



**GISELLE TO MAKE ITS DEBUT IN MACAU**  
Italy's La Scala Ballet is set to present one of its iconic classical pieces, Giselle, from tomorrow until Sunday

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**AFC CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MATCH IN MACAU**  
The Macau Olympic Stadium will host a match between China's Tianjin Quanjian and Japan's Kashima Antlers

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**CRITICISM DOESN'T HAVE SUU KYI ON THE ROPES**

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**WORLD BRIEFS**



**PHILIPPINES** A senator who is President Rodrigo Duterte's fiercest critic in Congress remained holed up in the Senate yesterday to avoid what he considers an illegal arrest after Duterte voided his amnesty for his role in failed coup plots as a former rebel military officer.

**MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE** The two countries agreed yesterday to delay, not cancel, a planned high-speed railway that would cut travel time between their capitals to just 90 minutes. *More on p10*



**PAKISTAN's** newly-elected Prime Minister Imran Khan met with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Islamabad yesterday, saying he was "optimistic" he could reset the relationship with Washington after the U.S. suspended aid over the country's alleged failure to combat militants.

**INDIA** Police were searching yesterday for 22 people who were missing after a motorized boat capsized in the flooded Brahmaputra River in India's remote northeast. Three bodies were recovered and 11 people were rescued.

**SYRIA** Israeli jets flying high over Lebanon struck at targets inside Syria, Syrian state media reported, in a rare daytime raid that killed at least one person.

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**OSAKA-MACAU FLIGHTS SUSPENDED**

# Typhoon shuts down major airport indefinitely

P3 JAPAN



# Athletes make positive assessment of Macau participation at Asian Games

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## Lionel Leong in Pan-Pearl River Delta event



The Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, delivered a speech yesterday at the opening ceremony of the 12th Pan-Pearl River Delta Regional Cooperation and Development Forum and Economic and Trade Fair, also known as the PPRD Forum. The event, being held in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, has as its theme the concept, "Greater Bay Area: Driving Innovation, Collaboration and Opportunities". In his address, Leong mentioned the region has been trying to establish itself as a commercial and trade cooperation service platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, in a bid to act as a bridge between the PPRD region and Portuguese-speaking countries.

## More simplified Chinese books wanted

Jiang Xuchun, member of the Islands District Community Services Consultative Committee, says that since Macau's youth will take part in the development of the Greater Bay Area, they should read more mainland books. Xuchun proposed for the relevant government department to speed up the renewal of library collections, set up new book lists and contact mainland publishers so as to import more mainland books in terms of both quantity and genres. In particular, Xuchun recommended that local libraries have more books about the mainland's certification, accreditation and license exams.

## New heads appointed to delegations in Beijing, Taiwan

The government announced yesterday that Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On has appointed Leong Kit Chi as the new head of the Representative Office of Macau in Beijing, starting from September 26. Leong, whose term will last for one year, has a Bachelor of Art Degree in Journalism from the National Chengchi University and a degree of Master of Administrative Management from Sun Yat-Sen University. From November 2011 until now, Leong has been the Director of the Macau Economic and Cultural Office in Taiwan. Previously, Leong also worked for the Macao Government Tourism Office. The CE has also appointed Ho Weng Wai as the Director of the Macau Economic and Cultural Office in Taiwan. In the past, Ho served the Commission Against Corruption as an assistant and also as an investigator.

## ASIAN GAMES

# Macau athletes received by CE with celebratory dinner

Renato Marques

**T**HE Macau delegation that represented the region in the 2018 Asian Games was received yesterday evening by the Chief Executive (CE) and several other sports officials.

In his speech, the CE expressed his "great satisfaction" over the results and especially the way that the Macau athletes participated in the competition with "unity and team spirit, sparing no effort to show all their potential."

The CE added that the five medals obtained demonstrate above all the perseverance and relentless dedication to training of the athletes, and are alone "a victory worth celebrating."

Chui Sai On left also a message of "continuity of the efforts of today looking to the future," calling for an evaluation to "assimilate the successful experiences and analyze the challenges." Chui expressed his hope that in the next edition of the Asian Games, to

take place in 2022 in the Chinese city of Hangzhou, Macau can be represented at a higher level and with a greater number of athletes.

Macau's only gold medalist, Wushu athlete Huang Junhua, represented the athletes in a speech, in which he thanked the government for its support.

In the speech Huang said, "I want to thank the Macau government for giving me this opportunity to participate in the competition. Thanks also extended to everybody's support for Wushu," adding, "As one of the members of the Wushu team, I keep constantly in mind my responsibilities every single second. I believe that every athlete here did more for their preparation than myself and I also believe that Macau's athletes are absolutely fearless of every single competitor out there."

"I will always be able to state proudly that I am an athlete from Macau," he added.



Huang Junhua

## Agreement reached between Monetary Authority, Bank of China

**T**HE People's Bank of China (PBOC) and the Monetary Authority of Macao (AMCM) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding in order to enhance the coordination and cooperation between the two authorities on financial policies and supervision.

Under the agreement, the PBOC and the AMCM will establish an information-sharing and notification framework, deepen cooperation in financial supervision and enhance the exchange and training of financial talents.

According to a statement issued yesterday by AMCM, "the PBOC will support the stable and healthy development of featured finance in Macau, particularly fostering cooperation in the areas

of financial leasing, settlement in RMB between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, wealth management and other relevant financial activities." A consensus was also reached to enhance the supervision and promotion of Fintech and mobile payments.

The AMCM stated that the agreement "will broaden the scope of development of the Macau financial sector, thus promoting economic diversification of the MSAR and providing more diversified and convenient financial services for Macau residents, while reinforcing Macau's position as a financial services platform between China and PSCs to support the national development strategy."

## Vietnamese community commemorates national day

**T**HE Vietnamese community in Macau celebrated Vietnam's 73rd National Day on Sunday by remembering the country's major achievements in socio-economic development and its international integration over the past decades.

The commemoration was attended by the Vietnamese Consul General in Hong Kong and Macau, Tran Thanh Huan, along with officials from Vietnamese representative agencies in Hong Kong and local authorities, as cited in Vietnam News Summary.

Huan noted that Sino-Vietnamese relations have been reinforced and developed in recent years, with important progress made in various fields.

He also mentioned that China has become the largest trade partner of Vietnam, while Vietnam is the biggest trade partner of China among ASEAN coun-

tries and is the eighth largest in the world.

The Consul General reminded his compatriots to continually promote their culture in the SAR, lauding their efforts and contributions in the city. Meanwhile, the head of the Mutual Support Fellow-Countrymen Association in Macau, Tran Thi Thu, said that the meeting was also a chance for Vietnamese migrants in Macau to be reminded of the "glorious tradition of the nation and the pride of the homeland as well as their responsibility to the motherland."

Celebrations were also held in other regions, including in Malaysia, where a number of Vietnamese migrants competed in a badminton tournament to commemorate their national day.

The event aims to strengthen exchange and solidarity amongst the community.

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# Osaka-Macau flights suspended, will not resume until next week at the earliest

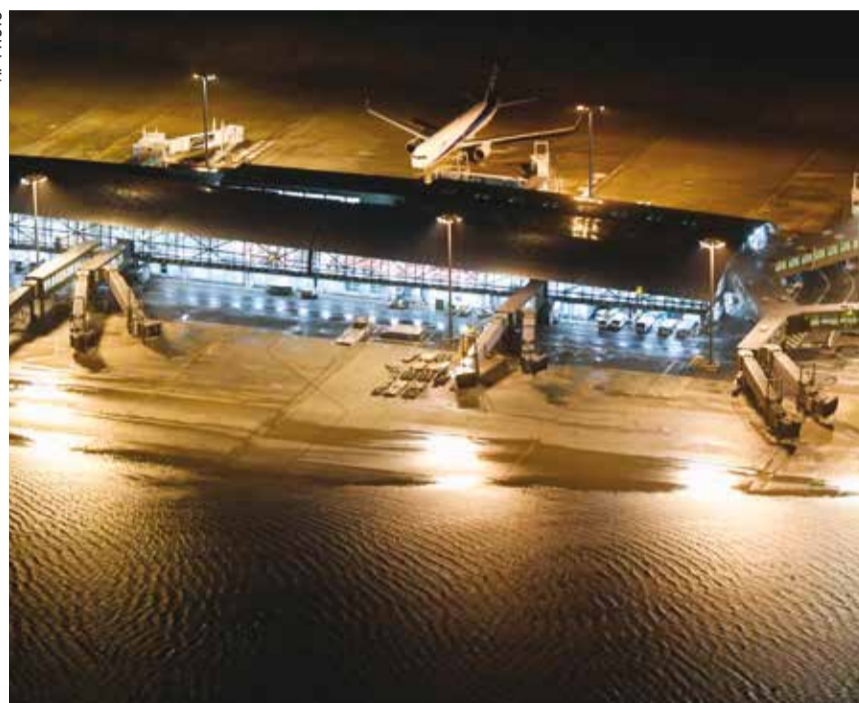
**A**T least 18 flights between Macau International Airport and western Japan's Kansai International Airport have been canceled due to the impact and damage caused by super typhoon Jebi, according to flag carrier Air Macau's website.

Typhoon Jebi came ashore in Japan with sustained winds of 160 kilometers per hour, cutting a path of destruction in and around Osaka and nearby cities that bore the brunt of the storm.

Jebi left at least 11 dead and millions of homes without power. It also cut off access to the artificial island that hosts Kansai International Airport – the region's main international gateway – after a tanker was sent spiraling into a key bridge. The airport's runways were flooded, making flights in and out of the airport impossible. Thousands of travelers have reportedly been stranded at the airport.

Air Macau flights between the MSAR and Osaka have been canceled since Tuesday and, according to the airline's website, they will not resume until at least September 12.

Passengers booked on these flights



The airport was partially flooded by typhoon Jebi in Osaka



may change to another date or have their tickets refunded, without having to pay rebooking or refund fees.

According to the government, Air Macau is also offering to reschedule affected passengers' return tickets to Macau via either the Narita or Fukuoka Airports.

Macau's Tourism Crisis Management

Office (GGCT) said that it was paying close attention to the situation and will keep in contact with both the Macau travel industry and flag carrier Air Macau for any updates.

In a statement issued yesterday, GGCT noted that, from the information gathered via the Macau travel industry, there are currently no tour groups from Macau in Osaka.

As of midday yesterday, the Office had received 27 requests for information, mainly relating to the status of flights between Macau and Japan. It has not received any requests for assistance.

The Kansai airport remains closed indefinitely, two days after the strongest typhoon to hit Japan in at least 25 years flooded a runway, toppled huge cranes, flipped cars on their side, damaged historic shrines and caused

at least 11 deaths as it swept across part of Japan's main island.

Some 3,000 airline passengers who had to spend the night at the offshore Kansai airport were able to leave on boats and buses under sunny skies. They were stranded after a tanker unmoored by the storm's pounding waves and wind slammed into a bridge that is the airport's only link to the mainland.

