

CENTER CONTINUES TO FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Good Shepherd Center's involvement in anti-trafficking activities, which began in 2008, will continue with a new program

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FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Geldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

LUSOFONIA FESTIVAL KICKS OFF ON FRIDAY

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DONALD TRUMP WANTS OPEN MARKETS

Trump threatened to impose another round of tariffs on China. "I want them to open their markets like our markets are open," he said

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WORLD BRIEFS

SOUTH CHINA SEA

China's ambassador to the United States has defended the Chinese navy's action in a close encounter with a U.S. destroyer in the South China Sea, saying America's warships are "on the offensive" near Chinese territory.

KOREA North and South Korea continued their push for peace yesterday with high-level talks that resulted in a host of agreements, including a plan by the rivals for a groundbreaking ceremony this year on an ambitious project to connect their railways and roads. More on p13



NEPAL Rescuers hampered by difficult, remote terrain took two days to recover the bodies of nine climbers. including one of the world's best, who hoped to map a new route to a Himalayan peak in Nepal that hasn't been scaled in eight years. More on p13

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LEONEL ALVES SUPPORTS CONTINUITY IN AAM

'Almeida Correia's bid made a splash'

P3 MDT INTERVIEW





Lynzy Valles

THE Good Shepherd Center's involvement in anti-trafficking activities began in 2008, a year after the human trafficking law was passed in Macau.

With the financial support of the Social Welfare Bureau and donations from MGM, the center will continue to launch a series of activities this year, aiming to educate the general public on human trafficking.

Sister Juliana Devoy, missionary and director of the Good Shepherd Center, is calling on the government to set up an international community that allows victims of human trafficking to have a recovery period of two to three months.

"We are asking the government to set up something like an international community, [...] to have a program that helps them reflect on what has happened to them and how they can think about something for their future," she said on the sidelines of a press conference held vesterday at MGM Macau.

Since the center started activities, it has accommodated 62 girls trafficked into the SAR.

"We have to do something here. I think the Social Welfare Bureau are coming to realize that we need to try to help and give them [the victims] a different perspective," Sister Devoy said.

Center continues to fight human trafficking



Sister Juliana Devoy (second from right) and Grant Bowie (right)

According to her, the center is trying to connect with organizations in mainland China or ministries in a bid to work together, with the hope of stopping human trafficking.

Yesterday, the center held a press conference to raise awareness for the number of victims of labor trafficking, whether it be forced labor or those under illegal recruiters.

She noted that, with MGM, it would invite the International Organization for Migration Hong Kong to hold a conference that targets company executives and raises awareness of labor trafficking.

"Even if we are able to attract employers and heads of companies, they may not be the ones doing any injustice but it's good for everybody to [know] what that is all about," Sister Devoy

"Many [local employers] get [employees] from mainland China to help with construction and engineering. Many of them have been treated very badly but they will never complain. [...] If they go to the police, how do

they know the police is going to protect them? [They will be] vulnerable to some kind retaliation. It's more difficult," she explai-

Meanwhile, Grant Bowie, CEO and executive director of MGM China, noted that the biggest challenge is how to break the stigma and encourage victims to come forward and share their stories.

Since the center started activities, it has accommodated 62 girls trafficked into the Macau

"At this point in time, we're still struggling to get these people to come forward. The great challenge is even if we support them and people don't want to take our support, and even with the support of agencies, it's [difficult]," he told the press.

"People need to understand that they can be safe, they have rights and they have the ability to move forward. This is a sociological issue. We have many programs, we try to help as many people as we can," he added.

HERITAGE

Exhibition rediscovers Macau-Goa relationship

THE exhibition "Via-**▲** gem Oriental" features a total of 20 photographs of decorative and collectors pieces from Macau that once decorated houses in Goa.

Goan director Nalini Elvino de Sousa is showcasing a series of photos that reveal connections between Goa and Macau, to share the centuries of heritage and cultural and commercial exchange between the two regions.

Sousa started this project during a competition in Goa. Eighty entries were received, but only 20 were selected and are currently being showcased at the Chun Chou Tong Pavilion in Lou Lim Ieoc Garden.

Forty photos are available in the "Viagem Oriental" book which is on sale



Nalini Elvino de Sousa



at the exhibition. The

photographs include por-

celain vases, blue pots,

Chinese figurines and tea

figurines stored on shel-

"I know that there are

a lot of these artifacts in

people's houses in Goa.

Every home has something in Macau. Even in our own house, we have tea sets and crockery and a lot things coming from

ned. According to her, the exhibition was already

Macau," de Sousa explai-

Aspect of the exhibition shown in Portugal and Goa, as well as in Escola Portuguesa Macau two

> One of the exhibition's main goals is to boost the cultural relationship between the two regions.

"It is getting lost and that

is the reason why I [entered] this competition. That was the way I found to bring back these stories again," said de Sousa. "We are rediscovering our relationship again."

de Sousa will start an NGO in the region called Communicare Trust, with the idea to run similar projects reconnecting Macau, Goa and their shared history.

One of her ideas is to bring youngsters from Goa, particularly those learning the Portuguese language, to have an exchange with local students.

"Through this experience, they will experience part of their culture," she said.

The journalist said that the organization may be established by the end of the year. One of the organization's main events will be a competition on television, where she will bring youngsters from Goa to compete on matters such as general knowledge, sports and history of Macau.

Meanwhile, de Sousa will also conduct a traditional Goan dance workshop, "Vauraddi Xetkamti,' where coconut shells will be used as a rhythmic instrument.

Held tomorrow and Thursday at the Chun Chou Tong Pavilion, this dance is closely linked to the kunbis, people who are engaged in agricultural

The photo exhibition will be on until Thursday at the Lou Lim Ieoc Garden. LV

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MDT INTERVIEW | LEONEL ALVES

Almeida Correia's bid 'positive and courageous'



Paulo Coutinho

ORMER lawmaker Leonel Alves, a heavyweight in the legal and political community, is throwing his support behind the list of incumbents at the Lawyers Association (AAM) in the upcoming elections for the barristers' board and the Advocacy Council. He admitted, however, that Sérgio de Almeida Correia's bid was positive and made a splash.

In a phone interview with the

Times yesterday, Alves said that he supports "continuity in the AAM" for this year's election because there are no conditions for summoning "a credible alternative list" at this point, alluding to Correia's candidacy.

"The idea isn't bad. It is actually good in subjective terms, but not in objective terms [at this time]," he said.

The prominent lawyer cum politician elaborated, saying: "the renovated candidacy must be worked up and better developed. It requires time to create a credible list which has considered the idiosyncrasy of Macau, with capable leaders and be joined by lawyers in their forties [to have] a relevant intervention in socie-

Alves firmly rejects the idea that renewal should come from within, with the support of longtime president Jorge Neto Valente as some lawyers have advocated. "Not at all! We are all lawyers, we think by ourselves. We don't need [support] canes!"

When questioned if he himself would be a leader for change in the association, Alves said, "Not for now. I have given a lot of my time, decades, to public life. Now is time to pause and receive - I have people working 'for' me now," he remarked with a laugh.

Alves admitted, however, he may return to public service "after some years," without rejecting the idea of being part of a solution in two-years-time.

Almeida Correia announced at a press conference in midSeptember that he decided to run for the top barrister's post after Valente asked for a "total renovation" of the AAM's board during an interview with Radio Macau last May.

Valente reversed his previous stance on the matter by saying that the reason behind his decision to re-run was Correia's candidacy precisely.

In an announcement on TDM-TV, two weeks ago Valente called Correia's bid one of "confrontation" and "rupture," while labeling the challenger as "radical" and "corrosive" in his political commentary.

A week later, Correia responded to the criticism on TDM-TV, saying that Valente's words were "inadequate" and a possible violation of lawyers' ethics, which states that lawyers should be civil and avoid personal attacks among peers. He reaffirmed that he was running "to fill a void left precisely by constant calls for change" in the AAM board by the top barrister and "his inability to promote that change."

Some lawyers publicly expressed their support for Correia, while others welcomed the challenger's bid.

Alves is among the latter, telling the Times yesterday that Correia's candidacy "was a splash in the water.'

Correia's candidacy "was positive" and had the merit of launching a serious debate on the renovation of AAM's bodies, Alves

"There was a lot of talk about a challenge for many years but nobody until now had the courage to come forward, challenging the status quo like Mr. Almeida Correia did.'

Moreover, Alves said that "things won't just 'die' in this election."

"We have many years ahead of us to work on the renovation of the board, for the betterment of both the association and Macau, in order to solidify and protect the Rule of Law."

The elections for the AAM board and the Advocacy Council will be held on the first fortnight of December. The deadline for list submission is October 31.





Radio Taxi submits tender for 200 special taxis

Macau Radio Taxi Services Limited (Radio Taxi) submitted a tender for the operation of an additional 200 special taxis over an eight-year period. All of these taxis have to be electrical vehicles. Currently, Radio Taxi is operating 100 special taxis, with the company hiring approximately 170 drivers. About 35 percent of service requests were answered by Radio Taxi, with passengers successfully picked up. The company expressed confidence in winning the tender. The tender session closed at 5 p.m. yesterday. Radio Taxi believes it can break even by operating 200 more taxis.

PSP expands again

The Public Security Police Force (PSP) is expanding its labor force again, following their last expansion on November 1 last year. This expansion will result in PSP having a total of 6,027 staff members. Among them, the number of police officers on the basic level, including sheriffs and deputy chiefs, will increase by 379 more people to 5,859, representing a 7 percent growth. One more chief of police and one senior level superintendent will be appointed. The deputy superintendent will work with an additional eight people.

200 demand to move into affordable houses in 2018

On Sunday, a group of 200 residents held a demonstration expressing their request to move into affordable houses. These residents are candidates who have been on the waiting list of the affordable house project Edifício do Bairro da Ilha Verde. The group wants to move into the building within the year. Due to Typhoon Hato last year, the government announced that the building would undergo half-year long repairs. This year, the government once again announced a maintenance scheme for the project due to the course of Typhoon Mangkhut.

CRIME

Illegal dental clinic dismantled by police



PSP Spokesperson

Renato Marques

N illegal dental clinic operating without any staff qualification licenses in the Iao →Hon area was dismantled by the Public Security Police Force (PSP), the police informed yesterday during a press conference.

According to the case report, police were alerted to the situation by a complaint on October 11 and deployed officers, assisted by the Health Bureau Northern District Inspection Team, to the apartment building where the alleged clinic was operating.

Located at Rua Um do Bairro do Iao Hon, authorities were received by a man dressed in a medical gown who was allegedly responsible for the clinic. The man, a Vietnamese resident in his 40s, handed police a non-resident work permit (commonly known as a blue card) which stated that he had been hired as a domestic helper by a local employer.

