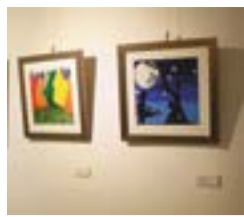




MACAU WINS SILVER MEDAL

Wushu athlete Li Yi won Macau's second medal at the 2018 Asian Games in Indonesia

P3



CHILDREN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

A total of 40 artworks by children and teenagers are currently being exhibited at the Rui Cunha Foundation

P7



TRUMP CAMPAIGN CHAIRMAN FOUND GUILTY

P13 USA

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WORLD BRIEFS



CAMBODIA's Supreme Court denied a bail request yesterday for Kem Sokha, the leader of the now-dissolved main opposition party who has been detained for nearly a year without trial on a treason charge.

VIETNAM A court yesterday sentenced two Americans of Vietnamese descent to 14 years in jail after finding them guilty of attempting to overthrow the government.

INDONESIA has sunk 125 mostly foreign vessels involved in illegal fishing as it ramps up efforts to exert greater control over its vast maritime territory, an official said yesterday.



Pakistan's newly-elected prime minister has offered to start a dialogue with India to resolve long-running disputes between the two nuclear-armed rivals, including over the Kashmir region.

IRAN says Britain has stepped in to help it redesign a reactor following the U.S. withdrawal from Tehran's nuclear agreement with world powers.



AFGHANISTAN Russia said Tuesday that the Taliban have accepted an invitation for talks next month, in what promises to be one of the insurgent group's biggest diplomatic forays since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion.

More on backpage

TYPHOON HATO – ONE YEAR ON

More awareness, structural flaws remain

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RENATO MARQUES (IMDT ARCHIVE)

Group urges gov't to implement effective regulation on plastic

P2 ENVIRONMENT



UM PhD student receives Lotfi Zadeh Best Paper Award

Shu Ting, a PhD student from the Department of Computer and Information, Faculty of Science and Technology (FST), University of Macau (UM), received the Lotfi Zadeh Best Paper Award for her medical biometrics systems on accurate diabetes diagnosis, at the 17th International Conference on Machine Learning and Cybernetics (ICMLC) and the 15th International Conference on Wavelet Analysis and Pattern Recognition (ICWAPR). The award is presented to the best overall paper from both conferences.

Chinese Orchestra's new concert season starts September

The opening concert of the Macao Chinese Orchestra's 2018-19 concert season will be held on September 2. The concert, "Glimpses of the National Wind", features specially invited erhu performers Yu Hongmei and Zhai Qinxi from the Central Conservatory of Music. The National Orchestra will play a new musical piece, Red Litchis, which is rich in Lingnan style. The concert also features the erhu concerto Amannisa, inspired by the Uighur artist Amannisa. Tickets for the orchestra's concert season are on sale at the Macau Ticketing Network, with various discount packages available.

Qingmao port estimated to open at the end of 2019

Yesterday, Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak said that the Qingmao port may possibly open by the end of 2019. The foundation work project for the Qingmao port has been approved for construction seven days a week. The port will be located 800 meters southeast of the Gongbei Border Gate and will feature a 400 meter long closed corridor connecting Zhuhai train station to Macau's Light Rapid Transit.

ENVIRONMENT

Group urges gov't to implement effective regulation on plastic, waste

Lynzy Valles

A campaign against the use of plastic bags is spreading online, gathering nearly 3,400 signatures as of yesterday night on an online petition platform.

The petition comes after a report issued by the Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) showed that the SAR has failed to progress in waste control and management despite programs facilitated by the government.

According to the State of the Environment of Macau 2017 report, the average person produced 2.16 kilos of solid waste per day in the city, an increase of 2.9 percent from last year.

The figure is the highest among nearby regions including Hong Kong and Guangzhou, which only recorded 1.41 kilos and 0.98 kilos of waste per person respectively.

As such, five residents are seeking to raise public awareness of the fact that the MSAR is creating more solid waste than other regions. The report identifies the largest producer of solid waste as the gaming operators.

Annie Lao, one of the organizers of the petition, said that the group is urging the government to enforce strong regulations and mandatory fines on the use of disposable plastic, and take immediate action to ban plastic bags, single-use plastic and the use of the material in unnecessary packaging.

"We want the government to do something about it. The problem has existed for many years and the government needs to think about what actions to implement to effectively tackle waste problems in Macau," said Lao.

The group believes that increasing public education and awareness of zero waste can eventually help to reduce the excessive waste and create a platform for further measures that can improve the city's quality of life.

Lao stressed that authorities should emphasize reducing waste instead of promoting recycling.

"Composting of waste is not enough to handle the food waste in the city per day. Everything starts from reducing, and recycling is that last step. We shouldn't always think that recycling is a solution and putting it in the incinerator is a solution," said Lao.

"The solution is zero waste and producing less. The government does not give us this image," she added, stressing that the relevant authorities are only focusing on promoting recycling.

The organizers of the petition also



The problem has existed for many years and the government needs to think about what actions to implement.

ANNIE LAO

ONE OF THE PETITION ORGANIZERS

noted that the government needs to consider the long-term investment for the environment protection system in the city.

Lao noted that such a measure would also allow the region to save money on recycling. "Recycling also isn't for free. We're paying money for that. There's no guarantee that all plastics can be recycled," she said.

Lao added that the current numbers of signatures was a surprise, adding that

there are also many residents concerned about waste production in Macau.

The group suggested that the government should focus on gaming operators and implement regulations delimiting how much waste they can produce in a day.

They suggested that authorities can provide incentives to those businesses that only produce reusable and biodegradable plastics.

"We are very behind on this matter. [...] We feel that every year our quality of life is decreasing. We don't want to live in a city full of waste," said Lao.

"It's not about the money anymore. We no longer care about how much money Macau makes; we care how good it is to live in Macau. That is more important," she concluded.

Currently, there is still no target date as to when the group will submit the petition to the government headquarters as they are still waiting for the campaign to reach many residents.

The online petition, which is found at change.org, is titled "Macau Plastic Waste and Pollution."

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TYPHOON HATO – ONE YEAR ON

Wong says disaster management ability highly improved

SECRETARY for Security Wong Sio Chak has said that Macau has improved its resistance to natural disasters. Wong's statement came out yesterday while he was on TDM's talk show Forum Macau.

The Secretary said he is confident Macau can minimize deaths and injuries if another typhoon like Hato were to hit the city. As for zero deaths and injuries, Wong declared that no government can promise such a thing, although it is obviously the goal of the Macau government.

Wong further remarked that Macau needs to continuously improve its disaster prevention mechanisms and should never cease.

Earlier this month, the first typhoon Signal No. 8 (Tropical Storm Bebinca) was hoisted. Wong considers the government to have done well during the typhoon. However, he believes that Bebinca did not allow Macau authorities to test their real typhoon-management capabilities.

In the Secretary's opinion, transportation chaos and panic-buying can't be avoided



Wong Sio Chak

during natural disasters.

According to the Secretary, the government has set up short-, mid- and long-term plans to combat typhoons and handle safety incidents, following Typhoon Hato last year.

The short-term plan was completed in July.

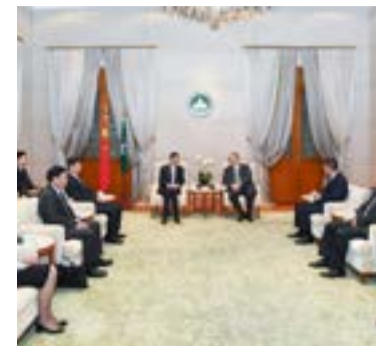
The government has already completed public consultation of the Civil Protection Law for the mid-term plan.

As for the long-term plan, authorities will focus on building

a material storage facility and an emergency building. The government has already chosen a location for the temporary material storage facility and will begin construction soon.

The Civil Protection Law has proposed punishing rumor spreaders, as suggested after Hato.

Wong explained that when there is an emergency, government authorities will be the first to issue clarifications, deeming it necessary to punish intentional rumor spreaders.



Agreements vow closer Shanghai-Macau ties

Macau and Shanghai signed four new agreements yesterday, including one for a thematic year of co-operation expected to expand ties between the two. The three other new memorandums of understanding signed cover the MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) industry, financial services and youth exchanges. The Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, and the Mayor of Shanghai, Ying Yong, witnessed the signing ceremony held at the government headquarters. In his signing ceremony speech, Chui said the memorandum of understanding on a thematic year of Macau-Shanghai co-operation was in line with President Xi Jinping's guiding principles regarding the integration of Macau's development with overall national development.

MEETING TO DISCUSS HAZARDOUS MATERIAL STORAGE

SECRETARY FOR Security Wong Sio Chak plans to meet with Coloane residents to explain safety measures for the government's temporary storage of hazardous materials in the Concordia Industrial Park area in Coloane. Associations and residents can apply to participate

in the briefing session to be organized by the security authority. According to Wong, in the long-term the government hopes to build a hazardous material storage facility, making use of sea reclamation in order to strictly separate residents from hazardous materials.

Macau wins second medal in 2018 Asian Games

YESTERDAY, Macau won its second medal at the 2018 Asian Games in Indonesia.

Wushu athlete Li Yi won a silver medal in the women's Changquan category, scoring a total of 9.72 points.

The gold medal winner was an athlete from mainland China, who beat Li Yi by 0.02 points. The bronze medal went to a Vietnamese athlete.

Fellow Macau Changquan athlete So Cho Man came fourth.

On the same day, local Wushu athlete Cheong Pui Seng participated in Taichi and the Taichi sword competition. Unfortunately, he missed out on a medal and scored a total 19.18 points,



Wushu athlete Li Yi

with 9.6 points for Taichi and 9.58 points for Taichi sword.

Macau had already won two medals. On Tuesday, Wushu athlete Huang Junhua won a gold medal in the men's Nanquan-Nangun category.

Macau is ranked 14th on the medal ta-

ble so far, with China, Japan and Korea occupying the top three table positions.

Yesterday, Macau athletes also competed in swimming, bowling, and Wushu competitions. Macau's boxing team also arrived in Jakarta to prepare for the competition.



XINHUA

Slight increase in gaming sector employees, salaries

At the end of the second quarter of 2018, the number of full-time employees in the gaming sector increased by 1 percent year-on-year to 56,271, with the number of dealers holding stable at 24,062. According to the results of a survey on manpower needs and wages released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), in June 2018, the average earnings (excluding bonuses) of full-time employees in the sector were MOP23,650, up by 2.5 percent year-on-year. The average earnings of dealers increased by 2.6 percent to MOP20,450. The survey excluded junket promoters and junket associates.

