



**AMBROSE SO CONFIRMS COTAI BRIDGE LINK**  
An overpass bridge will be built in 2020 linking Lisboa Palace and Wynn, SJM's Ambrose So revealed

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Taiwan's president commissioned a pair of guided missile frigates that are expected to boost the island's defenses

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# Chinese army joins Macau drill for 1st time

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## WORLD BRIEFS

**HONG KONG** The author of a novel critical of President Xi Jinping's slogan touting the Chinese Dream said he has been barred from speaking at the main venue of the Hong Kong International Literary Festival. The writer, Ma Jian, said he was told that the Tai Kwun arts complex had canceled his two events scheduled for tomorrow.

**SOUTH CHINA SEA** Vietnam strongly protested China's launch of weather stations in the disputed Spratly islands, saying yesterday they seriously violate Vietnam's sovereignty and complicate the situation in the South China Sea. *More on p13*



**THAILAND**'s Supreme Court has restored a 37-year prison term given to a gunman convicted of shooting four people during 2014 political violence.

**INDIA** Maoist rebels blew up a bus yesterday, killing four civilians and a paramilitary soldier, in a central Indian state where legislative elections are to be held next week.

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## Film festival wants to draw younger audience

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## GAMING

# Ambrose So confirms overbridge linking Lisboa Palace, Wynn

An overpass bridge will be built in 2020 linking the integrated resorts Lisboa Palace and Wynn Palace, the chairman of the board of directors of SJM, Ambrose So, confirmed.

"It's true, as we're always good neighbors. In Grand Lisboa we have an underpass going to the Wynn [Macau]. Here we have an overbridge," So said yesterday on the sidelines of an event, adding that gaming operators are confident that they will be granted another concession, despite not having received any official indication from the government.

"There's no guarantee from the government [...] but we are confident on the future of Macau and this is the right thing to do," he said.

Commenting on the legal ruling by the Court of Second Instance, which ruled that Wynn Macau is partially responsible for ensuring that the debts of Dore Entertainment are repaid, So implied that the arrangement between the junket operation and the concessionaire should be clearly stated.

"It is too soon to judge to say categorically whether the junket operation's responsibility should be passed onto the concessionaire. It depends on the detail of the arrangement"

In 2015, Dore was victim to an internal theft by a casino cage ma-



PHOTO ARCHIVE

nager who stole money from the junket operator, which was operating within Wynn Macau. The culprit was ordered by the courts to repay some MOP103 million in funds owed to Dore in 2016.

"There will be guidelines from the government as well and some regulations will also be [introduced]," said So, when questioned whether gaming operators should be more cautious in working with junkets.

## WYNN PLANNING TWO-TOWER EXPANSION IN COTAI

WYNN MACAU plans to expand its Cotai property by building two new towers, adding an additional 1,300 rooms and opening a new theater that will host three shows created specially for Wynn Palace. The news comes as Wynn Resorts reported strong third-quarter results, earning USD1.3 billion U.S. dollars (MOP10.48 billion) over the three-month period, about 20 percent more

than in the same quarter of 2017. The company also saw its casino revenues rise 40 percent year-on-year, while non-gaming revenue grew similarly by 35 percent. However, shares in the U.S.-based company plunged 15 percent yesterday - despite the strong posting - after chief executive officer Matt Maddox warned that Macau might be facing a "slowdown" in the post-Golden Week period.

# MECC pledges promotion of Macau-EU relationship

THE Macau European Chamber of Commerce (MECC) celebrated its fifth anniversary yesterday, pledging to further promote the relationship between Macau and the European Union.

During the celebration, the chamber recalled its past activities including keynote luncheons and the pre-launch visit to the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB).

The chamber said that it would continue to provide opportunities to visit and engage in discussion with different companies and en-

trepreneurs.

The MECC pledged that it would continue to promote business networking and set up collaborative initiatives in areas where European entities had expertise to offer to Macau.

Ambrose So, honorary chairman of the MECC and chairman of the board of directors of SJM, said in a speech during the cocktail celebration, "Over the past five years, we have actively engaged European enterprises and businesses in Macau through a multitude of channels and activities, highligh-

ting Macau's role as a platform for Sino-Western exchange."

Meanwhile, the president of the board of directors of the MECC, Kevin Thompson, recalled that in the first nine months of 2018, merchandise imports from mainland China and the EU increased significantly year-on-year. "With economic power shifting to Asia, a new generation of opportunities comes into view, and for the Greater Bay Area, it is a view defined by the opening of the HKZMB, effectively bringing the metropolis within a one-hour living circle." LV

# Complaining lifeguards fired, employer fined MOP230,000

A total of 24 lifeguards, who demonstrated against their employer's unfair working conditions, were reportedly fired by their employer after their strike came under the spotlight of both the public and the government.

Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, said on Wednesday that he only learnt about the dismissal from a news report, having expressed his disappointment towards the situation.

In the Secretary's opinion, the conduct of the outsourced service provider (Surf Hong Company) was improper, but the case should be followed up by the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL).

In addition, Tam said that the laws concerning the case should be improved.

Tam also claimed that if Surf Hong Company continues to report similar problems, the SAR government will probably deny public tenders to the company for relevant services.

The director of the Sport Bureau (ID), Pun Weng



Kun, commented on Wednesday that the dismissal of lifeguards is not the major focus of the sports authority. The ID's main concern is the actual service provided by the company, which consists of providing enough lifeguards for key locations at certain hours.

By the beginning of next year, the service contracts of all swimming pools under the ID's administration will come to an end.

Pun claims that the ID will review the relevant contract procedures and will find a qualified company to provide the service.

Previously, the ID president said that the company would be forced to pay MOP10 million for breach of contract, according to Macau's regulations.

# Trade and investment course held this weekend

THE Institute of European Studies of Macau will launch the Pearl River Delta Academy of International Trade and Investment Law (PRAIA) 2018, beginning from today to Sunday at the Macao Cultural Centre.

PRAIA is based on cooperation between the Institute of European Studies in Macau (IEEM) and Peking University, School of Transnational Law (STL), Shenzhen Graduate School, in Shenzhen. It is supported by the Macau Foundation.

PRAIA 2018 aims to provide education and training on international trade and investment law at the highest standards globally. It covers international investment law, international trade and investment dispute settle-

ment, taxation, food safety and standards, and selected current issues of transnational law and policy at the intersection of international and domestic law.

It focuses particularly on Asian countries but its coverage is worldwide. It also examines the Greater Bay Area development strategy of China.

Described by organizers as "intensive", the program covers treaties, laws and agreements of international investment and trade, the need for building on international relations, regional integration, negotiations and strategic planning.

A certificate, jointly-signed by the organizers, will be awarded to participants who complete the course and fulfil the attendance criteria.

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR) Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Viviana Segui  
DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao arry@macaudailytimes.com

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ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephone: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

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# PLA takes part in counter-terror drill

**T**HE PLA Macau Garrison took part in a counter-terrorism drill code-named "Bright Dog" that was held yesterday at the East Asian Games Dome. The drill, which lasted around two-and-a-half hours, involved a simulation relating to a group of six 'gunmen' seeking to enter a concert hall when a 5,000-strong 'audience' was inside. After initially being stopped by the concert's security guards, two 'suspects' escaped by vehicle, while the remaining four entered the hall and took the 'concertgoers' hostage. In the scenario, the 'gunmen' fired several shots and claimed to be in possession of chemical weapons.



A total of 900 Macau personnel joined the exercise. They were from several public security authorities, including the Customs Service's unmanned aerial service team and its patrol vessel unit. There were also four teams from the Public Security Police Force, the Judiciary Police and the Fire Services Bureau. The Health Bureau sent a medical team and a vehicle to provide treatment for

casualties. An additional 49 personnel from the PLA local Garrison took part in the drill. They joined the police efforts regarding detection of 'dangerous substances' as well as 'disinfection' and 'decontamination' of incident scenes. The drill involved a series of situations, ranging from: use by suspects of firearms in a large-scale concert; dealing with incidents involving explosives; malign use of chemical substances; and interception of 'gunmen' in or close to Macau's waters. The police forces set up an on-site control centre, which coordinated emergency efforts, so that the scene was divided into several zones: a negotiation zone; a zone providing medical treatment for casualties; a zone for decontamination work; and a zone for clean-up of toxic substances. Under the scenario – and in view of the potential multiple 'casualties' and many people at risk of

'exposure' to chemical substances, the Chief Executive 'requested' from the Central Government the assistance of the PLA Macau Garrison in helping with decontamination and rescue efforts.

Inside the concert hall, the police's special operation unit was dispatched soon after a 'gunman' shot a 'hostage'. 'Gunmen' then exploded a 'radiological weapon' when confronted by the police.

As the police escorted 'concertgoers' to safety during the scenario, they found a 'bomb trigger device'. The police and police dogs later located a 'bomb' in a car park and carried out a controlled explosion.

Meanwhile, the Macao Customs Service intercepted the other two 'gunmen' – that had been on the run – by using police surveillance cameras set up across the city. The drill simulated a 'gunman' being stopped before leaving Macau, while the other 'suspect' was captured in waters off the region.