The man told police that with the help of friends, he had found the employer who signed his domestic work contract, for which he paid MOP35,000 for.

He arrived in Macau in July and, in fact, started to work for the employer but left after five days.

He then rented the apartment in Iao Hon with the help of his girlfriend, also Vietnamese and working in Macau. He used the apartment to establish the dental clinic.

Although the man had no qualifications, he said he had previously been doing similar work in Vietnam.

According to the PSP investigation, he would have tended to around 30 patients and earned around MOP20,000 through the illegal job.

When asked about the dental equipment and medicines found in the apartment, the man revealed he had acquired the dental chair on the internet for VND40 million (approximately MOP13,840). The medicines were obtained with the help of friends in Vietnam who shipped them to Macau.

The police are also seeking information on the man who had employed the suspect. The suspect told police that he had left his post after only five days and he was never paid any salary, which was why he had not cancelled his blue card.

The suspect has already been presented to the Public Prosecutions Office under usurpation of functions charges.

In a separate case, a group of four women, all Vietnamese nationals aged 20 to 30 years old, were accused of attacking a fellow Vietnamese co-worker.

The case occurred in the early hours of Sunday, when the victim in her 20s was leaving after her shift at a club in a hotel unit in Taipa.

She was then attacked by the group of four, who punched and kicked her. The main suspect used a pair of scissors and stabbed her in the waist.

With the help of the victim, the police managed to identify and locate the four women.

The main suspect admitted to the PSP that she had done it due to a workplace conflict between them. The other three women were said to be friends of the main suspect and helped her perform the attack.

Macau lags behind in financial leasing schemes

Julie Zhu

AWMAKER Ip Sio **L**Kai, who is also Chairman of the Macau Association of Banks, admitted that many disadvantages preventing Macau from developing wealth management and financial leasing schemes still exist.

Yesterday, on the sidelines of the 2018 Annual Management Conference at the Macau Tower, Ip remarked that the disadvantages include a shortage of relevant laws and financial organization elements.

"Macau has mainly banks, in addition to a few insurance companies. But [there are] no other financial organization elements, including funds, bonds," said Ip. "When there is a [large] economy, when there is a legal system and when there is

[capital] security people will come to invest, with capital being collected abundantly."

Another weakness Macau has in regard to characteristic finance development is the financial market.

According to Ip, Macau's own financial market, which consists of approximately 600,000 local residents, cannot support Macau in becoming a regional service platform. Ip hopes that through Macau's position as the platform between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries, its financial market can expand to further countries, such as those in Southeast Asia.

"We might need to think about how can we attract them [investors from other countries] to come to Macau. Can Macau meet their demands in

terms of wealth management preservation and appreciation?" Ip asked.

In order to attract investors from all of Macau's neighboring regions. according to Ip, Macau needs better policies regarding talented human resources and needs to conduct regional promotional campaigns to support the market's expansion.

Besides the aforementioned factors, Macau also lacks a trust law which can give investors the confidence when investing their money in Macau.

However, completing the development of wealth management schemes will not be an outcome of this Macau government, said Ip.

"This [development] is continuous. If you take a look at other financial centers, their development did not take just five or 10 years. It possibly took decades. Macau also needs a long time to achieve such a thing. It is not [just] this government [who should develop the characteristic finance]. Every term of the government should do it," declared Ip.

The Chairman of the Macau Association of Banks proposed that Macau should consider trying Southeast Asia, since the wealth of overseas Chinese population there is rather concentrated.

In the 2016 Policy Address, for the first time the government proposed the development of the financial leasing sector with hopes of diversifying the economy. Last June, two laws aiming at easing restrictions over financial leasing were passed.



MacauDaily 澳門領目時報。

Lusofonia Festival kicks off on Friday



THE 21st Lusofonia Festival will ■ be held from 19 to 21 October at the Taipa Houses-Museum. The event – organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and co-organized by the Macau Government Tourism Office and the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau – offers a diverse programme of activities, including music and dance performances, booths, gastronomy and games.

As usual, the program includes different booths from Portuguese -speaking communities in 11 countries and regions: Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Goa, Daman and Diu, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, Macau and East Timor.

On each day of the Festival, performing groups from Lusophone countries and regions will perform different styles of music and dance. Several local art groups will also perform at the Carmo Square. There will also be a pop-up restaurant serving Portuguese dishes, particularly grilled food and specialties from the various Portuguese-speaking countries and regions.

Visitors of all ages can engage in recreational activities in the form of traditional Portuguese games and table football tournaments. They can also experience the Guia Circuit through a Macau Grand Prix Simulator. Children can take photographs and enjoy pony rides, as well as participate in various games. A radio station will be installed on-site to broadcast Portuguese music throughout the day.

The first edition of the Lusofonia Festival was held on 10 June 1998 as part of the programme of activities celebrating the Portuguese National Day, honouring the Portuguese-speaking community residents in Macau for their contributions to Macau's development.

Tourism prices rise with summer vacation demand

RISING prices for hotel accommodation, restaurant In comparison with the previous quarter, the Tourist Price Index for responsible for a 0.9 percent hike in the Tourist Price Index in the third quarter of 2018, according to the latest data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

In a statement yesterday, DSEC reported that the Tourist Price Index, which reflects the change in prices of goods and services purchased by visitors, has increased by 0.9 percent to 130.78, despite the increase being dampened by falling prices of handbags, clothing and jewelry.

Notable annual rises were observed in the price index categories of accommodation (+5.57 percent) and food, alcoholic beverages and tobacco (+4.29 percent). On the other hand, the price index of clothing and footwear dropped 7.49 percent year-on-year.

services and food products were the third quarter of 2018 increased by 0.71 percent, led by hikes in accommodation prices due to increased summer holiday demand. Meanwhile, seasonal sales of summer clothing and handbags drove down the price index of clothing and footwear by 7.91 percent quarter-to-quarter.

> The average Tourist Price Index for the last four quarters ending in the third quarter of this year rose by 3.88 percent from the previous period.

> For the first three quarters of 2018, the Tourist Price Index increased 3.28 percent year-on-year on the back of a 10.9 percent increase in the index for accommodation, a 4.46 percent increase in transport and communications and a 4.35 percent increase in food, alcoholic beverages and tobacco.

LCO Inspiring budding chefs through culinary

ast November, Macau was voted and recognised by UNESCO as a Creative City of Gastronomy for its Macanese culinary legacy of over 400-years-old and emerging prominence as one of Asia's leading culinary destinations. The Macao SAR government expressed that it has confidence the achievement will heighten awareness for the City's gastronomical offerings, to help diversify the economy and continue Macau's development as a unique and sustainable city.





Melco Resorts & Entertainment has announced the latest offering to its signature, local youth development program, Dare to Dream, to be focused on the culinary arts. Being home to the highest number of Michelin-starred dining establishments in all of Macau, it seems fitting for Melco to make this year's offering all about food. The 2018 chapter of Dare to Dream is offering 18 third year students of the Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) studying for a Culinary Arts Management Degree the chance to take part in a half-year culinary internship; which includes 5 and half months with the teams of world-renowned culinary maestros Alain Ducasse and Pierre Hermé at their outlets at Morpheus, City of Dreams, followed by two weeks overseas at the chefs' eateries in Europe or Asia.

At the programme's launch event, Chef de Cuisine of Alain Ducasse, Morpheus, Mr. Pierre Marty, and Executive Chef of Pierre Hermé, Morpheus, Mr. Sebastien Bauer, shared their experiences and career tips with the budding chefs, whose entries will be judged via creations produced at a cooking workshop. The winners will be announced in November, with internships set to commence in late January next year.

"We are thrilled to offer our latest Dare to Dream Culinary Program in collaboration with Mr. Alain Ducasse and Mr. Pierre Hermé's teams, to enable aspiring culinary students in Macau the chance to learn from the masters, both in Macau at the recently-opened Morpheus hotel and overseas", said Ms. Akiko Takahashi, Executive Vice President, Chief Officer of Human Resources and CSR.

Dare to Dream creates and supports inspiring opportunities for young persons in Macau by providing exposure to renowned world-class maestros of the arts. Launched in 2012, it was conceived to exemplify the vision of Melco's Chairman and CEO, Mr. Lawrence Ho: to develop young talent in Macau, ignite interest and creativity, and inspire a diverse range career paths in the arts. The program offers exposure and opportunities to learn from the best in various fields, fueling that the "impossible" can be achieved.





The Dare to Dream program has gained international support from iconic creative legends in the fields of architecture, theatre direction and design, music and fashion design; such as through collaborations with the late 'Queen of the Curve', architect Dame Zaha Hadid DBE, Mr. Franco Dragone, creative genius behind the award-winning theatrical experience 'The House of Dancing Water', Mr. Yundi Li, the internationally-acclaimed pianist, and Mr. Barney Cheng, renowned fashion designer to the celebrities.







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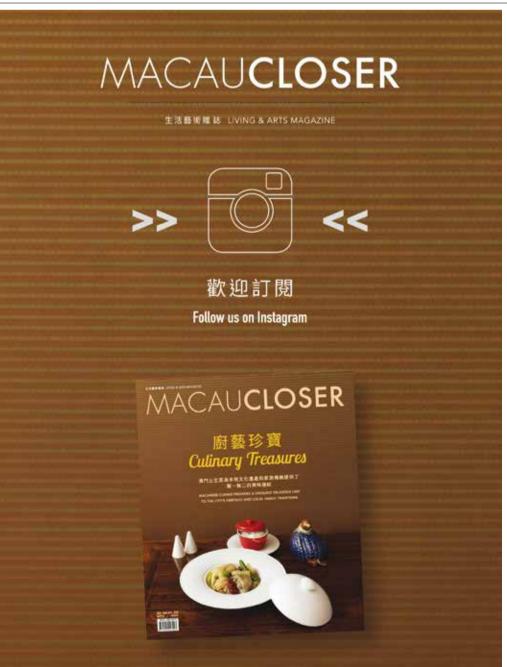
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Times

Sou has sights set on democratic reform for second AL year

Daniel Beitler

F the first term of this current legislature is to be remembered at all, it will probably be remembered for the Sulu Sou saga.

Despite his suspension - and therefore absence - for seven of the first 12 months of his term, the youngest lawmaker in Macau SAR history was one of the most vocal and active among his

The 27-year-old politician yesterday convened a press conference at the New Macau Association's Inner Harbor office to review the first year of the current legislative term and outline his objectives for the second.

The democrat lawmaker spent more than half of his first year in a state of suspension; still allowed to attend sessions, but with most of his legislative powers revoked. He and his lawyers maintain that the process leading to his suspension by and from the legislature was unlawful.