Job vacancies totalled 823 at the end of the second quarter of 2018, down by

100 year-on-year. Most of the vacancies (72.3 percent) were for clerks, including 370 vacancies for dealers.

In terms of recruitment prerequisites, 22.1 percent of the vacancies required work experience, while 74.7 percent required senior secondary education or lower. Requirements for knowledge of Mandarin and English accounted for 92.5 percent and 24.9 percent respectively.

According to the survey, in the second quarter of 2018, a total of 1,311 new employees were hired, up by 26.7 percent from 1,035 in the same quarter of 2017.

Regarding job training, 76,430 gaming sector employees attended training courses organized by their employers or in conjunction with other institutions.

Airport's new boarding gates in service

The Macau International Airport (MIA) opened new boarding gates in the North area of the passenger terminal yesterday. The airport has been undergoing a series of expansions and facility enhancements over the past few years in a bid to cope with an increased number of passengers. This year, over 8 million passengers are expected to use the facility. The North extension of the terminal was opened to passengers in 2018 and served as a major highlight of MIA's short-term expansion plan. To make the use of the new gates more intuitive during the introductory phase, starting yesterday, checked-in passengers will receive a flyer regarding the new boarding gate locations.

Driving license examiner attacked by failed candidate

A driving test examiner was attacked on Tuesday by a candidate who had just failed the test. The examiner, who works for the Transport Bureau (DSAT), sustained injuries to his head. After medical treatment, the victim was in a stable condition. It is suspected that the candidate was unhappy with the test results, which prompted the attack. The case has been referred to the police for further investigation. The DSAT sent its regards to the victim and strongly condemned all acts of violence, emphasizing that nobody should resort to violence in order to solve problems.

CIVIL PROTECTION

CEM improves disaster resilience and power stability

Julie Zhu

CEM held a media briefing session at CEM building this week and gave an introduction on its measures for improving disaster resilience and power stability.

CEM has successively implemented flood prevention measures in low-lying areas, which is expected to improve Macau's disaster resilience.

Talking about the experience gained from previous typhoons, CEM has worked out solutions with the Office for the Development of the Energy Sector (GDSE) and mapped out flood prevention measures and solutions to reduce the risk of power equipment being exposed to flood waters and the consequent impact on the public.

These measures include optimizing the medium-voltage network and power equipment, as well as installing flood barriers, strengthening the sealing of cable inlets, installing flood alarm systems and sump pumps in customer substations.



Billy Chan

Regarding long-term measures, CEM has revised the flood protection standards for electrical facilities in buildings, which in turn can improve the flood-resistant capacity of power facilities of new buildings in low-lying areas. CEM is planning to relocate some of the customer substations near Inner Harbor to higher ground.

This measure does not only address the flooding problems in the long run, but will also increase the power network capacity for the older part of the city.

After the briefing session, CEM

invited the media to visit the Control Center of System Dispatch Center to learn about the operation of the flooding alarm system.

The group was also invited to inspect customer substations that have been equipped with flood control facilities.

During the introduction, Billy Chan, senior manager of CEM Transmission and Distribution Department, said that the GDSE has always maintained close links with CEM.

Chan also said that, in terms of preventing floods, CEM will

focus increasingly on buildings which will be built in the future.

In the face of the long-standing flooding problem in Macau, CEM has discussed with GDSE how to improve the flood-resistant capacity of power facilities and has devised a number of measures to enhance the capacity at low-lying areas.

CEM has continued to invest in the construction of a transmission and distribution network, including a number of large-scale projects such as the 110kV Cotai Hospital Substation, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge Substation, Barra Substation, Macau Power Station Substation, the third 22kV Pac On Substation, the 220kV connection for Lotus Substation, Canal dos Patos Substation and Pac On Substation, as well as the third 7 km-long 220 kV interconnection with Guangdong Power Grid.

Another important infrastructure project that will help ensure a reliable power supply, is the new gas turbine generator units planned for the built in Coloane Power Station.

In view of the growing demand for electricity in Macau, CEM has suggested that the government replace some of the old power generation units with eco-friendly and efficient gas turbine generator units in a bid to solve the problem of aging legacy units. This would thus enhance local power supply capacity.

After preparatory work for the project gained approval from the government last year, CEM launched an international tendering process in December 2017 and stopped accepting tenders in April 2018.

Tender evaluation is currently being conducted. When the new gas turbine generator units are put into operation, local power generation will take up an average of 30 percent of the total power consumption, which can be increased to 50 percent in an emergency.

In addition, in order to enhance electrical engineers' awareness of operation and maintenance techniques for medium-voltage equipment, CEM has organized workshops for personnel who are responsible for the construction, operation, handling and maintenance of medium-voltage power distribution equipment.

The workshops were hosted by CEM professionals who passed on their knowledge and demonstrated operations.

Malaysia likely aware of Jho Low's whereabouts

MALAYSIAN authorities may know the whereabouts of the wanted businessman Low Taek Jho, also known as Jho Low, the country's former finance minister Tun Daim Zainuddin revealed on Monday.

"The government knows his whereabouts. Last time, he was in Macau. The government knows where he is," said Daim, as cited in Malaysian reports.

Authorities believed that Low left Macau for an unknown destination, escaping arrest in Hong Kong.

The fugitive's Malaysian passport has already been revoked, although he has denied any wrongdoing.

Wanted for his role in the multi-billion-dollar scandal at Malaysian state fund 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB), the fugitive said through his lawyers last week that he is not

expecting to get a fair hearing anywhere, thus he will not present himself to any country where his guilt has been predetermined.

Malaysia has applied for an Interpol red notice to seek assistance from the United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, India, Myanmar, China and Hong Kong to detain Low.

The top adviser also denied that he raised the matter of the fugitive's whereabouts

when he visited China last month to meet with the country's top officials.

"When I went to China, I did not negotiate for Jho Low's whereabouts," he said, declining to comment further on the matter.

Meanwhile, The Wall Street Journal cited sources saying Low had been living freely in China despite the Interpol red notice.

In regards to his luxury



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

yacht that was allegedly bought with stolen funds and which has since been transferred to Ma-

laysia, the government is expecting to complete the yacht's sale in a few months.

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Inflation rate increased in July

INFORMATION From the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) indicated that the Composite Consumer Price Index (CPI) in July 2018 increased by 3.33 percent year-on-year to 113.11, up by 0.22 percentage points from the 3.11 percent growth in June.

The Composite CPI reflects the impact of price changes on the general households of Macau and is a key indicator of inflation. DSEC attributes the faster growth to rising costs of eating out, rentals for dwellings, higher parking meter rates and the prices of gasoline and adult clothing.

Among the various sections of goods and services, price indices of clothing and footwear, transport and heal-

th went up by 7.71 percent, 6.64 percent and 4.65 percent respectively year-on-year, while the index of communications decreased markedly by 7.92 percent.

The Composite CPI in July 2018 increased by 0.24 percent when compared to the previous month. The higher charges for package tours during the summer holidays pushed up the price index of recreation and culture by 2.3 percent, according to DSEC.

For the 12 months ending July 2018, the average Composite CPI rose by 2.32 percent from the previous period, with notable growth in the price indexes of clothing and footwear (+4.93 percent), health (+4.83 percent) and education (+4.46 percent).

Lynzy Valles

THE painting exhibition "The Bulilit (little) Artists: Small Shapes, Big Visions" kicked off on Tuesday, showcasing a total of 40 artworks of children and teenagers.

The Bulilit (little) Artists group was formed in 2003 under the Quezonian Association of Macau as a place for the children and teenagers - mainly from the Filipino community - to spend their spare time during summer holidays.

With an aim to cultivate the children's interest in arts and painting, the workshop is usually held in July for a month.

For the paintings, the group uses acrylic paint on canvas as it is easy to manage and no toxic.

Led by Philippine-based artist Didith Canasa, the summer painting workshop, which focuses on children, restarted in 2015.

According to Canasa, students in the past have taken art workshops from one year to the next, increasing their understanding of art, sharpening their skills, and teaching them to harness their imaginations for artistic expression.

"I have new students to nurture. We are now doing abstract paintings and at the



Didith Canasa (center) with some of her students

Exhibition showcases children's works

same time, we also focus on nature paintings as they are preferred by the children," she said.

"It's so important for me to teach these skills to these children. I always think of my commitment towards these children who are really eager to learn so I keep coming back" Canasa added.

Canasa also expressed that she has plans to reach out to the Chinese community,

particularly associations who conduct painting classes for children with special needs.

A participant of the workshop, 15-year-old Zoe Nava, hoped that such activities could be held in the region, not just on summer holidays.

"This workshop helped me think outside of the box and be creative and just let my mind flow with just expressing my opi-

nion on paper," she said.

"It's important for us to have these workshops because there's not much for youngsters that provide the opportunity to learn, also because of the language barrier here in Macau," Nava added.

For next year, the group plans to launch a book comprising the paintings created from 2003 up to this year. The exhibition will be held until Saturday.

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Phone giant Xiaomi delivers growth in first results

XIAOMI Corp. delivered a 68 percent revenue jump and quarterly profit in its maiden financial results, as the Chinese smartphone giant made strides overseas while fending off a challenge from local rivals such as Oppo.

The results - its first since raising USD5.4 billion in an initial public offering - could help Xiaomi get past an anti-climactic July debut. Net income came to 14.7 billion yuan (\$2.1 billion) in the three months ended June, versus a 12 billion yuan loss a year earlier. Revenue climbed to 45.2 billion yuan, it reported, but at a pace that decelerated from the first quarter's 86 percent.

The dramatic reversal in the bottom line came about when Xiaomi booked a one-time gain of 22.5 billion yuan, after revaluing a swath of preferred stock in the aftermath of its Hong Kong IPO. Without that, its operating loss came to 7.6 billion yuan.

Xiaomi, which depends on smartphone sales to ramp up users for its suite of online services, is trying to couch itself as a high-growth internet company - a narrative consistently touted by billionaire co-

BLOOMBERG



founder Lei Jun. The internet services business accounted for about 9 percent of revenue in the quarter. That segment's growth however is one reason it managed to price its IPO at multiples far higher than celebrated tech names such as Tencent Holdings Ltd. and

Facebook Inc.

Longer term, Xiaomi's busy building stores and production sites that'll serve as beach-heads for expansion into emerging markets from India to Russia. Its 206.9 million monthly active users as of June are a rich pool of buyers for hi-

gh-margin services. That base should grow as Xiaomi pushes gadgets to users for what it calls "honest prices."

