



**SOU PROPOSES MINIMUM WAGE BILL**  
Sulu Sou will submit a minimum wage bill that to the AL, claiming that the gov't has stalled repeatedly on this matter

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**GOV'T DEPARTMENTS FACE RESTRUCTURING**  
Secretary Sonia Chan announced the government's intention to restructure more than a dozen public departments next year

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**OSAKA TO HOST 2025 WORLD EXPO**  
The Japanese city beat out rivals in Russia and Azerbaijan in the race to host an event expected to draw millions of visitors

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## WORLD BRIEFS

**THAILAND** Police have arrested two brothers from Britain wanted on drug trafficking charges in their homeland.



**INDIA** Tens of thousands of Hindus gathered in northern India yesterday renewing calls to build a Hindu temple on a site where a 16th century mosque was attacked and demolished by Hindu hard-liners in 1992, sparking deadly Hindu-Muslim violence.

**SRI LANKA**'s president yesterday assured non-interference in ongoing investigations into abductions, killings of journalists and other crimes allegedly committed by those connected to the new prime minister and his Cabinet.



**SAUDI ARABIA** A prominent Saudi royal said Saturday that whether or not heads of state gathered in Argentina for the Group of 20 summit warmly engage with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, he is someone "that they have to deal with."

**TURKEY** Authorities detained two people following a drive-by shooting near the Austrian Embassy in capital Ankara early yesterday.

**SYRIA** Russian warplanes attacked rebel-held areas in northern Syria for the first time in weeks yesterday, as Syrian officials said more than 100 people were treated at hospitals for what they allege was a poison gas attack by rebels in the northern city of Aleppo.

More on backpage

## LOCAL ELECTIONS

# Taiwan's ruling party suffers major defeat

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## Protestors brave rain to demand holiday amendment withdrawal

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# Tired of 'stalling' gov't, Sou to introduce own minimum wage bill

**N**EW Macau Association has released an eight-point statement laying out arguments for lawmaker Sulu Sou's new minimum wage bill that will be submitted to the Legislative Assembly (AL) for consideration. The association says that Sou expects "quicker implementation" by directly submitting the bill to the AL.

The democrat association says that the government has stalled repeatedly on this matter and that it has failed to honor a 2015 pledge to implement a minimum wage prior to 2019. A consultation conducted one year ago also showed broad support among the public for the economic measure.

"It is already November of 2018, one year after the consultation," notes the statement. "It is already too late to pass the legislation before 2019."

"When the Government is stalling, it is the responsibility of deputies to introduce the bill themselves," it continues, citing the right afforded to lawmakers to introduce legislation to the AL instead of relying on the government.

Sou's bill will call for a minimum hourly rate of MOP38, a daily wage of MOP304, a weekly wage of MOP1,824 and a monthly wage of MOP7,904. The

RENATO MARQUES



lawmaker says that the hourly rate is reflective of Macau's socio-economic status and in line with, nearby jurisdictions such as Hong Kong (HKD37.5) and Taiwan (NTD150).

In the statement released yesterday, New Macau argues that Macau has a "constitutional obligation" to introduce a minimum wage. It says that minimum wages constitute a basic right and are required by the Basic Law, local laws and international treaties. "Yet, Macau [has] never legislated on this

matter of human dignity."

According to New Macau, there are about 20,000 people in the city with an "extreme low salary" of less than MOP30 per hour.

However, Sou's bill will not address some of the most vulnerable among Macau's working population - domestic workers and disabled workers - citing a lack of consensus on this matter. New Macau insists that there must be other special wage protection for these workers.

# Adelson retains top place in Asian Gaming Power 50



**S**HELDON Adelson, Chairman and CEO of Las Vegas Sands and Sands China, has topped the Asian Gaming Power 50 - an annual ranking of the most influential individuals in the Asian gaming industry - for the sixth consecutive year in 2018, Inside Asian Gaming (IAG) has announced.

The 2018 rankings were unveiled at the inaugural Asian Gaming Power 50 Gala Dinner, held at Studio City Friday night.

Adelson retained top spot despite Galaxy Entertainment Group Deputy Chairman Francis Lui closing the gap significantly by way of the ranking system used by IAG to determine the final positions. Mr Lui maintained second place ahead of Melco Resorts Chairman and CEO Lawrence Ho at number three.

Meanwhile, MGM China Co-Chairperson and Executive Director Pansy Ho moved back into the Top 10 in 10th spot

following the February launch of MGM Cotai.

Among the other major movers in 2018 were Suncity Group boss Alvin Chau, up from number seven to number five; NagaCorp owner Dr Chen Lip Keong rising from number 18 to 14; Star Entertainment Group's Managing Director and CEO Matt Bekier up five places to number 15; and Wynn Macau Vice-Chairman, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director Linda Chen moving from number 34 to 18 on the back of major management changes in 2018.

Notable names to fall out of the Asian Gaming Power 50 list completely in 2018 include Wynn Resorts co-founder Steve Wynn and Crown Resorts majority shareholder James Packer.

