



TYPHOON HITS ISABELA PROVINCE

A strong typhoon blew across the northern Philippines, setting off landslides that left several people dead

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SJM RECORDS 65PCT INCREASE IN NET PROFIT

SJM Holdings yesterday released its unaudited financial statement for the third quarter

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CRASH RENEWS CONCERNS ABOUT INDONESIA AIRLINES

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WORLD BRIEFS



JAPAN-KOREA In a potentially far-reaching decision, South Korea's Supreme Court ruled that a major Japanese steelmaker should compensate four South Koreans for forced labor during Japan's colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula before the end of World War II.

AUSTRALIA's critical infrastructure including electricity grids, water supplies and hospitals could not have been adequately safeguarded if Chinese-owned telecommunications giants Huawei and ZTE Corp. were allowed to help roll out the nation's 5G network, a spy chief said. [More on p12](#)

INDIA Maoist rebels killed a cameraman working for a state-run television channel and two policemen in an ambush yesterday in an insurgency-hit state in central India.



SYRIA Tens of thousands of Syrians stranded in a desert camp near the Jordanian border are at risk of starvation amid dwindling supplies and the approach of winter, while regional powers trade blame over who is responsible for this latest humanitarian catastrophe in Syria's civil war.

SOMALI The normal-looking campaign rally in Somalia's capital this month was anything but. Dozens of people were praising the former No. 2 leader of Africa's deadliest Islamic extremist group, the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab.

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CURRENCY TOUCHES A DECADE-LOW

Yuan devaluation could hurt local economy

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PHOTOGRAPHY

Exhibition showcases Vietnamese refugees in 1980s

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PHOTOGRAPHY

Exhibition showcases conditions of Vietnamese refugees in the '80s

A photo exhibition titled "Vietnamese Boat People in Macao - Photography by Chan Weng Hon" is showcasing 42 photos revealing the circumstances of Vietnamese boat people in the region in the 70s and 80s, reflecting the living conditions and the temporary settlements of Vietnamese refugees.

The exhibition, which launched yesterday at the Macau Photography Art Space (Rua do Infante), shows the alternate landscape in the form of the mobility of Vietnamese boat people at that time, as well as the record of the historical moment at which Macau was once the "port of first asylum."

The first solo exhibition by the local photographer features photos that are mostly about the living conditions and the environment of the refugees, including the situation of the boat people undergoing an inspection when they arrived in Macau, the temporary housing shelters, the refugee camp and bathrooms.

Chan, a local photographer who used to work for a local newspaper back in the 80s, described the transfer of the Vietnamese refugees during that era as "peaceful."

"Thousands were flooding to Macau for refuge, but it was quite special because it was so peaceful despite the number of people arriving to Macau. They didn't have their own homes, but they

had unity," he told the Times.

"It was an emotional time because they had escaped their country and they brought nothing with them but their families," Chan added.

The photographer recalled that the exhibition hopes to remind the public that these refugees were also a part of the city's history, noting that there is a lack of such photos available on the internet.

The conflict between China and Vietnam occurred between 1978 and 1979, when large numbers of Vietnamese refugees flowed into Macau and other countries that constituted places in which to seek asylum.

On July 27, 1978, at the request of the United Nations, Macau announced the establishment of a temporary camp for Vietnamese refugees.

They [the refugees] didn't have their own homes, but they had unity.

CHAN WENG HON

At that time, there were three places in Macau where traces of refugees could be found, including the area of Ilha Verde, Taipa (now the Scout Association of Macau)



Aspect of the exhibition

and Ka Ho Refugee Centre (now the Salesian Youth Ministry of Macau). Established in December 1978, the Ka Ho Refugee Centre first accommodated 169 refugees from Indo-China.

"To let the public be educated about this part of our history is this exhibition's main goal," Chan explained.

"Many residents do not pay too much attention [to] this, as they only focus on the changes in the city's building transformations," he added.

According to the statistics of the United Nations refugee agency, the SAR recorded 4,333 people in 1975-79; 2,777 people in 1980-84, and 17 people in 1984, after which the local government refused to be the "port of first asylum".

The record shows that between 1990-95, there was only one person left.

Chan also hopes to bring the exhibition to Hong Kong and Taiwan. LV



Chan Weng Hon

CRIME

'Fortune tellers' family accused of scam

THREE family members, a father and two brothers, have been caught by the police and accused of practicing a "fortune telling" scam, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) revealed during a press conference this week.

The case occurred on October 26 when officers on patrol spotted two men of Indian nationality behaving suspiciously in the Rua de Xavier Pereira.

The officers decided to follow them and observe their actions. They

spotted them trying to approach people on the street, then entering several shops only to leave a few minutes later.

Questioning the shopkeepers, the officers realized that the men were offering "fortune telling" services in exchange for

payment.

One of the shopkeepers said she had communicated with the man, who apparently told her some facts about her future life, and asked for MOP100 in exchange.

In another case, a shop staff member was said to

have given MOP1 to the man, who tried to bargain for more money but was unable to do so due to language barriers.

After speaking with several shopkeepers, the police acted and detained the two men for questioning.

Eventually, the police found out that the two men were in fact brothers and a later inspection of the house where they were staying revealed a third male, the father of the first man, who admitted to also dedicating himself to the same activity.

They were presented to the Public Prosecutions Office on October 27 under the charge of conducting a scam. RM

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Weather Bureau may raise typhoon warning

THE Macau Meteorological and Weather Bureau (SMG) plans to issue a typhoon warning this morning in anticipation of Typhoon Yutu, which battered the northern Philippines yesterday. The SMG issued a statement noting that the storm's category was downgraded from super typhoon to typhoon, since the winds lost some of their strength.

According to the SMG, the storm will move to the Northeast of the South China Sea. Officials in the Philippines said that Typhoon Yutu slammed into Dinapigue town in northeastern Isabela province before dawn yesterday, with sustained winds of 150 kilometers per hour and gusts of up to 210 kph.

A 5-year-old girl was killed and at least three other people missing, knocking out power in entire provinces and forcing thousands to flee from villages that were hit by a deadly storm last month. The typhoon knocked down trees and power posts and ripped roofs off houses and stores, officials said.



Workers clear the road of toppled trees after Typhoon Yutu slammed Isabela province

Government forecasters said Yutu slightly weakened after landfall. Yutu hit the Philippines after tearing through the U.S. Pacific territory of the Northern Mariana Islands, where it knocked out power, destroyed homes and delayed elections.

More than 10,000 villagers moved to safety in the Philippines' northern provinces before Yutu hit.

"We didn't even have to do

forced evacuations. The people are still scared. They readily moved from the mountainsides and away from the river after our police declared it was time to evacuate," said Mayor Victorio Palangdan of Itogon, a gold-mining mountain town, where more than 90 villagers died largely due to landslides set off by Mangkhut.

More than 1,000 villagers moved to emergency shelters

in Itogon in Benguet province, which was expected to be hit by Yutu later, Palangdan told The Associated Press by telephone.

Mangkhut left more than 100 people dead and missing, mostly in Itogon and nearby mountain towns, and caused considerable damage to vegetable, corn and rice farms, because the typhoon struck during the harvest season. **MDT/Xinhua**

Restaurant blast injures four

A blast at a restaurant has injured four, three of whom sustained severe injuries. The restaurant is located in the Inner Harbor area, at the R. do Dr. Lourenço Pereira Marques. The accident occurred yesterday, around 6 a.m. The victims are three men and one woman. According to the Fire Services Bureau, the blast is believed to have been caused by the restaurant's liquid petroleum gas (LPG) bottles. Firefighters discovered four bottles of LPG in the wreckage. The Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) said that the restaurant had changed cooking equipment without the government's approval. Earlier, in July, a blast took place at a restaurant located in the Hac Sa Wan district, resulting in one dead and six injured.

Rosário: LRT project could be stopped

The Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário admitted that the Light Rail Transit (LRT) could be stopped at a future occasion. During a plenary session of the Legislative Assembly where several representatives from the government replied to spoken enquiries from lawmakers, Rosário said that he could not anticipate the total cost of the project, but said that the Taipa line is budgeted in MOP11 billion. "Now we are doing the work stage by stage. After the Taipa Line, we will build the Seac Pai Van Line and then the East Line. In each stage we can stop the or suspend project", the Secretary said. "We can do one line more or one line less," he stated. Faced with criticism from lawmakers, who questioned the utility of the LRT, Rosário said that it will serve "both for tourists and residents."

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53-year-old seventh car crash victim this year

A 53-year-old local resident has died from a car accident, which took place on the Amizade Bridge on Monday. The late man was riding his motorbike when he crashed into a truck moving in front of him, causing his death. This is the seventh death resulting from a car accident recorded this year. The Public Security Police Force (PSP) is calling for witnesses to come forward to provide information to the PSP regarding the accident. According to PSP statistics, a total of 10,300 traffic accidents have been recorded in the first nine months of this year.

More early development treatments available

The region's sponsored early development treatment organizations are providing 204 vacancies for special services for children with early development problems. According to the Social Affairs Bureau (IAS), these 204 vacancies include 56 places for occupational treatment and 148 for speech therapy treatment. In total, the IAS is sponsoring four early development treatment centers. The bureau believes that the resources are sufficient for supplying services to children below three years old. In addition, the IAS revealed that 37 out of a total of 83 projects that make up the city's ten-year recovery health service plan have been completed.

'Fishballs Macau' gets silver in Water Polo tournament

Local team "Fishballs Macau" has concluded its participation in Hong Kong's International Beach Water Polo Tournament with a silver medal granted for the Varga Cup, one of the trophies in dispute. The tournament gathered teams from Macau, Hong Kong, mainland China, Philippines and Japan at Repulse Bay Beach in Hong Kong. It ran under different conditions from previous years due to safety concerns raised by the aftermath of Typhoon Mangkhut. During the final match of the competition, the Hong Kong team, Beach Uncles, took the victory against Macau's "Clube Internacional de Pólo-Aquático de Macau."

ANALYSIS

RMB weakness threatens to hurt Macau economy

Daniel Beittler

THE weakness of China's yuan, which yesterday touched its lowest level in a decade, has the potential to hurt Macau's economy just as gaming revenues are showing signs of a strong recovery.

Sandwiched between the economic superpowers of China and the U.S., Macau is seeing a rise in its consumers' purchasing power, while at the same time consumers from its primary export market are finding local goods and services increasingly expensive.

The yuan touched the weakest level since May 2008, as the central bank cut its daily fixing and on signs that a trade war with the U.S. may escalate. The currency declined as much as 0.15 percent to 6.9724 per dollar in Shanghai, within 0.5 percent of 7 - a level that hasn't been reached since the global financial crisis.

The Macau pataca is fixed to the Hong Kong dollar, which in turn is pegged to the U.S. dollar. As the USD strengthens against the yuan, so does the pataca.

A weaker yuan means diminished purchasing power for mainland tourists visiting Macau, which threatens to dampen hospitality, retail and gaming receipts in the MSAR.