"Xiaomi is rooted in an internet mindset," CCB International analysts Ronnie Ho and Rocky Zhang wrote in a report ahead of the earnings release. "By le-

veraging its rapidly growing hardware ecosystem, Xiaomi can acquire users at a profit in contrast to global internet companies experiencing rising traffic acquisition costs."

In the short term, the company faces no shortage of challenges, particularly in the smartphone business that yields 70 percent of its revenue.

Local rivals are directing precision attacks against the company overseas, a key area for growth given a saturated Chinese market. Oppo created the Realme brand for India, selling budget phones online to try and topple Xiaomi from its leading position. At the other end of the spectrum, Huawei Technologies Co. is shifting its focus back to Europe, a critical market for Xiaomi's more expensive devices.

The real battle revolves around growing services income - its main source of profit. Revenue from that segment rose 64 percent to 4 billion yuan in the June quarter, thanks mostly to ad sales.

While Xiaomi's made advances in China with its own video, music and finance apps, those businesses barely exist elsewhere. Its ecosystem partners - the ones that make everything from air purifiers to toy robots - are mostly domestically oriented. Global smartphone demand itself is on the wane, threatening the device sales that Xiaomi depends on to grow and engage its user base. **Bloomberg**

INDIA

Tycoon battles to unlock USD17b of his wealth

BILLIONAIRE Pallonji Mistry has about 85 percent of his estimated USD19.9 billion fortune locked up in a legal battle with India's largest conglomerate.

The conflict between Mistry and the Tata Group began with a boardroom coup in 2016, when the former's son was ousted as chairman of the latter. The 89-year-old Mistry is one of the largest shareholders in Tata Sons Ltd., which controls the \$100 billion conglomerate, and his family has since filed numerous lawsuits against the holding company's board, alleging suppression of minority interests and governance lapses.

The courtroom battle has continued, most recently focused on a move by Tata Sons to restrict shareholders from freely selling their stake - a change recognized by the government this month. Mistry, who derives an estimated

\$16.9 billion of his fortune from his 18.4 percent equity in Tata Sons, can no longer sell those holdings without the approval of a board his family has been fighting for two years.

Mistry's Shapoorji Pallonji group didn't reply to an email seeking comment. A Tata Sons spokesman declined to comment.

While Tata Sons has always been a closely held private entity, it was considered a public limited company due to its size under an old legal provision. That allowed investors greater flexibility in transferring their shares, according to Daizy Chawla,

The discord has battered a relationship that goes back almost a century

a New Delhi-based senior partner at law firm Singh & Associates.

The law was altered some years back, allowing Tata Sons's shareholders to approve a change to its legal status last year, overriding objections from Mistry's son.

"Being a private company there is now restriction on the free transfer of shares by its shareholder and the transfer needs to be done with the approval of the board of directors," Chawla said.

A New Delhi court last week heard arguments on a plea to put on hold government approval of Tata Sons's conversion. The dispute may eventually wend its way to India's top court since the losing party will have the right to appeal.

The discord has battered a relationship that goes back almost a century. A Mistry company had financial links with Tata Sons from as early as 1927,

though the family only began acquiring equity from the 1960s onward. Over time, purchases from Tata family members and a rights issue grew their holding to the present 18.4 percent.

Mistry inherited the stake from his father, who built the Tata Group's automobile factories and steel mills. His Shapoorji Pallonji group, founded in 1865, is also responsible for some of financial capital Mumbai's most iconic structures including the Reserve Bank of India buildings and The Taj Mahal Palace hotel.

After earning a reputation for being reclusive, Mistry and his family were thrust into the spotlight in 2012, when his younger son was chosen to helm the Tata group. The bonhomie ended with his son's ouster in October 2016, which triggered one of India's worst corporate showdowns.

Still, it's the exposure to

BLOOMBERG



Tata companies that's helped bump up Pallonji Mistry's fortune by \$2.5 billion this year as investors piled into Tata Consultancy Services Ltd., Asia's largest software services provider. Mistry ranks 44th on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index and is among the richest men living in India.

Another point of contention that's emerged as the Tata-Mistry relationship soured is article 75 of Tata Sons's articles of association, which the board can use to force a shareholder to sell out. This provision is also being contested in

court.

Combined with the decision to go private, the restriction puts Mistry in a tight spot. On the one hand, he can be forced to sell his stake while, on the other, he needs Tata Sons to sign off on a suitor he picks.

"Tata Sons can choose to preempt any stake sale by enforcing article 75 in its articles of association and forcing an existing shareholder to sell out," said Sudip Mahapatra, a partner at law firm S&R Associates. "That's what's putting the Mistry family on a weak footing." **Bloomberg**

Brianna Jackson

INNOVATION

Electric trucks facing long road to unseat diesel engines

THE next battleground for replacing fossil fuel-guzzling vehicles will be U.S. interstate highways, where long-haul trucks keep the economy moving.

Electric trucks are coming, and they'll be cleaner and cheaper to operate than conventional models that burn diesel, according to Tesla Inc., which already has prototypes on the road. Diesel advocates say range and recharging will be bigger hurdles for massive 18-wheelers than they've been for cars, and it will be several years before battery-powered models are ready for the open road.

The shift comes amid a growing debate over U.S. vehicle emission standards. President Donald Trump is seeking to roll back limits, while California and other states are challenging the plan in the court.

"Right now, we don't think it's viable," said Jon Mills, a spokesman for engine maker Cummins Inc. Electric trucks are "more viable where you have shorter routes, less loads and you're able to recharge."

The transition will have a significant impact on commerce and the environment. Trucks are the lifeblood of the U.S. economy, handling 71 percent of the food, retail goods, construction supplies and other freight delivered every day. They're also a significant source of air pollution. U.S. greenhouse gases from medium- and heavy-duty trucks increased 85 percent from 1990 to 2016, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, accounting for about 23 percent of carbon emissions from transportation in 2016.

While electric trucks will curb pollution, it's not clear the industry is ready to switch, said Mills. For starters, long-haul truckers would need a place to recharge during cross-country trips. Plus, batteries are heavy, and adding weight cuts into the cargo truckers are paid to haul.



A Thor Trucks Inc. ET-One all electric semi-truck

Cummins supplies engines for vehicles including consumer pickups, fire engines, tractors and heavy-duty trucks. Most burn diesel and the Columbus, Indiana-based company has some that use natural gas. It's also developing electric motors, but Mills doesn't expect much demand for them in big trucks anytime soon.

Diesel will be "the primary option for heavy duty trucking markets, long haul especially, for a decade or more," Mills said in an interview.

Tesla expects it sooner. The top electric car maker unveiled the Semi in November, a so-called Class 8 truck that can haul a maximum vehicle weight of 80,000 pounds, the standard size for long-haul shipping. It will go about 805 kilometers on a charge, with a base price of \$180,000. A cheaper version will go 300 miles. The company expects to deliver production mo-

odels next year and says Walmart Inc. and PepsiCo Inc. are among customers that have already placed orders.

Tesla Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk said during the November introduction that the Semi costs about \$1.26 per mile to operate, compared with USD1.51 a mile for diesel models. The company declined to answer additional questions about the Semi. Diesel backers question Tesla's claims.

"It's easy if you're just coming into this market to say 'they're \$1.50 per mile and we can do it for \$1.20,'" said Allen Schaeffer, executive director at the Diesel Technology Forum trade group. "But where's the proof? I haven't seen it."

Diesel trucks are well entrenched in the shipping industry, and there's little need for a new entrant, Schaeffer said. The industry has made significant ad-

vances in reducing pollution. According to EPA estimates, emissions from current engines are about 85 percent lower than before 2007, when new standards took effect.

The transition will have a significant impact on commerce and the environment.

"Diesel is the benchmark for energy efficiency," Schaeffer said. "Diesel dominates the entire sector."

There are other issues that concern truckers. A 500-mile range is fine for shorter deli-

very routes but diesel trucks typically go much further before refueling, sometimes more than 2,000 miles. Also, some drivers get paid by the mile, and wouldn't make money while batteries recharge.

Tesla said it's planning a high-speed truck Megacharger that, in about 30 minutes, would give a battery enough juice to go 400 miles. The company hasn't said when it would be available.

Thor Trucks Inc. is also developing electric trucks, but the Los Angeles-based company is focusing initially on shorter delivery routes. United Parcel Service Inc. is testing a medium-duty vehicle now.

Thor announced a Class 8 in December. Chief Executive Officer Dakota Semler said he's already got orders, though he wouldn't identify the customers. The ET-One is aimed at customers with shorter delivery needs. It will have a top range of 300 miles and a base price of \$150,000. The company said the battery can fully recharge in 90 minutes.

"If you're able to produce a vehicle that would save fleets money, there's really no reason why you're not able to adopt more of them," Semler said in an interview.

Electric trucks are slowly gaining momentum, said Don Ake, vice president of commercial vehicles at FTR Transportation Intelligence. They'll enter the market next year, and he said they would be a more competitive option in about five years.

"There's going to be a competitive battle at some point," said Ake. "Diesel isn't going down without a fight." **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

MGM ANNOUNCES INTERNATIONAL LION DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP



MGM hosted a press conference for the "MGM Lion Dance Championship – Macau International Invitational 2018" and a graduation ceremony for the "Junior Lion Dance Training Program 2018" yesterday at MGM COTAI's Ballroom. MGM announced that this year's Championship will take place at MGM Theater at COTAI on November 10 and 11, introducing Macau's first Junior Lion Dance Performance Competition.

The "MGM Lion Dance Championship – Macau International Invitational 2018" is co-hosted by Wushu General Association of Macau, and supported by Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO), Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) and Dragon & Lion Dances Federation of Asia; while the Junior Lion

Dance Training Program is a collaboration with Hong Wai Dragon & Lion Dance Association Macau and also supported by MGTO and DSEJ.

The "MGM Lion Dance Championship – Macau International Invitational 2018" will feature lion dance teams from 14 countries and regions including China, Malaysia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, HKSAR, and MSAR. In addition, the Championship gathers lion dance teams from Australia, the United States, Cambodia and Myanmar, making the competition truly international. The two-day action-packed Championship will also include the "Female Traditional Lion Dance Championship" with international standard rating system, and Macau's

first "Junior Lion Dance Performance Competition".

The Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of MGM China, Grant Bowie noted during yesterday's press conference that developments have been registered since the championship was first launched in 2010. "The standards continue to rise as more competition categories have been added and a new rating system has been adopted, enabling lion dance to be developed into an international competitive sport. This year, the Championship will take place at Asia's dynamic theater, MGM Theater at MGM COTAI for the first time. The theater will be transformed into a competition venue, offering a never-seen-before experience for the audience and the participating teams."