First published by IAG in 2008, the Asian Gaming Power 50 has become a leading indicator of the most influential people in the Asian gaming industry over the preceding 12 months.

## ASK THE VET

by Dr Ruan Du Toit Bester

## SIGNS OF CATARACTS IN DOGS

**H**ERE in Macau we see a lot of cataracts in dogs. It is often an inherited condition that causes clouding of the eye lens, impaired vision and sometimes total blindness.

### Symptoms of Cataracts

A dog with cataracts may have some color changes in the pupil of the eye, including blue, gray or white spots. The eye may also become inflamed or red and cause squinting in one or both eyes, especially if the eye has been injured. A dog with cataracts may become clumsier and bump into objects, hesitate in new places or before entering dark rooms and using stairs, or have changes in his personality, becoming lethargic or aggressive as vision loss increases.

### Causes of Cataracts

Genetics are the most important factor when it comes to eye cataracts in dogs. Some breeds, like Cocker Spaniels, Siberian Huskies, Poodles,

and Boston Terriers, are more likely to develop cataracts and may start to develop symptoms early in life while other dogs have no problems until they are older. Some breeds, such as Golden Retrievers, develop cataracts but exhibit few side effects and require no treatment. Others, like the Bichon Frise, can develop cataracts at only 6 months and may develop total blindness by the age of 2, so early diagnosis is essential. The Canine Eye Registration Foundation, or CERF, is a foundation that certifies a dog if it doesn't have any inherited eye health conditions. If you are purchasing a purebred dog from the US that is prone to cataracts, if possible ask the breeder for the dog's CERF number, although most pet-shops won't have this information in Macau. A breeder should also have the sire and dam certified as well. The CERF certification is only applicable for a year, however, and can't guarantee protection from a disease like cataracts that develop late in life.

Trauma to the eye lens, diabetes, and poor nutrition may also cause cataracts, but generally there is little an owner can do to prevent cataracts from developing in dogs that are prone to eye problems. If a dog has diabetes, cataracts can form rapidly, even if the dog is on insulin, so proper nutrition and a healthy and active lifestyle is important. Poor nutrition can also lead to progressive retinal atrophy or inflammatory eye diseases that may cause cataracts.

### Cataract Treatment for Your Dog

We usually advise surgery as primary medical treatment for dogs with eye cataracts but is not necessary or medically possible in every case. If the eye is healthy and not inflamed, cataract surgery is generally successful. After surgery the dog must stay calm and not touch the eye, so a cone or lampshade collar will be used for the first two weeks or so. Eye drops and oral antibiotics are usually prescribed to prevent glaucoma and inflammation, two common complications with cataract surgery. If cataracts have developed as a secondary condition due to another health problem, surgery may not be recommended.



Some other eye conditions have similar symptoms to cataracts such as a white, cloudy appearance in the eye and vision problems. A diagnosis from a veterinary ophthalmologist is necessary before any treatment is used to combat vision loss and cataracts.

Hope this info helps  
Till next week  
Dr Ruan Bester

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# Demonstrators oppose holiday amendment proposal

Lynzy Valles

**S**OME 300 residents participated in a demonstration yesterday calling on the government to withdraw the controversial "three in four" proposal.

Demonstrators, despite the rain, gathered at Vasco da Gama Garden to kick off the protest, along with lawmakers Ella Lei and Leong Sun Iok, who strongly opposed the government's proposal.

The proposal was presented this month at the Standing Committee for the Coordination of Social Affairs (CPCS).

Last week at the Legislative Assembly, the government recommended 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 could be taken on other public holidays and further suggests they be normal working days. The change means that some workers work



on these days.

Organizers of the protest, whose group name translates to "Wage Earners Consortium," fear that the city's ten mandatory public holidays would simply decrease, noting that there has been no increase in these holidays in the past

three decades.

One of the organizers, Max Sun criticized the proposal, describing the move as "unfair," to local employees.

"We are fighting against these [proposed] holiday laws because it will [seem as if] on a holiday, we work yet will not have extra

pay," said Sun.

"This law is like a bundle," he added, noting that it is a way to delay the progress of legislation for rest days, mandatory holidays and paternity leave.

"So, if this law comes to pass, the 10 mandatory holidays that we have will be reduced. This is unfair to all employees in Macau," Sun adds.

The group expected some 1,000 participants to attend the protest, however, due to the rain in the afternoon, it lowered its

expectations to 200 or 300.

Following the demonstration, the group handed a letter to the government headquarters, hoping to receive a reply.

According to Sun, the group is ready to take further action to call on the government to withdraw any such proposal.

"We have to see first what the government would do. If they don't reply, we plan to make another move but it all depends on the government's reply," Sun said.

The group is also set to meet with the Labor Affairs Bureau this week.

Figures released by the police authority show that some 340 people participated in the parade, and 50 officers were deployed to maintain order.