In terms of gaming - Macau's economic backbone - both mainland and VIP customers are likely to be affected. In recent months analysts have warned of waning VIP interest, which has led brokerage houses to revise downward their forecasts for end-year gross gaming revenue.

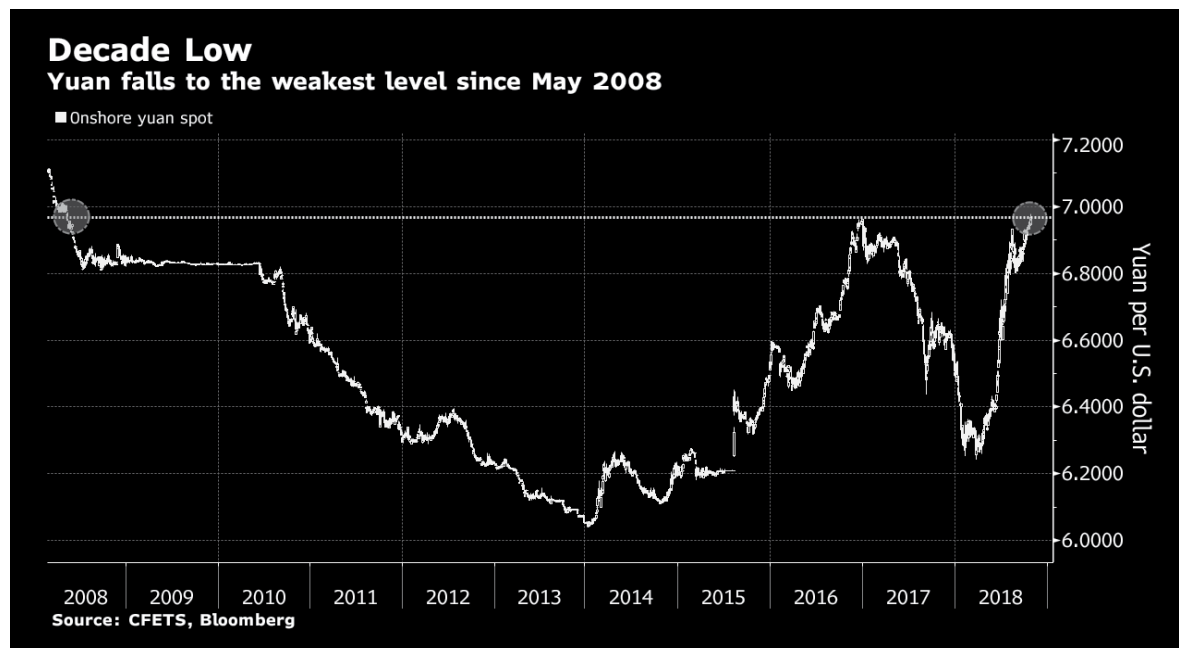
The mass segment is likely to take a hit too.

In March 2018, the yuan was trading at about 6.30 to the U.S. dollar. That meant that a Macau hotel room at a market-typical rate of MOP1,500 per night would cost the mainland visitor about 1,170 yuan. Today, it would cost 10 percent more - or about 1,290 yuan.

The 10 percent fall in mainland purchasing power extends not only to the casino floors, but to the wider hospitality and retail sectors, whose revenues rely on both the volume of Chinese visitors and their propensity to spend.

However, local economist José Sales Marques told the Times that though the purchasing power of the Macau pataca will rise relative to that of the RMB, how that will reflect on consumer spending in the Macau SAR remains unclear.

"It's difficult to forecast the impact," he said. "I think that the RMB exchange rate is of course



important to Macau's economy, but [the effect] also depends on the average exchange rate of the previous year or so, and what people think will happen in the future. Consumer behavior is not instant nor mechanical [...] people learn to adapt to the new market conditions and alter their consumer behavior slowly and in ways difficult to predict."

People learn to adapt to the new market conditions and alter their consumer behavior slowly and in ways difficult to predict.

JOSÉ SALES MARQUES

Economy policymakers in Beijing will be watching the situation carefully, weighing their options for market intervention.

In the past, China has sought to keep its currency trading within a specific band seen as conducive

to the development of the country's fast-growing economy.

A weaker yuan has its benefits too. In terms of global trade, a weaker currency usually makes a country's exports more competitive and that alone can be a boon to economic growth.

Let the yuan slide too far, however, and China risks encouraging an outflow of capital from the world's second-largest economy, raising borrowing costs at a time when its leaders are trying to shore up cooling growth.

Moreover, as China looks to transform its economy from being predominantly export-led to one fueled by domestic demand, central planners must consider the effect that a falling yuan has on the ability of businesses and consumer to acquire goods and services from abroad.

"A stronger dollar means imports [in China] will be more expensive," said Sales Marques, adding that it was not clear whether the lower value of the RMB was a blessing or a curse in the context of the trade war. Instead, it simply "reflects how the market is reacting to current affairs between the U.S. and China."

At a briefing in Beijing on Friday, People's Bank of China Deputy Governor Pan Gongsheng said the central bank will take macro-prudential measures to stabilize expectations in the foreign-exchange market, and that

it is confident the yuan will be kept basically stable at reasonable levels.

The People's Bank of China has been trying to make its exchange rate mechanism more efficient by increasing the role of market forces. The exchange rate is set each morning and allowed to fluctuate by 2 percent against the dollar during the day. The central bank can buy or sell currency - or order Chinese commercial banks to do so - to dampen price movements.

Though U.S. President Donald Trump has repeatedly accused of Beijing of market manipulation via deliberate devaluation of the yuan, this time market forces are largely to blame, and the pressure shows little signs of abating.

"Depreciation pressures are intensifying," Gao Qi, a currency strategist at Scotiabank in Singapore, told Bloomberg. "The yuan won't slide to 7 a dollar before Xi and Trump meets [next month]. But if that meeting fails to improve China and U.S. relations, a drop to 7 will likely be inevitable."

"A breach of 7 could intensify depreciation expectations, and cause renewed capital outflow pressures, which will be destabilizing for domestic financial markets," added Khoo Goh, head of research at Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. in Singapore.



MGM Lion Dance Championship Macau International Invitational 2018

THE 7th MGM Lion Dance Championship is being held this year. Co-hosted by the Wushu General Association of Macau, and supported by Macao Government Tourism Office, Education and Youth Affairs Bureau and Dragon & Lion Dances Federation of Asia, this year's two-day competition will take place on November 10 & 11 in the MGM Theatre at CO-TAI, the latest addition to the MGM portfolio in China.

According to Grant Bowie, Executive Director of MGM China Holdings Limited, "The Theatre will be transformed into a competition venue, offering a never-seen-before experience for the audience and the participating teams."

Since the championship's first launch in 2010, continuous improvements have turned this event into a significant global competition. The addition of new competition categories makes this a more inclusive championship and projects this event onto the world stage, turning this element of Chinese culture into an international sport. In this year's championship, troupes from 13 countries and regions will be featured, including China, Malaysia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines, Hong Kong SAR, and Macau SAR. Furthermore, highly praised troupes from Australia, United States and Myanmar will be present, further proving the universal value of this competition.

The 2018 event will also introduce a new category, the first-ever Junior Lion Dance Performance Competition. This is part of MGM's continuous goal of promoting the Chinese sport of lion dancing to Macau's younger generations.



As part of this effort, MGM continues to promote the Junior Lion Dance Training Program in collaboration with Hong Wai Dragon & Lion Dance Association Macau and supported by MGTO and DSEJ. The course ran for seven weeks, during which children aged between five and eight had the chance to further their knowledge about the history of this sport through the use of props and equipment. With the intention of passing on not only the ability of lion dance, but also traits such as self-discipline and team spirit, this course culminated in an awe-inspiring performance in front of parents, instructors and other esteemed guests.

Undoubtedly a successful program, MGM has received high praise for its unceasing attempts to popularize Chinese culture. All those that attend the two-day championship will be able to see for themselves the first-ever Junior Lion Dance Competition and will be amazed as they watch in awe every second of each performance. The championship is entirely free to enjoy!

For one such activity, MGM COTAI is holding a mini-lion head painting workshop from November 3 to 11, where participants can learn to decorate a headpiece for a lion dance costume. The workshop will be held in Cantonese, but staff will be on-hand to provide translation into Mandarin and English. Tickets are available for purchase for groups of a maximum of three people and one plain lion head will be provided for each ticket. Participants will be able to collect their painted lion heads as a souvenir. Don't hesitate to join in on the fun!



Chen Lai to host the 'Lecture by Master of Culture' on Sunday

PHILOSOPHER Chen Lai has been invited to be the speaker at the "Lectures by Masters of Culture" organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC).

This year's lecture, "The System of Values and World Vision of Chinese Culture – The Globalization Perspective," will be held on Sunday (November 4) at 3 p.m., at the Auditorium of the Macao Polytechnic Institute.

Chen Lai is one of China's most influential contemporary philosophers and thinkers, currently the director of the Tsinghua Academy of Chinese Learning and Professor of the Department of Philosophy as well as being a member of the Central Research Institute of Culture and History. Mentored by the masters in Chinese studies, Zhang Dainian and Feng Youlan, Professor Chen is the first Doctor of Philosophy in China, specializing in the history of Chinese philosophy, the philosophy of Confucius, Neo-Confucianism in the Song, Yuan and Ming dynasties and modern



Chen Lai

Confucianism.

Chen was one of the two selected winners around the world of the "Confucius Award" in 2016; the winner of the "Global Chinese Ceremony Achievement Award for Chinese Studies" in 2014 and 2016; the recipient of the "Zhang Shiyong Aesthetics Philosophy Academic Award" in 2017, which is the highest honour in the field; and received the "Huilin Prize for Culture" in 2018 for the international dissemination of Chinese

culture.

In this lecture, Professor Chen will introduce the principles of benevolence, the Confucian code of conduct, sense of responsibility and community standards that stand out as core values of Chinese culture, as well as the imagination and practice of a virtuous world, explaining that its values were not only widely accepted in East Asia's pre-modern era, but are also complementary to today's Western contemporary values, with real universal meaning to the establishment of a community related on an international level, of political cooperation and a world of harmony.

The IC launched the "Lectures by Masters of Culture" programme in 2013, inviting world famous scholars, artists and individuals from cultural circles to host lectures and talks in Macau.

The lecture will be conducted in Mandarin, with simultaneous Portuguese interpretation available. Admission is free.

Fewer graduates working in Chinese medicine industry

LESS than 30 percent of the graduates who majored in Chinese medicine are entering the Chinese medicine industry after leaving school, according to the Macao Traditional Chinese Medicine Doctors Association.

According to the association, each year on average there are 70 to 80 students who enroll in traditional Chinese medicine courses.

The number of interested students, has been decreasing slightly over recent years, according to the association.

The president of the association, Chao Hei Meng, believes that the unpopularity of Chinese medicine among students is related to poor employment prospects as well as the government's policies.

