



LRT DEPOT TENDER REASSESSED

The tender for the construction of an LRT depot must be reassessed, the Court of Final Appeal has ruled

P2



'MACAU HAS A GLAMOROUS SIDE'

Interview with Debora Lopes de Oliveira, who will represent Macau in this year's Miss Grand Int'l Beauty Pageant

P7



HUNDREDS MISSING AFTER DAM COLLAPSE

P12 LAOS

WED.25
Jul 2018

T. 25°/ 31° C
H. 70/ 95%

facebook.com/mdtimes
+ 12,000

N° 3096
MOP 8.00
HKD 10.00

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho www.macaudailytimes.com.mo



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



PHILIPPINES The leader of the largest Muslim rebel group in the Philippines said yesterday that 30,000 to 40,000 armed fighters would be "decommissioned" if an autonomy deal that is expected to be signed into law by the president this week is fully enforced.

THAILAND The young soccer teammates and their coach who were rescued after being trapped in a cave in northern Thailand were preparing yesterday to be ordained as Buddhist novices and monks.



INDONESIA Researchers say a government plan to give plantation companies new lands in exchange for restoring areas they destroyed could result in more tropical forests being cut down.

NORTH KOREA appears to have started dismantling key facilities at its main satellite launch site in a step toward fulfilling a commitment made by leader Kim Jong Un at his summit with President Donald Trump in June.
More on p13

SAUDI ARABIA A young woman has been charged in the western city of Taif with breaking the country's anti-harassment laws for jumping on stage and hugging a popular singer as he performed.

More on backpage

AFTER CHINA SCANDAL

Macau, HK may face vaccine shortage

P5



2018 EDITION WITH 22 PERFORMANCES

Concert venue to be inaugurated during Int'l Music Festival

P3

Courts rule LRT depot tender must be recalculated

THE Court of Final Appeal has ruled that the tender for the construction of a depot for the Light Rail Transit system will need to be reassessed, after one of the interested parties appealed the decision to award the project to China Construction Engineering (Macau) Co. in 2016.

An appeal was initially filed by China Road and Bridge Corporation on the basis of what it deemed was an incorrect assessment of the company's points performance in the bid.

Points were awarded to the seven contenders on the basis of their price (55 percent), experience gained through previous projects (26 percent), plan for the depot project (15 percent), as well as their honesty and integrity (4 percent).

The difference between the winning bid of China Construction Engineering (Macau) and the appellant, China Road and Bridge, was a matter of less than two points.

But China Road and Bridge argued that the government had not fully taken into account the company's experience with previous projects and filed an appeal.

Ultimately, the company said, the decision of the government did not comply with the criteria defined in the tender, thus it



must represent a miscalculation.

Earlier this year, the Court of Second Instance decided to cancel the existing contract and halt the construction work.

At the time of the Court of Second Instance's ruling, Chief Executive Chui Sai On filed his own appeal arguing that the courts had no authority to intervene in the awarding of a con-

tract, which was a purely administrative matter.

The intervention was rejected by the Court of Final Appeal, which found that the administrative entities behind the tender had no legal basis to compel the courts to respect the government's decision.

The Court of Final Appeal said that the administration is now bound to re-calculate the final sco-

res and determine which proposal has attained the highest, "which is done by mere arithmetical operations."

"The administration has no margin of discretion," it added.

In a statement issued yesterday, the Transportation Infrastructure Office (GIT) said it was still studying the judgment from the Court of Final Appeal.

Committee agrees with the exclusion of non-Chinese judges

THE majority of the members of the 3rd Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly (AL) have agreed with the proposal to ban non-Chinese national judges from ruling on cases "related to national security," the president of the committee, Vong Hin Fai, said to the media after the meeting held this week.

"The majority believes that this amendment is not contrary to the Basic Law, nor to the independence of the courts and the judicial system," Vong said in a Macau Radio report. Vong added that the government believes that, taking into account the "sensitive matters" that are referred to in the State Security and Defense Law, "it is justified that the proceedings relating to these crimes should [be decided using] the competence of permanent judges and Chinese citizens [only]," arguments which he said that the majority of the committee members agreed with.

Despite the apparent consensus, the president of the 3rd Committee noted that the members expressed several concerns regarding how the judges permitted to rule on such cases would be chosen. It is only known that the selection will be made by the Council of Judicial Magistrates, headed by the president of the Court of Final Appeal, Sam Hou Fai, but the criteria that guides such a choice remains undisclosed.

For this reason, Vong said that the committee needs to ask for further justification from the government about how the principles of natural justice will be safeguarded and how the distribution of cases will be made.

It was also clear at this stage that in relation to the Public Prosecutions Office, prosecutors will follow the same rule, being selected among those who hold permanent nominations and who are also Chinese citizens.

According to TDM, there are inconsistencies between the Portuguese and the Chinese versions of the law, as in the Portuguese language version it is clearly stated that in cases involving national security, the cases "would be judged by more than one judge," but this requirement is in need of clarification in the Chinese version.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Coloane dog issue

Dear Editor,

As concerned citizens and residents, we must draw attention to the increasing number of wild dogs appearing and living in Coloane.

Whilst wild dogs have been a part of Coloane for many years, there appears to have been a significant build up in numbers from the beginning of this year. The dogs in question have been breeding, and the main concern is that the escalating numbers will soon spiral out of control and we will find

ourselves in a situation where the young and elderly citizens may find themselves in danger from the ever-increasing packs.

Alarming, rather than taking action to sterilize dogs and prevent further breeding and raising of large litters, it appears that the local animal welfare group 'Anima' has been compounding the problem with a daily/weekly feeding program, thus encouraging many dogs to gather collectively in one space in increasing numbers.

Sadly, as animal lovers, whilst a 'clean up' program is urgently required and long overdue, it inevitably means a culling of the dogs, many of whom have been either dumped in Coloane by irresponsible owners or born into the wild packs.

We request that the government look into this issue urgently before it reaches unmanageable proportions and someone is attacked.

Residents of Hellene Gardens and Coloane Village



www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

**+ 4 Million page views
PER MONTH**

Thank You!

+12,000 like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



Times

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR) Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Viviana Segui
DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao arry@macaudailytimes.com

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephone: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

Music Festival opens with opera, budget remains unchanged

JOE MARTINEZ



Monty Alexander will present A Life in Jazz

LYNZY VALLES



Leong Chi Kin, acting president of the IC

Lynzy Valles

THE month-long 32nd Macao International Music Festival (MIMF) will be held from September 28, offering 16 programs across 22 performances, with the budget predicted to remain at MOP30 million.

Themed “Enjoy – The Moment in Music,” this year’s MIMF kicks off with the opera L’Elisir D’Amore by the Zurich Opera House, inviting the renowned German director Grischa Asagoroff.

The festival will close with two concerts by the Staatskapelle Dresden and conductor Christian Thielemann, who will interpret Schumann’s complete symphonies, presenting the work of the romantic German composer of the 19th century.

Acting president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, Leong Chi Kin, announced in a press conference yesterday that this year’s budget is similar to last year’s.

“The amount of money predicted [to be spent] is thirty million, which is quite similar to last year’s amount,” Leong told the press.

Highlights of the show will include a quartet from Salzburg,

who will perform a concert of German and Austrian classics which will allow the public to experience the evolution of the string quartet through a musical journey.

■ The ensemble Sangre Ibérico will present a night of Latin music in the concert ‘Portugal Meets Spain’

Jamaican jazz pianist Monty Alexander will take to the stage with his trio to present A Life in Jazz and interpret jazz songs, while British choir Stile Antico will present the concert, Queen of Muses, featuring a selection of British Renaissance music composed during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.

The same ensemble will further offer the concert, Tenebrae Responsories, taking the audience on a journey of Catholic music by Spanish Renaissance compo-

ser Tomás Luis de Victoria.

Combining the rumba flamenco with Portuguese fado, the Portuguese ensemble, Sangre Ibérico, will present a night of Latin music in the concert, “Portugal Meets Spain.”

To mark the 150th anniversary of the death of Italian composer Gioachino Rossini, the MIMF will present the opera, Il Signor Bruschino.

The Camerata Salzburg, hailing from Mozart’s hometown, will also join hands with acclaimed French violinist Renaud Capuçon to present two of Mozart’s violin concertos and two contrasting symphonies by Haydn.

The renowned Brazilian cellist, António Meneses, is also set to perform in the city to present a repertoire, including Bach’s Cello Suite.

Navy Shipyard No 2 to open for public use in October

THE Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has announced that the Navy Shipyard No 2 will open to the public in October to host a concert included in the Music Festival.

Earlier in July, the IC completed a sound test and concluded that the noise will not heavily affect the surroundings. The venue is next to Navy Shipyard No 1, nearby A Ma temple, which holds art exhibitions. It took three years to revamp and cost MOP13 million. It has a capacity for 100 persons.

“The place will focus on performing electrical music, modern music and orchestras. While we are doing some finishing touches now, we hope to open this place for users in the latter half of the year,” said Leong.

“We hope to have more sites for different types of local music bands to reveal their talents and abi-

Meanwhile, the music director of the Macao Orchestra, Lu Jia, will join hands with the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra to present the original version of Anton Bruckner’s magnum opus, Symphony No. 8 in C Minor (1887).

Conductor Liu Sha will lead the Macao Chinese Orchestra and join with Guo Yazhi, an icon of the suona circle of China, to present Nostalgic Lane, while the Guangdong National Orchestra will present Cantonese Rhyme along the Silk Road.

Two electronic music bands, EVADE from Macau and FM3 from Beijing, will perform at the soon-to-open Navy Shipyard No 2.

In addition, the special concert “Bravo Macao!” will bring to the stage two young local percussionists, Hoi Lei Lei and Raymond Vong.

Meanwhile, the MIMF Outreach Programme will feature a total of 13 activities in six categories, including talks, pre-show talks, backstage tours, master classes, meet-the-artists sessions and workshops.

Highlights will include Brazilian cellist Antonio Meneses, who will conduct a master class in this edition of MIMF, mentoring local cello students, while the organizer will hold a backstage tour of the opera L’Elisir d’Amore, to explore how the costumes, props and sets help to create the scene of an Italian village in the 19th century.



lities. [...] We hope to regenerate the place into a more relaxing and cultural site,” the acting president added. He pledged that musical associations will be able to use the space for free.





Gov't paying attention to Yat Yuen staff situation

THE Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) is paying close attention to the situation involving the Yat Yuen Company staff members who lost their jobs with the closure of the Canidrome facility late last week.