"In the first legislative session for the first time ever - the legislature voted to suspend my mandate," said the lawmaker during yesterday's press conference. "During my suspension period, I was prohibited from participating in any meetings, legislating, and prevented from submitting questions and motions."

"A mechanism that is supposed to protect the independence and dignity of the legislature was used as a tool to [suspend me] and [deprive me] of my political rights," he argued.

With few friends in the Legislative Assembly (AL) and several criminal cases pending against him, Sou admitted yesterday that the possibility of another suspension was very real.

Going into his second year, which formally begins today, the lawmaker faces what some are describing as unprecedented



hostility from a coalition within the pro-establishment camp, including previous heated exchanges with Ma Chi Seng and veteran legislator Vong In Fai.

Sou was criticized on several occasions in the last legislative year for what his opponents said was provocative and even disrespectful behavior. In one recent example, Sou described the legislature as a "trash assembly", earning the disapproval of Vong In Fai and reproach from AL President Ho Iat Seng.

But the democrat lawmaker said yesterday that many in Macau society shared the sentiment. "Even if they punish me [for that statement], it will not halt public criticism of legislators," he maintained, adding that a general impression was taking root among residents that not all of the city's lawmakers were taking their duties seriously.

"I think many citizens are very worried about the governance of Macau," said Sou. "My feeling is that we [the Legislative Assembly] are in a very passive position in terms of legislation. Out of the 28 bills introduced in the first session, only one was introduced by legislators. This is cause for the [public understanding] that legislators enjoy very little power in proposing bills."

As for the second year of the legislature, Sou has four major

objectives: pressing for greater transparency in committee meetings; heightened supervision of government policies; "resource support" for legislators in conducting community services; and "pluralistic and professional input" in legal technical discussions.

With regards to the latter objective, Sou made mention of Paulo Cardinal and Paulo Taipa – two long-standing legal advisors of legislature who were suddenly and unexpectedly dismissed by body's president in August. The lawmaker was reluctant to acknowledge that their dismissal was due to their opposition to his suspension, but promised to closely monitor the situation in the coming months.

"For sure, pushing for improvement in the legislature will invoke a strong response from the vested interest. But this will not stop [the New Macau Association] from striving for the betterment and sustainability of our city."

Sou also said he is determined to continue advocating for democratic reform in the year ahead, including changes to how lawmakers and the Chief Executive are elected. At the same time, the lawmaker admitted that the recent crackdown on democrats in neighboring Hong Kong had made significant democratic development in Macau "not likely."

"The Hong Kong factor is a serious factor affecting Macau's democracy process," he said. However, "this is a suitable moment [for us] to promote democracy as a priority" and "getting the entire legislature directlyelected remains one of our biggest goals."

Paul Schrader joins festival jury



Veteran U.S. screenwriter and director Paul Schrader will be a member of the Macau International Film Festival's jury. According to the Hollywood Reporter, Schrader will join the panel which includes Chen Kaige (president), Hong Kong filmmaker Mabel Cheung, Indian actress Tillotama Shome and Australian producer Paul Currie. Schrader's career includes screenwriting credits for several classic Martin Scorsese films, including "Taxi Driver," "Raging Bull" and "The Last Temptation of Christ." The film festival will take place between December 8 and 14.

30 evacuated

A blaze at R. de Horta e Costa yesterday led to the evacuation of approximately 30 people. The incident was first reported to the Fire Services Bureau (CB) around 6:30 a.m. The fire occurred in a 3-storey building near the Mercado Municipal Horta da Mitra. The fire alarm was triggered on the second floor of a restaurant. No injuries were reported and the CB reported that the cause of the fire is still being investigated.

due to blaze

STDM to operate Outer Harbor Ferry **Terminal**

The Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau, S.A. (STDM) will operate the Macau Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal, according to an executive order published yesterday in the Official Gazette. Earlier, three companies were invited to submit a tender for the ferry terminal's operation. STDM offered the highest monthly remuneration at 1,8 million patacas, against the 350,000 patacas of CSI group and the 500,000 patacas of CCCC Third Company of Macau Limited. Previously in 2011, the local government had decided not to renew STDM's

contract.

POLICE REACTION TO AU KAM SAN'S COMMENT 'RIDICULOUS

DURING YESTERDAY'S press conference, Sulu Sou described

the reaction of the police to a lawmaker's accusation of improper detention as "ridiculous". Sou was referring to a recent comment from Au Kam San, who accused the police of the illegal interception of a resident who had planned to burn himself inside a police station while he was being interviewed by a local Chinese newspaper. The Judiciary Police (PJ) consider the comment to be slander and have called for the lawmaker to apologize. "I think it is a ridiculous reaction from the PJ," said Sou yesterday. "Freedom of speech is the most important [freedom]. I don't think the PJ should have such a strong reaction to his comment. If they prosecute Mr Au, it will have a significant impact on society." In a statement issued last week, the PJ wrote, "the lawmaker ignored the facts and slandered the police for illegal interception, which is serious slander of the person in charge of the PJ at that time, and severely damages the reputation of the person." Anyway, "the existence of the so-called illegal interception situation is absolutely impossible," the police authority added.

Legislation on youth alcohol consumption being considered

THE Secretary for So-L cial Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, says that he will consider laws and regulations on youth alcohol consumption.

On Sunday, the secretary noted that Macau currently lacks laws and regulations regarding young people's drinking activities.

Tam claimed that he

would bring up the issue in next year's policy address within his secretariat. In addition, he will consider establishing laws to regulate youth alcoholism. The secretary also commented that vouth must not become alcoholics.

At present, there is no specific restriction on sales of alcoholic beverages to young people in Ma-

Although there is restricted entry for minors into karaoke bars, pubs and similar venues, anyone can buy alcoholic beverages from supermarkets and convenience

According to some surveys, on average, Macau minors start drinking alcohol when they are around 15 years old. Many of them (41 percent) started drinking alcohol at or before the age of 15.

In view of this, some are of the opinion that the government should legislate the sale of alcoholic beverages to young people in order to reduce the harm alcohol poses to minors.





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Singapore home sales rebound as buyers move past curbs

Pooja Thakur

RIVATE home sales in Singapore jumped 51 percent in September as developers marketed more projects post the hungryghost festival month, a period Chinese buyers consider inauspicious, and as buyers moved past the additional cooling measures imposed in July.

Developers in the city-state sold 932 units, the Urban Redevelopment Authority said in a statement yesterday. That compares with 617 units in August, the data show. Total apartments launched for sale last month more than doubled to 1,169. The 932 apartments was 42 percent higher year-on-year.

Singapore private home prices are still inching higher - albeit at the slowest pace in five quarters. An index tracking private residential prices increased 0.5 percent in the three months ended Sept. 30 versus a 3.4 percent advance in the June quarter, according to a flash estimate from the Urban Redevelopment Authority on Oct. 1.

"Market confidence seems to have improved with seven new private residential projec-



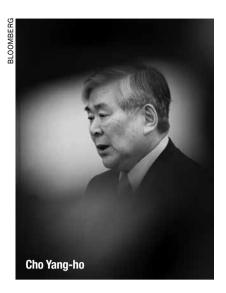
ts launched in September," said Ong Teck Hui, national director of research & consultancy at JLL. "While it is early days to make a pronouncement of the full effects of the cooling measures, it would appear that while demand has slowed, many buyers are still on the market and are prepared to purchase at prices which they deem as reasonable."

Singapore took renewed steps in July to cool the island's property market after home prices rose more than 7 percent in the first six months of the year. A rush of transactions was fueled by aggressive land bids from developers and so-called en-bloc transactions, which is where a group of owners band together to sell an entire apartment building.

Under the new rules, individuals taking out their first housing loan face stricter borrowing limits, meaning they have to stump up more cash upfront. For foreign purcha-

sers of residential property, the additional buyer's stamp duty was increased to 20 percent from 15 percent. For Singapore citizens, the extra charges only apply from their second home purchase.

Home prices on the island may rise as much as 10 percent by the end of 2019 and are on track to double by 2030 as faster income growth overpowers the recent property curbs and higher interest rates, Morgan Stanley said last week. **Bloomberg**



Korean Air's chairman Cho faces trial after embezzlement probe

KOREAN Air Lines Co. Chairman Cho Yang-ho is set to stand trial in an embezzlement case, adding to troubles faced by a family that's been at the center of rage-driven scandals.

Indicting Cho, prosecutors said he pocketed 19.6 billion won (USD17 million) in fees meant for the carrier from maintenance and duty-free operations in the five years through 2018, a spokesman at the Seoul Southern District Prosecutors' Office said yesterday. The company will present facts at the trial, a Korean Air spokeswoman said.

The move by the authorities against Cho, 69, is part of efforts by South Korean President Moon Jae-in to crack the whip on cozy ties between the country's industrial giants and the government, which the leader has called "deep-rooted evil." Cho's trial follows last year's conviction of Samsung Group's de facto chief Jay Y. Lee in a bribery case, and sends a strong message to businesses and executives that breaking laws will no longer be tolerated.

Cho, who is the head of Hanjin Group, was also investigated for suspected tax evasion, prosecutors dropped those charges after time limits passed in March 2014.

Cho's eldest daughter made it to the front page of media around the world about four years ago, when she forced a plane she was on to return to the gate because she wasn't happy with the nuts that Korean Air served her. Earlier this year, her younger sister allegedly threw water in the face of an advertising agency worker during a business meeting

Prosecutors, however, didn't indict the daughter at the center of the water incident because the victim didn't want to file charges. **Bloomberg**

RETAIL

Chinese demand for Italian luxury suits slows as trade war bites

THE ongoing trade war with the U.S. is hitting Chinese consumers psychologically, causing a slowdown for luxury goods in the second half of the year, said Italian menswear maker Ermenegildo Zegna Group.

"In the past few months, I would say there has been a slowing down of consumption, and probably the consumer is becoming more careful in what he or she does," Chief Executive Officer Ermenegildo Zegna said in an interview in Shanghai.

In response to that, the family-run luxury suit brand is turning cautious and is planning a more conservative budget for investment in China next year, he said Sunday. Though China is among its biggest



markets, it will not expand store count much, he said.

The global luxury sector now depends on Chinese demand for over a third of sales, making marquee brands vulnerable to any hint of a downturn in sentiment among the world's biggest consumer pool. Last week, global luxury stocks including Prada SpA and Kering SA tum-

bled across Europe and Hong Kong on fears that Chinese authorities were cracking down on travelers returning home loaded with branded purchases.

"I am more cautious than three months ago. For next year, we are going to plan a conservative budget because there are many uncertainties in the air and you have to be realistic," said 63-year-old Zegna, who heads the chain known for upscale men's clothing and accessories. "You have to be ready for the worst and act accordingly."