In yesterday's simulation exercise three people were 'shot' and many others were made 'sick' after being exposed to 'hazardous substances'.

A statement issued yesterday by the government noted that local authorities intend to "continue to step up its response capabilities for unexpected events, in order to maximize protection of the public and their property."

## First cross-border mediation case settled

The Macau Consumer Council (CC) and the Consumer Association of Hengqin New Area of Zhuhai settled the first cross-border mediation case via a "Cross-border video mediation platform." The consumer dispute involved a local resident, who purchased a real estate in Hengqin, and a real estate agent in that area. According to the CC, the whole process took less than half an hour and assistance was given to the consumer by the Council so that both parties could sign the mediation agreement as soon as possible. After using the service, a local resident, surnamed Ng, stated that the platform enables her to communicate directly with the other party using the network equipment at the Council to save time and get prepared for her claim. The Consumer Arbitration Centre under the CC launched its cross-border mediation and arbitration service early this year and expanded the service with cities including Zhuhai, Jiangmen, Foshan, Hengqin New Area of Zhuhai and Hong Kong.

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The exhibition is being held at Casa Garden

## ART

## Autumn Salon back, bigger than last year

**E**IGHTY-TWO works of art are on display this year at the Autumn Salon in different media forms including oil painting, watercolor, drawing, sculpture, photography and printmaking. The number of artworks marks an almost 50 percent increase over last year's exhibition.

This year's exhibition, the eighth of its kind, is again jointly-organized by the Art for All Society (AFA) and the Macau delegation of the Orient Foundation. It opened this week and is held at Casa Garden, the headquarters of the Macau delegation of the Orient Foundation, until the end of the month.

Among the exhibiting artists this year are Cai Guo Jie, with several watercolor pieces; Leong Man Hin, whose large copper foil and mineral color artworks are prominently displayed; and Wong Hio Chit, whose oil paintings with charcoal and graphite depict distinctive and memorable buildings in Macau.

According to organizers, the

Autumn Salon provides a platform for local artists to showcase their latest works. "Through this event, we hope all the local artists, especially the young generation can have more opportunities in participation, so as to have a good starting point in their roads to art," organizers said.

One such way this is achieved is via an artists' residency in Portugal that is awarded to an outstanding artist each year. The residency helps the artist to have their works exhibited in the European country while extending the opportunity to network in related fields outside of Macau.

The winner of the Orient Foundation Art Award this year was Luna Cheong for her eponymous statue made of elm wood. Cheong was born in 1995, and graduated from the Macau Polytechnic Institute with a BA in Visual Art. She has also held two solo exhibitions, "The valley of tears" and "Life out of focus", respectively in 2017 and 2018.

Meanwhile, the two honorable mentions went to Jeong Mei Cheng for a video titled "Impersonate" and another one to Wong Mei Teng for the drawing, "Buffer Zone".

Cheong will be granted the opportunity for an artist residency in Portugal for one month, including air tickets and accommodation covered by the organizers.

According to AFA, in order to be eligible for the Orient Foundation Art Award, participants must be Macau local residents and under the age of 35.

This year, the number of exhibited artwork at the Autumn Salon grew nearly 50 percent from the 58 pieces shown last year by 30 local Macau artists. The 82 final pieces were narrowed down from a total of 114 works submitted during the betting process that began in May.

The Autumn Salon exhibition is open at Casa Garden from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day except Mondays and public holidays.

## Group calls for more consumer wine events



Henrique Soares (left) and Bruno Simões

## Lynzy Valles

**A** group, which organizes wine events, held a wine-tasting event for professionals on Wednesday, showcasing some 100 wines from the Setúbal Peninsula.

Nine wineries were present at the event hoping to gain further import and distribution opportunities – some being in the local market for many years.

According to the organizers, the region is increasing its roadshows and promotions, noting that wines from Setúbal have been rising in quality in recent years.

Managing director of DOC DMC Macau and Hong Kong Bruno Simões said most of the wineries present in the event are focusing on import opportunities.

"It's tough and competitive because there are a lot of Portuguese wines in the market and the market is dominated by the large hotels but every time they come, I think new opportunities arise," said Simões.

According to him, Macau is in need of similar events for consumers, aside from educational wine events that are

held in the city.

"This event is for professionals only so it's quite small but I think in Macau we need more consumer events for wines to create a greater wine scene in the city," he said.

According to the managing director, there is a bigger wine festival in Hong Kong, along with tradeshow, but he noted that Macau is following the same trend in the last five to 10 years.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Setúbal Region Wine Producers Committee, Henrique Soares said that the group also visits towns and cities in mainland China to promote wines from Setúbal.

"We're trying to gain maturity and branding of the region. [...] We came with the wineries to promote the region as a whole."

As this event is on its fifth edition, Soares said that wine consumers' engagement is continuously growing, noting that it is increasing some 100,000 liters per year.

"China, Macau and Hong Kong are important markets for us. [...] it's important for us to come here and let people know better about our wines," said Soares.

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Mike Goodridge

## Third IFFAM wants to draw younger audience

Renato Marques

**T**HE 3rd International Film Festival and Awards – Macao (IFFAM), which will take place from December 8 to 14 in the region, is set to be presented as a “young film festival.” This was mentioned yesterday during the press conference by the director of Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) and the president of the IFFAM Organizing Committee, Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, who announced the festival and

its program.

“We have put a very scrupulous effort in the production of IFFAM as a young film festival,” Fernandes said adding, “[we have] opened our ears to opinions from different circles in the last two editions and we have flexibly adjusted our program and selected a range of films to forge IFFAM into a prestigious brand in the international film industry as well as an East and West cultural exchange platform across borders and generations.”

In order to make the Festival more appealing and dedicated to the younger generations, Fernandes added, “this year, we feature ‘New Chinese Cinema’ as a new competition section to bring more Chinese-language films into the festival and enhance the lineup of outstanding films.”

Artistic Director of IFFAM, Mike Goodridge presented the program of the Festival stating, “I am very pleased with the IFFAM program this year. The whole programming team has

worked tirelessly to find the right films for our unique audience in Macau,” he said, adding, “we are confident that we can build on the enthusiastic audiences we attracted last year with a mix of a heady cocktail of bold brand new cinema.”

**“The whole programming team has worked tirelessly to find the right films for our unique audience in Macau.”**

MIKE GOODRIDGE  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Goodridge mentioned that among over 50 Chinese and Western films, which will be screened through various sections in IFFAM, the organizers choose to open the Festival with the movie “Green Book.” This is a film based on a true story and directed by Peter Farrelly, unfolding the tale of an African pianist and his white driver on a concert tour across the United States in the early 1960s. Rising above conflicts sparked by racial prejudice, the two build an unusual friendship beyond their differences in ethnicity and social status.

About the choice, Goodridge said, “it’s a very funny and moving film which won the Toronto International Film Festival in People’s Choice Award, which is a great indicator of its future success at the Oscars, so this is the perfect film to open the Festival.”

According to festival’s director, there will be 11 films in competition, representing 11 different countries and three continen-

ts. Goodridge is very pleased with the caliber of the films and the range and talent of the filmmakers involved.

A special award will also be granted to the section of the “New Chinese Cinema” in which a special jury from Screen International (a UK-based film magazine) will pick and award the best movie in Chinese language from the Festival.

In the competition will be: “Dear Ex” (Taiwan), “Baby” (Mainland China), “Xiao Mei” (Taiwan), “Up The Mountain” (mainland China), “Fly By Night” (Malaysia) and “The Pluto Moment” (Mainland China), that will compete for the Best New Chinese-language Film of the Year. Hong Kong film director Shu Kei, British film critic Nick James as well as Australian film critic and editor Stephanie Bunbury will be jury members for this new section in the competition.

Macau will also be represented in the Festival through several local productions, among them being the film “Empire Hotel” directed by the Portuguese Filmmaker Ivo Ferreira, starring Rhydian Vaughan, Talent Ambassador of the 1st IFFAM.

“Nobody Nose” starring Gordon Lam and the gastronomy-themed film “Aruna & Her Palette” are the two other local representatives.

The IFFAM films will be screened at the Macao Cultural Centre, the Macau Tower Convention and Entertainment Centre, and the Cinematheque Passion.

Tickets are on sale from today and film fans can purchase their entries through the Macau Ticketing Network or at the screening venues.

In addition to the Festival, tickets to a masterclass featuring actor Nicolas Cage (one of the Talent Ambassadors of this year’s edition) as the keynote speaker will be opened from today.

**A** Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB) shuttle bus operator is reporting losses due to a large number of mainland elderly one-day tour groups taking advantage of the discounted fare of the shuttle bus for elderlies, according to Hong Kong news reports.

Zhang Guangyou, chairman of the bridge’s shuttle bus operator, said that mainland China’s travel agencies are assembling group tours to take the bus in order to visit the bridge, which results in an extremely unbalanced number of passengers during different hours.