The DSAL sent personnel to meet with both the company and staff members, providing consultation services about their interests and rights according to the labor law.

The DSAL noted that until the present time, it had not received any complaint from workers, but has demanded from the

company a clear and standardized communication to all workers regarding their situation and how they should proceed and what their options are. The bureau also said it had created a special service dedicated to receiving questions or complaints from these workers, noting that between July 20 and 22, it received a total of seven requests for information regarding work organizations as well as information on the contract termination and compensation scheme.

As for the company, the Yat

Yuen Company is said to be keeping the contracts and paying the salaries of the 129 workers involved until the end of August.

In a statement quoted by Macau Radio, the company said it "will insure the payment of compensation to employees, within nine working days after the contract termination."

The group, Sociedade de Jogos de Macau, announced recruitment sessions aimed at reemploying some of the Yat Yuen workers in other positions within the group.

Court hears Macau Concealers not first to reveal Wang's identity

JASON Chao's defense argued in court yesterday that Macau Concealers was not the first media outlet to publish the name and identity of a University of Macau professor who is being investigated for several cases of sexual harassment.

Chao, a well-known political activist who served as director of Macau Concealers when the 2015 story was published, was unable to attend yesterday's court session, but nominated several of his colleagues at the New Macau Association (ANM) to testify on his behalf.

ANM President Kam Sut Leng testified in court that Macau Concealers was in fact quoting online Chinese media outlet Today Macao when it published the identity of Professor Wang Jianwei as a suspect in the sexual harassment investigations.

She also pointed out that Macau Concealers had contacted the university to verify the story and that the institution had acknowledged that three investigations were pending against the professor.

However, Wang was not satisfied with the response. Though the professor admitted he had no knowledge of the Today Macao report, he

argued that Macau Concealers still had a duty to verify that information before publication. He also said that the media outlet had failed to contact him directly.

Wang is suing Jason Chao for MOP50,000 and demanding a public apology on the basis that the report has damaged his personal and professional reputation.

He has previously alluded to Jason Chao and Macau Concealers harboring ulterior motives for wanting to discredit him, but that suggestion was refuted yesterday by Kam who said that Chao had no reason to go after the professor.

Instead, the purpose behind the article was to raise awareness of the pervasiveness of sexual harassment, she said.

Scott Chiang, another ANM activist and former association president, said on the sidelines of the hearing that he was optimistic about the outcome.

He stressed that not only was Macau Concealers not the first to identify Wang, but prior to that specific article, the news outlet had published two other pieces without revealing any information that could definitively be said to refer to him.

The court will convene to announce its judgment on September 6. **DB**

AD



CENTRO MÉDICO PEDDER

◆ 仁德醫療中心 ◆



We bring high quality of medical service to Macau

General Surgery : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Kwong Man, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong

Breast Surgery : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

Urology : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao

Paediatric Surgery : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

Paediatrics : Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

Obstetrics & Gynaecology : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery : Dr. Lam U Lin

Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

ENT : Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang

Cardiology : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin

Gastroentero-Hepatology : Dr. Zhan De Juan

General Medicine : Dr. Ng Kam Hong, Dr. Lam Weng Chio

Dietitian : Chan Lai U Joey

Avenida da Praia Grande No 599, Edifício Comercial Rodrigues 14 e 15 Andar, em Macau
 T. 2832 2298 / 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com
 Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 19:00 Sat 10:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed



MAKE-UP

FOR ALL OCCASIONS

• BRIDAL / WEDDINGS • PHOTO SHOOTS • PARTY •

• GRADUATION • SPECIAL EVENTS •

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

TEL / WHATSAPP: (853) 6685 3323 | WECHAT: MISSJ_23

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JULIANAC.MAKEUPPARTIST



New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.



Carpet Cleaning

Call: 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry

HK, Macau may face vaccine shortage after scandal

CHINESE vaccine maker Changsheng Bio-Technology is now subject to a police investigation after the country's drug regulator accused it of fabricating production and inspection records for a rabies vaccine given to infants.

The investigation has prompted fears that mainland consumers will opt to have their children vaccinated in either Macau or Hong Kong, as has happened during previous scandals. Observers are warning that it could lead to another shortage in the two special administrative regions of China.

The Health Bureau stated yesterday that it is not supplied by the company that is under investigation.

Changsheng is subject to investigations by multiple mainland authorities, including the drug regulator and China's top anti-corruption body, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), which opened an investigation into suspected corruption yesterday.

The CCDI said it would "severely punish" any local regu-



latory officials found guilty of dereliction of duty in supervising Changsheng. Some clues and reports of corruption related to Changsheng and its executives have already been received, the corruption watchdog said in a statement.

Although there are no reports of anyone being harmed by the product, Changsheng has been ordered to halt production and recall the vaccine in its entirety. This may account for some 252,000 substandard DPT vaccines, intended to protect children against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

The firm's stock plunged by its daily limit of 10 percent early yesterday following

news of the production halt and police investigation. The fall is the seventh straight session of maximum decline, taking the stock to its lowest level in three years. Reuters reported that the loss is equivalent to USD1.8 billion being wiped from Changsheng's Shenzhen-listed shares over the last two weeks.

The incident has sparked public outcry on the mainland, with Chinese netizens swarming in the millions to express their anger, and China's Global Times describing the reaction as an internet "tsunami".

The anger was fueled by whistleblower reports that suggested regulators found

production problems at Changsheng as early as November, but did not publicize their findings or announce a recall until July.

Chinese internet censors were quick to monitor such reports, but have provided significant leeway for online news outlets to pursue the story. The hashtag "Changsheng makes fake vaccines" has garnered over 100 million views on microblogging platform Weibo.

Meanwhile, the top leadership in the country is still scrambling to shore up public confidence, reported the Associated Press.

Premier Li Keqiang said in a statement that Changsheng "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. **MDT/Agencies**

GAMING

Analyst: Pickup in construction might relate to license tender

UNION Gaming analyst Grant Govertsen has suggested that a pickup in construction activity across Macau might be connected to the upcoming tendering process, or the possibility of a seventh casino license being issued.

Speaking to Inside Asian Gaming, Govertsen speculated that the projects might be used as leverage in the upcoming tender process.

"Some of these projects are related to existing service provider casinos (or now 'mothballed' casinos), or by companies with no existing presence in Macau," he told the gaming news service.

According to Inside Asian Gaming, the projects in question include a waterfront land plot near Wynn Macau that is rumored to belong to a large Southeast Asian gaming operator, and the development of a 2-star hotel by Golden Dragon Group near the Grand Lisboa.

Sociedade de Jogos de Macau (SJM) is also making progress on a non-resort development site adjacent to the Grand Lisboa Palace in Cotai. The company previously said that the plot could be used for a theme park or other entertainment site.

But equally, Govertsen noted that the local government's new policy toward idle developers – which includes the possibility of confiscation – may have motivated resort operators to step up their construction efforts.

Star Entertainment ANYWHERE
Star Enjoyment at CTM

+\$680 upgrading to **「Deluxe Combo」**
 To view many more hottest channels!

Enjoy your Summer Holiday!

Over 10,000 hours of TVB & acquired programs

7-days catch up on TVB International Jade

For Macau & HK Exclusive Korean drama channel hottest drama

More Channels

CTM BUDDY
 CTM-Macau
 www.ctm.net
 No.1 Hotline : 1000

CTM...that little extra!

Notes: The offer is bound by the related terms and conditions. CTM reserves the right to make the final decision in case of any dispute.



ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

Services

TRANSLATIONS,
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

Languages:

ENGLISH, CHINESE,
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,
KOREAN, SPANISH,
FRENCH, ARABIC,
RUSSIAN

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms. Amy Yang

Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo

Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edf. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

Q&A DEBORA LOPES DE OLIVEIRA
REPRESENTATIVE OF MACAU IN MISS GRAND INTERNATIONAL

'Macau is a diverse city, it has a cultural side and a glamorous side'

Renato Marques

TWENTY-TWO-year-old Debora Lopes de Oliveira has been chosen to represent Macau in this year's Miss Grand International Beauty Pageant. Currently working as a professional dancer and a fashion model, Debora recently graduated from the University of East London, where she studied Urban Dance Practice. She then joined a female hip-hop group in London with whom she has been performing in different events.

Interviewed by the Times, Debora Lopes de Oliveira talks about her expectations as a local representative in the international contest.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) – How did you get involved in the pageant?

Debora Lopes de Oliveira (DLO) - I visit Macau every year to see my family and friends and this year I came back and I learned about the beauty pageant [Miss Grand Macau] and my brother supported me and motivated me to apply. I really never thought about applying to this kind of contest, as my goals have always been focused on dancing. But, I did look into it and it looked pretty fun and like a really good experience. Then I start to realize that I might be a good representative for Macau as I am part-Chinese and part-Portuguese and also because when I was in England I realized that many people do not know about Macau and its culture, so I was starting to feel like that I wanted to be the voice to promote Macau (through the pageant).

MDT – How does participating in an International Pageant like this change or challenge your daily activities? What are your advantages?



DLO - It is going to be something new to me and definitely is going to be a challenge, but I am a very hard-working person and I want to work hard for this and really help to promote Macau. I think I can use what I already have and the experiences I collected from my years in London, and also the fact of being a dancer. I feel that somehow that part already prepared me to get into this beauty pageant. I think my stage experience will also help me, as I have been performing all my life, since I was very young and that gives me a lot of confidence on stage.

MDT – As with any pageant, this is also composed of several activities and would call for your performance in different areas. What is it that allows you to feel more comfortable and what can provide you with an extra advantage?

DLO – I have been modeling already for some time for my brother [designer Nuno Lopes de Oliveira] for his collections and new fashion designs, so I have also that runway walk experience and I am pretty confident with that. That is one of the areas where I want to shine.

MDT – Do you think that the fact that you were living abroad for some significant time gives you a different sense of belonging to Macau?

DLO– Yes, definitely! Going abroad contributed to me learning how to be more independent as well. Macau is quite small and many people are quite reserved – sometimes overprotective. I went to England to study when I was 15 years old and that gave me some sense of independence. Also, because I was abroad, I often had to explain where Macau is and what

it is like. That pushed me to learn more and search more about my own place.

MDT – Talking about dance, how do you see the Macau scene at the moment?