In Chao's opinion, new Chinese medicine doctors are likely to be financially incapable of opening their own clinics, and, on the other hand, clinics are also unlikely to be able to provide attractive salaries to these doctors.

The insurance industry offers a higher insurance subsidy to



western medicine doctors than to Chinese medicine doctors.

As pointed out by Chao, the Chinese medicine industry hopes that the local government can enhance its support for this industry.

Overall, Macau has more than 1,000 doctors currently specializing in Chinese medicine. However, less than half (approximately 400) of these doctors are officially registered with the Health Bureau, Chao informed. The Chinese medicine professional further believes that among the 400 doctors who are registered, fewer than 200 are actually practicing Chinese medicine as a career.

AD



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Lawrence Ho family office launches first MOP bond

Julie Zhu

THE family office of Lawrence Ho, Black Spade Capital Limited (Black Spade Capital), has officially announced the MOP bond world debut of its new initiative in the Greater Bay Area with a celebration ceremony held at the Morpheus Hotel.

This bond is valued at two billion MOP and has a maturity rate of two years, with a coupon rate of 3.1 percent.

Earlier last week, Black Spade Capital and Tai Fung Bank Limited, the sole global coordinator and chief structuring advisor, completed the signing ceremony of the world's

first MOP bond.

This is also the first MOP-denominated corporate bond in the Greater Bay Area, as well as globally.

Through the issue of the world first's MOP bond in the area, Black Spade Capital hopes to provide investors and banks with more diversified investment opportunities that can offer promising returns.

The first MOP bond is expected to inject fresh vitality into the Macau economy and further enhance its financial competitiveness.

On the sidelines of yesterday's celebration ceremony, Dennis Tam, Black Spade Capital President and CEO, indicated that

the MOP bond is offering investors more opportunities.

"We see the market, we see the niche. [...] If you have MOP on hand, what you will do is just to deposit it in the bank. [...] We provide another solution to give the people and investors a higher yield than that [deposit rate]. Right now, the current deposit rate is 1.4 percent per annum, in Macau. If you are a very high-end private banking customer, what you can get is around two percent. So our bond issued at 3.1 percent is very attractive," said Dennis Tam.

According to Tam, Black Spade Capital had the idea of issuing the MOP bond

back in August this year, with the company initiating actual work on the project in the first week of October.

Tam deems the issuing of this MOP bond as "very successful".

Regarding the areas of investment where the bond will be involved, Tam said, "We have some plans already. We have some general ideas on hand already." He further noted that the bond is currently aimed at "general investment."

"I foresee that since we are doing the first one here, I believe that there will be a lot of followers. They will use MOP to tap into the market," Tam added.

GAMING

SJM records 65 percent increase in net profit



SJM Holdings yesterday released its unaudited financial statement for the third quarter of 2018, showing that net profit attributable to the owners of the company increased by 65 percent over the previous year to exceed HKD700 million.

During the quarter ending September 30, 2018, net gaming revenue of the group amounted to HKD8.32 billion, representing an increase of 9.5 percent over the same period last year. For the first nine months of the year, net gaming revenue was up 9.6 percent year-on-year, reaching HKD25.17 billion.

Meanwhile, the adjusted EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization) of the group increased by 26.7 percent year-on-year to HKD919 million in the third quarter. For the first nine months of the year, the adjusted EBITDA increased 28.9 percent, compared with the equivalent period in the previous year, to HKD2.87 billion.

In terms of SJM's flagship property, gross gaming revenue at the Grand Lisboa reached HKD4.17 billion, an increase of 11.8 percent from the same quarter in the previous year. Adjusted EBITDA of the property was HKD496 million, an increase of 18.6 percent annually.

For the nine months ended September 30, the Grand Lisboa's gross gaming revenue was HKD12.12 billion, an increase of 9.3 percent from the first nine months of 2017, whilst its adjusted EBITDA stood at HKD1.58 billion, a year-on-year increase of 25.6 percent.

According to yesterday's statement, the company has "maintained a strong and liquid financial position," with HKD20.20 billion of cash, bank balances and pledged bank deposits and HKD15.43 billion of debt at the end of the third quarter.

SJM also said that construction on the company's latest property, the Grand Lisboa Palace in Cotai, is proceeding apace and that it is expected to open in 2019.

corporate bits

BNU OPENS BRANCH AT UNIVERSITY OF MACAU



BNU yesterday held the opening ceremony of its new branch at the University of Macau (UM), the bank announced in a press release.

BNU has been working closely with UM for decades, providing a wide range of services for the UM commu-

nity. According to the statement, the bank is committed to promoting the training of talents in local universities and provides annual funding to the University of Macau, including a 15-year sponsorship commitment to es-

tablish an endowment fund with the aim of supporting the teaching and academic research of a professor at UM.

BNU added that there is a certain percentage of donations of retail spending through Affinity Cards, a plurality of scholarships, sponsorship for UM students' activities to promote Portuguese language applications and a donation to the Currency Museum of UM.

"BNU is convinced that through the establishment of its branch at UM [it] will be able to optimize the banking service to the community, providing more banking services and options for the public," BNU said in the statement.

GALAXY RECOGNIZES PARTICIPANTS OF YAP



Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) held the 2017/18 Youth Achievement Program (YAP) Award Ceremony and 2018/19 YAP Launching Ceremony yesterday, recognizing outstanding performance among participants in the seventh YAP and welcoming

incoming participants to the eighth YAP.

Since 2011, GEG has been organizing the program in conjunction with the Macau Management Association.

These annual programs have provided upwards of 2,600 participants with a

host of themed courses and workshops, according to a statement released yesterday.

The ceremony outlined the highlights of the eighth edition of the program and presented a video reviewing the seventh YAP's courses, workshops and study tour to Thailand.

GEG and MMA representatives then presented awards to over 30 outstanding YAP members, including those who won the Final Competition.

The winning team's report explored the prospect of employing artificial intelligence technology into operations, such as augmented reality technology, interactive digital arts and electronic payment services, to attract new customers, and transform Macau into an "e-city".

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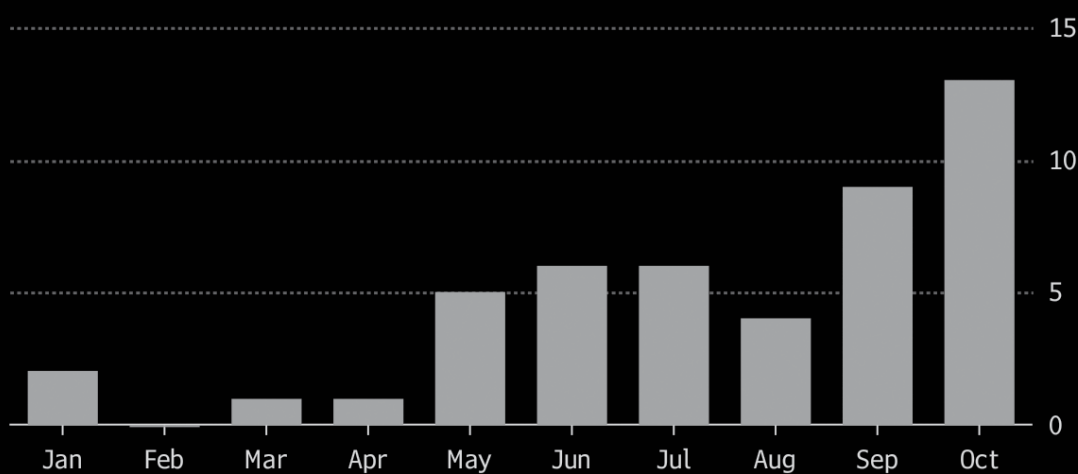
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China is buying distressed private companies as markets sink

New Boss in Town

China's government is buying more stakes in struggling private businesses

■ Number of non-state companies disclosing plans to add government-backed investors



Source: Company filings compiled by Bloomberg

Bloomberg

IT'S never been easy to figure out where China's government ends and the private sector begins, but the dividing line is getting increasingly blurry as the nation's stock market sinks.

At least 47 non-state companies in China have disclosed plans to sell stakes to government-backed investors in 2018, company filings compiled by Bloomberg show. The pace of such deals accelerated in recent months as the country's \$3.2 trillion equity rout squeezed company founders who pledged their stakes as collateral for loans. Faced with margin calls and cut off from the banking system, some entrepreneurs have had little choice but to accept state money.

While the capital infusions have reduced the risk of near-term defaults and caused several stocks to rally, they've also fueled concern among some analysts that China's government is taking advantage of this year's market turmoil to encroach on the private sector's turf. Despite recent liquidity challenges, private Chinese businesses have been key drivers of the nation's world-beating economic expansion over the past four decades and are typically far more productive than government-owned peers.

"We're seeing more companies introducing strategic investors with state or local government backgrounds, which is good in the current market conditions because it could offset market risks," said Lv

Changshun, a fund manager at Beijing Dajun Zhimeng Investment Management Co. "In the long run, whether or when they will exit their investment raises uncertainties. Government-backed investors usually are not professional enough."

What you've seen very recently in the stock market is companies effectively being nationalized.

FRASER HOWIE
AUTHOR

The stake purchases - spread across industrial, technology, consumer and other sectors - have so far affected a small fraction of China's listed non-state businesses, but the scale could grow if the country's market turbulence persists. Several local and provincial governments have set aside money to shore up companies squeezed by the pledged-share crisis, according to local authorities and media reports. The Shanghai Composite Index, which dropped 2.2 percent on Monday, was little changed in early yesterday's trading.

Yonker Environmental Protection Co., a maker of pollution-control equipment whose stock has tumbled 55 percent this year, is a typical example of the private-to-state shift. The Changsha-based company said on Oct. 9 that a local government-backed investment firm plans to buy up to a 30 percent stake from Yonker's controlling shareholder, which had pledged more than 99 percent of its holdings for loans.

The funding strategy had become increasingly common in recent years after a government clampdown on China's shadow banking system. Shadow lenders were an important source of liquidity for the private sector, which has long been shunned by state-run banks.

While Chinese leaders from President Xi Jinping on down have pledged to support private companies in recent weeks, some observers are skeptical. The worry is that more companies could shift from private to state hands, making the economy less efficient and restraining long-term growth.

"The private sector has shown time and time again that it's the most dynamic area of the Chinese economy and you certainly want to be encouraging that," Fraser Howie, who has two decades of experience in China's financial markets and co-authored the 2010 book "Red Capitalism," said on Bloomberg Television. "What you've seen very recently in the stock market is companies effectively being nationalized." **Bloomberg**



Rupert Stadler

Ex-Audi CEO Stadler freed from jail in Diesel emissions case

Karin Matussek

GERMAN judges allowed former Audi Chief Executive Officer Rupert Stadler to leave the jail where he's been since June, while warning that there's still strong evidence against him in a criminal probe over diesel-emission cheating.