Officials could not say when the airport, a gateway for Asian tourists visiting Osaka, Kyoto and Kobe, would reopen. The closure of the main airport serving one of Japan's major business and commercial areas triggered concern about the possible impact on tourism and the economy.

Flooding at the airport had largely subsided Wednesday

but flight operations equipment needed to be assessed for damage, as did the crushed part of the bridge.

Passengers stranded overnight appeared relieved but exhausted after an uneasy night in the dark.

Hideko Senoo, a 51-year-old homemaker planning a family trip to India, said the terminal was hot and dark after losing power, and food at convenience stores was sold out.

"We could not use vending machines or access the wireless network to get information," she told Japan's Kyodo News service.

Miki Yamada, a 25-year-old office worker planning a trip to Thailand with her friend, told Kyodo she spent the night at an airport cafeteria. "It was a rather scary night, as we were so isolated," she said.

## Osaka heavily affected



Overturned cars are seen on a street following a powerful typhoon in Osaka

**T**HE Universal Studios Japan theme park in Osaka was closed for a second day yesterday but said it would reopen today.

Factories in the region, including automaker Daihatsu Motor Co., electronics giant Panasonic and beverage maker Kirin Co., were expected to resume operations yesterday after suspending production during the typhoon, Kyodo said.

The deaths included a man in his 70s who was blown to the ground from his apartment in Osaka prefecture. Police said at least five others died elsewhere in the prefecture after being hit by flying objects or falling from their apartments. In nearby Shiga prefecture, a 71-year-old man died when a storage building collapsed on him, and a man in his 70s died after falling from a roof in Mie, officials said.

In Nishinomiya in Hyogo prefecture, about 100 cars at a seaside dealership burned after their electrical systems were shorted out by sea water, fire officials and news reports said.

In Kyoto, the former imperial capital and a popular tourist destination, wooden shrine buildings and tall orange-red entrance gates were knocked down. Soaring trees fell at a shrine in Nara, another historic city.

More than 400,000 households in western and central Japan remained without power yesterday, and electric utilities warned that it would take time to bring everyone back on line. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said at least 11 people had been confirmed dead and 470 people were injured.

## ONE SHOT NEWS



An applicant from Hong Kong provides fingerprint data while applying for a residence permit in Shenzhen Bay service center of Nanshan branch of Shenzhen Municipal Public Security Bureau. Residents of Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan have been able to apply for residence permits in the Chinese mainland from September 1. Around 1,800 Macau residents applied for the permit so far.

## Local student receives scholarship to study in Japan

Yip Ka Seng, a fourth-year student of Japanese studies from the University of Macau (UM), has been recommended by the Consulate-General of Japan in Hong Kong to receive the Japanese Government (The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, MEXT) Scholarship, for the fiscal year 2018, to study in Japan. Yip, the only student from Macau to receive this scholarship, will study Japanese language at Keio University for one year. According to a statement issued by the UM, Yip described the benefit as a precious opportunity, saying that the scholarship shows recognition of his effort in Japanese studies and that he will continue to study traditional Japanese culture and customs during his stay in Japan. According to the statement, in Macau, only students of Japanese studies from UM are eligible to apply for the scholarship.

## Man arrested for fraud involving MOP500,000

A 49-year-old local resident has been arrested for fraud involving MOP500,000, the Judiciary Police (PJ) reported yesterday. The suspect is a civil servant who has been working within the public sector for more than 30 years. In 2017, he reportedly took money from a building's property management committee. He then signed nine checks, issued to the committee, in order to collect the money. The suspect was the vice-chairman of the committee. He claimed that he took the money to clear his debts.

# KFC initiates 'no straws and lids' policy for dine-in customers

**K**FC Hong Kong and Macau has halted its supply of plastic straws and lids for customers who dine in at its 71 branches.

A trial program was previously carried out in nine stores in Hong Kong and due to the "positive response," it announced in a statement that it would stop providing both lids and straws in a bid to reduce single-use plastics and alleviate the environmental impact thereof. Yet exceptions will be made for some designated special drinks and for takeaway drinks.

In Macau, there are four KFC branches located in Galaxy UA Cinema, Sands Resorts, Sun Star City and along Avenida De Venecia-lau De Morais.

Janet Yuen, chief operating officer of KFC Hong Kong and Macau,



said: "We understand the significance of the impact [that] single-use plastics has brought to our environment, and thus we want to do our part in striving for positive change,"

"We believe that every little step counts, so we decided to engage our customers and make the effort

by launching this 'no straws and lids' action in all of our stores," she added, as cited in a press statement from the fast food chain.

Apart from the official announcement of the suspension of plastic straws and lids, KFC Hong Kong also launched smart hand-washing

machines as early as in 2014.

These hand-washing machines, which are also set up in a few of its stores in Macau, utilize the latest technology and have helped to reduce water usage in hand washing by 10.31 million liters since its launch.

In addition to the efforts to be eco-friendly, KFC Hong Kong said it has also collaborated with some non-governmental organizations, including Food Angel, to reduce waste.

On August 30, a group of local residents submitted a petition with some 4,700 signatures to urge the government to initiate measures to ban the use of single use plastic and plastic bags.

The petition has now reached 5,000 signatures. **LV**

## ARTS

# Giselle to make its debut in town

Lynzy Valles

**I**TALY'S La Scala Ballet is set to present one of its iconic classical pieces, Giselle, from tomorrow until Sunday for the first time at the Macao Cultural Center (CCM).

This revival of Coralli-Perrot's choreography will take the audience back to the romantic roots of Milanese ballet during the 1800s.

The performance in the region is part of the company's China tour, where they are set to stage performances in Shanghai, Tianjin and Xi'an.

At the theaters of Shanghai, Tianjin and Xi'an, Don Quixote by Rudolf Nureyev will open the performances.



Frédéric Olivier

Frédéric Olivier, director of Teatro alla Scala Ballet Company yesterday told the press that this production, which will make its debut in the city, is one of the company's highlights that is only presented during particular seasons.

"It's a classical romantic ballet that is [...] very special for all the companies in the world. The quality of these [kinds of ballets]

is like Swan Lake [where] companies can show the excellence and quality with these acts," said the company director.

"When the curtains open, it's a beautiful scene to see. Its [designs are] old-fashioned. It's really fantastic," he added.

According to him, only two theaters are still presenting Giselle. Olivier remarked that it is im-

portant for the public to understand the ways of beauty and the artistic way of each interpreter, which can show the quality of the theater.

According to Olivier, Chinese classic and contemporary ballet have been growing. He stressed that the number of ballet dancers from the country win international competitions.

"Inviting a big classical company proves their interest [in ballet] and to see what is, really, a big ballet company production. I think dance in China is growing and I can see them winning many international competitions. They really have a beautiful way and formation [of] dance,"

he said.

Meanwhile, CCM organized a workshop to share some of La Scala Ballet's basic techniques, which will be hosted in two sessions over the weekend.

Giselle will be staged in four shows accompanied live by the Macao Orchestra.

The piece, which is in two acts, is a romantic ballet that moves between a sunny world and a dark kingdom inhabited by spirits.

Giselle, which is also the name of the main character of the performance, tells the story of a young peasant girl who dies of grief when she discovers her sweetheart is betrothed to another.

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## Cooperation Forum in Traditional Medicine to kick-off on Sept 20

**T**HE “2018 Forum for International Cooperation in Traditional Medicine International (Macao)” jointly organized by the local government and the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, will kick-off at the Venetian Macao on September 20.

According to a statement issued by the Guangdong-Macao Traditional Chinese Medicine Technology Industrial Park Development Co., Ltd. (GMTCM Park), the event will serve as a launch to the “International Youth Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Exchange Center” and will also host the signing ceremony of a cooperation agreement with international institutions and key enterprises involved on the GMTCM Park project.

This year’s Forum, themed “Development and Internationalization of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Industry in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area,” comprises a two-day event, with the participation of se-

veral personalities from the industry’s regulatory authorities, Research and Development specialists and scholars, as well as several corporate executives from Macau, mainland China, Hong Kong, the United States, the European Union, ASEAN and Portuguese-speaking countries, totaling approximately 400 professionals of the field, will be in attendance.

The event’s program features several keynote speeches, special reports, an investment and financing forum, business matching, a salon for traditional Chinese medicine practitioners. This is intended to provide participants with the opportunity to exchange views on issues such as policies, technologies, market prospects, investment and financing strategies concerning “Traditional Medicine, the Health Industry, International Cooperation, and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area,” which will encourage participants to seize development opportunities.

### FOOTBALL

# Macau to host AFC Champions League quarter final

**T**HE Macau Olympic Stadium will host the AFC Champions League quarter final second leg between China’s Tianjin Quanjian and Japan’s Kashima Antlers on September 18.

Both AFC and the Chinese club confirmed the reschedule, although no official explanation was provided to explain the transfer of the match to a region located over 1,900 kilometers from the northern Chinese city.

One of the reasons that the game will not be played in Tianjin may be related to the annual World Economic Forum, which will be held in Tianjin from September 18 to 20. Chinese social media also speculated about the fact that the date of the regional clash coincides with the Mukden Incident, which was staged by the Japanese Army on September 19, 1931, to justify a full-scale inva-



The most high-profile player of Tianjin Quanjian is Brazilian Alexandre Pato

sion of Manchuria. Given that the visiting team is from Japan and given the proximity of Tianjin to the former Manchuria, some social media users have cited “security concerns”.

The Chinese Super League club referred to Macau as “home”, but the South China Morning Post reported that since Tianjin Quanjian failed to find an alternative stadium in a nearby city, the

game has been moved to a “neutral venue” in accordance with the AFC’s rules.

The most high-profile player of the Chinese side is Brazilian Alexandre Pato, who played in the national squad and in clubs such as Corinthians (Brazil), AC Milan (Italy) and Chelsea (England).

In the first leg of the quarter finals, Tianjin Quanjian lost 2-0 in Kashima, Japan.

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# UFI says Macau achieved the most in Asia's MICE market

**T**HE Union des Foires Internationales (UFI) recently issued the "Trade Fair Industry in Asia-14th Edition", a document that profiles the development of the Asian Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) industry in 2017. Twenty-six business-to-business (B2B) exhibitions that took place in Macau in 2017 were included in the UFI statistics.

It was mentioned in the 14th Trade Fair Industry in Asia that Macau is one of the youngest and smallest MICE markets in Asia, but has achieved the most in the MICE market in Asia over the past five years.

Net sales of exhibition space in Macau rose from 143,000 square meters in 2013 to 217,500 square meters in 2017, representing an increase of approximately 52.1 percent,



which is the highest growth in Asia.

According to the report, each professional exhibition recorded an average revenue of approximately USD2.1 million, thus indicating that Macau's MICE market surpassed the overall economic performance.

"The exhibition industry is an important part of the MICE

industry. In recent years, with active co-operation and exchanges between the government and the MICE industry, local exhibition brands have continued to develop.

Seven local exhibition brands have been recognized by UFI, with industries covering areas such as commerce and trade, environmental protection, automobiles, yachts and aviation,

according to a statement released by the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM).