As Zhang explained, in the morning, these elderly group tours take the bus from Zhuhai to Hong

## HKZMB shuttle bus operator complains about mainland elderly tour group

Kong, and because of the huge number of passengers waiting at Zhuhai, the company needs to send empty buses to return to Zhuhai immediately in order to pick up more mainland seniors to Hong Kong.

In the afternoon, the same situation happens. The bus operator has to continue arranging empty buses to get to Hong Kong just to pick up the mainland seniors at the Hong Kong port and send them back to Zhuhai.

These senior packa-

ge tours are catered to mainland residents aged above 65 years old, who can travel the HKZMB for a 50 percent discounted fare.

For each single deck bus (35 seats), the bus company only receives approximately RMB1,000 (29 RMB per head).

During rush hours, the cost of an empty bus’s round trip is RMB600. Together with fuel costs and driver’s payment, each bus is said to yield a loss between RMB300 and RMB500 from each

empty round trip.

The company hopes that both the Guangdong and Hong Kong governments can quickly regulate these situations.

In addition to the above-mentioned situation, all Hong Kong, Macau and Zhuhai ports have been reporting water leakage in many places.

Among the three ports, the Macau port recorded the most amount of water leakage from the ceiling.

The Macau Security Force claimed it will improve the facilities.



LABOR

# Mandatory public holidays change proposal stirs opposition

Julie Zhu

**T**HE government is being urged to cancel the holiday shift proposal in the latest Labor Law amendment.

Yesterday, lawmakers Ella Lei, Leong Sun Iok, and Lei Chan U organized a promotional campaign in the Fai Chi Kei area to draw the neighboring community's attention to the latest labor law amendment proposal.

Last year, the SAR government conducted a public consultation on seven prioritized amendments of the labour law.

The amendment proposed paid paternity leaves and increasing the number of days for maternity leaves, both well accepted by Macau residents.

Originally, the amendment also proposed to change three of the city's compulsory public holidays into normal public holidays. During the public consultation, 64 percent of the public opinions opposed such a change.

Later, the government recom-



Lei Chan U (left), Ella Lei (center) and Leong Sun Iok

mended selecting three holidays out of four: New Year's Day, Ching Ming Festival, The Day following Chong Chao, and Chong Yeung Festival.

This proposal suggests these three days can be taken on other public holidays and further suggests them to be normal working days. The change also means that workers will probably work on these days.

"The residents mainly worry that

they only have 10 days of mandatory holidays, which is not a lot. [The residents] think that the government should not make changes to these holidays," said Lei. "Once this change is applied, it means that although workers are required to work on these days, they will not get compensated [extra]," she added.

"[Employees think] that you [the government] either pay them or you give them the day off, not change these days to other dates," said

Lei, adding that "this will harm workers."

"It actually means that grassroots workers will have no choice when their employers change their holidays. [...] It shakes the basic bottom line of the Labor Law. This is unacceptable," said Lei.

Besides damaging the workers' rights, Lei also thinks that the proposal goes against the trends in Macau's neighboring regions, mainly mainland China, in terms of paying more importance to traditional Chinese holidays.

"These four holidays are important traditional Chinese holidays. [...] This governmental proposal completely conflicts with the concept of celebrating important traditional Chinese holidays," said Lei.

In the lawmaker's opinion, Macau is already lagging behind in terms of days of public holidays when compared to its neighboring regions.

Lei called on the government to suspend the proposal and continue to entitle Macau residents to 10 days of public holidays.

## Property price index remains stable

The overall residential property price index for the three-month period of July to September 2018 rose 0.2 percent compared to the previous period between June and August to reach 270.4, according to the Statistics and Census Service. The index for the Macau Peninsula (272.9) rose by 0.3 percent, while that for Taipa and Coloane (259.0) dropped by 0.1 percent. Analyzed by the type of property, the index for existing residential units (292.0) grew by 0.3 percent from the previous period, while the indexes for units completed between six and 10 years ago and between 11 and 20 years ago increased by 1.1 percent and 0.8 percent respectively. Meanwhile, the index for pre-sale residential units (275.8) dropped by 2 percent. Analyzed by quarter year, the overall residential property price index in the third quarter of 2018 (270.4) grew by 0.4 percent from the second quarter (269.4).

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Sam Lee is a marketing manager and property consultant at JML Property. JML was established in 1994 and offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.



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**1. Pets.**

Dirty litter boxes and old "accident" stains are the obvious culprits here. Keep Kitty's litter box scrupulously clean at all times, and consider having your carpet professionally cleaned by someone who is experienced with pet stains. Don't forget that many

people are allergic to cats, so make sure your furniture and carpet are vacuumed frequently. Also ensure that any place your pet sleeps has been well cleaned. If possible, think about keeping your pets confined to a certain area of the property while your property is on the market. If you're thinking of getting a pet, wait until after you've moved.

**2. Cooking.**

Odors from cooking strong smelling foods such as fish, garlic and onion hang around and permeate the property. Throwing a few lemon slices in some boiling water or running lemon peel through the garbage disposal can help clear the air. Remember to take out your kitchen waste as often as possible.

**3. Cigarettes.**

The smell of smoke easily drops the value of a property. Smoke gets into the walls, carpets, furniture, and cur-

tains, and it is very difficult to remove.

If you or a family member smokes, stop smoking inside the property as soon as you decide to sell.

Paint the interior, launder curtains and either shampoo the rugs or replace them. If weather permits, keep the windows open to help air out the property.

**4. Air conditioning units.**

Air conditioning units have filters in which can hold on to odors. Now is a good time to ensure that the filters are properly cleaned and returning clean smelling air in to the room and not stale old smells.

To give your apartment a great smell you can brew coffee, light a lightly scented candle, bake cookies or toast some bread.

Follow the above steps, and your home will not only look good, it will smell great.

A fresh-smelling, odor-free apartment is much more likely to sell at the price you want.

## USA

## Nevada upholds Buffett's utility monopoly, boosts renewable goal

Mark Chediak, Brenna Goth

NEVADA voters rejected a measure to let customers choose their own electricity provider by 2023, preserving the near monopoly Warren Buffett's NV Energy Inc. holds in the state.

The measure, backed by casino owner Sheldon Adelson, was defeated this week, according to Associated Press tabulations. It would have forced NV Energy, owned by Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc., to open its retail business to competition and potentially sell power plants.

The proposition triggered one of the most heavily financed political battles in the U.S. election cycle. The amount raised for it approached nearly USD100 million, with a group backed by NV Energy outspending Adelson's coalition nearly two to one. A second measure, called Question 6, approved a renewable energy goal beginning in 2022 that would require utilities to get half their power from sources like solar and wind energy



by 2030.

Supporters of the utility competition measure said it would benefit NV Energy's roughly 1.3 million electric customers by providing them with options. Environmental organizations, labor unions and others argued the risks of overhauling the system outweighed potential benefits.

NV Energy spokeswoman Jennifer Schuricht said the measure threatened to "dismantle the state's power system in both urban and rural areas, and halt the progress being made with renewables."

The push to break NV Energy's monopoly has been

years in the making. It came after casino owners Wynn Resorts 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.

Consumers can already choose their own electric providers in about a dozen states, including New York, Texas and Illinois, according to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. **Bloomberg**

AD

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## Pet Moments

### Fanny Lai and Wong Sio Kuan Joint Exhibition

**Opening Ceremony**  
November 14th, 2018  
(Wednesday) 18:30

**Duration of Exhibition**  
November 14th, 2018  
until December 9th, 2018

**Opening Hours**  
Tuesday to Sunday,  
from 12:00PM to 08:00PM  
Monday, from 03:00PM to 08:00PM

**Exhibition Venue**  
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**Free Admission**

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# Tencent is said to slash game marketing budget amid freeze



Lulu Yilun Chen

**T**ENCENT Holdings Ltd. is cutting the marketing budget of its gaming division as the business suffers through regulatory disruptions and a slowdown in the Chinese economy, according to an internal memo seen by Bloomberg.

China's largest gaming company is asking marketing executives to control their cash flow and curtail spending to "endure the hard times together," according to the letter sent to executives a few days ago. Games that don't yet have government licenses, for example, will have to return their unspent money to the group. Jane Yip, a spokeswoman for Tencent, declined to comment on any potential budget cuts.

China's gaming industry, which generates more than USD 30 billion of revenue, has been hammered this year after regulators froze the approval process for new games, preventing companies from making money from their hit titles. The move has thrown Tencent into disarray, leading to its first profit drop in at least a decade and the evaporation more than \$200 billion of market value since a January peak.

To cope with the challenges, the operator of the WeChat social network is cutting in half the branding budgets for some

mature games if the money hasn't already been deployed, according to the letter. Tencent's also cutting spending on those that aren't performing well or have had their release pushed back to next year, with unused money to be returned to the group level.

While Tencent remains a strongly profitable company, its total debt has soared to a record \$26 billion, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. Analysts are expecting the company to record only a 24 percent rise in revenue for the third quarter when it reports earnings on Nov. 14, the slowest growth in more than three years.