The 55-year-old was told not to contact any potential witnesses in the fraud investigation and must post bail which will be forfeited should he violate the order. The measures were necessary to hedge the risk he may tamper with evidence, the Munich Appeals Court said yesterday in an emailed statement.

"The court understands that there's still a strong suspicion against him," the tribunal said in the release. "But the court considers it tenable and justifiable to release him under conditions."

His release comes after a successful appeal of a lower court ruling from August that kept him in a prison close to the Bavarian town of Augsburg since his June 18 arrest. Audi suspended him shortly after

his arrest and on Oct. 2 announced that he left Audi parent company Volkswagen AG, where he served on both executive boards.

Stadler was the highest profile executive detained since the diesel-cheating scandal engulfed Volkswagen nearly three years ago. Throughout the crisis, as sanctions topped 27 billion euros (USD31 billion), Volkswagen rejected claims that senior managers such as Stadler were aware of the criminal scheme that stretched over almost a decade.

Audi settled with Munich prosecutors earlier this month for 800 million euros to end the case against the company, while the probes against individual employees and managers continue.

Investigators added Stadler as a suspect at the end of May and raided his home over allegations of fraud and falsifying public documents relating to 2015 sales of diesel cars in Europe. They said his arrest was warranted because in a wire-tapped phone call he suggested putting a witness on leave, showing he was tampering with evidence. **Bloomberg**

Pizza Hut will enlist robots in quest to slice delivery times

Pizza Hut is fusing two of America's favorite pastimes - pizza pies and pickup trucks - in a bid to cut delivery times as fast-food competition heats up.

As part of the restaurant's latest partnership with Toyota Motor Corp., Pizza Hut has unveiled a robot-operated mobile pizza factory in the bed of a modified Toyota Tundra. The prototype will use automated technology to cook pies on-the-go in six to seven minutes, letting the chain expand its delivery area without the pizzas getting cold.

"We're bringing the oven closer to the consumer's door; nobody is doing that," Pizza Hut's chief customer and operations officer in the U.S., Nicolas Burquier, said in an interview. "We are pretty obsessed with improving the customer experience. The more

we can get closer to their homes or the point of delivery, the better and hotter the product will be."

The chain, a unit of Yum! Brands Inc., is aiming to turn around its lagging delivery performance and reach customers beyond their sit-down destinations. It has been a tough road so far, with Pizza Hut logging a surprise drop in same-stores sales during the second quarter. It reports results for the latest quarter on Wednesday.

There's no target date for the robotic pizza-maker's debut, Burquier said. Pizza Hut's announcement comes on the heels of a January deal to join Toyota's mobility alliance that'll develop fully autonomous vehicles. However, the hydrogen-powered Tundra used in the partnership will not be self-driving, Burquier said.

Beijing reverses ban on trade in tiger, rhino products

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

CHINA says it will allow trading in products made from endangered tigers and rhinos under “special circumstances,” reversing a previous ban and bringing condemnation from conservation groups.

A notice from the Cabinet issued Monday avoided mentioning any change in the law, saying instead that it would “control” the trade and that rhino horns and tiger bones could only be obtained from farmed animals for use in “medical research or in healing.”

“Under the special circumstances, regulation on the sales and use of these products will be strengthened, and any related actions will be authorized, and the trade volume will be strictly controlled,” the statement said.

Tiger bone and rhino horn are used in traditional Chinese medicine, despite a lack of evidence of their effectiveness in treating illness and the effect on wild populations. Chinese demand for ivory is also blamed as a driver behind the slaughter of African elephants, despite Beijing banning all trade in ivory starting from this year.

No reason was given for the lifting of the ban, which was implemented in 1993 amid a global push to protect fast-disappearing endangered species.

The statement also said nothing about regulating the farming of tigers and rhinos, but added that the central government “urged governments at all levels to improve publicity activities for protecting rhinos and tigers to help the public actively boycott any illegal purchases.”



In this 2009 file photo, a Siberian tiger crouches on top of a tourist bus at a branch of Harbin Siberian Tigers Breeding Center in Shenyang in Liaoning province

The World Wildlife Fund said the move to overturn the ban would have “devastating consequences globally” by allowing poachers and smugglers to hide behind legalized trade.

“With wild tiger and rhino populations at such low levels and facing numerous threats, legalized trade in their parts is simply too great a gamble for China to take,” Margaret Kinnaird, WWF

wildlife practice leader, was quoted as saying in a statement from the Washington-based organization.

“This decision seems to contradict the leadership China has shown recently in tackling the illegal wildlife trade,” Kinnaird said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said protecting endangered species is China’s “consis-

tent position” and that the changes aimed to fill gaps in previous regulations while providing for beefed-up enforcement.

“I’ve noticed the concerns of the relevant parties about this and we are willing to step-up exchanges with other countries in this aspect,” Lu told reporters at a daily briefing.

Despite the former ban, China has long allowed tiger farms,

which harvest the bones of dead animals, and tacitly allows their sale for alleged medicinal purposes, according to a study by the Environmental Investigation Agency, a British nonprofit.

Operators are also believed to be investigating the possibility of farming rhinos in the country, although, unlike tigers, those are not native to China.

The EIA called the overturning of the ban a “brazen and regressive move which drastically undermines international efforts for tiger and rhino conservation.”

“At a single stroke, China has shattered its reputation as a growing leader in conservation following its domestic ban on the sale of ivory at the start of the year,” the group said.

An estimated 3,890 tigers remain alive in the wild, according to a report presented during the Third Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation in 2016. Thousands of tigers are also believed to have been bred on Chinese farms where conditions for the animals are often criticized as dire.

Studies put the population of wild rhinos at less than 30,000, while poaching is reducing that number drastically each year.

Humane Society International also criticized China’s move, saying that “the trade it engenders will inevitably increase pressure on animals in the wild.”

“With this announcement, the Chinese government has signed a death warrant for imperiled rhinos and tigers in the wild who already face myriad threats to their survival,” Iris Ho, the group’s senior specialist for wildlife program and policy, was quoted as saying in a statement.

“It sets up what is essentially a laundering scheme for illegal tiger bone and rhino horn to enter the marketplace and further perpetuate the demand for these animal parts,” Ho said. AP

China, Japan, S. Korea warn citizens not to use marijuana in Canada

MARIJUANA may be legal now in Canada but at least three Asian governments are warning their citizens to avoid it, including the specter of possible arrest for Japanese and South Koreans.

China, the latest to weigh in, didn’t go that far. Its consulate in Toronto issued a statement dated Friday reminding Chinese in its jurisdiction — and students in particular — “to avoid contact with and use of marijuana for the sake of ensuring your own

physical and mental health.”

Canada legalized the sale of recreational marijuana on Oct. 17.

The Chinese statement, posted on the consulate’s website, included a long explanation of the Canadian and provincial laws, advising them to read it carefully to avoid running afoul of the new regulations.

Both Japan and South Korea warned their citizens in Canada ahead of the legalization.

The Japanese consulate

in Vancouver warned on its website that Japanese laws outlawing the possession and sale of marijuana may be applied to actions taken abroad.

“Japanese residents and travelers should take ample care to stay away from marijuana, including food and beverages that include marijuana,” the statement read in part.

South Korea held information sessions in Canada and used a government website and TV broadcasts to lay down the law for its citizens.

“Even in a place where marijuana is legalized, if our citizens smoke, purchase, possess or deliver marijuana, it’s a criminal act, so they will be punished,” the embassy in Canada tweeted. “Please be careful.”

Neither statement from Japan and South Korea explained how they might attempt to enforce their laws against smoking marijuana while abroad. Police and customs officials in South Korea did not answer calls seeking comment. AP



Toronto celebrates as midnight passes and marks the first day of the legalization of cannabis across Canada



US limits tech exports to Chinese firm on security grounds

THE Trump administration has imposed restrictions on technology exports to a state-supported Chinese semiconductor maker, citing national security grounds amid a mounting tariff battle.

The controls imposed on Fujian Jinhua Integrated Circuit Co. reflect concern Chinese competition could drive American technology suppliers out of business, leaving the military without secure sources of

components.

Beijing has spent heavily to build up Jinhua and other chip makers as part of efforts to transform China into a global leader in robotics, artificial intelligence and other technology industries.

The United States, Europe and other trading partners say Beijing's tactics violate its market-opening obligations. American officials worry they might erode U.S. industrial leadership.

President Donald Trump has imposed tariffs of up to 25 percent on USD250 billion of Chinese goods in an effort to pressure Beijing to roll back those plans.

Jinhua is completing "substantial production capacity" for integrated circuits, possibly using U.S. technology, which "threatens the long-term economic viability of U.S. suppliers of these essential components of U.S. military systems," said a Commerce Department state-

ment.

The company was added to the department's "Entity List," which will require it to obtain an export license for all software, technology and commodities, the Commerce Department said. It said such applications "will be reviewed with a presumption of denial."

That "will limit its ability to threaten the supply chain for essential components in our military systems," Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said in

the statement.

China's foreign ministry said it hoped foreign governments would treat Chinese companies "reasonably and fairly."

"We hope the United States will do something that serves the two sides' interest and helps improve mutual trust, instead of the other way around," said a ministry spokesman, Lu Kang.

Calls to Fujian Jinhua's offices rang unanswered yesterday and there was no immediate response to an inquiry made through their website.

The order marks the second U.S. action this year blocking technology exports to a Chinese buyer.

ZTE Corp., China's second-biggest maker of telecoms equipment, faced possible bankruptcy this year after Washington imposed a seven-year ban on sales of U.S. technology to the company over its exports to Iran and North Korea.

American authorities lifted the ban in July after ZTE paid a \$1 billion fine, agreed to replace its executive team and hired U.S.-selected compliance officers.

Meanwhile, Jinhua is embroiled in a court battle with U.S. chip maker Micron Technology Inc., which accuses the Chinese company of stealing its technology.

Micron sued Jinhua in December in federal court in California. Jinhua sued the U.S. company the following month in a Chinese court and obtained an order blocking sales of some Micron products. **AP**

QIU SHUIPING

New Peking University leader former state security official

THE official picked to lead one of China's top universities is a former head of the national spy agency's Beijing branch, underscoring a drive to tighten Communist Party power over academia and other sectors not under its direct control.

Peking University said in a statement that new party secretary Qiu Shuiping hopes the school can "seize the opportunities in the new era and grow into a world-class university with Chinese characteristics."

The wording of the statement issued last week closely mirrors language used by the Communist Party under President Xi Jinping, who has been expanding the party's already broad powers

throughout society alongside propaganda drives to retain young people's loyalty.

Xi, who amended the constitution earlier this year to allow him to rule indefinitely, has also warned against the introduction of liberal political concepts such as universal values into the classrooms of Chinese universities and professors have come under increasing pressure to maintain political correctness at the risk of demotion or dismissal.

Qiu's lengthy official resume says that from the end of 2013 to the end of 2014, he was party secretary of Beijing's State Security Bureau. That is the local branch of the ministry responsible for espionage and counter-

espionage.