## GOV'T REAFFIRMS HOLIDAY CHANGE DOES NOT HARM WORKERS' RIGHTS

**THE LABOR** Affairs Bureau reaffirmed that the amendment related to the change of three compulsory holidays to non-compulsory ones will not affect employee rights. The bureau explained that once the change is passed by the Legislative Assembly (AL), when employers ask employees to work on these three days, employers will still have to compensate their

employees according to the compulsory holiday regulation, which means the change will not reduce employee rights. On December 5, the Standing Committee for the Coordination of Social Affairs will organize a meeting to be attended by both the employer and employee sectors. The government hopes to balance both sectors' rights.

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## News At Hand



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# HKZMB recorded 64,000 daily users monthly

**T**HE Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge has recorded an average of 64,000 crossings on a daily basis during the past month, according to the Ministry of Transport of China.

As of midnight of November 20, the bridge had been crossed 1.79 million times. The highest daily utilization was recorded at 103,000 times.

The peak normally occurs on weekends, with the highest utilization on weekends seen on November 18.

The Chinese transport authority said that during the 29 days of operation, from October 24 to November 21, 97 percent of the vehicles using the bridge were coaches, 45 percent of which were shuttle buses, and approximately 30 percent were small coaches.



During the first days of operation after the bridge's opening, dozens of trucks drove through the bridge every day. Since then, the flow of trucks has not increased considerably, with a maximum of 150 trucks using the bridge daily.

Furthermore, from October 24 to November 21 (29 days in total), the overall traffic flow amounted to 89,750 vehicles, corresponding to an average of about 3,100 vehicles per day.

cles per day.

Besides the unsatisfying traffic flow in the vicinity of the bridge's terminal nodes, other issues were reported, including the Macau side's incapability in terms of transportation arrangements.

Previously, the HKZMB shuttle bus operation had also reported losses due to a large number of mainland elderly one-day tour groups taking advantage of the discounted fare of shuttle bus rides for elderly.

Moreover, it has been claimed that mainland China's travel agencies have been assembling tour groups to take buses in order to visit the bridge, which has resulted in an extremely unbalanced number of passengers during different hours.

## Visitor arrivals to Macau up by 9.2pct in October

**V**ISITOR arrivals to Macau surged by 23.2 percent month-to-month in October 2018 to 3,154,291, corresponding to a year-on-year increase of 9.2 percent. The increase was due to the National Day holiday and the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge, the statistics department said on Friday.

The latest report showed that overnight visitors (1,549,891) and same-day visitors (1,604,400) had increased by 5.4 percent and 13.2 percent respectively year-on-year. The average length of stay of visitors held steady year-on-year at 1.2 days, with that of overnight visitors rising by 0.1 of a day to 2.3 days and that of same-day visitors staying 0.2 days.

Visitors from the Chinese mainland increased by 12.1 percent year-on-year to 2,306,844 in October, primarily from Guangdong Province (1,001,563) and Hunan Province (110,850). Visitors from Hong Kong (509,369) rose by 9.3 percent, whereas those from South Korea (60,240) and

Taiwan (81,846) dropped by 25.2 percent and 3.9 percent respectively. Meanwhile, visitors from the U.S. (18,404), Australia (8,254) and Britain (5,741) registered year-on-year increases, while those from Canada (6,320) decreased.

In the first ten months of 2018, visitor arrivals totaled 28,967,555, up by 8.4 percent year-on-year. Overnight visitors (15,162,438) and same-day visitors (13,805,117) increased by 7.5 percent and 9.4 percent respectively. The average length of stay of visitors went up by 0.1 of a day year-on-year to 1.3 days.

Visitors from the Chinese mainland (20,527,999) increased by 13.1 percent, while those from South Korea (667,941), Hong Kong (5,055,123) and Taiwan (885,833) dropped by 7.8 percent, 1.3 percent and 0.2 percent respectively.

Visitors from the U.S. (159,661), Australia (71,828) and Britain (46,948) recorded year-on-year growth, whereas those from Canada (58,116) saw a decrease.

### DIRECT BUSES TO AIRPORT SUGGESTED

**THE REGION'S** Tourism Development Committee held a meeting last week discussing Macau's "World Centre of Tourism and Leisure" development. During the

meeting, one of the committee members suggested that the Macau government should try to have local tourism buses reach Hong Kong airport directly.

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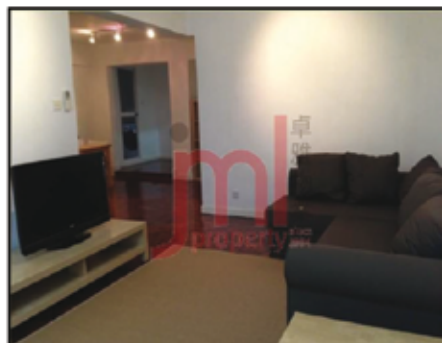
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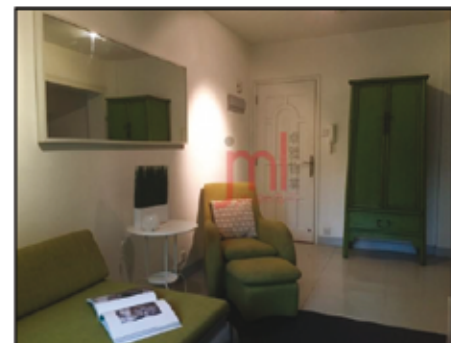
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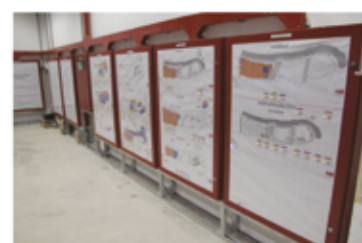
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## POLICY ADDRESS

