



EXHIBITION SHOWCASES 'RAW' BRIDAL SHOTS

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TAM VISITS IPM TAIPA CAMPUS WORKS
The Macau Polytechnic Institute is expected to open its new Taipa campus by 2020, Alexis Tam said

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TRADE FAIR KICKS OFF TOMORROW
The three-day event is themed "Co-operation – Key to Business Opportunities," featuring a total of some 1,500 booths

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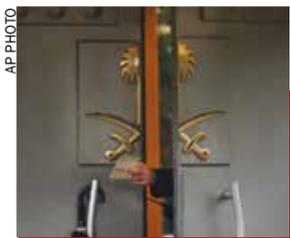
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WORLD BRIEFS



SAUDI ARABIA U.S. President Donald Trump has suggested that "rogue killers" could be responsible for the mysterious disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, an explanation offering Saudi Arabia a possible path out of a diplomatic firestorm. **More on p8,14**

NEW ZEALAND's conservative opposition party was in turmoil yesterday after one of its own lawmakers accused leader Simon Bridges of corruption for hiding a donation from a wealthy Chinese businessman. **More on p13**



INDIA A court in northern India sentenced a Hindu guru and 14 followers to life imprisonment yesterday in the deaths of four women and a child at his sprawling ashram. **More on p12**

IRAN Militants abducted 14 members of a border security force near the Pakistan border yesterday in the latest blow to the powerful Revolutionary Guard.

SOMALIA The U.S. military yesterday announced its deadliest airstrike against the al-Shabab extremist group in Somalia in nearly a year, killing about 60 fighters.

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LAWMAKERS BACK TO WORK

Rosário: LRT revenue will not cover costs

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China says internment camps for Muslims lead them to 'modern' life

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UM library exhibits old documents



The exhibition "Macau: A Gateway to the Cultural Interaction between China and the West, Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Rare Collections Exhibition" is being held on the fifth floor of the University of Macau's (UM) Wu Yee Sun Library. Old documents on local studies collected from Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau are on display and highlight the city's "important role in the cultural exchange between the East and West from the 16th century to the 19th century," UM states. The exhibits are divided into seven categories: "A Pictorial View of Macau," "China in the Eyes of Foreigners," "the Society of Jesus," the "Translated Works," "Trade and International Relations," "Early Periodicals of Macau" and the "Life of Early Macau." The exhibition is jointly organized by the libraries of Sun Yat-sen University, Hong Kong Baptist University, the Macau University of Science and Technology and UM, as well as the Macau Public Library, the Archives of Macau, and Macau Museum.

Four injured in bridge car crash

Five cars were involved in a collision at the Ponte de Amizade yesterday morning at 7 a.m. resulting in four minor injuries. Two men and two women sustained injuries to their heads, waists, and chests. On the same bridge, another car accident took place at 7:20 a.m. Following the abovementioned accident, further car crashes were reported. These involved tourism buses, motorbikes and taxis. The only injured victim was a motorbike rider. The injured were sent to the Kiang Wu Hospital for medical treatment.

IAM to have 180 workers in total

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) will have a total of 180 workers, including management positions, according to a dispatch published in the Official Gazette. The figure represents 14 more employees than those at the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM). The bureau will comprise one chairman and two vice-chairmen. It will continue to be run by a board of directors, but will be divided into 12 departments (one more than IACM) and 36 divisions (three more than IACM). IAM will officially come into operation on January 1, 2019.

Analysts betting on October gaming rebound

ANALYSTS at brokerage house Sanford C Bernstein suggest that gross gaming revenue in October may bounce from the disappointing 2.8 percent increase in September.

The analysts said that gross gaming revenue was on track to expand by between 4 and 7 percent year-on-year, based on a conservative 20 percent slowdown in the remainder of the month from the average daily rate of almost MOP1 billion between October 1 and 14.

Meanwhile, Citigroup expects October gross gaming revenue to grow by 5 percent to around MOP28 billion.

October is normally a strong month for Macau's gaming sector as it includes the lucrative Golden Week holidays.

This year, the average daily rate

during the Golden Week reached approximately MOP1.3 billion, before slowing down in October's second week to around MOP743 million, according to Citigroup, citing industry sources. The strong result was helped by a 7.2 percent increase in total visitation compared with the same week last year.

Also during this year's Golden Week, gaming operators Galaxy Entertainment Group and Melco Resorts & Entertainment have reportedly gained market share at the expense of their rivals.

In October 2017, gross gaming revenue recorded 22.1 percent annual growth to reach a total of MOP26.63 billion – the highest monthly take in exactly three years. October's growth came in slightly above the end-year growth of 19.1 percent for 2017.



Exhibition showcases 'raw' bridal shots



A photographic installation titled "St. Lazarus Brides" is currently being showcased at Albergue SCM, presenting a total of 30 portraits taken with an iPhone 4 between 2015 and 2018.

The photos, which were taken by Vera Paz, have been captured on the streets of the historic St. Lazarus district, at locations including the Church of São Lázaro, Adro de São Lázaro, Rua Nova de São Lázaro, and Rua de São Roque.

According to Paz, her interest in the concept began when she witnessed a bridal shoot in Kowloon, thinking it was a movie scene.

Thus, Paz began her project, taking shots of tourists and residents having their photos taken around the vicinity of Albergue SCM.

According to Paz, who does not consider herself a photographer, the project was more of an interest and a collection rather than

being intended as an exhibition.

"I do not consider myself as a photographer, I am not. It is just interesting to capture the raw shots of what is happening behind the [final product] of these bridal shoots," she said.

The exhibitor explained that none of the photos that are currently showcased at D1 Gallery Albergue SCM are photoshopped, nor were the photographs edited by any other software.

The installation portrays the bride and groom as "real" characters, in unusual and unexpected moments between staged poses.

Organized by the Cultural Association d'As Entranhas Macau, the exhibition has a soundtrack of classic romantic and contemporary music ranging from the 1940s until now and features captions that detail love languages.

The exhibition will run until October 24.

Direct investment in Macau records 80 percent collapse

INWARD direct investment flows to the Macau SAR last year collapsed to a mere 20 percent of that in 2016, according to the latest data from the government, amounting to just over MOP3 billion for the whole 12-month period.

In a statement issued on the weekend, the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) attributed the 80 percent decline to a general lull in investment in the gaming sector, following what the government department describes as "a generous distribution of dividends by some gaming enterprises, as well as the repayment of loans from foreign direct investors and fellow companies abroad."

Analyzed by industry, the gaming sector recorded a negative inflow of MOP3.05 billion, which was offset by continued investment interest in both financial activities and construction, recording positive flows of MOP5.37 billion and MOP1.13 billion respectively.

Analyzed by investors'

registered place of residence, most direct investment flows came from the British Virgin Islands (MOP6.11 billion), mainland China (MOP3.56 billion) and Hong Kong (MOP3.33 billion), whereas inflow from the Cayman Islands remained negative (MOP8.64 billion).

While investment flows collapsed, however, income from such investment rose 20.4 percent year-on-year to MOP58.65 billion, with the income from the gaming sector increasing by more than one-third to MOP37.85 billion.

As at the end of 2017, stock of inward direct investment in Macau totaled MOP227.42 billion, down by 7.3 percent year-on-year.

Meanwhile, outward direct investment flows of Macau enterprises totaled MOP1.32 billion in 2017, with the earnings of such enterprises soaring 290.4 percent to MOP1.42 billion.

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EDUCATION

IPM Taipa campus expected to open by 2020

Julie Zhu

THE Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM) is expected to open its new Taipa campus by 2020, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, announced yesterday during a visit to the unfinished campus.

Located at R. do Delegado, in the area of Chun Su Mei, the future IPM Taipa campus will be used as a seniors' academy.

The new campus occupies an area of 1,800 square meters and will offer musical and multifunctional classes, among others, as well as providing leisure space.

"It should be a nice place [with which] to expand our seniors' academy," said Im Sio Kei, the recently appointed president of IPM.

The construction of the campus is estimated to take approximately one year. Im hopes that the facilities will be



Alexis Tam (center) pictured during a visit to the future center

ready in 2019. However, Im indicated that the project's completion might only occur in 2020 if special circumstances arise during production.

Once the new campus is put into operation, the old seniors' academy, which is currently located at the IPM headquarters, will continue to be utilized.

"[The new campus] is mainly for expanding the school's quota for seniors," stated Im, according to whom IPM is planning to welcome 170 more senior students each

year after the new campus is ready.

IPM's current seniors' academy has approximately 500 students.

"Each year, [the seniors academy] will receive 170 more students. After three years, there will be approximately 500 more students," said Im. To respond to the increasing number of students, IPM will also have more teachers serving the academy, he added.

In addition, the government has considered finding additional spare land to build

facilities for the seniors' academy.

"In the future, we will try to find more spare land to build teaching facilities and classrooms so that IPM can expand the seniors' academy even further," said Tam. "[The government] already has a plan and [the government] will introduce the plan to the public at the right time."

According to the secretary, the government is in the middle of searching for land for its plan.

"We are rather optimistic regarding being able to let IPM expand its campus, regarding younger students being able to go to the new areas to attend classes, and regarding the downtown IPM being saved for seniors because it's convenient and the transportation around is rather good," said Tam, who revealed that the government is planning to set up such facilities at the old campus of the University of Macau.

Agreement to bolster rough-diamond trade regulation

Macau signed an agreement this week with the General Administration of Customs of China regarding the implementation in Macau of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. The Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, who was in Beijing, said local application of the Certification Scheme – which seeks to regulate the international trade in rough diamonds – would advance Macau's high-value-added commodities sector and bolster the city's efforts to diversify its economy. The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, an international certification scheme that regulates trade in rough diamonds, came into force in 2003, when participating countries started to implement its rules to prevent the flow of conflict diamonds and protect the legitimate trade in rough diamonds.

Contact information modification service extended

The Identification Services Bureau (DSI) is cooperating with the Marine and Water Bureau (DSAMA) to extend the coverage of contact information modification services. As of yesterday, residents are able to update their address and contact information at various government departments at one time, covering the Marine and Water Bureau, the Social Security Fund and the Pension Fund. The service can be conducted at integrated self-service kiosks. Once applicants update the contact information associated with their resident identity card record and authorize the DSI to transfer relevant data, the new contact will be provided to the DSAMA for the use of updating the information related to maritime registration for ships, seaman registrations and leisure boat driver licenses.