"Meanwhile, [the Macau government] will further spread the influence of the MICE industry and its development to surrounding industries and community-based merchants while promoting economic diversity and helping Macau increase its flexibility," IPIM says in the statement.

According to the report, the exhibition industry recorded an income of nearly USD54 million, and sales of net exhibition space increased by more than 50 percent compared to the figure from five years earlier.

IPIM became a UFI member in October 2005, and since that time it has actively participated in events organized by the association.

# HK extraditions of fugitives on the decline

**H**ONG Kong may be deliberately obstructing the return of foreign fugitives, speculates the South China Morning Post (SCMP), which revealed in a recent article that there is a drop in extraditions to and from the neighboring SAR.

Citing official data, the SCMP noted that between 1997 and 2002, some 31 fugitives were caught in Hong Kong and returned to other jurisdictions, while 12 fugitives from Hong Kong were returned in the same period.

However, over the course of a nine-year period between 2008 and 2017, only 23 fugitives were returned and 11 received, leading the SCMP to assert that there has been "a definitive drop."

The newspaper also noted that the number of new agreements between Hong Kong and other jurisdictions on the transfer of wanted individuals is on the decline. For Macau, no formal extradition agreements permit the transfer of individuals at present.

The revelation comes amid speculation that the two special administrative regions of China are becoming less transparent in the dealings with foreign fugitives and relying on more informal agreements with other jurisdictions.

It also suggests that the two SARs are relegating their obligation to surrender fugitives in favor of caving into political pressure from Beijing.

The recent case of wanted Malaysian businessman Jho Low - who resided briefly in both Hong Kong and Macau before allegedly entering the mainland - is a prime example, but not the only one.

A host of other recent cases suggest growing interference from Beijing, including the disappearance of five controversial booksellers who went missing in Hong Kong in 2015, as well as Hong Iat - a Macau resident who is thought to have been delivered to mainland authorities from Hong Kong last year on the orders of Beijing.

In June this year, Hong Kong's Chief Executive denied that the city has ever handed a fugitive over to mainland China, saying that the matter of Hong Kong immigration is handled autonomously by the city.

# SSM claims strict law enforcement regarding tobacco control

**T**HE Health Bureau (SSM) has claimed that it has been strictly carrying out law enforcement regarding tobacco control inside casinos, according to a statement released by the bureau on this week.

The SSM's statement came out after a group of 300 casino employees held a demonstration held a demonstration last Monday afternoon, accusing the government for its lack of supervision over illegal smoking inside casinos. The group, led by the



New Macau Gaming Staff Rights Association, delivered a letter to the SSM's tobacco control department which requested a reply.

The group also urged the government to punish casino managers who allow illegal smoking inside gam-

bling facilities.

"SSM received the association's opinion regarding tobacco control inside casinos. SSM expressed that it places great importance [on the matter] and will analyze and follow up [on the situation]," the SSM statement reads.

"Regarding the suggestions proposed by the group, which include establishing a blacklist of illegal smokers in casinos and applying a fine of MOP15,000 to casinos that do not perform their duties as the supervisor of the casino. The SSM states that there are no relevant regulations in accordance with the current tobacco control laws. In any case, SSM welcomes opinions so that it [can] continuously improve the relevant laws," the bureau says,

claiming that "nevertheless, SSM will strictly enforce the law in accordance with the current laws."

"In fact, casinos' working environment has changed significantly since the new tobacco control law came into effect. [The environment changed] from full clouds of smog to today's high-standard set across all smoking lounges," the SSM stated. "[Nowadays] casino employees can work in a smoke-free environment."

## corporate bits

### THE VENETIAN AWARDED AT WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS



The Venetian Macao has taken three top titles at the World Travel Awards Asia & Australasia Gala Ceremony 2018, held in Hong Kong on Monday, after being awarded Asia's Leading Resort, Macau's Lea-

ding Casino Resort and Macau's Leading Resort. This is the 10th year that The Venetian Macao has been recognized at the World Travel Awards, after also winning Macau's Leading Resort and Macau's

Leading Casino Resort at last year's event, the gaming operator notes in a statement. "We are thrilled and honored to have received these prestigious awards, now for the 10th year in a row," said Mark McWhinnie, senior vice president of Resort Operations and Development, Sands China Ltd.

"The fact we have been recognized in this way by both the industry and the public endorses the quality and diversity of our facilities and services." The World Travel Awards was established in 1993 to identify and reward the world's best travel organizations.

### OKTOBERFEST MACAU TICKETS TO BE ON SALE FROM SEPT 17



The annual Oktoberfest Macau will hold its 10th anniversary at MGM Cotai from October 18 to 29 at its Roof Terrace. Admission tickets will go on sale on September 17. In the past nine years, MGM

has welcomed 127,473 beer lovers with 123,750 liters of beer and nearly 40,000 kilograms of roasted pork knuckles and chicken, the gaming operator said in a statement.

The Högl Fun Band will

once again fly over from Munich for dynamic live performances. Löwenbräu, one of the six genuine German Oktoberfest brews, will be one of the highlights.

The traditional German gastronomies, Bavarian patterned beer tent and ceiling wreaths, as well as a wide range of carnival game booths, will be features across the 11-day Bavarian party.

On top of the regular "Family Day Oktoberfest" held in the afternoon of October 28, MGM will introduce its first-ever "Industry Day" on the afternoon of October 20, to welcome all employees from the hospitality industry to get-together with friends and families.

## GAMING

# Visas for Dollars: Backers of failed Vegas casino may lose both

Christopher Palmeri

**T**HE Lucky Dragon casino in Las Vegas was pitched to foreign investors as a way to make money and score permanent residence in the U.S., but the now bankrupt project could leave them with neither.

The USD165 million resort, which opened in November 2016, was billed as the first Las Vegas casino designed specifically for Asian customers. It was built, in part, with \$98.5 million from 179 foreign investors, who backed the project under an immigration program, known as the EB-5 visa, that lets immigrants who create jobs in the U.S. stay here permanently.

The casino closed in January, however, and is expected to be sold at a bankruptcy auction on Sept. 10. That means the foreign backers each could lose their \$550,000 investment, as well as their shot at a green card, according to a bankruptcy court filing by the investors. Their attorney, Ryan Works, said his clients would like to see a new buyer who lets them retain some of their interest.

"I'm hopeful we can preserve some equity for these folks, but also I'd like to see the immigration process succeed for all the investors," Works said in an interview.



Vehicles drive past the Lucky Dragon Hotel and Casino



A dealer works at a game table inside the casino

Samuel Schwartz, an attorney for the Lucky Dragon, disputes the investors' claims, saying all of them received preliminary approvals for green cards, and at least one has obtained a permanent one.

## IMMIGRATION SERVICE

Michael Bars, a spokesman for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, said that while he couldn't comment on the Lucky Dragon, generally visa applicants who have preliminary approval will not automatically lose their shot at a green card based on the sale of a property, provided that other job and investment criteria are met.

The EB-5 visa has been around since 1990 and was designed as

a way to create jobs in areas with high unemployment. Many projects have been funded through the program, although there have also been disappointments.

## ■ The USD165 million resort was billed as the first Vegas casino designed specifically for Asian customers

Investors who put some of the \$398 million of EB-5 funds into the SLS Las Vegas Hotel sued when that property was sold, alleging, among other things, that crucial documents were only provided in English. In 2013, the Securities and Exchange Commission warned investors about potential EB-5 scams, including promises of certain returns and false statements about the status of permits and partners.

Chuck Grassley, the Iowa Republican who chairs the Senate's Judiciary Committee, has pressed President Donald Trump for changes to the program, which he said has become "riddled with fraud."

The Lucky Dragon had some high-profile names behind it,

including William Weidner, a former president of Las Vegas Sands Corp. The 203-room hotel featured signs in Chinese, a multilingual staff and restaurant dishes such as Australian greenlip abalone. Table games popular with Asian customers and a tea garden added to the ambiance.

The lack of a frequent-customer database and a location on a side street at the north end of the Las Vegas Strip proved challenging, however, particularly once other casinos upped their Asian-targeted marketing after the opening.

The hotel remains open while the investment bank Innovation Capital LLC represents the company in negotiations with potential buyers. **Bloomberg**

## RUSSIA

# Rate hike in play as ruble revs up inflation at last

Anna Andrianova

**R**USSIA'S central bank is setting the stage for an increase in interest rates as a weakening ruble fans inflation.

Just five months after it stopped easing monetary policy, the Bank of Russia raised the prospect of its first hike in borrowing costs since 2014. The country's latest bout of currency weakness is combining with a worsening outlook for inflation as the rout in emerging markets shows no sign of letting up.

While a round of U.S. sanctions in April touched off an even bigger decline in the ruble than last month, the fallout is proving harder to contain this time. Annual inflation accelerated to a one-year



high of 3.1 percent in August, the Federal Statistics Service said yesterday. That matched the median of 14 forecasts in a Bloomberg survey.

The ruble was among the four worst performers in emerging markets in August with a drop of more than 7 percent

against the dollar. It's lost a further 1 percent in September, trading 0.3 percent weaker as of 3:53 p.m. in Moscow. The central bank has estimated that each 10 percent decline in its value could add a percentage point to price growth.

"In April, some busines-

ses could have refrained from passing on the ruble's weakness onto consumers amid still-weak demand, and instead sacrificed part of their margin," said Tatiana Evdokimova, chief economist for Russia at Nordea Bank. "But going forward, it will be hard to cut the margin further."

Bank of Russia Governor Elvira Nabiullina said Tuesday that there were factors in favor of raising rates at a meeting next week, even though most evidence still pointed toward leaving borrowing costs unchanged. For now, all 14 economists polled by Bloomberg predict the benchmark will be kept at 7.25 percent on Sept. 14. Still, a discussion over more drastic measures may be heating up.

"We are seeing that inflation is returning to our target slightly faster than we were earlier forecasting," Nabiullina said. That's "primarily because of external factors, the exchange-rate dynamics."

The difference from April is also that a moderation in food prices through the summer months helped mask the ruble's inflationary impact. The outlook for the rest of the year is far less favorable.

Adding to concern are plans to raise the value-added tax from Jan. 1, a move the Bank of Russia says may boost price growth by as much as 1.5 percentage points. The main impact is expected in the first quarter, when the central bank sees consumer-price growth temporarily exceeding its tar-

get of 4 percent. In July, annual inflation hit a high for 2018 even though it remains well below the goal.

Households' inflation expectations for a year ahead, which the central bank calls a "pillar" of its rate decisions, rose in August to more than double the target. The share of Russians expecting the ruble to depreciate further is at the highest level since 2013, according to surveys conducted by inFOM on behalf of the central bank.

"Headline inflation is going to rise fast in the next few months," said Tatiana Orlova, an economist at Emerginomics in London. "We have a pass-through from the weaker ruble and high global grain prices and an increase in local processed meat prices." **Bloomberg**





Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi

# Mozambique's participation in FOCAC was positive, Nyusi says

**M**OZAMBIQUE'S participation in the third summit meeting of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) was "very positive," Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi said on Tuesday in Beijing, according to Mozambican news agency AIM.