# Sonia Chan announces plan to restructure gov't departments

ON the second day of the policy address for the Secretariat for Administration and Justice, Secretary Sonia Chan announced the government's intention to restructure more than a dozen public departments next year. The Secretary also said that the government will establish several new organizations in 2019.

Combined, the two proposals will lead the government to hire roughly 100 additional civil servants to fill positions.

The restructuring of public departments involves a total of 13 existing bodies, including the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, the Office for Personal Data Protection and the Financial Intelligence Office.

"Apart from that, we are going to restructure the supporting offices of the Forum Macau and the Cultural Industry Fund," said Chan during the plenary session, as cited by public broadcaster TDM.

It will also involve the establishment of three companies in 2019, namely the Macau Investment and Development Limited Company, the Macau Urban Renewal Limited Com-



pany and the "LRT Company." to operate the Light Rail Transit project currently under construction.

"This is to go in line with our goal to speed up our urban renewal process and the replacement housing bill sent to the legislature," the Secretary explained.

The new organizations and the restructuring of existing entities will require the hiring of some 100 new civil servants. However, several lawmakers, including Wong Kit Cheng, expressed concern over what they termed the

■ Chan stated she wanted to draft a new law to better regulate online shops and unlicensed food providers

"high number" of government employees.

Among the other proposals outlined for the upcoming

year, Secretary Chan stated she wanted to draft a new law to better regulate online shops and unlicensed food providers.

The proposed bill will seek to improve food safety and prevent the operation of unlicensed food service providers.

However, it will also require online stores dealing in the food and beverage sector to have a physical location so that they can be randomly inspected. The Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau says that there are 37 online shops currently operating in Macau without a physical store.

## IC clears Marreiros of plagiarism



The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has accepted the explanation offered by the architecture firm of Carlos Marreiros and will now resume with the project plan. Following a brief investigation, the IC has concluded that there is no evidence that the bidding firm has violated the terms of the tender. Therefore, the department will continue with the project as planned. On November 17, it was announced that MAA Marreiros Architectural Atelier Limited had won the tender to design the New Central Library at a tender price of MOP18.68 million. Days later the firm was accused of plagiarism, with critics highlighting similarities between the New Central Library project and an award-winning auditorium in the Spanish city of Leon. Marreiros denied knowing about the Spanish auditorium and said that there were many buildings around the world that have similar components but are unique when "seen holistically."

## Pang Chuan supports embalming bear Bobo

Lawmaker Pang Chuan supports the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) in embalming the bear Bobo, who died last week. In Pang's opinion, "it's good" that IACM has proposed to embalm Bobo. He commented that in many other regions, animals are frequently embalmed to promote scientific education, and that many of the local schools have embalmed and placed animals on display. IACM president José Tavares said that the bureau "will deal with Bobo respectfully, and will find experts and scholars to embalm Bobo." José Tavares emphasized that he hopes people will still be able to see Bobo in the future and learn about his history.

## Two locals arrested for drug trafficking

The Judiciary Police arrested two local male residents (34 and 43 years old) for drug trafficking, according to a P.J report released last week. The two suspects were active in selling drugs to people who frequently visited casinos. The police seized drugs worth MOP180,000, according to market prices. One of the suspects had already been sentenced to jail in the past for drug trafficking. 156.9 grams of drugs were seized from hotel rooms as well as drug packaging tools that belonged to the two suspects. The police believe that the duo was packing the drugs to look like tea in order to sell them.

## MACAU GRAND PRIX

# F1 drivers association says Flörsch crash raises concerns about 'sausage' kerbs

THE Formula 1's Grand Prix Drivers' Association (GPDA) will discuss teenage driver Sophia Flörsch's Macau Grand Prix Formula 3 accident with the FIA. GPDA director Romain Grosjean said that the crash in Macau exacerbated concerns about 'sausage' kerbs.

Flörsch suffered spinal fractures after her mono-seat collided at high speed with Japanese driver Sho Tsuboi's car, going through a catch fence at the Lisboa bend. The car then hit a photographers' bunker on the perimeter and dropped to the ground, with race marshals immediately on the scene.

"I believe Sophia was very lucky to escape," Grosjean told Autosport. "The news [from



Sophia Flörsch goes over Japanese driver Sho Tsuboi's car

her surgery] is very encouraging, which is great. It's lucky that the guy who was on the apex didn't get hit. But the sausage kerb didn't really do any favors to that shunt. Tracks should have grass or gravel. Obviously, you can't in a city but most of the

time we talk about track limits, if there was gravel or grass there would be no more discussions. The sausage kerb in Spa, Monza - a few places - it just doesn't fit and isn't right," he said.