Still, there's good news for Zegna, he said. In addition to stricter border checks, Zegna said that the weak yuan is also making Chinese shoppers buy more at home rather than abroad, a trend that he said benefits the brand since it has established a wide network of 50 stores across China. "The turmoil has worked partially at least in our favor," he said. Zegna has kept sticker prices in China stable despite the weakening currency.

The Milan-based group, which earlier this year took control of U.S. brand Thom Browne -- a favorite of former First Lady Michelle Obama and other celebrities -- for around half a billion dollars, said that it's focused on growing footwear and accessories in China, where millennials are the biggest spenders.

Zegna, who is the grandson of the company's eponymous founder, said that it has no intention of going public. **Bloomberg**

TRADE WAR

Trump hints at more tariffs, doesn't seek 'depression'

PRESIDENT Donald Trump threatened to impose another round of tariffs on China and warned that Chinese meddling in U.S. politics is a "bigger problem" than Russian involvement in the 2016 election.

Asked in an interview with CBS's "60 Minutes" whether he wants to push China's economy into a depression, Trump said "no" before comparing the country's stock-market losses since the tariffs first launched to those in 1929, the start of the Great Depression in the U.S.

"I want them to negotiate a fair deal with us. I want them to open their markets like our markets are open," Trump said in the interview that aired Sunday, while adding that more tariffs "might" be in the mix. So far, the U.S. has imposed three rounds of tariffs on Chinese imports totaling USD250 billion, prompting China to retaliate against U.S. products. The president previously has threatened to hit virtually all Chinese imports with duties.

Questioned about his relationship with Russian Presi-



President Trump attends swearing-in of Supreme Court Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh

dent Vladimir Putin and the Kremlin's efforts to influence the 2016 presidential election, Trump quickly turned back to China. "They meddled," he said of Russia, "but I think China meddled too."

"I think China meddled also. And I think, frankly, China [...] is a bigger problem," Trump said, as interviewer Lesley Stahl interrupted him for "diverting" from a discussion of Russia. He didn't provide evidence in the interview of China's involvement in the last election or its involvement in the current election cycle.

Trump made similar accusations last month during a spee-

ch at the United Nations, which his aides rushed to substantiate by pointing to long-term Chinese influence campaigns and an advertising section in the Des Moines Register warning farmers about the potential effects of Trump's tariffs.

Stahl tried to get Trump to commit to not firing special counsel Robert Mueller, who's leading the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign. Trump refused to do so, telling her: "I don't pledge anything. But I will tell you, I have no intention of doing that. I think it's a very unfair investigation because there was no collusion of any kind."

Discussing Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court, Trump took credit for getting his nomination through the Senate around Christine Blasey Ford's allegations that the judge tried to sexually assault her when they were in high school.

In the interview, the president left the door open to reviving a much-criticized practice of separating migrant parents and their children at the Mexican border, something the Washington Post reported last week was under consideration within the administration.

"There have to be consequences [...] for coming into our country illegally," he said, arguing that "part of the reason, I have to blame myself, the economy is so strong that everybody wants to come into the United States."

Pressed again, he added: "You can't say yes or no. What I can say is this: There are consequences from coming into a country, namely our country, illegally." MDT/Bloomberg



Times

Mattis trip to Vietnam aimed at countering China's influence

Robert Burns, Washington

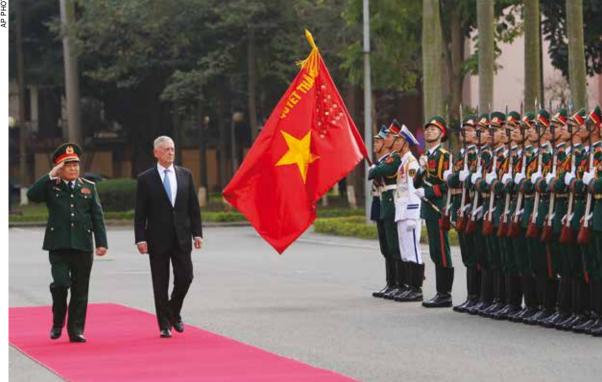
Y making a rare second trip this year to Vietnam, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis is signaling how intensively the Trump administration is trying to counter China's military assertiveness by cozying up to smaller nations in the region that share American wariness about Chinese intentions.

The visit beginning today also shows how far U.S.-Vietnamese relations have advanced since the tumultuous years of the Vietnam War.

Mattis, a retired general who entered the Marine Corps during Vietnam but did not serve there, visited Hanoi in January. By coincidence, that stop came just days before the 50th anniversary of the Tet Offensive in 1968. Tet was a turning point when North Vietnamese fighters attacked an array of key objectives in the South, surprising Washington and feeding anti-war sentiment even though the North's offensive turned out to be a tactical military failure.

Three months after the Mattis visit, an U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, the USS Carl Vinson, made a port call at Da Nang. It was the first such visit since the war and a reminder to China that the U.S. is intent on strengthening partnerships in the region as a counterweight to China's growing military might.

The most vivid expression of Chinese assertiveness is its transformation of contested islets and other features in the South China Sea into strategic military outposts. The Trump administration has sharply criticized China for deploying surface-to-air missiles and other weapons on some of these outposts. In June, Mattis said the placement



After a visit to Hanoi in January, this time Mattis (right) is visiting Ho Chi Minh City, the old Saigon

of these weapons is "tied directly to military use for the purposes of intimidation and coercion."

This time Mattis is visiting Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's most populous city and its economic center. Known as Saigon during the period before the communists took over the Republic of South Vietnam in 1975, the city was renamed for the man who led the Vietnamese nationalist movement.

Mattis also plans to visit a Vietnamese air base, Bien Hoa, a major air station for American forces during the war, and meet with the defense minister, Ngo Xuan Lich.

The visit comes amid a leadership transition after the death in September of Vietnam's president, Tran Dai Quang. Earlier this month, Vietnam's ruling Communist Party nominated its general secretary, Nguyen Phu Trong, for the additional post of president. He is expected to be approved by the National Assembly.

Although Vietnam has become a common destination for American secretaries of defense, two visits in one year is unusual, and Ho Chi Minh City is rarely on the itinerary. The last Pentagon chief to visit Ho Chi Minh City was William Cohen in the year 2000; he was the first U.S. defense secretary to visit Vietnam since the war. Formal diplomatic relations were restored in 1995 and the U.S. lifted its war-era arms embargo in 2016.

The Mattis trip originally was to include a visit to Beijing, but that stop was canceled amid rising tensions over trade and defense issues. China recently rejected a request for a Hong Kong port visit by an American warship, and last summer Mattis disinvited China from a major maritime exercise in the Pacific. China in September scrapped a Pentagon visit by its navy chief and demanded that Washington cancel an arms sale to Taiwan.

■ The Mattis trip was to include a visit to Beijing, but that stop was canceled amid rising tensions over trade

These tensions have served to accentuate the potential for a stronger U.S. partnership with Vietnam.

Josh Kurlantzick, a senior fellow and Asia specialist at the Council on Foreign Relations, said in an interview that Vietnam in recent years has shifted from a foreign and defense policy that carefully balanced relations with China and the United States to one that shades in the direction of Washington.

"I do see Vietnam very much aligned with some of Trump's policies," he said, referring to what the administration calls its "free and open Indo-Pacific strategy." It emphasizes ensuring all countries in the region are free from coercion and keeping sea lanes, especially the contested South China Sea, open for international trade.

"Vietnam, leaving aside Singapore, is the country the most skeptical of China's Southeast Asia policy and makes the most natural partner for the U.S.," Kurlantzick said.

Vietnam's proximity to the South China Sea makes it an important player in disputes with China over territorial claims to islets, shoals and other small land formations in the sea. Vietnam also fought a border war with China in 1979.

Traditionally wary of its huge northern neighbor, Vietnam shares China's system of single-party rule. Vietnam has increasingly cracked down on dissidents and corruption, with scores of high-ranking officials and executives jailed since 2016 on Trong's watch.

Sweeping economic changes over the past 30 years have opened Vietnam to foreign investment and trade, and made it one of fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia. But the Communist Party tolerates no challenge to its one-party rule. Even so, the Trump administration has made a focused effort to draw closer to Vietnam.

When he left Hanoi in January, Mattis said his visit made clear that Americans and Vietnamese have shared interests that in some cases predate the dark period of the Vietnam War.

"Neither of us liked being colonized," he said. **AP**

Premier Li pledges access for Dutch companies

CHINESE Premier Li Keqiang reaffirmed pledges yesterday to open up his country to foreign investment as a way of promoting commerce between his country and the Netherlands.

However, Li said nothing about trade policies that are the target of U.S. and European complaints and have triggered a damaging trade war with Washington.

Pointing to deals done in July with German companies, Li said his government would fast track Dutch applications to establish themselves in China.

"We will remove foreign equity restrictions to Dutch companies as well," he said. "If there is any Dutch company that is interested in operating a fully-owned venture in China like the German companies, the Chinese government welcomes that and we will approve the application as quickly as possible."

Li said he expects contracts worth USD10 billion (8.6 billion euros) to be signed between Dutch and Chinese companies during his two-day visit to the Netherlands.

Li spoke after a ceremonial welcome at the Dutch parliament and talks with Prime Minister Mark Rutte. He was to meet King Willem-Alexander later in the day.

Li and Rutte said they discussed multilateral trade but not specifically Beijing's trade dispute with the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump.

The feud has been fueled by U.S. accusations that China engages in cybertheft and coerces foreign companies into handing over technology in return for access to the Chinese market, as well as by Trump's anger over China's trade surplus with the U.S.

"China is ready to work with the Netherlands to address the challenge of unilateralism in today's world," Li said, without providing details. "We're also ready to work with the Netherlands to further discuss how we can better improve the global trading regime." AP



Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte (right) gets up as Chinese Premier Li Keqiang proposes a toast during luncheon in The Hague yesterday



Japan raises concerns over Pacific's debt to China



Japan's Foreign Minister Taro Kono (left) with his counterpart Winston Peters in Wellington

Nick Perry, Wellington

JAPAN'S foreign minister raised concerns yesterday about the high levels of debt accrued by some Pacific Island nations and said his country wants to help resolve the problem.

Foreign Minister Taro Kono made the comments while visiting New Zealand, where he met with his counterpart Winston Peters.

Some observers have become alarmed at the growth in Chinese lending in the Pacific and worry that small countries such as Tonga and Vanuatu are becoming beholden to China because of their high debt

Kono didn't mention China specifically in his comments. But he said the Pain a strategic sense to both Japan and New Zealand.

Peters said New Zealand was also concerned about the loans and the ability of small island nations to repay them.

"We're looking very seriously at that, saying 'What does it mean for us when those nations may forfeit the very asset value that they've sought to develop, and have it owned by some other country?" he said.

Peters said neither Japan nor New Zealand had gone so far as to offer to repay the loans directly.