Qiu graduated from Peking University in 1983 with a law degree and also served as secretary general of its party youth league branch. After a career in the Beijing party apparatus, he most recently served as a high court judge in the northern province of Shanxi.

While Chinese now have vastly more power to make individual life decisions than during the days of Mao Zedong, the party maintains decisive power over institutions from schools to banks, corporations to sports federations.

Authorities are wary of campus activism along the lines of 1989's student-led pro-democracy movement that was

crushed by the army and demand strict adherence to party requirements.

Students who speak out on issues from politics to gender equality have been disciplined and in some cases detained or expelled. Cornell University recently suspended two academic exchanges and a research program with Renmin University after a several students from the elite Chinese school were punished for supporting workers' attempts to form a union in the industrialized south, according to the Financial Times.

Increasingly, young Chinese are opting to study in the United States or other countries and Xi's own daughter was once a graduate student at Harvard University. **AP**

SHANDONG

Last of 21 dead recovered from coal mine collapse



SEARCHERS have recovered the bodies of all 21 miners who died in an eastern China coal mine collapse, state media said.

The official Xinhua News Agency reported yesterday the last body was pulled from the mine Monday afternoon.

More than 300 people were working inside the mine in Shandong province when it collapsed on Oct. 20. Most

were lifted to safety but 22 miners were trapped.

One trapped miner was rescued the next day.

The cause of the collapse is being investigated.

China long had the world's deadliest coal mines, but safety has improved considerably with more modern equipment, better training and the closure of most of the smallest, most dangerous mines. **AP**

AUSTRALIA

Spy chief wanted ban on China telecoms from 5G

AUSTRALIA'S critical infrastructure including electricity grids, water supplies and hospitals could not have been adequately safeguarded if Chinese-owned telecommunications giants Huawei and ZTE Corp. were allowed to help roll out the nation's 5G network, a spy chief said.

Mike Burgess, director-general of the Australian Signals Directorate, said his cyber experts had backed the government's decision in August to bar the two Chinese companies that he described as "high-risk vendors." It was the first time the secretive agency had disclosed such information.

"Myadvice wastoexcludehigh-risk vendors from the entirety of evolving 5G networks," Burgess said in a recent speech released by his office yesterday.

Security agencies had previously protected sensitive information and core functions of Australian telecommunications networks by restricting risky vendors to the edges,



Burgess said.

"But the distinction between 'core' and 'edge' collapses in 5G networks. That means that a potential threat anywhere in the network will be a threat to the whole network," Burgess said.

The next generation of telecommunications networks will be at the top of every country's list of critical national infrastructure, he said.

"5G technology will underpin the communications that Australians rely on every day, from our health systems and the potential applications of remote surgery, to self-driving cars and through to the operation of our power and water supply," Burgess said. "The stakes could not be higher."

Huawei was banned from bidding for contracts for Australia's broadband network in

2011. ZTE is a Chinese maker of mobile devices.

The Chinese foreign ministry accused Australia of ideological bias against the Chinese companies.

"Cooperation between Chinese and Australian companies is mutually beneficial in nature. Australia should offer convenience for the companies' cooperation between two sides, rather than making various excuses to deliberately obstruct the cooperation, such as taking discriminatory measures," ministry spokesman Lu Kang said.

"We urge the Australian side to cast away ideological bias and provide a level playing field for Chinese companies' operations in Australia. We hope Australia will take it seriously," he added.

Burgess' warning came as an Australian security think-tank raised concerns on Tuesday about increasing collaboration between Australian universities and China's People's Liberation Army scientists on research programs such as hypersonic missiles and navigation technology.

Australian Strategic Policy Institute researcher Alex Joske said some Chinese scientists hide their military backgrounds by claiming to be visiting scholars from non-existent institutions.

Since 2007, the PLA has sponsored more than 2,500 military scientist and engineers to study overseas, Joske said in a report.

Based on peer-reviewed publications co-authored by PLA and non-Chinese scientists, the United States, Britain, Canada, Australia and Germany were the top five countries engaged in research collaboration with the Chinese military since last year, the report said.

The report recommended that universities collaborate with allied countries rather than non-allied militaries on strategic research.

"It's not in our interests to help a non-allied military develop advanced military technology," Joske said. "We need better visa screening to make sure that people who've lied on their visa applications or are seeking to come to Australia to develop better military technology for China aren't let into the country."

Education Minister Dan Tehan said Universities were self-governing institutions best able to make decisions about collaboration while also satisfying all relevant Australian laws and security requirements.

5G networks will start commercial services in Australia next year. **AP**

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Rescuers search for victims of Lion Air passenger jet that crashed in the waters of Ujung Karawang, West Java



JT610

Lion Air crash renews concerns about Indonesia airlines

David Koenig, Airlines Writer

THE deadly crash of a Lion Air jet in the Java Sea has renewed questions about the safety of Indonesian airlines soon after U.S. and European regulators removed prohibitions against them.

A growing middle class and affordable fares have led to a boom in air travel in Asia, putting pressure on airlines, government overseers and infrastructure to keep up.

The surge has been particularly keen at Asia's budget airlines such as Lion Air, whose Flight 610 disappeared into the sea shortly after takeoff from Jakarta. The Boeing 737 Max 8 carried 189 people and was bound for Pangkal Pinang on a smaller island in the Indonesian archipelago.

Data pinged from the plane showed erratic speed, altitude and direction in the minutes after takeoff. Safety experts cautioned, however, that the data must be checked for accuracy against the plane's so-called black boxes, if they are recovered.

Indonesia's aviation industry has a checkered past.

The United States and the European Union banned its aircraft from their skies in 2007 after a string of accidents. The Federal Aviation Administration lifted that ban in August 2016.

This past June, European regulators — who had already allowed Lion Air and a few other Indonesian carriers to resume flying to Europe — lifted theirs on remaining Indonesia airlines. A spokesman said Monday that the European Commission has no immediate plans to renew the ban on Lion Air, but Australia told government officials and contractors not to fly on the carrier pending findings from the crash investigation.

The bans directly affected few flights, but Europeans were discouraged from flying on Indonesian airlines while visiting the country, where planes are the only practical way to hop among tourist-destination islands including Bali, Java and Sumatra. Among notable Indonesian accidents:

— In 2015, a turboprop operated by Indonesia's Trigana Air crashed in Papua province, killing all 54 people on board. Indonesia's safety agency blamed a number of mistakes by the crew and poor regulatory oversight of the airline.

— In 2014, an Indonesia AirAsia jet flying to Singapore crashed into the Java Sea, killing all 162 passengers and crew members. Investigators blamed a rudder-control system that had malfunctioned nearly two dozen times in the previous year, combined with the pilots' response.

— Miraculously no one was

killed in 2013 when a Lion Air jet descended too low, missed the runway and crashed into the sea off Bali, forcing some passengers to swim for their lives. Investigators blamed the crash during poor visibility largely on pilot errors.

In the only previous fatal accident of a Lion Air flight, a plane skidded off a rain-slicked runway and crashed into a cemetery in Surakarta in 2004, killing 25 passengers and crew. The airline has had other problems too, including the arrests of four pilots for drug possession in 2011 and 2012.

Harro Ranter, who runs the Aviation Safety Network, said Indonesian airlines must contend with difficult terrain in some provinces, frequent bad weather that leads to poor visibility, and shortcomings with air traffic controllers, who have on occasion put two planes on the same active runway. There have also been fears that the country would be unable to train or attract enough qualified pilots and that airlines would struggle to manage rapid growth, he added.

"Indonesia does stand out [...] they did have some really bad accidents in the past," Ranter said. "It's hard to judge if they have made sufficient progress with regard to safety."

He said it is difficult to pin a specific accident on the safety culture, but that international

regulators will be closely watching the investigation into Flight 610.

Boeing and rival Airbus have been stepping up production to meet the seemingly insatiable demand for new planes among global airlines, many of them in Asia.

It's hard to judge if they [Indonesian authorities] have made sufficient progress with regard to safety.

HARRO RANTER
AVIATION SAFETY NETWORK

Traffic on the world's airlines — measured in the number of miles or kilometers flown by passengers — jumped 8.1 percent last year, the fastest rate of growth since 2005, according to the International Air Transport Association, a trade group for the industry. It marked the third straight year of traffic growth above the long-term average of 5.5 percent growth in traffic.

China led the way in most new domestic passengers, by a wide

margin. Indonesia ranked sixth.

Aircraft operators in the Asia-Pacific region have had the highest number of accidents in the last five years, accounting for about one-fourth of all accidents, according to the trade group. But the accident rate has declined — from 2.33 every million flights in 2016 to 1.54 every million flights last year.

Southeast Asia and the Pacific have a far lower accident rate than Africa and South America, according to figures from the trade group and the UN's International Civil Aviation Organization.

The Lion Air crash appears to be the first involving the Boeing 737 Max 8, a more fuel-efficient update of Boeing's popular 737, the best-selling airliner ever. Lion Air received the jet involved in the crash just two months ago.

In a statement, Chicago-based Boeing Co. said it was "deeply saddened" by the crash and was prepared to offer technical help to investigators.

Boeing shares fell on news of the accident. They were down USD12.47, or 3.5 percent, at \$346.80 in early-afternoon trading.

Jim Corridore, an analyst for CFRA Research, said Boeing planes have a good safety record and the accident is unlikely to hurt orders for new planes.

Lion Air became the first airline to get a 737 Max, in May 2017, and has received 13 of the 201 Max planes that Boeing has delivered, according to the Boeing website. Boeing has taken nearly 4,800 orders for the plane, including 201 from Lion Air.

Southwest Airlines was the first U.S. carrier to fly the plane and has taken 23 of them, according to Boeing. **AP**

USA

Trump seeks to limit birthright citizenship in Constitution

Kathleen Hunter, Terrence Dopp

U.S. President Donald Trump said he plans to sign an executive order ending birthright citizenship for babies of non-citizens and unauthorized immigrants born on U.S. soil, a proposal one legal expert called “absurd.”

“We’re the only country in the world where a person comes in and has a baby, and the baby is essentially a citizen of the United States,” Trump told “Axios on HBO” in an interview, excerpts of which were released Tuesday. “It’s ridiculous. And it has to end.”

Trump’s claim that the U.S. is the only country that extends birthright citizenship is false. While the president is correct that European countries all require a period of residency before bestowing citizenship on those born to foreign parents, many countries in the Americas such as Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina have U.S.-style birthright citizenship.

Trump asserted that it would not take a constitutional amendment to rescind birthright citizenship from some people born in the U.S., a stance that would undoubtedly draw a legal challenge should he proceed.

“It was always told to me that you needed a constitutional amendment. Guess what? You don’t,” he said.

The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution spells out birthplace as an arbiter of citizenship, stating that, “All persons born or naturalized in the United

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States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States.”