Romain Grosjean, who drives for the Haas team, said GPDA mem-

■ I raced in Macau three times and I remember that corner. I don't know why there's a sausage kerb there, to be fair.

ROMAIN GROSJEAN

bers "probably will raise" Flörsch's crash with FIA race director Charlie Whiting. According to him, the crash in Macau has resemblances

with the one suffered by Konstantin Tereshchenko in a GP3 practice session at Spa four years ago, when the Russian was launched over the kerbs at the Bus Stop chicane.

"It's very similar to the Belgium GP3 a few years ago - the sausage kerb on the inside has just launched the car. I raced in Macau three times and I remember that corner. I don't know why there's a sausage kerb there, to be fair. There's no need, there's a wall. So, if you cut the corner you're in the wall. A flat kerb was a good idea," Grosjean said, adding an example: "Monza Turn 1, if anything wrong happens in Formula 1 and you get the sausage kerb, you end up in the center of Milan."



## ADVERTORIAL

## SANDS CHINA NEWS

## Local SME Suppliers Promote Their Products in Latest Sands China Back-of-House Roadshows

Initiative supports local SME growth and development

Sands China Ltd. recently featured local SMEs Pure New Zealand Product Shop and Pegasus International Limited at back-of-house roadshows for Sands China team members at the company's properties.

Part of Sands China's Local Small, Medium and Micro Suppliers Support Programme, this latest round of roadshows was the fourth of this year, in line with Sands China's commitment to further support local SME growth and procurement.

The roadshow initiative is targeted at providing additional business opportunities for four types of local suppliers: small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), micro-enterprises, young entrepreneurs, and "Made-in-Macao" enterprises.

The roadshows gave Sands China's more than 28,000 team members the convenient opportunity to browse and purchase the many products on display at various times and locations Oct. 15-26 at Sands Macao, The Venetian Macao, Sands Cotai Central and The Parisian Macao.

Pure New Zealand Product Shop provides Sands China with a range of items, including health products, organic products, cereals, snacks, honey, oil, and jam. Shop manager Becky Leong said: "We began working with Sands China in 2017 and our business has grown a lot since then. This roadshow has allowed us to attract new customers, and I think it can help increase awareness of our brand."

The local micro-enterprise participated in one of Sands China's invitational matching sessions in April of last year, giving it the chance to showcase its products directly to potential buyers at Sands China departments. It then graduated from the Sands Procurement Academy last November, helping it gain experience and capacity for working with large-scale international customers like Sands China.

Started by a young entrepreneur, Pegasus International Limited is a local supplier of snacks, candy, Chinese herbs, and dried seafood. Sands China has been doing business with the micro enterprise since 2010.

Marco Kuok, manager of Pegasus International Limited, said: "This was our first time doing a roadshow at Sands China properties. Quite a large number of Sands China employees came by our booth. We were able to make a good number of sales and introduce people to our company. Sands China has been a good client for us, and working with them has been very good for business. We've also been introduced to their procurement training programme, and we're hoping to join soon so that we can learn more about working with other large companies like Sands China."

Sands China regularly holds roadshows for its team members. They benefit local SMEs by providing access to direct business opportunities with customers, while giving Sands China's team members a chance to discover local SMEs and their products and to shop while at the roadshows.

Charlie Cai, vice president of procurement and supply chain for Venetian Macao Limited, said: "Our supplier support programme continues to be a success, and these roadshows are an important part of that. We want Macao's local SMEs to grow along with Sands China, and for them to be able to take full advantage of Macao's continued development as a world centre of tourism and leisure."

Sands China's Local Small, Medium and Micro Suppliers Support Programme was jointly announced in July 2015 with the Macao Chamber of Commerce. The programme is in line with the Macao government's initiative to "buy local" and demonstrates Sands China's commitment to supporting local enterprises as part of the company's corporate social responsibility efforts. It is part of Sands China's supplier relationship management strategy, which guides the company's long-standing effort to support local suppliers, whom it views as its strategic partners.



Local SME suppliers Pure New Zealand Product Shop and Pegasus International Limited display their products to Sands China team members Oct. 24 at The Venetian Macao, as part of Sands China's Local Small, Medium and Micro Suppliers Support Programme. The back-of-house roadshows – which took place at various times and locations Oct. 15-26 – offer local SME suppliers access to direct business opportunities with customers, while giving Sands China's team members a chance to discover local SMEs and their products and to shop while at the roadshows.

## COURTS

## Polytec vs Son Pou sentence to be delivered Dec 17



Lei Kong (left) and Chou Chong Peng

Julie Zhu

**P**OLYTEC Group's lawsuit against local newspaper Son Pou was described by the defendant as the real estate company taking advantage of the case in order to achieve objectives beyond bringing down the newspaper's columnist.