Tencent distributes its own games as well as those from others, including Fortnite and Playerunknown's Battlegrounds. Other developers that supply the company include Capcom Co., Nexon Co., Activision Blizzard Inc. and Electronic Arts Inc., according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Capcom fell as much as 2.7 percent in Tokyo trading, while Tencent rose 2.1 percent. Tencent is the largest stock in the MSCI Asia Pacific Index, which includes more than 1,300 prominent securities across Asia.

Two of Hong Kong's online game makers lost more than 60 percent of their value yesterday, another example of wild moves in

the world's fourth-biggest stock market. Guangzhou-based FingerTango Inc. and Digital Hollywood Interactive Ltd. closed down 63 percent and 68 percent, respectively.

Tencent had been seeking to make money from Fortnite, this year's hottest title, via a special channel that allows distributors to experiment with commercializing the title for a month. However that permit was shut down in October, people familiar with the matter said last month.

The freeze in approvals comes as China shakes up the regulatory agencies responsible for allowing games into the market. Previously, all new titles were registered with the country's culture ministry and checked for sensitive content. Another agency then granted licenses for commercialization. It is unclear how the process will change after the Communist Party finishes its overhaul of approvals.

Temporary approvals through the so-called green channel, never significant in volume to begin with, topped entirely last month, the people familiar said. The process had given publishers the ability to test how users reacted to games before the official approval process.

In practice, it provided some game makers with a limited window during which they can make money from player. **Bloomberg**



## Barrier Gates Installation Schedule for Macau Grand Prix

"The 65th Macau Grand Prix" will be held from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of November. To coordinate with the event arrangement, barrier gates will be installed at the following locations along the circuit progressively starting from 12<sup>th</sup> November and the roads will be suspended of traffic on the occasion. The below locations will be gradually reopened from 18<sup>th</sup> Nov upon the conclusion of the event till the morning of 19<sup>th</sup> Nov. The Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee would like to seek the understanding of the motorists and to advise all road users to pay attention to the installation time of the barrier gates and respect the temporary traffic signage and instructions from the Traffic Authorities.

Date	Barrier Gates Installation Time	Road	Location
12 <sup>th</sup> November (Monday)	15:00	Av. da Amizade	Construction Site (Opposite to Casino Oceanus)
			Entrance and Exit of the garage at Hotel Grand Lapa
			Entrance and Exit of the World Trade Center
		Est. de Cacilhas	Depósito de Pólvora (Ramp)
		Est. D. Maria II	Entrance and Exit of the garage at Communications Museum
13 <sup>th</sup> November (Tuesday)	15:00	Rua dos Pescadores	Construction Site (left side from Rua dos Pescadores to Avenida de Venceslau de Morais, next to Macao Water)
			Entrance and Exit of Macao Water
		Av. da Amizade	Entrance and Exit of the garage at Jubilee Court Building (Next to petrol station)
		Est. dos Parses	Exit of the garage at the Monetary Authority of Macao
14 <sup>th</sup> November (Wednesday)	10:00	Av. da Amizade	Junction of the crossing point from Rua de Nagasaki to Av. da Amizade (Next to Jardim San On Building)
			Entrance and Exit of Car Workshop (Next to Communications Museum)

## TRADE WAR

# Exports to US tick up as traders try to beat tariffs

Joe McDonald, Beijing

**G**ROWTH in Chinese exports to the United States ticked up in October as traders rushed to beat a new tariff hike in a battle over Beijing's technology policy.

Shipments to the United States, China's biggest market, have been unexpectedly resilient since Trump started imposing punitive tariffs on goods in July in a fight over Beijing's technology policy. Exports rose 13.3 percent in October over a year earlier to USD42.7 billion, up from September's 13 percent growth, customs data showed yesterday.

China's trade surplus with the United States narrowed to \$31.8 billion from September's record \$34.1 billion as imports of American goods rose 8.5 percent to \$10.9 billion.

Traders are rushing to beat a U.S. tariff hike planned for January, ING economist Iris Pang said in a report. Pang said they are pessimistic this month's planned meeting between Presidents Xi Jinping and Donald Trump in Argentina will yield positive results.

"We expect this front-loading behavior to continue for the rest of 2018," Pang said.

The Trump administration has imposed a 10 percent charge on \$200 billion of Chinese goods that is due to rise to 25 percent in January. Another \$50 billion of Chinese goods already is subject to 25 percent duties.

Beijing has responded with tariff hikes on \$110 billion of American goods. Trump has threatened to expand U.S. penalties to all goods from China.

AP PHOTO



China's global exports rose 12.6 percent to \$217.3 billion in October, down from September's 14.5 percent growth. Imports rose 20.3 percent to \$183.3 billion, accelerating from the previous month's 14.3 percent. The global trade surplus was \$34 billion, up from September's \$31.7 billion.

"While shipments to the U.S. held up well, those to other parts of the world grew even faster, suggesting that global demand is more resilient than expected," Louis Kuijs of Oxford Economics said in a report.

Unexpectedly strong imports contrasted with other signs that China's factory output and other economic activity is cooling.

In the quarter ending in September, economic growth slowed to 6.5 percent over a year earlier, down from the previous quarter's 6.7 percent. A government survey found factory activity in October fell to a two-year low.

Chinese leaders have cut tariffs on non-U.S. goods and promised to encourage imports of consumer goods but reject

pressure to roll back plans for state-led development of technology industries.

Washington, Europe and other trading partners complain plans such as "Made in China 2025," which calls for creating Chinese global champions in artificial intelligence, robotics and other fields, violate Beijing's market-opening obligations.

Xi presided over the opening of an import fair Monday in Shanghai that is meant to re-brand China as a welcoming market for other countries'

goods. Some 3,600 companies from 152 countries are taking part in the five-day event.

The president promised to open Chinese markets wider, to cut costs for importers and to increase consumer spending power. But he gave no response to foreign complaints about technology policy and investment barriers.

Beijing agreed in May to narrow its trade gap with the United States by purchasing more American soybeans, natural gas and other exports. But Chinese leaders scrapped that deal after Trump's first tariff hikes hit.

Chinese companies have been ordered to stop buying American soybeans — the biggest U.S. export to China — and find other suppliers and export markets.

**Exports rose 13.3pct in October over a year earlier to USD42.7 billion, up from September's 13pct growth**

China's exports to the 28-nation European Union in October rose 12 percent over a year ago to \$35 billion. Imports of European goods increased 14.1 percent to \$21.6 billion.

American demand for Chinese goods should weaken next year as tariff hikes bite, said ING's Pang. She said exporters might try to sell more to Europe or other Asian economies, but those markets also might be hurt by U.S. import controls.

"Strong export growth may not last very long," said Pang. "We are not particularly optimistic on China export growth in 2019." AP

## Taiwan commissions warships amid Beijing threat warnings

**T**AIWAN'S president yesterday commissioned a pair of guided missile frigates that are expected to boost the island's ability to counter Chinese submarines amid rising military threats from Beijing.

President Tsai Ing-wen attended the ceremony for the Ming Chuan and Feng Chia at a navy base in the southern port of Kaohsiung and reiterated Taiwan's determination to resist all threats, her office said.

The ships' commis-

sioning "again sends a clear signal to the world and international society from the people of Taiwan," Tsai said, according to a text of her speech.

"And that is, we will not back away one step when

it comes to safeguarding the Republic of China Taiwan and protecting our democratic way of life," Tsai said.

The Republic of China is Taiwan's official name derived from the gover-

ment established by the Nationalist Party in China which relocated to the island amid civil war in 1949.

China claims Taiwan as its own territory, to be conquered by force if necessary, and has recently stepped up its threats by staging military exercises near the island, flying bombers and fighter jets in loops around it and sending its aircraft carrier through the Taiwan Strait.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has said the issue

of bringing Taiwan under Beijing's control cannot be put off indefinitely, but Taipei enjoys strong military and political support from Washington, despite their lack of formal diplomatic ties.

The Perry class vessels were formerly part of the U.S. Navy, and though built in the 1980s, have been updated with cutting-edge technologies including sonar and undersea warfare combat systems. Taiwan already operates eight of the ships built under license, using them to patrol the Taiwan Strait from their home port in Penghu, also known as the Pescadores Islands.

The two vessels commissioned were sold

to Taiwan for USD190 million after undergoing thorough overhauls and retrofitting.

Tsai warned that in addition to its traditional military threats, Beijing is also spreading misinformation online intended to destabilize Taiwanese society, the government and local industries.

"These are major challenges to national security, and naturally, are also new tasks for the government and armed forces," Tsai said.

Taiwanese go to the polls on Dec. 24 to elect hundreds of local government officials and council members in what is seen as a test of confidence in Tsai's ruling Democratic Progressive Party. AP

**We will not back away one step when it comes to safeguarding Taiwan and our democratic way of life.**

TSAI ING-WEN

# As ties thaw, Australia says it welcomes Chinese investment

AP PHOTO



Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

**T**HE Australian government's rejection of a Chinese bid to take over an energy infrastructure company does not indicate a change in the country's openness to doing business with China, Foreign Minister Marie Payne said yesterday.