Sarah Turberville, a constitutional expert at the Project on Government Oversight, an independent nonprofit, said Trump’s proposal would be ripe for a court challenge from those stripped of citizenship. It would also likely prompt bipartisan congressional charges of executive overreach, Turberville said.

“It’s a pretty absurd notion frankly that the president believes he would be able to amend the Constitution and 150-plus years of interpreting the 14th Amendment through an executive order,” Turberville said in an interview yesterday.

Trump’s proposal comes exactly a week before lawmakers midterm elections, in which Trump’s Republican Party is bracing for heavy losses and a poten-

tial Democratic takeover of the U.S. House.

The move could give a boost to Trump’s fellow immigration hard-liners. Maine Senate candidate Eric Brakey, a Republican who is challenging incumbent Angus King, endorsed Trump’s plan in a statement, saying the president “needs fresh support in Congress to follow through.”

But moderate Republican Representative Carlos Curbelo, who is in a competitive race to keep his South Florida seat, distanced himself from Trump, tweeting that birthright citizenship “is protected by the Constitution.”

“What we really need is broad immigration reform that makes our country more secure and reaffirms our wonderful tradition as a nation of immigrants,” Curbelo said.

“The president cannot erase the Constitution with an execu-

tive order, and the 14th Amendment’s citizenship guarantee is clear,” Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU’s Immigrants’ Rights Project, said in a statement. “This is a transparent and blatantly unconstitutional attempt to sow division and fan the flames of anti-immigrant hatred in the days ahead of the midterms.”

Asked about timing or legal justification for the executive order, White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders said only that the full interview with the president would air Sunday.

Trump has been trying to restore the public focus on immigration after the events of the past week, which included the arrest of a Trump supporter in connection with mailing at least 13 suspected explosive devices to targets of the president’s ire, including Democratic politicians and the cable network CNN. In

another incident, a gunman on Saturday shot and killed 11 people in a Pittsburgh synagogue in what authorities have said was a hate crime.

After an initial call for unity, Trump has increased his rhetoric against the media and undocumented immigrants, including a group of Central American migrants that is heading toward the U.S. through Mexico. The Trump administration announced Monday that it would send about 5,200 troops to the southern border with Mexico by the end of the week to head off the migrants.

“We’re the only country in the world where a person comes in and has a baby, and the baby is essentially a citizen of the United States.”

DONALD TRUMP

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in September said the U.S. planned to lower the cap on refugee admissions by a third to a record low 30,000 people for the coming fiscal year. Immediately after taking office in January 2017, Trump attempted to ban entrants from several Muslim nations, an effort that was turned down by the courts and forced his administration to rewrite the policy before the U.S. Supreme Court in June upheld the latest iteration.

Axios said its full interview with Trump would air Sunday. **Bloomberg**

SPAIN

Madrid says Vatican to help with discreet reburial of Franco



A person walks by the Franco family burial space adorned with flowers in the Almudena Crypt

THE Spanish government said yesterday that the Vatican has agreed to jointly find ways to prevent the remains of late Spanish dictator Gen. Francisco Franco from being reburied under a central Madrid cathedral after they are exhumed from a glorifying mausoleum.

Relatives of Franco want to reinter his embalmed body in a family crypt under Almudena Cathedral if the government delivers on a promise to remove it from the Valley of the Fallen, a self-aggrandizing mausoleum outside of the Spanish capital where he was interred upon

his death in 1975 along the remains of some 34,000 fighters from both sides of the Civil War.

Deputy Prime Minister Carmen Calvo said the Vatican’s State Secretary Pietro Parolin had agreed during a Monday meeting to “jointly find a solution that obviously can’t be the Almudena” cathedral.

The two sides agreed that while Franco’s remains need to be relocated to a place “with dignity,” the government “must guarantee in all Spanish territory that Franco is not praised.”

The Spanish government and Catholic authorities in Spain had previously said they couldn’t oppose the proposal from Franco’s heirs because the sepulcher under Madrid’s main church is owned by the family, which bought it from the church

for 30,000 euros (\$34,000) more than two decades ago.

But yesterday’s remarks by Calvo, the official in charge of the exhumation, suggested a new turn in the center-left Spanish administration’s efforts to bring Franco out of the spotlight. The attempts have been opposed mainly by supporters of Franco’s authoritarian regime and his heirs.

The Franco family crypt under the Spanish capital’s cathedral is centrally located among major tourist hotspots and near the Royal Palace where Franco used to address ecstatic crowds rallying in support of his regime.

Opponents worry that having the general’s remains there would make Madrid a pilgrimage destination for extreme right groups and others nostalgic for Franco’s authoritarian rule. **AP**



Warren Buffett



Sheldon Adelson

Buffett takes on Adelson in billionaire feud over Vegas lights

Mark Chediak, Brian Eckhouse

IN a battle of billionaires, Sheldon Adelson and Warren Buffett are squaring off over who controls the power that keeps the bright lights blazing in Las Vegas and across Nevada.

Adelson, the Republican mega-donor and founder of the Las Vegas Sands Corp., is backing an initiative on the Nov. 6 ballot that lets customers choose their own power provider by 2023. At risk is NV Energy Inc., a utility owned by Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. that now holds a virtual monopoly in the state. The total cost of the fight so far: Almost USD100 million.

The initiative gained 72 percent of the vote in 2016, but needs to win a second consecutive ballot to become law. A September poll showed the initiative trailing by 19 percentage points, but with 16.4 percent of residents undecided. At the same time, the renewables industry has been largely uncommitted, citing a lack of detail on how it may play out.

"At the highest level, you have a couple billionaires slugging it out," said David Damore, a professor of political science at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. "It's a very complicated issue, one that probably shouldn't be handled at the ballot box, given how much uncertainty there is around it."

The proposition, which seeks to amend wording in the state constitution, has prompted one of the most heavily financed political battles in the current U.S. election cycle. The amount raised for it exceeds the \$91.6 million spent in the state's high

profile U.S. Senate race, and the \$40 million battle over energy use in Arizona, Nevada's southern neighbor.

Meanwhile, it's not the only energy initiative being fought out in Nevada. Another billionaire, Tom Steyer, a Democratic mega-donor, is supporting a push to require half of the state's electricity to come from renewables by 2030, mirroring his similar effort in Arizona. Steyer said in an interview he's not involved in the energy choice initiative.

The battles in both states come as the U.S. power industry is grappling with a historic transformation. Cheap solar and wind power, along with better battery storage, are emboldening homeowners and businesses to go it alone, loosening the grip of utilities that once owned and distributed all of the electricity in their regions.

In California, cities and counties dissatisfied with utilities' pace of adding clean power are creating their own power agencies. In parts of the Northwest, utilities - including owned by Berkshire - and renewables developers have been at loggerheads over a 40-year-old law that was partly intended to boost clean power.

An April report by state regulators found that NV Energy would likely be forced to sell its power plants and assign its power-purchase contracts to new owners if the energy choice measure is adopted. That could saddle Nevada ratepayers with potentially several billion dollars in costs to pay for the so-called "stranded assets," but those expenses would diminish over time, the report said.

The Coalition to Defeat Question 3, backed by NV Energy, is labeling the initiative in media ads as "risky" and "expensive," and says it will disrupt progress toward getting more renewable energy. State filings show the coalition has raised \$62.3 million in cash to pursue its fight, with all but \$12,000 of it coming from the utility.

It's a very complicated issue, one that probably shouldn't be handled at the ballot box, given how much uncertainty there is around it.

DAVID DAMORE
SCHOLAR, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA

'POTENTIAL TO DISMANTLE'

NV Energy said in an Oct. 26 statement that it's backing the coalition as a way "to make sure all Nevadans have the facts about this risky and costly constitutional amendment, which has the potential to dismantle an electricity system that already provides low costs, increased clean energy production, great customer service and industry-leading reliability."

Berkshire didn't respond to a

request for comment left with Buffett's assistant.

Not surprisingly, proponents of the initiative disagree. "As we have seen across the country, energy monopolies aren't working for ratepayers," said David Chase, with Nevadans for Affordable, Clean Energy Choices. "We think a competitive market will lower electric bills, create more jobs and be better for renewable energy."

That group has raised almost \$33 million in cash, including about \$21.9 million from Las Vegas Sands and \$10.9 million from data center provider Switch Inc. Las Vegas Sands and Adelson declined to comment for this story.

Meanwhile, even with the word "renewables" being tossed around liberally by both sides in the battle, companies that provide solar and wind remain largely uncommitted. Their concern: the devil is in the details.

WORRISOME THING

While the initiative authorizes energy choice, seen as a good thing, it leaves specifics as to how that might happen up to the state legislature, seen as a worrisome thing. At the same time, there's uncertainty over the fate of existing power-purchase agreements with NV Energy in the event that the measure passes.

The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) hasn't taken a position on the initiative, according to Sean Gallagher, the group's vice president of state affairs. "It's not clear under a choice regime how things like the renewable portfolio standard or net-metering would apply,"

Gallagher said. "It leaves a lot to be determined at a later date."

NV Energy has signed a slew of deals in Nevada to buy cheap clean power. But Berkshire's record in the state, as elsewhere, is mixed. While Berkshire isn't shy about trumpeting its status as a major renewables owner - it's the second-biggest owner in the U.S. - its Nevada utility three years ago backed the rollback of credits that had buoyed residential solar in the state. That effectively paralyzed the industry until Nevada's outgoing governor signed a bill last year to restore the credits.

YEARS COMING

The push to break NV Energy's monopoly has been years in the making. It came after casino owners Wynn Resort Ltd., MGM Resorts International and Caesars Entertainment Corp. paid millions to leave NV Energy and buy power from other providers. Las Vegas Sands, the company run by Adelson, declined to pay a fee to exit and instead backed the energy-choice initiative, known as Question 3 on the November ballot.

Nevada has flirted with deregulating its power market previously, though the most serious consideration before this recent push preceded Berkshire's ownership of NV Energy. In the mid-1990s, Nevada was among the states that approved legislation to create a competitive power market. But the 2000 energy crisis in California and the ensuing Enron scandal contributed to the state halting that effort, according to a government document in July. So, the Silver State's power sector remains vertically integrated.

"There's a lot of uncertainty surrounding this," said Colleen Regan, a San Francisco-based analyst at Bloomberg NEF. "Are there protections in place to ensure that consumers are not taken advantage of? Is it open to everyone?" **Bloomberg**

what's ON



TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

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

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

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

MANDARIN'S HOUSE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

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

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

KEITH HARING MAZE MACAU

TIME: 1pm - 9pm

UNTIL: December 31, 2018

VENUE: Cotai Expo Hall F, The Venetian Macau

ADMISSION: MOP150

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8818

Offbeat

THEY GROWL AND BITE! HUNDREDS OF OREGON 'WITCHES' PADDLE DOWN RIVER, MINUS THE BROOMS



Hundreds of "witches" traded in broomsticks for paddles in Oregon during the last weekend before Halloween.

The costumed crew paddled 10 kilometers on boards Saturday along the Willamette River, which divides the city of Portland.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported that the paddleboard event started two years ago with a handful of participants but now attracts hundreds.