DLO – I think it is definitely getting a lot better. I remember that when I was studying in Macau in high school there was not much dancing going on, and that is what pushed me to go abroad to study dance. Now I see a lot of dance studios appearing and also some events happening in the dance industry, and I think it is going to grow. Macau is a diverse city itself. It has a cultural side and a glamorous side but my feeling is that people do not really know much about the cultural side. That is what I will try to do, to provide more insights in[to] this field.

MDT – We have been talking about your experience but we also know about your brother. Do you think there is space in Macau and opportunities for this generation that both of you can be a part of? To return to Macau with the added value of the learning collected abroad.

DLO - Yes, I do think there are some opportunities, but most importantly I would like to say I am really grateful that I have my parents. Not all parents would allow their daughter to go and pursue their dream when they are 14. My parents really believed in me and my brother. They understood

that we had a goal, and they really wanted us to be able to do what we wanted to do. I feel that I'm very lucky to have parents like my own. That was definitely a very important part, that support from my parents, that I am really grateful for. I know a lot of people who did not have that chance and I am very grateful for all the support that my parents provided along the way.

I see a lot of dance studios appearing and also some events happening in the dance industry and I think it is going to grow.

DEBORA LOPES DE OLIVEIRA

MDT – Is this the year that Macau will get its first Miss Grand International Winner?

DLO – I sure hope so [laughs]. I will work very hard for this and I really hope I can be the one to boost Macau and let the world know more about our region.

FINALS TO BE IN MYANMAR

ESTABLISHED IN 2013, the Miss Grand International has been gaining momentum over the last couple of years. Among the previous winners are Maria Jose Lora, Peru (2017), Ariska Putri Pertivi, Indonesia (2016) and Claire Park-

er, Australia (2015), among others. In Miss Grand Macau 2017, Kayii Lei represented Macau in the contest. Debora will now represent Macau in this year's Miss Grand International finals to be held on October 25 in Myanmar.

EDUCATION

UM launches summer camps for local and overseas students

THE University of Macau is once again organizing summer camps and programs with various themes, including civil engineering, artificial intelligence, biomedical sciences, English, and Portuguese.

According to a statement issued by the UM, the Portuguese Language Summer Course is "among the most anticipated summer programs." Launched in 1986, the course has attracted students from

around the world, including Australia, the United Kingdom, France, India, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, the United States, mainland China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.

UM's English summer camps include "various

interactive activities designed to encourage participants to learn and use English in an immersive environment, thereby boosting their confidence when speaking English."

Another of the most popular courses is the bio-

medical sciences summer camp organized by the Faculty of Health Sciences. Participants in this camp will be able to learn the basics of genetics, as well as cell and molecular biology, with access to advanced laboratory equipment and the help of biomedical experts at UM.

UM's Faculty of Science and Technology will organize seven camps, namely the Wireless Technology Study Summer Camp, the Civil Engi-

neering Summer Camp, the Mathematics and Big Data Summer Camp, the Transportation Technology Summer Camp, the 3D Reconstruction with Quadcopters Summer Camp, the Computer Vision and Artificial Intelligence Summer Camp, and the Robotics and Artificial Intelligence Summer Camp. Participants in these camps will learn more about science through interactive games and scientific experiments.

ENVIRONMENT

San Francisco to consider outlawing plastic straws, stirrers

Janie Har, San Francisco

IN a bid to further cut down on waste, eco-conscious San Francisco is expected to join Seattle in outlawing plastic straws used to suck down Mai Tais and slurp up bubble tea.

The proposal, to be taken up by the Board of Supervisors today [Macau time], also would make the novel move to ban vendors from using takeout containers made with fluorinated chemicals. Washington's governor recently signed legislation approving a possible ban to go into effect in 2022, but San Francisco's January 2020 deadline would be earlier.

The legislation prohibits eateries from using plastic anti-splashes, stirrers and other plastic items that environmentalists say are too small to be recycled properly.

Retailers would no longer be able to sell the items starting July 2019. In addition, food and drink vendors would be allowed to dispense cutlery, napkins, condiments and lids only on request or through self-serve stations.

People with disabilities have spoken out against the plastic straw ban, saying customers with mobility issues rely on the tubes to drink and paper or metal straws aren't always appropriate.



But businesses in politically progressive San Francisco appear to be largely in support, with Supervisor Katy Tang announcing the legislation at a popular bubble milk tea shop in May.

"It's a movement not just happening in San Francisco but nationally and internationally," said Peter Gallotta, spokesman for the city's Department of Environment. "The larger elephant in the room is the single-use disposable culture we find ourselves in, and straws are the epitome of

this unnecessary daily waste."

The Washington, D.C.-based Plastics Industry Association issued a statement Monday saying a better solution is to expand recycling technology. "Regardless of what a straw is made of, we can all agree that it should not end up as litter," it said.

Seattle is believed to be the first major U.S. city to shun plastic straws when its ban went into effect this month. Since then, the world's largest coffee shop and hotel chains — Starbucks and

Marriott — announced they too would move away from plastic straws and stirrers.

San Francisco has frequently led the way on policies considered eco-friendly. In 2007, it outlawed single-use plastic bags and in 2016, expanded its prohibition on foam food carryout containers to include retail sales of kiddie pool toys and packing peanuts.

The legislation calls for to-go containers and wrappers to be free of fluorinated chemicals.

The chemicals are used to ward off grease, but the chemicals do not degrade, said Jen Jackson, toxics reduction manager at the San Francisco Department of Environment.

"It doesn't compost," she said, "so it will remain and continue to accumulate in the environment."

Jonathan Corley, spokesman for the American Chemistry Council, a trade association, said Monday that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has deemed the chemicals currently used to package to-go food is safe.

San Francisco has frequently led the way on policies considered eco-friendly

"This potential ban is unnecessary, contrary to sound science and will provide no further benefits to public health or the environment," he said in a statement.

Gwyneth Borden, executive director of the Golden Gate Restaurant Association, said restaurateurs have no desire to pass on toxins through carryout containers. But the higher cost of compostable fluorinated-free containers will drive businesses to return to recyclable plastic containers, she said.

"It's an interesting evolution," Borden said, "but sometimes making decisions premature to fully understanding the science can be difficult." AP

Shooting victims outraged over MGM Resorts' lawsuit against them

Amy Taxin, Newport Beach

VICTIMS of a mass shooting at a Las Vegas country music festival said they were outraged when they learned they were being sued by the company that owns the hotel where the gunman opened fire.

Jason McMillan, a 36-year-old Riverside County sheriff's deputy who was shot and paralyzed, said he can't believe MGM officials would try to foist blame onto anyone but themselves.

"I just can't believe the audacity," McMillan said at a press conference in Southern California where survivors, victims' relatives and attorneys railed against the decision to file lawsuits against hundreds of victims.

"I'm not just a victim from

the concert. I'm a survivor, and they're not going to get away with anything. We'll keep this going as long as it takes," McMillan said.

MGM Resorts International sued victims in at least seven states last week in a bid to get federal courts to declare the company has no liability for the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

In October, high-stakes gambler Stephen Paddock killed 58 people and injured hundreds at the festi-

val by firing onto the crowd from his room at the Mandalay Bay casino-resort in Las Vegas. Paddock then killed himself.

MGM's lawsuits — which target victims who have threatened to sue or who have sued the company and voluntarily dismissed their claims — argue that the shooting qualifies as an act of terrorism and that federally certified security services were used at the concert venue, which is also owned by MGM.

The lawsuits argue that that the shooting qualifies as an act of terrorism and that federally certified security services were used at the concert venue

After 9/11, the U.S. enacted a law giving companies a way to limit their liability if their federally certified products or services failed to prevent a terror attack.

The company's decision to file the lawsuits stoked a public outcry. On Monday, MGM Resorts spokeswoman Debra DeShong said the company has faced dozens of lawsuits in multiple jurisdictions and resolving each case on its own would take years.

"We believe Congress determined these cases should be in federal court and that getting everyone in the same court is the best and fastest way to resolve these cases," she said.

McMillan said he felt helpless at the concert when he fell to the ground and couldn't feel his legs. His girlfriend helped drag



Jason McMillan, a Riverside County Sheriff's deputy who was shot and paralyzed in the shooting

his body over a fence and others helped load him onto the back of a pickup truck where he lay staring at the night sky, struggling to breathe, while the driver plowed over curbs and through bushes to rush him and other victims to the hospital.

When he woke, doctors told him he had a bullet in his spine. He was afraid his 4- and 7-year-old daughters would look at him differently in a wheelchair.

He was afraid of what they might miss out on, he said, because of him.

It was insulting to learn he was being sued by MGM at the same time he was struggling to rebuild his life, McMillan said. And it brought him right back to feeling helpless again.

"It enrages me to think that this company can just try to skip out on their responsibilities and their liability for what happened," he said. AP

Presidents of Angola and Mozambique present at BRICS summit

THE presidents of Angola and Mozambique, respectively João Lourenço and Filipe Nyusi, have been invited to take part in the tenth BRICS summit meeting, to be held this 25-27 July in Johannesburg, South Africa's minister of International Relations and Cooperation announced on Monday.

Minister Lindiwe Sisulu highlighted that the visit by the two leaders of Southern African Development Community (SADC) member countries was framed by the intention of the leaders of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) countries to boost their relations with Africa.

Sisulu explained that besides João Lourenço and Filipe Nyusi, six other African heads of state were also invited to participate in the Johannesburg summit, from



João Lourenço



Filipe Nyusi

Gabon, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo and Uganda.

The meeting between the BRICS leaders and their African counterparts is scheduled for the 27th, the last day of the summit, according to the official program released on Monday.

The summit meeting will culminate with adoption of the Johannesburg Declaration, which includes the goals

agreed by the five BRICS countries up to 31 December 2018, the date South Africa's turn at the helm of the rotating presidency ends.

When Angolan Foreign Minister Manuel Augusto announced that the Angolan president had been invited by his South African counterpart, Cyril Ramaphosa, to attend the summit, he recalled that João Lourenço

heads the SADC's Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation.

The first BRICS summit meeting was held on 16 June 2009 in Yekaterinburg, Russia, with the four initial countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China). South Africa joined on 24 December 2010, giving rise to the current form of the organization's name. **MDT/Macauhub**

Portugal close to issuing debt in Chinese market

THE process of Portugal issuing public debt in the Chinese market by means of Panda bonds or debt contracted by foreign entities in Chinese currency is in its final phase, Finance Minister Mário Centeno recently stated.