AUGUST TO REMEMBER

How much has change

Daniel Beitler (text)
Renato Marques (photos)

TODAY marks exactly one year since one of the deadliest typhoons to ever have struck Macau made landfall in the city, leaving a scar on its people and communities.

The Signal No. 10 typhoon – the strongest of its kind under the former storm warning system – left 10 dead, more than 200 injured, and a trail of destruction in its wake. But Typhoon Hato was more than just a destructive tropical storm. Over a period of 48 hours, it exposed a dangerous apathy towards natural disasters and shed light on the government's lack of preparation and accountability.

The 48 hours of confusion, chaos and extraordinary events were unprecedented in post-handover Macau's history. Power blackouts and water shortages beset those who were fortunate enough to stay indoors. Those who had already left for their morning commute faced far worse, with falling trees, shattered glass and flooded car parks. The Macau garrison of the People's Liberation Army even took to the streets for the first time.

In the 12 months that have passed since Hato, the sense of complacency has been replaced with fear and caution.

Jacky Ho, director of the Department of Innovative Social Work at City University of Macau, told the Times that the public's awareness of the dangers of natural disasters has been heightened since Hato, but cautioned

that this could be temporary and that a mild typhoon season this year could undo all that.

"Hato left a scar and, like a stress-response mechanism, people have become more cautious," said Ho. "Generally speaking, there has been a change to the public's perception of the dangers of typhoons, but I don't know whether this will be a lasting change. Humans are designed to forget easily."

"This year we have so far been very fortunate that the number and severity of the typhoons has been much lower than last year. My question is: if there is no major typhoon during the rest of the year, will the public forget by the next season?"

THE MORNING AFTER

Macau greeted the morning after Hato with a sense of solidarity and community. Whether organized by individuals, associations or corporations, groups of residents and non-residents banded together for city-wide cleanup projects. These groups went on to help undo the damage for several weeks and even months, strengthening the societal bonds between people from different backgrounds and different parts of the city.

Political commentator Larry So believes that the social bonds formed the morning after and in the subsequent weeks helped "to bring the people together" and "strengthen the bonds between [different] parts of society."

Ho agrees, saying that in order to strengthen such community groups in preparation for future typhoon seasons, the govern-

ment needs to step up its public education campaigns teaching people how to cope with natural disasters. He says an emphasis should be placed on how more able members of the community can care for vulnerable groups, such as the elderly and the disabled. This helps disaster relief teams to focus on more critical cases and has been implemented with success in places like Taiwan and Japan.

"People in Taiwan or Japan are more prepared [than we were]. The governments have worked for a long time to disseminate information to the public about what to do in these situations, so that now even young children are aware. When ... natural disasters occur, even the children instinctively know how to respond. But this requires continuous government communication."

He gave an example of how a public education campaign might have alleviated the brief food and water shortage experienced in Hato's aftermath, when supermarket shelves lay bare and people queued at fire hydrants to illegally siphon what water was available.

"The government can educate people that they don't need to rush to the supermarket on the day of the typhoon," said Ho. "They can stock up [on] water and other [dry] food products ahead of the typhoon season."

Education campaigns might include an examination of the role of human activity in influencing climate change, how this affects the frequency and severity of natural disasters, and what can be done about it.



And one year since Hato?

So said the events of August 23 certainly made people more focused on their immediate environment, but that this awareness remains at a local level and excludes broader concerns about climate change and recycling.

"In Macau, we are not so concerned with climate change and global warming," he told the Times. "People are more concerned with the immediate environment. Typhoon Hato hasn't changed our wider view on environmental issues – just look at plastic bag consumption in Macau. People don't make the link between the wider environment and local disasters."

But climate change is linked to the incidence of natural disasters in Macau.

The majority of environmental scientists agree that the incidence of record-breaking hot days is correlated with average global temperatures and say that as temperatures rise, so will the frequency and severity of tropical cyclones and other extreme weather events.

The day before Typhoon Hato, the city experienced its highest temperatures since 1930, with temperatures of 39 degrees Celsius detected at a weather station in Ka Ho, Coloane.

CONFIDENCE AND CAUTION

One year after Hato, the issue of accountability remains unresolved.

The former director of the Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG), Fong Soi Kun, bore the brunt of the accountability - leaving his go-

vernamental colleagues mostly unscathed - after his bureau was found to have made questionable decisions regarding the hoisting of typhoon signals.

The SMG raised signals significantly behind the equivalent authority in neighboring Hong Kong. Even though authorities knew about the powerful storm for several days, the SMG waited until 9 a.m. Wednesday morning to raise Signal No. 8, by which time much of the city had already left for work. In comparison, Hong Kong had raised its T8 warning nine hours earlier.

In the year since, the SMG has swapped its overconfidence for overcaution.

During the typhoon last Tuesday, the bureau raised the Signal No. 8 several hours in advance of the storm – and the public took notice.

However, So thinks the policy change won't last. He told the Times that it was "natural for [the SMG] to be overcautious over last week's typhoon, since it's the first year since Hato. [However], eventually, they will become less cautious. I don't expect this to be a lasting change."

Either way, the government is determined not to be caught underprepared again.

Though it is yet to disclose the final budget, in the year since Hato, several public agencies have acquired a host of new equipment to the tune of many millions.

Last month, the government unveiled new rescue equipment to increase the capacity of local disaster response teams, including maritime drones, a sub-

marine robot controlled by cable, and several pieces of special diving equipment, such as underwater masks with communicator devices.

To prevent the control systems at the Ilha Verde Water Treatment Plant from being flooded again, Macao Water showcased its new seawater defenses this week, which are also designed to protect the critical water piping system.

As for the low-lying and vulnerable Inner Harbor area, which has been prone to flooding for many years, Typhoon Hato proved to be the catalyst for government action. Authorities proposed building a tidal barrier just a few weeks after Hato and promised that a final plan approved by the Central Government would be in place by the end of this year.

In other areas of governance, authorities have begun work on new legislation to prevent such a political crisis from reoccurring.

The most profound political change to arise from August 23 is the civil protection regime, which recently concluded its public consultation period and will be presented to the Legislative Assembly for deliberation shortly.

The new bill imposes stricter punishments on those who spread rumors or false information during periods of civil crisis, raising the maximum sentence from six months to three years. It comes in response to the case of two elderly residents who shared information via an internet-based messaging service that suggested the government was covering up deaths caused by Typhoon Hato.



Salvador denies asking Taiwan for money before Beijing switch

Marcos Aleman, San Salvador

SALVADORAN authorities yesterday [Macau time] denied having asked Taiwan for money in exchange for maintaining diplomatic relations with the self-governing island, saying its decision to switch recognition to China was due to the enormous advantages of trading with the economic giant.

In an interview with state television, presidential spokesman Roberto Lorenzana called Taiwan's allegations "base" and "totally false," noting that other countries have opted to have diplomatic and commercial relations with Beijing.

"We cannot turn our back on the world, ignore that China is the second largest power in the world and the leading export economy on the planet," Lorenzana said. "It is key for our country."

President Salvador Sanchez Ceren announced earlier this week in a televised address that his country would break from more than 80 years of relations with Taipei and immediately switch to Beijing.

China considers Taiwan a renegade province, and the two have long competed with so-called dollar diplomacy — funding public works projects such as stadiums, for example — to secure recognition from other nations. With El Salvador's switch, 16 small countries plus the Vatican currently recognize Taiwan.

The move prompted the U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador, Jean Manes, to tweet this

AP PHOTO



Vice President Wang Qishan (right) shakes hands with Medardo Gonzalez, Secretary General of the ruling party of El Salvador, in Beijing

week that the decision "is worrisome for many reasons" and "without doubt this will impact our relationship with the government."

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio threatened to block funding for El Salvador, accusing it of being "against the U.S. on everything."

"Why should we keep sending them so much foreign aid? Today I will begin work to end that," Rubio said via Twitter.

The United States formally recognizes only China, but it maintains a de facto embassy known as the American Institute in Taiwan. Taipei has a

similar quasi-diplomatic outpost in Washington.

El Salvador's decision also drew criticism from the domestic opposition.

"The position from Taiwan is that the government of the FMLN (Sanchez Ceren's political party) asked it for money to finance the campaign in 2019," said lawmaker Margarita Escobar of the conservative Arena party. "That is called selling sovereignty and allowing another state to intervene in the internal affairs of El Salvador."

"I do not support this erroneous decision," said Guillermo Gallegos of the Grand Alliance for National Unity. "I

would qualify it as sad and regrettable."

Sanchez Ceren said in his address that the decision came after "a careful analysis" and "will bring great benefits for the country, and will open up extraordinary opportunities."

He said three high-ranking Salvadoran officials were in Beijing to sign an accord on establishing diplomatic relations.

Taiwanese Foreign Minister Joseph Wu accused China of luring away Taiwan's allies with promises of vast financial aid and investment.

Wu said Tuesday that El Salvador had repeatedly sought

large amounts of funding from Taiwan for a port project that a Taiwanese team of engineers dispatched by the government thought wasn't economically feasible.

Norman Quijano, a legislator from the conservative Arena party and president of the country's congress, called the move "a betrayal of a friendly country."

In a statement, the party warned that it could have geopolitical consequences including "with strategic allies such as the United States."

With El Salvador's switch, 16 small countries plus the Vatican currently recognize Taiwan

The U.S. is El Salvador's largest commercial partner and also home to an estimated 2 million Salvadoran migrants, including people in the country legally and illegally. In January the Trump administration announced an end to temporary protected immigration status for about 195,000 Salvadorans, and the Central American country has hoped for legislation that would allow them to stay beyond a September 2019 deadline to leave.

Panama switched recognition from Taiwan to China in 2017, and the Dominican Republic did the same earlier this year.

Taiwan split from mainland China amid civil war in 1949, and China considers the island its territory. **AP**

Heavily pork-reliant China battling African swine fever

CHINA, the world's largest producer of pork, is battling an African swine fever outbreak that could potentially devastate herds.

The disease, which only affects pigs and wild boar, has been detected in at least three locations across the vast country. Thousands of pigs have died or been culled in an effort to curb the spread of the highly contagious viral disease.

The appearance of the disease comes as China seeks to shift pig rearing from farmyards to vast breeding operations where waste and the spread of disease can be better controlled.

China produces as many as 600 million pigs annually and pork is a staple of the Chinese diet, accounting for more than 60 percent of animal protein consumed.

The fluctuating price of the staple meat is highly sensitive and the government maintains a large frozen supply to release when prices rise too high. Soaring demand for more meat and richer diets over recent years have brought massive profits to large firms able to harness the latest technology for improved efficiency.

