



GOLDEN WEEK RUN SEEN FADING

Concerns over China's softening economy make it unlikely for Macau's robust Golden Week holiday performance to continue

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BOLSONARO WINS FIRST ROUND

Brazilians showed their disgust with corruption and rising crime in the first round of presidential voting

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GAMING

Pansy Ho dismisses trade war fears

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WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA-US Chinese officials appealed to U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to repair relations they said have been damaged by U.S. tariff hikes and support for Taiwan, as their governments press North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons. Pompeo said that Washington has a "fundamental disagreement" and "great concerns" about Chinese actions and looked forward to discussing them.

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HONG KONG Journalist groups have expressed dismay over the government's refusal to renew a work visa for a Financial Times editor. Representatives from the FCC, HK Journalists Association and other journalism advocacy groups gathered at the Central Government Offices and handed a letter of protest to a Government representative.

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NICOLE TAM

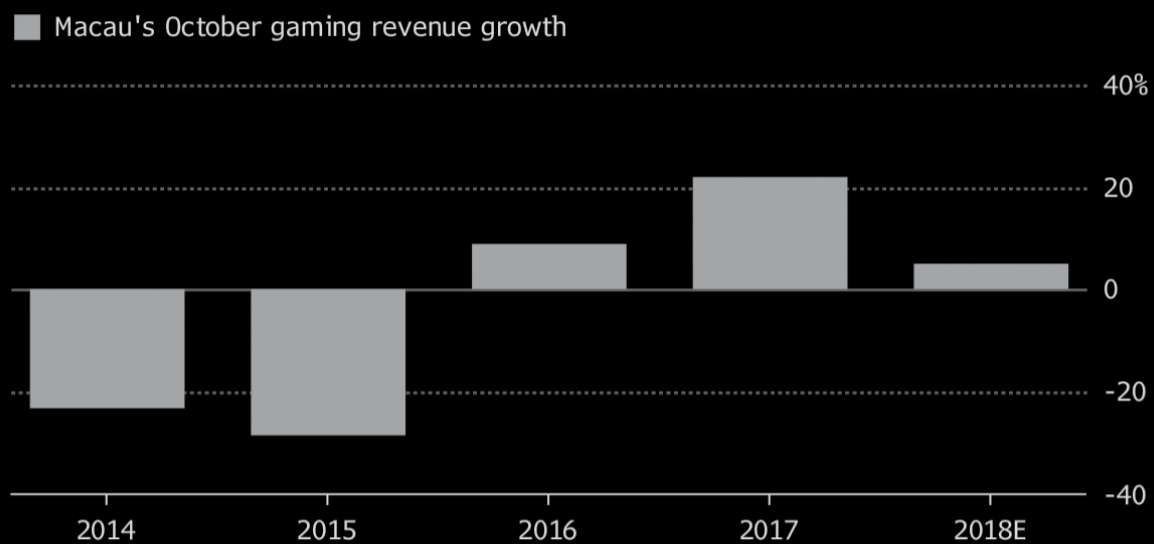
'Future and sustainability' are keys for fashion industry

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Slowing October

Macau gaming growth is expected to slow in October on weaker macro concerns



Source: Macau's Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau, Bloomberg

Bloomberg

Golden Week run seen fading as casino shares slide

MACAU'S robust Golden Week holiday performance is unlikely to continue, with concerns over China's softening economy weighing down the gambling outlook in the world's biggest gaming center.

During the Golden Week, mainland tourists have flocked to both SARs despite a decline in the yuan. The numbers are impressive: Chinese tourist arrivals in Macau for the week-long holiday that ended on October 7 jumped by 14 percent from a year earlier, according to Macau government data. Betting volume from high rollers was up more than 10 percent in the first six days of October over the same period last year, wrote Morgan Stanley analysts led by Praveen Choudhary in a note.

This rush happened despite

the Chinese yuan recently declining nearly 10 percent against the U.S. dollar, following U.S. President Donald Trump's use of tariffs as he aims to rebalance trade and change in China's business practices.

As cited in a report issued by CNBC, falls in the yuan also mean weakness in relation to the Hong Kong dollar, as the latter is "essentially pegged to the greenback, moving in a tight, designated band."

Still, the casino's robust performance during the holiday is not allaying analysts' concerns that the industry will grow at a slower pace in the next few months amid a weakening macro economy in China. The firm expects Macau gaming to grow six percent in the fourth quarter, and has lowered its forecasts for

this year and 2019.

Macau casinos experienced the largest decline in Hong Kong yesterday. Shares of Wynn Macau Ltd. fell as much as 6.8 percent while Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd. slumped as much as 6.1 percent. The Bloomberg Intelligence gauge of Macau casino stocks has fallen more than 38 percent since reaching a peak in May, outpacing the drop in the benchmark Hang Seng index.

"The Golden Week this year was very robust, better than our pre-holiday expectation," said Andrew Lo, executive director of Suncity Group Holdings Ltd., the listed vehicle of the enclave's biggest junket operator. "For the fourth quarter and next year, we don't expect the performance will be as 'golden' as last week."

Though Suncity's gaming revenue climbed 16 percent during the holiday week, Lo expects a drag from China's slowing economy and stock market slump.

That was also echoed in Morgan Stanley's reasoning in lowering its gaming revenue growth forecast to 13 percent from 16

percent for 2018 and cutting next year's gaming receipts growth to 5 percent from 12 percent.

Golden Week's upbeat performance "may not continue for the remainder of the month," Choudhary and the analysts wrote. "Macau in a slowing growth environment tends to underperform."

In contrast to Macau, Golden Week didn't deliver a huge payoff for China. Consumption growth was softer than last year, and retail revenue growth may also underperform, according to a CICC note. **MDT/Bloomberg**

CITI REMAINS OPTIMISTIC

IN AN analysis issued by Citi, the head of global gaming research, Anil Daswani, has noted, "It is encouraging to see that mainland Chinese arrivals on each of the four days are higher than those of any day during the National Day Golden Week last year." The report cited the increase in mainland tourists during the first four days of the Golden Week, which was a

21.4 percent increase compared to the year before. The broker predicts a 5 percent year-on-year growth in the city's October mass GGR growth. Analysts also project further optimism as mega-infrastructure projects aimed at economically integrating the two special administrative regions with southern China, known as the Greater Bay Area, commence.

Police open to publicizing statistics on communications interception

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) says that it holds an open attitude regarding whether to publicize statistics on interception practices.

"The Macau government, including security authorities, is open to disclosing,

or not, relevant information in the future; to establishing, or not, a department responsible for statistics; and, to publicize, or not, relevant information on communication interception," the police said in its recent statement.

The PJ also pointed out that it should be noted that despite society generally supporting the disclosure of relevant information or the establishment of relevant departments, according to Macau's current legal system, publicizing

information cannot violate the principle of judicial secrecy or harm the legal authority of the judicial authorities.

In addition, PJ said that such department would be independent from the criminal police department

and should be set up within the judicial department.

"Of course, its establishment and operation must not violate the principle of judicial independence and must comply with the relevant provisions of both the judicial practice and system. In any case, the establishment of a new system or norm must not be blind and cannot share or damage the current judicial system in Macau," PJ writes.

According to the police, those people are asking for data similar to that published by the commissioners for Interception and Communications and Surveillance in Hong Kong.

In particular, Hong Kong's statistics include the main categories of offences for interception of communications, number of arrests, summaries of reviews and overall evaluation of interceptions.

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Au's 'defamation' to be handled according to the law

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) will handle lawmaker Au Kam San's alleged defamation case in light of the law, according to PJ spokesperson Chan Wun Man.

REYNATO MARQUES



Au Kam San (right)

Recently, PJ accused the lawmaker of defamation based on Au's interview with a local Chinese newspaper.

In the interview, Au accused the police of illegally intercepting a resident. However, the police responded to Au's accusation by saying that "it was absolutely impossible to have illegally intercepted [the resident]".

Last week, the police department sent a letter to the lawmaker, urging him to issue an open and acceptable apology within

a period of ten days. Otherwise, the bureau would initiate criminal proceedings.

Last Friday, the lawmaker told the media that he would not apologize to the police, having deemed PJ's action as "ridiculous".

In Au's opinion, since he was simply trying

to express his concerns about the public, he does not see the need for an apology.

The lawmaker also commented regarding the incident, saying that the government is the party that ought to issue clarifications if it thinks the lawmaker's doubts might have

mislead the public.

Au further believes that the government should not initiate criminal proceedings and request an apology from a lawmaker simply because he or she brought up reservations.

The lawmaker thinks that this incident will have a chilling effect on society and will affect the public's supervision over the government.

In reply to Au's statements, the PJ believes that the nature of a comment on a bill is different from the nature of defaming the police.

"We will review the situation, and will handle it according to the relevant laws," said Chan, when questioned about which law will be the PJ's reference.

Hong Kong-based diplomats attend exhibition, concert

On the occasion of the 32nd Macao International Music Festival (MIMF), the government invited members of the consular corps accredited in Hong Kong and Macau to participate in a visit to an art exhibition organised by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) and gave the delegation the opportunity to attend a MIMF concert. The delegation, accompanied by the IC president, Mok Ian Ian, among others, visited the exhibition "Beyond the Scenery: Exhibition Commemorating the 300th Anniversary of the Passing of Wu Li" at the Macau Museum of Art. On Saturday evening, the delegation headed to the Cultural Centre for a concert performance of Anton Bruckner's Symphony No. 8, as part of the 32nd Macao International Music Festival.



Residential property prices fall slightly

The overall residential property price index for June - August 2018 decreased slightly by 0.3 percent over the previous period (May - July 2018) to 269.9. According to information released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the indices for the Macau Peninsula (272.2) and Taipa & Coloane (259.3) dropped by 0.3 percent and 0.1 percent respectively. The index for existing residential units (291.2) was similar to the previous period, with the index for those in the Macau Peninsula (286.9) dropping by 0.2 percent while that for Taipa & Coloane (311.1) rose by 0.7 percent. Analysed according to year of building completion, the indices for residential units completed between 6 and 10 years ago and more than 20 years ago grew by 0.8 percent and 0.4 percent respectively, whereas the index for those built within 5 years or fewer fell by 0.2 percent. Meanwhile, the index for pre-sale residential units (281.5) increased by 0.1 percent.

AD

Oktoberfest Macau at MGM 2018

The annual Oktoberfest Macau at MGM will once again rock the town in October this year. To mark its 10th anniversary, the event will take place at MGM's newest resort hotel, MGM COTAI, with a more spacious environment for bigger crowds. Guests can experience the most authentic bierfest outside of Germany in the 11-day Bavarian party.

With Macau celebrating the "2018 Macao Year of Gastronomy", MGM aims to enhance the city's gastronomic development with its cultural and entertainment elements as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy. Once again, this year's event will be partnered with the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Hong Kong and the German Macau Business Association, and will be supported by the Macao Government Tourism Office.