Last Friday, before the final judgment session, the last trial session was carried out at the Court of First Instance. During the session, no witnesses were called. Second defendant Chou Chong Peng, director of Son Pou, accused the Pearl Horizon developer of deliberately having had clients sign contracts with the company despite knowledge that the company would not be capable of eventually delivering the units to the purchasers, thus creating an unfair situation for buyers.

"[A long time] after the Son Pou articles were written, Polytec hadn't reached out to Son Pou. However, once the case had already gained judicial status, Polytec asked us to clarify," said Chou.

"Polytec probably did not want to solve the issue [concerning the articles], but it [the company] is systematically making plans for other purposes," said Chou.

In his final statement, Chou noted that, in recent years, many news stories about Pearl Horizon were published, and that the "newspaper just wanted to report the case as [the] incidents were occurring, not targeting [any parties]."

In Chou's opinion, Polytec's loss of reputation is mainly due to the failure of the company to deliver the residences on time, and because of that "the media should not be held accountable for it."

In first defendant Lei Kong's column, he used phrases such as "bossy terms" to describe the Pearl Horizon contract made with buyers.

In Chou's opinion, individuals have their own interpretation of "bossy terms" and, for that reason, Chou thinks that Polytec has biasedly judged the term.

"In conclusion, the articles were not written out of personal interest. They were written in the public's

interest and were made to protect the residents' freedom: the freedom of speech," declared Chou.

The Son Pou columnist, first defendant Lei Kong, said in his final statement that "this case is being called, by foreign media, the biggest slander lawsuit since the handover."

"The Pearl Horizon case is a public issue. It has an important relationship with public interest," said Lei, who added that the defendants "should not be convicted of crimes" since they did not violate the law, and since the "[articles] did not violate any law," Lei said.

In Lei's opinion, the case has shown that "Macao press environment is deteriorating more and more."

"Powerful parties in society are becoming more and more outrageous towards the government and towards the media. The bigwigs are asking the media to shut up. [...] It is common for the media to write something wrong. [When the media write things wrong], the situation should be solved through communication, not through lawsuits. As a commentator, I feel terrified," said Lei.

Later, prosecuting lawyer Leonel Alberto Alves stated that "actually, the media is a kind of weapon. The media is a very dangerous weapon."

"If such defamation is not opposed, I don't know how the company could survive in this society," said Leonel Alberto Alves.

Defendant Lei Kong's lawyer then commented on individual freedom of speech and the freedom of press.

"Individuals have the freedom to express thoughts, and media is also protected [for their freedom of speech]. [Freedom of speech] is a basic right of each individual, and it is a basic right of a society. It is not just in Macao, it is around the whole world," said the lawyer, adding that "it is not the writer's obligation to testify [for Polytec for the Pearl Horizon case]. It is Polytec which thinks the company does not need to fulfill its obligations in explaining things to the public."

The court will deliver the sentence on December 17, at 5 p.m.



Pooja Thakur

## RETAIL

**O**NLINE shopping in Singapore is lackluster even after Amazon Inc. debuted its Prime service in mid-2017. The island's malls are trying hard to keep it that way.

With some of the nation's biggest mall operators reporting falling rents and rising vacancies, landlords, just like those elsewhere in Asia and the U.S., are being forced to reposition. They're making room for yoga studios, boxing gyms and climbing walls - plus expanding their food and beverage options - to make sure people come for the dining and fun, and hopefully, stay for some shopping.

Centers around the world have tried similar stunts in recent years - often to no avail - but in tiny Singapore, where it's often joked that shopping is the national sport, they do have an advantage. Online shopping penetration ranks behind Slovakia and Greece in the city-state, putting it relatively low down for developed economies, and the government is weighing a tax on e-commerce imports from 2020.

There are early signs the gambit is working - at least in terms of driving up traffic. At VivoCity, the island's largest shopping center, visitor numbers rose 3.1 percent in the six months through Sept. 30 from a year earlier as owner Mapletree Commercial Trust added an arcade complete with a full-sized bumper car ring. Yet actual shopping fell slightly.

In other malls, visitors can spend a day taking a cooking class or participating in a complimentary yoga session. At CapitaLand's Clarke Quay, you'll be able to sip margaritas while playing a round of indoor mini

BLOOMBERG



golf. CapitaLand's Westgate mall and its soon-to-open revamped Funan mall will feature an ABC Cooking Studio, where people can sign up for bread-baking lessons or classes on how to make wagashi, traditional Japanese sweets.

Shopper traffic at CapitaLand Mall Trust, which has a portfolio of 15 centers, declined 1.8 percent in the nine months ended September from a year ago while tenants' sales per square foot climbed 0.5 percent over the same period.

"While the current market share of online sales is small, its pace of growth will only speed up as tomorrow's consumers enter the market," CapitaLand Chief Executive Officer Lee Chee Koon said in September at a ceremony to mark the new Funan center. "Brick-and-mortar businesses must go beyond passively selling products and services to generating quality retail experiences and emotional connections."

Amazon's Prime launched in July last year and almost immediately faced delivery delays - a

costly snafu in a market where the nearest store or mall is just minutes away for most people. Singapore vies with Hong Kong for the most retail space per capita in Asia.