In the eastern city of Lianyungang, 15,000 pigs have been culled after an

outbreak was detected last week, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. Inspectors found 615 pigs had been infected and 88 died. Measures are also being taken to disinfect contaminated areas and block the disease's spread to other farms.

Earlier this month, Shenyang in the northeast reported China's first outbreak of the disease, with 47 pig infected, all of which died, the ministry said. Infected pigs were also found last week at a slaughterhouse in the city of Zhengzhou, where they had been transported from Jiamusi in the far north. Authorities were

AP PHOTO



looking into the source of that outbreak in which all 30 of the infected pigs died.

African swine fever outbreaks have also been

reported in the European Union, chiefly in the Baltics, Poland and Romania.

Denmark plans to erect a 70-kilometer fence along the German border to keep

out wild boars, in the hope of preventing the spread of African swine fever, which stands to jeopardize the country's valuable pork industry. **AP**

KOREAN CRISIS

US commander says pressure key to nuclear diplomacy

THE commander of U.S. forces in South Korea said yesterday that he's cautiously optimistic nuclear diplomacy will work out with North Korea. But he also said Seoul and Washington must continue to apply pressure so that "there's not a reason or even an ability" for the North to back out.

Gen. Vincent Brooks told reporters that reports about continuing nuclear and missile development activities in North Korea show that Pyongyang currently lacks confidence that it can take real steps toward denuclearization and still be safe.

"While I do seek to have empathy to understand why North Korea is doing what it's doing and where it's coming from, nevertheless, this is a condition North Korea created for itself," Brooks said at a news conference in Seoul. "They will have to take the risk to move into the direction toward peace, given that they created the circumstances we are in."

Following a provocative year in weapons development, during which it tested a purported thermonuclear warhead and demonstrated potential capability to strike the U.S. mainland, the North has shifted to a diplomatic approach in 2018.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un held a historic summit with President Donald Trump in June. They issued aspirations for a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula without describing when or how it would occur.

Post-summit talks aimed at

mapping out a denuclearization process got off to a rocky start, with North Korea accusing a senior U.S. delegation led by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo of making unilateral demands for the country to relinquish its arsenal. North Korea has also been demanding that the United States fast-track discussions on a declaration to formally end the Korean War, which stopped with an armistice and not a peace treaty.

"The amount of progress that has been made in the relationships among countries since this time last year is perhaps not something that could have been conceived of last year and yet it has happened," Brooks said. "But we still have to see earnest action being taken on those matters of great concern like denuclearization. There is still a need for continued pressure so that there's not a reason or even an ability for North Korea to back up."

Nuclear diplomacy with North Korea has been littered with failures in past decades. But Brooks said the chances of success are better this time around because of the change of governments in Washington and Seoul and also because of the threat posed by the North's nuclear and long-range missile program is greater than ever.

For diplomatic efforts to succeed, it would be critical for the allies and North Korea to overcome distrust and misperception, where "actions taken by one party are not understood the way they were intended to be by the actor when the receiver sees it," Brooks said. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Two former Radio Free Asia reporters Uon Chhin (left) and Yeang Socheamet hold together after they walk outside the main prison of Prey Sar at the outskirts of Phnom Penh

CAMBODIA

Two reporters charged with spying released

Sopheng Cheang, Phnom Penh

TWO Cambodian journalists who had worked for U.S.-funded Radio Free Asia and are charged with espionage were released on bail, a day after a pardon freed four land rights activists from prison.

Uon Chhin and Yeang Sohearin, who is better known by his professional name of Yeang Socheamet, were arrested last November and charged with undermining national security by supplying information to a foreign state. The two journalists were also later charged with producing pornography after police said they found pornographic images on their computers. They face possible prison terms of up to 15 years.

The pair were greeted by friends and family when they walked out of Prey Sar prison Tuesday evening.

"Frankly speaking, we are not fully receiving our freedom because we must still present ourselves upon police request," Yeang Sohearin told journalists outside the prison. "We are continuing to urge the court to drop all charges against us so that we can do our jobs, living our lives as other people do."

His colleague, Uon Chhin, vowed to stay in his profession. "I love my job as a journalist," he said.

Their employer welcomed their release on bail while also calling for the charges against them to be dropped.

"The targeting and intimidation of anyone who has worked as an independent journalist in Cambodia is a clear violation of press freedom," said Libby Liu, president of Washington, D.C.-based Radio Free Asia. "With today's development, we hope all charges against them are dropped and their case is immediately dismissed."

Their arrests came during Cambodia's crackdown on the media and political opponents before last month's general election.

Prime Minister Hun Sen's ruling party swept the results in a vote widely seen as not fair or credible. The official voter turnout was high even though a boycott had been called by the main opposition party that was dissolved last year by a court ruling seen as biased.

Hun Sen, who has been in office since 1985 and has held a tight grip on power since ousting a co-prime minister in a bloody 1997 coup, has a record of cracking down harshly when facing a serious challenge, then effecting reconciliation when he no longer feels threatened. The pattern keeps human rights groups and Western governments off balance and moderates their criticism.

On Monday, four women jailed for participating in Cambodia's land rights movement were freed under a royal pardon requested by Hun Sen. One of those freed, Tep Vanny, had led protests against evictions from a lakeshore community in Phnom Penh where the government had granted concessions to develop a lu-

xury residential and commercial community.

Last September, Radio Free Asia closed its office in Cambodia after operating for 20 years, citing unprecedented government intimidation of the media. By the end of last year, the government had closed more than a dozen radio stations, some of which had rebroadcast Radio Free Asia's programs, and the English-language The Cambodia Daily newspaper was forced to shut down.

The two reporters were no longer working for RFA after their office closed, and police initially said they had been detained for running an unlicensed karaoke studio. But they were later accused of setting up a studio for RFA and charged with espionage.

A spokesman for the Phnom Penh Municipal Court, Ei Rin, said it ordered the release on bail as requested by the journalists' lawyer.

After their release, the two journalists went to a Buddhist temple to get a monk's blessings, a rite meant to get rid of bad luck.

Their detention had been sharply criticized by rights groups and journalists' associations.

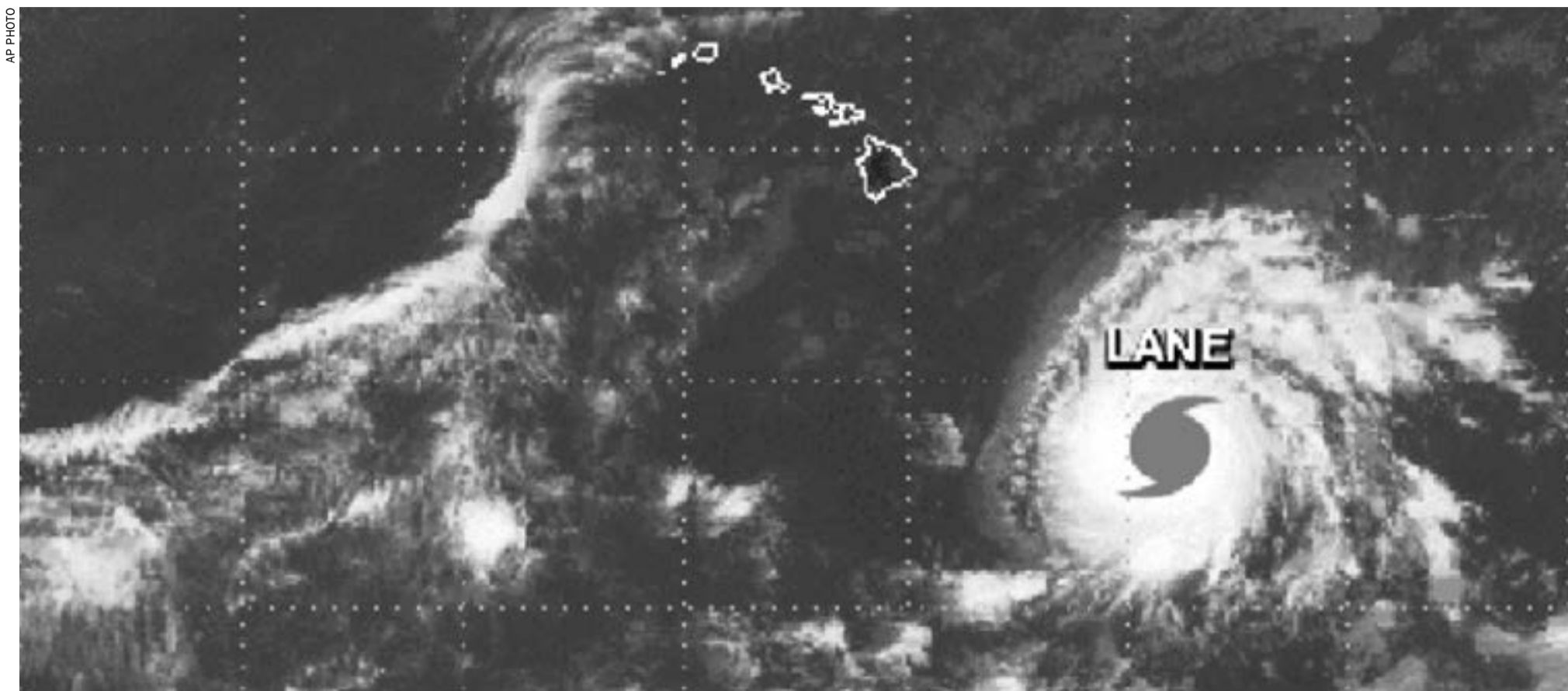
The Committee to Protect Journalists in a statement issued yesterday that they welcomed the journalists' release on bail, "but they never should have been detained in the first place."

"Authorities should drop these bogus charges and stop harassing journalists with frivolous accusations," said Shawn Crispin, the New York-based group's representative in Southeast Asia. **AP**

AP PHOTO



U.S. Gen. Vincent Brooks commander of the United Nations Command, U.S. Forces Korea and Combined Forces Command at a press conference in Seoul yesterday



This NASA satellite imagery shows Hurricane Lane in the Central Pacific Ocean southeast of the Hawaiian Islands at 2:01 p.m. HST

HAWAII

Residents brace themselves as hurricane strengthens

Jennifer Sinco Kelleher, Honolulu

HAWAII residents rushed to stores to stock up on bottled water, ramen, toilet paper and other supplies as they faced the threat of heavy rain, flash flooding and high surf as a strengthening hurricane continued to churn toward the state.

Yesterday [Macau time] the National Weather Service announced that Hurricane Lane had become a Category 5 hurricane, which means that it is likely to cause catastrophic damage with winds 157 mph or above. The hurricane is about 804 kilome-

ters southeast of Honolulu.