AD

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Renato Marques

THE law that will regulate the operations of the Macau Light Rapid Transit (LRT) system was yesterday approved at the Legislative Assembly (AL) on its first reading with 31 votes in favor and one against, by lawmaker Ng Kuok Cheong.

Although passed by the plenary, the bill produced a heated discussion with the interventions of several lawmakers, who wanted further clarification and explanation from the government.

One of the issues that several lawmakers wanted to see clarified was the relation between the to-be-created government-owned LRT Company and the Hong Kong Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Company, with which the Transportation Infrastructure Office (GIT) recently signed a contract.

In the response of the government, the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, explained that the contract signed by the GIT refers to a certain number of services that the GIT had no capacity to develop and not for the general operation of the LRT, which will be managed by the government-owned LRT Company.

"Some services we are not capable of developing, [so] we have to acquire those," Rosário said, noting, "this is just like [acquiring] cleaning and security services; these are not matters of public utility."

Rosário provided the example of the Macau airport, for which the Macau International Airport Co. Ltd is also allowed to acquire several services that are not performed by the company itself but by service providers, independently of the CAM being the entity that manages the airport.

The Secretary acknowledged that the LRT would be managed under a system closer to the one applied to CAM and to the airport and not the public transportation system.

The Secretary justified the use of this type of contract by citing time limitations and a lack of qualified staff by GIT to perform such tasks, adding, "when we close the GIT, the contracts signed by [the entity] will be transferred to the operating company."

On the topic, lawmaker Sulu Sou questioned whether the LRT might be a "white elephant" that the Macau population will forever feed but never profit from. Sou remarked that he has been hearing about the LRT since he was "a little boy."

The lawmaker wanted to know how the government might turn the operation of the LRT profitable, referring to an assumption made by the government that the operation will not be so.

Referring to opinions from citizens presented during the public consultation of the system, Sou wanted to know if the government plans to follow the

AL PLENARY

LRT company to operate like airport firm



Raimundo do Rosário

suggestions of using the stations as locations for advertising and or small businesses.

Replying to such questions, Rosário noted, "we know that there are problems in our design and that it is impossible that the fares can cover the costs [of the project] but in the currently built stations there is no place to install coffee shops or other things," he said. "They are very small and it is useless to insist on things that are done already."

Nevertheless, the Secretary left the promise: "In the future [and for the future stations to be built] there will be more space."

Another topic that provoked discussion concerned a law stating that the government can expropriate land in the case of future expansions of the LRT, including new routes.

On the topic, the Secretary said, "again this is the same as the case of the airport. We are guaranteeing the safety of the

project and safeguarding of the people. I can guarantee that we are not aiming to demolish any constructions that are already done – although, theoretically, we have the power to decide that. But I can assure [you] we are not going to do that, as far as possible."

Others like Leong Sun Iok, Chui Sai Peng, Agnes Lam and Wu Chou Kit, among others, were interested to know about the inspection and supervision

mechanisms that the government plans to enforce and the consequences for the operator company should it fail to comply with the rules.

Rosário explained that fines or penalties in the event of non-fulfillment of duties will be clearly defined in the contract with the operator company with the government, but would not be included in the law.

"Today we are discussing the law of the transport system. When the government signs a contract with the concessionaire, the fines and penalties will be noted on that contract, not in the law," he said, noting that such details could be discussed at a later stage, such as when the bill reaches the standing committee for a more detailed discussion.

“In the currently built stations there is no place to install coffee shops or other things. They are very small.**”**

RAIMUNDO DO ROSÁRIO

Provisionally, the Secretary noted, the government wants the company to pay a deposit to be used as a guarantee to cover fines as needed. He noted that since the contracts are paid on a monthly basis there is always a chance for the government to retain some amount or deduct the fines from the deposit.

Meanwhile, inspection and supervision will be conducted by the Transport Bureau and problems occurred must be reported to this entity, Rosário said.

Coutinho criticized government for 'torrent' of bills

In the period before the agenda in yesterday's Legislative Assembly (AL) session, lawmaker José Pereira Coutinho took the opportunity to criticize the government for presenting what he named "a torrent of law proposals at once."

The lawmaker noted that, at the start of the legislative year, the lawmakers had on the agenda a total of seven bills and two more projects for deliberation.

Coutinho accused the government of overburdening the legislature intentionally, saying, "this situation seems to have been done on purpose. On the one hand, lawmakers do not have enough time to analyze them [the bills] and on the other hand it limits their interventions due to lack of time."

Continuing to develop on the topic Coutinho noted, "surprisingly, I received on October 8 the presentation of seven bills, many of them of a very high level of complexity and related to fun-

damental rights protected by the Basic Law," he said.

"Matters such as the law of the Light Rapid Transit system, 'Public Security Police Force', the Cyber Security Law and the legal regime of qualification and registration for health related professionals' were all scheduled at once for the plenary on the 16th [yesterday] of this month."

In the words of the lawmaker, "citizens will pay a hefty bill due to this defect of the AL," adding, "let us not forget that the AL and the lawmakers will be evaluated by the citizens not only for the [...] quantity of work done, but mainly for the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of such work including their omissions or dismissal in the exercise of main duties of government oversight."

The lawmaker concluded his diatribe with a famous Macanese expression – "Macau sã assim" [Macau is like this].



Pereira Coutinho

Viral photograph has netizens thinking alien invasion

A photograph of a street in Macau has gone viral after netizens said that the Grand Lisboa casino-hotel seen in the background looked like an alien spacecraft.

The photograph, taken by Hong Kong-based Paul Tsui, appears to have been captured on Rua Nova a Guia, near Jardim de São Francisco in downtown Macau.

It shows rows of apartment buildings, balconies and power lines and – in the background – the giant golden building that has become one of Macau's most famous landmarks since its construction a decade ago.

Titled "The Invasion", the photograph was submitted to National Geographic's "Your Shot" online photography community. It was retweeted more than 26,000 times with many netizens remarking that the scene looked as if it

had been pulled straight out of a dystopian science-fiction movie.

"I was quite amazed that this photo raised so much interest on the net, particularly in the U.S. and Japan," Tsui told Australian-based news and entertainment website news.com.au. "For most, they were attracted by the cyberpunk and surreal feel. Some debated whether it [was] a photoshopped image."

The photographer also said that the alien invasion theme was not deliberate.

"The spot of this photo was not in my original plan. It was just a coincidence that the street was next to the hotel where I was residing," he explained. "I took quite a number of [photographs] from different angles and distances from the street, and I liked this the most. It was captured using a tele [sic] lens to create that special effect of an alien ship invading the place."



PAUL TSUI

45 telecommunication interception requests recorded

The Court of First Instance received a total of 45 communication interception requests in the first nine months of the year, according to a report by Chinese-language newspaper Macao Daily News (Ou Mun Yat Po). The court did not reveal, however, the number of approved requests, on the grounds of judicial confidentiality. Meanwhile, the court also stated that in 2015, 2016 and 2017, it received 104, 118 and 71 communication interception requests, respectively. According to the court, the presiding judge will handle each file and either issue an approval or a refusal. The court office does not possess any records or information concerning the details of the request, nor of the judge's decision.

One corpse found at Kun Iam Statue

A male corpse was found at the Kun Iam Statue on Monday morning. Based on a preliminary investigation, the Judiciary Police (PJ) believes that the man's death is not related to criminal activities. The late man, surnamed Li, was a mainland resident aged around 50 years old. No note was found on him. According to the PJ-led investigation, the corpse was spotted at 7:15 a.m. on Monday. After the Fire Services Bureau's check-up, the man's death was confirmed. The man had sustained injuries on his body. The PJ believes that the wounds were caused by a boat's running propellers while the corpse was floating on the water.

AD

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Mozambique, Fujian, Macao Trade and Investment Forum

Organisers: Agency for Promotion of Investment and Exports of Mozambique (APIEX)
Department of Commerce of Fujian Province
Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM)

18 Oct, 2018 (15:00-17:30)
Sicily Room, The Venetian Macao

Mozambique and Fujian are respectively the Partner Country and Partner Province of the 23rd MIF. With a number of protocols signing, this Forum has invited political and business leaders from Mozambique, Fujian and Macao:

- To introduce respective economic and trade environments, investment policies, competitive advantages of the three regions
- To share practical tips on cooperation opportunities
- To leverage Macao's role as a platform between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries for business success

Simultaneous interpretation services in Putonghua, Cantonese, Portuguese and English are available at the Forum. Overseas and local business people are welcome to attend the Forum (free entry). Seats are limited, register now!

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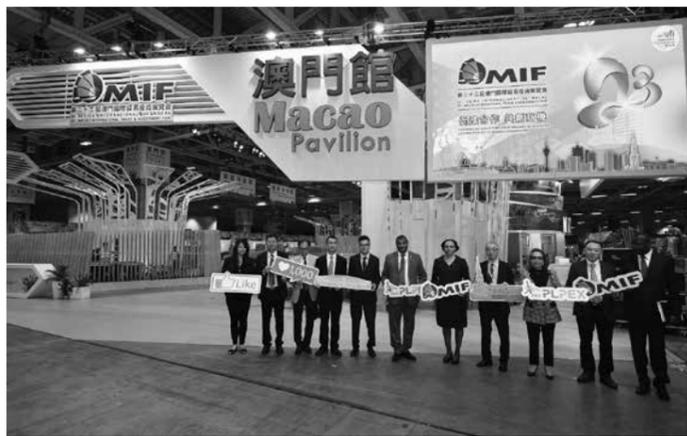
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MIF, PLPEX to feature 30 themed events

Lynzy Valles

THE 23rd Macao International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF) kicks off tomorrow along with the 2018 Portuguese-speaking Countries Products and Services Exhibition (PLPEX).

The three-day event is themed "Co-operation – Key to Business Opportunities," featuring a total of some 1,500 booths, with nearly 1,000 participating companies and institutions.

More than 30 themed events, including forums and conferences, have been arranged for this year's MIF.

The event is organized by the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) and is co-organized by 15 economic and commercial departments as well as business associations from Macau, Mainland China, and Hong Kong.