Amazon was the sixth-ranked online shopping app on the Apple Store by active users in the third quarter, behind homegrown competitors such as Qoo10, data compiled by iPrice Group show.

Malls that can't effectively incorporate activity-based tenants risk falling behind, both in terms of footfall and retail

rents, according to Cushman & Wakefield Inc. Millennials in particular are a target of non-shopping ventures.

## Malls that can't effectively incorporate activity-based tenants risk falling behind, both in terms of footfall and retail rents

But while the plethora of new activities have helped drive traffic, the uptick has failed to translate into real money. Mall rents have dropped 18 percent over the past year and vacancies rose in the quarter through September, to 7.6 percent, Urban Redevelopment Authority data show.

And with an estimated 803,000 square feet of retail space coming online in the next 15 months, rents will remain under pressure, according to Huey Ying Tay, head of research for Singapore at JLL. "Until brick-and-mortar retail stores manage to convert foot traffic into in-store purchases, rentals are expected to remain subdued," she said. **Bloomberg**

# Dolce&Gabbana founders make video apology to China

**T**he co-founders of Dolce&Gabbana apologized Friday in a video on Chinese social media after promotional videos seen as racist and subsequent Instagram messages stoked a furor in one of the world's largest markets for luxury goods.

Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana appeared in a nearly 1 1/2 minute video posted on Weibo, a Chinese version of Twitter, saying they hope to be forgiven and will do their best to better understand and respect Chinese culture.

"We have always been in love with China," said Dolce. "We love your culture and we certainly have much to learn. That is why we are sorry if we made mistakes in the way we expressed ourselves."

The Italian fashion house has been in hot water for the videos and subsequent insulting remarks made by the Instagram accounts of both the company and Gabbana. It blamed hackers for the Instagram comments.

The three promotional videos, which have been deleted from the company's Weibo account, feature a Chinese woman using chopsticks to eat pizza and other Italian food. Many Chinese social media users called the videos racist and full of outdated stereotypes.

In the apology video, the two designers wore black long-sleeve shirts, the kind they often wear to runway shows, and sat with their hands folded at a large conference table in a room

decorated with formal, red-gilded wallpaper.

"We will never forget this experience and it will certainly never happen again," Gabbana said, adding, "From the bottom of our hearts, we ask for forgiveness." They finish the video by saying "sorry" in Chinese.

The backlash forced Dol-

ce&Gabbana to cancel a major extravaganza earlier this week that the company had billed as one of its biggest shows ever outside of Italy. Chinese purchases at home and abroad account for about 30 percent of global luxury goods sales.

Several screenshots showed Gabbana's Instagram account referring to

**With respect to our customers, we have removed the brand from all stores in mainland China, online and in Hong Kong.**

ANDREW KEITH  
LANE CRAWFORD PRESIDENT



China with crude terms and emoji as he defended the promotional videos.

Zhang Ziyi, who starred in "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," said on one of her social media accounts that the Italian brand had "disgraced itself." Chinese pop idol Karry Wang and actress Dilireba, both Asia-Pacific brand ambassadors, have informed the company that they will terminate all cooperation.

The fallout spread to Hong Kong on Friday with upscale department store Lane Crawford joining Chinese retailers who stopped

selling Dolce&Gabbana merchandise.

"With respect to our customers, we have removed the brand from all stores in mainland China, online and in Hong Kong," Lane Crawford President Andrew Keith said in a statement.

Dolce&Gabbana goods earlier disappeared from major Chinese e-commerce sites including Alibaba's Tmall and JD.com. A duty-free shop at the Haikou Meilan airport on China's Hainan island announced on social media that it had pulled all the company's products. **AP**



## TERRORISM

# Four killed in brazen attack at Chinese consulate in Pakistan

Adil Jawad, Karachi

**A**RMED separatists stormed the Chinese Consulate in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi on Friday, triggering an intense hour-long shootout during which two Pakistani civilians, two police officers and all three assailants were killed, including one who was wearing a suicide vest, Pakistani officials said.

The brazen assault, claimed by a militant group from the southwestern province of Baluchistan, reflected the separatists' attempt to strike at the heart of Pakistan's close ties with major ally China, which has invested heavily into road and transportation projects in the country, including in Baluchistan.

The Baluch Liberation Army said it was fighting "Chinese occupation" and released photos of the three attackers.

In Beijing, Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said China would not waver in its latest big project in Pakistan — the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor — and expressed confidence that Pakistan could ensure safety. Still, China asked Pakistan to beef up security at the mission.

Authorities said the dead civilians were a father and a son who were picking up their visas for China. The consulate's diplomats and staff were unhurt and were evacuated to a safe place, senior police official Ameer Ahmad Sheikh said.



A spokeswoman at the Jinnah Hospital said a consulate guard was wounded and was being treated there.

The attack began shortly after 9 a.m. when the consulate was open for business. The militants fired at consulate guards and hurled grenades, breaching the main gate and entering the building, said Mohammad Ashfaq, a local police chief.