Earlier Tuesday, the weather service issued a hurricane warning for Hawaii island and a hurricane watch for Oahu, Maui and other smaller islands, meaning tropical storm-force winds, excessive rain and large swells could arrive starting today.

Hurricane Lane "is forecast to move dangerously close to the main Hawaiian islands as a hurricane later this week, potentially bringing damaging winds and life-threatening flash flooding from heavy rainfall," the weather service's Central Pacific Hurricane Center warned as it got closer

to the state.

The storm had been moving west, but it is expected to turn northwest toward the state Wednesday. There's uncertainty to Lane's path — whether it moves north or south, meteorologist Gavin Shigesato said.

"It is much too early to confidently determine which, if any, of the main Hawaiian islands will be directly impacted by Lane," the weather service said.

But the hurricane center said the storm will move very close to or over the islands from Thursday through Saturday. Even if the center of Lane doesn't make

landfall, the islands could be walloped with rain and wind.

Public schools on the Big Island and in Maui County are closed Wednesday until further notice.

Hawaii Gov. David Ige is allowing non-essential state employees on the Big Island and Maui to go on administrative leave from Wednesday to Friday as Hurricane Lane approaches. Employees on Hawaii and Maui islands who work in disaster response as well as in hospitals and prisons are required to report to their jobs, the governor said.

Longtime Hawaii residents re-

called a devastating 1992 hurricane as they prepared for Hurricane Lane.

Kauai resident Mike Miranda was 12 when Hurricane Iniki devastated the island 26 years ago. "A lot of people are comparing the similarities between Iniki and Lane," he said.

Iniki's turn into the islands was sudden, he recalled.

"I remember how very little rain fell. But I remember the wind being the strongest force of nature I've ever witnessed and probably the scariest sounds I've ever heard in my life," he said.

Utility poles were down all over the island, and his 7th-grade classes were held in Army tents for several months.

Miranda said his family is used to preparing for hurricane season.

"A lot of people who moved here and never experienced a hurricane, they're the ones rushing to the store," he said. **AP**

AUSTRALIA

Political challenger Dutton known for hard-right stances

PETER Dutton, the government lawmaker who has challenged Australia's prime minister for his job, is publicly perceived as a hard man and a leading hard-right conservative. His face is associated with turning back asylum seekers boats, stripping citizenship from extremists and striving to increase the English-language standards for migrants who want to gain citizenship.

Dutton gave up the largest security portfolio in the government when he resigned as Minister for Home Affairs, who con-

trols the newly created Department of Homeland Security designed to tackle the new security threats of a changing geo-political environment.

While highly regarded by the conservative Liberal Party's hard-right faction, his broader appeal has been questioned, particularly among ethnic minorities.

He has been criticized for saying the level of Lebanese Muslim immigration under a humanitarian program in the 1970s had been a mistake that Australia was now paying for through

a rise in domestic extremism.

He also attracted accusations of racism through comments that white farmers under threat of violence in black-majority South Africa should be treated as refugees because "they need help from a civilized country." He has angered many in the ethnic-African community by saying people in Victoria state were "scared to go out to restaurants of a night time" because of "African gang violence."

Dutton, 47, is a former police drug squad detec-



Former Australian Cabinet Minister Peter Dutton addresses the media at Parliament House

tive from the politically and socially conservative state of Queensland.

He was first elected to Parliament in 2001 and quickly rose to the rank of

minister three years later.

He became Minister for immigration and Border Protection in 2014, when he became responsible for Australia's contentious policy of sending asylum seekers who attempt to reach Australia by boat to immigration camps paid for by his government on impoverished Pacific island nations for Papua New Guinea and Nauru. The Australian navy also turns asylum seekers boats back to Indonesia, which Jakarta regards as an affront to Indonesian sovereignty. **AP**

US

Ex-Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort guilty on eight charges

PAUL Manafort, the longtime political operative who for months led Donald Trump's successful presidential campaign, was found guilty of eight financial crimes in the first trial victory of the special counsel investigation into the president's associates.

A judge declared a mistrial yesterday [Macau time] on 10 other counts the jury could not agree on.

The verdict was part of a stunning one-two punch of bad news for the White House, coming as the president's former lawyer, Michael Cohen, was pleading guilty in New York to campaign finance charges arising from hush money payments made to two women who say they had sexual relationships with Trump.

WHAT HAPPENED IN COURT?

The jury returned the decision after deliberating four days on tax and bank fraud charges against Manafort, who led Trump's elec-

tion effort during a crucial stretch of 2016, including as he clinched the Republican nomination and during the party's convention.

Manafort, who appeared jovial earlier in the day amid signs the jury was struggling in its deliberations, focused intently on the jury as the clerk read off the charges. He stared blankly at the defense table, then looked up, expressionless, as the judge finished thanking the jury.

"Mr. Manafort is disappointed of not getting acquittals all the way through or a complete hung jury on all counts," said defense lawyer Kevin Downing. He said Manafort was evaluating all his options.

The jury found Manafort guilty of five counts of filing false tax returns on tens of millions of dollars in Ukrainian political consulting income. He was also convicted of failing to report foreign bank accounts in 2012 and of two bank fraud charges that accused him of lying to obtain millions of dollars in loans after his consulting inco-

me dried up.

The jury couldn't reach a verdict on three other foreign bank account charges, and the remaining bank fraud and conspiracy counts.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR MANAFORT?

The outcome, though not the across-the-board guilty verdicts prosecutors sought, almost certainly guarantees years of prison for Manafort. It also appears to vindicate the ability of special counsel Robert Mueller's team to secure convictions from a jury of average citizens despite months of partisan attacks, including from Trump, on the investigation's integrity.

The verdict raised immediate questions of whether the president would seek to pardon Manafort, the lone American charged by Mueller to opt for trial instead of cooperate. The president has not revealed his thinking but spoke sympathetically through-



This courtroom sketch shows Paul Manafort listening to U.S. District court Judge T.S. Ellis III at federal court in Alexandria, Va.

out the trial of his onetime aide, at one point suggesting he had been treated worse than gangster Al Capone.

The president called the outcome a "disgrace" and said the case "has nothing to do with Russia collusion."

The trial did not resolve the central question behind Mueller's investigation — whether Trump associates coordinated with Russia to influence the election. Still, there were occasional references

to Manafort's work on the campaign, including emails showing him lobbying Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, on behalf of a banker who approved \$16 million in loans because he wanted a job in the Trump administration.

Manafort urged Kushner to consider the banker, Stephen Calk, for secretary of the Army. Though Kushner responded to Manafort's email by saying, "On it!" Calk ultimately did not get an administration post. **AP**

AD

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what's ON



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 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 ANTONIO LEÇA
 TIME: 3pm-8pm (Mondays)
 12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)
 UNTIL: October 21, 2018
 VENUE: A2 Gallery, Albergue SCM
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550

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

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

CATALOGUE EXHIBITION IN CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MACAO MUSEUM
 TIME: 10am-6pm (closed on Fridays)
 UNTIL: August 30, 2018
 VENUE: Kun lam Ecumenical Centre
 ADMISSION: Free
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Offbeat

ELBA, IDRIS ELBA, NOT SHAKEN OR STIRRED BY BOND QUESTIONS



Director Idris Elba (left) and partner Sabrina Dhowre

Was that martini offered to Idris Elba at the "Yardie" premiere shaken or stirred?

Unclear, but it was a good try by a reporter looking to find out if he'll become the first black James Bond.

Elba, who directed "Yardie," was also hounded by a flying insect that buzzed him and fiancée Sabrina Dhowre on the yellow carpet (We aren't referring to media who wouldn't let the Bond question go).

Last week, Elba posted a selfie on Twitter and wrote "my name's Elba, Idris Elba," echoing Bond's catchphrase. The actor acknowledged that "apparently" he set off a bit of a firestorm "by telling people my name."

Many Elba fans have campaigned for him to be the first black James Bond over the years.

One reporter extended a martini and asked if he'd like it shaken or stirred.

Elba's response: "Stir fried."

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Portuguese Soap Opera
15:50	Cartoons
16:15	Portuguese Comedy
17:40	Miscellaneous
18:15	Miscellaneous
19:00	Portugal Fashion
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	Hato Documentary
21:45	Around the World
22:20	Portuguese Serie - Liberty 21
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Miscellaneous
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:05	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

23 Aug - 29 Aug



HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 3: A MONSTER VACATION

ROOM 1
 2:30, 4:30, 7:30pm

Director: Genndy Tartakovsky

Starring: Adam Sandler, Andy Samberg, Selena Gomez

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 97min

ALONG WITH THE GODS:

THE LAST 49 DAYS

ROOM 1

9:30pm

Director: Kim Yong-hwa

Starring: HA Jung-woo, JU Ji-hoon, KIM Hyang-gi

Language: Korean (Chinese & English)

THOMAS & FRIENDS

BIG WORLD! BIG ADVENTURES! THE MOVIE

ROOM 1

9:15pm

Director: David Stoten

Starring: Dona Adwera, Peter Andre, Richie Campbell

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 85min

DORAEMON THE MOVIE:

NOBITA'S TREASURE ISLAND

ROOM 2

2:30pm

Director: Kazuaki Imai

Starring: Wasabi Mizuta, Megumi Ohara, Yumi Kakazu

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

THE SPY WHO DUMPED ME

ROOM 2

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

Director: Susanna Fogel

Starring: Mila Kunis, Kate McKinnon, Justin Theroux

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

L STORM

ROOM 3

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

Director: David Lam

Starring: Louis Koo, Julian Cheung, Kevin Cheng

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 90min

THE DARKEST MINDS

ROOM 3

7:30pm

Director: Jennifer Yuh Nelson

Starring: Amanda Stenberg, Mandy Moore, Harris Dickinson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 104min

this day in history



1990 OUTRAGE AT IRAQI TV HOSTAGE SHOW

Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein has appeared on state television with western hostages, provoking a storm of outrage.

Saddam told the group of more than a dozen mainly British people they had been detained to prevent war and said Iraq wanted to see that they were safe.

They are among hundreds of foreigners being held in Iraq since its invasion of Kuwait at the beginning of August.

However, the Iraqi leader told them they were not being held as "human shields" saying Iraq was in a position to destroy any attacker.

Saddam singled out one young British boy - named only as Stuart - and ruffled the child's hair.

Speaking through an interpreter, he asked Stuart if he was getting his milk.

The Iraqi leader told the group: "We hope your presence as guests here will not be for too long."

"Your presence here, and in other places, is meant to prevent the scourge of war."

They would become heroes of peace, Saddam added.