This year's exhibition establishes for the first time a number of special-theme exhibition areas, including the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Business Zone, the Guizhou Congjiang County Exhibition Area, the Smart Zone, the Youth Entrepreneurship Exhibition Area,

and the Featured Finance Pavilion.

During the same period, a number of summits, forums and roundtables covering economics, trade, exhibition and investment will also be held.

This year, MIF has invited Mozambique and Fujian Province as its partner country and partner province, respectively, thus setting up the "Mozambique Pavilion" and the "Fujian Pavilion."

The Mozambican government will bring a delegation of nearly 90 people to Macau, with some 14 Mozambican companies participating in the exhibition.

During yesterday's conference, Ragendra Berta de Sousa, Minister of Industry and Commerce of Mozambique, called for investment from the local market, noting that they are here to "expand its horizons."

"We also look to promote trade with China through MIF so industrialization will speed up," he said. "We need investments to commercialize our products," he added.

On the first day of the event, the "Mozambique-Fujian-Macao Trade and Investment Forum" will be staged, where the representatives from the three regions' economic and trade

departments and enterprises gather in a bid to expand co-operation and business opportunities.

Announcing this year's budget, Sam Lei, executive director of IPIM said, "the budget of MIF is about MOP30 million, while PLPEX's is MOP8 million. We have more demand for booths in PLPEX. Last year, there were 220 booths but this year there will be 250 booths," said Lei.

The 2018 PLPEX will roll out the "Brazil Unmanned Shop Experience Zone," showcasing assorted Brazilian products with an innovative retailing approach.

The zone will combine a series of publicity and promotional activities to seek Sino-Brazilian economic trade and co-operation and cultural exchanges.

At the same time, the first "China-PSC [Portuguese-speaking Countries] E-commerce Experience Pavilion" and the "Portuguese-speaking Countries Cross-border E-Commerce Workshop" will be held to present the "cross-border e-commerce + new retail model", with a view to helping merchants from lusophone countries to enter the Mainland market through online

platforms.

During the PLPEX, local and international merchants will visit the Macao Young Entrepreneur Incubation Centre and the Macao Brand Incubation Center and participate in community tours.

In addition, after the exhibition, the organizer will arrange entrepreneurs from Portuguese-speaking countries and Macau to visit the cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, including Shenzhen and Zhongshan.

The tours will also include visits to local business associations and enterprises, as well as key local projects, giving companies from Portuguese-speaking countries a deeper understanding of the policies and development opportunities of the Greater Bay Area.

In addition to traditional credit card payment methods, new electronic payment services such as Macao Pass, M+Pay, and Alipay have been introduced to the SMEs Exhibition Area this year.

Meanwhile, the "8th Asian Trade Promotion Forum (ATPF) Exhibition" will be held concurrently at this year's MIF.

During this period, networking activities will be arranged for representatives of the ATPF and from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and local chambers of commerce, in an effort to create an effective exchange and matching platform.

CRIME

Manager and hotel staff accused of procuring prostitution

A male hotel manager and a female staff member, both local residents, have been accused of procuring prostitution due to a complaint from a young Kazakhstani woman, the Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson reported this week.

The case dates back to September 6, when the 22-year-old victim filed a complaint against the manager with the PJ, saying that he was forcing her to provide prostitution services at the hotel.

The woman had been working in Macau for over six months, and was said to have been hired as a dancer at a club operating in the hotel. After she started working, the hotel manager forced her to accept prostitution jobs from which she would make her salary.

The meetings would be organized by the manager in one of the hotel rooms specifically for that purpose and she would receive MOP1,500 for each client.

After the police detained the manager for investigation, it was revealed a 34-year-old woman and local resident working at the same venue had helped attract clients at least once, conducting them to the room while she called the victim to meet them.

The PJ said that it has enough evidence from surveillance footage of the tasks done by the woman and hence she was also charged with prostitution procurement.

When questioned by the PJ on why she took so long (approximately six months) to file the complaint, the victim said that she was compelled to complain after a dispute with the manager. **RM**

corporate bits

SANDS CHINA AND MGTO LAUNCH CELEBRITY MENTOR PROGRAMME FOR RETAIL PROFESSIONALS



Sands China Ltd. and the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) launched the Celebrity Mentor Programme last week for the retail employees at Sands Shoppes, the company's four interconnected malls with more than 850 retailers.

Co-organized by MGTO and Sands China, the new training program invites celebrity mentors to conduct customer service workshops for retail professionals. The workshop series gives retail employees a chance to learn from experts in their respective fields, better

equipping them to provide the best shopping experience for visitors to Sands China's properties, which attracted 92 million visits in 2017.

Beginning in 2013, the Celebrity Mentor Programme offers complimentary customer service training to the retail professionals at Sands Shoppes, which is made up of Shoppes at Four Seasons, Shoppes at Venetian, Shoppes at Cotai Central and Shoppes at Parisian.

"The Sands Retail Academy and MGTO share a common objective of su-

porting the development of Macao's retail professionals, and we have co-operated to create this Celebrity Mentor workshop series in a joint effort to help achieve that objective," said Grant Chum, chief of staff for Sands China Ltd. "The retail sector is key to the success of Macao's tourism industry, and retail employees play an important role in providing quality service to visitors as Macao continues its development as a world center of tourism and leisure."

Four workshops have been planned for Celebrity

Mentor, with topics that include brand development, communication skills, sales techniques and consumer behavior. The first workshop in the series was conducted by Hong Kong actress and UK-accredited trainer Astrid Chan on Thursday at The Venetian Macao's Adelson Advanced Education Centre, following the program's opening ceremony. Chan has been actively involved in corporate and impression management training since 2013 and conducted her session on the topic of personal branding.

HSBC, Credit Suisse CEOs follow Dimon and ditch Saudi conference

Donal Griffin,
Jan-Henrik Förster

THE chief executive officers of HSBC Holdings Plc and Credit Suisse Group AG became the latest top bankers to abandon an investment conference in Saudi Arabia as pressure grows on the kingdom amid allegations it killed a dissident journalist.

HSBC CEO John Flint will not be attending the Future Investment Initiative event in Riyadh next week, spokeswoman Heidi Ashley said, and nor will Credit Suisse's Tidjane Thiam, according to a person familiar with the matter. Both banks, among the biggest in Europe, are strategic partners of the conference and have close ties to Saudi Arabia. Standard Chartered Plc chief Bill Winters has also pulled out, a spokesman wrote in an email.

The withdrawals deal a severe blow to Saudi Arabia's efforts to draw international financiers after JPMorgan Chase & Co. CEO Jamie Dimon pulled out along with Blackstone Group LP's Steve Schwarzman and BlackRock Inc.'s Laurence Fink. The fiasco around the conferen-



John Flint (left) and Tidjane Thiam

ce shows how the kingdom is coming under mounting pressure to explain what happened to journalist Jamal Khashoggi, a government critic who disappeared two weeks ago.

Relations with Saudi Arabia are of key importance for London-based HSBC, which gets most of its revenue from Asia. The bank is one of the most active international banks in the kingdom and has been a top adviser for initial public offerings since 2010, according to data com-

plied by Bloomberg.

Earlier this year, Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman asked Flint and other British bank chiefs for an impromptu meeting in London, people with knowledge of the matter said. Flint canceled his appearance at another event so he could attend, the people said at that time.

Credit Suisse, based in Zurich, has also been trying to expand its business in Saudi Arabia by seeking a license to open branches and hiring

more relationship managers for wealthy clients. The kingdom's Olayan family are also one of the largest shareholders in the bank.

Khashoggi's disappearance is the latest in a series of developments that have undercut Prince Mohammed's self-styled image as a modernizer, including his jailing of hundreds of businessmen, royals and activists over the past year in an alleged crackdown on corruption and national security threats. **Bloomberg**

Tesla boosts Hong Kong chargers to help stem slide in sales

TESLA Inc. is beefing up its vehicle charging infrastructure in Hong Kong to help lure back customers after an end to the city's tax breaks caused sales to plunge.

The two-level, 50-stall Destination Charging facility in Kowloon Bay can provide full charge to a car battery in a few hours, according to a company spokeswoman in Hong Kong. It takes as long as 10 hours at Tesla's Destination Charging sites to top up juice in the cells, whereas it takes about 90 minutes at Supercharger stations, with the time depending on battery conditions.

Destination charging facilities are ideal for



people working, living or shopping in the area, according to the spokeswoman. Superchargers, an option while on the road, can charge 50 percent of the battery in around 20 minutes, she added.

The Palo Alto, California-based carmaker believes charging stations are key to boosting sales of electric vehicles, and the backbone has been a crucial reason for its gains in mainland China, where it hasn't

received any subsidies. Since Hong Kong's administration scrapped tax incentives for private-use EVs in April 2017, Tesla has managed to sell just 40 cars through February, compared with 2,939 sold in March last year, according to the South China Morning Post.

"As part of Tesla's commitment to Hong Kong, we continue to expand charging footprint all over Hong Kong, Kowloon and New Territories," the carmaker said in an email Monday, adding the recently opened facility would be the biggest destination charging location in Asia Pacific. Tesla already has 92 superchargers at 21 supercharger fa-

cilities in Hong Kong.

After struggling to fix manufacturing problems at its sole auto factory in Fremont, California, Tesla has started the process of building a plant in China, the world's biggest market for electric vehicles. The unprofitable carmaker is in the process of procuring land in Shanghai for its first manufacturing facility outside the U.S., pushing ahead with its plans after months of tumult involving Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk.

In mainland China, Tesla now has more than 1,300 superchargers and 2,000 destination charging posts in more than 170 cities. **Bloomberg**

Audi fined USD925 million in Germany over diesel emissions



GERMAN law enforcement authorities gadded another chapter to Volkswagen's diesel scandal yesterday by fining the company's luxury division Audi 800 million euros (USD925 million) for selling cars rigged to cheat on emissions tests.

Prosecutors in Munich said yesterday that the fine was imposed because Audi management neglected its oversight duties in selling cars with engines made by it and group partner Volkswagen that did not conform to legal limits on harmful emissions of nitrogen oxides. The case covered some 4.9 million Audi cars sold in Europe, the U.S. and elsewhere between 2004 and 2018.