"We understand problem," Peters added. "We've got our eyes wide open."

Kono's visit to New Zealand was the first by a Japanese foreign minister in five years. It marks a warming relationship between the two nations over the past year since Jacinda Ardern became New Zealand's prime minister.

Kono thanked New Zealand for deciding last

cific region was important month to deploy a maritime patrol plane to Japan as part of an effort to enforce U.N. sanctions against North Korea.

Australia, Canada and the U.S. are also helping Japan monitor offshore shipto-ship transfers of oil allegedly involving North Korean ships, which would violate U.N. sanctions imposed over the North's nuclear and missile programs.

"Regarding the situation in North Korea, we reaffirm our cooperation to achieve a complete, verifiable and irreversible disposal of all the weapons of mass destruction and the ballistic missiles of all ranges," Kono said through an interpreter.

Kono said he was concerned about the developing trade war between the U.S. and China, and hoped the issues could be resolved through the World Trade Organization.

Kono met with Australian Foreign Minister Marise Pavne last week before traveling to New Zealand. AP

Australia says US alliance vital with Indo-Pacific tensions

Australia's foreign minister said yesterday her country's alliance with the United States had never been more vital in an era of escalating challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

In her first major policy speech since she took over the foreign ministry in August, Marise Payne told an Australian Institute of International Affairs conference that Australia needed to defend its interests in "a period of strategic uncertainty."

The former defense mi-

nister's staunch declaration of support for the United States, a treaty defense partner since 1951, came after the Chinese Communist Party-owned newspaper China Daily accused Australia and Japan in an editorial last week of "jumping on the U.S. bandwagon to contain China."

"We have no doubt that the U.S. will remain an enduring presence in our region," Payne said. "Other powers will rise, rivalries may intensify, but the United States

will be here."

"The challenges in the Indo-Pacific render our alliance as vital as it has ever been," she added.

Australia was also committed to constructive collaboration and engagement with China, its most important trade partner, Payne said.

But she said the region would be safer and more prosperous if differences were managed by agreed rules rather than an exercise of power - an apparent reference to the Chinese militarization of the

South China Sea where China claims almost all the territory.

The China Daily called on Australia and Japan to work with China to address security challenges, instead of "letting the U.S. lead them by the nose."

Mistrust on the scale of the Cold War "will create a fragile peace that risks being shattered by the slightest misstep," the newspaper said.

Relations between the U.S. and China have deteriorated, as escalating trade disputes and tariff hikes



have been exacerbated by a newly announced U.S. military equipment sale to Taiwan and some recent military operations. In past years, military ties have been somewhat stable, but a series of events this year have roiled the waters.

China protested a recent

mission by nuclear-capable U.S. B-52 bombers over the South China Sea, calling the flights "provocative." Two weeks ago, the U.S. Navy destroyer USS Decatur sailed close to Chinese-claimed islands in the South China Sea. AP





NEPAL

Recovery of climbers delayed by mountain's remoteness

Binaj Gurubacharya and Emily Schmall, Kathmandu

ESCUERS hampered by difficult, remote terrain took two days to recover the bodies of nine climbers, including one of the world's best, who hoped to map a new route to a Himalayan peak in Nepal that hasn't been scaled in eight years.

Local police chief Bir Bahadur Budamagar said a group of villagers reached the climbers' camp site on Saturday on Gurja Himal, a less-popular but pristine mountain in the shadow of Dhaulagiri, the world's seventhhighest peak and a day's walk from the nearest village.

The climbers included Kim Chang-ho, the first South Korean to summit all 14 Himalayan peaks over 8,000 meters without using supplemental oxygen, who was leading the expedition with four other South Koreans and four Nepalese guides.

Wangchu Sherpa of the Trekking Camp Nepal agency in Kathmandu, which equipped and organized the expedition, said since achieving the feat in 2013, Kim had been concentrating on climbing routes that hadn't been tried before.

Nepal offers hundreds of mountains to climb, and mountaineers generally choose those where the routes and conditions are well known.

Only 30 climbers have ever reached the peak of the 7,193-meter (23,590-foot) Gurja Himal, government tourism director Surendra Thapa said, and Kim was not among them.

Many climbers are discoura-



Family members of Nepalese guides cry as bodies of those killed in Gurja Himal mountain arrive at the Teaching hospital in Kathmandu

ged from the mountain at least in part because of a legal requirement to have at least three trained Nepalese guides along to receive a permit, Thapa said.

"These people like to go to mountains which are not crowded and there are no commercially organized expeditions of big groups. On the bad side, they are also far from getting help when in trouble," said said Jiban Ghimire, who organizes expeditions for the Kathmandu-based company Shangrila Nepal Trek.

The damage to the climbers' bodies, including broken limbs and smashed skulls, indicated a violent wind carrying chunks of ice swept them away from their camp site, Budamagar said. The bodies were found spread in a 1.5 kilometer (1 mile) radius.

"The battered pieces and tents and other equipment were scattered even further away," Budamagar said.

The bodies of Kim and four other South Koreans who were killed will arrive in South Korea on Wednesday, according to an official from South Korea's Corean Alpine Club.

Rescuers retrieved the climbers' bodies on Sunday after the weather cleared. The body of one of the guides was taken to his village, while the eight others were flown to Kathmandu.

"It was the worst mountaineering disaster in Nepal in recent years and an unimaginable one," said Rameshwor Niraula of Nepal's Mountaineering Department, which issues climbing permits and monitors expeditions.

Niraula said officials were still gathering details of what exactly happened, but from what rescuers described, the climbers were blown over by the blast of the blizzard-like wind conditions.

Word of the destruction got out Saturday morning, and helicopters were sent. They were

not able to land due to the continuing bad weather but spotted the bodies.

Spring and autumn are the optimal climbing seasons in Nepal between the harsh winter and summer monsoon.

One Korean member of the climbing team had become ill and was in a village far below the base camp during the

The Corean Alpine Club official, who didn't want to be identified because she wasn't authorized to speak to reporters, identified the other South Korean victims as Yu Yeongjik, Im Il-jin, Jeong Jun-mo and Lee Jae-hoon.

Only 30 climbers have ever reached the peak of the 7,193-meter Gurja Himal

Yu was reportedly in charge of equipment for the team. Im was a filmmaker who specialized in documentaries of mountain climbers. South Korea's Yonhap news agency said senior CAC member Jeong wasn't part of Kim's team but was visiting them when the accident happened.

It was the deadliest climbing disaster in Nepal since 2015, when 19 people were killed at Mount Everest base camp by an avalanche triggered by an earthquake that devastated the country. The previous year, an avalanche above Everest's base camp killed 16 Nepalese Sherpa guides.

The Himalayan range includes all 14 of the world's peaks that rise above 8,000 meters, and only a few dozen climbers have made verified, successful ascents of them all. Kim achieved his feat in 2013. AP

KOREAS

North-born reporter banned from covering talks

COUTH Korean Uni-**D**fication Minister Cho Myoung-gyon has expressed regret over a decision to block a North Korean defector-turned reporter from covering high-level talks between the Koreas at a border village.

The decision to exclude the reporter from the conservative Chosun Ilbo yesterday drew an angry reaction from other South Korean journalists.

Cho says it was ultimately his call to exclude Kim Myeong-seong from pool coverage for the meeting at the border village of Panmunjom.

He says it was an "inevitable policy decision" to improve the chances for successful talks.

Cho says the ministry will work harder in the future to assure that North Korea-born defectors can report on North Korea issues without restrictions.

The ministry says North Korea did not demand that Kim be excluded from covering the meeting.

The South Korean press corps covering the ministry issued a statement

denouncing it for a "grave infringement of media freedoms.'

The rival Koreas have agreed to hold a groundbreaking ceremony sometime in late November or early December on an ambitious future project to connect their railways and roads.

South Korea's Unification Ministry also said yesterday after high-level talks that the rivals agreed to soon hold general-level military talks to discuss reducing border tensions and setting up a joint military committee that's meant to maintain communication and avoid crises and accidental clashes.

The Koreas also agreed to hold talks between sports officials in late October to discuss plans to send combined teams to the 2020 Summer Olympics and make a push to co-host the 2032 Summer Games.

The Koreas also agreed to hold Red Cross talks in November to set up video-conference meetings between aging relatives separated by the 1950-53 Korean War. AP



The head of the North Korean delegation Ri Son Gwon (center left) is greeted by an unidentified South Korean official upon his arrival at the South side for the meeting at Panmunjom in the Demilitarized

Children of Islamic State group live under a stigma in Iraq

A family of six lost children lives quietly in a small apartment among strangers in this northern Iraqi city. The "man of the house," an 18-year-old, heads out each morning looking for day labor jobs to pay the rent. His 12-year-old sister acts as the mother, cooking meals, cleaning and caring for her young siblings.

Their home village is less than an hour's drive away, but they can't go back — Shiite militiamen burned down their house because their father belonged to the Islamic State group. And they fear retaliation by their former neighbors, so deep is the anger at the militants who once ruled this area.

So the Suleiman children are left to fend for themselves. Their father is in prison. Their mother died years ago. They are traumatized by deaths of loved ones in the war and by their own family turmoil. In their temporary home, they lie low, worried their new neighbors will learn of their family's IS connection.

"I am tired," said the 12-yearold, Dawlat, a slim girl whose face is almost unshakably solemn. "My mother visits me in my dreams. I get scared when the power is out at night. I would love my father and mother to be here next to me."

Thousands of children of Islamic State group members, many of them abandoned like Dawlat's family, are the innocent victims of the brutal rise and destructive fall of Daesh, the acronym by which IS is known. The stain they carry points to how thoroughly Iraq's social fabric was torn apart by the militants' nearly 3-year-rule over much of the country's north and west.

When the Sunni Muslim IS took over those territories in a 2014 blitz, it massacred Shiite Muslims, Kurds, Christians, Yazidis, Sunni Muslim fighters and members of the police or military who fell into its hands. And it drove out others, often either destroying or giving away their homes.

It inflicted a radical version of Shariah law on fellow Sunnis, killing many who violated it or those who opposed their rule. Some Iraqi Sunnis joined the group, either out of conviction or because of the economic benefits membership brought. Many more were its victims. Informants turned in neighbors, leading to punishments ranging from lashings to a bullet in the head in a public square.

Now that IS has been driven out of almost all its territory, many of its victims want vengeance. A senior police officer in the northern province of Nineveh said he knew of at least 100



Saleh Suleiman Ismail (left) directs his youngest brother as they pose for a family portrait at Dakuk Camp, near Kirkuk

homes in and around the city of Mosul that have been demolished by tribesmen angry over IS members living there. Daeshlinked families have been shot at and had grenades thrown at their homes, he said. Members of the Yazidi religious minority whom the militants singled out for some of their worst brutalities, massacres of the men and enslavement of the women have retaliated by destroying homes in Arab villages in their heartland in the Singar area, he said, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with his agency's regulations.