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 chickens. MGM captures the essence of the festivities through the traditional German food and beverage, entertainments and decorations, delivering the most authentic Bavarian party atmosphere to Macau. The beloved Hög! Fun Band will once again fly over from Munich for several nights of dynamic live performances. Löwenbrau, one of the six genuine German Oktoberfest brews, is definitely one of the highlights. With the traditional German gastronomies, Bavarian patterned beer tent and ceiling wreaths, as well as a wide range of carnival game booths, all of these will craft Oktoberfest Macau at MGM a guaranteed fun and alive event that is just like the Munich Oktoberfest.



MGM is hosting Oktoberfest from October 18 to 29 (excluding 21).

We are giving away a total of 10 sets of entry tickets and F&B coupons.

Readers will have to correctly answer today's question for a chance at winning.

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Oktoberfest Macau at MGM October 18 - 29, 2018 (excluding October 21)
6pm - 12am MOP170

Industry Day October 20, 2018 11am - 3pm MOP100
Family Day October 28, 2018 11am - 3pm MOP170

Today's Question:

Where will the event take place?

Please email your answer to: oktoberfest2018@macaudailytimes.com along with your name and contact details



Forum assesses impact of tourism partnership between EU and China

SPEARHEADING discussions about the global tourism economy in the context of China's far-reaching Belt and Road Initiative, the seventh Global Tourism Economy Forum (GTEF, or the Forum) will be held in Macau on October 23 and 24.

Under the theme "Strategic Partnership in a New Era, Rising Momentum for a Shared Future" the event takes a holistic approach to examine the impact of strategic tourism collaboration between the European Union (EU) and China in the 2018 EU-China Tourism Year, and the latent opportunities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area waiting to be explored.

A pre-event press conference was held at MGM Cotai yesterday, where it was announced that, as an official partner of the 2018 EU-China Tourism Year, GTEF will present the European Union as the Official Partner Region in its 7th forum on October 23-24 in Macau to promote the EU's collective tourism offerings to China, the fastest growing and number one source market in the world since 2014.

GTEF intends to play a strategic role as a pragmatic exchange platform to create a year-round series of important campaigns and events from roadshows and trade visits, and a two-day program of keynote and panel sessions, bilateral meetings, business-matching opportunities,

exhibitions, workshops and cultural activities, to drive high-level dialogues on increasing tourism flows between China and Europe, enhancing EU countries' understanding of Chinese visitors when traveling in Europe, and strengthening cooperation between the Chinese and EU authorities in the field of tourism and its related economy.

Vice chairman and secretary-general of GTEF Pansy Ho said "This year will be in fact the second biggest year after 2015; we have already registered now 1,500 registered attendees."

"More importantly, it's not just the figure and the number. But we [...] see more and more now that there are registrations from different parts of the world clearly, from especially collaborative partners [...] and different parts of EU, as well as from Guangdong province."

More than 140 keynote speakers and major guests, including representatives of the 28 EU countries, mainland China, and global tourism institutes, will attend the event.

In total, more than 1,500 people coming from 40 different countries and regions will participate in this year's event.

Key guests include Ana Mendes Godinho, Secretary of State of Tourism of Portugal, and Istvan Ujhelyi, vice chairman of the Committee of the Transport and Tourism of the European Parliament. **JZ**



Helena de Senna Fernandes, Ip Peng King (center) and Pansy Ho (right)

Pansy Ho: US companies 'operate as local organizations here'

On the sidelines of yesterday's press conference relating to the seventh Global Tourism Economy Forum (GTEF), Pansy Ho made comments regarding the gaming industry, saying that "it will be easier in a way, probably, if everybody is going to look at the next circle or next phase of development all together."

"It is that all of us are really working towards basically positioning ourselves in a collective manner, so that we can make Macau a destination for non-gamers [...] I think it is conducive for the industry as a whole [...] to have the extra time to basically put together a stronger proposition and to demonstrate that we are capable of attracting the non-gamers and then we have to see," said Ho.

Regarding whether US companies should be worried about the new concession tender, Pansy Ho said "I have been asked [...] whether I am concerned because, after all, the brand [MGM] is still American [...] I hope that, eventually, all the American operators will be able to demonstrate that we have come and basically operate as local organizations here. We are using the local know-how and we are all working towards building a better Macau, and therefore we should earn their trust and confidence."

"I think what we are trying to do is we are trying to demonstrate that [investors] are here to help the place grow and develop. This is how we want to be perceived and how we want to be contributing," said Ho.

Gov't hands awards to 47 scientific projects

Renato Marques

The government has presented a total of 47 awards in recognition of projects in the fields of Science and Technology.

The ceremony was held yesterday at the Grand Auditorium of the Macao Cultural Center. Many highlighted figures from the local government, including the Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On, as well as with several representatives from People's Republic of China central government, and the government (through the Science and Technology Development Fund (FDCT)), were in attendance at the ceremony, which awarded 16 excellent projects as well as 30 prizes for



Chui Sai On (center) inaugurated two State Key Laboratories

scientific investigation and technology development for post-graduates. FDCT also awarded one special award to the project that had already won China's

National Science and Technology Progress Award back in 2016.

In his speech, the Chairman of FDCT, Frederico Ma, highlighted that se-

veral initiatives that the central government has launched through the Ministry of Science and Technology and other departments are "very favorable

to Macau, promoting the development of Science and Technology in Macau and allowing a better integration of this area on the national system of scientific and technological innovation."

In the name of the awardees, the laureate with the Special Award, Wang Yitao, expressed thanks for the support provided by the central government, and the local government as well as people from different sectors of society, addressing a special thanks to all the workers from the technology and science sectors "for their great effort in the development of Macau's science and technology from square one."

The ceremony also served as the official inauguration of the two State Key Laboratories (SKL) attributed to Macau by the central government back in July this year.

The two new units are dedicated to the "Internet of Things for Smart City" and "Lunar and Planetary Sciences" and will operate at the University of Macau and University of Science and Technology respectively. The laboratories add to two SKLs already in existence and in operation since 2010, dedicated to "Quality Research in Chinese Medicines" and "Analog and Mixed-Signal of Very Large-Scale Integration," also operating in the same institutions.

Renato Marques

MDT INTERVIEW | NICOLE TAM

'Future and sustainability' are keys for fashion industry

A designer with a well-established career in the fashion industry, Nicole Tam was invited by the Macau Productivity and Technology Transfer Center (CPTTM) to present her collection at the recent 26th Dalian Cup International Youth Fashion Design Contest.

Tam became one of 37 finalists who got to present their designs (out of some 1,200 competitors from all over the world) on the contest runway, fulfilling what she said was "a childhood dream come true."

"I heard about this competition for the first time when I was in high school here in Macau. This competition has not [had] any Macau representatives for the past 10 years, so when CPTTM sent me the information and asked if I was interested, I said yes," Tam told the Times.

She explained that the competition is divided into two different groups: one for the students and another for professionals, which was the category she competed in.

Entering the competition was also a way for Tam to promote her own company and label, which were established on the premise of "future generation" and sustainability. This year's theme matched perfectly with her concepts and strategies.

"Every year, they have a theme and this year the theme was 'New Era,' which is a theme that is quite appealing to me because all my design concepts, from the materials and design itself, are mainly targeting the next generation."

Tam used a "top-to-toe" method to match the competition theme, starting with the fabric itself to create a true "end-to-end" solution.

"I actually developed the fabric with my supplier and it's composed of recycled material, from which around 30 to 40 percent [are fibers coming] from plastic bottles. The material is actually polyester but it's very silky, so instead of using silk [I tried to show] that we can actually make something out of plastic materials, making it sustainable."

As for the design itself, Tam said she always takes a simple and minimalist approach. This time, she tried to integrate the idea of "digital currency," a hot topic nowadays.

To cut the fabric, Tam used new technologies such as laser cutting. She used the shape of a one pataca coin as a decorative pattern, connecting with the topic and "inputting into the fabric something from the Macau culture."

"I believe that one day these coins will just be in museums and we are all going to use digital currencies only," Tam said, linking her design concept with the "New Era" theme of the competition.

RENATO MARQUES



Nicole Tam



The fashion contest in Dalian



"We had to present three outfits: two more practical and one 'fancier'. Or should I say more formal?" she said, adding that practicability is always one of her goals. After working in the hotel industry, she noted that "the practicability of uniforms is something very important, as it is something you are going to wear every day and for a long time. Everything must be functional and practical, but also very appealing," bringing skills from her daily work into the competition.

As Tam told the Times, participating in this event is not just a way to show her skills and designs, but also "an opportunity

to network with designers [from different backgrounds] and see what others are doing in other places."

As she mentioned, the "eco-friendly" concerned topic was addressed by several designers in this year's competition, but I think I was the only one that managed to present a collection that follows that end-to-end with all the certifications to prove it."

Tam said the eco-friendly focus is not just in the industry, but in consumers who are now more aware and more interested in knowing about their clothing and the processing. "People are caring more about this the same way they are caring more about

health, and try to buy more organic products."

Founder of three-year-old startup company "ANtitled," Tam says that pricing is still one of the hotel industry's main concerns when deciding on a new uniform. However, "there are some opportunities to try to input new products and new fabrics. But you need to be able to justify clearly why they should opt for that solution." "For almost three years now, I have had my own startup [company]. We do specialized [uniform] design for the hotel industry. We provide image consultancy services for hotels and corporate companies as well,"

she said, noting that this background contributed to her understanding of the market.

"Sometimes there is a big gap between the higher administration that decides on a uniform based on corporate branding and pricing, and the people that are in fact wearing it," she said. Sometimes they have no idea why their uniform has particular characteristics.

This is something that Tam says is "now changing, as higher management is now concerned about how they are going to keep their staff in the long term, and uniform has become one of the key elements for staff to stay or leave [at] a certain company."



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Macau Bats Rugby

Four lawmakers propose AL debates over LRT

AU Kam San, Ng Kuok Cheong, Agnes Lam, and Leong Sun Iok are simultaneously proposing a debate over the Light Rapid Transit (LRT) at the Legislative Assembly (AL).

Recently, the four lawmakers submitted their motions to AL, calling for the debate over the LRT.

Agnes Lam's debate question is "whether or not the current LRT project can be changed or terminated."

"The investment estimation went up from MOP4.2 billion in 2007 to MOP17.9 billion in 2017. Under such unclear and chaotic budget estimation, the amount already reached over MOP50 billion. [...] It is time to have a debate in order to discuss the future of the LRT, [...] for instance, by obliterating some less important routes, or simplifying some stations," Agnes Lam proposed in her motion.

The other three lawmakers, in their own proposals, also pointed out the increasing



LRT budget.

Ng Kuok Cheong and Au Kam San both highlighted the constant delays in the LRT construction.

"The LRT, which mainly surrounds Taipa [...] will be soon put officially into operation. This system, which carries at least MOP900 million in operating funds per year, is not economical at all. It has become a project that will continue to waste subsidies. [...] If, in the long term, the LRT system can be extended to all districts in the Macau

Peninsula, it will become a project in constant need of subsidies and it will not be profitable," Ng and Au's joint proposal reads.