The detainees, who looked strained and nervous, were promised tuition for their children and given permission to write to their families.

At the end of the 30-minute taped appearance, the Iraqi leader posed for photographs with the hostages before shaking each one by the hand.

A spokesman for the Gulf Support Group, set up by relatives of stranded Britons, said the interview "made all of us feel sick".

The British Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, also criticised the broadcast.

Mr Hurd said: "I think the manipulation of children in that sort of way is contemptible."

The TV appearance has also been condemned by the US.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Saddam made a second TV appearance with the hostages. In early September the women and children, including five-year old Stuart Lockwood, were allowed to fly home. The men were not allowed to leave until early December. Stuart Lockwood returned with his family to Worcester, central England but suffered a personal loss in 2001 when his father, Derek, died of a heart attack. The refusal of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein to withdraw his troops from Kuwait led to the UN-backed Operation Desert Storm in January 1991. It would end in February with the defeat of the Iraqis and their subsequent forced departure from Kuwait.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

It's a common misconception that in order to really know what's going on, you have to be right in the middle of the action. What really gives you accurate insight is an outsider's perspective;

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Don't push on farther down the road right now; instead, take the time to stop in your tracks and settle into a quiet time. You have accomplished what you can for now, so be proud of yourself.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

It's all about creativity today - so go out into the world and explore all the nooks and crannies you can find. Wherever you look, there will be hidden clues and fascinating ideas behind everything.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

The time has arrived when you need to put up or shut up - normally, you're not too comfortable with ultimatums (and rightfully so), but today even you will come to realize how the sun is rapidly setting on your plans.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Follow your wildest urges throughout this day and make uncensored suggestions when you see a situation that could be improved upon. Your input is very important and it's just as valid as everyone else's.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

If you want to fit some fun time into this day, try to schedule it as early as possible - the majority of your day must be focused on completing your latest project or making headway toward your latest goal.

Libra

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

You may feel some conflicting emotions about your group of people - some of these folks are taking on annoying habits or getting involved with annoying people.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

The freshest ideas offer the greatest illumination for your life, so seek out innovation wherever and whenever you can today. If you put yourself in situations that are new.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

If you feel someone has been holding you back or trying too hard to control you lately, today is the day to do something about it! You have the perfect balance of confidence and tactfulness necessary to pull it off.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Social plans may be starting to feel more like social obligations ... your role within your group is becoming more critical and you may begin to think of yourself as being responsible for other people's happiness.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

If your friends are in need or feeling mixed up right now, try not to get too sucked into their dramas. It's important to be there for them when they need you, but their problems are not your problems.

Pisces

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

There is a big difference between being selfish and being protective of what you have, so don't feel guilty for not wanting to give everyone equal access to what you've worked so hard to earn.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

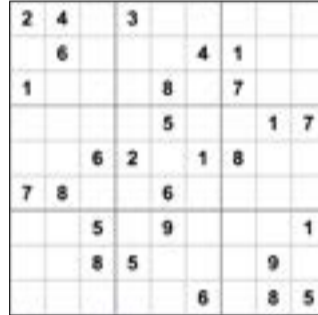
Easy



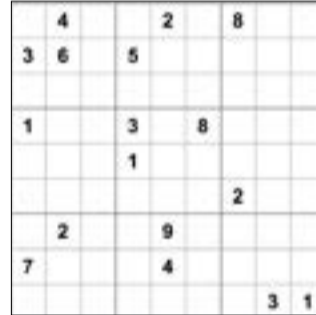
Easy+



Medium



Hard



WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
--	-----	-----	-----------

CHINA

Beijing	19	31	cloudy
Harbin	15	26	cloudy
Tianjin	25	31	overcast/cloudy
Urumqi	16	23	drizzle/shower
Xi'an	21	31	cloudy
Lhasa	11	23	shower/cloudy
Chengdu	21	33	clear
Chongqing	24	31	drizzle/cloudy
Kunming	18	25	moderate rain/shower
Nanjing	25	30	cloudy
Shanghai	27	33	cloudy
Wuhan	24	32	cloudy
Hangzhou	26	33	cloudy
Taipei	26	30	overcast/drizzle
Guangzhou	25	33	thundershower
Hong Kong	27	31	shower/cloudy

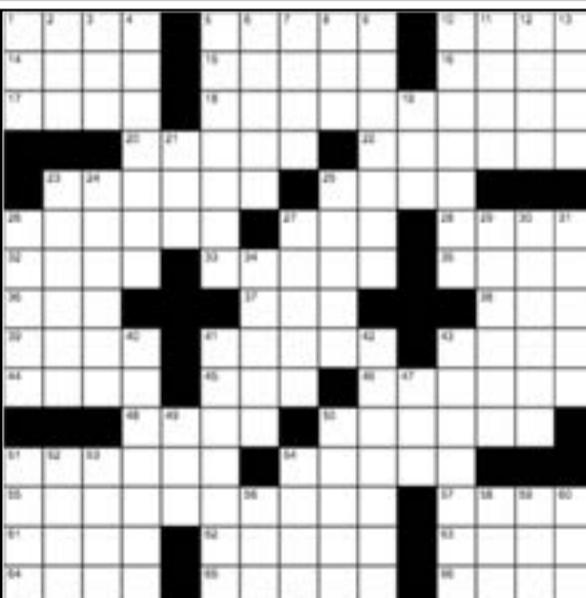
WORLD

Moscow	8	21	clear
Frankfurt	19	30	drizzle/clear
Paris	17	29	clear/drizzle
London	18	20	overcast/drizzle
New York	23	28	drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Boxer Max; 5- Personal histories; 10- Asian prince; 14- Fr. miss; 15- Corpulent; 16- Baseball team; 17- ___ Rhythm; 18- Lovesick glances; 20- Is wearing; 22- Picks up the check; 23- Arachnid; 25- Coarse file; 26- Makes amends; 27- Groove; 28- Parentheses, essentially; 32- Flesh of a hog; 33- Trap; 35- Boxer Oscar ___ Hoya; 36- Decay, waste away; 37- Room within a harem; 38- Lentil and spice dish; 39- Arch type; 41- Leaves port; 43- Lab fluids; 44- Geek; 45- ___ Beta Kappa; 46- Complied; 48- Manipulates; 50- Tap; 51- Package; 54- Infomercial knife; 55- Not sacred; 57- Missing; 61- Artist Mondrian; 62- Not odds; 63- When Hamlet dies; 64- Caesar's wings; 65- Sonata movement; 66- Beams;

DOWN: 1- ASCAP rival; 2- Math subj.; 3- "Xanadu" band; 4- Reconsider; 5- Own; 6- Loathe; 7- Witnessed; 8- Half a fly; 9- Divided, anatomically; 10- Rollerblader's protector; 11- Informal greeting; 12- Work without ___; 13- Scottish loch, home to a monster!; 19- SAT takers; 21- Summer cooler; 23- Straight man; 24- Doorkeeper; 25- Countrified; 26- Cookwear; 27- Hub-to-rim lines; 29- Night flight; 30- Dry red table wine; 31- Dish of raw vegetables; 34- ___ Ark; 40- Send to school; 41- Bee entrant; 42- Dirty rat; 43- Worldly; 47- Clear tables; 49- Choice; Abbr.; 50- Demon; 51- Insect stage; 52- Indigo source; 53- She played Carla on "Cheers"; 54- Singer Stefani; 56- Lacto-___ vegetarian; 58- South American tuber; 59- Dirty digs; 60- Boob tubes;



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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		
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Kiang Wu Hospital	28 371 333		
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Stephen Wade, Jakarta

Playing bridge at the Asian Games: 'Athletics of the mind'

WHAT'S left of Finton Lewis' thinning hair is spiked and dyed an orange-red color. The 64-year-old Lewis says the haircut keeps him feeling younger on the outside, and playing the card game of bridge keeps his brain nimble on the inside.

"I know I'm not as physically fit as most sports people are," said Lewis, who is playing for India in the bridge competition at the Asian Games.

Being fit doesn't matter much in bridge, which is being included for the first time in the Asian Games. Fans like to talk it up as a "mind game" in the same realm as chess.

Yang Kong Te of the Philippines is playing in the Asian Games at 85. Lee Hung Fong of Malaysia is 81. Indonesian billionaire Michael Bambang Hartono is a mere 78, and the big reason why bridge is on the schedule. His reported net worth in about \$17 billion, a fortune made in tobacco, banking, and communications.

To be fair, the median age of the field is about 50, which is still generations away from 9-year-old Indonesian skateboarder Aliqqa Novvery — the youngest of the more than 11,000 competitors in the Asian Games.

The Olympic Council of Asia, which governs the games, reportedly balked at including bridge, which in the eyes of some is linked with card games such as poker, black jack — and hence, gambling.



To be fair, bridge would be as out of place in a casino as bullfighting in Bhutan.

The auditoriums set up for bridge are hushed, dotted with dozens of card tables with four players at each. At one session, curious photographers were given access for just five minutes, and then ushered away. Fans can watch the hands that are dealt — and how they are played — on large television screens filled with the red and black symbols for spades, hearts, dia-

monds and clubs.

"The photographers really wouldn't matter because the top players zone out these distractions," Aaida Abu-Jaber, a player from Jordan told The Associated Press. "They are in their zone and focused and they don't know what's happening around them. They are just looking at their cards and thinking."

Abu-Jaber called it "athletics of the mind, rather than the body." There's no age limit, and no language barrier. Abu-Jaber

said she's played against dozens of nationalities — on-line and in-person. The game has a universal language everyone understands, driven by English-rooted words like "no trump, slam, pass" and so forth.

"You can play with anybody, even if you can't understand their language and they can't understand yours," she said.

Though age is no problem, attracting a younger generation is. Asadullah Khan, who is playing for Pakistan, joked that many of

the players have "no hair and protruding bellies. Most of us are smokers and losing our cognitive skills."

For the record, 54-year-old Khan has all his hair — gray hair and a gray mustache.

Bridge is being included for the first time in the Asian Games

"It's going to be an extinct game if the younger generation doesn't take it up," he said. "The younger people are not enthusiastic about bridge, not excited about it unless it runs in the family."

Khan said attracting younger players might be easy since bridge offers sedentary thrills, perhaps like computer games.

He argued that "defending a (card) hand well or making a special play" was just as exciting as serving an ace in tennis.

He even pushed for inclusion in the Olympics, which seems unlikely. "It surely should be in the Olympics," Khan said. "Getting exposure like this helps." AP

ASIAN GAMES

Japan ends badminton drought; India crushes Hong Kong

John Pye, Jakarta

THERE'S no disputing this was a gold medal that ranked up there with a world title. Japan's drought-breaking win over China in the women's team badminton final was among the most-watched medal matches Wednesday at the Asian Games.