Participants donated packages of socks, underwear and T-shirts to a local nonprofit group before they started paddling.

Spectators who were caught off guard by the witches watched from the shoreline.

TV canal macau



13:00 TDM News (Repetição)

13:30 RTPi News (Live)

15:00 Mistura Fina

16:20 Nelo & Idália

16:55 Who wants to be a millionaire

17:50 Fotobox

18:05 Depois do Adeus

19:00 TDM interview (Repeat)

19:35 Os Nossos Dias Sr.2

20:30 Telejornal

21:15 Montra do Lilau

21:50 LiteraturAqui

22:25 Filha da Lei

23:15 TDM News

23:50 Curso de Cultura Geral Sr.2

00:45 Telejornal (Repetição)

01:30 RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

27 - 31 Oct



HUNTER KILLER

ROOM 1

2:30, 4:45, 7:15 9:30pm

Director: Donovan Marsh

Starring: Gerard Butler, Gary Oldman

Language: English

Duration: 112min



HALLOWEEN

ROOM 2

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

Director: David Gordon Green

Starring: Jamie Lee Curtis, Judy Greer, Will Patton

Language: English

Duration: 130min

CAFE FUNICULI FUNICULA

ROOM 2

2:30, 9:15pm

Director: Ayuko Tsukahara

Starring: Kasumi Arimura, Kentaro, Haru, Hiroko Yakushimaru

Language: Japanese (Chinese, english)

Duration: 130min



VENOM

ROOM 3

4:45, 9:30pm

Director: Ruben Fleischer

Starring: Tom Hardy, Michelle Williams, Riz Ahmed

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 112min

this day in history



1984 INDIAN PRIME MINISTER SHOT DEAD

Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, has been killed by assassins in New Delhi.

Mrs Gandhi was thought to have been walking through her gardens this morning when she was shot. She was taken to the All India Medical Hospital where she underwent an emergency operation to remove the bullets but died an hour and a half later.

Initial reports suggest the two attackers were guards at her home who were then shot by other security officers.

No exact motive is known but it is believed the pair were Sikh extremists acting in retaliation for the storming of the Sikh holy shrine of the Golden Temple in Amritsar in June.

Mrs Gandhi had been receiving death threats since the attack on the temple in which 1,000 people died.

The night before her death she told a political rally: "I don't mind if my life goes in the service of the nation. If I die today, every drop of my blood will invigorate the nation."

Security throughout the country has been stepped up. Roads to the hospital and the home of the prime minister have been sealed off and borders around Delhi have been closed.

The Indian cabinet has started an emergency meeting to choose a successor.

India's High Commissioner, Prakash Mehrotra, said: "Democracy is very deep rooted in our country and the country is prepared to face any situation. A meeting is being called in Delhi, it is usual that the number two man in the cabinet takes charge for the time being."

Mrs Gandhi first became prime minister in 1966 and again in 1980 and was praised for her battle against famine in rural areas.

Stan Orme from the Anglo Indian Parliamentary Association said: "It is a very terrible thing. She was a very impressive person, very strong-willed. It is a real tragedy."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Riots erupted across India following the murder of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, as Hindus took their revenge on Sikhs who were blamed for the assassination.

In the days following the death of the prime minister up to 1,000 people are thought to have died. The army were ordered to go into the cities and quell the violence.

Mrs Gandhi's son, Rajiv, was sworn in as her successor within hours of her death. He went on to win a landslide victory in the general election in December 1984.

On 6 January 1989, Satwant Singh and Kehar Singh were hanged for killing Mrs Gandhi. Balbir Singh was acquitted.

Rajiv Gandhi was himself assassinated by a suicide bomber on 21 May 1991.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19
A child is the key to your happiness today. If you're a parent, that's a no-brainer, but if not, you may find yourself drawn to a friend's family, or you may just end up helping a lost kid at the park.

Taurus April 20-May 20
You are all het up and ready for a fight - but those around you may not be contrary enough to mix it up with you. Don't spend the day trying to find someone to rise to your challenge.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21
Your social and mental energies are aligned in the same direction today - and that should be lots of fun for you! It is a good idea to arrive at conclusions via argument, but try to keep it light and fluffy.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Try not to make today's purchases based solely on price - you've got to at least think about quality as well. You may not be ready for a colossal price tag, but you can surely compromise.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Your ability to dream up great ideas on the fly is enhanced now - so make sure that you're showing people what you can do. It's one of those days when things are swinging your way.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22
There's a bit too much going on for you to keep track of it all. That's not to say that you're overwhelmed - just that you'd rather take things one step at a time. Try to clear out anything extraneous.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22
Leadership isn't necessarily something you seek out - but it is sometimes thrust upon you, like today. Expect to need to take charge of some group and lead the way toward a new day.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Your inner power is growing, so make sure that you're pushing yourself in new directions. You may find that people are more willing to give you room to breathe if you ask for it.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Take a risk - though make sure you're not staking anything you can't afford to lose! There are no sure things in this life, but the odds are definitely in your favor today. Besides, it's fun to play!

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Be wary with sharing today - you may end up accidentally giving up more than you or your people can afford. That's not to say you should be miserly, just that you need to keep careful accounts.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Your energy may be off-balance - but it's really your relationships that are out of whack. You need to throw yourself into figuring out your friends and family before you can make progress.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20
You've got to mind your own business today - even if curiosity is killing you! At least one colleague just needs their privacy, so let them stew or freak out until tomorrow at the earliest.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

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

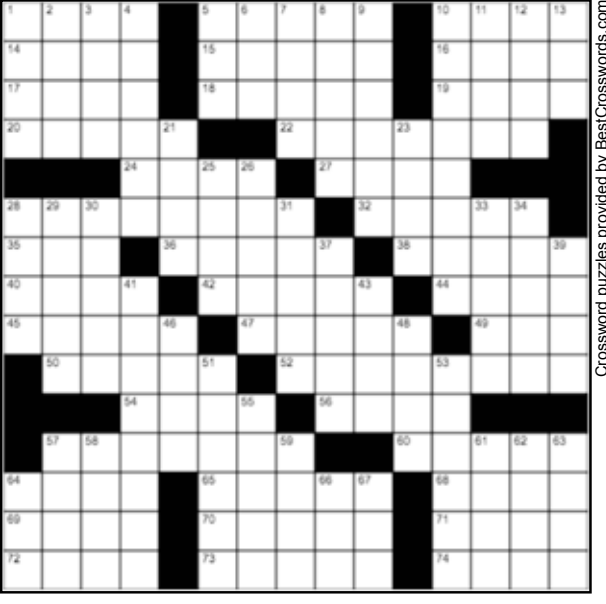
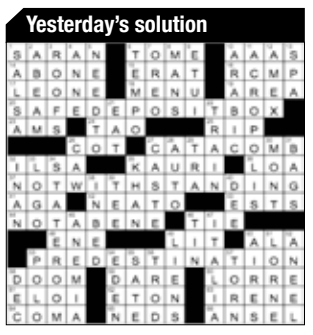
Hard Sudoku grid with numbers 5, 4, 8, 2, 7, 4, 7, 9, 8, 5, 1, 5, 9, 2, 6, 1, 7.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION. Rows include CHINA (Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong) and WORLD (Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York).

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1-Anarchist Goldman; 5- Ascends; 10- Calf-length skirt; 14- Dull; 15- Boxing venue; 16- Western Indians; 17- Nitti's nemesis; 18- Bird homes; 19- Just right; 20- Committee type; 22- Official sitting; 24- Type of tomato; 27- Bit attachment; 28- White wine; 32- Facial expression used by Elvis Presley; 35- Lance on the bench; 36- Zero; 38- Columbus's birthplace; 40- Metallica drummer Ulrich; 42- Hipbone; 44- Loud, deep utterance, especially used by lions; 45- AKA; 47- Acclaim; 49- Baton Rouge sch.; 50- Fenced areas; 52- Unit of power; 54- Paint crudely; 56- Mexican money; 57- Pamphlet; 60- Perot; 64- Fishing reel; 65- Head lock; 68- Retain; 69- Author Morrison; 70- Gaucho's rope; 71- Suffix with exist; 72- Wait ___!; 73- Threads; 74- Routine; DOWN: 1- Poet ___ St. Vincent Millay; 2- TV horse; 3- Pulverize potatoes; 4- Soak up; 5- Managed; 6- Wrathful emotion; 7- Cong. meeting; 8- Keyboard key; 9- Talks back to; 10- Person who mutinies; 11- Langston Hughes poem; 12- Faculty head; 13- Believer's suffix; 21- Soft drink choice; 23- Do a number; 25- Lanai neighbor; 26- Fish; 28- TV handyman Bob; 29- Pisa place; 30- Water wheel; 31- Young bird; 33- ___ Gay; 34- Way to cook; 37- Cup-shaped flower; 39- Stuck, after "in"; 41- Mocking; 43- Boy or man; 46- Neb. neighbor; 48- Nonsense; 51- Sweltering; 53- Employee; 55- Kentucky college; 57- Life stories; 58- Writer Sarah ___ Jewett; 59- Eye drop; 61- Vintner's prefix; 62- Religious offshoot; 63- Graf ___; 64- School org.; 66- RR stop; 67- Airline to Oslo;



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
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China's Sun Wei performs on the pommel horse during the men's team final of the Gymnastics World Championships at the Aspire Dome in Doha, Qatar

GYMNASTICS

China edges Russia for team gold at worlds

Will Graves, Doha

NIKITA Nagornyy stuck his high bar dismount, flexed just a bit and let out a sigh. Exhausted but exhilarated, the Russian gymnast thought his country's long wait to return to the top of the sport was finally over.

Then Nagornyy's score flashed and a whoop went out at the Aspire Dome. Only it didn't come from the Russians but the Chinese, who took gold at the world championships in a tense if sloppy men's team final by less than five-hundredths of a point

to claim their first major international title in four years.

China's total of 256.634 was just ahead of Russia's 256.585. Nagornyy — who stalled midway through his final routine and was scored 13.733, not quite enough for Russia to slip past the Chinese — couldn't seem to figure out how gold turned to silver.

"Of course I don't feel positive about it because I think that we were very close and they didn't let us win," Nagornyy said through an interpreter.

When asked if he was talking about the judging, Nagornyy shrugged.

"I don't really blame judges as such but [...] I don't think it's right," he said.

Not that it mattered to the Chinese. The longtime superpower watched rival Japan claim the top spot at the 2015 world championships and 2016 Olympics but surged back into its usual perch thanks to a sublime performance on parallel bars by Zou Jingyuan, whose score of 16.2 marked the highest of the meet, even better than anything put up in the women's competition by American star Simone Biles.

China needed just about every hundredth.

Paired together with Russia during the final, the Chinese headed to the final rotation leading by 1.2 points only to see Xiao Ruoteng come off early in his high bar routine. Xiao clasped his hands over his head in shock before re-chalking and going back to work. His score of 12.6 opened the door for the Russians, but Nagornyy couldn't quite take advantage, leaving Xiao with a mixture of joy and relief.