Ng and Au believe that the government should publicly explain the "the delay of the LRT project, the incapability [of the government in] controlling its budget and its cost."

Leong Sun Iok emphasized the expensive cost and increasing budget of the LRT, as well as delay in construction, and lack of planning.

Leong's debate topic is "in

order to prevent the LRT from becoming the White Elephant of the Century and to prevent the phenomenon of 'making a change while doing it' and 'revealing the cost after the contract award', the Transportation Infrastructure Office must reveal to the society the complete plan and evaluation of [the cost] of the entire LRT and its various parts before the next phase of the LRT construction project [starts], thus ensuring the principles of social and economic benefits."

Money supply remains stable

Broad money supply continued to grow in August with a stable share of patacas, according to statistics released this week by the Monetary Authority of Macau. Currency in circulation and demand deposits dropped by 0.3 percent and 3.8 percent respectively. Resident deposits grew by 0.9 percent from the preceding month to MOP606.1 billion, whereas non-resident deposits fell by 1.8 percent to MOP236.3 billion. Meanwhile, public sector deposits with the banking sector increased 1.7 percent to MOP218.7 billion. Domestic loans to the private sector fell 0.6 percent from the previous month to MOP478.5 billion, while external loans also dropped 0.6 percent to MOP503.2 billion.

UM, University of Aveiro develop modelling system

Diogo Lopes, a Portuguese doctoral student of civil engineering from the University of Macau (UM) Faculty of Science and Technology (FST), has passed the oral defense for his PhD thesis titled 'Development of a Multi-Scale Air Pollution Modelling System', which is part of the All-in-One research project jointly conducted by UM and the University of Aveiro (UA) in Portugal. Lopes developed an all-in-one air quality modelling system by integrating models ranging from regional to local scales to assess the changes in air quality as a result of transboundary pollution, urban air pollution, and road traffic emissions within street canyons of building clusters. According to a statement issued by the UM, the modelling system can be a useful tool in formulating air-quality management strategies by identifying different air pollution processes in the design and assessment of air-pollution control measures. The All-In-One project was funded by the Science and Technology Development Fund of Macau. This is the latest collaboration between UM and UA as part of a partnership that began in 1998.

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Hong Kong dollar could get all shook up as cash pool shrinks

PREPARE for even greater swings in the Hong Kong dollar and funding costs in the city, as a shrinking pool of liquidity amplifies moves in interest rates.

Hong Kong's one-week interbank borrowing cost rose the most in a decade on Sept. 24 amid a surge in quarter-end demand for loans by banks, then tumbled by a similar magnitude. The city's aggregate balance has more than halved over six months due to official intervention in the foreign-exchange market as the gap between local and U.S. rates made the Hong Kong dollar a target to short - an issue likely to persist as the Federal Reserve tightens further.

A currency peg with the dollar means Hong Kong is tied to U.S. monetary policy. After the Fed hike last month, local banks including HSBC Holdings Plc raised their prime lending rates for the first time since 2006. Ultra-low borrowing costs fueled inflows into the city's assets over the past decade, turning Hong Kong into one of the world's least affordable property markets.

"We may see sudden spikes in Hibor and the Hong Kong dollar more often in the future, as the sizable drop in aggregate balance has made banks more concerned with liquidity shortage," OCBC Wing Hang Bank Ltd. economist

Carie Li said, using the term for Hong Kong interbank rates. "Higher volatility in borrowing costs could dent confidence, with local lenders turning more cautious when making loans and investments in the property market."

Treasury yields are rising on signs of economic strength in the U.S., with traders now pricing in more than two Fed hikes for 2019. Benchmark 10-year yields topped 3.20 percent Thursday for the first time since 2011, while assets declined in Hong Kong.

Risk of occasional tightness in funding suggests Hong Kong dollar trades may become more tactical and sensitive to events that raise demand for funds, such as month- and quarter-ends, public holidays, initial public offerings and irregular, large purchases of the currency, Bank of America Merrill Lynch strategist Ronald Man wrote in a note dated Oct. 3.

Swings in Hibor shook the usually docile Hong Kong dollar late last month: the currency followed its biggest daily gain in 15 years with its worst weekly slide since January 2016. That came as the aggregate balance hit the lowest since late 2008. Hong Kong's de facto central bank intervened repeatedly since April to stop the currency falling beyond the weak end of its trading band.

Interbank liquidity has shrunk to a level that will lead to more volatility rather than a sustained increase in funding costs, said Eddie Cheung, Asia foreign-exchange strategist at Standard Chartered Plc. In the near term, Hibor will likely drop from highs seen last month, which may bring back some short Hong Kong dollar positions, he said.

The aggregate balance stood at HKD76.6 billion (\$9.8 billion) Friday, down from about HK\$180 billion in April, according to the Hong Kong Monetary Authority's page on Bloomberg.

If there are signs of liquidity stress, the HMKA can buy back some of its exchange fund bills to inject cash and help alleviate concern, said Tommy Ong, managing director for treasury and markets at DBS Hong Kong Ltd. There was more than HK\$1 trillion of such debt outstanding at the end of September, according to the monetary authority.

"The Hong Kong dollar will likely touch HK\$7.85 again, triggering more intervention and leading to tighter liquidity, and then start to strengthen over the coming year," Ong said. "The broad trend is that the interest rates will keep climbing, closing the gap with the greenback's funding costs." **MDT/Bloomberg**

AUSTRALIA

Planned racing ad on sails of Sydney Opera House divisive



A plan to project a horse racing advertisement on the famed sails of the Sydney Opera House is dividing Australians. The New South Wales state government stepped in to allow the advertisement to be displayed today after the opera house chief executive Louise Herron opposed it.

State Premier Gladys Berejiklian said yesterday the advertising for The Everest horse race had been "toned down" since its original proposal.

"It's important for us to support our major events, it's important for us to promote New South Wales but, of course, do it in good taste and I believe that tomorrow evening strikes that right balance," Berejiklian told reporters.

"This is a global event that receives global attention," she added, referring to the Sydney horse race, which will be run on Sunday.

More than 130,000 people signed an online petition to stop the promotion. While some have defended the promotion as having economic benefits, others say it is crass commercialism and threatens the iconic building's value as a World Heritage site.

Anti-gambling campaigner Tim Costello said the advertising demonstrated the power of the Australian horse racing industry that made a profit of 3.3 billion Australian dollars (USD2.3 billion) last year.

"The gambling lobby, particularly in New South Wales, is the equivalent of the National Rifle Association in America. It has politicians in the palm of its hand," Costello, a spokesman for the Alliance for Gambling Reform, told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison, a former tourism marke-

ter, described the Opera House as the "biggest billboard Sydney has."

"These events generate massive economic opportunities. I don't know why people are getting so precious about it," Morrison said.

"It's not as if they're painting it on there. I mean, it's some lights flashing up there for a brief moment of time," he added. "I just don't understand why we tie ourselves up in knots about these things."

Graham Quint, a National Trust of Australia manager, said the advertising contravened federal and state laws governing use of the Opera House.

"People have a great deal of respect for the Opera House, it's World Heritage so people worldwide treasure it ... and the idea that we'd use it as a Parramatta Road billboard is quite wrong - this is just crass commercialism," Quint said.

"The World Heritage listing requires not only that the building be preserved in its fabric, but also that it be presented properly ... and no way under the current conservation management plan should this be allowed," Quint added.

Racing NSW chief executive Peter V'landys wrote in The Sydney Morning Herald newspaper on Monday that his organization had wanted to advertise the race on the Sydney Harbor Bridge. But the state government blocked that plan and offered the Opera House instead.

"Let's be clear, Racing NSW never intended for the sails of the Opera House to be used as a billboard," V'landys wrote.

The Everest has AU\$13 million in prize money and is billed as the world's richest turf race. The barrier draw is to be advertised today. **AP**

China tells US to stop criticism, says relations suffering

CHINESE officials appealed to U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo yesterday to repair relations they said have been damaged by U.S. tariff hikes and support for Taiwan, as their governments press North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons.

Pompeo said at the start of his talks with Foreign Minister Wang Yi that Washington has a "fundamental disagreement" and "great concerns" about Chinese actions and looked forward to discussing them. Reporters were then ushered from the room.

The polite but edgy tone underscored the plunge in U.S.-Chinese relations as the administration of President Donald Trump confronts Beijing over its technology policies and territorial claims in the South China Sea. Trump also approved a weapons sale to Taiwan, the self-ruled island the Communist mainland claims as its own territory, and sanctioned a Chinese company and its leader over an arms purchase from Russia.

Those developments came as the countries have raised tariffs on tens of billions of dollars of each other's goods in a dispute over U.S. complaints that Beijing steals or pressures companies to hand over technology.

At the same time, the United States and China are cooperating on efforts to pressure North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to give up his country's nuclear weapons and long-range missile programs.

Pompeo met Wang and Yang Jiechi, a senior Cabinet official and former foreign minister, after talks Sunday with Kim in North Korea's capital, Pyongyang. Pompeo also visited Japan and South Korea, where he said yesterday in Seoul that there had been "significant progress" toward an agreement for the North to give up its nuclear weapons.

Wang appealed to Pompeo to cease actions that Beijing sees as threatening its interests in order to avoid disrupting cooperation over North Korea and other issues.

"While the U.S. side has constantly escalated trade frictions with China, it has also taken actions regarding Taiwan that harm China's core interests," Wang said.

In their later meeting, Yang expressed Chinese frustration with Washington while avoiding specifics, telling Pompeo relations are "facing challenges." Washington and Beijing "should and must make the correct choices," Yang said.

AP PHOTO



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (left) shakes hands with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing

"We hope the United States and China can meet each other halfway and conscientiously fulfill the important consensus reached by the leaders of both countries," Yang said.

In Seoul, Pompeo said he and Kim had agreed to soon begin working-level talks on details of denuclearization and placement of international inspectors at one of North Korea's main nuclear facilities.

Pompeo said they came close to finalizing a date and venue for the next Kim-Trump meeting.

"It's a long process," Pompeo told reporters. "We made significant progress. We'll continue to make significant progress and we are further along in making that progress than any administration in an awfully long time."

Trump, tweeting from Washington shortly after Pompeo left North Korea, cited progress Pompeo had made on agreements Trump and Kim reached at their June summit in Singapore and said, "I look forward to seeing Chairman Kim again, in the near future."

Pompeo said he and Kim had gotten "pretty close" to fixing the logistics for the summit but stressed that "sometimes that last inch is hard to close."

"Most importantly, both the leaders believe there is real progress that can be made, substantive progress that can be made

at the next summit and so we are going to get it at a time that works for each of the two leaders and at a place that works for both of them," he said.

North Korea's state-run news agency KCNA, meanwhile, said that Kim had "expressed his will and conviction that a great progress would surely be made in solving the issues of utmost concern of the world."

In an early dispatch, KCNA called the talks "productive and wonderful" and said that "mutual stands were fully understood and opinions exchanged."