The Portuguese government hopes to raise up to 380 million euros (nearly 3 billion yuan) in bonds in Chinese currency, an operation that has been worked on for more than a year, following the finance minister's visit to Beijing in May 2017.

In September of that year Portugal announced the issue of public debt in Chinese currency and named the Bank of China, HSBC and Portugal's state bank Caixa Geral de Depósitos to work on issuing the Panda bonds authorized by Beijing. On that occasion Minister Mário Centeno announced that the bonds to issue would have a maturity of five years.

Portugal has become one of the main destinations of Chinese investment in Europe, with Chinese companies acquiring significant parts of EDP Energias de Portugal, Redes Energéticas Nacionais (REN) and the Fidelidade insurance company, for example.

Last May the state group China Three Gorges launched a bid to take shareholding control of the groups EDP Energias de Portugal and EDP Renováveis. If it succeeds, that operation will require a financial effort of more than 10 billion euros. **MDT/Macauhub**

AD




villa frangipani
CLIFFSIDE | LUXURY | LEASE

20,000 square feet of privacy

At Villa Frangipani impeccable service means knowing when you want to enjoy a private moment.

Whether that is in the Private Spa, your suite, the garden bale, or any other area, our Villa Staff anticipate your needs at all times.

Please visit www.privatevillasofbali.com to get an idea of what we offer.

...wish you could stay forever...

PRIVATE VILLAS
OF BALI

VILLA TIRTA KENCANA • VILLA FRANGIPANI

info@privatevillasofbali.com
www.privatevillasofbali.com
skype ID: privatevillasofbali
+62361 8468513

ANALYSIS

Burned once by Trump, Beijing's wary about fresh trade talks

THE last time the U.S. and China engaged in serious trade negotiations, President Xi Jinping's top economic aide got burned.

Following intense talks in Washington this May, Vice Premier Liu He declared that a trade war had been avoided after China agreed to "significantly increase purchases" of U.S. goods. In interviews with Chinese media, Liu said Donald Trump showed him respect as Xi's special representative, and he had "a very strong feeling" the U.S. president wanted good relations with Beijing.

But just days later, Trump said the U.S. would slap tariffs on as much as USD50 billion of Chinese imports, a precursor to further escalations. The move torpedoed any progress, and was an embarrassment for Liu.

Now, as both sides hint at the possibility of restarting talks, China is worried that it might get played again, according to three Chinese officials who asked not to be identified discussing strategy. Xi's administration still wants to cut a deal with the U.S. and is open to talks, but it will be hard for Chinese negotiators to trust their American counterparts, the people said.

China's hesitation shows the difficulty in deescalating trade tensions between the world's two largest economies, a spat that has increased risks to global growth. It also reflects the high stakes for Xi, who has faced rare rumblings of discontent for his administration's handling of the trade spat after he was elevated to become China's most powerful leader in decades.

"If another deal is rejected it would also reflect badly on Xi," said Ether Yin, a partner at advisory firm Trivium Chi-



Vice Premier Liu He

na in Beijing. "Negotiations are about who has the upper hand. If you've been rejected once and then you approach the other party again, it makes you look weak."

In consolidating his rule over the past year, Xi laid out a decades-long vision to bolster the Communist Party's strength at home and turn China into a leading global power abroad. Now Chinese academics, economists and some officials have begun to question whether the leadership could've done more to avoid a confrontation that may hurt the economy.

Trump has threatened to put tariffs on all Chinese imports to the U.S., and accused China of weakening its currency to gain an advantage on trade. On top of that, China's stock market is the world's worst performer this year among major indexes and an infant vaccine scandal has shocked the nation, making the challenges facing Xi's government all the more daunting.

"Some people are blaming the

backlash against China in all the advanced industrial countries on Xi's over-reaching both in foreign policy and domestic politics," said Susan Shirk, a former deputy assistant Secretary of State for East Asia who was in Beijing recently for meetings. "They are calling for greater moderation and restraint."

As the impasse drags on, China has experimented with new messages and tactics in a bid to ease tensions, including reaching out to U.S. allies and toning down its rhetoric. In doing so, it has stuck to the red lines it stated previously, including that subsidies for key sectors like artificial intelligence and robotics - a key part of its Made in China 2025 policy - aren't up for negotiation.

In early rounds of talks with the Trump administration, China focused on reducing the U.S.'s trade deficit, a favorite topic of the American president. Officials in Beijing now recognize that this approach was too narrow, according to two of the people.

One area where they see a possible compromise is regarding intellectual property rights, according to one official. The U.S. has justified tariffs in part based on a Section 301 investigation released earlier this year that accused China of stealing American intellectual property in an effort to dominate the development of advanced technology.

"The narrative is that China has been stealing tech from the West and poses a strategic threat," said Yin from Trivium. "That's a charge that China must counter-balance otherwise China will be viewed as a disruptor of international commerce."

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang made a point of addressing concerns about intellectual property in China during a session with European business leaders on July 16.

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

executive told Li that his biggest concern wasn't intellectual property, the premier persisted in saying how seriously the government takes the issue.

Not only does a focus on intellectual property appeal to the moderates in Trump's cabinet who want a deal, but it could also help China court allies in the fight like Europe and Japan.

European officials in Beijing for the EU-China Summit last week said China adopted an unusually conciliatory tone in discussions, something they attributed partly to what they called the Trump effect. The two sides exchanged offers on a bilateral investment treaty, agreed to their first joint statement in three years, and signed an action plan on protecting intellectual property.

Beijing has also recently taken a more low-key approach to propaganda as it seeks to avoid antagonizing the U.S. and potential allies against Trump. State media have been told to downplay the Made in China 2025 initiative, as well as to avoid talking about China's greatness, and focus instead on how China has helped other countries, according to a person familiar with the instructions.

Asked this week if Made in China 2025 was still underway, a spokesman for China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology avoided any sweeping rhetoric while insisting that the initiative was proceeding "step by step and at our own pace."

Still, while China has adjusted its tactics, the anger at the U.S. for making one of Xi's senior aides look bad remains one of the biggest obstacles to an agreement. Gao Feng, a spokesman at the Ministry of Commerce, said last week that the U.S. is to blame for the standoff.

"Some U.S. officials said China is to blame for the collapse of trade talks, which totally goes against the truth," Gao told reporters. "Looking back at the entire process, it is the U.S. who behaved capriciously and hasn't honored its words, closing the door for bilateral negotiations." **Bloomberg**

Chinese turtle-smuggling flight attendants fined in LA

Ariel Tu, Los Angeles

TWO flight attendants for a Chinese airline were fined and ordered to leave the United States within 72 hours for attempting to smuggle dozens of spotted and box turtles in carry-on bags from Los Angeles to China.

U.S. District Judge S. James Otero ordered Chinese nationals Huaqian Qu, 41, and Renfeng Gao, 31, to pay USD5,500 each to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service before returning

to China within three days.

They were also sentenced to three years of probation.

The two China Eastern Airlines attendants pleaded guilty last month to a federal conspiracy charge, which carries a possible penalty of up to five years behind bars, said the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Qu and Gao were arrested at Los Angeles International Airport on May 12 after special agent Juan Ramirez Amezcua

found a total of 31 live spotted turtles and 14 live box turtles in both attendants' luggage, according to an affidavit filed in the case.

The two attendants were flagged for inspection after a Transportation Security Administration inspector detected "unusual round objects" in their bags while conducting an X-ray luggage check, the document shows.

"Flight crewmembers could take advantage of the exemptions that crew-

members have to smuggle prohibited items such as wildlife," TSA officials said in the document.

The turtles could have been worth more than \$40,000 in Asia, where there is a "robust market" for turtle species native to the United States, according to Amezcua.

While prosecutors argued for 10-month prison sentences, Otero said the smuggling offense "was not violent," and the probationary sentences with fines were "sufficient." **AP**





TIBET

Students banned from religious activities

CHILDREN in traditionally Buddhist Tibet have been banned from taking part in religious activities over the summer holidays, an official Chinese Communist Party newspaper has reported.

The Global Times quoted an education official in the regional capital of Lhasa as saying that students were required to sign an agreement to “not take part in any form of religious activity” during the break.

The policy appears to reflect in-

creasingly harsh restrictions on the Himalayan region’s traditional Buddhist culture, largely aimed at reducing the influence of the region’s spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, who lives in exile in India.

“The students are following the regulation under the guidance of their parents and teachers,” the paper said, quoting Choephel, the head of the political education department at Lhasa Middle School, who like many Tibetans uses just one name.

No phone number was availab-

le for the department and Chinese authorities severely limit foreign journalists’ access to Tibet. The report was viewed on the paper’s website yesterday.

China claims Tibet has been part of its territory for more than seven centuries and regards the Dalai Lama as a dangerous separatist.

Many Tibetans insist they were essentially independent before the Communist Party’s People’s Liberation Army’s battled its way into the Himalayan region in 1950.

The presence of security forces was increased significantly after deadly anti-government rioting broke out in Lhasa in 2008 and spread quickly through Tibetan-inhabited areas in western China.

Buddhist religious institutions that form the backbone of the region’s culture have become a particular target of the authorities.

■ The policy appears to reflect increasingly harsh restrictions on the traditional Buddhist culture

The overseas-based International Campaign for Tibet reported earlier this month that young Tibetan monks were forced to leave one of the biggest monasteries in a Tibetan region of western China as part of a drive to replace monastic life with secular education.

That threatens to cut the transmission of religious knowledge and monastic tradition between monks of different generations, the organization said.

Recent months have also seen sweeping crackdowns on traditional Muslim culture among the Uighur ethnic minority group in the northwestern region of Xinjiang and among Christians in eastern China. AP

Beijing insists US airlines describe Taiwan as part of China

CHINA says there will be “no room for negotiation” in its demand that U.S. airlines describe self-ruled Taiwan as part of China ahead of a deadline this week.

Beijing has insisted that carriers change references to Taiwan on their websites to “Taiwan, China” by today. Taiwan separated from China amid civil war in 1949 but Beijing continues to claim it as its own territory.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said yesterday that China hopes the U.S. government will urge businesses to follow China’s requirements. He did not specify how China would punish defiant carriers, saying only that it will “wait and see.”

The White House has previously criticized the Chinese demand as “Orwellian nonsense.”

Taiwan to cease employing North Koreans on fishing boats

TAIWAN says it will stop employing North Korean workers on its fishing boats in compliance with U.N. sanctions on such contracts.