Speaking after a meeting in Beijing with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi that marked a thaw in recently chilly relations, Payne stressed "the importance of Australia's welcoming of Chinese investment in Australia."

On Wednesday, Australia said it intends to block a Chinese and Hong Kong consortium's 13 billion Australian dollar (USD9 billion) bid to take over the APA group.

Payne said the government judged that the acquisition would have resulted in "an undue concentration of foreign ownership by a single company group in what is our most significant gas transmission business."

"We remain absolutely committed as a government to welcoming foreign investment into Australia. It supports jobs, it helps us to increase living standards," she said.

Payne's meeting with Wang was seen indicating an improvement in ties between the key economic partners after months of tension over accusations of Chinese interference in Australian politics, media and academia. That threatened to upset political ties as well as economic relations with China, which buys about one-third of Australia's exports.

"I think the most important outcome of this dialogue is that we have reaffirmed the course of this relationship," Wang said after the meeting, which ran an hour longer than scheduled.

Australia has banned Chinese giants Huawei and ZTE Corp. from new telecommunications projects, and an Australian se-

curity think tank has raised concerns about increasing collaboration between Australian universities and China's People's Liberation Army scientists on research programs such as hypersonic missiles and navigation technology.

China took particular offense at a new law passed after allegations of Chinese meddling in Australian politics and media exposes about the Communist Party's dealings with Chinese university students and the expatriate Chinese community in Australia.

China has denounced all accusations of interference as prejudiced "Cold War thinking" and alleges that Australia's longstanding military alliance with the U.S. is intended to contain China's growing influence. Australia backs the U.S. in challenging China's territorial claims to virtually the entire the South China Sea by flying and sailing near Beijing-held islands.

While seeking to improve ties with its biggest trading partner, Australia is also taking steps to shore up its presence in the Asia-Pacific, where China has sought to extend its economic, political and military influence.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison yesterday outlined plans to increase investments in infrastructure in the South Pacific and for greater military and diplomatic engagement with Australia's island neighbors, who are increasing looking to China for aid through Beijing's "Belt and Road" infrastructure program.

Australia has also announced it will invest in redeveloping a naval base in Papua New Guinea.

"China and Australia have our respective strengths when it comes to cooperation with Pacific island countries and in this regard, China and Australia are not competitors, not rivals, but cooperation partners," Wang said. **AP**

ADVERTORIAL

## 'TIS THE SEASON

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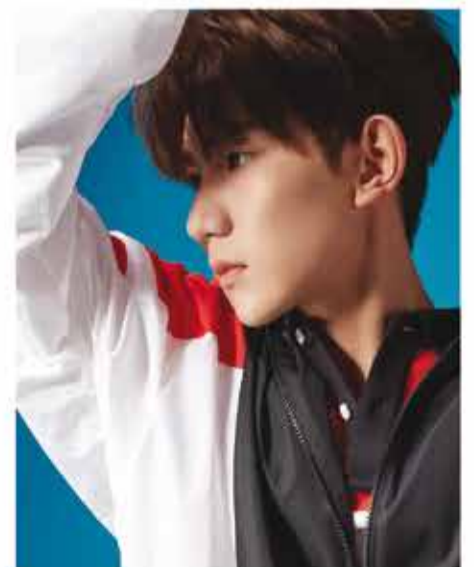
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The court decision to acquit and free Aasia (seen in burning poster) caused a torrent of anger among Muslim radicals

## PAKISTAN

# Christian woman acquitted of blasphemy freed, living in seclusion

Kathy Gannon, Islamabad

A Christian woman acquitted after eight years on death row in Pakistan for blasphemy was released but her whereabouts in Islamabad yesterday remained a closely guarded secret in the wake of demands by radical Islamists that she be publicly executed.

Aasia Bibi was with her family and under heavy security after being transferred to the Pakistani capital overnight from her detention facility in southern Punjab, triggering expectations that her departure from the country could be imminent.

The European Parliament has made an offer to protect Bibi and her family but for the moment she was still in Pakistan, according to two people close to her. They spoke on condition of anonymity so as not to endanger Bibi's life.

Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry confirmed later yesterday that Bibi was still in Pakistan.

Radical Islamists have been demanding Bibi's death as well as the death of the three Supreme Court judges who acquitted her last week.

Following her acquittal, the hard-line Tehreek-e-Labbaik Party forced a country-wide shut down as their supporters took to the streets for three days to protest Bibi's release.

Scores of protesters were arrested for damaging vehicles and property during the rallies and bank accounts of some of

the leaders of the party were reportedly frozen.

The rallies only dispersed after Prime Minister Imran Khan's government promised a court would review a motion to challenge the acquittal and deny Bibi permission to leave Pakistan.

Critics immediately accused Khan, who came to power after elections last summer riding in part on an Islamist agenda, of capitulating to the radicals.

Bibi's release, her high-security transfer to Islamabad and her likely departure raised the prospect that Khan's "promises" to the Islamists could have been an effort to buy time. The government, however, has not openly declared Bibi was free to leave the country.

The radical Tehreek-e-Labbaik, in a widely circulated video message, said it received government assurances following Bibi's relocation to Islamabad that she wouldn't leave the country until the review petition was heard.

Bibi's ordeal began on a blistering hot day in 2009 when the 54-year-old mother of five, a farmworker, went to fetch water. An argument took place after two fellow women farmworkers refused to drink from the same container as a Christian.

Nearly a week later, the two women said Bibi had insulted the Prophet Muhammad and she was charged with blasphemy — a controversial issue in Pakistan, where mere accusations of blasphemy can cause riots. The

charge itself carries the death penalty. Bibi was sentenced to death in 2010.

Her case garnered worldwide attention and brought sharp criticism of Pakistan's blasphemy law.

In a letter, European Parliament President Antonio Tajani invited Bibi and her family to Europe. In the letter, a copy of which was seen by The Associated Press, Tajani tells Bibi's husband Ashiq Masih, that the European Parliament is "extremely concerned for your safety as well as your family's, due to the violence by extremist elements in Pakistan."

The letter added to expectations that Bibi and her family would leave for Europe, though their destination has not been confirmed. Earlier, Spain and France had offered her asylum.

Speaking to the AP earlier this week in the Punjab capital of Lahore, Masih said he hasn't slept much since Bibi's acquittal and the subsequent Islamist rage.

Fear consumes him every time his phone rings and the shouts of the radicals, "Hang her!" haunt him constantly, he said.

"Sometimes I pace on the rooftop, sometimes I walk on the road outside our home," he said. "I look at the faces around me and I wonder if anyone is waiting to hurt us."

His initial joy at the acquittal quickly turned to heart-wrenching sadness when he realized his wife and his family's ordeal was still not over.

Even mere suggestions of blasphemy can whip mobs into a lynching frenzy in Pakistan. In 2011, the governor of Punjab, Pakistan's most populous province, was killed by his own guard after he defended Bibi and criticized the blasphemy law. A year later, the minister for minorities, Shahbaz Bhatti, a Christian, was shot and killed. For Bibi's husband, leaving Pakistan is a painful decision but still a matter of life and death.

## Radical Islamists have been demanding Bibi's death as well as the death of the three Supreme Court judges who acquitted her

"We have no other choice but to leave," he said. "I love Pakistan but I can't live here."

Even in Bibi's dirt poor home village of Aitta Wali — a poor farming community where animals and villagers share tiny sunbaked mud houses — villagers are still outraged by her acquittal and warned a visiting AP reporter to "go. Just get out. Go."

"Our entire village swore on the Quran that she insulted the prophet but no one believes us and everyone believes her," said Aman Ali, one of the villagers. "Before this we liked the Christian families. We always got along. But now there is only anger."

The village's remaining three Christian families have fled.

Muhammad Afzal Qadri, a leader in the Tehreek-e-Labbaik Party and religious scholar, said he doesn't regret calling for the deaths of the judges who acquitted Bibi — or for calling on his followers to overthrow Khan's government.

At his sprawling madrassa in the Punjab city of Gujrat, Qadri told the AP this week that he had the religious authority to declare a fatwa, or edict, demanding the judges be killed.

Pakistan is bound by Islamic injunctions, he said, adding that he was qualified to decide such matters. The West only seeks to undermine Pakistan's Islamic traditions and culture, Qadri said.

Zahid Hussain, author of two books on militancy in Pakistan, said Islamist rallies over Bibi's acquittal were an attempt to regain positions the extremists had lost in the July elections.

"They are trying to mobilize people on this issue, creating more extremism," said Hussain. "They have created a sense of fear in society, for anyone who disagrees with their view of Islam." AP

MYANMAR

# UN resolution would condemn abuses against Rohingyas

A draft U.N. resolution would strongly condemn the continuing "gross human rights violations and abuses" against Rohingya Muslims and urgently call on Myanmar's government to end discrimination and provide a path to citizenship for the embattled minority.

The draft resolution, sponsored by the 57-nation Organization of Islamic Cooperation, more than 25 European countries and Canada, was officially circulated yesterday [Macau time]. The General Assembly's human rights committee is expected to vote on the measure on Nov. 15.