In September 2015, parent company Volkswagen admitted rigging some 11 million diesel vehicles worldwide with software that enabled them to pass U.S. emissions tests even though emissions in real driving were much higher.

Nitrogen oxides can make existing lung disease worse, contribute to the development of asthma and increase susceptibility to respiratory infections, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The European Environmental Agency estimated that nitrogen oxides were responsible for around 68,000 premature deaths in the European Union in 2013.

The prosecutors' statement said the resolution of the case did not affect a related investigation of individuals. Former Audi CEO Rupert Stadler remains in jail while prosecutors investigate individual involvement in the diesel scandal. Volkswagen has paid more than \$30 billion in fines, settlements and recall costs since the scandal broke. Former CEO Martin Winterkorn and other executives face criminal charges in the United States, though they cannot legally be extradited. Two Volkswagen executives were sent to prison in the U.S.

Prosecutors said the failure of proper corporate oversight by Audi AG enabled deliberate wrongdoing by individuals. It said 5 million euros of the fine was imposed for the oversight failure and 795 million represented Audi's forfeiture of economic gains from the violation, including profits from selling the cars, competitive advantages, and savings on the costs of producing vehicles that actually would have conformed to legal requirements.

Audi said it would not contest the fine. It said the amount would mean that the division would "significantly undercut" its financial targets for the current year. "Audi accepts the fine and, by doing so, admits its responsibility," the company said in a statement.

A similar 1 billion-euro fine was imposed on Volkswagen by prosecutors in Braunschweig in June. **AP**

European Union finances East Timor municipal roads



Dili, East Timor

THE European Union (EU) has provided USD22.62 million for the maintenance and recovery of 44 kilometers of the Ermera and Liquica municipalities in East Timor, EU officials said. The funding is part of financial support to rehabilitate municipal roads included in a program also

supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the government of East Timor. Support will be channeled to the Ermera-Fatubessi road, which is 11.8 kilometers long and the Aipelu-Bazartete road (13.5 km). The program for the recovery of the municipal roads was launched by the

Minister of Public Works of Timor-Leste, Salvador Eugénio Soares dos Reis Pires, Director of the ABD for Timor-Leste, Paolo Spantigatie and the EU ambassador, Alexandre Leitão. Road recovery works are the responsibility of Chinese company, Shanghai Construction Group Co., Ltd and are expected to

be completed by the end of 2019. The recovery of the roads will allow access to production markets and suppliers of coffee, strawberries and flowers. The East Timor road network has 1,426 national roads, 869 municipal roads and 3,000 rural roads. About 70 percent of the country's roads are in poor condition. **MDT/Macauhub**

Japan's Tohoku Electric buys natural gas from Mozambique

JAPANESE company Tohoku Electric announced that it has reached an agreement for the purchase and sale of up to 280,000 tonnes of liquefied natural gas (LNG) per year, explored by an Anadarko-led consortium in the Rovuma basin in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, Mozambique. The contract provides for the purchase and sale of LNG extracted by Anadarko in Area 1 for 15 years. Gas exploration operations are expected to start in the area in 2020. Tohoku Electric, which is based in Sendai, believes that the supply of LNG will help diversify its energy sources. Anadarko and its partners, including Mozambican state oil company Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH), discovered more than 75 Tcf (trillion cubic feet) of natural gas

at the Prosperidade and Golfinho/Atum fields in Area 1. The Area 1 block is operated by Anadarko Mozambique Area 1, Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Anadarko Petroleum group, with a 26.5% stake, ENH Rovuma Area One, a subsidiary of state-owned Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH), with 15%, Mitsui E&P Mozambique Area1 Ltd. (20%), ONGC Videsh Ltd. (10%), Beas Rovuma Energy Mozambique Limited (10%), BPRL Ventures Mozambique B.V. (10%), and PTTEP Mozambique Area 1 Limited (8.5%). The gas extracted from these areas will be sent to an LNG terminal on the Afungi peninsula, in the province of Cabo Delgado. This is Tohoku's first long-term agreement, as well as its first agreement in Africa. **MDT/Macauhub**

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BLOOMBERG



Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen has found a more receptive audience in the U.S. during the recent disputes

TRADE WAR

Trump's battles give Taiwan supporters new influence

Nick Wadhams

ESCALATING tensions between the U.S. and China over trade, the South China Sea and recent arms sales are pushing Taiwan back into the American foreign policy spotlight, attracting Beijing's ire.

After a precedent-shattering phone call with Trump when he was president-elect, Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen has found a more receptive audience in the U.S. during the recent disputes. She's been aided in that by the presence of long-standing allies in the White House, the State Department and the Pentagon, including National Security Adviser John Bolton.

"The Republic of China has more high-level friends in this administration than it's had for many, many years," said Nicholas Eberstadt, who focuses on Asian security issues at the American Enterprise Institute, referring to Taiwan by its official name. "It's also apparent that the administration has an approach that is going to contest

China on many different fronts."

While it's not clear how far the Trump administration is willing to boost Taiwan, it is seen as an increasingly valuable point of leverage over Beijing, which considers the island's fate a "core interest" - more important than nearly any other issue. A faction in Bolton's National Security Council is seeking a more aggressive posture, including by sending more warships through the Taiwan Strait, while Trump and Vice President Mike Pence have advocated proceeding with caution, according to one current and one former administration official.

An NSC spokesperson said the president didn't need to give further authorization for the U.S. Navy to sail or operate wherever international law allows.

Decades have passed since the fate of Taiwan was considered so important that it featured in the 1960 U.S. presidential debate. The U.S. broke diplomatic ties with Taiwan and officially recognized the Communist government in Beijing in 1979. But

the brewing confrontations over trade and security have created a new opportunity for the island to push back against China's bid to steadily erode its influence overseas.

Taiwan's importance to Beijing was why Trump set off a shock wave in China when, as president-elect, he took a call from Tsai. The move raised questions about America's continuing commitment to the "one-China" policy, which underpinned the restoration of ties between the two powers.

The move prompted then-President Barack Obama to offer a rare rebuke of the president-elect. "If you're going to upend this understanding, you have to have thought through what the consequences are," Obama said at the time.

ARMS SALES

While Trump has since affirmed U.S. support for "one China," his administration has followed its predecessors and gone ahead with weapons sales to Taiwan and made clear that

the island's fate will feature in a broader realignment toward greater confrontation with leaders in Beijing.

In an Oct. 4 speech, Vice President Mike Pence assailed China for a series of moves chipping away at Taiwan's diplomatic presence overseas and its ramping up of pressure on private companies to refer to Taiwan as a province of China rather than what he called a "distinct geographic entity."

"America will always believe Taiwan's embrace of democracy shows a better path for all the Chinese people," Pence said.

The speech followed sharp condemnation from the U.S. after China persuaded three Latin American and Caribbean countries to switch their allegiances and declare diplomatic ties with China, rather than Taiwan.

CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE

Adding to the pressure from the U.S., Congress passed the Taiwan Travel Act in February over Chinese objections, arguing

that American policy should be to encourage more Cabinet-level officials to visit. And prior to Trump's inauguration, Bolton had advocated sending U.S. troops to the island.

China has tolerated Taiwan's autonomy - and U.S. arms sales to the island - so long as both sides respect there the "one-China" policy. Tsai has refused to accept that framework. She echoed Pence's remarks with her own speech on Taiwan's national day last week, describing China as a threat to the international order.

"Our democratic transition lightens our dark past and provides a ray of light in the dark night for all those seeking democracy," Tsai said.

That debate - and the U.S. moves - haven't gone unnoticed in Beijing, where officials have assailed the U.S. in increasingly sharp terms over Taiwan, a tone that coincides with President Xi Jinping's own greater assertiveness toward Taiwan since Tsai, who leans more in favor of independence than her predecessor, Ma Ying-jeou.

CHINA'S REBUKE

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi delivered an unusually sharp rebuke during Secretary of State Michael Pompeo visit to Beijing on Oct. 8. Wang urged the U.S. to stop had "incorrect actions which harm China's core interests." While he didn't specify what he meant, there were many potential culprits: Pence's speech, the announcements of USD1.4 billion in arms sales in 2017 and another \$330 million proposed in September.

"The U.S. side recently took a string of wrong actions on the Taiwan issue," Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang told a regular briefing Monday in Beijing. "Such acts have severely violated the one-China principle."

As the debate roils, analysts caution that the U.S. is still a long way off from 1960, when Richard Nixon and John Kennedy traded barbs over the tiny islands of Matsu and Quemoy - now Kinmen - and whether the U.S. would be prepared to use nuclear weapons in the event of a Chinese invasion.

Taiwan is no longer seen as a bulwark of resistance against a Communist threat, and the economic relationship between China and the U.S., the world's two biggest economies, is too important to risk war, several analysts said.

"Although Washington's rhetoric is loud and its provocative movements are frequent, as a researcher who followed the issue for years, I don't worry that much about a fundamental change in status quo," said Zhu Feng, dean of the Institute of International Relations of Nanjing University. "If the Trump administration abandons the One-China policy and fully support Tsai Ing-wen militarily, that will be doomsday for U.S.-China relations." **Bloomberg**

UIGHURS

Senior official says internment camps are 'free vocational training'

Yanan Wang, Beijing

CHINA is saving Muslim ethnic minorities from the lure of religious extremism by teaching them to speak Mandarin and accept modern science, a senior Chinese official said in a report yesterday, Beijing's latest propaganda effort to defend its internment of Muslims against mounting criticism.

The ruling Communist Party's resistance to Western pressure over the camps highlights China's growing confidence under President Xi Jinping, the country's most powerful leader in decades, who has offered Beijing's system of authoritarianism and economic growth as a model for other countries.

The report published by the official Xinhua News Agency indicated that key to the party's vision in the far west Xinjiang region is the assimilation of the indigenous Central Asian ethnic groups into Chinese language, culture and history — and in turn, a “modern” way of life.

Despite growing alarm from the U.S. and the United Nations — which estimates that around 1 million Uighurs, Kazakhs and other minorities have been arbitrarily detained — China has maintained that Xinjiang's vast dragnet of police surveillance is necessary for countering latent extremism and preserving stability.

Meanwhile, the Turkic-speaking Uighurs have long resented restrictions placed on



Shohrat Zakir, chairman of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, speaks on the sidelines of the National People's Congress in Beijing last year

their religious practices. They say they meet widespread discrimination in jobs and access to passports.