Nyusi, in a final assessment of Mozambique's participation in this two-day event that ended Tuesday, said that on a bilateral level Mozambique had benefited from a pardon of interest free debt maturing in late 2018. AIM added that Nyusi did not specify the amount of the debt nor in what year it had been taken on.

Another gain, said the Head of State, was that the country received a donation of 140 million yuan (about USD20 million), with 100 million yuan to be applied in development projects and the remaining

40 million in the form of a rice donation.

Nyusi also noted the signing, on Saturday, by the delegations of Mozambique and China, of three bilateral cooperation instruments, technical assistance memoranda for capacity building, plant health and structuring of cooperation under the "Belt and Road," initiative.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, José Pacheco, said that the three documents have a permanent validity and can be revised at any meeting of the Joint Commission, with the plant health memorandum allowing Mozambican products of plant origin to enter the Chinese market.

The President of the Republic said Mozambican entrepreneurs who travelled to China had signed six memoranda of understanding, including the Millennium bim bank, which signed an agreement

with Fosun International, a company that operates in the area of finance, insurance, tourism and health, as well as Mozambican public mobile phone company, Mcel, which signed a memorandum with the Huawei group.

The Mozambican Agency for Investment and Export Promotion (Apiex) reached an agreement for the promotion of industrial parks in Mozambique and the National Road Administration, under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Water Resources of Mozambique, signed three agreements, AIM reported.

The agency also reported that the President of China, Xi Jinping, said his country is ready to help Mozambique accelerate the industrialization and modernization of agriculture so that the country can achieve sustainable development. **MDT/Macauhub**

# Angola owes USD23b to China

**A**NGOLA'S debt to China amounts to USD23 billion, Finance Minister Archer Manguera said in Beijing on Tuesday, calling for investment in projects that guarantee medium- and long-term financing for the country to pay down the loans.

Two-way trade grew 22.4 percent in the first quarter of 2018 to \$6.8 billion, reaching \$22.34 billion in 2017, a year-on-year increase of 43.42 percent,

according to official figures from China.

The Angolan President on Tuesday in Beijing called for increased direct investment by Chinese companies in the production of consumer goods in Angola, speaking at the summit meeting of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), according to Angolan news agency Angop.

João Lourenço said that this investment should be achieved through mutually

advantageous partnerships with Angolan businesspeople, and the agreement should include sharing of technology, scientific knowledge and training of Angolan staff.

The President of Angola said that African and Chinese banks should play an important role "in order to provide the necessary resources to develop projects that ensure mutually advantageous development." **MDT/Macauhub**

## CAPE VERDE

# PM raises funding for the Special Maritime Economy Zone of São Vicente

**T**HE Cape Verdean prime minister met on Monday in Beijing with officials from the China Development Bank, "one of the largest development finance institutions in the world," wrote José Ulisses Correia e Silva on his personal Facebook account.

Correia e Silva also said that the government of Cape Verde intends to boost relations with China "in order to make the archipelago an important economic and strategic partner of that country," specifically through the joint construction of the Special Area of Maritime Economy of São Vicente (ZEEMSV).

The ZEEMSV is a project for which the Cape Verdean government, "wishes to have strong partnerships with financial institutions, namely the China Development Bank."

The prime minister said the "full openness to share its vast experience in financing the construction of infrastructure of this kind, as well as in the development of a fruitful cooperation in this sector," from the Development Bank of China was gratifying to receive.



Ulisses Correia e Silva (center) arrives in Beijing to attend the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation

José Ulisses Correia e Silva arrived in Beijing on Sunday to take part in the third edition of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

The first FOCAC was held in Beijing in 2006 and the second edition was held in South Africa in 2015. **MDT/Macauhub**

AD

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RICHARD LIU

# E-commerce tycoon part of celebrity tech elite

**T**HE e-commerce billionaire who was arrested and released by Minneapolis police is a prominent member of a Chinese tech elite who enjoy the glamor of movie stars in their homeland.

Admirers know Richard Liu's story well: The son of peasants built a Beijing electronics shop into JD.com, China's biggest online direct retailer, selling everything from clothes to toys to fresh vegetables. He appealed to customers by promising genuine products in a market buffeted by scandals over fake and sometimes deadly milk and other goods.

Like a pop star keeping fans up to date, the 45-year-old Liu shares some details of his life on social media, including his 2015 marriage to a woman 19 years his junior.

That celebrity meant Liu immediately attracted attention when news broke that police in Minneapolis arrested him Friday and released him a day later.

JD.com said he was falsely accused and police found no misconduct. The company said Liu was back in Beijing on Monday. A police report said the charge stemmed from a felony rape accusation but gave no details.

Liu, known in Chinese as Liu Qiangdong, was the top search topic online Monday, according to Baidu.com, the country's most popular search engine. By Tuesday, he had dropped to No. 35 for the day but still was the most popular topic of the week.

Liu, with a fortune of USD7.5



billion, is part of a generation of entrepreneurs who have created China's internet, e-commerce, mobile phone and other technology industries since the late 1990s. They include rival Jack Ma of e-commerce outlet Alibaba Group and Ma Huateng of Tencent, a games and social media giant.

Admirers of their success make their memoirs and books on management best-sellers.

Liu has said his business plan was based on bitter experience. He started a restaurant as a university student but said it failed because employees stole from him.

In his second try, Liu opened an electronics shop in Beijing's

university district in 1998. He said he was the neighborhood's first merchant to use price tags and skip haggling over prices. He went online in 2003.

"I felt this was an opportunity to establish a new kind of business," he told The Associated Press in a 2015 interview.

JD.com purchases directly from suppliers and delivers using a fleet of thousands of bright red electric delivery vans emblazoned with its logo, a cartoon dog called Joy. Its workforce of 158,000 includes thousands of employees who monitor suppliers and product quality.

JD.com operates 486 warehouses and says its drivers can reach 99 percent of China's popula-

tion. It is experimenting with deliveries by drone to the most remote rural customers.

With its own online payments system, JD.com is the equivalent of Amazon.com, Federal Express and Visa combined.

Alibaba, China's biggest e-commerce company by total sales volume, acts more like a shopping mall, providing online platforms to merchants who deal directly with customers. But Alibaba also has begun to imitate JD.com by investing in product-handling operations and setting up anti-piracy and customer service units.

JD.com's 2014 initial public stock offering in New York was the biggest to that point by a

Chinese company, though it was surpassed by Alibaba later that year.

The high cost of doing everything itself means JD has struggled to make a profit despite explosive sales growth.

**■ Liu, known in Chinese as Liu Qiangdong, was the top search topic online Monday**

It reported a 2.2 billion yuan (\$334 million) loss for the quarter ending in June while revenue rose 31 percent over a year earlier to 122.3 billion yuan (\$18.5 billion).

Despite that, JD has attracted new investors and partners. Google agreed in June to invest \$550 million in the company. Tencent owns a 20 percent stake and Walmart almost 10 percent after merging its struggling China online operation into JD.com.

While other companies embrace its strategy, JD.com is branching out in new directions including creating technology the ruling Communist Party is eager to promote.

It opened an experimental automated supermarket in Beijing without human cashiers and robot warehouses with few employees. **AP**

BELT &amp; ROAD

## Malaysia, Singapore to delay, not axe, high-speed rail link

**M**ALAYSIA and Singapore agreed to delay, not cancel, a planned high-speed railway that would cut travel time between their capitals to just 90 minutes.

Shortly after a stunning election victory in May, new Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said the 350-kilometer rail project would be axed because it was too costly.

But after weeks of negotiations, officials from the two countries signed an agreement yesterday to defer construction of the rail link by two years to May 31, 2020. The two governments said the railway is now slated to begin operations by 2031 instead

of 2026.

Mahathir's about-turn will help Malaysia avoid paying hefty compensation and buy time to improve government finances.

**■ Mahathir has begun reviewing large-scale infrastructure projects, including Chinese investments, to cut costs**

Economics Minister Azmin Ali said Malaysia will pay 15 million Singapore dollars (USD10.9 million) to Singapore by January as a suspension cost. If the project isn't revived by the agreed date, Malaysia will have to bear the termination cost, he said, but declined to give details.

"The agreement signed today clearly stated our commitment to continue the project after 2020," Azmin told a news conference after signing the pact with Singapore Transport Minister Khaw Boon Wan. The signing was witnessed by Mahathir.

The two countries signed an agreement in December 2016 to build the

rapid rail line with speeds of over 300 kilometers an hour. It was dubbed a "game-changer" that would strengthen economic ties between the neighbors. Currently, it takes at least four hours to travel by car.

Khaw said Singapore agreed to Malaysia's request to put the project on hold to give its government time to manage its finances.

Mahathir's alliance won a stunning victory in May 9 elections to oust scandal-tainted former Prime Minister Najib Razak and end his coalition's 60-year grip on power.

The new government has begun reviewing large-scale infrastructure pro-



Malaysia's Minister of Economic Affairs Mohamed Azmin Ali (right) and Singapore's Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Khaw Boon Wan

jects, including Chinese investments, to cut costs after revealing that national debt and liabilities had surged to 80 percent of gross domestic product, taking into account government guarantees and other payments.

The huge debt is partly due to a massive corruption scandal at the 1MDB state investment fund set up by Najib that led voters to abandon him and sparked investigations in the U.S. and several other

countries. U.S. investigators say Najib's associates stole and laundered at least \$4.5 billion from the fund.

Mahathir has reopened an investigation into 1MDB that was suppressed during Najib's rule and barred Najib and his wife from leaving the country.

Najib, who denies any wrongdoing, is facing multiple charges of money laundering and criminal breach of trust. **AP**

Joe McDonald, Beijing

## TRADE WAR

# Beijing points to other gains in hopes of easing US ire

**C**HINA is trying to defuse a spiraling tariff war with Washington over technology policy by highlighting gains in other trade-related areas.

The Cabinet press office invited The Associated Press to interview the head of the country's patent and copyright office, as part of government efforts to persuade Washington and other trading partners to tone down objections to Chinese industry policy.

The official, Shen Changyu, pointed to improvements in fighting violations, previously a target of complaints by the United States, Europe and other traders.

"China's work on intellectual property protection is solid and very productive," said Shen, commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office. "This point should be evaluated objectively and fairly by the international community."

The interview coincided with a series of events organized by Chinese officials, including briefings for foreign reporters by economists and other researchers, seeking to change minds abroad.

They have emphasized China's importance as a market, its plans to end ownership limits in its auto industry and other regulatory changes. But none of those moves directly addresses the policies that prompted U.S. President Donald Trump to impose penalty tariffs on Chinese goods.

Washington says Beijing steals or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology. American officials say Chinese plans for state-led development of global champions in robotics and other fields violate Beijing's free-trade commitments and might erode American industrial leadership.

The Cabinet press office said Shen couldn't address those complaints because his office



has no role in technology policy.

The Trump administration has imposed 25 percent duties on USD50 billion of Chinese imports and is poised to add similar penalties on another \$200 billion list of goods as early as this week. Beijing says it will retaliate.

