1957 and ending with the U-2 spy plane affair in 1960. The American company Ampex filmed the exchanges on the first videotape recorder.

On 1 August, Mr Khrushchev allowed Mr Nixon to speak on Soviet national television. In an event unprecedented in the USSR, Nixon criticised communism and warned against any attempt to spread the ideology beyond the borders of the Soviet Union.

In September, Mr Khrushchev went to the US and met with President Eisenhower.

The debate added to Vice-President Nixon's prestige at home. He returned to the USSR in May 1972 - this time as president.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19
It's going to be an interesting day, as the expression goes, complete with the possibility of a visit from the dreaded green-eyed monster.

Taurus April 20-May 20
Someone you're quite intimately involved with may seem to be a bit cranky now, to say the very least.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21
A loved one is completely out of control and totally irritated with you. Regardless of what you say, they also may not believe you're telling the truth.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You're not quite sure what's going on with a friend or coworker, but you know you don't like it.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22
After all that shopping, you thought you were done - in fact, you were praying you were done, for the sake of your fiscal health.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You've just about had it with the veiled comments and sarcastic remarks that have been tossed your way lately on a far-too-regular basis.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22
This is one of those days when even your remarkable ability to make peace, restore balance and bring warring factions together won't work.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
It's time for you to admit something: Your values have changed. What used to be important no longer matters.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Flinging a chair around the room won't help - not permanently, anyway. Once you've done it, you may feel a little bit better, but you'll only feel guilty afterward.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Someone you haven't seen in a long time - someone who may actually have moved or been away - seems to have been making trouble for you from behind the scenes.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18
A very close friend or a member of your current peer group - who means a great deal to you - has recently found it necessary to go out of their way to tick you off.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20
The higher-ups in your life have been less than understanding lately - all of them, it seems. That goes for family members, elders and authority figures in general.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a 'Yesterday's solution' grid with filled-in words.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS


List of useful telephone numbers including Emergency calls, Fire department, Police (PJ), Customs, S. J. Hospital, Kiang Wu Hospital, Commission Against Corruption (CCAC), IACM, Tourism, and Airport.



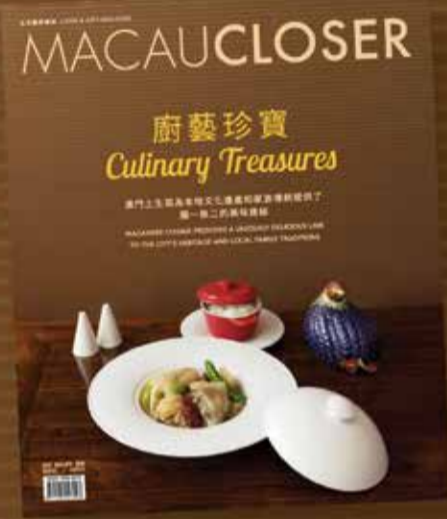

Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' listings for various properties in Macau and Taipa, along with the company logo and contact information.

MACAUCLOSER


生活藝術雜誌 LIVING & ARTS MAGAZINE

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Joseph Wilson, Carcassonne

CYCLING

Colombia's Egan Bernal is the Tour de France's budding star

THE youngest rider at the Tour de France is showing all the signs of becoming cycling's next big star.

Colombia's Egan Bernal proved his worth — and more — by working as a trailblazer for Sky teammates Geraint Thomas and Chris Froome up the zigzagging ascent of Alpe d'Huez.

Bernal's effort set up Thomas to win the grueling 12th stage to strengthen his hold on the yellow jersey, and for Froome to protect second place in a dominant choral performance by Sky.

The climb up one of the Tour's iconic climbs promises to be a signature moment for Bernal, who at 21-years-old is the youngest of the 176 riders to start the Tour and yet already appears to have the making of a winner.

"It felt great to be there on Alpe d'Huez, a mythic climb, and leading the group," Bernal told The Associated Press two days after his impressive Alpine trek. "And on top of that, having Geraint, who is the leader, and Froome, who is one of the best cyclists in history, right behind. it was important for me."

The original plan was for Bernal to pull for five kilometers of the demanding ascent. But when the legs flagged on another teammate, he went on for another three kilometers and set a pace that fellow Colombian and two-time Tour runner-up Nairo Quintana couldn't match.

Froome said he sees his younger self in his precocious partner.

"He's got an amazing engine. You only have to look at what he did on Alpe d'Huez, for a 21-year-old, that's amazing," Froome said on Sunday. "There is a lot in Egan that reminds me of myself



Colombia's Egan Arley Bernal Gomez (right)

when I was younger. It's great having him on the team and he brings a lot of young, new energy to the group."

From the city of Zipaquirá north of Bogotá, Bernal inherited the love of two wheels from his father. He competed in his first race at age eight, and after excelling on the mountain bike he made the jump to road racing while setting aside plans to study communication.

His most difficult moment on a bike came during his profes-

sional debut in 2016 at the Tour of the Mediterranean in France.