In Seoul, Pompeo said Kim is expected soon to name Deputy Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui as a counterpart for his new special envoy for North Korea, former Ford executive Stephen Biegun, who accompanied him on the trip. He and Biegun both said they expected meetings at the working level to begin soon and become quite frequent before the next summit.

"We are starting to see a first wave of actions we can take on all four pillars of the Singapore communique," said Biegun. He is to work with South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and other countries that have an interest in the talks.

In Pyongyang on Sunday, Pompeo and Kim met for about 3 1/2 hours, first in a business session and then in a 90-minute

luncheon that the North Korean leader hosted at a state guesthouse.

Before visiting Pyongyang, Pompeo held talks in Tokyo with Japan's prime minister. He pledged the Trump administration would coordinate and unify its strategy for denuclearization with its allies. Japan has been wary of the initiative, but South Korea has embraced it.

Pompeo has refused to discuss details of negotiations, including a U.S. position on North Korea's demand for a formal end to the Korean War and a proposal from Seoul for such a declaration to be accompanied by a shutdown of the North's main known nuclear facility.

The United States and Japan have pushed for the North to turn over a list of its nuclear sites to be dismantled as a next step in the process. The North has rejected that and South Korea has suggested it may not be a necessary next step.

Pompeo, however, played down the differences.

"I've never been involved in an international discussion where there weren't differences of view, not only between governments but inside of governments," he said. "But if you look at the approach, we are in lockstep with each of those two countries in terms of how we approach achieving the results that

everyone is aimed at. And so there'll be tactical places where we'll have debates and disagreements. That is a necessary component of getting to the best deliverable."

"But with respect to our relationship with the Republic of Korea and Japan on this issue, I have found that we are in lockstep on the most important issues and how to approach them," Pompeo said.

“We hope the United States and China can meet each other halfway and conscientiously fulfill the important consensus reached by the leaders of both countries.”

YANG JIECHI
FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER

Since the denuclearization effort got underway with a secret visit to the North by then-CIA chief Pompeo in April, there has been only limited progress, even since the June 12 Trump-Kim summit that many had hoped would jump-start the effort.

North Korea so far has suspended nuclear and missile tests, freed three American prisoners and dismantled parts of a missile engine facility and tunnel entrances at a nuclear test site. It has not taken any steps to halt nuclear weapons or missile development.

The North has accused Washington of making "unilateral and gangster-like" demands on denuclearization and has insisted that sanctions should be lifted before any progress in nuclear talks. U.S. officials have thus far said the penalties will remain in place until the North's denuclearization is fully verified.

Also yesterday, South Korean President Moon Jae-in said he expects Kim to travel to Russia and for Chinese President Xi Jinping to visit North Korea soon amid a global diplomatic push to resolve the nuclear crisis.

Moon said a second Trump-Kim summit could be accompanied by major diplomatic developments that could contribute to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and stabilizing peace.

Moon also said there was a possibility of Kim holding a summit with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. **AP**

MENG HONGWEI

Beijing accuses ex-Interpol chief of bribery, other crimes

Gillian Wong, Beijing

CHINA is investigating the former president of Interpol for bribery and other crimes, Beijing said yesterday in a notice that indicated the Chinese official may also be in trouble for political transgressions.

Meng Hongwei, China's vice minister for public security, was being investigated as a result of his "willfulness" and has only himself to blame, according to a statement posted on a government website.

The scant details provided yesterday raised further questions about the scope of the allegations made against Meng and whether they pertain in any way to his work at the international police agency. They also shone an unflattering light on secretive, extralegal detentions in China that have ensnared dissidents and allegedly corrupt or disloyal officials alike at increasing rates under the authoritarian rule of President Xi Jinping.

The notice of a high-level meeting of public security officials elaborated on a terse announcement late Sunday by an anti-graft agency of the ruling Communist Party that said Meng was suspected of unspecified crimes. The Sunday announcement was issued barely an hour after Meng's wife made a bold appeal to the world for help from Lyon, France, where she is based.

Meng is the latest high-ranking official, and one with an unusually prominent international standing, to fall victim to a sweeping crackdown by the ruling Communist Party on graft and perceived disloyalty. Shortly after China's announcement about the investigation on Sunday, Interpol said Meng had resigned as the international police agency's president.

Chinese officials appeared to be scrambling to respond to an unfolding scandal. In the early hours yesterday, Zhao Lezhi, the minister for public security, chaired a meeting attended by senior officials of the ministry's party committee to discuss Meng's case, the statement said.

"We should deeply recog-



Meng Hongwei (file photo)

nize the serious damage that Meng Hongwei's bribe-taking and suspected violations of the law have caused the party and the cause of public security and deeply learn from this lesson," the announcement said.

■ The scant details provided yesterday shone an unflattering light on secretive, extralegal detentions in China

The 64-year-old Meng's unexplained disappearance while on a trip home to China late last month prompted the French government and Interpol to make their concerns known publicly in recent days.

The revelation that China's system of shady and often-arbitrary detentions could ensnare even a senior public security official with international stature has cast a shadow over the

image Beijing has sought to cultivate as a modern country with the rule of law.

The acting president of Interpol, Kim Jong Yang, said it had not been told about the investigation of its chief. "I find it regrettable that the top leader of the organization had to go out this way and that we weren't specifically notified of what was happening in advance," Kim said in a phone interview.

"We still don't have sufficient information about what's happening [with Meng] or whether it has anything to do with Chinese domestic politics," he added.

Questions about Meng's case dominated a regular briefing by China's foreign ministry yesterday. The spokesman, Lu Kang, rejected the suggestion that China's handling of the Meng probe would hurt the country's image abroad, saying instead that it demonstrated Beijing's commitment to tackling graft.

"This has shown the Chinese government's firm resolve to crack down on corruption and crime," Lu said. "It has also made very clear that this case fully demonstrates that the party is firm in fighting corruption and anybody will be punished seriously in accordance with the law if they violated the law."

However, Lu did not directly answer questions about whether Meng would be formally arrested or allowed to hire a lawyer, or receive a visit from his wife.

Grace Meng, his wife, made an impassioned plea Sunday for help in bringing her husband to safety. She said she thought he sent an image of a knife before he disappeared in China as a way to warn her he was in danger.

"From now on, I have gone from sorrow and fear to the pursuit of truth, justice and responsibility toward history," she said at a briefing. "For the husband whom I deeply love, for my young children, for the people of my motherland, for all the wives and children, so that their husbands and fathers will no longer disappear."

Yesterday's statement on the ministry of public security's website provided no details about the bribes Meng allegedly took or other crimes he is accused of, but suggested that he was also being investigated for political lapses.

It indicated that Meng, a member of the Communist Party, may have somehow been tainted by former security chief and ex-Politburo Standing Committee member Zhou Yongkang, who is now serving a life sentence for corruption. **AP**



Representatives from major media associations talk to reporters after hand in a letter expressing their concerns outside the government headquarters in Hong Kong, yesterday

HONG KONG

Journalist group protests FT editor's visa denial

HONG Kong journalist groups have expressed dismay over the government's refusal to renew a work visa for a Financial Times editor.

Representatives from the Hong Kong Foreign Correspondents' Club, Hong Kong Journalists Association and other journalism advocacy groups gathered at the Central Government Offices yesterday and handed a letter of protest to a Hong Kong Government representative.

"We are shocked and deeply concerned over the decision by the Hong Kong authorities to refuse a work visa renewal for Victor Mallet, Asia News Editor for the Financial Times," said Chris Yeung of the Hong Kong Journalists Association.

He said the denial of a visa to Mallet "sets a terrible precedent for Hong Kong's reputation as a place where the rule of law applies and where freedom of speech is protected by law."

China has defended its decision to deny a new work visa for Mallet, who is vice president of the Foreign Correspondent's Club. Authorities have criticized the club for hosting a talk in August by the leader of a now-banned pro-Hong Kong independence party.

Hong Kong was promised semi-autonomy for 50 years as part of its 1997 handover from British rule, allowing it to retain its limited democracy and rights to assembly and free speech that are denied on the Chinese mainland.

Rights groups have called the visa rejection the latest sign of Beijing's expanding restrictions on the territory, including legal cases brought against pro-democracy legislators and organizers of large-scale anti-government protests in 2014.

The London-based Financial Times said in a statement that it was given no reason why Mallet's application was rejected.

Other groups that protested the decision included the Hong Kong Independent Commentators Association, International Federation of Journalist, Hong Kong Journalism Educators for Press Freedom and Reporters Without Borders.

The Foreign Correspondent's Club is an institution dating back more than 75 years ago to when Hong Kong was a British colony.

At the Aug. 14 talk at the FCC, Mallet introduced Hong Kong National Party leader Andy Chan by acknowledging official criticism while citing the territory's tolerance for dissent. **AP**

PAKISTAN

Supreme Court delays ruling on blasphemy death sentence case

Kathy Gannon, Islamabad

PAKISTAN'S Supreme Court postponed its ruling yesterday on the final appeal of a Christian woman who has been on death row since 2010 after being convicted of blasphemy against Islam.

The judicial panel listened to Asia Bibi's defense lawyer challenge statements by those who accused her of insulting Islam's prophet, an allegation punishable by death that can incite riots in conservative Pakistan.

The three-judge panel, headed by Pakistan's Chief Justice Mian Saqib Nisar, did not say why they reserved their judgment or when they would announce their decision. It ordered everyone present to refrain from commenting on the case, in an apparent attempt to avoid inflaming public opinion.

The charge against Bibi dates back to a hot day in 2009 when she went to get water for her and her fellow farmworkers. Two Muslim women refused to take a drink from a container used by a Christian. A few days later, a mob accused her of blasphemy. She was convicted and sentenced to death.

Bibi's lawyer, Saiful Malook, argued that the many contradictions in witnesses' statements tainted the evidence. The two Muslim women who leveled the charges against Bibi denied they were quarrelling with her, saying her outbursts against Islam were unprovoked. Yet sev-



eral independent witnesses who gave statements recounted a cantankerous exchange between the women.

The prosecution's case centered mostly on religious texts that vilify those who make blasphemous statements.

Ahead of the hearing, Malook expressed optimism that he would win the last legal appeal for Bibi. But if not, he planned to seek a review, which could take years to complete.

"I am a 100 percent sure she will be acquitted," Malook told The Associated Press in a telephone interview on the eve of the hearing. "She has a very good case."

He refused to comment at the end of yesterday's hearing, citing the judges' orders.

Bibi's case has generated international outrage, but within Pakistan it has fired up radical Islamists, who use the blasphemy law to rally supporters and intimidate mainstream political parties.

Even defending Bibi in court is dangerous.

"I have lost my health. I am a high blood pressure patient, my privacy is totally lost. You have to be in hiding," her lawyer said ahead of the hearing. Everyone on his tree-lined street knows his identity, he said. "They look at this house and they know this

is the home of a person who can be killed at any time by angry mullahs."

Police provide round-the-clock security around Malook's home, in the city of Lahore.