Thousands of Iraqis are in prison over suspected IS ties and an unknown number of Daesh members were killed in the war. That leaves potentially tens of thousands of children without male heads of households and often without female ones.

The stigma against the children is powerful. Even extended families in some cases refuse to take in abandoned children of IS members, said a relief official with an international agency that has worked to find homes for such children. The relatives may worry about being tainted themselves or come under pressure from their tribes not to accept the kids, she said, speaking on condition of anonymity because she was not authorized to talk about the agency's work.

Most children of Iraqi IS members live mingled among the hundreds of thousands still languishing in camps for those displaced by the three years of fighting that brought down IS. More than 1,000 live with incarcerated mothers in overcrowded

jails or juvenile detention facili-

A few dozen are in orphanages. One, in Baghdad, houses the children of foreign jihadis who came from abroad to join the IS and are now dead or imprisoned.

Police have set up checkpoints on all streets leading to it. There has already been at least one foiled attempt to attack the orphanage.

The children at the center of this resentment are often profoundly traumatized, whether from their lives with the Islamic State group or from the war itself

At another orphanage, in Mosul, a 9-year-old Iraqi girl named Amwaj said her father was killed fighting for IS. Then her home was hit by shelling, killing her mother and three of her siblings. She watched her mother's body being dug from the rubble.

"Her face was covered with blood," she said, her hands spread over her cheeks to demonstrate.

The girl, whose name means "waves" in Arabic, looked haunted, her eyes wandering and often near tears, her voice barely audible. In the orphanage, she takes care of her three surviving brothers, 10-year-old Mohammed and Hashem and Tahrir, both younger than her.

She said she remembers her father giving her money to buy chips and soda. She dreams of him coming to the orphanage to take her home. She dreams of her mother brushing her hair.

Dawlat, her 18-year-old brother Saleh and their siblings —

Abdullah, 16; 8-year-old Adam; a 6-year-old sister, Umaimah; and 4-year-old Dawoud — carry on their shoulders the multiple tragedies they endured from the time IS took over their hometown, outside the city of Hawija, in 2014.

They suffered at the hands of Daesh, at the hands of Daesh's enemies and at the hands of their own father.

Their father joined the group and worked repairing generators for the militants. An older brother also joined and was killed fighting for IS. An older sister was killed by a roadside bomb as she tried to flee IS territory.

Family turmoil also tore them apart: It emerged that their father abused one of his daughters. Saleh confronted his father and they lived for months as enemies under one roof. They came to blows several times. Saleh said he even thought of killing his father at night — "but he was awake with his gun next to him."

In retaliation, Saleh said, the father turned him in to Daesh for selling cigarettes, which were banned under IS. The militants flogged Saleh. The teen fled to Kurdish-held territory in March 2016, only to be held for six months by Kurdish fighters on suspicion he belonged to Daesh. Saleh said they hung him from the ceiling by his hands and beat the soles of his feet with a hose.

The abused sister was married off to an IS fighter, who was later killed; now 14, she is married again, the second wife of a policeman, and living in a displaced camp.

Meanwhile, Daesh found a new wife for their father, forcing a Shiite woman to marry him. The woman, whose own husband had been killed, brought her own four children with her.

Two months later, Iraqi forces overran Hawija. The father shaved his beard to shed signs of his IS allegiance and fled with his family, hiding among the tens of thousands of others escaping the city.

But his new wife turned him in, telling Kurdish fighters at a checkpoint that he was Daesh. The fighters beat him, then dragged him away — the last any of his family has seen him. The new wife left with her children. She was with them so briefly and wanted so little to do with the family she was forced into that Dawlat and her siblings don't even know her name.

The kids were shunted into a camp for the displaced, where they lived for nearly a year. Finally, the husband of another of their sisters arranged an apartment for them in an impoverished Kurdish neighborhood of Kirkuk.

Surrounded by neighbors belonging to a community persecuted by IS, Saleh fears being found out. At the same time, members of their extended family have warned them it's not safe to return to their home village, where other relatives might support them. The husband of another of their sisters was arrested a month ago after someone recognized him in the streets as a Daesh member. "I'm often close to tears. I'm exhausted. I feel like I'm 30 after everything I've gone through," Saleh

Dawlat's childhood has been stripped away. At their apartment in Kirkuk, she cooks three meals a day; while the younger children are at school, she cleans the house, makes the bed, washes dishes and does laundry. She boasts she can now cook lentils and potatoes and chicken, though she admits she doesn't always get the rice right.

There are moments when a smile illuminates Dawlat's face, temporarily sweeping away her perpetual haunted look. She talks of how she once loved school and still hopes to become a doctor or teacher.

More immediately, she hopes to get married. In rural Iraq, marriage of young girls is common. Once married, she said, it would be religiously permitted for her to wear make-up. "I'd like to go to a hairdresser. I have never been to a hair salon," she said. "I like my hair long, but I would like to dye it a different color."

But then she reverts to the little girl she is — longing to play, regretting her burdens and, despite everything, missing her father. "He is so dear to me. [...] I want him back with us," she whispered, so Saleh could not hear. **AP**





Flash floods kill at least 13 people

LASH floods tore through towns in southwest France, turning waterways into raging torrents that killed at least 13 people, nine of them in just one town, authorities said yesterday. People had to be helicoptered to safety from the roofs of their homes as overnight storms dumped the equivalent of several

months of rain in just a few hours.

Worst hit was the town of Trebes, east of the medieval walled city of Carcassonne. The rains that swept in from the Mediterranean killed nine people there, Interior Ministry spokesman Frederic de Lanouvel-

He told BFMTV that the floods in the Aude region also killed four other people in other locations, left one person missing and seriously injured five others.

In the town of Villegailhenc, witness Ines Siguet said the waters rose so quickly that people were stranded on the roofs of their homes and had to be helicoptered to safety. She posted video of a ripped-up road where a bridge used to be,

torn away by a flood torrent that cut the town in half.

"There's nothing left. There's just a hole," the 17-yearold resident told The Associated Press. "It was very violent."

Other roads also were flooded, leaving the town cut off, she said. Siguet's school was shut down amid the destruction. Two people were killed in the town, according to the Aude regional government.

Alain Thirion, the prefect of Aude, said some of the dead appeared to have been swept away by floodwaters. In the town of Conques-sur-Orbiel, the river rose by more than six meters (20 feet), he said.

Floodwaters were in some cases too powerful for emergency services to get through, even on boats, he said.

Television images showed waters coursing through towns and villages, with cars stranded in the floods and piled up on top of each other like children's toys.

The French government rushed hundreds of rescue workers into the flood zone and helicopters buzzed overhead. Schools were closed and authorities were urging people to stay home. AP

MACEDONIA

Country heads for make-or-break name vote or snap election

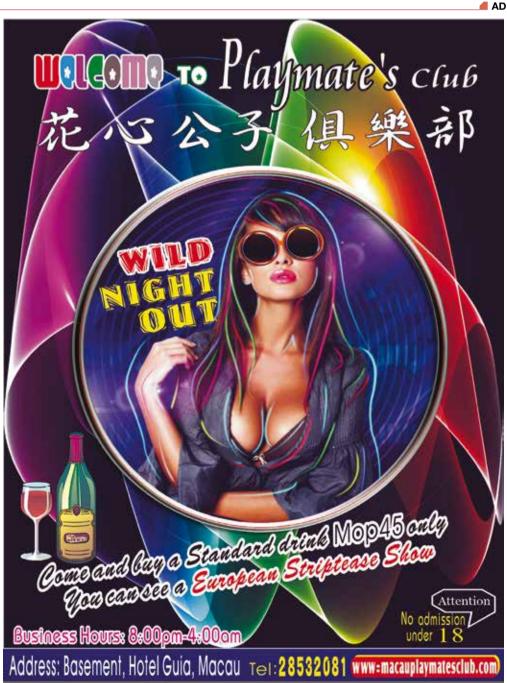
THE Republic of Macedonia's parliament is facing a vote that will either help approve a deal opening the way to NATO and European Union entry or trigger an early election.

The former Yugoslav nation is at the center of the struggle between Russia and the West for sway over Europe's most volatile region. Prime Minister Zoran Zaev's government is pushing to rename his country to end a decades-long dispute with neighboring Greece, which has promised in exchange to lift its veto over Macedonia's bids to join the EU and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Greece believes the name 'Macedonia' should only apply to its northern province.

Lawmakers started discussions yesterday over a constitutional amendment renaming the country of 2 million as 'the Republic of North Macedonia.' Complicating the discussion is the result of a Sept. 30 referendum in which a majority of voters backed the name change but very low turnout emboldened the opposition to declare the government's plan a failure.

"You have to decide whether we'll win a lot or we'll lose a lot," Zaev told lawmakers yesterday. "The real choice is to vote to finally change something, for the European future of our county" or "throw us into isolation and uncertain future." Bloomberg







what's ON



ABSTRACT PAINTINGS FROM THE MAM COLLECTION

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

Mondays)

UNTIL: November 4, 2018 VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S

SEMINARY

TIME: 10am-5pm daily (closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, Rua do

Seminário ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

Mandarin's House

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays) ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

EXHIBITION OF NEW WORKS IN MAM COLLECTION

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

UNTIL: October 26, 2018 VENUE: Macao Museum of Art ADMISSION: Free admission ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

BEYOND THE SCENERY: EXHIBITION

Commemorating the 300th Anniversary of

THE PASSING OF WU LI

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

Mondays)

UNTIL: November 11, 2018 VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Offbeat

DEPUTIES USE DORITOS TO LURE WAYWARD PIG BACK HOME



Deputies in California have used Doritos to lure a pig "the size of a mini horse" back home.

The pig was running around a neighborhood when the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office received the call Saturday. One of the deputies had Doritos in her lunch bag. Video shows the deputy leaving a trail of the chips, which the pig followed.

Since deputies had responded to previous calls about the pig, they knew where to take him.

He was returned to his pen, and deputies secured the gate.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Mistura Fina
15:50	Os Craques do Pingue-Pongue
16:15	Fotobox
16:35	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:30	Depois do Adeus
18:30	TDM Desporto (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Entrevista
21:50	Viajante da Música
22:25	Dentro
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Resumo Liga das Nações 2018/2019

Telejornal (Repetição)

RTPi Directo

CINETEATRO

11 - 18 Ост

01:30



VENOM

воом 1 2:30, 4:30, 7:30 9:30pm **Director: Ruben Fleischer** Starring: Tom Hardy, Michelle Williams, Riz Ahmed

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 112min



DESTINATION WEDDING

ROOM 2 2:30, 4:30, 7:30pm **Director: victor levin** Starring: Keanu Reeves, Winona Rider Language: Cantonese (Chinese, english) **Duration: 130min**



PROJECT GUTENBERG

гоом 2 9:15pm

Director: Felix Chong

Starring: Chow Yun Fat, Aaron Kwok, Zhang Jingchu

Language: Cantonese (Chinese, english)

Duration: 130min

JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN

коом 3 7:30pm

Director: David Kerr

Starring: Rowan Atkinson Emma Thompson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 88min



1996 HANDGUNS TO BE BANNED IN THE UK

The British Government has announced plans to outlaw almost all handguns following the shocking massacre at Dunblane in Scotland.