"I had just moved from America to Europe, from the junior to the elite category, from mountain to road racing," Bernal recalled. "It was my first professional race and it was terrible. It was very cold and raining, and it was a very hard race. But I never lost confidence."

That self-belief was behind his victory last year at the Tour de l'Avenir, a race similar to the Tour for amateurs.

He joined Sky for this season and won the Colombia Oro y Paz race in February ahead of Quintana and last year's Tour runner-up, Rigoberto Uran.

Bernal was running a close second to Alejandro Valverde at the Tour of Catalonia before crashing on the final stage. But he rebounded by winning the Tour of California ahead of Tejay Van Garderen in May.

Sky then picked Bernal for its eight-man team to help Froome shoot for a fifth Tour title.

Bernal crashed near the end of Stage 1 and joined the scores of riders who wiped out on the tricky cobblestones of Roubaix on Stage 9. In the mountains, however, he's finishing stages among the top riders despite having spent his energy reserves helping his teammates.

Bernal crossed the line of the hilly Stage 13 ahead of Valverde and Mikel Landa, both pre-race contenders.

He currently sits 22nd overall after 15 stages.

Sky sports director Nicolas Portal said that while Bernal needs to improve his endurance, he expects even bigger things from him.

"We are really impressed," Portal said. "I am sure he is going to be one of the big, big stars in the future."

Rival teams are also taking note.

"We have followed him and have seen what he is capable of," Movistar sports director Jose Luis Arrieta told The AP. "I am sure the future holds good things in store for him."

Bernal, however, is keeping his feet, if not on the road, then at least firmly on the pedals.

"If people ask if I want to win the Tour (one day), one thing is to say it and quite another thing is to do it," Bernal said. "I'm concentrating on the here and now, on finishing this Tour, staying focused, doing my job, and then time will tell." **AP**

CRICKET

Sri Lanka wins series 2-0 after 199-run victory in 2nd Test

RANGANA Herath took six wickets as Sri Lanka completed a 199-run win over South Africa to sweep the two-test series with a day to spare.

The veteran spinner snared 6-98, including the vital wicket that broke up South Africa's 123-run sixth-wicket stand just before lunch on Monday.

Theunis de Bruyn (101) posted a maiden test century and was involved in the partnership with Temba Bavuma (63) that delayed the inevitable after South Africa was set an improbable target of 490 to level the series. The Proteas were eventually dis-

missed for 290.

"When we play at home we know that spin will play a part and we have some of the best spinners in the world. We played like a team and very pleased with everyone's contributions. We knew that they will struggle when the ball turns," Sri Lanka stand-in skipper Suranga Lakmal told journalists.

Sri Lanka opener Dimuth Karunaratne, who posted twin fifties in the game and accumulated 356 runs in the series at an average of 115, was named Man of the Match and Player of the Series.

"You have to know what

your strengths are when you are playing spin. Theunis de Bruyn for example showed you how to play on wickets that turn. I am sure he would have struggled earlier on in the innings, but once you spend some time in the middle it gets easier. He was sweeping well. Used his feet well and that's the best way to play spin," Karunaratne said.

South Africa resumed the day on 139 for five and De Bruyn quickly posted his side's first half-century of the series and Bavuma soon joined him.

Just as it appeared the Proteas would bat through

a session without losing a wicket Herath struck nine minutes before lunch when Niroshan Dickwella completed a good low catch to dismiss Bavuma and Quinton De Kock followed two balls before the break.

De Bruyn scored his century when play resumed but fell to Herath four balls later. He batted for 12 minutes short of five hours, facing 232 deliveries and hitting 12 boundaries.

Sri Lanka then completed the win when Dale Steyn was caught at long-on by Danushka Gunathilaka for Herath's final wicket.

"Whenever a team tours



the subcontinent - whether it's Australia or England or us - there's always a question mark on how you play spin. It's a world issue that we're trying to get better at. I don't think we play spin badly, but if you compare yourself to the subcontinent batters, then they're obviously a

step above us in that regard," South African skipper Francois Du Plessis said.

Sri Lanka won the first Test in Galle by 278 runs.

The teams begin a five-match ODI series Sunday in Dambulla, which will be followed by one T-20 international. **AP**

opinion

Our Desk
 Daniel Beitler



ACCORDING TO THE LAW...

The Macau government likes to remind the public that it is conducting its affairs according to the law.

Listen to the Secretary for Security or the Secretary for Administration and Justice speak for half an hour and they are likely to utter the phrase, "according to the law."

The fact that these officials feel the need to constantly remind us that the government is conducting its business "according to the law" is very telling.

One must wonder: what sort of institution might need to remind its citizens or consumers that it is abiding by the rules expected of it?

Imagine if a government or business leader declared, on a regular basis, that they had not appropriated or misused public funds or the firm's capital. It would be suspicious.

The presumption would be that they have misused or appropriated funds on occasion – just not this time. A sort of sober-since-situation... or it's been x-number of days since we last broke the law.