The foreign ministry said in a notice yesterday that the last three North Koreans working on Taiwanese vessels would be put to shore at convenient ports by the end of the month and no others would be employed.

Taiwan is barred from the United Nations because China objects to the island

participating in world bodies.

But the foreign ministry noted the self-governing democracy “consistently and actively adheres to international actions as a responsible member of international society.”

It said that included complying with U.N. sanctions imposed on North Korea over its weapons programs. The sanctions include a requirement that countries not renew contracts for North Koreans working abroad. AP

Xi visits South Africa ahead of BRICS summit

CHINESE President Xi Jinping is in South Africa for a state visit ahead of a summit of leaders of the BRICS economies.

Xi was welcomed yesterday by South African president Cyril Ramaphosa at the government Union Buildings in Pretoria. Xi inspected a military honor guard before the two men began talks.

China is South Africa’s biggest trading partner.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is in Rwanda and is also scheduled to visit Uganda before traveling to South Africa for the BRICS summit.

Member countries — Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — begin a three-day summit in Johannesburg today. Turkey’s President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is also expected to attend the meeting. AP



President Xi Jinping of China (left) inspects the honour guard during an official welcoming ceremony at the government’s Union Buildings, yesterday

LAOS

Hundreds missing, thousands homeless after hydroelectric dam collapses

Elaine Kurtenbach
& Youkyung Lee, Bangkok

A hydroelectric dam collapsed in southeastern Laos, leaving an unknown number of people dead and hundreds missing, state media said yesterday. Rescue efforts were underway as top government officials rushed to the site and public appeals were launched for aid.

The official Lao news agency KPL said the Xepian-Xe Nam Noy hydropower dam in Attapeu province collapsed Monday evening, releasing cascades of water that swept away houses, flooded villages and made more than 6,600 people homeless.

The dam was made by a joint venture led by South Korean companies with Thai and Lao partners, and was still under construction. KPL described the portion that collapsed as a “saddle dam,” which is an auxiliary dam used to hold water beyond what is held by the main dam.

South Korea's Yonhap News Agency quoted an unidentified official at SK Engineering & Construction, one of the two South Korean partners in the project, as saying rain in the area was triple the usual amount, and one of five auxiliary dams had overflowed.

Many areas of Laos have recently been hit by floods from



heavy seasonal rains.

KPL said the disaster “claimed several human lives” and “left hundreds of people missing,” without providing details.

Prime Minister Thongloun Sisolith “suspended the planned monthly meeting of the government for August and led his Cabinet members and other senior officials to Sanamxay [district] to monitor rescue and relief efforts being made for flood victims,” KPL said.

Provincial authorities issued a call for emergency aid — clothing, food, drinking water, medicine, cash and other items

— from the “party, government organizations, business community, officials, police and military forces and people of all strata.”

Laos is one of the poorest countries in Asia. It has transitioned from communism to a market economy but remains a single-party state where freedoms are limited. There is virtually no freedom of the press, and foreign reporters who visit operate under tight restrictions, limiting the flow of information.

Electricity from several hydroelectric dams provides a large share of Laos' export earnings, with Thailand being a major buyer.

KPL said the Xepian-Xe Nam Noy project cost an estimated USD1.02 billion. Much of the financing came from Thai lenders.

According to the website of the company that built and runs the dam, it is majority-owned by SK E&C and Korea Western Power. The Ratchaburi Electricity Generating Holding Public Co. Ltd of Thailand holds a 25 percent stake and the Lao Holding State Enterprise holds 24 percent.

The dam was built to divert the Houay Makchanh, Xe-Namnoy and Xe-Pian rivers into reservoirs that feed into a 410-me-

gawatt power plant that is due to begin operations in 2019. Only 10 percent of the power generated was to be used locally, with 90 percent exported to Thailand.

Laos is supposed to receive taxes, royalties and other income estimated at \$33 billion per year from the dam.

According to project assessment documents, about 30 villages were affected by the project with more than 2,000 people in eight villages resettled. Roughly 10,000 people live in the affected area, with most belonging to ethnic minorities.

The project was supposed to be a cash cow for SK E&C, a part of the SK Group, one of South Korea's top three conglomerates whose businesses include SK Hynix, the world's second-largest chipmaker, and SK Telecom, South Korea's largest telecoms carrier.

South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported that SK E&C sent its president to Laos and set up an emergency team in Seoul. The company did not respond to several calls seeking comment.

SK E&C was still trying to find out whether water had overflowed the dam or if the dam had collapsed, but efforts were mainly focused on rescuing people stranded by the flooding, Yonhap said. **AP**

PAKISTAN

Charges of rigging, intimidation mar campaign

Kathy Gannon, Islamabad

AS Pakistan prepares to make history today by electing a third straight civilian government, rights activists, analysts and candidates say the campaign has been among its dirtiest ever, imperiling the country's wobbly transition to democratic rule.

The campaign has been characterized by “blatant, aggressive and unabashed attempts to manipulate” the outcome, with media being silenced and the intimidation of candidates, according to Pakistan's Independent Human Rights Commission.

At the center of most allegations is the powerful military establishment, along with its intelligence agency, known by the acronym ISI.

The manipulation is seen as seeking to prevent the



Pakistan Muslim League, the party of disgraced Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, from returning to power, while giving a shot at running the country to former cricket star Imran Khan and his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party, or PTI.

The rancorous campaign and charges of manipula-

tion have polarized Pakistanis, and whichever party loses is likely to cry fraud.

The military has ruled the country of more than 200 million people — directly or indirectly — for most of its history. Successive attempts at protracted democracy have been interrupted by military coups, the

last one in 1999.

Pakistanis went to the polls in 2008 and elected their first civilian government in 12 years.

“This is quite a schizophrenic moment for Pakistan's democracy,” said Moeed Yusuf, associate vice president of the Asia Center at the Washington-based U.S. Institute of Peace.

“On the one hand, you have completing 10 years of uninterrupted democratic rule. [...] On the other hand, you've got all sorts of allegations of pre-poll rigging and manipulation.”

The left-leaning Pakistan People's Party was propelled to victory in 2008 by sympathetic voters following the death of their leader Benazir Bhutto, killed by militant radicals she had vowed to eradicate.

Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League, or PML-N, won in 2013, but he fell out with the military after questioning its links to some militant groups and seeking to make it subservient to parliament.

He was ousted last year after leaked documents from a Panama law firm revealed he and his family had undisclosed assets abroad. He was found guilty of corruption, banned from politics for life and sentenced to 10 years in jail, where he is appealing his conviction. His brother, Shahbaz Sharif, took power.

“The shadow of the military looming over the election amplifies the continued struggles of democracy in Pakistan,” said Michael Kugelman, deputy director of the Asia Program at the U.S.-based Wilson Center. “Allega-

tions of army meddling and the fact that troops will be deployed on mass levels on election day make it crystal clear that this election process is not entirely a civilian-led process.”

At the request of the Election Commission of Pakistan, the military is deploying 350,000 soldiers to polling stations nationwide. Leading rights activist I.A. Rehman said it was worrying that soldiers will be positioned inside booths where votes are cast.

The campaign also has been rattled by violence, with candidates from several parties targeted. An attack earlier this month in Pakistan's southwestern Baluchistan province killed 149 people, including a parliamentary candidate. Another 300 people were wounded. **AP**

Kim Tong-Hyung, Seoul

NORTH KOREA

Pyongyang said to be dismantling key parts of launch site

NORTH Korea appears to have started dismantling key facilities at its main satellite launch site in a step toward fulfilling a commitment made by leader Kim Jong Un at his summit with President Donald Trump in June.

While Pyongyang could be trying to build trust with Washington as they engage in talks to resolve the nuclear standoff, analysts say dismantling a few facilities at the site alone wouldn't realistically reduce North Korea's military capability or represent a material step toward denuclearization. And they expressed concern that the work is being done without verification.

The North Korea-focused 38 North website said commercial satellite images from July 20 to 22 indicate the North began dismantling key facilities at the Sohae launch site. The facilities being razed or disassembled include a rocket engine test stand used to develop liquid-fuel engines for ballistic missiles and space-launch vehicles and a rail-mounted processing building where space launch vehicles were assembled before being moved to the launch pad, according to the report.

"Since these facilities are believed to have played an important role in the development of technologies for the North's intercontinental ballistic missile program, these efforts represent a significant confidence building measure on the part of North Korea," analyst Joseph Bermudez wrote in the report.

An official from South Korea's presidential office said yesterday that Seoul has also been detecting dismantlement activities at the Sohae launch site but did not specify what the North was supposedly taking apart.

Other analysts said North Korea is giving up little in dismantling the rocket engine test site when it's clear the country is satisfied with its current design of long-range weapons and could easily build other similar facilities if needed in the future.

Adam Mount, a senior defense analyst at the Federation of American Scientists, said it's also troubling that the North has been apparently allowed to duck verification by unilaterally dismantling parts of its nuclear and missile facilities without the presence of international inspectors. In May, North Korea invited foreign journalists to observe the destruction of tunnels at its nuclear testing ground, but did not invite outside experts capable of certifying what had been destroyed.

"The actions at Sohae are a helpful signal that Pyongyang wants to continue negotiations, but do not in themselves advance nuclear disarmament," Mount said in an email. "North Korea still has not disclosed or offered to dismantle facilities that produce or store nuclear or missile systems, or the means to transport



Satellite image released and annotated by 38 North shows what the U.S. research group says is the dismantled engine test stand at the Sohae launch site in North Korea

the missiles. So far, the facilities dismantled have been peripheral to these core functions."

Lee Choon Geun, a missile expert at South Korea's Science and Technology Policy Institute, said the North's supposed move to dismantle the rail-mounted processing building was the more meaningful development as it potentially indicated to broader dismantlement activities at the site.

Analysts said North Korea is giving up little in dismantling the rocket engine test site

"If North Korea goes further and dismantles the entire Sohae site, that would meaningfully reduce the country's long-range missile capability by eliminating a facility where it could fire multiple ICBMs in succession," Lee said. "The North can also fire ICBMs from transporter erector launchers, but their technology with these vehicles isn't stable."

However, Mount said the military consequences of a broader dismantlement would be "marginal." North Korea has invested a great deal of effort in ensuring its missiles can be fired from austere locations and doesn't require a site like Sohae, he said.

"Dismantling a test site does not

seriously constrain the existing arsenal or even future designs," said Mount. "While it would be a significant step for the regime to shut down its space launch programs, it has always argued that these programs are distinct from military ones. Easing the missile

threat would require restrictions on the number, types, or capabilities of missiles or the vehicles that transport and fire them."