Olympic champions Misaki Matsutomo and Ayaka Takahashi clinched Japan's 3-1 win in the best-of-5 final, beating Huang Dongping and Zheng Yu 21-16, 21-11. Japan hadn't won the title since 1970, and China had held it for two decades.

"China's our biggest rival and I am extremely pleased to win this," Takahashi said "I am privileged to have won both the Uber Cup and the Asian Games, which doesn't happen very

often. It's definitely a different feeling from winning any individual title in my career."

Chen Yufei gave China the lead with her 21-15, 21-12 victory second-ranked Akane Yamaguchi, but Japan responded with three straight wins starting with Yuki Fukushima and Sayaka Hirota beating Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan 21-12, 21-17. Nozomi Okuhara fended off He Bingjiao 21-16, 19-21, 21-15.

China had won the event in 10 of the last 11 Asian Games in a streak broken only by South Korea's gold in 1994. "Although the Asian Games involves only countries from Asia, in the sport of badminton, the best players in the world are generally from this part of the world," Chen Yufei said. "And

also because this event occurs only once every four years, there is an element of prestige — it's an important tournament."

Olympic champion Joseph Schooling was the first swimmer from outside China or Japan to a win a gold medal in the Jakarta pool. The 23-year-old Singapore star defended the 100-meter butterfly title in a games record 51.04 seconds.

"It's all about standing up for your country and yourself," Schooling said. "I had some jitters before, but that's good, it shows I'm taking nothing for granted."

By the end of the fourth night of swimming, the duel in the pool was level with China and Japan having 14 gold medals apiece.

Yasuhiro Koseki broke

the games record to win the 100 breaststroke in 58.86, and Daiya Seto picked up his second gold when he beat the defending champion and Olympic gold medalist Kosuke Hagino in the 400 individual medley.

Japan also won the men's 4x100-meter freestyle relay ahead of China, which added Sun Yang to its quartet. The silver gave Sun a fifth medal at the games.

Zhang Yuefei won golds in the women's 200 butterfly and the 4x100 mixed medley relay.

For India, field hockey took top billing after the men's national team routed Hong Kong 26-0. It was eight-time Olympic champion India's biggest winning margin in an international event.

And it followed a 17-0 win



for the defending champion over host Indonesia, so there's plenty to suggest the Olympic spot guaranteed to the tournament winner is a good incentive to win gold in Jakarta.

The margin of victory over Hong Kong topped India's previous record of 24-1, set against the United States in 1932.

Rupinderpal Singh scored five times and Harmanpreet Singh had four goals as India continued scoring relentlessly right up to the last minute.

In a scenic 104.4-kilome-

ter course through fields and lush countryside, Na Ah-reum of South Korea won the women's cycling road race in 2 hours, 44 minutes, 47 seconds. Na, the time trial champion four years ago, finished 1:20 ahead of silver medalist Pu Yixian of China.

After 110 finals, China led the medals standings with 37 gold medals and 82 overall. Japan was next with 20 gold and 68 in total, followed by South Korea with 11 golds, Iran with seven and host Indonesia with six. AP

opinion

Made in Macao

Jenny Lao-Phillips



GHOST TIME

At this time every year I write about ghosts. We have entered the month of ghosts, and the night of the 14th day of the seventh month of the lunar calendar is when the gates of hell are opened to the fullest. So beware this coming Friday night, as it is the Ghost Festival. In past years, I have written about the Ghost Day's background and traditions. This year, I've gathered some superstitions about what one should do if one wants to see ghosts. Here is how to prepare yourself if you want to hunt ghosts this Friday.

First, dress all in red this Friday night. It is believed that red outfits bring luck during the Spring Festival, but it causes ghostly possession during Ghost Festival, especially when dressed in red from head to toe. So dressing in bright red is the first step to provoking ghosts.

Second, get someone to tap you on the shoulders. Our culture believes that the "qi" (energy) in our head and shoulders belongs to "yang" (bright). Tapping on someone's shoulders dampens their "yang qi," so their "ying qi" (dark energy) will increase. Ghosts are afraid of people with high levels of "yang qi," so having someone tap on your shoulders will take away your bright energy and allow ghosts to get nearer to you. Then wear some bells or accessories that make ringing sounds. It is said that ghosts will follow the sound of ringing, so with a red outfit, dampened "yang qi" and ringing accessories, you will be ready to attract ghosts.

Make sure you walk close to walls while on the street, especially in alleys, as ghosts are believed to like lingering by walls. This will put you in the path of oncoming ghosts. Then look around, and if you see any umbrellas left on the street make sure to pick one up. Ghosts like hiding inside umbrellas, so there is a high chance a ghost will be in it during the Ghost Festival.

For specific places to go on the 14th of the seventh lunar month, take an elevator at midnight and stare into the mirror. Elevators are built in dark vertical tunnels, so ghosts may come up and ride in one from underneath, especially in dark buildings. It is also believed that mirrors may catch the reflections of ghosts if you stare into them for long enough at midnight. If you still do not see any ghosts, try taking a selfie. Perhaps, if the mirrors cannot reflect the ghosts around you, a ghost may show up in your photo.

The last bus is also a place where lots of ghosts are believed to hang out. This superstition started in Hong Kong when there were rumors that the last MTR every night was for ghosts. People have claimed to see ghosts on late night buses, especially during the Ghost Festival. Macao is close to Hong Kong, so perhaps we will have ghosts gathering on the last bus as well. So ride the last bus home and take selfies on it, then see if you can catch one.

Finally, when you get home in the small hours, try doing your laundry. It is said that, aside from umbrellas, ghosts also like hiding inside wet clothes. Hanging out your laundry, especially your red outfit, late at night will attract ghosts to your apartment. By doing all of the above during the Ghost Festival, there should be a high possibility of you coming into contact with hungry ghosts. If you still don't meet any, you must have very good luck or there may be no ghosts in the world. But if you are afraid of ghosts, avoid doing any of the above.

THE FACEBOOK UNCOVERS NEW GLOBAL BUZZ MISINFORMATION OPERATIONS

Facebook has identified and banned hundreds of accounts, groups and pages engaged in misleading political behavior, a far larger discovery than a "sophisticated" effort it reported three weeks ago with great fanfare.

The social network said Tuesday that it had removed 652 pages, groups, and accounts linked to Russia and, unexpectedly, Iran, for "coordinated inauthentic behavior" that included the

sharing of political material. Facebook has significantly stepped up policing of its platform since last year, when it acknowledged that Russian agents successfully ran political influence operations on its platform that were aimed at swaying the 2016 presidential election. Other social media networks have done likewise, and continue to turn up fresh evidence of political disinformation campaigns.

Lost Jagger-Simon duet found after more than 45 years

Chris Lehourites, London

A lost Mick Jagger duet with Carly Simon has been found more than 45 years after it was first recorded. The song, apparently never heard in public, appears to have been recorded in 1972 and was found recently on a tape owned by Rolling Stones collector Matt Lee.

Believed to be named "Fragile," at least according to Rolling Stones fan websites, the song is a slow love ballad that has Jagger and Simon seemingly sitting together at a piano and singing.

Simon spoke about the lost duet in an interview with Rolling Stone magazine about two years ago, saying the tape of the recording had been lost for decades.

"We had this little back and forth at the piano for about an hour," Simon says in the Rolling Stone interview, published Nov. 29, 2016, according to the magazine's website. She also sang a line of the song from memory, "Funny, funny, funny, funny, funny, How love can make you cry."

That matches with Lee's recording, except Jagger and Simon appear to sing "change" instead of "cry." Jagger does most of the singing, with Simon adding some harmonies.

When the song ends, a female voice believed to be Simon's gasps: "Good song."

Simon and Jagger worked together in 1972 when the Rolling Stones frontman



AP PHOTO



supposedly sang backup vocals on Simon's hit "You're So Vain." For many years, it was thought that Jagger was the subject of that song, but Simon has denied that.

Lee, an entrepreneur from London, declined to say where the tape of the song came from. But he said Wednesday that he sent a digital copy of the song to Rolling Stone magazine because they promised to give it to Simon. "I'm not doing it for the money," Lee said. "I'm a collector. My motive for sending it to Rolling Stone was to pass it to Carly."

Representatives from the Rolling Stones did not immediately respond to a request for comment. While the song will be new to most listeners, it is not completely unknown to hardcore Stones fans. But it's not exactly easy to find, either.

A snippet of the song, with its passage of Jagger repeatedly singing, "It's funny, funny, funny," is briefly heard in a scene in the publicly unreleased documen-

tary about the 1972 Rolling Stones tour of America. The name of the film is obscene in itself, stemming from the obscene name of an obscene song the band recorded a few years earlier to fulfill a recording contract they didn't want to actually fulfill.

In cleaner terms, and as a hint to the name of the tour movie, that song is often referred to as "Schoolboy Blues."

The new finding comes two years after another previously unheard Rolling Stones song was uncovered. That song, "No One Loves You More Than Me," is believed to have been recorded in 1964 and was found in 2016. The tape of that song was reportedly sold at auction.

The Rolling Stones, who wrapped up a tour of Britain and Europe in July, have said they are working on a new studio album. A short video clip of Jagger playing a guitar was posted on his Instagram account over the weekend. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Lee Ji-eun/Yonhap via AP

Hundreds of elderly Koreans tearfully said their final goodbyes yesterday at the end of the first round of rare reunions between relatives separated by the 1950-53 Korean War.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	80-100 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	50-70 Moderate
Ambient	80-100 Moderate

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

POLAND President Andrzej Duda yesterday defended the moves his nation's government have made to take control of the judicial system.



AP PHOTO

ITALY's environmental minister has urged prosecutors to look at possible criminal responsibility and administrative lapses that may have contributed to the deaths of 10 people swept away by a flash flood as they hiked through a narrow gorge.

SPAIN Authorities say scores of migrants have stormed fences separating Spain's North African enclave of Ceuta from Morocco in a bid to enter Europe.

BRAZIL Former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva may be in jail, but he features in his party's first ad ahead of October's presidential election. And a new poll indicates he's still leading the race.



AP PHOTO

VENEZUELA A strong aftershock jolted Venezuela's northeastern coast on Wednesday following the most powerful earthquake to hit the area in more than a century, though officials said neither caused major damage or deaths, apparently due to their depth.

US Hawaii residents rushed to stores to stock up on bottled water, ramen, toilet paper and other supplies as they faced the threat of heavy rain, flash flooding and high surf as a strengthening hurricane continued to churn toward the state.

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