In the Xinhua report, Xinjiang Gov. Shohrat Zakir described the extrajudicial internment of Muslims as a network of “free vocational training” centers where people are taught employable skills that will help them find work in the manufacturing, food and service industries. Zakir said they are paid a “basic income” during the training, in which free food and accommodations are provided.

The report was a rare move by the ruling Communist Party to publicly outline what it is trying

to achieve with what former detainees have characterized as political indoctrination camps where they are forced to denounce Islam and profess loyalty to the party.

Ethnic Uighurs and Kazakhs have told The Associated Press that ostensibly innocuous acts such as praying regularly, viewing a foreign website or taking phone calls from relatives abroad could land one in a camp. Zakir said the vocational training centers were for those “suspected of minor criminal offenses” who can be “exempted from criminal punishment.” He suggested the measures were within the legal framework of Chi-

na's anti-terrorism laws.

Maya Wang, senior China researcher at Human Rights Watch, said the system deprived detainees of basic protections in the criminal justice system, such as access to lawyers.

The authorities' attempts to justify the camps “illustrate what the ‘rule of law’ in China means — that the Party bends it to its will and uses it as a weapon against perceived political enemies,” Wang said in an email.

Zakir appeared to try to counter reports of poor living conditions within the camps, saying that “trainees” were immersed in athletic and cultural activities. The centers' cafeterias pro-

vide “nutritious, free diets,” and dormitories are fully equipped with TVs, air conditioning and showers, he said.

Omir Bekali, a Xinjiang-born Kazakh citizen, said he was kept in a cell with 40 people inside a heavily guarded facility. Before meals, they were told to chant “Thank the Party! Thank the Motherland!” During daily mandatory classes, they were told that their people were backward before being “liberated” by the party in the 1950s.

According to Bekali, he was kept in a locked room with eight other internees. They shared beds and a wretched toilet. Cameras were installed in the toilets, and baths were rare.

Internees who refused to criticize their peers or parrot official lines were punished, Bekali said, while those who enthusiastically followed orders were rewarded with better living conditions.

The trainees were previously mired in poverty and therefore susceptible to the influence of terrorists, according to Zakir.

He said the training gave them a grasp of the country's “common language” (Mandarin Chinese) as well as its history and laws, putting them on the path toward a “modern life” and making them “confident about the future.”

The idea that one's beliefs can be transformed through indoctrination dates back to the Mao era, when self-criticisms and public humiliation were routinely employed to stir up ideological fervor. **AP**

CINEMA

'Crazy Rich Asians' wins China debut months after US open

THE Warner Bros. surprise hit “Crazy Rich Asians” will debut in China next month, ending speculation that the country's film regulators may block the hit romantic comedy after the country's official media criticized its portrayal of wealth.

The movie will debut in China Nov. 30, Warner Bros. said by email yesterday [Macau time]. The first major Hollywood film with a predominantly Asian cast since “The Joy Luck Club” in 1993, “Crazy Rich Asians” has collected about USD230 million worldwide, according to

movie data website Box Office Mojo.

Based on a best-selling novel about Singapore's wealthy elite, the film topped the North American box-office for weeks over the summer and has been celebrated for opening the door to more diverse casting in Hollywood. While applauding its promotion of Asian ethnicity and culture, China's official Xinhua News Agency said the film's characters presented a new stereotype and “overlooked the survival pressure facing Asian Americans.”

The “Crazy Rich Asians” release window also comes after China's tax authorities announced almost \$130 million in tax penalties and arrears for Fan Bangbing, one of the country's biggest film and TV stars, and affiliated companies. The penalties were part of a crackdown on celebrity tax evasion and came along with new rules limiting pay for stars — reminders that the Communist Party hasn't loosened its grip on the booming film and television industry.

China Daily, the state-run English-language

newspaper, compared “Crazy Rich Asians” with “Hello, Mr. Billionaire,” a domestic satire that became a summer hit. While the latter is “edgier, more incisive,” the Warner Bros. film “makes the mistake of being too gob-smacked by luxury and too reverential to the super-rich for too much of the film's duration.”

It's not uncommon for foreign films to debut in China months after their initial releases. The government applies an informal ban on imported titles in periods such as the summer peak season and most



public holidays. The date for “Crazy Rich Asians” was approved among a batch of other Hollywood films that secured release windows, including Walt Disney Co.'s “The Nutcr-

cker and the Four Realms” and Warner Bros.' “Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald,” according to Chinese movie news site Mtime and The Hollywood Reporter. **Bloomberg**

AUSTRALIA

Canberra considers moving embassy to Jerusalem

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

AUSTRALIA has raised the prospect of following the United States by relocating its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem in a policy shift that critics described yesterday as a desperate grab for domestic political gain to win a crucial by-election.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the idea was suggested to him by a former ambassador to Israel, Dave Sharma, who is a candidate for the ruling conservative Liberal Party in a by-election Saturday in a Sydney electorate with a large Jewish population.

At stake is the government's single-seat majority in the House of Representatives and Morrison's ability to retain power without doing deals with independent lawmakers.

Any political gain could come at the cost of strained ties with Muslim-majority countries including neighboring Indonesia, whose foreign minister expressed strong concern.

In May, the Trump administration turned its back on decades of U.S. policy by recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital and moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv. The decision angered the Muslim world and was a setback for Palestinian aspirations for statehood. Palestinians see East Jerusalem as their future capital under the two-state framework for ending the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

Morrison said Australia remained committed to finding a two-state solution.

"When sensible suggestions are put forward that are con-



PM Scott Morrison (left) speaks to the media alongside Minister for Foreign Affairs Marise Payne during a press conference at the Parliament House in Canberra

sistent with your policy positioning and in this case pursuing a two-state solution, Australia should be open-minded to this and I am open-minded to this and our government is open-minded to this," Morrison told reporters.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he had recently spoken to Morrison and welcomed the Australian policy shift.

Morrison "informed me that he is considering officially recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel & moving the Australian embassy to Jerusalem. I'm very thankful to him for this," Netanyahu tweeted. "We will continue to strengthen ties."

In Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad al-Maliki, who was attending solidarity events in

the country, said Morrison's statement was "very sad news" that would violate U.N. Security Council resolutions.

"Australia, by doing so, is risking trade and business relations with the rest of the world, particularly the Arab world and Muslim countries," he said at a joint news conference with Indonesia's foreign minister. "I hope Australia would reconsider that position before taking action."

Australian Broadcasting Corp. reported that an unnamed Indonesian official had said Jakarta had been taken by surprise by the announcement, which could harm trade negotiations between the two countries.

When Morrison became prime minister in August, he made his first overseas trip to Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim-ma-

majority nation and an ardent supporter of the Palestinian cause.

Morrison and Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo plan to sign an agreement this year aimed at boosting trade and investment.

Morrison told Parliament that he had briefed Jokowi overnight about the announcement.

"I've been pleased to be able to explain very clearly the nature of the announcements that I've made today and I've been very pleased with the response that I've received from President Joko Widodo," Morrison said.

But statements from Indonesian officials made it clear Widodo and his government were disappointed by the Australian stance.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi said the government questions the merits of

Morrison's announcement and has conveyed its "strong concern."

"Indonesia has asked Australia and other countries to continue to support the Palestinian-Israeli peace process in accordance with the principles agreed upon and not take steps that could threaten the peace process itself, and threaten the stability of world peace," she said.

Bey Machmudin, an official at the presidential palace, said Jokowi was not making his own statement on the issue as his foreign minister had clearly expressed the government's view.

Morrison also announced that Australia would vote against a United Nations resolution this week to recognize the Palestinian Authority as the chair of the Group of 77 developing countries and would review the 3-year-old Iran nuclear deal.

The opposition center-left Labor Party said the announcement was a desperate attempt to win the by-election in the Wentworth electorate.

"The people of Wentworth, and all Australians, deserve a leader who puts the national interest ahead of his self-interest, and governs in the best long-term interest of the nation," Labor lawmaker Penny Wong said.

Labor reminded the government that Frances Adamson, the head of Australia's foreign department, said in June that the U.S. move had "not been helpful" for the Middle East peace process.

George Browning, president of the Australia Palestine Advocacy Network, accused the government of "aligning itself with the most erratic, reactionary and bullish U.S. foreign policy ever."

"This is an irresponsible policy that compromises the future of millions of people in the Middle East for a handful of votes in Wentworth," Browning said in a statement.

Morrison denied that the United States or the by-election had influenced his announcement. **AP**

INDIA

Court gives life sentence to guru Rampal, 14 followers

A court in northern India sentenced a Hindu guru and 14 followers to life imprisonment yesterday in the deaths of four women and a child at his sprawling ashram.

The court ordered the penalty for Sant Rampal in Hisar city in Haryana state, where authorities deployed hundreds of riot police in anticipation of violence by the guru's thousands of disciples in response to his sentencing.

Rampal, 67, was arrested in 2014 following a

days-long standoff between law enforcers and his supporters in which six people died and hundreds were injured. At the time, Rampal was wanted for questioning in a 2006 murder case and had repeatedly ignored orders to appear in court.

Rampal and the 14 followers were accused by police of holding the four women and child captive inside the ashram, resulting in their deaths from a lack of food and medicine as

the fierce standoff continued.

The court is expected to announce sentences in the death of a fifth woman today.

Hindu gurus and holy men are immensely popular in India, with millions of followers. People often consult gurus before making important personal decisions. But the enormous power wielded by some has led to scandals in which they have been accused of exploiting devotees. **AP**



Controversial religious leader Sant Rampal seen in November 2014

NEW ZEALAND

Lawmaker accuses opposition leader of corruption

Nick Perry, Wellington

NEW Zealand's conservative opposition party was in turmoil yesterday after one of its own lawmakers accused leader Simon Bridges of corruption for hiding a donation from a wealthy Chinese businessman.

Jami-Lee Ross made the allegation and then said he was resigning from Parliament. Ross said he regretted his own complicity in a scheme to split the party donation into a series of smaller amounts to avoid it being publicly disclosed.

Ross said he planned to provide evidence to police and to release a phone conversation with Bridges that he'd secretly taped.

"I believe Simon Bridges is a corrupt politician," Ross said.