Members of Pakistan's religious minorities have campaigned against the law, which they say is invoked to justify attacks on them. For them, Bibi's case is seen as a watershed. Her husband recently traveled to the Vatican to meet Pope Francis.

Joseph Francis, an activist for Pakistan's Christians, said he currently is aiding 120 Christians facing blasphemy charges. His organization, Center for Legal Aid Assistance and

Settlement, provides legal aid as well as finding a safe haven for Christians who are targeted even after being cleared of blasphemy allegations.

"This law is misused and it is not only misused against Christians but also against Muslims," he said.

France, Spain and Germany have all offered to welcome Bibi should she be acquitted, said Francis, who said he will help secret her out of the country.

But Khadim Hussein Rizvi, the leader of a radical Islamist party, warned after the postponement that "no blasphemer will be able to escape punishment."

In 2011, Salman Taseer, the governor of Punjab province, was shot and killed by one of his elite guards for defending Bibi and criticizing misuse of the blasphemy law. Malook prosecuted his killer, Mumtaz Qadri, who was hanged for his crime.

Qadri has since become a martyr to millions, who make a pilgrimage to a shrine erected in his name by his family outside the capital, Islamabad. His supporters have called for the immediate killing of anyone accused of blasphemy.

Pakistan's newly elected government is led by Prime Minister Imran Khan, a former cricket star who has embraced religious conservatism and bowed to some of the demands of radical Islamists. Last month, a member of his government offered prayers at Qadri's shrine, drawing outrage from rights activists.

An unprecedented number of religious parties participated in the July elections that put Khan in power. As in previous elections, they garnered less than 10 percent of the popular vote, but they have allies among all the major parties. **AP**

Elections for Kashmir councils begin amid anti-India strike

THE first phase of local council elections ended yesterday in Indian-controlled Kashmir amid tight security and a separatist-sponsored shutdown.

Authorities deployed tens of thousands of additional soldiers in the already highly militarized region for the elections, which are being held in four phases.

Voter turnout was slightly over 8 percent in Muslim-dominated areas of the Kashmir valley, the heartland of anti-India dissent.

Armed police and soldiers guarded over 800 polling stations across the Indian-held portion of the

disputed region as government forces laid razor wire and erected steel barricades on roads.

A curfew was in effect in parts of the city of Srinagar to prevent anti-India protests. Shops, businesses and most schools were closed as part of a strike called by separatist leaders.

Still, protests and clashes against Indian rule erupted at several places in Srinagar's outskirts and in northwestern Bandipora, where a woman was injured by shotgun pellets fired by government forces, police and residents said.

India says the polls are a vital grassroots exercise

to boost development and address civic issues. Political separatist leaders and armed rebel groups who challenge India's sovereignty over Kashmir have called for a boycott, saying the polls are an illegitimate exercise under military occupation.

Nearly 1.7 million residents are registered as voters for the urban polls. Village council elections will be held separately in November.

According to officials, 244 candidates have already been selected unopposed and there are no contestants for more than 170 out of a total of 1,145 council seats.

Kashmir's main pro-In-

dia political parties such as the National Conference and Peoples Democratic Party are boycotting the polls, accusing New Delhi of fiddling with Kashmir's special status in the Indian Constitution. Despite the boycott, suspected rebels fatally shot two activists of the National Conference and critically wounded another on Friday.

Some people withdrew from the elections after armed rebels threatened candidates and accused them of being "traitors and sellers of martyrs' blood."

Authorities have deployed more than 40,000 additional soldiers to



guard the voting.

Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan, and both countries claim it in its entirety. Rebel groups demand that Kashmir be united either under Pakistani rule or as an independent country. Anti-India sentiment

runs deep in Kashmir's mostly Muslim population and most people support the rebels' cause against Indian rule.

Nearly 70,000 people have been killed in the uprising and the ensuing Indian military crackdown. **AP**

Americans win economics Nobel for work on climate and growth



Paul Romer

TWO Americans won the Nobel Prize in economics yesterday, one for studying the economics of climate change and the other for showing how to help foster the innovation needed to solve such a problem.

William Nordhaus of Yale University and Paul Romer of New York University will share the 9 million-kronor (USD1.01 million) award, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.

Nordhaus has called for the world to combat climate change by imposing a universal tax on carbon. Carbon dioxide, which is emitted when fossil fuels are burned, is a heat-trapping "greenhouse gas" blamed for global warming, and a tax would make polluters pay for the costs imposed on society.

By using a tax rather than government edicts to slash emissions, the policy encourages companies to find innovative ways to reduce pollution.

Romer has studied the way innovation drives prosperity and has looked at ways to encourage it. He told a news conference that his research had given him hope that people can solve even a problem as difficult as a warming planet.

"Many people think that dealing with protecting the en-

vironment will be so costly and so hard that they just want to ignore the problem. They want to deny it exists," Romer said. "I hope the prize today could help everyone see that humans are capable of amazing accomplishments when we set about trying to do something."

While the two academics worked separately, their research dovetails on an issue that has become pressing. The question of climate change remains politically sensitive, especially in big oil-producing countries like the United States, which President Donald Trump has pulled out of the Paris accord on fighting climate change.

"It's an ingenious pairing," said David Warsh, author of the 2007 book "Knowledge and the Wealth of Nations" about the award. "Nordhaus has been concerned all along with repairing the damage" to the global environment. "Romer has been writing about the means at your disposal" to attack such a technological challenge.

Per Stromberg, head of the Nobel economics prize committee, said the award is "about the long-run future of the world economy."

The prize comes just a day after an international panel of scientists warned that preven-

ting an extra single degree of global warming could make a life-or-death difference in the next few decades for multitudes of people and ecosystems.

The wide-ranging report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change — which has itself won a Nobel prize — cited Nordhaus in its research. It detailed how Earth's weather, health and ecosystems would be in better shape if world leaders limited human-caused warming to just 0.9 degrees Fahrenheit (a half degree Celsius) from now, instead of the globally agreed-upon goal of 1.8 degrees F (1 degree C).

Nordhaus has argued that climate change should be considered a "global public good," like public health and international trade, and regulated accordingly, but not through a command-and-control approach. Instead, by agreeing on a global price for burning carbon that reflects its whole cost, this primary cause of rising temperatures could be traded and taxed, putting market forces to work on the problem.

Many economists have since endorsed the concept of taxing carbon and using this financial lever to influence societal behavior. But adopting the regulatory frameworks on a global scale has been a challenge, and the world's political leaders are failing to meet it, the head of the United Nations said last month. While many developed economies have adopted a carbon tax, the United States has not. AP

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BRAZIL | 'TROPICAL TRUMP' BOLSONARO WINS FIRST ROUND

People weigh stark visions of future in runoff election

BRAZILIANS showed their disgust with corruption and rising crime in the first round of presidential voting, nearly giving an outright victory to a brash-speaking former army captain who has promised to restore "traditional values," jail crooked politicians and give police a freer hand to shoot drug traffickers.

But with far-right congressman Jair Bolsonaro getting 46 percent of the vote yesterday [Macau time], short of the 50-plus percent he needed, voters also signaled they were not quite ready to make a final decision. On Oct. 28, Bolsonaro will face second-place finisher Fernando Haddad in a runoff vote. Haddad, the Workers' Party standard-bearer who was appointed by jailed ex-President Luiz Inacio da Silva, got 29 percent in the first round, and polls have predicted a close race in the runoff.

Bolsonaro was expected to come out in front, but he far outperformed predictions, blazing past competitors with more financing, the institutional backing of traditional parties and much more free air time on television. The candidate from the tiny Social and Liberal Party made savvy use of Twitter and Facebook to spread his message that only he could end the corruption, crime and economic malaise that has seized Brazil in recent years — and bring back the good old days and traditional values.

"This is a victory for honest people who want the best for Brazil," said Bianca Santos, a 40-year-old psychologist who gathered outside a hotel where Bolsonaro was watching the returns. "I believe he is the only one with a serious plan to end crime."

For voters, Bolsonaro and Haddad represent starkly different visions for the future. Bolsonaro has promised to slash spending, privatize as much as possible in a country long heavy on state control and be a check on social movements that have gained much ground in recent years.

Meanwhile, true to the Workers' Party's leftist roots, Haddad has promised to fight long-standing inequalities, scrap a major labor reform passed last year and invest more in education.

Where Brazil's next leader takes the economy, the largest in Latin America, will have a large impact on surrounding countries that are trading partners with Brazil. The next leader will also have an influence



on Venezuela, both diplomatically and practically, as thousands of Venezuelans have crossed Brazil's northern border.

Bolsonaro has promised a harder line on Venezuela and

other leftist regimes and closer ties with the United States. It's not clear what Bolsonaro would do to further isolate Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, but he once suggested creating camps for the Venezuelans who

have fled the country's economic collapse.

But much of his campaign focused on domestic issues. Bolsonaro has painted a nation in collapse, where drug traffickers and politicians steal with equal

impunity, and moral rot has set in. He has advocated loosening gun ownership laws so individuals can fight off criminals, encouraging police to shoot more crooks and restoring "traditional" Brazilian values — though some take issue with his definition of those values in light of his approving allusions to the country's 1964-1985 dictatorship and his derisive comments about women, blacks and gay people.

Haddad, a former education minister, has also spent much time arguing that da Silva, his mentor, was unfairly jailed — a strategy aimed at attracting voters who still feel strong affection for da Silva despite a corruption conviction. Workers' Party stalwarts are still fuming about the 2016 impeachment and removal of office of President Dilma Rousseff, da Silva's predecessor.

Matthew Taylor, an associate professor of Latin American politics at American University, said that in the weeks before the runoff vote Bolsonaro will likely hit Haddad hard on the theme of corruption within the Workers' Party and da Silva, who Brazilians simply call Lula.

"Haddad has a huge albatross around his neck because of the corruption and all the rhetoric about the impeachment and Lula," said Taylor. "Bolsonaro will hit back on that."

Indeed, Bolsonaro already showed his ability to tap deep anger in Brazil with the traditional political class and "throw the bums out" rage after a massive corruption investigation revealed staggering levels of graft. **AP**

MDT EXPLAINS

How Bolsonaro used Trump tactics

LONG before the election that saw Jair Bolsonaro get 46 percent the vote in the first round of the presidential race, many observers flirted with the idea that the far-right congressman was a "tropical" Trump. Bolsonaro, who will now compete in a second round runoff on Oct. 28, presented himself as someone who tells it like it is while promising to dismantle a dysfunctional political system and seeking to capture the imagination of many citizens afraid of losing their place in an increasingly diverse and inclusive society.

'STRAIGHT TALK'

Perhaps the biggest similarity and likely the one that initially gave rise to the comparisons between Bolsonaro and Trump is that neither man appears to measure his words. In the 2016 U.S. elections, Trump often billed himself as the man who wasn't afraid to say what everyone else was thinking. Bolsonaro shares the same lack of filter. Some of the comments that have gotten him in trouble reflect longstanding ideological positions, like his repeated praise for Brazil's 1964-1985 military dictatorship. Other comments may be more off the cuff and a wink at his reputation for shunning the "politically correct," like when

he told an audience that he had a daughter "in a moment of weakness" after four sons.