"[My mistake was] really regretful but you know, I was totally ready for this competition but maybe for some reason I missed routines," Xiao said through an interpreter. "Our whole team, everyone just encouraged me."

China won its 11th world title since 1994 and earned an automatic spot in the 2020 Summer Olympics, as did Russia and third-place Japan.

The Japanese saw their shot at chasing down China end when Yusuke Tanaka sailed off the

parallel bars. Tanaka's score of 11.566 was too much to overcome in the finals, when three gymnasts compete in each event and score counts.

Briefly faced with the prospect of finishing off the podium entirely, the Japanese rallied to hold off the United States for third, in large part because of two-time Olympic champion Kohei Uchimura, who served as the anchor on four of the six events.

Uchimura said it was 50-50 when asked if he was disappointed in his team's finish but relieved it assured the Japanese a spot in the Olympics, which will be held in Tokyo.

"After Yusuke's fall, we had to stop the bad mood," said Uchimura, who is dealing with an ankle injury that kept him out of the all-around competition. "We had to start battle mode."

So did the Americans. Five-time national champion Sam Mikulak slipped during an easy portion of his routine on pommel horse, the U.S.'s first event. The miscue put the Americans in a deep hole early, but it was their only real mistake, a significant step forward for a group that features just one gymnast over 23.

"We didn't have too much pressure, we knew we were really outside the medal podium contention," Mikulak said. "But we were able to put pressure on [late] and hit sets when other people weren't."

Mikulak added: "It's not too devastating because we've got a bright future to build on."

So, however, do the Chinese. Four of the five athletes that stepped onto the red-laden floor at the Aspire Dome are 23 or younger. On a day when they weren't quite at their best, they found a way anyway. With two years to prepare for Tokyo, there are worse things to have on your resume than "world champion."

"We are a young team, but we are a strong team," Xiao said. "We can do even better at the competition. We have to teach ourselves how to relieve the pressure and how to come back." **AP**

MOTORSPORT

F1 driver Ericsson moving to IndyCar with Schmidt Peterson

SAUBER Formula One driver Marcus Ericsson will move to IndyCar in 2019 with Schmidt Peterson Motorsports. The team plans to keep a seat for injured driver Robert Wickens.

The team announced yesterday that Ericsson will pilot the No. 7 Honda. The Swedish driver is expanding his racing career into North America and

won't join Schmidt Peterson until after the F1 season finale in Abu Dhabi.

Ericsson will remain a reserve driver for Alfa Romeo Sauber F1 Team after his move to IndyCar.

Wickens is paralyzed from the chest down from injuries suffered in an August crash at Pocono Raceway. He drove the No. 6 Honda in SPM's two-car lineup alongside Cana-

dian childhood friend James Hinchcliffe.

Wickens said last week the extent of his injuries are unclear. But he's hopeful he'll be walking in 24 months.

SPM reiterated "the No. 6 Honda remains open for 2018 IndyCar Series and Indianapolis 500 Rookie of the Year Robert Wickens when he wants to and is able to return."

Ericsson won championships in Formula BMW UK, Japanese Formula Three and was twice named Swedish Junior Racer of the Year. He's previously competed in British Formula Three, GP2 Asia, GP2 and currently has 95 starts in Formula One.

Ericsson was ninth in last weekend's Mexican Grand Prix. **AP**



Sauber driver Marcus Ericsson of Sweden

opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



REDUCING THE URBAN HEAT ISLAND

It has been observed all round the world that cities are substantially hotter than their surrounding countryside; this is called the Urban Heat Island Effect, eg Central London is often up to 6o warmer than its surrounding counties. This effect is even more pronounced in densely populated hot climate cities such as Macau.

Cities consume a lot of electricity which eventually becomes waste heat, eg conventional air-conditioners are heat pumps that move heat from inside buildings to the outside air, as you can readily feel when you touch any outdoor air-conditioning compressor. Concrete buildings and asphalt roads are also very good sunlight absorbers and heat up during the day and release their stored heat overnight. Plants provide shade and naturally transpire water to cool the surrounding air, but cities contain limited greenery and so this natural air-conditioning is limited within them. Finally, cities also often disrupt local wind patterns so that their stale, polluted air is not blown away – just think of Beijing during Summer.

Hotter cities cause several health problems. Simply being too hot can lead to heat stroke and heat exhaustion. Air pollution causes respiratory problems. Food and other wastes increase harmful bacteria and close people proximity means that diseases easily and quickly spread. Children and the elderly are more susceptible to all these problems.

Now 54% of humanity live in cities, and this is likely to grow to 60+% by 2030 so heat island problems are set to get worse. Luckily, there are several things that can be done to minimize city heat island effects.

In the long term the best approach is probably to legislate to ensure that all new buildings are very efficient and generate the least waste heat and provide the best living quality. Macau's green building awards are a step in the right direction, but we need to go much further to mandate and not just promote building sustainability. Similarly, eliminating as many vehicles as possible and using electric vehicles as much as possible is also good (to reduce the pollution and waste heat that they cause). In Macau we need to do much more to pedestrianize the city and to ensure that public vehicles are electric.

In the short term we can also lighten the colors of building and land surfaces so that they reflect rather than absorb sunlight. For example, experiments are underway to paint asphalt roads white in Los Angeles and several other American cities and they have been shown to reduce nearby air temperatures by up to 5o. Calçada Portuguesa – Portuguese cobblestone – that we see in Macau is good for this purpose, and we should use it much more. Perhaps we could use Calçada to pave the roads we pedestrianize.

Another, excellent short term measure is to plant more greenery, and to encourage the development of "green roofs", ie rooftop gardens. Toronto, for example, requires all new buildings with more than 2,000m2 of floor area to have rooftop gardens. The Chicago City Hall has a green roof and has been observed at night being 20o+ cooler than nearby buildings using thermal cameras. Macau has a good program of greening our city, but it needs to emphasize putting in more large shade trees and green roofs. Finally, several cities are legislating to create natural ventilation corridors through them. This frees up natural wind driven air movements to keep the city cool and blow away pollutants. Beijing authorities are aggressively following this approach.

I believe that Macau achieves a passing grade in reducing our local Urban Heat Island Effect, but there are several simple things we could be doing to "up our game". Lets get to an A grade.

Reference: The B1M (19 Sep 2018) "Three Cool Ways to Cool Our Cities" YouTube page accessed 21 September.

THE HALLOWEEN CAN BE DEADLY FOR PEDESTRIANS, TRAFFIC STUDY SAYS

Trick-or-treaters beware: Halloween can be deadly for pedestrians and children face the greatest danger. Research published yesterday found a 43 percent higher risk of pedestrian deaths on Halloween night than on other nights near that date. The study was based on four decades of U.S. traffic data, including 608 pedestrian deaths on 42 Halloweens. Canadian traffic researchers launched the study after noticing advertisements for Halloween parties posted to lampposts in their country. That got them thinking about a dangerous witches' brew: holiday revelers driving away from bars mixed with "legions of kids roaming the streets" in costume, said lead author Dr. John Staples of the University of British Columbia. Canada celebrates Halloween, too, but U.S. traffic data is remarkably complete, so Staples and colleagues focused their analysis south of their border. The study appears in JAMA Pediatrics.

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Station	Air quality
Roadside	90-120 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	60-80 Moderate
Ambient	90-120 Moderate

SOURCE: DSI/MG

German nurse says patient death charges are largely true

A former nurse accused of killing 100 patients at two hospitals in Germany over a decade ago told a court as his trial opened yesterday that the charges against him are largely accurate.

Niels Hoegel, 41, is already serving a life sentence for murder. His trial in the northwestern city of Oldenburg began with a minute of silence for the patients.

Asked by presiding judge Sebastian Buehrmann whether the charges against him are largely true, Hoegel replied "yes," news agency dpa reported. There are no formal pleas in the German legal system.

The murder charges stem from Hoegel's time at a hospital in Oldenburg between 1999 and 2002 and at another hospital in nearby Delmenhorst from 2003 to 2005. The alleged victims were aged between 34 and 96.

Hoegel was convicted in 2015 of two murders and two attempted murders. He said then that he intentionally brought about cardiac crises in some 90 patients in Delmenhorst because he enjoyed the feeling of being able to resuscitate them. He later told investigators that he also killed patients in Oldenburg.

Authorities subsequently investigated hundreds of deaths, exhuming bodies of



Defendant Niels Hoegel (right) covers his face with a folder as he and his lawyer arrive at the court

former patients.

The Oldenburg state court is conducting the trial at a courtroom set up in a conference center, a venue chosen to accommodate a large number of co-plaintiffs and public interest in the proceedings.

Judge Buehrmann opened the proceedings by asking everyone present to stand for a minute of silence for the deceased patients.

"All of their relatives deserve that their memory be honored," independently of whether or not Hoegel had anything to do with their deaths, Buehrmann said. "We will make every effort to seek the truth."

He promised Hoegel a fair trial.

Hoegel told the court that he had a "protected" childhood, free of violence. He said his grandmother and his father, who were both nurses, had been his role

models for going into the profession.

An additional conviction could affect Hoegel's possibility of parole, but there are no consecutive sentences in Germany. In general, people serving life sentences are considered for parole after 15 years.

"We have fought for four years for this trial and expect Hoegel to be convicted of another 100 killings," said Christian Marbach, a representative of the patients' relatives. "The aim is for Hoegel to stay in custody as long as possible."

The trial is scheduled to last until May.

Police have said that, if local health officials hadn't hesitated in alerting authorities, Hoegel could have been stopped earlier.

Authorities are pursuing criminal cases against former staff at the two medical facilities. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Channi Anand



Lights feast. An Indian woman colors earthen lamps ahead of Hindu Diwali festival in Jammu, India.

WORLD BRIEFS



ROMANIA's president yesterday laid a wreath to mark three years since a deadly nightclub fire in the capital Bucharest killed 64 people, and a march is planned to remember the victims and protest the slow pace of the trial.

SPAIN The Spanish government said yesterday that the Vatican has agreed to jointly find ways to prevent the remains of late Spanish dictator Gen. Francisco Franco from being reburied under a central Madrid cathedral after they are exhumed from a glorifying mausoleum. More on p14

BRITAIN Much of Britain will continue to feel the effects of eight years of spending cuts, even after the government's Treasury chief heralded the end of austerity by splashing out billions of pounds for health, transportation and small business in his latest budget.



BRAZIL's President-elect Jair Bolsonaro signaled his administration would make tackling the country's budget-crushing pension system a top priority, doubling down on a campaign promise that made him the choice of the business community despite frequently saying he doesn't understand the economy.

U.S. colleges and universities have received more than USD350 million from the Saudi government this decade, yet some are rethinking their arrangements in the wake of the killing of a journalist that has ignited a global uproar against the oil-rich nation.