Soon after, Bridges said the National Party caucus had unanimously voted to expel Ross.

"We are talking about a guy who's lying, who's leaking, who's lashing out," Bridges said.



New Zealand opposition leader Simon Bridges speaking to reporters in Wellington yesterday

Bridges said the accusations were baseless, that he'd done nothing wrong, and that he welcomed a police investigation.

But Bridges did not answer specific questions about the alleged scheme to hide the 100,000 New Zealand dollar (USD66,000) donation from Zhang Yikun, saying it was now a matter for the police.

The allegations follow a series of destabilizing events within

the party that began in August, when somebody leaked a report of Bridges' expenses to a television station.

An investigation into the leak was launched, with Ross denying he was the leaker.

Ross then announced in early October that he was taking leave for unspecified health reasons, which Bridges characterized as "embarrassing." Bridges later said he regretted using the term.

Zhang, the Chinese businessman whose donation came into question was awarded an 'Order of Merit' from New Zealand

Bridges announced Monday that the investigation pointed to Ross being the leaker and that the caucus would decide his fate yesterday.

But Ross, who said he drove nine hours from his home in Auckland to the Parliament in Wellington, pre-empted that announcement with one of his own.

He said he'd suffered a mental breakdown but was healthy now. He said it came after Bridges told him that four women had complained that Ross had harassed them and that he should resign from his portfolios.

Ross said he didn't harass anybody.

"No one should have their boss tell the nation that their mental health and their medical needs are embarrassing," he added.

Ross's resignation will mean a fresh election will be held in his district. Ross has said he will contest that election as an independent candidate.

Zhang, the Chinese businessman whose donation came into question was awarded an "Order of Merit" from the New Zealand government in June for "services to New Zealand-China relations and the Chinese community."

An autobiographical account he wrote on an overseas Chinese website says his grandfather was a Thai businessman who returned to China. He was born into a farmer's family and spent time in the army before migrating to New Zealand.

Zhang started out running restaurants but company registries show he later branched out into residential property and construction. **AP**



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SAUDI ARABIA

Mike Pompeo meets King Salman over Khashoggi's disappearance

Fay Abuelgasim, Suzan Fraser & Jon Gambrell, Istanbul

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met yesterday with Saudi Arabia's King Salman over the disappearance and alleged slaying of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi, who vanished two weeks ago during a visit to the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul.

Pompeo's arrival came hours after a Turkish forensics team finished a search inside the consulate. Police planned a second search, this one of the Saudi consul's home in Istanbul, a Turkish Foreign Ministry official said.

Turkish officials say they fear Khashoggi was killed and dismembered inside the Istanbul consulate. Saudi officials previously have called the allegations "baseless," but reports in U.S. media yesterday suggested the kingdom may acknowledge the writer was killed there.

Pompeo landed in Riyadh yesterday and was welcomed by Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir on landing. He didn't make any remarks to the media.

Soon after, Pompeo arrived at a royal palace, where King Salman greeted him. America's top diplomat thanked the king "for accepting my visit on behalf of President [Donald] Trump" before going into a closed-door meeting.

Trump had dispatched Pompeo to speak to the monarch of the world's top oil exporter over Khashoggi's disappearance. Trump, after speaking earlier yesterday [Macau time] with King Salman, said without offering evidence that the slaying could have been carried out by "rogue killers." That potentially offers the U.S.-allied kingdom a possible path out of a global diplomatic firestorm.

"The king firmly denied any knowledge of it," Trump told reporters. "It sounded to me like maybe these could have been rogue killers. I mean, who knows? We're going to try getting to the bottom of it very soon, but his was a flat denial."

However, left unsaid was the fact that any decision in the ultraconservative kingdom rests solely with the ruling Al Saud family. Pompeo also was to meet with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, whom Khashoggi wrote critically about for The Washington Post and whose rise to power prompted the writer to go into a self-imposed exile in the United States.

"The effort behind the scenes is focused on avoiding a diplomatic crisis between the two countries and has succeeded in finding a pathway to deescalate



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (center) is greeted by Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir after arriving in Riyadh yesterday

tensions," said Ayham Kamel, the head of the Eurasia Group's Mideast and North African practice. "Riyadh will have to provide some explanation of the journalist's disappearance, but in a manner that distances the leadership from any claim that a decision was made at senior levels to assassinate the prominent journalist."

CNN reported that the Saudis were going to admit the killing happened but deny the king or crown prince had ordered it — which does not match what analysts and experts know about the kingdom's inner workings.

The New York Times reported that the Saudi royal court would suggest that an official within the kingdom's intelligence services — a friend of Prince Mohammed — had carried out the killing. According to that reported claim, the crown prince had approved an interrogation or rendition of Khashoggi back to Saudi Arabia, but the intelligence official was tragically in-

competent as he eagerly sought to prove himself. Both reports cited anonymous people said to be familiar with the Saudi plans.

Saudi officials have not answered repeated requests for comment over recent days from The Associated Press.

Saudi officials have been in and out of the building since Khashoggi's disappearance Oct. 2 without being stopped. Under the Vienna Convention, diplomatic posts are technically foreign soil that must be protected and respected by host countries.

Turkey has wanted to search the consulate for days. Permission apparently came after a late Sunday night call between King Salman and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. In statements after the call, both praised the creation of a joint Saudi-Turkish probe.

The Turkish inspection team included a prosecutor, a deputy prosecutor, anti-terror police and forensic experts, the state-run Anadolu news agency re-

ported. Certain areas of the consulate were to remain off-limits, although officials would be able to inspect surveillance cameras, Turkish media reported.

What evidence Turkish officials gathered at the consulate remains unknown, though Erdogan told journalists that police sought traces of "toxic materials," without elaborating. Turkey's private DHA news agency said the Saudi consul's office was among the rooms searched.

Yesterday, a Turkish Foreign Ministry official acknowledged police want to search the Saudi consul's home as well. Surveillance footage previously leaked in Turkish media shows vehicles moving between the consulate and the consul's home immediately after Khashoggi's disappearance.

The Foreign Ministry official spoke on condition of anonymity in line with government regulations.

Khashoggi has written exten-

sively for the Post about Saudi Arabia, criticizing its war in Yemen, its recent diplomatic spat with Canada and its arrest of women's rights activists after the lifting of a driving ban for women. Those policies are all seen as initiatives of Prince Mohammed, the son of King Salman, who is next in line to the throne.

Prince Mohammed has aggressively pitched the kingdom as a destination for foreign investment. But Khashoggi's disappearance has led several business leaders and media outlets to back out of the upcoming investment conference in Riyadh, called the Future Investment Initiative.

Pompeo's arrival came hours after a Turkish forensics team finished a search inside the consulate

They include the CEO of Uber, a company in which Saudi Arabia has invested billions of dollars; billionaire Richard Branson; JPMorgan Chase & Co. Chief Executive Jamie Dimon; and Ford Motor Co. Executive Chairman Bill Ford.

Trump previously warned of "severe punishment" for the kingdom if it was found to be involved in Khashoggi's disappearance, which has spooked investors in Saudi Arabia and SoftBank, a Japanese firm that manages tens of billions of dollars for the kingdom.

Trump's warning drew an angry response Sunday from Saudi Arabia and its state-linked media, including a suggestion that Riyadh could wield its oil production as a weapon. The U.S. president has been after King Salman and OPEC to boost production for weeks to drive down high crude oil prices, caused in part by the coming re-imposition of oil sanctions on Iran after the U.S. withdrawal from that country's nuclear deal with world powers. AP

UN urges lifting of diplomatic immunity in probe

THE U.N. human rights office is calling for the immediate and "absolute" lifting of diplomatic immunity enjoyed by any officials or premises in the investigation into the disappearance and suspected slaying of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi.

U.N. rights chief Michelle Bachelet said the "inviolability or immunity" of people or premises granted under the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations "should be waived immediately."

She said yesterday the "onus is on the Saudi authorities" to reveal what happened, and insisted "no further obstacles" should be placed in the way of a quick, thorough, impartial and transparent investigation.

Bachelet stopped short of calling for an international investigation.

Rights office spokesman Rupert Colville said "we hope the lifting of immunity is absolute" and that "investigators need to be able to investigate everything they may wish."



Security guards walk outside Saudi Arabia's Consulate in Istanbul

UK Ending austerity 'incompatible' with budget plan

Pan Pylas, London

THE British government will have to spend an extra 19 billion pounds (USD25 billion) a year on public services by the year 2022-23 if it's to deliver on Prime Minister Theresa May's promise to end austerity, a well-respected think-tank said yesterday.

In an analysis of Britain's public finances, the Institute for Fiscal Studies said May's ambition looks incompatible with another major aspiration — to balance the books by the mid-2020s — without substantial tax rises or much stronger economic growth.

"This is going to be the toughest of circles to square," said Paul Johnson, the IFS's director.

Given that the British economy is being hobbled by uncertainty surrounding Brexit, Treasury chief Philip Hammond is not expected to announce any radical changes to spending in his annual budget statement on Oct. 29. More detail is only expected next year, when Hammond

AP PHOTO



May may fail on promise to end austerity

carries out a broader review of spending and it becomes clearer what Britain's exit from the EU on March 29 will mean economically.

"The decision over the spending review envelope will probably be the biggest non-Brexit related decision this Chancellor will make," Johnson said.

The government has promised increases in health, defense and aid spending over coming years. Just keeping spending constant on other public services after accounting for inflation — a limited definition of what ending austerity means — would require an additional 19 billion pounds, according to IFS's analysis.

Britain has lived under public spending cuts since 2010, when the then coalition government dominated by the Conservatives said its priority was bringing the budget under control. While spending on health and schools was protected, other spending was slashed. May told her Conservative Party faithful this

month that people should know "their hard work has paid off" and that the "end [to austerity] is in sight."

Opponents say the cuts were too harsh and counter-productive as it meant economic growth — and therefore tax receipts — was lower, too. Many say the 2016 vote to leave the European Union was partly a revolt against austerity, particularly in the north of England, where manufacturing has fallen into decline.

Austerity is likely to be one of the main issues marking the next general election, which has to take place by the middle of 2022. Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn has made it clear that easing austerity will be his party's goal, an approach that has led to accusations he will undo improvements to public finances.