The context of the phrase "according to the law" is also revealing. We rarely see it used as, "according to the law, the government must..." but rather more often as, "everything will be done according to the law."

The first context refers to a specific case; a specific law that mandates a particular government response. The second is vague and non-specific, and translates as, "trust us, we know what we're doing."

A quick search on the Macau Daily Times website brings up two articles with titles including the ambiguous phrase: "Police actions to fight Uber were all done according to the law" and "Coloane Hill skyscraper case to be handled according to the law" – both examples of the latter context.

Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak has used it on several notable occasions to justify government behavior without having to defend a specific measure.

"All speech needs to be controlled within the law, [...] it is not absolutely free, including speech online. We are supervising according to the law," he said earlier this year in defense of the cyber security law.

Wong made similar comments regarding police body cameras and surveillance systems in the Coloane penitentiary after concerns were raised over whether they might violate privacy laws.

On the matter of several Hong Kong lawmakers, journalists, and political activists being barred from entering Macau in the aftermath of Typhoon Hato, Wong said that the police force had "judged each individual case according to the law."

Even Chief Executive Chui Sai On is fond of the phrase. He has used it to describe the government confiscation of land plots that were formerly owned by idle developers, noting that "all the measures were taken according to the law."

It's all very well that the government is formulating and implementing policies according to the law, but what about the occasions when an executive or legislative decision appears to violate it? That determination falls to the courts, which tend to agree (at least partially) with the establishment's position.

The best example is in the case of Sulu Sou's suspension; a process riddled with illegal procedures, according to the lawmaker and most legal professionals in Macau.

The courts' reaction? It might not be according to the law, but it's not our place to judge.

THE UK SILENT ON US DEATH PENALTY CONCERNS FOR ALLEGED JIHADIS

A furor has erupted over leaked documents showing that British officials are not requiring their U.S. counterparts to provide assurances that two alleged British jihadis loyal to the Islamic State group will not be executed if they are eventually put on trial in the United States.

The Daily Telegraph said yesterday it had seen a letter from Home Secretary Sajid Javid to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions concerning two individuals who have been in custody

since their capture in eastern Syria in January.

The two men, Alexanda Kotey and El Shafee Elsheikh, were allegedly part of a notorious cell of British jihadis, nicknamed "The Beatles" known for their barbaric treatment of hostages.

In 2014 and 2015, the group beheaded seven American, British and Japanese journalists and aid workers and a group of Syrian soldiers, boasting of the butchery in grisly videos.

Residents flee forest fire near Greek capital of Athens



RESIDENTS fled their homes yesterday as a swift-moving fire blazed through a mountainous pine forest west of Athens and churned out smoke that turned the sky orange over the Greek capital.

The fire department said 80 firefighters with 40 vehicles were on the scene near the seaside settlement of Kineta, about 50 kilometers from Athens between the capital and Corinth, while seven water-dropping planes and four helicopters were helping from the air.

Authorities were sending 17 firefighting vehicles from

across Greece to bolster the forces already in the area.

Strong winds with gusts that were frequently changing direction are hampering firefighting efforts, authorities said.

Three settlements in the area were being evacuated, while a nearly 20-kilometer section on two highways linking the Peloponnese with central Greece was shut down to traffic.

Footage from the Greek TV station Skai showed flames inside yards, and burning at least one house. Some residents were using garden hoses to try to

save their properties, while others escaped in cars and on mopeds.

It was not immediately clear how the fire started in the Geraneia mountains near Kineta.

High temperatures of up to 40 degrees Celsius have been predicted for Greece, and authorities have warned that the risk of forest fires is high.

Forest fires are common in Greece during the hot, dry summers. The worst by far occurred in 2007, when large swaths of southern Greece burned, killing more than 60 people. **AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



High diving. Diver Florid Gashi performs the winning jump from the Ura e Fshejte bridge during the 68th traditional annual high diving competition, near the town of Gjakova, Kosovo.

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

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

SOUTH KOREA A prominent liberal South Korean politician embroiled in a corruption scandal was found dead yesterday, police said, in what appeared to be one of the country's highest-profile suicides in recent years. **More on p12**



AFGHANISTAN Gunmen opened fire on worshippers inside a mosque in eastern Nangarhar province, killing four people, according to a provincial official.

LEBANON's army says eight people have been killed and 41 others arrested in a raid in Brital, in eastern Lebanon, to arrest a well-known drug dealer.

ALBANIA Prosecutors say they have seized property from the country's former prosecutor general due to suspicions of corruption.

FRANCE's interior minister has insisted that it wasn't for him to inform judicial officials of violence by a presidential security aide against a May Day protester even though he was informed the following day.



CANADA A man walked along a Toronto street firing a handgun into restaurants and cafes, shooting 14 people and killing two before dying after an exchange of gunfire with police. **More on p14**

BRAZIL Far-right congressman Jair Bolsonaro formally announced his candidacy for Brazil's presidential election, joining a race in which he is currently polling second after jailed ex-President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, who will likely be barred from running.