BASH MAINSTREAM MEDIA

Bolsonaro and his three oldest sons, who are also politicians, have hammered away at Brazil's main media organizations, accusing them of everything from telling outright lies about the candidate to ignoring his rise in the polls and endorsements from other politicians. Like Trump, they accuse the media of propping up the country's traditional elite and of trying to derail a campaign that might threaten it.

SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGING

For candidates who don't trust the media, social networks provide the perfect outlet. Bolsonaro, like Trump, has made heavy use of Twitter and Facebook to talk directly to voters. That became especially important after the candidate was stabbed on Sept. 6 and confined to the hospital for more than three weeks. Last week, even after being released from the hospital, Bolsonaro skipped the most important televised debate on major network Globo, citing his doctors' orders. Instead he held nightly Facebook live sessions with political allies and did interviews with friendly stations

FLOATING FRAUD

Bolsonaro has raised the specter of fraud and said it could rob him of the election. A week before the vote, he told a television station he would not accept any result but his own victory, implying that the size of support he had seen at street rallies indicated he would win, even though the polls were close. A few days later, he backed off those comments, saying he would accept the election results but wouldn't call his rival to concede. Sound familiar? Trump trod a very similar path.

USE OF PROXIES

Similar to how Trump's campaign had Donald Trump Jr. and other children sometimes speak for their dad, Bolsonaro has often depended on his three eldest sons to float ideas, deny critical press reports and make outlandish claims. The latest example: On Sunday [Monday], while Brazilians were going to the polls, Flavio Bolsonaro, who is running for the senate, shared a video on Twitter that purportedly appeared to show a voting machine that had been tampered with. Within hours, the country's electoral court announced that it was a false report. However, by then it had surely been seen by millions. **MDT/AP**

FRANCE

Le Pen distances herself from Bannon's Movement

Nicole Winfield, Rome

FRENCH far-right leader Marine Le Pen distanced herself yesterday from former White House strategist Steve Bannon, saying only Europeans will save the continent from diktats from Brussels, not Americans.

Le Pen said, at a meeting in Rome, that she wanted to clarify "lots of conjecture" about Bannon's plans to set up a foundation, called The Movement, to boost far-right parties in Europe.

Speaking with right-wing Italian Interior Minister Matteo Salvini by her side, Le Pen said Bannon is not European, but rather an American who wants to create a think tank to offer research to nationalist parties in Europe.

"But we, and we alone, are the ones who will shape the political force that is born from the European elections," she said, as Salvini applauded. "Because we are attached to our liberty, att-



Far-right leader Marine Le Pen and Italian Interior Minister and Deputy Premier, Matteo Salvini

ched to our sovereignty and we together, the representatives of the different peoples of Europe, are the ones who will shape the political forces that aim specifically to save Europe."

She added: "So that things are extremely clear on this subject."

Le Pen's distancing was significant given Bannon has been making the rounds in Europe of late as part of his push for a

trans-national, anti-European Union movement. Le Pen was in Rome to join Salvini at a union conference where they showed a united front before the European Parliament election in May.

Last month, Bannon appeared at a rally in Rome organized by a small far-right Italian opposition party, Brothers of Italy, where he heaped praise

on Italy's populist, 5-Star-League government, and he was in Rome for the March 4 election that brought them to power.

While he didn't appear with Salvini, who spoke at the rally earlier in the day, the two have met and Salvini has purportedly signed onto The Movement, according to one of its proponents, Belgian politician Mischaël Mordrikamen.

In March, Bannon spoke at Le Pen's National Front party congress, which had been aimed at remaking the far-right party's image after it suffered a crushing defeat to the pro-globalization forces that brought Emmanuel Macron to the French presidency. As part of the makeover, Le Pen changed the party name to National Rally.

“We, and we alone, are the ones who will shape the political force that is born from the European elections.**”**


MARINE LE PEN

Some in France had warned that Bannon's support could threaten Le Pen's efforts to cleanse the party of its racist stigma. Bannon had praised the extreme version of the National Front embodied by Le Pen's more hard-line niece and rival, calling her one of the most important people in the world. **AP**

AD

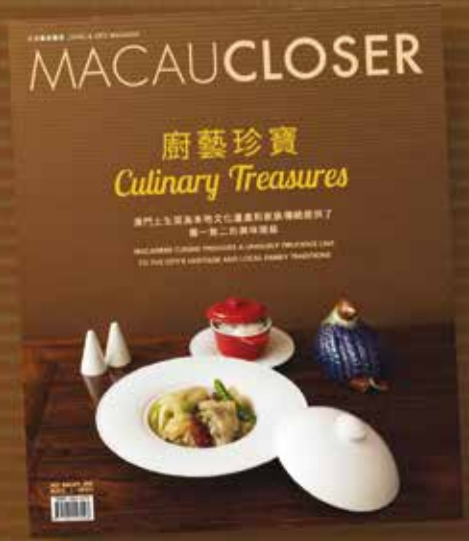
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what's ON



ASSEMBLAGE OF TREASURES

TIME: 10am-6pm (Last admission 5:30pm; closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: February 19, 2019

VENUE: Macau Museum (Mount Fortress)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

SCULPTURE – A JOURNEY, EXHIBITION BY ANTÓNIO LEÇA

TIME: 3pm-8pm (Mondays)

12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)

UNTIL: October 21, 2018

VENUE: A2 Gallery, Albergue SCM

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550

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

Offbeat

GM, HONDA TEAM UP TO PRODUCE SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES

AP PHOTO



General Motors and Honda are teaming up on self-driving vehicle technology as big automakers and tech giants race to develop the next generation of personal transportation.

Japan's Honda Motor Co. will invest USD2.75 billion in the autonomous vehicle unit run by General Motors Co., called GM Cruise, which is considered a leader in the nascent industry.

The goal, the companies said last week, is to develop an autonomous vehicle that can be produced at a high volume and deployed globally. They will also explore commercial ways to use the Cruise network around the world.

The partnership comes as the main players in the autonomous vehicle space shift their focus from developing the technology to figuring out how to make the systems safer and more affordable.

Teaming up is a way to add a layer of safety, with some groups using one company's software to operate a vehicle and a partner's software to act as a backup, said Sam Abuel-samid, Navigant Research analyst.

"As companies move from the research phase into the production phase, there's a lot of additional complexity that has to be added to those already complex systems," he said.

Ride-hailing giant Uber announced in August a partnership with Toyota to develop autonomous vehicles months after one of its self-driving cars struck and killed a pedestrian crossing a dark street in Arizona.

Other partnerships include BMW with Fiat Chrysler, chipmaker Intel and visual recognition software maker Mobileye; and German automaker Daimler AG with supplier Bosch to develop autonomous taxis.

GM has been widely viewed as being in second place in the autonomous vehicle race, with Google's Waymo on top. Waymo plans to put autonomous vehicles on the road in a ride-sharing service in the Phoenix area before the end of this year, while GM has said it plans to roll out its fully-autonomous vehicles for passengers to use in 2019.

Waymo said in May that it would buy up to 62,000 more minivans from Fiat Chrysler to expand its ride-hailing venture. Waymo and Fiat Chrysler also said that they were discussing the use of Waymo technology in Fiat-Chrysler self-driving vehicles that would be sold to the public.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Mistura Fina
15:50	Zig Zag
16:10	Nelo & Idália
16:45	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:35	Moda Portugal Sr.1
18:10	Depois do Adeus
19:00	Montra do Lilau (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Talk Show
21:45	Livros com João Guedes
21:55	Coisas Curiosas de Saber
22:20	Liberdade 21
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Resumo Liga dos Campeões 2018/2019
00:10	Telejornal (Repetição)
00:55	Liga Europa: Vorskla - Sporting (Directo)
03:05	RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO

04 - 10 Oct



VENOM

ROOM 1

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

Director: Ruben Fleischer

Starring: Tom Hardy, Michelle Williams, Riz Ahmed

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 112min



PROJECT GUTENBERG

ROOM 2

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

Director: Felix Chong

Starring: Chow Yun Fat, Aaron Kwok, Zhang Jingchu

Language: Cantonese (Chinese, english)

Duration: 130min



A SIMPLE FAVOR

ROOM 3

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

Director: Paul Feig

Starring: Anna Kendrick, Blake Lively, Henry Golding

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN

ROOM 3

7:30pm

Director: David Kerr

Starring: Rowan Atkinson Emma Thompson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 88min

this day in history



1967 CHE GUEVARA 'SHOT DEAD'

Marxist revolutionary Ernesto 'Che' Guevara has reportedly been killed during a battle between army troops and guerillas in the Bolivian jungle.

A statement issued by the commander of the Eighth Bolivian Army Division, Colonel Joaquin Zenteno Anaya, said the 39-year-old guerrilla leader was shot dead near the jungle village of Higuera, in the south-east of the country.

Guevara, former right-hand man to Cuban prime minister, Fidel Castro, disappeared from the political scene in April 1965 and his whereabouts have been much debated since.

His death has been reported several times during the past two-and-a-half years, in the Congo and in the Dominican Republic, but has never been proven.

In his statement, Colonel Anaya said Guevara was one of six guerrillas killed in today's battle. It is understood five Bolivian soldiers were also killed in the clash.

Guevara's body is due to be flown by helicopter to La Paz later today. It is understood that his hands have been amputated for identification purposes.

Argentine-born Che Guevara, an experienced guerrilla leader, was a member of Fidel Castro's "26th of July Movement" which seized power in Cuba in 1959.

He rose quickly through the political ranks, becoming head of the National Bank and ultimately Minister of Industries, and many saw him as the intellectual force behind Castro's government.

But amid rumours of differences with Castro, largely on guerrilla warfare policies, and a desire to further his revolutionary ideals in other parts of Latin America, he resigned in April 1965 and disappeared. Some say he was dismissed although there has never been evidence of this.

It is known he still maintained ties with the Organisation for Latin American Solidarity (OLAS), a group dedicated to "uniting, coordinating and stepping-up the struggle against United States imperialism on the part of all the exploited peoples of Latin America."

His death comes less than two months after an OLAS conference in Havana which highlighted the need for further armed guerrilla action in South America.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

A post mortem examination on Che Guevara's body, carried out two days after his death, suggested he had not in fact been killed in battle but had been captured and executed a day later.

His body was buried in an unmarked grave near Valle Grande and his remains were not found until June 1997, when they were returned to Cuba. Following his death, Guevara became a hero of Third World socialist revolutionary movements and remains a much-admired romantic figure to this day.

He was born Ernesto Rafael Guevara de la Serna in Rosario, Argentina on 14 June 1928.

As a teenager he was reading left-wing literature, by Marx and Lenin, and frequently took part in riots against the Peronistas in Argentina.

He qualified as a doctor in 1953 but left Argentina soon afterwards to travel around South America, during which time he became involved in many left-wing movements.