After his summit with Kim in Singapore on June 12, Trump said he was told by Kim that the North was "already destroying a

major missile engine testing site" without identifying which site. The leaders concluded their summit by declaring their vague aspirational goal of moving toward a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula, but there's lingering doubts on whether Kim would ever agree to fully give up the nuclear weapons that he may see as a stronger guarantee of his survival than whatever security assurances the United States can provide.

In late 2017, Kim declared his nuclear weapons and missile program was complete, following a torrent of nuclear and missile tests that included the detonation of a purported thermonuclear warhead and flight tests of three developmental ICBMs potentially capable of reaching the U.S. mainland. Kim announced the mission of his nuclear testing site as finished weeks before inviting foreign journalists to observe the destruction of the tunnels.

The South Korean presidential official, who didn't want to be named, citing office rules, said the supposed dismantlement activities shows the North is moving gradually.

"We need further analysis to figure out why the North didn't turn the dismantlement activities into an event and whether the country is trying to control the speed of the process to maintain a pace it wants," he said. **AP**

NORTH KOREA AND TRADE TENSIONS ON THE AGENDA

Top US, Australian officials meet in San Francisco Bay Area

U.S. talks with North Korea and trade tensions with China were among the topics U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and U.S. Secretary of Defense James Mattis were expected to discuss with their Australian counterparts at a two-day meeting in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Pompeo, Mattis, Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop and Australian Defense Minister Marise Payne were scheduled to hold a news conference today [Macau time] at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University — the second day of the gathering.

The annual meeting between the two countries always includes discussions about security.

The U.S. Department of State said this year's talks would focus on threats in the Indo-Pacific region and cooperation to defeat Islamic State militants. China and North Korea were



Australia Foreign Affairs Minister Julie Bishop (left) shakes hands with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

also on the table.

The U.S. and China are locked in a trade dispute playing out in a tariff tit-for-tat between the two nations. The U.S., meanwhile, is pushing North Korea to dismantle its nuclear and missile programs entirely.

Pompeo was recently in North Korea to continue talks.

President Donald Trump met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at a historic summit in Singapore on June 12, but the North has yet to take concrete steps toward denuclearizing, nor has it returned the remains of some U.S. service members, as was promised as part of the two-page agreement signed in Singapore. **AP**



Pavel Palazhchenko, former chief interpreter for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze

US-RUSSIA

Gorbachev's interpreter says best summit deals are written down

Kate De Pury
& David McHugh, Moscow

ONE man who knows a great deal about Washington-Moscow summits is not ready to call the latest one in Helsinki a failure, despite its confused aftermath.

From 1985 to 1991, across ten summits that brought the Cold War to an end and ushered in unprecedented cooperation between Washington and Moscow, Pavel Palazhchenko was a constant presence as chief interpreter for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. In innumerable news photos from that era, he's the guy with the dark suit and mustache discreetly standing beside or just behind Gorbachev.

So when Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin took to their podiums in Helsinki last week, Palazhchenko was watching from Moscow to see how the latest chapter in the story would unfold.

His take on the controversial meeting: Next time, it might be a good idea to get things set

down in writing.

But, he says, please keep holding these summits — even if the going gets difficult. There's too much at stake not to talk.

Palazhchenko declined to call Helsinki an outright failure, even though after the meeting Trump walked back comments saying that he believed Putin when the Russian leader says that Russia was not involved in election meddling in the United States. Palazhchenko did concede there was a lack of clarity on exactly what the two world leaders agreed upon.

"A couple of mistakes were made [...] it was a mistake not to try to craft some kind of a joint statement," Palazhchenko told The Associated Press in an interview. "The press conference did not go well. Those things happen, stuff happens. But nevertheless, one has to move forward. Perhaps they will correct some of the mistakes that were made and move forward by trying to build a coalition."

He said it would "take time to understand what really happened" at the July 16 meeting in the Finnish capital.

"I think both Trump and Putin will be talking in the near future about what was achieved, about what they hope to achieve," he said, add that, for Trump, the important thing "is to try to create a coalition in favor of improved relations and to have public support for that process."

Palazhchenko stressed that the U.S.-Russian relationship was simply too important — to each side and to the world — for Russia and the United States not to talk.

"Those are still the two nuclear superpowers, even though more than 80 percent of the nuclear weapons that existed at the height of the Cold War have now been destroyed," he said. "They still are both very influential and so strategically I think good relations between Russia and the U.S. are very, very necessary."

Palazhchenko, 69, graduated from what is now Moscow State Linguistic University in 1972. He left government service after the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union and later worked at the Gorbachev Foundation as head of international and media relations.

He noted that just because two leaders disagree on important topics doesn't mean a summit wasn't worth it.

At a Geneva summit in 1985, then-U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Gorbachev argued vigorously over U.S. plans for the Strategic Defense Initiative missile defense, better known as "Star Wars." But, Palazhchenko

said, the summit ended with the declaration that nuclear war "cannot be won and must never be fought." It also relaunched cultural and educational exchanges between the two superpowers and paved the way for later agreements to reduce the number of nuclear weapons.

And spontaneity isn't all bad — the 1990 Helsinki summit between U.S. President George H.W. Bush and Gorbachev "was something that was done almost on the spur of the moment."

Palazhchenko says those summits succeeded because "both sides — Gorbachev and Reagan, Gorbachev and Bush — wanted it to succeed" and were able to set aside friction over spy scandals and other incidents taking place at the same time.

Palazhchenko declined to call Helsinki an outright failure

"The lesson is the value of process, mutual respect and persistence," he said.

"I think Putin and Trump, too, wanted to succeed," he added. "The way ahead will be very difficult [...] a lot of mines have not yet exploded and they will. But they I think are determined to improve their relationship."

Democrats in Congress are now seeking to summon Trump's State Department interpreter Marina Gross to find out what was discussed in the one-on-one talks with Putin in Helsinki. Palazhchenko called their request "extraordinary" but added "I don't think it's going to happen."

The interpreter said he believes that history will look more kindly on this latest Helsinki summit than the media is doing now.

"It will be very difficult to repair what has been done over the past years [to U.S.-Russia relations] but it is something where I think, once the forward movement starts, I think history will be on their side," he said. **AP**



Palazhchenko stands in the middle of U.S. President Ronald Reagan (right) and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at the White House in 1987

WILDFIRES raged through seaside resorts near the Greek capital, torching homes, cars and forests and killing at least 74 people, authorities said yesterday. Twenty-six of the dead were believed to be groups of families or friends who were found huddled together, some of them hugging.

Rescue crews were searching the charred remains of homes and cars in the deadliest of the fires, the one in the Rafina area northeast of Athens, and there were fears the death toll could rise. More than 170 people were treated in hospitals for injuries including burns.

The country's prime minister, Alexis Tsipras, declared three days of national mourning for those killed in the deadliest fire season to hit Greece in more than a decade.

With the flames whipped up by gale-force winds that frequently changed direction, many tourists and residents fled toward the coastline. Some swam out to sea, braving rough water and strong currents to escape the ferocious flames and choking smoke. A flotilla of boats, including some from the coast guard, evacuated more than 700 people by sea from threatened beaches overnight, authorities said.

"It happened very fast. The fire was in the distance, then sparks

GREECE

Bodies found clasped in hugs as wildfires kill 74



from the fire reached us. Then the fire was all around us," said resident Nikos Stavrinidis, who had gone with his wife to fix up his summer home for a visit by his daughter.

Stavrinidis, his wife and four friends swam out into the sea

to escape the smoke, but they quickly became disoriented, losing sight of the shore and being swept out further by the wind and currents.

Two of the group didn't survive. "It is terrible to see the person next to you drowning and not

being able to help him," Stavrinidis said, his voice breaking. The remaining survivors were picked up by a fishing boat with an Egyptian crew who jumped into the water to rescue them.

Others never made it to the beach.

The head of Greece's Red Cross, Nikos Oikonomopoulos, told Skai television that a Red Cross rescue team found 26 bodies in a compound northeast of Athens, some of them clutching each other in groups of threes and fours.

"Everything happened in seconds," said Andreas Passios, who lives next to the compound. "I grabbed a beach towel. It saved my life. I soaked it, grabbed my wife and we ran to the sea."

Passios said he and his wife stayed by the sea for two hours.

"It was unbelievable. Gas canisters were exploding. Burning pine cones were flying everywhere," he said.

When the flames died down, Spyros Hadjiandreou came searching for loved ones.

"My niece and cousin were staying here on holiday. I don't know if they made it out," he said. "I don't know if they are OK. I haven't heard from them."

The death toll stood at 50, government spokesman Dimitris Tzanakopoulos said yesterday morning.

Later, the Health Ministry's emergency operations said 71 adults continued to be hospitalized, 10 of them in serious condition. Twenty-three children were also being treated for injuries in hospitals, none of them in serious condition. **AP**

AD

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

+50m pageviews per year
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

Times **Times App**
News At Hand



Available on the
App Store
Get it on
Google play

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

SAN JIAO LING
公关传播 | PR & Marketing

新商机 始握手
New Business Opportunities
are Just a Handshake Away

www.sanjaoling.com

Follow our DB media channel
www.deltabridges.com



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.macaoticket.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

Offbeat

TITANIC DIRECTOR CAMERON BACKS BID FOR 5,500 ITEMS FROM SHIP



Filmmaker James Cameron and Titanic discoverer Robert Ballard are backing a bid by a group of British museums to acquire a collection of 5,500 artifacts from the Titanic. The campaign announced yesterday aims to raise USD20 million (15 million pounds) to buy the items from the private American company that salvaged them from the wreck. The group says the future of the items is uncertain because that company has filed for bankruptcy. The objects include a section of the ship's hull and a bronze cherub decoration from the ship's grand staircase. The bid for the artifacts comes from the Royal Museums Greenwich, National Museums Northern Ireland, Titanic Belfast and Titanic Foundation Limited. The bid was announced at Titanic Belfast at the location where the ship was designed, built and launched.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
16:15	Macau Festivities - Lu Pan
17:10	Miscellaneous
18:00	Maternity
18:50	Odyssey
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	Non-daily Portuguese News
22:10	Around the World
22:25	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Miscellaneous
00:35	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:20	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



1978: FIRST 'TEST TUBE BABY' BORN

The birth of the world's first "test tube baby" has been announced in Manchester.