Washington and Beijing went to the brink of a trade war in the 1990s over complaints China allowed rampant unlicensed copying of medicine, movies, software, designing clothing and other goods. Business groups say enforcement has improved since then, largely because Chinese companies started creating their own technology in smartphones, solar power and other fields that required protection.

Shen cited promises this year

by President Xi Jinping and China's No. 2 leader, Premier Li Keqiang, to strength enforcement and "make infringers pay a heavy price."

"It is an independent choice for us to build an innovative country and promote economic and social development," said Shen.

The conflict has largely moved on from over rampant Chinese copying of Hollywood movies, music, software and medicines to one focused on the bedrock of Beijing's state-led development strategy.

Chinese officials have rejected U.S. pressure to scale back industry plans Beijing sees as the path to prosperity and global influence.

"Ratcheting up U.S. pressure will not work on China," said a foreign ministry spokeswo-

man, Hua Chunying, last week. "For people who still think China will give in to intimidation, threats and groundless criticism, I think it's the time for them to wake up."

Chinese leaders also have stressed protection for patents and copyrights in meetings with foreign businesspeople, though their reaction suggested the topic is no longer the irritant it once was.

Li, the premier, asked representatives of some of Europe's biggest companies at a July meeting to give examples of intellectual property theft or measures they wanted changed. None did during the portion of the meeting reporters were allowed to watch. Instead, a German auto executive expressed concern about Chinese industrial standards —

part of technology policy.

Shen expressed frustration at the U.S. government's "Section 301" investigation that concluded Beijing improperly obtains foreign technology.

"In the 301 survey, intellectual property was a justification or an excuse," said Shen. "We hope the U.S. government will provide specific infringement cases or clues. We will deal with them seriously and will not tolerate them."

China faces similar, though more muted, criticism from Europe and other trading partners.

The 28-nation European Union challenged China's rules on technology licensing in a June complaint to the World Trade Organization. The EU said Beijing unfairly favors domestic companies in violation of its commitments to treat all competitors equally.

At a government-organized event last week, researchers from official think tanks stressed the potential gains from collaboration between the two biggest global economies and what might be lost if they fight.

"The United States and China are interdependent. Not just trade in goods but in many other areas too," said Wu Baiyi, director of the Institute of American Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

"These are the only two countries with more than \$10 trillion of economic scale," said Wu. "If there is a serious [economic] war between these two countries, then the whole world economic system may collapse. This will be a disaster for the whole world." AP

## Private Chinese space company places satellites in orbit

**A** rocket developed by Chinese company iSpace blasted into space yesterday carrying three miniature satellites in another milestone for the country's budding private spaceflight industry.

Reports said the SQX-1Z rocket took off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwestern China and entered space at a sub-orbital level. Two of the satellites will be released into space for testing while the third will

re-enter the atmosphere and parachute down to Earth.

It was believed to be the first time a private Chinese company had carried satellites into space. Founded in 2016, iSpace develops "high-quality, low-cost, fast-responding" commercial launchers to serve micro-satellite manufacturers, operators, research institutes and universities at home and abroad, according to a company statement.

China's space program

has traditionally been run by the military, but a number of commercial satellite launchers have also sprung up in recent years, modeled on private U.S. companies such as SpaceX and Blue Origin.

In May, Beijing-based OneSpace Technologies became the first private Chinese spaceflight company to send a rocket into space, launching its relatively modest 9-meter OS-X for a test flight that ended with it falling back to Earth. AP





## ANALYSIS

# North parade a tricky prelude to inter-Korean summit

Kim Tong-Hyung, Seoul

AS North Korea prepares for a massive parade Sunday featuring thousands of goose-stepping soldiers and lots of scary-looking missiles, some potentially capable of reaching the U.S. mainland, worry is rising in South Korea that a tentative, hard-won detente is starting to slip away.

An authoritarian nation obsessed with big milestones, North Korea will use the celebration for the 70th anniversary of its national founding to glorify Kim Jong Un as a leader who's standing up for a powerful nation surrounded by enemies.

Kim will also welcome a delegate from his most important ally, senior Chinese official Li Zhanshu, the third-ranking official of the country's ruling party and head of its rubberstamp parliament, whose presence at the parade would underscore Beijing's role as a major player in international efforts to solve the nuclear crisis.

That's a role South Korean President Moon Jae-in covets, and one of several reasons why the pressure will be intense when he travels to North Korea later this month to meet with Kim.

Moon, who previously held summits with Kim in April and May, will arrive in Pyongyang with dual goals: speeding up inter-Korean engagement and breaking an impasse in nuclear negotiations between North Korea and the United States.

It won't be easy.

The current stalemate between Washington and Pyongyang has raised fundamental questions about Kim's supposed willingness to abandon his nukes, questions that were initially brushed aside amid the soaring, and so far largely empty, rhetoric surrounding a June summit between Kim and President Donald Trump that saw very little substance in its wake.

If Moon fails at his upcoming meeting with Kim, he may face a serious political dilemma: whether to continue to engage the North or join another U.S.-led high-pressure campaign against Pyongyang.

"It's worth the gamble for Moon to make bold demands to try to get North Korea back on track in nuclear negotiations with the United States, but current signs indicate the North won't budge," said Choi Kang, vice president of Seoul's Asan Institute for Policy Studies.

## ENDING THE WAR

Declaring a formal end to the 1950-53 Korean War, which was stopped with an armistice that left the Korean Peninsula still technically at war, has been a major point of contention between Washington and Pyongyang and will almost certainly be discussed by Moon and Kim during their summit.

Amid faltering negotiations, North Korea has accused the United States of making "unilateral and gangster-like" demands on denuclearization and delaying a declaration on formally ending

the war. There were also complaints about "persistent" sanctions by "hostile forces."

Trump responded by calling off Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's planned trip to North Korea last week, citing insufficient progress on denuclearization. Seoul expressed regret and urged Washington to commit to continued diplomacy.

Suh Hoon, Moon's spy chief, told lawmakers recently that Pompeo's visit collapsed mainly because North Korea demanded that the United States sign an end-of-war declaration up front, while Washington insisted that the North first hand over a list detailing the components of its nuclear program.

North Korea, which calls for a "phased and synchronized" process in which every action it takes is met with a reciprocal reward from the United States, claims it has already taken serious steps toward denuclearization, including

■ **The current stalemate between Kim and Trump raised questions about N.Korean ruler's supposed willingness to abandon his nukes**

its unilateral dismantlement of a nuclear testing ground and a missile engine test facility.

By denying a peace declaration, Pyongyang says the United States is refusing a corresponding measure that would build trust and move the process forward.

U.S. officials maintain that such a declaration cannot come before the North takes more concrete steps toward relinquishing its nukes in a verifiable way. None of North Korea's actions so far have been verified by outsiders or seen as realistically reducing the country's nuclear and missile capability.

The American stance could cause a split with Moon's government, which also wants a quick end-of-war declaration, possibly at the U.N. General Assembly in September.

Moon's critics say he puts too much faith in North Korea. The North has never provided a full account of its fast-growing nuclear and missile program and seemingly has an endless number of cards to play in the "phased and synchronized" game — like dismantling a missile engine test site or removing a launch pad — before it ever has to take concrete steps on denuclearization.

Once a peace declaration is made, Washington and Seoul could struggle to find other points of leverage. Washington is unlikely to provide sanctions relief, diplomatic recognition or the reduction of U.S. forces in South Korea unless North Korea takes major steps on denuclearization. The North, meanwhile, could ea-

sily find excuses to drag out the process or even discard it.

North Korea's obsession with an end-of-war declaration may also indicate that it seeks to turn the talks with the United States into an arms reduction negotiation between two nuclear states, rather than a process to surrender its nukes.

## ENGAGEMENT OR PRESSURE?

Moon is also running out of goodwill gestures toward North Korea, which has expressed frustration about the slow pace in cooperative projects with the South that it hopes will bring it economic benefits.

The Koreans have staged emotional reunions between aging relatives separated by the war, fielded combined teams in sports competitions and held military talks to ease border tensions. But Moon's more ambitious ideas, such as joint economic projects and reconnecting cross-border railways, are held back by international sanctions against Pyongyang.

South Korean Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha said recently that Seoul has yet to gain Washington's full endorsement to open a liaison office in a North Korean border town, which some say could violate existing sanctions.

Moon's nightmare may be a return to 2017, when animosity created by the North's barrage of nuclear and missile tests and Trump's responding belligerent tweets raised war fears among South Koreans.

Moon's approval rating, although still above 50 percent, has declined sharply in recent months over a decaying job market. He can't afford a setback on inter-Korean relations, his strongest issue.

South Korean officials say their diplomatic approach will work in tandem with sanctions and pressure until the North takes genuine denuclearization steps.

But in a recent speech, Moon seemed to argue that inter-Korean activities should take the lead.

"The advancement in inter-Korean relations is the driving force behind the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," Moon said. "When inter-Korean relations were good in the past, North Korea's nuclear threat eased."

The Pyongyang summit could reveal whether Moon is ready to push ahead with more engagement with the North despite U.S. frustration over North Korea.

"Denuclearizing North Korea is a process that will take 10 or 20 years, and there are only two ways to do it: either eliminate all the nuclear weapons and missiles or eliminate any reason and intent for the North to push the button," said Bong Young-shik, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Yonsei University. "The Moon government is primarily focused on the second way." AP

**M**YANMAR'S government looks as if it's under siege from an international community concerned about the condition of its nascent democracy, with widespread calls for a genocide tribunal to hold its military to account for the brutal treatment of its Muslim Rohingya minority.

But experts say not to expect any change of course from the country's leader, State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi, even after a fresh round of withering criticism from abroad following Monday's show-trial conviction of two Reuters reporters who helped expose extrajudicial killings of 10 Rohingya men and boys.

Suu Kyi's motivations are opaque. Even as a revered pro-democracy activist, the Nobel Peace laureate had a reputation for being autocratic, but now her core ideology has come into question.

There is at least a loose consensus that she faces real restrictions on her actions due to the power retained by the military that is enshrined in the constitution it imposed in 2007.

"Aung San Suu Kyi has tried to balance her delicate and antagonistic relationship with the military and her conception of society's needs, perhaps fearing too strident a stance could prompt an overt return to military rule, which is possible under the constitution in certain circumstances," David Steinberg, professor emeritus at Georgetown University, wrote in July in the online magazine *The Diplomat*.

Other observers are less generous, saying Suu Kyi's seeming impassivity toward the plight of the Rohingya — and hostility toward those wishing to address the issue — undercut the narrative pitting her against the military.

AP PHOTO



MYANMAR

## Criticism doesn't have Suu Kyi or country on the ropes

"People tended to think that Aung San Suu Kyi and the military were at odds, and each feared that the other would dislodge them from power," said Khin Zaw Win, a rare outspoken critic of the government who directs the Tampadipa Institute, a Yangon-based capacity-building institution.

He said the conviction of the two Reuters journalists, who were sentenced to seven years in prison, is a reminder that "shows that what they fear in tandem is the world out there finding the truth and seeking to unseat them."

The old saying, "They have to hang together, or they hang separately," describes their situation, he said.