The draft expresses deep concern that violence against the Rohingya has forced over 723,000 people to flee to Bangladesh since August 2017.

The Rohingya have long been treated as outsiders in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, even though their families have lived in the country for generations. Nearly all have been denied



citizenship since 1982, effectively rendering them stateless, and they are also denied freedom of movement and other basic rights.

The latest crisis began with attacks by an underground Rohingya insurgent group on Myanmar security personnel in August 2017 in northern Rakhine State. Myanmar's military responded with a brutal campaign and is accused of mass rape, killings and setting fire to thousands of homes.

The draft resolution reiterates "deep distress" at reports that unarmed Rohingyas are still being subjected to excessive use of force and rights violations by Myanmar's military and security forces including killings and rapes. And it expresses "deep concern" at the continuing departure of the remaining Rohingya population as well as members of other minorities.

The proposed resolution expresses "grave concern"

at the findings of the U.N. fact-finding mission on Myanmar, which concluded that some top Myanmar military leaders should be prosecuted for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide against the Rohingya.

It strongly condemns all rights abuses set out in the commission's report and calls for "a full and independent investigation" of human rights abuses against the Rohingya and other minorities.

The draft notes Myanmar's establishment of an independent commission to investigate alleged violations, but stresses that it must work "with independence, impartiality, transparency and objectivity in a credible way in line with international standards" — unlike its previous national investigations. And it encouraged the government commission "to seek support and expertise from the United Nations and the international community." AP

SOUTH CHINA SEA

# Vietnam protests China's weather stations in disputed waters

VIETNAM strongly protested China's launch of weather stations in the disputed Spratly islands, saying yesterday they seriously violate Vietnam's sovereignty and complicate the situation in the South China Sea.

China last week announced it started operations of the stations on three islands to offer weather forecasts to fishermen in the South China Sea region and neighboring countries as well as passing ships.

Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Le Thi Thu Hang told reporters at a regular briefing Thursday that Vietnam has legal basis and historical evidence to assert its sovereignty over the Spratlys and Paracels and asked China to stop the action.

"The fact that China

started use of meteorological observation stations on the illegally built structures in the Spratlys has seriously violated Vietnam's sovereignty over the islands," she said.

"Vietnam persistently opposes this act and asks China to immediately stop the above-said actions," she said.

Hang said China should abide by the principles reached between the two countries guiding the settlement of the maritime issues and the Declaration of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea "without complicating the situation, affecting peace, security and stability" in the South China Sea.

Vietnam and China along with five others claim all or parts of the Spratlys. AP

AD

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USA

# 13 dead including gunman in shooting at California bar

Krysta Fauria, Thousand Oaks

**T**HIRTEEN people are dead after a gunman opened fire on a crowd at a country dance bar holding a weekly "college night" in Southern California, sending hundreds fleeing in terror including some who used bars-tools to break windows and escape, authorities said.

The dead included 11 people inside the bar, the gunman and a sheriff's sergeant who was the first officer inside the door, Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean said.

"It's a horrific scene in there," Dean said at a news conference after yesterday in the parking lot of the Borderline Bar & Grill. "There's blood everywhere."

The gunman was tall and wearing all black with a hood over his head and his face partly covered, witnesses told TV stations at the scene. He first fired on a person working the door then appeared to open fire at random at the people inside, they said.

Many more people had more minor injuries, including some that came from the attempt to flee, Dean said.

Sheriff's Sgt. Ron Helus and a passing highway patrolman were responding to several 911



People comfort each other as they stand near the scene yesterday

calls when they arrived at the Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oaks at about 11:20 p.m., the sheriff said. They heard gunfire and went inside.

Helus was immediately hit with multiple gunshots, Dean said. The highway patrolman cleared the perimeter and pul-

led Helus out, and waited as a SWAT team and scores more officers arrived.

By the time they entered the bar again the gunfire had stopped, and they found 12 people dead inside, including the gunman.

It's not yet clear how the

gunman died, and authorities do not yet know his name or have any idea of a motive, Dean said.

It was college night and country two-step lessons were being offered at the Borderline, according to its website.

When the gunman entered,

people screamed and fled to all corners of the bar, while a few people threw barstools through the windows and helped dozens to escape, witnesses said.

Taylor Whitler, 19, said she was on the dance floor with her friends nearby when she saw the gunman shooting and heard screams to "get down."

"It was really, really really shocking," Whitler told KABC-TV as she stood with her father in the Borderline parking lot. "It looked like he knew what he was doing."

Shootings of any kind are very rare in Thousand Oaks, a city of about 130,000 people about 64 kilometers west of Los Angeles, just across the county line.

**■ The gunman first fired on a person working the door then appeared to open fire at random at the people inside**

Helus was a 29-year veteran of the force with a wife and son and planned to retire in the coming year, said the sheriff, who choked back tears several times as he talked about the sergeant who was also his longtime friend.

"Ron was a hardworking, dedicated sheriff's sergeant who was totally committed," Dean said, "and tonight, as I told his wife, he died a hero because he went in to save lives." **AP**

USA

# Newly empowered Dems take aim at Trump business conflicts

**B**YOND trying to get their hands on the Holy Grail of President Donald Trump's business dealings — his tax returns — House Democrats are prepared to use their newfound majority and subpoena power to go after all manner of financial records that could back up their claims that he's using his presidency to enrich himself and his family.

After two years of being blocked by the White House and the Trump Organization at every turn, Democrats hope the new year brings a new day on such issues as foreign government spending at Trump properties, Trump's foreign licensing deals, Trump administration ties to lobbyists

and special interests, and spending by Trump's charitable foundation.

Rep. Elijah Cummings, the Maryland Democrat who is poised to take charge of the House Oversight Committee, said in a statement to The Associated Press that he intends to use the panel as "a check on the executive branch — not merely for potential criminal violations, but for much broader concerns, such as conflicts of interest, emoluments violations and waste, fraud and abuse."

While Democrats taking over key House committees have not specifically telegraphed their targets, Cummings' committee would likely seek Trump's business tax returns and

other company-related financial records, according to two Democratic congressional staffers who spoke on condition of anonymity in order to discuss post-election plans.

Trump's personal income taxes, which he withheld during the 2016 campaign and in his two years in office, are expected to be the purview of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Internal Revenue Service law allows House and Senate tax-writing committees to request federal returns, and the ranking Ways and Means Democrat, Rep. Richard Neal of Massachusetts, has signaled publicly he would ask for them — a move the White House might fight.

Trump said in a wide-ranging news conference Wednesday that he doesn't want to release his taxes because they are under a "continuous audit." He also said: "They're extremely complex. People wouldn't understand them."

For the past two years, White House lawyers and the Trump Organization have repeatedly rebuffed Democratic efforts to get even the most basic financial information on Trump's businesses.

When Cummings and other Democrats asked last year for records detailing Trump's separation from his businesses, they received an eight-page glossy pamphlet and a single email. When they



asked how the Trump Organization arrived at the USD151,470 in profits it paid back to the Treasury for foreign stays at his hotels, they got silence.

Now with Democrats in control of the House, if Trump's companies or other interests ignore their subpoenas or try legal maneuvers to delay or

spurn them, they could face a contempt citation to the House floor. Such citations could be taken to federal court for possible legal action.

Any records Democrats manage to shake out could potentially have an impact on federal lawsuits Democrats are already pursuing against the president. **AP**

## TV canal macau

## FRIDAY

13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:55	Os Craques do Pingue-Pongue
16:20	A Cidade na Ponta dos Dedos
16:40	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:35	Destinos.pt Sr.1
18:00	Depois do Adeus
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Missão: 100% Português
22:25	Dentro
23:15	TDM News
23:50	A Canção de Lisboa
02:25	RTPi Directo

## SATURDAY

11:40	Endereço Desconhecido
12:30	Gostos e Sabores
13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
14:30	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2 - Compacto
16:45	Janela Indiscreta com Mário Augusto
17:15	Hora dos Portugueses
18:15	Lusa Music Box
18:50	Animais Anónimos
19:35	1986
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Mata o Mensageiro
23:15	TDM News
00:10	Telejornal (Repetição)
00:55	RTPi Directo

## SUNDAY

12:00	Visita Guiada Sr.1
12:30	Cozinha em Forma
13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:35	Triângulo Jota
16:25	Música Maestro
17:10	Brainstorm
17:55	Got Talent Portugal Sr.4
19:40	Bem-Vindos a Beirais Sr.3
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Contra ponto
22:15	Birmânia por Simon Reeve
23:15	TDM News
00:10	Magazine Liga Europa 2018/2019
01:50	RTPi Directo

## Offbeat

## IDENTICAL TWIN CALIFORNIA SISTERS GIVE BIRTH 2 HOURS APART

Identical twins have given birth about two hours apart from each other.

The Fresno Bee reports Wednesday that BaoKou Yang went into labor first on Sunday. Shortly after, her sister BaoNhia Yang told her she was experiencing pain and "might be in labor with you."

BaoKou gave birth at 6:59 p.m. Sunday [PCT]. Her sister then delivered at 8:48 p.m.