Louise Brown was born shortly before midnight in Oldham and District General Hospital.

Weighing 5lb 12oz (2.61 kg) the baby was delivered by caesarean section because her mother, Lesley Brown, was suffering from toxemia.

The consultant in charge of the case, Mr Patrick Steptoe, said: "All examinations showed that the baby is quite normal. The mother's condition after delivery was also excellent."

Mrs Brown, 29, has blocked fallopian tubes so she and her husband, 39, have been undergoing in vitro fertility treatment.

Last November Mrs Brown had an embryo - of her egg and her husband's sperm - implanted in her womb after it had been fertilized in a laboratory.

The technique is being pioneered by consultant gynaecologist Patrick Steptoe and Cambridge research physiologist Robert Edwards.

"This work may be developed in other respects. It may include the reversal of sterilization," Dr Edwards told a press conference at Prestwich Hospital, Manchester.

More than 5,000 couples have applied for the new fertility treatment already and there are 20,000 women in the UK with blockages similar to that experienced by Lesley Brown.

None of the main religions have an official policy on artificial insemination, but the Roman Catholic Church has raised the strongest objection.

The Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, Cardinal Gordon Gray said: "I have grave misgivings about the possible implications and consequences for the future."

Louise Brown's financial future has been assured by the sale of newspaper rights for her story worth about £300,000.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Louise Brown celebrated her 21st birthday in 1999, by which time

300,000 women worldwide had conceived through IVF.

Louise's younger sister, Natalie, also born through IVF, became the first

test tube baby to give birth - naturally - in 1999.

The success rate for IVF treatment has remained at 17%.

Doctors say social rather than medical factors are the major determinant of success.

More than 70% of IVF clinics are in the UK and 80% of them charge

£3,000 for each cycle of treatment.

The process has attracted concern because embryos have been mixed up in the laboratory and the chance of multiple IVF births increased in the

1990s from one in 200 to one in 20.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You have two entire days at your disposal to separate yourself from whoever or whatever has just pushed your buttons for the very last time. Take a friend along - as a witness. Oh, and to vouch for you.

Taurus April 20-May 20 You can come out now. It's safe. This means that whatever you've been trying to forget about - in vain, judging by the quality of your sleep - will finally become no more than a distant memory.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your productivity is admirable, and you've been doing an excellent job at staying cool under pressure. You deserve to slow things down and coast for a while - right about now.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Keeping all those plates in the air - at work, at home, with family and friends - has been quite the task lately. But your expert juggling skills are paying off as the universe finally tips her hat at you.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You're finally starting to get a sense of how you affect others - and you like it a lot. Today this forward momentum continues when you get a chance to hold the attention of a group of people.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Still not done clearing the air? Still feel like there's something you need to say? Well, go ahead. Just be sure you're finished by tonight, because the heavens are ready to put an end to all such unpleasant moments.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Big time. You're so ready that you're totally unwilling to hide anything you're feeling - anything at all. And Heaven help anyone who tries to stifle you.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Okay, you're done. It's time to let go of all those awful feelings - to forgive and forget. Instead of dwelling on all that negativity, you should get out there and have some fun.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 A birth or other type of new beginning introduces you to an interesting philosophy today. It's like a light is shining in a new corner of the world, and you're very intrigued to see what's there.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You're always the person everyone comes to when they need advice, sympathy or a couple of dollars to pay the electric bill. Does that mean it's the only type of relationship you're capable of having?

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 It's been a long time coming! All those cranky, surly and maladjusted people will give way to smooth kindness. You weren't sure you'd make it through all those months with a smile on your face.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 That authority figure you've been especially disgusted with? Well, here's a respite: They can only keep bugging you if you let them - so don't. Enjoy the company of those you love tonight.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table listing weather conditions for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

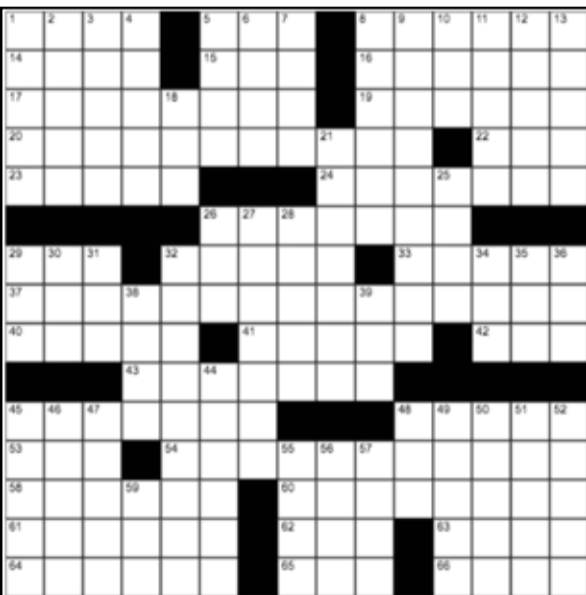
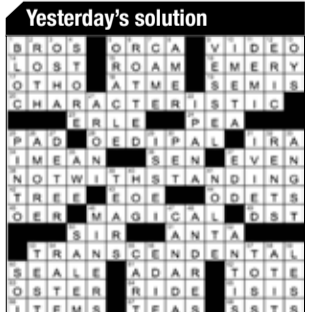
WORLD

Table listing weather conditions for world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Furthermore; 5- ___ kwon do; 8- Bottles; 14- Mines; 15- ___ was saying...; 16- Distinctive uniform; 17- Agricultural; 19- King of the fairies; 20- English dramatist; 22- Year abroad; 23- March honoree, briefly; 24- Baccate; 26- Old French dance; 29- Mdse.; 32- Elector; 33- Early Peruvians; 37- In spite of; 40- Check endorser; 41- Practice piece; 42- Hill insect; 43- All together; 45- A sailor; 48- Swedish imports; 53- You ___ here; 54- Intermix; 58- Copyist; 60- Large hill; 61- Broadway opening; 62- Big bang cause; 63- Lemon peel; 64- Former Egyptian leader; 65- Warmed the bench; 66- Finishes;

DOWN: 1- Make ___ at; 2- Illumination; 3- Backpack part; 4- Honshu port; 5- Mai ___; 6- Pronto!; 7- Mozart's "___ kleine Nachtmusik"; 8- Small flower; 9- Rake; 10- Hail, to Caesar; 11- Caravansary; 12- Danish coin; 13- Church council; 18- Emeritus; Abbr.; 21- Miscarriage; 25- Tear; 26- Obtained; 27- Deep down; 28- Sleeveless garments; 29- Econ. indicator; 30- 1950 film noir classic; 31- Eye infection, pig house; 32- Capital of Laos; 34- Spy org.; 35- Abby's twin; 36- Cpl.'s superior; 38- Pay period, perhaps; 39- Citrus drink; 44- Mode of action; 45- Kyoto's country; 46- Betel palm; 47- Pennies; 48- Sloth, e.g.; 49- Cave; 50- Once more; 51- Unable to see; 52- Dispatches; 55- CPR pros; 56- Columnist Barrett; 57- Mongrel dog; 59- Cal. pages;



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



AD

Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' sections with property details and the JML Property logo.



RRC Electronics (Macau) Ltd. 中葡電子(澳門)有限公司

ELV Systems Specialists
專業的弱電系統



Surveillance Systems
監控系統

Design & Budgets
設計和預算

Intrusion Alarm Systems
入侵警報系統

Project Management
項目管理



Access Control Systems
門禁系統

Maintenance & Service
維修和服務

AV/TV, Telephone & Display Systems
AV/TV, 電話和顯示系統

Risk Assessment & Management
風險評估和管理



Fire Detection & Suppression Systems
火焰偵測和滅火系統

Survey & Troubleshooting Services
檢驗和故障診斷與維修服務

Network & Structure Cable
網絡和綜合佈線

澳門馬場東大馬路25-69號福泰工業大廈12樓B座

Avenida Leste do Hipodromo N.S 25-69, Edif. Industrial Fok Tai, 12 Floor "B", Macau

TEL: + (853) 2822 1341

FAX: + (853) 2822 0824

www.rcr-macau.com

email: contact@rcr-macau.com

BUNNY NIGHTS
EVERY WEDNESDAY

D2 CLUB
www.d2club-macau.com

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edif. New Orleans III
澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良 III
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

WELCOME TO Playmate's club
花心公子俱樂部

WILD NIGHT OUT

Come and buy a Standard drink Mop45 only
You can see a European Striptease Show

Attention
No admission under 18

Business Hours: 8:00pm-4:00am
Address: Basement, Hotel Guia, Macau Tel: 28532081 www.macauplaymatesclub.com

Tim Reynolds

SWIMMING

RYAN Lochte doesn't know when he'll be in another race.

And that worries him.

What's next for Lochte is a mystery, even to himself. The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency's decision to suspend the 12-time Olympic swimming medalist because he broke a rule by getting an intravenous infusion of vitamins will keep him from competing in any major meet through July 2019.

So essentially, the only opponent he'll be facing other than training partners as he preps for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics is rust.

"I'm worried about that 100 percent," Lochte said yesterday [Macau time], shortly after USA-DA announced his ban. "I know I'll be able to swim in 2020, but in swimming, you have to compete. You have to race. It doesn't matter how well you train. That doesn't matter. It's how you compete when you get on those starting blocks. And the less chance I have of getting on those blocks, the worse it's going to be for me."

The suspension was handed down by anti-doping officials, who made clear that Lochte was not taking any banned substance. His mistake was getting an IV that exceeded the legal level of 100 milliliters — something he and his wife did together at a Gainesville, Florida, clinic on May 24 in an effort to bolster their immune systems after their infant son got sick.

Lochte posted a photo of the scene on his Instagram account,

AP PHOTO



and USA-DA opened an investigation after seeing that image.

Lochte cooperated with the USA-DA probe, but apparently was shown no leniency. His penalty: A 14-month sanction, going back to the date of the photo. It will cost him the chance to swim at this week's U.S. national championships, the

Pan Pacific Championships later this year, and next year's world championships.

Hence, his concern about rust.

"It's something I'll have to deal with," Lochte said.

He said he will continue his daily training regimen. It's possible Lochte could race in some unsanctioned events during the

suspension — he said he would review options. He hasn't raced often since the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics, where he left in shame after his story about how he and three teammates were victims of an armed robbery unraveled and ultimately led to him being suspended for 10 months by U.S. officials.