Political realities inside and outside Myanmar suggest there is neither the will nor a way to ensure justice for the Rohingya, 700,000 of whom fled to neighboring Bangladesh to escape a brutal counterinsurgency campaign by the army. Myanmar denies any large-scale human rights violations and says its actions were a response to surprise attacks by militants in August last year that killed a dozen members of the security forces. Critics charge it was ethnic cleansing.

Those inclined to bring Myanmar to account have few weapons to do so. Despite the recommendation last month of a special U.N. fact-finding commission that top Myanmar

commanders be charged with genocide, no trial is likely to be held in the foreseeable future.

It's far from clear that any country would officially push prosecution, and certain that several would seek to frustrate it. Major powers that have never entertained much interest in human rights — China and Russia — also have strategic reasons to cozy up to Myanmar, a well-situated outpost on the Indian Ocean.

"A tribunal at the International Criminal Court, for example, on genocide charges will be difficult to pull off," Murray Hiebert, a senior associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C., said in an email inter-

view. "Not only isn't Myanmar a member of the ICC, but a case must be brought by a member of the U.N. Security Council. China and Russia have made clear that they would block a case against Myanmar."

The desire to contain China's growing influence in Southeast Asia is a major issue.

"The U.S. and most Western democracies want to avoid pushing Myanmar further in the arms of Beijing," Hiebert said.

Competition with China for geopolitical influence, as well as friendship from regional countries anxious not to rock the boat or jeopardize investments, also limit the threat of unfriendly action. **AP**

### CAMBODIA

## New one-party legislature begins session

**C**AMBODIA'S king yesterday presided over the opening of the new session of the National Assembly, whose 125 seats are filled by members of a single party following an election widely decried as unfair.

The lawmakers from the Cambodian People's Party are expected to confirm Hun Sen, who has held power for three decades, for another five-year term as prime minister today.

His party won a landslide victory in the July 29 general election.

The only credible opposition force, the Cambodia National Rescue Party, was disbanded last year by the courts in a move seen as politically motivated. The 19 other parties that contested the election were seen as either having trivial support or being promoted by the ruling party to foster the illusion of democratic choice.

Many countries branded the election a sham and several poll-watching groups — as well as national contingents from the United States,

AP PHOTO



Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen (right) reviews honorary troop in front of the National Assembly in Phnom Penh

the European Union and Japan — declined to take part because they

also felt the polls were not legitimate.

In a speech at the as-

sembly's opening, King Norodom Sihamoni conveyed his warmest congratulations to the new lawmakers and urged them to fulfill their duties under the law and to work for the benefit of the entire country.

In a sign of continuing international rejection of the election process, no representatives from the U.S., British and Australian embassies attended the event. Many other diplomats also appeared to be absent.

The United States in December imposed visa

restrictions on top Cambodian officials because of the anti-democratic actions taken in the lead-up to the vote, and said it was disappointed by the "flawed elections."

Last month, State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said the U.S. would expand those visa restrictions and in certain cases apply them to immediate family members of the individuals the U.S. had deemed responsible for undermining Cambodian democracy.

Hun Sen has aligned his country firmly with China in recent years, both politically and economically, allowing him to largely ignore criticism from the West. **AP**

## THE ELECTION HACK

# Facebook and Twitter to testify on Russia as Google is spurned

Ben Brody &amp; Mark Bergen

**E**XECUTIVES from Facebook Inc. and Twitter Inc. are expected to tell members of Congress that they have stepped up efforts to detect and remove accounts that violate their policies after Russian-linked hackers used social media to meddle in the 2016 election.

Facebook deleted more than 270 accounts in April linked to the Internet Research Agency, a so-called troll farm with links to Russia's military intelligence unit, that company's Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg said in advanced testimony to the Senate Intelligence Committee. These accounts are in addition to the 470 similar accounts and pages that Facebook removed between June 2015 and August 2017, she said.

Twitter has removed a total 3,843 accounts for possible affiliation with the Internet Research Agency, according to CEO Jack Dorsey's prepared testimony for a House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing scheduled for later today. This came after the February indictment of a dozen individuals who had been employed by the St. Petersburg-based agency under Special Counsel Robert Mueller's continuing investigation.

The Intelligence Committee had invited Larry Page, chief executive officer of Google's parent Alphabet Inc., or Google CEO Sundar Pichai to the hearing to appear alongside Dorsey and Sandberg. But the panel's leaders rejected Google's offer to settle instead for Chief Legal Officer Kent Walker, who the Mountain View, California-based company had said would be "an appropriate witness for this hearing."

The hearing will set the tone for the coming two months as tech companies and the U.S. government awkwardly collaborate to fight foreign influence campaigns ahead of November's midterm elections, which will determine control of Congress. Social media platforms have become a venue for spreading messages seeking to broaden divisions in the U.S., but the crackdown on accounts has prompted concerns that some are being deleted because of political leanings.

"Twitter does not use political ideology to make any decisions, whether related to ranking content on our service or how we enforce our rules," Dorsey said in advanced testimony.



Twitter CEO Dorsey and Facebook COO Sandberg testify before the Senate Intelligence Committee

"We believe strongly in being impartial, and we strive to enforce our rules impartially. We do not shadowban anyone based on political ideology. In fact, from a simple business perspective and to serve the public conversation, Twitter is incentivized to keep all voices on the platform."

Despite Google's absence from the witness table, the company on Tuesday posted what it called prepared "testimony" from Walker on social media companies' efforts to thwart election meddling in advance of the midterms.

Walker's prepared testimony lists the four new types of disclosure the company promised concerning election advertising in his last congressional appearance in the fall of 2017. Those include databases listing election ads on Google Search, YouTube and across the web, as well as a verification program and disclosures on political ads.

Senator Mark Warner, the top Democrat on the Intelligence Committee, said in a tweet yesterday [Macau time] that Dorsey and Sandberg will testify and "Larry Page should be there, too. It's not too late for @Google to step up."

Warner also criticized a letter Pichai sent to several senators

last week explaining why the company can't answer detailed questions about its plans to return to China.

"Any effort to get back into China could enable the Chinese government in repressing and manipulating their citizens," Warner said in a statement on Tuesday. "Google owes the public some answers about its reported plans."

In his Aug. 31 letter, Pichai wrote that "Google's tools could help to facilitate an exchange of information and learning that would have broad benefits inside and outside of China." However, the CEO said it was "unclear" whether the company would or could release a search service in China.

"Should we have something to announce in the future, we would be more than happy to brief you and your staff on those plans," the letter concluded.

For today's hearings, the likely outcome of the sparring is a stalemate - and Google testimony that no one will deliver. Lawmakers from both sides of the aisle have increased pressure on technology companies on Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign and other election meddling as well as issues including alleged anti-conservative bias and antitrust questions.

Google said in a statement that Walker will be in Washington today [Macau time], "where he will deliver written testimony, brief members of Congress on our work, and answer any questions they have."

"We had informed the Senate Intelligence Committee of this in late July and had understood that he would be an appropriate witness for this hearing," Google said.

In her prepared testimony for the Intelligence Committee, Sandberg highlighted efforts by Facebook to prevent election interference, including the use of artificial intelligence to detect "bad content" and "bad actors," removing fake accounts and implementing stricter policies for advertising.

"We were too slow to spot this and too slow to act," Sandberg said of Facebook's performance in 2016. "That's on us. This interference was completely unacceptable. It violated the values of our company and of the country we love."

This week, the Washington Post published a guest column by Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg in which he highlighted some of the same points as Sandberg's testimony and stressed cooperation with law enforcement and government. "It's an arms race, and it will take the

combined forces of the U.S. private and public sectors to protect America's democracy from outside interference," he wrote.

In prepared testimony for a hearing of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Twitter's Dorsey emphasized his company's role as a "global town square" and the importance of a diversity of voices.

"We know the way to earn more trust around how we make decisions on our platform is to be as transparent as possible," Dorsey said. He said the "Twitter platform itself does not take sides," even as President Donald Trump and some Republicans are asserting a bias against conservatives on social media platforms.

## Facebook deleted more than 270 accounts in April linked to a so-called troll farm with links to Russia's military intelligence

Dorsey said Twitter's data scientists did a study of all tweets sent by House and Senate members for the 30 days ending Aug. 13. While Democrats on average sent more tweets and had more active followers, after adjusting for that, he said, "a single tweet by a Republican will be viewed as many times as a single tweet by a Democrat, even after all filtering and algorithms have been applied by Twitter."

In Walker's testimony, the Google lawyer also focuses on security measures that the company rolled out in the past year, such as a tool to prevent email phishing scams and a program, from the Alphabet unit Jigsaw, to protect political campaigns from adversarial cyber-attacks.

Walker has assumed increasing responsibility at Google, where the lawyer oversees the company's sprawling legal and policy efforts. Earlier this summer, Google promoted Walker to oversee a larger portfolio, including the units that monitor security and abuse on its services, what Google calls "trust and safety."

Walker's ascent came under the tenure of CEO Pichai, who has focused more on Google products and shied away from addressing political issues. Eric Schmidt, Google's former CEO and chairman, was far more willing to be the company's political ambassador. He previously testified before the committee. Schmidt stepped down from his role as chair of Google parent Alphabet last year. **Bloomberg**

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## what's ON



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

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

EXHIBITION OF NEW WORKS IN MAM COLLECTION

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

UNTIL: October 26, 2018

VENUE: Macao Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free admission

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

FASHION REJUVENATION – EXHIBITION OF ECO-FRIENDLY AND FUNCTIONAL FASHION

TIME: 10am-8pm (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: September 30, 2018

VENUE: Macao Fashion Gallery

ADMISSION: Free admission

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

ART IS PLAY

TIME: 10:30am-10pm (last entry at 9:30pm)

UNTIL: September 9, 2018

VENUE: MGM Art Space, MGM Macau

ADMISSION: MOP120 (free admission for children aged two or under)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 3833

## Offbeat

## HERE'S AN IDEA. ST. LOUIS APARTMENT WITH KITCHEN-BATHROOM COMBO CREATES STIR



A St. Louis man is the new tenant of a tiny apartment with a unique layout — the kitchen and bathroom are in the same place.

Yep. The toilet, bathtub, oven and sink are all in one room. The 200-square-foot apartment is in St. Louis' tony Central West End.

The ad and photo for the USD525-per-month apartment appeared on several websites and had people flush with excitement. Harold Karabell of S.F. Shannon Real Estate Management says the new tenant loves it.

The 111-year-old building originally housed 12 luxury apartments. Karabell says that around the time of the Great Depression, it was remade into 50 small units, the studio the smallest among them.

Toilet/kitchen combo aside, Karabell says the apartment has a lot to like, including refinished hardwood floors and new windows.