Both gave birth to daughters who almost were the same weight.

The identical twins are from a family of 14 children and say they were inseparable growing up in Fresno.

The sisters had bet on who would give first but say they never thought it would be so close, since their due dates were two days apart. They say they're excited that their babies will share a birthday just like them.

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

08 - 14 Nov



## CODE BLUE

ROOM 1

2:30, 7:15 9:30pm

Director: Masaki Nishiura

Starring: Yamashita Tomohisa, Aragaki Yui, Toda Erika

Language: Japanese (Chinese, English)

Duration: 112min



## MY HERO ACADEMIA

ROOM 1 (4:45 P.M.)

ROOM 3 (9:30 P.M.)

Director: Kenji Nagasaki

Language: Japanese (Chinese, English)

Duration: 112min

## PATRICK

ROOM 2

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

Director: Mandie Fletcher

Starring: Beattie Edmondson, Ed Skrein, Tom Bennett

Language: English

Duration: 130min



## 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

## HICHKI

ROOM 3

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

Director: Siddharth P Malhotratiqua

Starring: Rani Mukerji

Language: Hindi (Chinese/ English)

Duration: 112min

## this day in history



## 1985 AMERICA WELCOMES CHARLES AND DIANA

Prince Charles and Princess Diana have ended the first day of their much-vaunted trip to the USA at a gala dinner in the Washington, hosted by President Reagan and his wife Nancy.

They mixed with movie stars, such as Clint Eastwood, John Travolta, Tom Selleck and the singer Neil Diamond as well as politicians and businessmen.

A small group of anti-British IRA supporters protested outside and there were a few slip-ups during the glamorous event.

For a moment President Reagan forgot the Princess of Wales' name during an after-dinner speech to guests.

"Permit me to add our congratulations to Prince Charles on his birthday just five days away," he said, "and express also our great happiness that . . . er . . . Princess David - Princess Diane (sic) here on her first trip to the United States."

And the princess herself, still suffering from jetlag, momentarily forgot to return the toast.

But all that was forgotten when she took to the dance floor with John Travolta in her midnight blue velvet dress and sapphire and diamond choker.

This is the royal couple's first visit together to the States and is to last four days.

Their Royal Highnesses had arrived at Andrews Air Force base in Washington this morning from Hawaii and emerged into the bright autumn sunshine to be greeted by hundreds of enthusiastic well-wishers.

After a welcome at the White House by the President and the First Lady, they were taken to the official home of the British Ambassador, Sir Oliver Wright, where they are staying.

Princess Diana visited a hospice while Prince Charles went to see the treaty that ended the war of 1812 between Britain and the United States.

Tomorrow, the couple will attend morning service at Washington Cathedral and then visit the National Gallery of Art to see "The Treasure Houses of Britain: five hundred years of private patronage and art collecting."

Thousands of enthusiastic Americans are expected to turn out to catch a glimpse of the royals.

The following day, Monday, there is a less highbrow event on the agenda - a visit to Springfield shopping mall in Virginia to see the "Best of Britain" promotion at the JC Penney department store.

Monday is also Veterans' Day in the USA, and Prince Charles will visit Arlington National Cemetery to lay wreaths to war heroes.

The trip to Washington ends on Tuesday when the royal couple will go to Palm Beach Florida. There, Prince Charles will play in a friendly polo match and the princess will present a trophy to the winners. They return home to London on Wednesday.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Charles and Diana's trip sparked off a serious case of "royal fever" in the USA.

But what seemed like a fairytale marriage was actually in serious trouble. The couple separated in 1993.

Diana spoke publicly about her own infidelity and her husband's affair with long-term friend Camilla Parker-Bowles in a BBC Panorama documentary in November 1995.

They officially divorced in 1996. Diana was stripped of the title of Her Royal Highness but was never far from the front pages of the tabloid newspapers.

She became actively involved with charities for children, the homeless, the disabled and those with HIV and AIDS and campaigned for a ban on the use and manufacture of landmines.

Her death in a car crash in Paris on 31 August 1997 shocked the world.

The next time Prince Charles visited the United States as a married man was in 2005 - with his second wife, Camilla.







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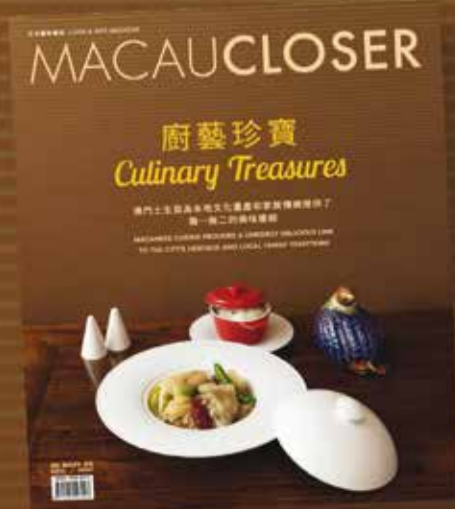
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## FOOTBALL | CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

# Mourinho taunts crowd as Man United beats Juventus 2-1

Daniella Matar, Turin

**A**FTER listening to taunts from the Juventus crowd for 90 minutes, Jose Mourinho couldn't help but pay them back in kind.

Mourinho had to be escorted off the pitch early yesterday [Macau time] after celebrating Manchester United's 2-1 comeback win over the Italian side in the Champions League by cupping his hand to his ear to the crowd after the final whistle. The gesture sparked a small altercation with Juventus players that overshadowed one of the most important results of the season for United, which has struggled domestically but now has a great chance of reaching the knockout stage in Europe.

"I came here to do my job and I was insulted for 90 minutes," Mourinho said. "I wouldn't do that gesture again but I don't think I offended anyone and at the time it seemed like the appropriate response to those who had insulted all my family, apart from my Inter one too."

Mourinho is unpopular among Juventus fans after managing bitter rival Inter Milan for three years. After United's 1-0 loss to Juventus at home two weeks ago, he responded to the goading of the Italian fans by holding up three fingers toward them, denoting the treble of titles — Champions League, Serie A and Italian Cup — he won with Inter in the 2009-10 season.

This time he had another win to celebrate, after watching his team fight back from Cristiano



Mourinho reacts towards Juventus' fans at the end of the match

Ronaldo's spectacular opening goal. Juan Mata leveled with a free kick four minutes from time and Alex Sandro netted an own goal in the final minute as United blew their Champions League group wide open.

Juventus defender Leonardo Bonucci angrily approached Mourinho as he cupped his ear at the Bianconeri fans and the United coach was escorted off the pitch by a UEFA official and

some members of his staff.

It was Juventus' first defeat in any competition this season.

"When I work for a club like Manchester United I need to forget my past as in those 90 minutes I represent Manchester United," Mourinho said. "But the others [Juventus fans] didn't forget."

"And it is a great joy for me because we won against a super team, and not because they are

the enemy of Inter."

Juventus, which was the only team in the Champions League still with a perfect record, remained top of Group H but is only two points ahead of United. Valencia, which earlier beat Young Boys 3-1, is two points further back.

"We shouldn't have given away those free kicks, we're giving away a lot of those at the moment, it was the only way United

was going to score," Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri said. "But the team did well, we are still at the top of the group and we have two matches which will allow us to finish first. It's OK to lose against United, but seeing how the match went it leaves us with a bit of a bitter taste."

Allegri was asked if he would have reacted similarly to Mourinho.

"No, I leave the pitch immediately to avoid reacting," he said. "I only get angry, rightly, with my team when they go to sleep every now and then."

United played better than it did when the two sides met in Manchester but Juventus had a number of opportunities and had already hit the woodwork twice before Ronaldo struck in the 65th minute.

Bonucci floated a ball over the top of the defense and Ronaldo watched it over his shoulder before volleying into the top right corner.

The Portuguese superstar immediately ran to the corner flag, lifted up his shirt and pointed at his impressive stomach muscles.

Ronaldo is the all-time record scorer in the Champions League with 121 goals, but this was his first in the competition for Juventus — although he missed one match through suspension after his red card against Valencia.

Allegri raised his eyebrows and gave a smile of appreciation at the goal.

Juventus seemed certain to be heading for all three points, with United struggling to carve out clear-cut scoring opportunities, but Mata hit a free kick into the top left corner in the 86th minute and that seemed to inspire Jose Mourinho's side.

Minutes later, Marouane Fellaini flicked on a free kick and the ball ricocheted around near the far post before going in off Juventus defender Alex Sandro. **AP**

## BADMINTON

## After battling cancer, Lee Chong Wei seeks Olympic gold

**H**IS cancer in remission after intensive treatment, former No. 1-ranked Lee Chong Wei is setting his sights on winning an Olympic gold in badminton.

In his first public appearance since his diagnosis, the three-time Olympic silver medalist said health is his top priority, but he isn't ready yet to hang up his racket.

Lee said doctors gave him a clean bill of health after more than two months of intensive treatment

for nose cancer in Taiwan. Already into light fitness training, Lee hopes to return to the court next month.