Bitterly anti-American, he joined forces with Castro in Mexico in 1956 and was one of 12 survivors of the failed Cuban take-over in the same year.

It was also during 1956 that he married his first wife, Peruvian Hilda Gadea, with whom he had one child, but the couple were divorced soon afterwards.

He escaped to the Sierra Maestra, Cuba's vast mountain range, where he established a guerrilla force and from where the successful take-over in 1959 was co-ordinated.

After the Cuban revolution he married Cuban Aleida Marsh and the couple had four children.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
You're being forced to put your more selfish impulses on hold. Should circumstances beyond your control qualify you for karmic points? You may be shooting yourself in the foot just by asking the question.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Putting a positive spin on things has got to stop somewhere. But you're not there yet. Keep looking on the bright side. If nothing else, it will prime your pump for future profits.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
If you've let your partner make all the financial decisions, you could have good reason to be upset with them. Find a way to convert all that anger into good energy and you could make a pretty penny.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Someone isn't on the same page as you, in a big way. It's making being home a bit of a challenge. If money has more to do with happiness than you've always thought, at least it's not because of shallowness on your part.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
You want your needs met by others, even if you can take care of everything yourself. It's just a matter of comfort, not necessity. Allow yourself the crutch today, if you can find someone willing.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Funny how impulse buying goes up before it goes down in the face of bad financial news. You should already be in the cutting back phase, but you're still spending as if there's no tomorrow. Take a breath and relax.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
The beauty of the situation should not be wasted on you. Balancing between success and failure is truly an art. The trick is in waiting patiently. Don't kid yourself that you're flirting with either.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
It's a time for thinking, not acting. That's because there's no way to make decisions rationally. With so much in the air, your best bet is to simply toss ideas back and forth.

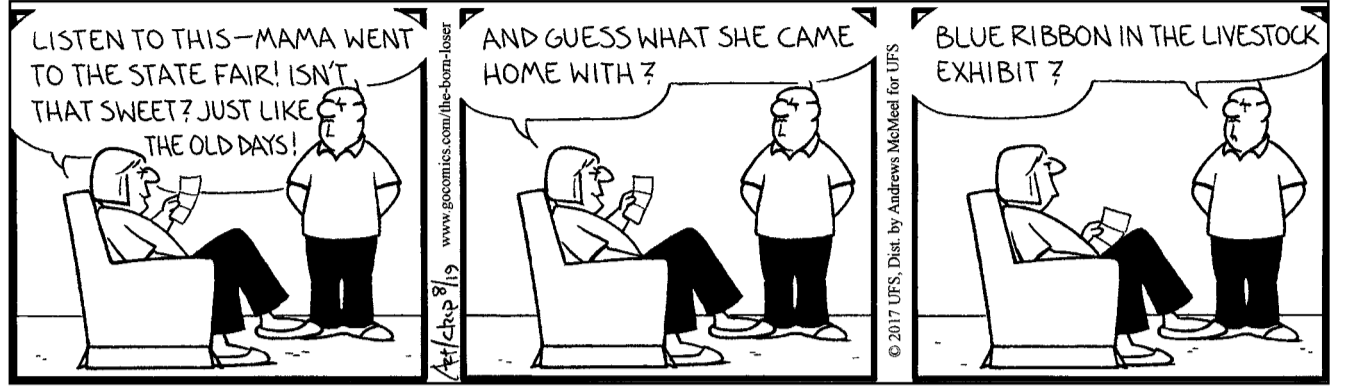
Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Give yourself extra time to think things through. Even a screaming deal is not what it seems. In fact, there's almost no way to see the big picture, because it's still forming.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
If connecting with the money is becoming less and less likely no matter how much energy you're putting into it, it may be time to start something completely new. You're not giving up: Think of it as starting fresh.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Face it, you need help. Connect with someone who can give it to you. That won't happen if you stay aloof or act like there's nothing wrong, so start letting down your guard.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
You may have waited too long to settle any balances due you. Collecting now would be like trying to get blood from the proverbial stone. Consider the benefits of a write off.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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7						2	6	
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			6				9	1
8				2				

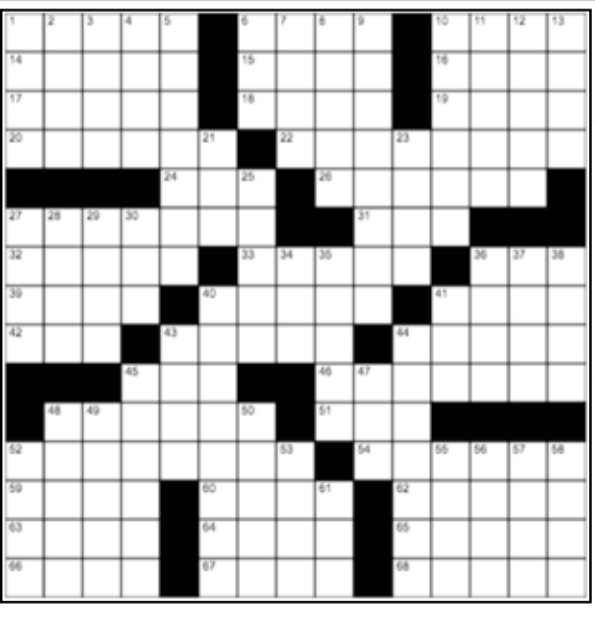
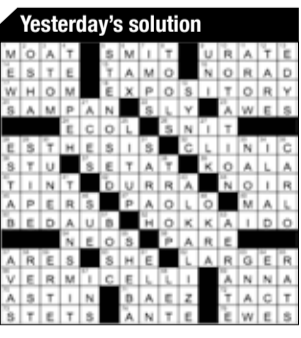
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	15	27	cloudy
Harbin	9	24	clear
Tianjin	17	27	drizzle/cloudy
Urumqi	10	21	clear
Xi'an	17	24	drizzle/overcast
Lhasa	11	22	shower/cloudy
Chengdu	20	27	shower/clear
Chongqing	24	29	drizzle
Kunming	16	23	shower
Nanjing	24	28	moderate rain
Shanghai	27	31	cloudy/thundershower
Wuhan	23	29	drizzle
Hangzhou	25	33	cloudy/thundershower
Taipei	24	30	clear
Guangzhou	25	34	cloudy
Hong Kong	27	32	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	14	22	clear/drizzle
Frankfurt	15	27	clear/cloudy
Paris	15	25	clear/overcast
London	14	22	drizzle/moderate rain
New York	21	28	clear/drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Savory jelly; 6- Sturdy wool fiber; 10- Madras dress; 14- Big fiddle?; 15- Airline since 1948; 16- Single entity; 17- Two; 18- On a cruise; 19- Summoned; 20- Whole; 22- Veteran; 24- Attention; 26- Female sibling; 27- Flightless bird; 31- GI mail drop; 32- Cry out loudly; 33- Leaves out; 36- Not too bright; 39- The Tower of Pisa does this; 40- Fred's dancing sister; 41- BMW rival; 42- Like some jobs; 43- Valuable violin; 44- Knight wear; 45- Pie ___ mode; 46- Loud enough to be heard; 48- Waterproof overshoe; 51- Block; 52- Blind or shutter; 54- Victor; 59- Bryce Canyon site; 60- Wishing won't make ___; 62- Singer Della; 63- ___ chance!; 64- Actress Talbot; 65- Dispatch boat; 66- "___ Tu" ('70s hit); 67- Pontiac muscle cars; 68- Ways to the pines;

DOWN: 1- Broadway opener; 2- Stitched; 3- Land map; 4- Hipbones; 5- Vanity; 6- "Michael Collins" actor; 7- Too; 8- Some Celts; 9- Sword-shaped; 10- Abruptly; 11- Make ___ for oneself; 12- One in a cab, say; 13- Roman road; 21- Tic-___ toe; 23- Cookbook amts.; 25- "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" spinoff; 27- Capital of Norway; 28- Storage shelter; 29- Tailless amphibian; 30- Flea; 34- Got together; 35- Troy story; 36- Stupid; 37- Object of worship; 38- Bog; 40- Collecting; 41- Former Bush spokesman Fleischer; 43- Baseball family name; 44- Commander in chief of a fleet; 45- Island greetings; 47- Motor City gp.; 48- University of Florida player; 49- Having wings; 50- Command to the band; 52- Sixth month of the year; 53- This, in Tijuana; 55- St. Petersburg's river; 56- Dresden denial; 57- Latin being; 58- Classic cars; 61- Western Hemisphere org.;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999
Fire department 28 572 222
PJ (Open line) 993
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
PSP 28 573 333
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Water Supply – Report 2822 0088
Telephone – Report 1000
Electricity – Report 28 339 922
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



AD

<p>FOR SALE www.JMLProperty.com</p> <p>FOR RENT More info, please contact us Info@JMLproperty.Com (853) 2835 2699 Office</p>	<p>Hellene Garden, High Floor Carnation Court in Coloane 1,663 sq ft / HKD 9.8M HKD 5,893 sq ft 3 Bedroom Apartment Ref: 18085559</p>	<p>Cattleya Court, Ocean Gardens Taipa 1,024 sq ft / HKD 7.98M HKD 7,800sq ft One Bedroom Apartment Ref: 18095562</p>	<p>Taipa, Supreme FlowerCity Taipa 2,060 sq ft / HKD 17.88M HKD 8,679sq ft Three Bedrooms Apartment Ref: 13105367</p>	<p>Taipa, Nam Long Taipa 516 sq ft / HKD 4.28M HKD 8,488 sq ft One Large Bedroom Apartment Ref: 18095561</p>
	<p>Office For Rent Macau Commercial Office Space Private Executive Offices HKD 18,000 / 1,200 sq ft Ref: 18090200</p>	<p>One Central, Tower 7, Unit E "The Beach House" Macau Two Bedroom Apartment HKD 26,400 / 1,300 sq ft Ref: 18090689</p>	<p>The Buckingham 'D' Unit Taipa Two Bedroom Apartment Fully Furnished HKD 16,900 / 1,147 sq ft Ref: 18090688</p>	<p>High Floor B Unit In The Buckingham Taipa 2 Double Bedroom Fully Furnished HKD 21,800 / 1,433 sq ft Ref: 18090687</p>



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FOOTBALL | SERIE A

'They're too good': Other clubs can't compete with Juventus

Andrew Dampf, Udine

IT'S getting to the point where other clubs are wondering why they even bother competing against Juventus.

Having already won seven straight Italian league titles, Juventus has reached another level this season with the arrival of Cristiano Ronaldo.

"You can't play against this Juve; they're too good," Udinese coach Julio Velazquez said after his squad played solidly but was still beaten 2-0 over the weekend. "We played well, at our maximum, but we were facing a squad that can win the Champions League."

Earlier in the season, retired Roma captain-turned-club officer Francesco Totti said that the best his squad could hope for was second place.

Two more wins and Juventus will match the Serie A record of 10 straight at the start of the season set by Roma in 2013-14.

"Let's not start talking about this stuff," Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri said. "Let's take it one at a time then we'll see."