## 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
19:00	Portugal Fashion
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	You, Me & Apocalypse
22:00	Funny Things To Know
22:25	Portuguese Serie - Liberty 21
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Documentary
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:30	RTPi Live

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

06 SEP - 12 SEP



KIN

ROOM 1

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

Director: Jonathan Baker & Josh Baker

Starring: Myles Truitt, Jack Reynor, Dennis Quaid

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 102min

ALONG WITH THE GODS:  
THE LAST 49 DAYS

ROOM 1

7:00pm

Director: Kim Yong-hwa

Starring: Shailene Woodley, Sam Claflin, Jeffrey Thomas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 96min



ADRIFT

ROOM 2

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

Director: Baltasar Kormákur

Starring: Dona Adwera, Peter Andre, Richie Campbell

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 85min

KILING FOR THE PROSECUTION

ROOM 2

7:30pm

Director: Masato Harada

Starring: Takuya Kimura, Kazunari Ninomiya

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 123min

ADIEU

ROOM 3

2:30, 7:30pm

Director: Kenneth Lau

Starring: Louis Cheung, Jason Chan, Michelle Wai

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

L STORM

ROOM 3

4:30, 9:30pm

Director: David Lam

Starring: Louis Koo, Julian Cheung, Kevin Cheng

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 90min

## this day in history



## 1997 DIANA'S FUNERAL WATCHED BY MILLIONS

Britain and the world have said farewell to Diana, Princess of Wales, at the end of an unprecedented week of mourning.

A four mile procession brought her coffin to Westminster Abbey, where politicians and celebrities joined the Royal Family in a subdued congregation.

Over a million people lined the route of the funeral cortege to the abbey and along her final journey to the Spencer family home in Northamptonshire.

The day began at 0908 BST, when the coffin left Kensington Palace on a gun carriage.

Some of the crowd wept, some applauded quietly, but most watched in silence.

On top of the coffin was a poignant reminder that this woman loved by millions was also a mother - a card to "Mummy" from one of her sons.

The two princes, William and Harry, joined their father, grandfather and the princess's brother walking behind the coffin.

Other members of the Royal Family watched the funeral cortege pass from the gates of Buckingham Palace.

The union jack on top of the palace was lowered to half mast for the first time ever.

Both Diana's sisters read tributes to her at the funeral service and Elton John played his re-worked version of Candle in the Wind.

Her brother, Lord Spencer, made a funeral address in which he described as Diana the "very essence of compassion, of duty, of style, of beauty".

He used the speech to blame the media for her death, calling her the "most hunted person of the modern age".

The grieving earl also pledged to protect William and Harry and prevent them suffering a similar fate.

The sometimes controversial oration was greeted with spontaneous applause.

A very public day of mourning ended with a private ceremony when Diana was finally buried on an island in the heart of her family estate at Althorp.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Diana's death resulted in an outpouring of grief never before seen in the UK.

It was estimated that a total of 2.5 billion people watched the princess's funeral, a testament to her global celebrity.

Her image remained as iconic in death as it had been in life, and within weeks of her funeral there was worldwide demand for memorabilia of the princess.

The French authorities concluded their investigation into the crash two years later.

It found the driver, Henri Paul, to be three times over the drink-drive limit and breaking the speed limit.

The photographers chasing the car were severely criticised for their behaviour, but no criminal action was taken against them.

An inquest into the princess's death was opened in the UK in 2004. It has been adjourned while the Metropolitan police carry out an investigation into the crash.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Recent bad habits are preventing you from expecting the best of yourself...

Taurus April 20-May 20 If these changes happen within a friendship, you will see your friend being a lot more conscientious about your time and priorities.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your creativity and cunning act as an unbeatable combination when you're faced with an unruly obstacle today.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 The physical changes you seek may be coming at a frustratingly slow pace, but they are coming.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Appearances come into new importance - you will be attracted to brighter, clearer visuals.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Starting now, you need to give yourself a lot more credit when it comes to business and financial matters.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Take a bow as part of the team and bask in the knowledge that it could not have happened without you.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 If you keep your mind open to new experiences, you will soon understand how to spread this feeling of safety and security into those places in your life that intimidate you.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 There is someone in your life who always knows what to say and always tells it to you straight.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Shift your focus away from material goods, fancy trips or expensive meals.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 The buzz around you is rising to a fever pitch and people you thought didn't even know your name are giving you a lot of attention.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Your friendly demeanor has been a huge asset for you, but it may give someone the impression that you're not going to put up a fight if you get pushed.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

Easy Sudoku grid with numbers 3, 1, 6, 9, 1, 5, 3, 4, 9, 2, 9, 7, 3, 5, 7, 9, 4, 3, 1

Easy+

Easy+ Sudoku grid with numbers 5, 3, 9, 3, 1, 2, 7, 3, 7, 2, 8, 5, 7, 3, 5, 7, 4, 6, 9, 1, 5, 8, 3, 2, 4

Medium

Medium Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 6, 2, 7, 9, 8, 3, 3, 9, 7, 8, 6, 1, 8, 2, 5, 1, 4, 5, 4, 2, 3, 6

Hard

Hard Sudoku grid with numbers 7, 1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 1, 2, 6, 4, 5, 8, 3, 3, 8, 7, 6

WEATHER

Weather table with columns MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Weather table for China cities: Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong

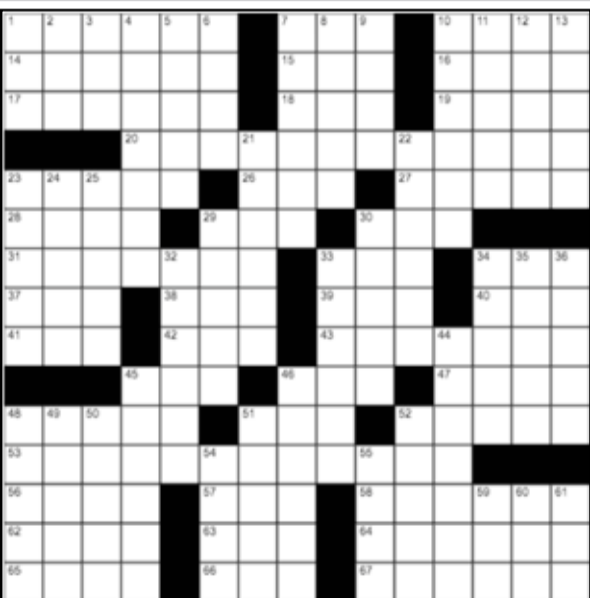
WORLD

Weather table for World cities: Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1-Wedges together; 7- Craze; 10- At the drop of \_\_\_; 14- Of flight; 15- One \_\_\_ time; 16- Body of an organism; 17- Yellowish brown pigment; 18- \_\_\_ Abner; 19- "The Godfather" Oscar nominee; 20- Fundamental right; 23- Caper; 26- Go bad; 27- Gandhi's land; 28- High time; 29- At the present time; 30- Giant Mel; 31- Stronghold of a castle; 33- CD earnings; 34- Palm Pilot, e.g.; 37- Opposite of WSW; 38- Exploit; 39- Draw; 40- Yank's foe; 41- Draft org.; 42- Free; 43- Black magic; 45- Neither's partner; 46- Dusk, to Donne; 47- Fashion lines; 48- Author of fables; 51- Competitor of Tide and Cheer; 52- Horne and Olin; 53- Not assigned to a class; 56- Architect Mies van der \_\_\_; 57- Like Phoenix in summer; 58- Title for a woman; 62- Material charity; 63- Single unit; 64- Old Testament book; 65- Vietnam neighbor; 66- Hi-\_\_\_ monitor; 67- Sequence;

DOWN: 1- \_\_\_ in Charlie; 2- Maui memento; 3- All the Things You \_\_\_; 4- Affectedly dainty; 5- Lose one's cool; 6- Pole, for one; 7- Uncultivated; 8- Leaning; 9- Surrealist Salvador; 10- Climb; 11- Accumulate; 12- Stradivari's teacher; 13- Country singer Tucker; 21- Pressed; 22- Acrid taste; 23- Peaks of Peru; 24- People and places, e.g.; 25- Musical sounds; 29- Polite turndown; 30- Pungent bulb; 32- Moon of Jupiter; 33- In and of \_\_\_; 34- Primp; 35- Skin layer; 36- Vast chasm; 44- Cheese; 45- Surprisingly; 46- In groups; 48- Otic; 49- \_\_\_ Gay; 50- Jerk; 51- Together; 52- Flat contract; 54- Restaurateur Toots; 55- Little devils; 59- Clay today; 60- Tussaud's title: Abbr.; 61- Curvy letter;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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Old Macau, Unique Walk Up Macau 950 sq ft / HKD4.48M
Three Bedroom Apartment Ref: 18065557
Office - Dynasty Plaza Macau Park-Side Work Space Spacious Commercial Space HKD 72,000 / 3,500 sq ft Ref: 18070685


Manhattan D unit, High Floor Taipa 2,305 sq ft / HKD 17.98M
Four Bedrooms Apartment Ref: 18075558
Lakeview, Macau Macau 3 Bedrooms Apartment Front Balcony HKD 30,000 / 3,430 sq ft Ref: 18060680

Violet Court, Hellene Gardens Coloane 2,530sq ft / HKD 20M
Beautifully Designed Apartment Ref: 18035546
Manhattan D unit, High Floor Taipa 4 Bedrooms Apartment Fully Furnished HKD 29,800 / 2,305 sq ft Ref: 18070684


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Organiser:  France Macau Chamber of Commerce 法國澳門工商會  
Sponsor:  Macau Tower

BASKETBALL

# LeBron James says in Kaepernick reference: I stand with Nike

Jocelyn Noveck, New York

**C**LUTCHING his young daughter in his arms, LeBron James said he stands with Nike, a clear reference to the company's Colin Kaepernick ad campaign.

The basketball superstar — and new Los Angeles Laker — made the remarks as he received an award yesterday [Macau time] for both his style and his philanthropy from Harlem's Fashion Row. The fashion collective partnered with Nike for the New York event, both a fashion show and an awards ceremony that focused on diversity in the fashion world. The evening culminated in the reveal of the latest LeBron James Nike basketball shoe: a women's sneaker designed by three female African-American designers and inspired by strong African-American women.

In emotional remarks, James paid tribute to the three women in his life — his mother, wife and 3-year-old daughter, Zhuri.

He noted how his mother had raised him alone, and given him "a sense of pride, a sense of strength, a sense of no worry."

"Because of you, Gloria James, I'm able to be in a position today where I can give back and showcase why I believe African-American women are the most powerful women in the world."

The NBA star, who was wearing one of his favored shrunken-fit



shorts suits by designer Thom Browne, called his daughter "my rock."

"People always told me if you ever have a girl, she'll change you," said James, who also has two sons. "I was like, nobody's changing me, I'm a man." But she did, he said.

"Not only did she change me, she's made me a better person," James said. "A more dedica-

ted person, a stronger person, I guess a more sensitive person."

Closing his remarks, he said he stood "for anybody who believes in change." He added: "I stand with Nike, all day, every day."

Kaepernick, the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback, unveiled his first ad of the new campaign Monday. "Believe in something, even if it means sacrificing everything," it said.

The new endorsement deal has sparked vigorous debate, with some fans expressing displeasure over the apparel giant's support of a player known for starting a wave of protests among NFL players against police brutality, racial inequality and other social issues.

Some angry fans were even burning and cutting out the signature swoosh logos on their

gear — and posting the results on social media.