"As soon as you get to a certain point or level, in any kind of sport career, you're always going to have an eye on you," Lochte said. "I think I've learned it the hard way, definitely — especially since Rio. And now this."

And now, he's on the deck again, over what he insists was an honest mistake. He simply didn't know the rule about IVs. Under most circumstances, athletes cannot receive IVs unless related to a hospitalization or when allowed under the terms of a USA-DA-approved exemption, and Lochte fell into neither of those categories.

So instead of heading to California to compete at nationals, Lochte was holding a news conference inside a hotel conference room in South Florida — vowing that this experience will only stoke his fire to be at those 2020 Tokyo Games.

"I definitely made myself a better person after Rio," Lochte said. "I was back in training. I was feeling good. I was swimming fast. My son being born, everything was happening, everything was perfect. And then this happened. And it's devastating. But we're a family, we're going to stick together and we're going to get through this." AP

FOOTBALL

France's Deschamps, Zidane head FIFA coaching award nominees



Deschamps holds the WC trophy

DIDIER Deschamps and Zinedine Zidane head the 11 candidates in a likely French domination of FIFA's best men's coach award.

Deschamps led France to win the World Cup, and his 1998 World Cup-winning teammate Zidane coached Real Madrid to a third straight Champions League title.

Zidane, who has since left Madrid, won the FIFA award last year and was also runner-up in 2016.

FIFA published the choices of its expert panel yesterday with five World Cup coaches among the contenders. They include all four semifinalists — Deschamps, Zlatko Dalic of Croatia, Roberto Martinez of Belgium, and Gareth Southgate of England — plus Russia's Stanislav Cherchesov.

Pep Guardiola is nominated for leading Manchester City to a runaway English

Premier League title win. Guardiola won the 2011 FIFA award when coaching Barcelona.

The other nominees are: Massimiliano Allegri (Juventus), Juergen Klopp (Liverpool), Diego Simeone (Atletico Madrid), Ernesto Valverde (Barcelona).

Early today [Macau time], FIFA publishes candidate lists for the men's and women's best player awards.

The winners announced in London on Sept. 24 are voted by national coaches and captains, plus media from FIFA's 211 member countries, and fans voting online.

Four women and six men are on a 10-candidate list to win the FIFA award as the best coach in women's football.

The nominations include Sarina Wiegman, the 2017 winner who coaches the Netherlands, and Asako Takakura, who coached Japan to the Women's Asian Cup title.

The male candidates include Reynald Pedros, who led Lyon to a Women's Champions League and French league double, and Brazil's Vadao, whose team won the Copa America Femenina. AP

MBAPPE, MODRIC ON TEN-MAN LIST FOR BEST PLAYER AWARD

ROMA SCORED twice in four minutes early in the second half to beat Lazio 2-1 in the most high-profile derby between the Italian capital's clubs in years. After Diego Perotti opened the scoring with a penalty, the Argentine winger turned provider when Radja Nainggolan added another to finish off a swift coun-

terattack. Nainggolan's status had been in doubt due to injury but he was a surprise starter. Ciro Immobile converted a penalty for Lazio to reduce Roma's lead and add to his league-best scoring total of 15 in 12 matches. Roma moved into third place while Lazio dropped to fifth, two points behind.

opinion

World Views
 The Editors, Bloomberg

DONALD TRUMP'S POINTLESS WAR OF WORDS WITH IRAN

The exchange of rhetorical fire between Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and U.S. President Donald Trump was aimed mainly at their respective domestic audiences. Both leaders are under political pressure, and hope to relieve it by a show of verbal force against a familiar enemy. Both will probably find that the tactic backfires.

Rouhani kicked things off on Sunday, saying: "Mr. Trump, don't play with the lion's tail, this would only lead to regret." Trump responded with an all-caps blitz on Twitter: "NEVER, EVER THREATEN THE UNITED STATES AGAIN OR YOU WILL SUFFER CONSEQUENCES THE LIKES OF WHICH FEW THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAVE EVER SUFFERED BEFORE."

It's revealing that Trump chose to rise to Rouhani's bait, given the daily barrage of taunts from Tehran (including some from the more powerful and much more conservative supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei). Rouhani happened to catch the U.S. president at an especially vulnerable moment: Trump is fighting the perception that he came off the loser in his Helsinki summit with Russia's Vladimir Putin.

Rouhani has problems of his own. When the U.S. abrogated the U.S.-Iran nuclear deal — his signature achievement — he was forced to tack to the right. Egged on by hardliners in Tehran, he has threatened to prevent other countries from exporting oil if Iran's own exports are halted by U.S. sanctions.

The escalation in threatening language is dangerous: A single Iranian speedboat captain, overreacting to his president's tough talk, could spark a crisis on the Strait of Hormuz. But even if things don't go that far, neither leader is likely to profit from these outbursts. Rouhani's use of Saddam Hussein-esque language — "War with Iran is the mother of all wars" — won't earn him the political capital to restart his long-stalled reform agenda. And Trump's upper-case thundering will serve to unite Iran's moderates and hardliners, undermining efforts by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to foment greater dissent.

Trump should stand back and let the sanctions do their work — choking the Iranian economy, deepening ordinary Iranians' dissatisfaction with their government, and pressuring the regime to sue for terms. His energies are better spent on persuading allies, still smarting from his unilateral withdrawal from the nuclear agreement, that constraining Iran will get results. Thundering tweets won't help: Germany's government admonished the U.S. that threats of war are "never helpful."

Much the same goes for Rouhani. He should stop playing the tough guy. It doesn't suit him, and it will earn him no respect from the hardliners who regard him with open contempt. He'd be wise to use what little room for maneuver he has to push for reforms that would relieve Iranians' economic and political frustrations. And if he can't do that, it would be better to say nothing.



THE UK TO RAMP UP POWERS TO BLOCK TAKEOVERS BY FOREIGN COMPANIES

The British government plans to expand its powers to block takeovers by foreign companies that pose national security concerns. Proposals unveiled yesterday would allow the government to review deals in a wide variety of industries in which a foreign buyer acquires as little as 25 percent of a company. Britain and other NATO nations are worried about foreign governments, particularly China, using takeovers to gain access to new technology.

Business Secretary Greg Clark says the proposals "will ensure we have the appropriate safeguards to protect our national security whilst ensuring our economy remains unashamedly pro-business and open to high levels of foreign investment in the future." China's foreign ministry spokesman, Geng Shuang, says that the U.K. should be sending "positive messages in safeguarding the rules-based international order" and opposing "protectionism."

Japan's declutter queen Marie Kondo expands her empire



Japanese organizational expert Marie Kondo folds an item of clothing as she introduces her new line of storage boxes during a media event in New York

Leanne Italie, New York

PEOPLE often ask Japanese tidying queen Marie Kondo what containers they need to achieve her brand of organizational success. They expect her to "reveal some hitherto secret storage weapon," she explains in her popular book.

Instead, she advised when "The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up" was first published in Japanese in 2011, "You can solve your storage problems with things you already have in the house."

But Kondo's thinking has evolved as she's leveraged her massive, global fan base to expand her empire. She's now got an upcoming Netflix show, a fledgling corps of consultants working around the world to help her fans declutter their homes, and, yesterday, she's launched her first product line: six-piece sets of beautiful, sturdy paper boxes for USD89 a pop.

In a recent appearance in Manhattan to announce the show and merchandise line, Kondo said she thinks lovely storage options will spark the life-changing joy she wrote about in her book, which has sold more than 10 million copies in 40-plus countries. She also hopes the boxes will motivate more people to actually complete all the steps in her laborious KonMari Method of sorting, tossing and putting things away in their right and righteous locations. The new storage sets are

the shape and size of shoe boxes. (Her book had recommended using real shoe boxes for organizing.) Smaller boxes in the set are akin to iPhone boxes (another reuse hack she recommends). All are intended to be of service on shelves or in drawers (the sets are called Hikidashi, which means "drawer" in Japanese) to hold such things as sunglasses, handbags, papers, socks, undergarments and T-shirts, the latter three lovingly folded in the flat, KonMari-sanctioned way so they stand upright.

I'm probably the only person in the world who makes such an official occasion to introduce empty boxes.

MARIE KONDO

"I'm probably the only person in the world who makes such an official occasion to introduce empty boxes," the soft-spoken mother of two recently told a small gathering of journalists through a translator as she unveiled the containers. "These are meant

to enhance your experience of the KonMari Method."

The boxes will also enhance her bottom line. Since Kondo unleashed the best-selling "Life-Changing Magic," including an English translation in 2014, she's published three other books, earned a spot on Time magazine's 2015 list of 100 most influential people and given birth to two girls, now 3 and nearly 2.

She has given birth to a new business as well: consultants certified by her and sent forth into homes in 23 countries, from Europe and the Americas to Australia and the Middle East. As for her new show, Netflix ordered an initial eight episodes of her series of home consultations but will say little else on the record.

For now, it's all about the boxes, in pale pink, soft gray, taupe and purple watercolor designs. The sets are dubbed Wonder, Harmony, Clarity and Balance. Customers ordering the containers, for delivery in mid-September from her website, konmari.com, will receive a series of emails and other help online to guide them through the tidying process.

Perhaps more importantly, she hopes to connect devotees to one another online via her take on social networking.

"I often hear that it is very difficult to sustain your motivation to tidy when you're doing it all by yourself, so I very much feel that having this community is very important," Kondo said. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	30-50 Good
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	30-50 Good

WORLD BRIEFS



INDIA A paramilitary soldier was killed and two others wounded yesterday in an attack by rebels fighting Indian rule in disputed Kashmir, officials said. Militants on a motorbike sprayed gunfire at a group of soldiers in Srinagar, the region's main city.

ISRAEL-SYRIA Israel shot down a Syrian fighter jet it said had breached its airspace yesterday while advancing Syrian government forces retaking territory from rebels reached the Golan Heights frontier.



GREECE Wildfires raging through seaside resorts near the Greek capital torched homes, cars and forests, killing at least 74 people, authorities said yesterday. Greece endures wildfires every year but the latest fires were the deadliest to hit the country in decades. More on p15

GERMANY Authorities yesterday arrested the wife of a Tunisian man detained last month over a plot to use the toxin ricin to carry out an attack in Germany, alleging that she was an accomplice.



VENEZUELA Inflation could top 1 million percent by year's end as the country's historic crisis deepens, the International Monetary Fund said.

MEXICO Authorities say two prisoners have walked out of a jail in northwestern Mexico dressed as guards with apparent assistance from two guards at the facility.