On 13 March Thomas Hamilton walked into the gym at Dunblane primary school and killed 16 young children and their teacher. He also injured 13 other children and three teachers. Hamilton, a former scout master, then shot himself.

Today's announcement follows publication of Lord Cullen's inquiry into the massacre which concluded Hamilton's horrific attack could not have been pre-

But it made 23 recommendations to tighten rules on gun ownership and monitor those who work with

The proposal to ban all handguns - except .22-caliber target pistols - would leave Britain with some of the toughest laws on private possession of guns.

Home Secretary Michael Howard told a packed House of Commons he would make sure the measures were passed as quickly as possible through parliament.

But the move has angered both those for and against private gun ownership.

The Snowdrop Campaign, set up by victims' families after Dunblane, wants to see a total ban on handguns and called the plan an "unacceptable compromise". The opposition Labour Party welcomed the report

and the government's swift reaction to it but urged ministers to bring about a complete ban. Shadow Home Secretary Jack Straw said politi-

cians should have acted in a similar vein nine years ago after the Hungerford massacre. Former Tory cabinet minister David Mellor also felt

the proposals did not go far enough.

He asked: "Isn't it time to conclude that, literally and metaphorically, the game is up for handguns now?" But gun club owners warned thousands of jobs would be in jeopardy if the proposal became law.

Speaking to the Daily Mirror newspaper, Ross Armstrong, owner of Medway Shooting Club in Kent said: "People are killed by drunk drivers but no-one demands a ban on cars. Further restrictions suit no

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Conservative Government's proposals became law in February 1997. When Labour came to power three months later they brought in an amendment banning all handguns. This became law in November 1997. The Snowdrop Campaign was ended in the same year.

The Gun Control Network set up a few months after Dunblane as the UK's first gun control organisation continues to campaign for - among other things - a national gun register.

Three months after the Dunblane massacre in March 1996, there was a national firearms amnesty that saw nearly 23,000 firearms and 700,000 $\,$ rounds of ammunition surrendered.

This was considerably less than the 48,000 weapons surrendered after the Hungerford killings nine years before.

In January 2003 the killing of teenagers Charlene Ellis and Letisha Shakespeare in Birmingham provoked another gun amnesty.

Nearly 43,000 firearms and more than a million rounds of ammunition

were handed in to police stations across the UK.

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Your ability to get stuff done is propelling you forward today, and your people just have to try to catch up. Things are sure to move even more quickly by this time tomorrow, so rest up!



Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Your thinking is a bit muddled today — but maybe you can work that to your advantage! See if you can kick back and indulge in some creative brainstorming. Precision is for ants!



Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

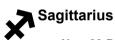
You feel a bit more low-key and relaxed than usual, and that might not fit with the high-stress people who surround you. The good news is that their mood shouldn't affect yours.



Libra

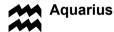
Sep.23-Oct. 22

Even if the big picture seems to be too optimistic, you can still enjoy the small successes that come your way today. In fact, they are the key to your eventual large-scale victory, so build on them!



Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You're not always the most flexible person in the world, but today you need to extend yourself a bit. Things are good, but they could be even better if you can adapt to match them.



Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Animals have more appeal today their way of living in the moment is a great lesson for you now. If you've got pets, play with them, and if not, find a way to interact with someone else's.



Taurus

April 20-May 20

You are cluing in to something that has been eluding you for a long time — years, maybe. Use this new intuition to get closer to someone you love or to solve an old, nagging problem.



Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Don't worry about getting tired you should be able to plow through all your work without breaking a sweat. Things are looking up for you and your family, and you should take pride in that!



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Organization is your middle name.

and you should be able to whip your people into shape without any trouble at all. It's your specialty, and things ought to be all lined up in your favor before long.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 If you're a parent, you need to heed

today's lesson carefully: There are limits to control. Even if you don't have kids, you still need to make sure that you're letting people make their own mistakes.



Capricorn

You feel incredible - which could be good or bad. If you're in the dumps, take heart in the knowledge that the feeling can't

last long. If you're up, make the

most of it while you can!

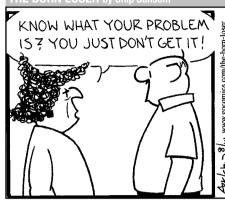


Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Try not to hold back with your feelings - though that may be impossible anyway! You need to deal with someone who's close but may feel insecure about you, which means it's time for a heart-to-heart.



DON'T GET **TAHW**



CONDITION

SUDOKU

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Easy

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

Medium

6 3

2

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Easy+

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Hard

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2						5	
6			8	3			
						7	1

WEATHER

MIN

	IVIIN	WAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
Beijing	11	17	drizzle/cloudy
Harbin	0	10	cloudy
Tianjin	10	15	moderate rain/drizzle
Urumqi	4	14	clear
Xi'an	8	22	clear/cloudy
Lhasa	3	18	clear
Chengdu	13	22	overcast/cloudy
Chongqing	16	20	drizzle/cloudy
Kunming	14	23	cloudy/clear
Nanjing	15	22	drizzle/cloudy
Shanghai	18	22	drizzle
Wuhan	13	21	cloudy/overcast
Hangzhou	15	22	drizzle/overcast
Taipei	22	25	drizzle
Guangzhou	21	24	heavy rain
Hong Kong	22	26	heavy rain/shower

MΔX

WORLD

Moscow	7	23	cloudy
Frankfurt	10	22	clear
Paris	15	23	clear
London	10	20	drizzle/clear
New York	10	21	drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Tel ___; 5- Japanese sash; 8- Roadie's load; 12- Corona fruit; 13-Digging tool; 15- Carefree adventure; 16- Enthusiastic liveliness; 17- Reason for a raise; 18- Words of comprehension; 19- Light of a candle; 22- Barrett of Pink Floyd; 23- Snakelike fish; 24- I could ___ horsel; 26- "Voila!"; 29- Take into custody; 31- Actress Sandra; 32- Stitched; 34- Japanese beer brand; 36- Icicle site; 38- Plant again; 40- Colored; 41- Open and close the eye; 43- Peter and Franco; 45- Miracle-__ (plant food); 46- Shorthand pros; 48- Polite refusal; 50- Graceful horse; 51- Racket; 52- Dogpatch adjective; 54- Estimable; 61- Eye part; 63- French farewell; 64- Loop; 65- Drift off; 66- Lacks; 67- Supermodel Sastre; 68- Dagger; 69- Bandleader Kyser; 70- Cape Canaveral org.;

DOWN: 1- One of the Baldwin brothers; 2- TV handyman Bob; 3cowhand...; 4- Buyer; 5- Autobahn auto; 6- Adriatic seaport; 7- Gotcha; 8- Boxer

Laila; 9- Small rattlesnake; 10- One hunted; 11- Timetable, for short; 13- Ore refinery; 14- Old anesthetic; 20- Not so much; 21- Scarlett's home; 25- New Ager John; 26- Rings; 27- Give new life to; 28-1936 Olympics star; 29- Decorate; 30-Unit of heat; 31- Society girl; 33- Legal ending; 35- Wedding words; 37- Steven Chu's cabinet dept.: 39- Woodblock: 42- Knot in wood; 44- Struck, old-style; 47- Belief involving sorcery: 49- Aleve alternative; 52- Covers; 53- Pressing need?; 55- Minn. neighbor; 56- Galileo's birthplace; 57- Start of a counting _ fide; 59- Untruths, tells rhyme: 58falsehoods; 60- Joy Adamson's lioness; 62- Witness:



	_				13				14		15				Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.co
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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



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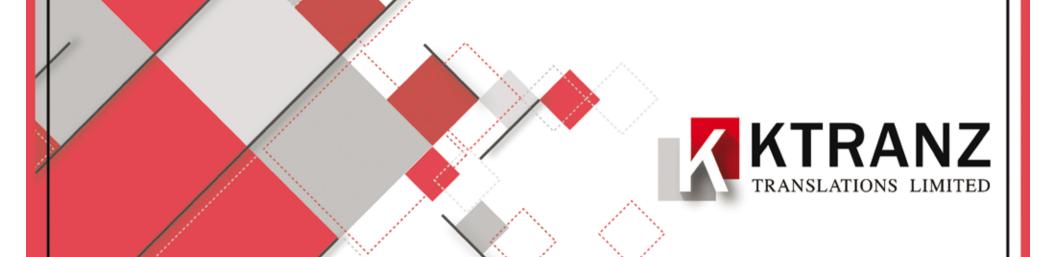
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RUGBY

New Zealand All Blacks select 51 for season-ending tour

Steve McMorran, Wellington

HE All Blacks have taken the unprecedented step of selecting a player based in Japan among an enlarged squad of 51 for autumn test matches against Australia, Japan, England, Ireland and Italy.

Flanker Matt Todd, who is playing for the Panasonic Wild Knights in Japan's top domestic competition, has been picked for the European section of New Zealand's tour in the absence of Sam Cane, who is convalescing after fracturing his neck.

Todd is set to return to New Zealand next year in time to play for the Christchurch-based Crusaders in Super Rugby but would normally not be considered for All Blacks selection while based overseas.

The All Blacks have a steadfast policy of not picking overseas-based players on the basis that doing so would lead to an exodus of top players who could accept lucrative club contracts in Europe and Japan while still playing tests.

All Blacks head coach Steve Hansen said the 14-test flanker had been granted an exemption in recognition of his long service to New Zealand rugby and the fact he is returning to New Zealand in 2019. "We thank the New Zealand Rugby board and Panasonic for supporting the selection of Matt," Hansen said.

He announced a squad in two parts yesterday in a complex selection process for the five-match tour. A squad of 32 players



New Zealand All Blacks captain Kieran Read is interviewed following a press conference

will travel to Yokohama to play Australia in a Bledisloe Cup test on Oct. 27. A group of 22 or 23 of those players will then head on to Britain for the tests against England, Ireland and Italy.

The remaining nine or 10 players will be joined by a secondary group of 19 players, including seven uncapped players, for the test against Japan at Tokyo on Nov. 3.