"I love badminton [...] I cannot say 100 percent that I can comeback, see how my body is," Lee told a news conference yesterday. "If I can play, it's the last track for me."

Lee is regarded as a sporting hero in Malaysia after a lengthy career that has included the Olympic medals and 69 titles around the world. He was sus-

pending for eight months in 2015 after testing positive for a banned anti-inflammatory drug in the World Championships, but returned to elite competition.

The cancer came as a shock after he went for a medical checkup because he felt unwell during the Indonesian Open in July.

He said he couldn't eat or sleep for days after discovering his illness, but support from family and friends pushed him to be positive.

The treatment was intense, and he couldn't eat or talk for several days.

Lee said his medical condition is "back to normal" now but that he needed to return to Taiwan every three months for evaluation. Now regaining some weight and his appetite, Lee said he'd follow medical advice not to rush back into intense competition.

But with the next Olympics in Tokyo in 2020, he hasn't given up hopes of winning that elusive gold medal. **AP**



opinion

Bizcuits

Leanda Lee



A STORY ON YOUR DINNER PLATE

Lily died in a 4WD accident earlier this year. Her coming of age 21st birthday would have fallen on Mother's Day. Instead, the day marked the worst kind of grief for a mother.

Lily had had a dream; to raise pasture-fed hens on a bush block. Within a matter of weeks after the accident, her mother had leased a property and was well on the way to free ranging 1,450 hens at a maximum of 100 birds per hectare. "The girls will be able to enjoy a dust bath, flap their wings in flight, lay in the sun and scratch and forage for bugs and grubs to their hearts' content." And thus, Lil's Yolky Dokey Eggs were sold onto the market "born out of the deep love that a mother has for her daughter".

The story on the pink home-compostable egg-carton pulls at the heart strings, and asserts ethical production by expressing care of the land and the livestock. A quality and nutritious product is assured, and customers can feel good about every part of the purchase decision: support for family values, support for the environment throughout production, and sustainability in waste management.

Story telling is an ancient art. Stories paint pictures, they teach, they share ideas and experiences and build relationships. The best stories touch us deeply as they express values we associate with. We want to connect with these stories and make them part of our own stories.

Macau has many stories. Its heritage is not just in the buildings and artefacts but in stories told, untold and imagined.

Macau's listing on UNESCO's Creative Cities Network for its gastronomy begins with a story – the culturally diverse demographic story; the Portuguese-Chinese historical and geographic story; the tourism centred economic story; the ongoing human development story.

A central activity in Macau's positioning as a Creative City of Gastronomy is the Macao Food Festival which starts today at the Sai Van Lake Square. It brings together, not just local people and visitors in a festive occasion of the tourism and cultural events in our yearly calendar, but also aims – according to UNESCO - to promote cooperation among the cities in the Creative Cities Network which have identified creativity as a factor in sustainable urban development. The objectives are to share experiences, knowledge and best practices, using the network as a laboratory of ideas and innovative experiences so that each participant city can build upon their niche area of excellence.

In UNESCO's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, four areas of sustainability have been identified: economic, social, cultural and environmental. Macau has been working towards diversifying economic activity through cultural programs for many years, and the bringing together of people and organisations in these festivals thus covers the first three areas of sustainable development. What does not seem to have been covered to any great extent in these gastronomic programs is the environmental area of sustainability. Of its 17 sustainable development goals, UNESCO points to four which specifically target environmental sustainability: 1) affordable and clean energy, 2) responsible consumption and production, 3) life below water and 4) life on land.

While we engage in our festivals and events, we can question the environmental costs of inputs and how and where they are produced – will you hear human stories about the source of the gastronomic delights? We can also stop to think about how food surplus, organic waste and packaging is minimised and managed – is there an easy-to-use recycling and waste separation system in place? Is rubbish being left for others to clear up or to leak out of the waste management system into our waterways?

There are many zero-waste and ethically run cultural events – marathons, farmers' markets, music festivals – which we can learn from. In developing urban sustainability, which story will Macau and the Macao Food Festival be telling?

THE PRINCE CHARLES SAYS HE'LL KEEP BUZZ VIEWS TO HIMSELF WHEN KING

Britain's Prince Charles has pledged not to interfere in the affairs of state when he becomes king, seeking to dispel concerns about his past activism on issues ranging from global warming to architectural preservation.

In an interview for a documentary marking his 70th birthday, the heir to the throne told the BBC that he understands he will have to act dif-

ferently when he becomes king. Britain's monarch is barred from interfering in politics.

"I'm not that stupid," Charles said when asked if his public campaigning would continue after he succeeds his mother, Queen Elizabeth II. "I do realize that it is a separate exercise being sovereign, so of course I understand entirely how that should operate."



White House bans CNN reporter after confrontation with Trump

THE White House has suspended the press pass of CNN correspondent Jim Acosta after he and President Donald Trump had a heated confrontation during a news conference.

They began sparring yesterday [Macau time] after Acosta asked Trump about the caravan of migrants heading from Latin America to the southern U.S. border. When Acosta tried to follow up with another question, Trump said, "That's enough!" and a female White House aide unsuccessfully tried to grab the microphone from Acosta.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders released a statement accusing Acosta of "placing his hands on a young woman just trying to do her job as a White House intern," calling it "absolutely unacceptable."

The interaction between Acosta and the intern was brief, and Acosta appeared to brush her arm as she reached for the microphone and he tried to hold onto it. "Pardon me, ma'am," he told her.

Acosta tweeted that Sanders' statement that he put his hands on the aide was "a lie."

CNN said in a statement that the White House revoked Acosta's press pass out of "retaliation for his challenging questions", and the network accused Sanders of lying about Acosta's actions.

"[Sanders] provided fraudulent accusations and cited an incident that never happened. This unprecedented decision is a threat to our democracy and the country deserves better," CNN said. "Jim Acosta has our full support."

The post-midterm election news conference marked a new low in the president's relationship with journalists.

"It's such a hostile media," Trump said after ordering reporter April Ryan of the American Urban Radio Networks to sit down when she tried to ask him a question.

The president complained



Trump speaks to CNN journalist Jim Acosta during a news conference in the White House

ned that the media did not cover the humming economy and was responsible for much of the country's divided politics. He said, "I can do something fantastic, and they make it look not good."

His exchanges with CNN's Acosta and NBC News' Peter Alexander turned bitterly personal, unusual even for a forum where the nature of their jobs often put presidents and the press at odds.

"I came in here as a nice person wanting to answer questions, and I had people jumping out of their seats screaming questions at me," said Trump, who talked for nearly 90 minutes despite the run-ins with reporters.

**You are a rude, terrible person. You shouldn't be working for CNN.**

TRUMP

Acosta asked Trump why the caravan of migrants was emphasized as an issue in the just-concluded midterm races, and he questioned Trump's reference to the caravan as an invasion.

"You should let me run the country," Trump said.

"You run CNN and if you did it well, your ratings would be much better."

After Acosta asked about the investigation of Russia's involvement in the 2016 election, Trump tried to turn to Alexander, but Acosta continued to ask questions.

"CNN should be ashamed of itself having you work for them," the president said to Acosta. "You are a rude, terrible person. You shouldn't be working for CNN. The way you treat Sarah Sanders is horrible. The way you treat other people is horrible. You shouldn't treat people that way."

Alexander came to his colleague's defense. "I've traveled with him and watched him," Alexander said. "He's a diligent reporter who busts his butt like the rest of us."

"I'm not a big fan of yours, either," Trump replied.

"I understand," Alexander said, attempting to ask a question. Acosta stood back up and noted the explosive devices that were recently sent to CNN and some of the president's political opponents.

"Just sit down," Trump said. "When you report fake news, which CNN does a lot, you are the enemy of the people."

CNN said Trump's attacks on the press have gone too far.

"They are not only dangerous, they are disturbingly un-American," CNN tweeted after the exchange. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	70-100 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	70-100 Moderate
Ambient	70-100 Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS



**PAKISTAN** A Christian woman acquitted after eight years on death row in Pakistan for blasphemy was released but her whereabouts in Islamabad yesterday remained a closely guarded secret in the wake of demands by radical Islamists that she be publicly executed.

More on p12

**IRAN's** oil minister yesterday predicted a painful time ahead for international oil customers as U.S. sanctions take hold, saying waivers that Washington granted to eight major oil-importing countries are not enough for market demands.



**POLAND's** Defense Ministry will handle security during an Independence Day march this weekend in Warsaw as police are staging mass walkouts in a pay dispute that has created concerns about keeping people safe.

**FRANCE** A French judge has extended the detention of six people arrested this week on suspicion of plotting to attack French President Emmanuel Macron.



**ECUADOR** Medical workers were evaluating former Ecuadorian vice president Jorge Glas convicted in Latin America's biggest graft scandal following a health scare after more than two weeks on a hunger strike, authorities said.

**US** Using a smoke bomb and a handgun, a hooded gunman dressed all in black opened fire during "college night" at a country music bar in Southern California, killing 12 people and sending hundreds fleeing in terror, authorities said yesterday. The gunman, 28-year-old Ian David Long, was later found dead. More on p15