Over the past few years the budget has in fact gotten closer to being balanced, and government borrowing is back to pre-crisis levels at just over 2 percent of GDP. Total debt, though, is much higher, at around 85 percent of GDP, having risen over the last decade by more than any since World War II, according to the IFS.

The IFS's so-called Green Budget report was produced in association with Citi and The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. AP

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what's ON



ABSTRACT PAINTINGS FROM THE MAM COLLECTION

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

MONKEY KING

TIME: 4pm & 8pm daily (except on Thursdays)

VENUE: Sands Cotai Theatre

ADMISSION: MOP380, MOP480, MOP680, MOP980, MOP1280

COTAI TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818

KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except on Thursdays; open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Science Center

ADMISSION: MOP25 (Exhibition Centre)

MOP60 (Planetarium 2D dome or 2D

sky shows)

MOP80 (Planetarium 3D dome or 3D

sky shows)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

EXHIBITION OF NEW WORKS IN MAM COLLECTION

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

UNTIL: October 26, 2018

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

SCULPTURE – A JOURNEY, EXHIBITION BY ANTÓNIO LEÇA

TIME: 3pm-8pm (Mondays)

12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)

UNTIL: October 21, 2018

VENUE: A2 Gallery, Albergue SCM

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550

Offbeat

CATTLE ROUNDUP OVER: LAST COW CAUGHT WEEKS AFTER TRUCK CRASH



Officials say a cow that hoofed it for two weeks on the lam after a livestock truck overturned on a busy interstate junction north of Atlanta has been caught.

News outlets report 89 cows initially escaped when the tractor-trailer wrecked before dawn on Oct. 1 on a cloverleaf linking Interstate 75 with Interstate 285. Eleven cows died in the crash.

The Georgia Department of Transportation's metro Atlanta district tweeted a photo of the runaway cow standing in some woods yesterday [Macau time]. Department spokeswoman Natalie Dale says it was safely captured by the afternoon.

Officials had said they called in real cowboys to round up the escaped cattle Oct. 1, closing some roads as police dealt with four wrecks caused by the wandering animals. No one was hurt in those accidents.

TV canal macau



3:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Get On Up
17:15	Festividades de Macau - Culto dos Antepassados
18:10	Depois do Adeus
19:00	TDM Entrevista (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Montra do Lilau
21:50	LiteraturAqui
22:25	Dentro
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Resumo Liga das Nações 2018/2019
00:45	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:30	RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO

11 - 18 Oct



VENOM

ROOM 1

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

Director: Ruben Fleischer

Starring: Tom Hardy, Michelle Williams, Riz Ahmed

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 112min



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

ROOM 2

9:15pm

Director: Felix Chong

Starring: Chow Yun Fat, Aaron Kwok, Zhang Jingchu

Language: Cantonese (Chinese, english)

Duration: 130min

JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN

ROOM 3

7:30pm

Director: David Kerr

Starring: Rowan Atkinson Emma Thompson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 88min

this day in history



1968 BLACK ATHLETES MAKE SILENT PROTEST

Two black American athletes have made history at the Mexico Olympics by staging a silent protest against racial discrimination.

Tommie Smith and John Carlos, gold and bronze medalists in the 200m, stood with their heads bowed and a black-gloved hand raised as the American National Anthem played during the victory ceremony.

The pair both wore black socks and no shoes and Smith wore a black scarf around his neck. They were demonstrating against continuing racial discrimination of black people in the United States.

As they left the podium at the end of the ceremony they were booed by many in the crowd.

At a press conference after the event Tommie Smith, who holds seven world records, said: "If I win I am an American, not a black American. But if I did something bad then they would say 'a Negro'. We are black and we are proud of being black.

"Black America will understand what we did tonight."

Smith said he had raised his right fist to represent black power in America, while Carlos raised his left fist to represent black unity. Together they formed an arch of unity and power.

He said the black scarf represented black pride and the black socks with no shoes stood for black poverty in racist America.

Within a couple of hours the actions of the two Americans were being condemned by the International Olympic Committee.

A spokesperson for the organisation said it was "a deliberate and violent breach of the fundamental principles of the Olympic spirit."

It is widely expected the two will be expelled from the Olympic village and sent back to the US.

In September last year Tommie Smith, a student at San Jose State university in California, told reporters that black members of the American Olympic team were considering a total boycott of the 1968 games.

He said: "It is very discouraging to be in a team with white athletes. On the track you are Tommie Smith, the fastest man in the world, but once you are in the dressing rooms you are nothing more than a dirty Negro."

The boycott had been the idea of professor of sociology at San Jose State university, and friend of Tommie Smith, Harry Edwards.

Professor Edwards set up the Olympic Project for Human Rights (OPHR) and appealed to all black American athletes to boycott the games to demonstrate to the world that the civil rights movement in the US had not gone far enough.

He told black Americans they should refuse "to be utilised as 'performing animals' in the games."

Although the boycott never materialised the OPHR gained much support from black athletes around the world.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

That evening, the silver medalist in the 200m event, Peter Norman of Australia, who was white, wore an OPHR badge in support of Smith and Carlos' protest.

But two days later the two athletes were suspended from their national team, expelled from the Olympic village and sent home to America. Many felt they had violated the Olympic spirit by drawing politics into the games.

On their return both men were welcomed as heroes by the African-American community but others regarded them as trouble-makers. Both received death threats.

Thirty years after their protest, the two men, who went on to become high school athletics coaches, were honoured for their part in furthering the civil rights movement in America.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 The deluge of details crossing your desk today seems infinite. Share the load - you'll do the same for your coworkers when the time comes. If it gets to be too much, remember you're not alone.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Be fair, but circumspect if everyone is turning to you for advice in an interoffice conflict. Don't choose sides. Instead, give them every reason to trust you.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Proving your competence should be a breeze if someone calls your abilities into question. No, it's not fair, but you're on the hook, at least for now.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Take your time and get the best deal. Don't let a pushy sales rep or client convince you to sign when you aren't ready. The ball's in your court, after all.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Plow through the heavy work now and take some time off later. Sure, you're feeling a little low-energy these days, but that's no reason to slack off. You'll only regret it later if you let the tasks pile up.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Your current assignment won't get done without an ample amount of compromise, so suck it up, at least for the time being. You'll be able to show off your solo skills on down the line.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You won't get far by issuing ultimatums today. So you're better off sitting back and waiting for the rewards to come your way. You have a strong sense of what you want, but are you willing to let it happen organically?

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Your talents are vast but severely undervalued. It's time to make sure your boss is aware of exactly what you have to offer. After all, there's no shame in self-promotion.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You have every reason to feel confident, but don't get arrogant. Even if you're well on your way to completing a tough assignment, and the hardest part is behind you, the process isn't over just yet.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Take a little time to pore through the pile of paperwork on your desk, or you could end up misplacing an important document. Don't be a victim to your own sloppiness.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Do your research and it'll pay off big time. The minutiae may be tedious, but it is the defining element that will put this project or proposal over the edge and make it a reality.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Make sure you're not missing any crucial details here -- run it by a trusted peer. Your quick-fix solution looks great on paper, but it may not hold up long term.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each category contains a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. It lists weather for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

Crossword puzzle grid with clues. Includes 'ACROSS' and 'DOWN' clues. A 'Yesterday's solution' grid is also provided.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

List of useful telephone numbers including Emergency calls, Fire department, PJ (Open line), PJ (Picket), PSP, Customs, S. J. Hospital, Kiang Wu Hospital, Commission Against Corruption (CCAC), IACM, Tourism, and Airport.



Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' listings for various properties in Macau and Taipa, including Hellene Garden, Cattleya Court, Va Nam Top Floor, Taipa, Nam Long, Nova Taipa, Office - Dynasty Plaza, Kapok Court, and The Buckingham 'D' Unit.

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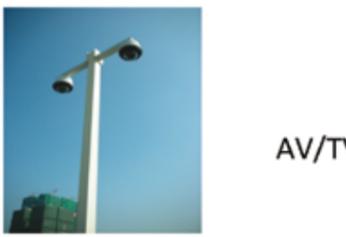
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MOTORSPORT

Rosberg expects F1 merger with electric series

Bob Harris

HIGHLIGHTING fresh concerns about global warming, Nico Rosberg foresees an eventual merger between the fuel-guzzling Formula One championship and the more environmentally friendly, electric motorsport series.

The German driver retired from F1 after winning his only title in 2016, and he has since invested in the four-year-old For-

mula E championship, which he said is now worth 750 million euros (USD870 million).

While F1 remains more attractive to sponsors and fans, the upstart series is showing increasing commercial appeal. Heineken, which already sponsors F1, was announced yesterday [Macau time] as the official beer and cider backer of the electric street racing championship under a five-year deal.

That unified approach to marketing across both series

points to a future where they join forces.

"Maybe we will never even get to that point [where Formula E is bigger than F1] and we will just see a merger between Formula One and Formula E before that," Rosberg said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "When the moment comes that Formula One needs to go electric, which will happen, maybe you will just see a merger then."

They already share ownership

through American entertainment and broadcasting magnate John Malone's companies. Liberty Global was already the biggest shareholder in Formula E when Liberty Media bought F1 in 2017.

"The step for Formula One to go electric will be a big and difficult one," Rosberg said. "If that ever happens."

It might become inevitable, with a fast-warming planet to be protected, and sports conscious of its role. The Intergovernmen-

tal Panel on Climate Change issued a gloomy report last week which said the difference between life and death for multitudes of people around the world could be whether world leaders find a way to reduce future warming caused by humans by less than a single degree Fahrenheit.

"It's a real problem out there in the world and we need to do what we can as fast as possible to help all together," Rosberg said.

"If the whole world is selling and driving electric cars," he added, "it doesn't make sense for Formula One to be combustion engines, so that moment will come. The advantage is that Formula One and Formula E have the same owner."

Although the cars are quieter compared to the ear-splitting, fuel-guzzling engines in F1, the new Gen 2 models which run faster and longer have been introduced.

Nissan and BMW will be debuting on the grid when the fifth Formula E championship begins in Saudi Arabia in December. There has also been a high-profile signing for the series: Former F1 driver Felipe Massa racing for Venturi, the Monaco-based team co-owned by actor Leonardo Di Caprio.