The 32-man squad is effectively Hansen's main group which played mid-year tests against France and in this season's Rugby Championship. The notable feature of that selection is the inclusion of 21-year-old uncapped flanker Dalton Papalii and the return of former first-choice hooker Dane Coles, who played the latest of his 54 tests in November last year.

Coles has been sidelined for much of the past two seasons with issues related to concussion and with knee and calf injuries.

Prop Nepo Laulala, who has not played since his appearance against Wales in Cardiff last November, also returns after a long recovery from a complex arm fracture.

The seven newcomers in the

19-man squad are props Tyrel Lomax and Reuben O'Neill, flanker Gareth Evans, scrumhalf Bryn Hall, flyhalf Brett Cameron, center Matt Proctor and winger George Bridge. Three other players — hooker Asafo Aumua, flanker Dillon Hunt and scrumhalf Mitchell Drummond — have played non-test matches for New Zealand.

"Having the extra group come to Japan will allow us to send the bulk of our main squad to London early to acclimatize and prepare for what will be three big test matches in the northern hemisphere," Hansen said. "Bringing in the wider squad also allows us to grow our player depth and will expose them to the international arena."

Bringing in the wider squad also allows us to grow our player depth and will expose them to the international arena.

STEVE HANSEN HEAD COACH

"We'll also be using the Japanese leg of our tour to road test a few things ahead of next year's Rugby World Cup as we'll be using the same hotels and training facilities while we are there."

Hansen may face accusations of cheapening the All Blacks jersey by naming so many newcomers in his squad for a relatively short tour, or of including some players to prevent their later selection by other teams. AP

Patrick Baumann, rising star in Olympic circles, dies at 51

PATRICK Baumann, the secretary general of basketball's world governing body who was seen as a potential IOC president, has died at the Youth Olympics. He was 51. Baumann "unexpectedly succumbed to a heart attack" in Buenos Aires despite getting immediate medical help, the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) said Sunday in a statement.

"Basketball has lost a leader, an advocate and a friend and our thoughts are with Patrick's wife and two children at this tragic time," the Switzerland based FIBA said. Baumann was FIBA's top administrator for 15 years, and an International Olympic Committee member since 2007.

"We can hardly believe this terrible news," IOC President Thomas Bach said in a statement. "We lose a young and sympathetic leader full of hope who was standing for the future of sport. Our thoughts are with his wife, his children and his family."

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver also praised Baumann's dedication to the game.

"Nobody was more dedicated to the growth of basketball than Patrick,"

said Silver in a statement. "He loved the game and recognized its power to transform people's lives. He was also a dear friend and colleague who I attended countless games and events with over the past 20 years."

Flags will be flown at half-staff at IOC offices in Buenos Aires and its home city of Lausanne, Switzerland. The IOC said a memorial will be held in the athlete village in Buenos Aires.

A lawyer from Switzerland, Baumann had taken an increasingly important role in Olympic circles.

He led an IOC panel

evaluating the Paris and Los Angeles bids for the 2024 Olympics, and then took charge of overseeing preparations for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

"Patrick was a partner and a friend," LA 2028 chairman Casey Wasserman said in a statement. "He is gone too soon and will be greatly missed."

The IOC also appointed Baumann to the World Anti-Doping Agency executive board, and he was elected president of the global group of sports federations, known as GAISF.

At meetings last week on the sidelines of the Youth



Patrick Baumann

Olympics, Baumann updated IOC members on the Los Angeles Games and the 2020 Lausanne Youth Olympics. He was president of its organizing committee.

Baumann was key to developing the 3-on-3 urban version of basketball and pushing for its inclusion as an Olympic medal event.

He earned masters degrees from the Business School of the University of Chicago, and in sports administration from the University of Lyon in France. AP

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opinion

Our Desk Julie Zhu



BIG FAKE EMPTY

"Big fake empty" is a term I first heard from one of my former teachers, who used the phrase to describe a student's graduation thesis.

The term describes words, speeches, articles, ideas, plans or thoughts which describe an imaginative picture for which there is no exact content, which in turn, allows readers to extract nothing.

The "big" means that the materials concerned (speech, articles, ideas, plans or thoughts) try to include everything that might be linked to the topic under discussion.

The "fake" means that the materials try to praise or correspond to some topics (mostly general plans for the future) with copied words or phrases that do not make up clear and exact explanations about anything.

The "empty" means that they eventually leave readers with no clue whatsoever about what the materials are about, therefore leaving them with no clue about the consequences of the results of the topics the materials were addressing.

"Big fake empty" is not an accusation that something is wrong or fake. It is a phrase used to describe things which do not propose anything concrete or give exact orders.

During the years I have been living in Macau, I have noticed that "big fake empty" speeches pop up every day across the city, in particular, from government statements.

Most of the time, a "big fake empty" speech or plan can be a blank-filling questionaire. There is no surprising news coming from whoever created the plan or the speech.

For example, on October 3 a dispatch published in the official gazette announced that Macau's urban planning must have a strategy axis for bui-Iding Macau into a "World Tourism and Leisure Center and a Beautiful Home." In addition, the government announced 11 goals: enhance Macau as an excellent destination for tourism and leisure; promote Macau's merge into the Greater Bay Area; enhance Macau's entrepreneurship capability and diversify Macau's economic groundwork. Other goals include improving Macau's business attraction, especially in the aspects of tourism, leisure, environment, culture, innovation, education, scientific research, creativity, and health; promoting and increasing knowledge levels, increasing competence advantage; protecting, recovering and promoting Macau's historical and cultural heritage, enhancing Macau's position as the most important cultural center in the region; renovating old areas, conducting urban improvement and recovery works, promoting marine management. It is also to improve infrastructure facilities, enhance public housing supply; establish and enhance response to vulnerable families and communities, enhance the society's equality and social inclusion; promote efficiency of the resources, and improve the mechanism concerning reducing and the usage of waste; protect environment and improve natural and human made views. Lastly, it is the development of sustainable transportation facilities, increasing the supply of parking spots under a condition which does not post impact to the common public space

The previous writing or planning style is legitimate and common, since it represents a way for everybody to understand the general concerns behind the social development.

However, it is probably also only true when people only need to understand the general concerns, which is not the case in real life.

In real life, taxpayers want exact information, schedules, step by step lists, facts and detailed reports amongst others, way more than just general information.

PRINCE HARRY AND MEGHAN EXPECTING THEIR FIRST CHILD IN SPRING

Prince Harry and his wife, the Duchess of Sussex, are expecting their first child in the spring, Kensington Palace said.

The announcement came hours after Harry and the former Meghan Markle arrived in Sydney at the start of a 16-day visit to Australia, Fiji, Tonga and New Zealand. Hundreds of people gathered to catch a glimpse of the couple after they landed.

"Their royal highnesses have appreciated all of the support they have received from people around the world since their wedding in May and are delighted to be able to share this happy news with the public," the palace said in a statement.

The announcement of the pregnancy confirms weeks of speculation from royal watchers about why Meghan was not joining Harry on his Sydney Harbour Bridge climb set for Friday.

of ouare Dens ws Resid

Density 30-50 Residental Good Area

Station

Roadside

Ambient 45-65 Moderate

Air quality

30-50



Trump says climate change not a hoax, not sure of its source



PRESIDENT Donald Trump is backing off his claim that climate change is a hoax but says he doesn't know if it's manmade and suggests that the climate will "change back again."

In an interview with CBS' "60 Minutes" that aired yesterday [Macau time], Trump said he doesn't want to put the U.S. at a disadvantage in responding to climate change.

"I think something's happening. Something's changing and it'll change back again," he said. "I don't think it's a hoax. I think there's probably a difference. But I don't know that it's manmade. I will say this: I don't want to give trillions and trillions of dollars. I don't want to lose millions and millions of jobs."

Trump called climate change a hoax in November 2012 when he sent a tweet stating, "The concept of global warming was created by and for the Chinese in order to make U.S. manufacturing non-competitive." He later said he was joking about the Chinese connection, but in years since has continued to call global warming a hoax.

"I'm not denying climate change," he said in the interview. "But it could very well go back. You know, we're talking about over a ... millions of years."

As far as the climate "changing back," temperature records kept by NASA and the National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration show that the world hasn't had a cooler-than-average year since 1976 or a cooler-than-normal month since the end of 1985.

I don't think it's a hoax. I think there's probably a difference. But I don't know that it's manmade.

TRUMP

Trump, who is scheduled today to visit areas of Georgia and Florida damaged by Hurricane Michael, also expressed doubt over scientists' findings linking the changing climate to more powerful hurricanes.

"They say that we had hurricanes that were far worse than what we just had with Michael," said Trump, who identified "they" as "people" after being pressed by "60 Minutes" correspondent Leslie Stahl. She asked, "What about the scientists who say it's worse than ever?" the president replied, "You'd have to show me the scientists because they have a very big political agenda."

Trump's comments came

just days after a Nobel Prize -winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a warning that global warming would increase climate-related risks to health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security and economic growth. The report detailed how Earth's weather, health and ecosystems would be in better shape if the world's leaders could somehow limit future human-caused warming.

Citing concerns about the pact's economic impact, Trump said in 2017 that the U.S. will leave the Paris climate accord. The agreement set voluntary greenhouse gas emission targets in an effort to lessen the impact of fossil fuels.

On a different topic, Trump told "60 Minutes" that he's been surprised by Washington being a tough, deceptive and divisive place, though some accuse the real estate mogul elected president of those same tactics.

"So I always used to say the toughest people are Manhattan real estate guys and blah, blah," he said. "Now I say they're babies."

He said the political people in Washington have changed his thinking.

"This is the most deceptive, vicious world. It is vicious, it's full of lies, deceit and deception," he said. "You make a deal with somebody and it's like making a deal with — that table." AP

WORLD BRIEFS

BANGLADESH Editors of major daily newspapers in Bangladesh's capital formed a human chain yesterday to protest a new digital security law they say will stifle freedom of speech and media freedom.



TURKEY A joint Saudi-Turkish team has entered the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul to search it, nearly two weeks after the disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi. It's unclear what kind of search the officials will conduct and if it will involve forensics.

GERMANY Police stormed a pharmacy in Cologne's main train station yesterday, freeing a woman who had been held hostage by a man for two hours, officials said. The suspect sustained life-threatening injuries.



FRANCE Flash floods tore through towns in southwest France, turning waterways into raging torrents that killed at least 13 people, nine of them in just one town. People had to be helicoptered to safety from the roofs of their homes as overnight storms dumped the equivalent of several months of rain in just a few hours. More on p15

PORTUGAL Four new ministers have taken office in the Portuguese government as the center-left Socialists look to freshen their administration a year before the next general election.



NICARAGUA A human rights group says two activists were forced off a plane for questioning by government officials in Managua amid rising tensions and detentions of dozens of antigovernment protesters.