Juventus beat second-place Napoli 3-1 last week and has scored five goals and conceded none while winning its opening



Cristiano Ronaldo (left) warms up with his teammates prior to the start of the Serie A soccer match between AC Udinese and Juventus (0-2)

two matches in the Champions League.

"It was important not to concede for a second straight match," Allegri said. "Now I would like to start a streak, because we always create something good in attack."

While Ronaldo and Mario Mandzukic lead Juventus with four goals apiece in the league, other players are contributing in

unexpected ways.

Fullback Joao Cancelo has dribbled past opponents 17 times this season to lead the league in that category. Midfielder Rodrigo Betancur's opener against Udinese made him Juve's ninth different scorer this season.

"I really appreciated the way the guys played tonight, especially the approach they had once we were leading 2-0," Alle-

gri said. "We showed maturity and remained focused except in a couple instances, whereas against Napoli we were confused after Mario Rui's red card. Tactically this was our best match."

MILAN DERBY

Inter and AC Milan enter the city derby on hot streaks.

Inter has won six straight be-

tween Serie A and the Champions League while Milan is on an eight-match unbeaten run between Serie A and the Europa League.

Mauro Icardi's two goals in a 2-1 win at Spal on Sunday gave him 103 for his Serie A career with Inter, matching Nerazzurri great Christian Vieri for seventh all-time at the club.

Milan center forward Gonzalo Higuain has scored three goals in his last two matches, including two in a 3-1 win over Chievo Verona on Sunday.

The Milan derby on Oct. 21 is the highlight of the next Serie A round after the international break.

CASSANO COMEBACK?

Former Italy international Antonio Cassano could be making a comeback with Virtus Entella.

Entella, based near Cassano's home in Genoa, announced that Cassano will begin training with the club "without any contractual obligation."

The 36-year-old Cassano last played for Sampdoria in May 2016. He signed with Hellas Verona before last season but abandoned the club after two weeks, saying he missed his family.

Entella is still waiting to learn which division it will play in this season. The club maintains it should be re-admitted to Serie B after Cesena was relegated because of false accounting.

Entella has played only one match in Serie C while awaiting the outcome of the legal battle. AP

FOOTBALL | LA LIGA

Lopetegui under pressure amid Real Madrid scoring drought

IT looked like a no-brainer at the time. Which coach wouldn't jump at the chance to lead star-packed and wealthy Real Madrid?

But four months later Julen Lopetegui may be rueing the day the club's president Florentino Perez made him an offer that he just couldn't refuse.

Not only did his decision in June to sign for Madrid get him fired as Spain's manager two days before the start of the World Cup, but the juggernaut Lopetegui inherited from Zinedine Zidane is now a team in apparent disarray.

Madrid has lost three times and drawn once in its last four matches. The team that boasts stars such as Luka Modric, Gareth Bale and Sergio Ramos hasn't been able to

score a goal in that span.

Even the departure of Cristiano Ronaldo, who left Madrid this summer as its all-time top scorer, can't shield Lopetegui from being blamed for the team's longest scoring drought since 1985.

Lopetegui has tried to take a team that for nine seasons was built around putting Ronaldo in position to score and mold it into a side that deploys a collective attack. In Lopetegui's own words, "it doesn't matter who scores, the goals are scored by the team."

Unless, that is, nobody can put the ball in the net.

Madrid had already lost 3-0 at Sevilla, drawn 0-0 with Atletico Madrid, and lost 1-0 at CSKA Moscow before a humiliating 1-0 defeat at Alaves over the

weekend.

Even though Alaves is exceeding expectations and Madrid was playing without three of its first-choice players, Madrid hadn't lost at the Basque club's ground since the 1930-31 season.

Lopetegui seemed helpless to stop his players from being outmuscled in most of the individual matchups and was unable to find a way to break Alaves' pressure and spring Bale on the counterattack.

While Bale and Karim Benzema have failed to score consistently this season, Lopetegui benched Marco Asensio against Alaves in favor of Dani Ceballos. Asensio went on late along with newcomer Mariano Diaz, but neither could generate scoring chances.

Ramos made a half-hearted defense of his coach.

"When it comes to making changes, there are others who take those decisions, it is not up to the players," Ramos said, before adding, "For the squad it is never good that there is a change of manager. ... It would be crazy."

Lopetegui had kept Spain unbeaten in 20 matches but the national team exited the World Cup in the round of 16 in the wake of his departure. Ironically, Lopetegui must hope that this week's international break will give his injured players a chance to recover. Bale and Benzema both had to be substituted during the match at Alaves because of unspecified injuries. Marcelo and Dani Carvajal were already unavailable, while



Real Madrid's head manager Julen Lopetegui sees no wins

Francisco "Isco" Alarcon is recovering from surgery to treat appendicitis.

"This is a difficult moment and the coach is always the one who is responsible," Lopetegui said. "We still have time. But it is clear that first we must get some important players back, as well as

our verve and confidence. Obviously, confidence comes through scoring goals."

Madrid's next match is against Levante on Oct. 20. It will then play in the Champions League against Viktoria Plzen before it visits rival Barcelona on Oct. 28. AP

opinion

Our Desk
Lynzy Valles



SOCIAL MEDIA AND #MeToo

The use of social media has played a significant role in the expansion of the #MeToo movement.

Officially founded last year, the movement aims to freely give voice to those who have been sexually harassed or assaulted.

The campaign originally kicked off back in 2006 when Myspace was still operational, yet it became more powerful last year through the use of the hashtag.

American activist Tarana Burke, who founded the movement along with fellow activists, encouraged women to post "Me Too" as their status on their social media pages to magnify the problem, and to destroy the stigma that lies around the issue.

It has been common for victims to delay disclosing their trauma – that is if they ever do.

It is not usual, nor comfortable, for these victims to come forward and voice their concerns regarding any harassment that was conducted.

Yet since the #MeToo circulated on social media, it has been used as a "statement of solidarity", particularly by those who are in the film industry, where many say women are more prone to experiencing these kinds of sexual assault.

University campuses have also contributed to the movement, along with netizens who are bravely sharing their stories online.

This entire modern trend, including the use of hashtags, which was originally initiated by a Twitter user, plays a helpful role on issues like this.

Social media users are more accepting and are freer to share their sentiments on this matter, whether or not the stigma around the issue still lies.

Speaking about being sexually assaulted takes a lot of courage, leaving these victims helpless, especially when calling out bad behavior.

Studies show that one of the primary reasons why women do not come forward to report sexual harassment or assault is because of shame, as they have been emotionally or sexually violated.

Many of these victims feel violated or abused, thus by nature, there is a tendency to feel too humiliated to share their experiences.

Some even refuse to believe that what they have experienced was actually abusive, downplaying the assault.

The #MeToo movement is also a call that has become a symbol to rally against catcalling, unwanted attention and abuse.

In Macau, catcalling is not a big issue, compared to other countries, where catcalling is a norm, even when walking in broad daylight or when wearing an appropriate outfit.

Yet, speaking about this matter in Macau – or elsewhere – remains iffy, unusual and weird.

It may be due to culture, where one would prefer to keep it private and not disclose it to strangers – which, again, is driven by shame.

Nevertheless, we need a physical platform or outlet, where one can openly share about their horrific experiences and not feel judged or looked down upon.

Sexual harassment, whether at the workplace, schools, or at home, is happening; and as much as we would want it to stop, I think there is still a long way to go from here.

For now, I believe it is best when we can create an atmosphere that openly welcomes all these issues on the table; a community that welcomes these stories on the couch and embraces the vulnerability of the victim.

On a side note, as the movement officially celebrated its first year last week, the hashtag has been speaking volumes as it represents the victims', particularly women's, experiences, yet empowers and encourages them to speak out to the masses.

It has somehow made an impact on how these victims share their stories, and how listeners react.

THE CHINA AVOIDS QUESTIONS ABOUT CHIP HACK REPORT

A Chinese government spokesman has sidestepped questions about a report that its spies inserted chips into computer equipment that might allow them to hack into U.S. companies and government agencies.

The spokesman, Lu Kang, responded to questions yesterday from reporters by directing them to statements by the equipment supplier and customers including Apple and Amazon. Those companies denied any knowledge the equipment had

been altered.

Lu said, "Do you feel that you still need China to respond to these statements?"

Bloomberg News cited unidentified U.S. officials as saying malicious chips were inserted into equipment supplied by Super Micro Computer Inc. to American companies and government agencies.

Bloomberg said the components included code that caused the products to accept changes to their software and to connect to outside computers.

SPORTS DIPLOMACY

Chinese athletes visit North Korea in latest sign of thaw in ties



The Chinese sports delegation arrives at the airport in Pyongyang

A large group of Chinese athletes and sports officials arrived in North Korea yesterday in the latest sign of a thaw in relations between the two countries this year.

The Chinese group is led by Gou Zhongwen, the director of China's General Administration of Sports. He was greeted at Pyongyang's airport by North Korea's minister of sports, Kim Il Guk.

China's official Xinhua News Agency said the Chi-

nese delegation includes men's and women's basketball teams. They are expected to take part in friendly matches with North Korean teams this week.

After a period of frosty ties, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has visited China three times this year, and traditional proclamations of friendship between the two neighbors have been resurrected.

Speculation continues over whether Xi Jinping will make a visit to North

Korea.

The Chinese delegation's visit comes just after U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited Pyongyang and met with Kim to discuss a possible second summit with President Donald Trump.

Pompeo said he had good talks with Kim toward restarting their bumpy denuclearization negotiations. He has not announced when or where the second U.S.-North Korea summit might take place. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

MDT/Paulo Coutinho



The dark side of the moon. An aerial view of the messy, ugly urban landscape behind the Leal Senado Square, St. Pauls' Ruins and other relics of the cultural heritage center.

Station	Air quality	Icon
Roadside	55-75 Moderate	☹️
High Density Residential Area	55-75 Moderate	☹️
Ambient	85-115 Moderate	☹️

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

PAKISTAN's Supreme Court postponed its ruling on the final appeal of a Christian woman who has been on death row since 2010 after being convicted of blasphemy against Islam. The judicial panel listened to Asia Bibi's defense lawyer challenge statements by those who accused her of insulting Islam's prophet.



FRENCH far-right leader Marine Le Pen distanced herself from former White House strategist Steve Bannon, saying only Europeans will save the continent from dictators from Brussels, not Americans. More on p15



US Now that Beyonce and Jay-Z are off the road, another power couple is taking their place: Hillary and Bill Clinton. The Clintons announced they will visit four cities in 2018 and nine in 2019 across North America in a series of conversations dubbed "An Evening with President Bill Clinton and former Secretary of State Hillary R. Clinton."



US ELECTIONS Taylor Swift has spoken out politically for the first time, publicly endorsing two Democrats for the upcoming U.S. mid-term elections. Taylor, 28, says events in "the past two years" have meant she's no longer reluctant to share her views. The singer wrote on Instagram: "I always will cast my vote based on which candidate will protect and fight for the human rights I believe we all deserve."