Stoffel Vandoorne announced he is also making the switch from F1, joining the Mercedes-linked HWA Racelab Formula E team after leaving McLaren at the end of this season.

Rosberg is already looking forward to the following season when Mercedes-Benz and Porsche appear on the grid.

"That will be a spectacle everyone will want to watch," Rosberg said. "They need to showcase their electric technology in Formula E. None of them can afford to lose." **AP**

CRICKET

Zaman makes 94 on debut, Pakistan rallies to 204-6 at tea

FAKHAR Zaman scored 94 on debut and helped Pakistan recover to 204-6 against Australia after Nathan Lyon took four wickets in six deliveries on the first day of the second test yesterday.

Pakistan, which crashed to 57-5 in the first session, lost Zaman in the last over before tea as the left-hander played half forward to legspinner Marnus Labuschagne and was out leg before wicket.

Zaman and captain Sarfraz Ahmed outsmarted Australia in the second session and revived Pakistan with a 147-run, sixth-wicket stand.

Zaman, who was dro-

pped on 30 by Labuschagne off Jon Holland, scored nearly three quarters of his runs on the offside, hitting eight fours and a six in his 198-ball knock.

Ahmed was, by far, more aggressive, and kept the scoreboard moving with constant rotation of the strike. He was unbeaten on 78 off 95 balls that featured seven boundaries as Pakistan scored 127 runs in the second session.

Labuschagne dismissed Zaman in only his second over, not given a bowl until just before tea. Lyon and Holland were given most of the spin duty, but after Pakistan was 57-5, the home side didn't lose

another wicket for 37 overs.

Earlier, in a stunning 11-minute period, Lyon took a return catch to remove Azhar Ali on 15 and then dismissed Haris Sohail, Asad Shafiq, and Babar Azam all out without scoring.

Pakistan was in a reasonable position at 57-1 after winning the toss, but the Australia spinners were threatening.

Then the threat became reality. Lyon took the wickets of Ali and Sohail on consecutive balls to end his fourth over, the 20th of the innings.

Asad Shafiq blocked the hat-trick ball, the first ball

of the 22nd over, but got a faint inside edge to Lyon's subsequent delivery and was caught at bat-pad by Labuschagne after a successful decision review by the Australians.

Lyon struck again two balls later and, at that stage, he had figures of 4-4-4-4 and Pakistan was 57-5.

In the process, Lyon surpassed former paceman Mitchell Johnson to move to fourth on Australia's list of all-time leading wicket-takers with 314. At tea, he had 4-58.

Pakistan's precarious position could have been worse. Zaman survived that dropped catch in the



Australia's players appeal the dismissal of Pakistan's Fakhar Zaman during their test match in Abu Dhabi

19th over, and later a close run out.

Labuschagne earlier brought off a sensational catch close to the wicket to dismiss opener Mohammad Hafeez for 4 in Mitchell Starc's second over, before Zaman and Ali shared a half-century stand for the second wicket.

Pakistan made two chan-

ges to the lineup that started in Dubai, giving Zaman and left-arm seamer Mir Hamza test debuts as replacements for Imam-ul-Haq and Wahab Riaz.

Australia salvaged an unexpected draw in the first test by batting for almost 140 overs and finishing at 362-8 in the fourth innings after being set a victory target of 462. **AP**

opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



IS LONELINESS AN ISSUE FOR MACAU

As I have noted previously, I like reading The Economist because it often contains articles that stimulate me to consider issues I have not thought about before. A recent article about loneliness is an example I will now consider here.

Few would argue that humans are pack animals and that we need regular social contact and interaction to have healthy and fulfilling lives. Unfortunately, loneliness – defined as perceived isolation, or the feeling of not having the social contacts you would like – is becoming an increasing concern of doctors and policymakers, especially in the developed world. Empirical studies in several countries have found 10-35% of people reporting that they often feel lonely, lack companionship or feel “left out” and that these feelings are especially prevalent among young adults and the elderly.

Other studies have found significant correlations between various health issues and loneliness. It is felt that lonely people can fall into unhealthy living habits, or loneliness may raise stress levels (which leads to health problems) or increase depression. By contrast, people with disabilities and health problems may not be able to maintain adequate social contacts.

Several global trends are leading to increased loneliness. Urbanization, for example, abandons people in isolated rural communities that are shrinking. Urban housing costs lead to smaller houses/apartments and the breakdown of multi-generational families living together. Regional and international migration for work and life improvements also fragments families and communities. And so on.

I know from personal experience how difficult it is to build new social networks when moving to a new city – if you want to have friends you must actively seek them out, and it is quite easy to get into trouble during these endeavors! It can also be quite problematic to find venues for making new friends. I am very glad that when we first moved to Macau we found the International Ladies Club – we can argue about the merits of predominately “expat” clubs, and they have many significant issues, but they undeniably provide a good way to learn about a place and meet new people.

Local universities put significant resources into student clubs and societies and I wish that they did more because I have met many foreign students suffering from issues related to loneliness. I remember with sadness one foreign exchange student who only lasted a few weeks in Macau before returning to her family in small-town Australia because of loneliness. There are many other groups of foreigners living and working in Macau that may not have adequate social support resulting in much heartache.

My mother died in 2017 so that my father now lives alone as an elderly widower. Luckily, my brother and sisters see him every few days and he still regularly plays golf. Even so, the family have been encouraging him to attend weekly exercise classes and to regularly go out for lunches/dinners with friends to ensure he maintains adequate social contacts. I am sure that there are many lonely elderly people in Macau who may not have adequate social support networks.

I feel that online social networks like Facebook are a two-edged sword regarding loneliness. They help you maintain existing far flung social networks but may lead you to underestimate the need to develop local ones where you are living.

Several countries are actively experimenting with social services to combat loneliness. These are mostly about nurturing networks of volunteers to regularly talk to and help isolated people. I am not aware of similar initiatives in Macau, maybe because of language barriers, which are yet another important cause of isolation and loneliness.

My “gut feel” is that this is a social issue worthy of much more study in Macau – anybody interested?

THE FACEBOOK REQUIRES UK POLITICAL AD BUYERS TO REVEAL IDENTITY

Facebook says that anyone who takes out a British political ad on the social media platform will now be forced to reveal their identity, in a bid to increase transparency and curb misinformation.

The company said that it will also require disclaimers for any British political advertisements. All the data on the ad buyers will be archived for seven years in a publicly accessible database.

Facebook is already applying a similar system

in the United States, which is holding midterm elections this year.

British lawmakers have called for greater oversight of social media companies and election campaigns to protect democracy in the digital age.

A House of Commons report this year said democracy is facing a crisis because data analysis and social media allow campaigns to target voters with messages of hate without their consent.

Global warming to leave us crying in our costlier beer

Seth Borenstein, Washington

ADD beer to chocolate, coffee and wine as some of life’s little pleasures that global warming will make scarcer and costlier, scientists say.

Increasing bouts of extreme heat waves and drought will hurt production of barley, a key beer ingredient, in the future. Losses of barley yield can be as much as 17 percent, an international group of researchers estimated.

That means beer prices on average would double, even adjusting for inflation, according to the study in journal Nature Plants, published this week. In countries like Ireland, where cost of a brew is already high, prices could triple.

The findings come a week after a dire United Nations report described consequences of dangerous levels of climate change including worsening food and water shortages, heat waves, sea level rise, and disease.

Study co-author Steve Davis of the University of California, Irvine, said the beer research was partly done to drive home the not-that-palatable message that climate change is messing with all sorts of aspects of our daily lives.

Several scientists who we-



ren’t part of this study said it was sound and perhaps more effective way of communicating the dangers of global warming.

“One of the greatest challenges as a scientist doing research on climate change and food is to illustrate it in a way that people can understand,” U.S. Department of Agriculture scientist Lewis Ziska said in an email. Few people would complain if global warming ruined Brussels sprouts, he added.

Scientists have long known that barley “is one of the most heat-sensitive crops globally,” but this study connects that to something that people care about – the price of beer – so it’s valuable, said David Lobell, a Stanford University agriculture ecologist.

Davis, an IPA fan, is one of those people who care.

“This is a paper born of love and fear,” he said.

Worldwide barley is used for all sorts of purposes, mostly feeding livestock. Less than 20 percent of the world’s barley is made into beer. But in the United States, Brazil and China, at least two-thirds of the barley goes into six-packs, drafts, kegs, cans and bottles.

Davis and colleagues looked only at the combination of heat waves and drought, not the general warming that also should affect where barley is grown.

If emissions of heat-trapping gases from the burning of coal, oil and gas continue at the current rising pace, the likelihood of weather conditions hurting barley production will increase from about once a decade before 2050 to once every other year by the end of the century. **AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Ng Han Guan



Attention! Members of the honor guard prepare for the welcome ceremony of Norway’s King Harald outside the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, yesterday.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	45-65 Moderate	☹️
High Density Residential Area	40-60 Moderate	☹️
Ambient	30-50 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



RUSSIA-UKRAINE The Russian Orthodox Church has decided to sever ties with the leader of the worldwide Orthodox community after his decision to grant Ukrainian clerics independence from the Moscow Patriarchate. The Orthodox Church in Ukraine has been under the jurisdiction of the Russian Orthodox Church since the late 1600s.

BRITAIN The government will have to spend an extra 19 billion pounds (MOP200 billion) a year on public services by the year 2022-23 if it’s to deliver on Prime Minister Theresa May’s promise to end austerity, a well-respected think-tank said. **More on p15**



GUATEMALA Hundreds of Hondurans hoping to reach the United States bedded down for the night in the Guatemalan town of Esquipulas after that country’s authorities blinked first in attempts to halt their advance. U.S. President Donald Trump, meanwhile, threatened yesterday to cut aid to Honduras if it doesn’t stop the impromptu caravan of migrants.

VENEZUELA A massive power outage has left roughly half of Venezuela without electricity. Power Minister Luis Motta Dominguez says the blackout started Monday evening with an explosion at a power station in the northern state of Carabobo. It left at least 11 of Venezuela’s 23 states in the dark.

HOLIDAY TIMES

Macau Daily Times will not be published during the holiday. The Times will be back on the stands on Friday October 19. However the MDT website will be updated with breaking news during the recess period. We wish our readers, advertisers and friends the best of times.