But Kaepernick and his Nike campaign, which marks the 30th anniversary of Nike's "Just Do It," received plenty of support from the fashion world in attendance.

Bethann Hardison, an activist for diversity in fashion and a former supermodel who was also honored by Harlem's Row, said she was happy with Nike's move. "It's such a divided situation in our world right now," she said of the negative reaction by some fans. "But I'm such a huge, huge, wholehearted supporter of Colin that I'm very proud that someone understands what he's done and [is giving] him some kudos."

Prominent African-American designer Tracy Reese said she loved the new Nike campaign.

"It was tastefully done," she said. "And really, this is the time to stand up for what you believe in. Colin Kaepernick has done that and I think that we need to follow his example and really go where the heart leads, instead of where everybody expects you to go."

Also honored at the ceremony were Harlem streetwear designer Dapper Dan and stylist Jason Rembert. A fashion show highlighted the work of designers Kimberly Goldson, Undra Duncan and Fe Noel, who together helped create the new shoe. **AP**

FOOTBALL

# Mancini's training sessions are music to the ears

**I**TALY coach Roberto Mancini is trying something new to motivate his players.

For the first time in Italy training sessions, music is being played from a speaker attached to a mobile phone.

"It's a new thing. I've been here for three years and until now I've only heard it in the changing room," Italy and AC Milan goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma said yesterday [Macau time].

"Yesterday, we trained with a bit of music, it seemed strange to me, and I asked the goalkeeping coach. He explained to me that Mancini likes working like this because it gives a bit of extra enthusiasm."

The playlist for Monday's session included the likes



of Queen, Miley Cyrus, The Rolling Stones, and The Killers. Interestingly, there wasn't a single Italian song played.

Mancini is trying everything as he tries to haul

Italy out of its lowest point, after missing the World Cup for the first time in nearly six decades.

Italy hosts Poland in Bologna on Friday then visits Portugal three days later.

They are Mancini's first competitive matches in charge and the Azzurri's first since failing to qualify for the World Cup last November.

Music is not the only new

thing in the Italy training camp. Five players received their first callups, although 17-year-old Monaco forward Pietro Pellegri has pulled out with injury.

Mancini launched an appeal on Monday for Italian clubs to play Italians and to have the "courage" to use young players but Nicolò Barella believes it is up to them to prove they're worth the risk.

"It is up to us who are playing to try to always improve more and raise the level while waiting for others to come through to give us a hand in the national team," the 21-year-old Cagliari midfielder said.

"There are talented Italian youngsters, who are ready to take the step up. We just have to wait and have faith."

Barella has been called up by Mancini before but has yet to play for the senior national team.

Fiorentina midfielder Marco Benassi agreed with Mancini, having worked under coaches who have given him the chance and others who have kept him sidelined.

"Mancini is right, you need courage to send youngsters onto the pitch," the 23-year-old Benassi said. "[Andrea] Stramaccioni had that when he gave me my debut at 18 with Inter."

"At Torino, I spent two months on the bench and so two years ago, I told myself there wasn't any space for me, I don't know if that was because of technique or age. However, I decided to change clubs and I was right." **AP**

opinion

**Made in Macao**  
Jenny Lao-Phillips



**WHEN SCHOOL STARTS**

This week sees Macao's mornings getting back to the usual hustle and bustle. A sign that the long summer holidays are over and that schools are back to their normal operation. In the Chinese tradition, the first day of school used to be quite a big deal, with a number of practices that have long been forgotten by our younger generation. One interesting custom is the things students would bring to school on the first day. Instead of books, students used to carry different kinds of food for the success of their school year. These foods are not for eating, just to be carried along for luck.

A couple of years ago, a photo of a kid going to school with a bunch of spring onions in his back pack, and with two large bags of food, was widely shared on the Internet. While most people commented on the weirdness of making one's kid carry all sorts of stuff to school on the first day, this kid was actually doing it right, custom-wise. But why spring onions and other specific foods?

The food children carry on their first day of school has special meaning, all taken from the pronunciation of the food. The word for spring onions in Chinese 蔥 "chung" has the same pronunciation as intelligent 聰明 "chung meng", therefore, carrying spring onions is believed to make students intelligent. Not just carrying spring onions on the first day of school; many parents would also make their kids eat more spring onions, saying that it will make them smarter when they grow up.

Aside from spring onions, there are a few other kinds of food students need to carry to school with them on the first day. One common kind of food carried on the first day of school is apple 蘋果 "ping gwo" which sounds similar to 平安 "ping an" meaning peace, representing that the student will have a peaceful school year. Then there are cakes, the same reason that Chinese people have birthday cakes, not for a celebratory reason, but because cakes in Chinese 糕 "go" has the same pronunciation as tall or high. Eating cakes on one's birthday signifies growing taller, and bringing cakes to school on the first day represents achieving higher.

For studying, of course there must be something related to hard work. For kids to study hard, families will give them celery to take to school, as celery 芹菜 "kan choi" sounds similar to hardworking which is 勤 "kan". Finally, amongst the most usual kinds of first day of school food is garlic 蒜 "syun", which sounds similar to calculate, as done in mathematics. It is not hard to guess that having kids carry a bunch of garlic to school is not to repel vampires, but to help them excel in mathematics.

Aside from the traditional spring onions, apples, cakes, celery and garlic, nowadays, there are parents getting instant noodles for their children to carry on the first day of school. Not that instant noodles sounds like anything with significance to education, but because there is a brand of instant noodles in mainland China named 100. Well, I guess the brand name is self-explanatory.

Relating to getting 100 percent in all grades, the traditional practice, before carrying the 100 instant noodles, was eating eggs. It is right that one egg is bad luck, as "eating an egg" in a Chinese saying means getting zero. But to turn eggs into luck, parents would prepare two boiled eggs and put them next to one chopstick for their kids' breakfast on the first day of school to wish them scores of 100 in all their work.

Although the first day of school was a few days ago, we are still at the opening week of the school year, so it is not too late to stuff your kids school bag with spring onions, apples, garlic, celery and cakes. And don't forget the two-egg breakfast, to be eaten with one chopstick.

**THE PORTUGAL'S POLICE NAB COCAINE AT SEA, TAKING 3-MONTH TOTAL TO 11 TONS**

Police in Portugal say they have seized 840 kilograms of cocaine from a yacht in the Atlantic, bringing seizures of the drug at sea over the past three months to more than 10 metric tons.

A police statement yesterday said the two men and two women on board are suspected of smuggling the cocaine from the Caribbean to Europe. They were not identified.

Police helped by the Portuguese Navy and

Air Force monitored the yacht and carried out a search when it stopped in Portugal's mid-Atlantic Azores islands.

The seizure resulted from cooperation with the Lisbon, Portugal-based Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre — Narcotics, an intelligence agency involving seven European Union member countries.

Operations through that agency have brought a recent spike in Atlantic seizures.

LITERATURE

**Surprise: Publisher to celebrate Salinger centennial**

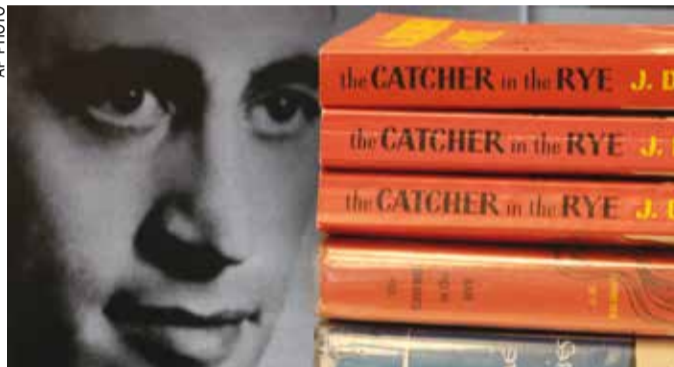
Hillel Italie, New York

WITH J.D. Salinger's centennial coming next year, the big news so far is that his publisher is planning to celebrate it.

Little, Brown and Company announced Tuesday that new editions of "The Catcher in the Rye" and his three other works of fiction — "Franny and Zooey," "Nine Stories" and "Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour: An Introduction" — would be released in November. Nationwide events will be announced later this year, Little, Brown said.

The anniversary editions will include paperbacks with new covers and a bound set of unjacketed hardcovers. Little, Brown did not mention any releases of books Salinger reportedly left unpublished at the time of his death in 2010.

"We're thrilled to be publishing these beautiful new editions to coincide with Salinger's centennial year," Little, Brown publisher Reagan Arthur said in a statement. "J.D. Salinger had a unique ability to connect with readers through a character's voice — readers have often said, upon encountering his fiction for the first time, that they felt as if it had been written just



for them. We hope these reissued editions will help a new generation of readers discover the immense pleasures of reading his work."

According to Little, Brown, the New York Public Library will have an exhibition in October 2019, featuring "manuscripts, letters, books and artifacts from Salinger's archive."

Salinger readers may regret that no new work has been announced, but it's a surprise that his publisher will do anything. In his lifetime, Salinger gave few interviews and had no use for anniversaries or reissues or anything that might attract publicity, such as allowing e-books or audio editions. Little had changed since his death.

"My father hated birthdays, holidays, and pretty much any planned or culturally

mandated celebrations, and he'd certainly hate this centennial — but he loved writing and he loved his readers, and I hope his readers will be glad for an excuse to remember him in this way," Matt Salinger, the author's son, said in a statement.

"I would also love for more people to read his last two books, 'Franny and Zooey' and 'Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour: An Introduction,' for I hear his voice the clearest in these," Matt Salinger said. "He once said that he wrote his first two books with at least part of an eye on selling them, whereas he wrote the last two because he longed to READ them. I hope that over the course of the year more people will join him in loving to read these books, and will come to know his work even better." AP

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**



Selfie time: Actress Natalie Portman signs autographs as she arrives for the premiere of 'Vox Lux' at the 75th annual Venice International Film Festival, in Venice, Italy.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	50-70 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	50-70 Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS



**IRAN**'s rial fell to a record low yesterday as worried residents of Tehran lined up outside beleaguered moneychangers, part of a staggering 140-percent drop in the currency's value since America pulled out of the nuclear deal only four months ago.



**ROMANIA** The mayor of Bucharest launched an attack on the powerful leader of Romania's ruling party, saying he should resign for the good of "the party and country."

**BALKANS** A meeting discussing cooperation in the volatile Balkans was held yesterday without a representative from Kosovo amid continuing tensions stemming from the 1990s wars.

**BRITAIN** charged two alleged Russian military intelligence officers with the nerve agent poisoning of ex-spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter in the English city of Salisbury, officials said yesterday, though authorities held out little hope of being able to bring them to justice.



**BRAZIL** Firefighters found bone fragments from a collection in the still-smoldering National Museum, an official said, raising hopes that a famed skull might somehow have survived a massive blaze that turned historic and scientific artifacts to ashes.

**PERU** Some 300 Venezuelans gathered outside of their country's embassy shouting "We want to leave!" after President Nicolas Maduro offered to airlift migrants who wanted to return back to their homeland.