Pakistani security forces quickly surrounded the area. Local TV stations broadcast images showing smoke rising from the building, which also serves as the residence of Chinese diplomats and other staff.

Multiple blasts were heard soon afterward but Sheikh could not say what they were. The shootout lasted for about an hour. "Because of a quick response of the guards and police, the terrorists could not" reach

the diplomats, Sheikh said after the fighting ended. "We have completed the operation."

He added that authorities would try to identify the assailants through fingerprints.

Geng, the Chinese spokesman, said the attackers did not get into the consulate itself, and that the exchange of fire took place outside the building. The discrepancy with the Pakistani officials' reports could not be immediately reconciled.

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi spoke to his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi by phone and assured him that a "thorough investigation will be carried out to apprehend the perpetrators their financiers, planners and facilitators" linked to the attack on consulate, according to a foreign ministry statement. It quoted Yi as saying that the at-

tack was an attempt to impact Pakistan China relations and to harm the two countries' economic pact.

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan condemned the attack and praised the Karachi police and the paramilitary rangers for their courage. He ordered an investigation and vowed that such incidents would never be able to undermine relations with China, which are "mightier than the Himalayas and deeper than the Arabian Sea."

So far this year, the Baluch Liberation Army has claimed responsibility for 12 attacks against security personnel guarding projects linked to the Chinese Pakistan Economic Corridor and its infrastructure. In a letter dated Aug. 15, the group released a letter warning China against the "exploitation of Baluchistan's mineral wealth and occupation of Baluch territory." The letter was addressed to China's ambassador to Pakistan.

Amir Rana, executive director of the independent Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies, said he didn't think Friday's attack would have much of an impact on Chinese projects in Pakistan, as both countries have calculated the security risks. "These threats were already on Pakistan and China's threat radar," Rana said.

Still, the attack will compel China to step-up security in Pakistan and increase cooperation with local authorities, said Zhao Gancheng of the Shanghai

Institute of Foreign Studies.

"As more and more Chinese people go abroad, and more and more Chinese investment goes overseas, the security situation of the destination countries has become a very important element for consideration," Zhao told The Associated Press.

The Baluchistan separatists have for years fought a low-level insurgency in Pakistan, demanding a greater share of the province's wealth and natural resources. Karachi, the capital of Sindh province, borders Baluchistan and is home to several militant groups, including the Baluch separatists.

In a rare statement about attacks in Pakistan, neighboring India condemned the assault on the Chinese Consulate, saying that "there can be no justification whatsoever for any act of terrorism."

New Delhi also said "perpetrators of this heinous attack should be brought to justice expeditiously."

Pakistan has long accused India of supporting Baluch separatists. The two countries have a history of bitter relations and have fought two of their three wars over the disputed region of Kashmir since gaining independence from Britain in 1947.

Elsewhere in Pakistan on Friday, a powerful bomb at an open-air food market in a province that borders Afghanistan killed 35 people and wounded dozens, said police official Tahir Ali.

Most of the victims in the attack in the town of Klaya in the Khyber Pukhtunkhwa province were minority Shiite Muslims. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing. Orakzai has been the scene of several militant attacks in recent years, mostly by Pakistani Sunni militants, who revile Shiites as apostates. **AP**

Kelvin Chan, London

**A** British corporate investigator filed a complaint Friday to U.K. regulators about China's state TV channel, saying its British license should be revoked because it aired his forced confession when he was imprisoned in China.

Peter Humphrey submitted the complaint against China Central Television and its international division, China Global Television, for violating British broadcasting rules.

Humphrey and his wife, Yingzeng Yu, a Chinese-born U.S. citizen, spent two years in prison after being convicted of illegally acquiring personal information of Chinese citizens.

The couple, who ran a corporate investigation firm, had been hired on contract by pharmaceuti-

## British man seeks China state TV ban for forced confession

cals company GlaxoSmithKline to look into a security breach, but became collateral damage when the Chinese government began investigating GSK's alleged bribery practices.

The pair was shown separately on Chinese television purportedly confessing their crimes, but Humphrey said it was done under duress and that he was sedated.

CGTN is available on free and pay television channels in Britain. The broadcaster is reportedly expanding its presence in Europe with a new studio and production center set to open in London by the



British investigator, Peter Humphrey, addresses the media in front of a screen showing a TV interview

end of the year.

Humphrey says he was forced to confess twice. "It always happened after or amid a massive wave of in-

ternational press coverage of our case, so it was part of a propaganda war," he said.

Humphrey got help with

his case from Peter Dahlin, a Swedish activist who was also detained in China and allegedly forced to confess on air after authorities cracked down on his human rights group.

Dahlin's new rights group, Safeguard Defenders, says it has documented more than 100 forced confessions shown by CCTV. At least eight were broadcast on British airwaves, he said.

"Many people think CCTV merely broadcasts these, they're made by police and [the station is] forced to broadcast them," but its journalists are "actively engaged" in these re-

ports, Dahlin said.

By filing the complaint, Dahlin said they want to influence the broadcaster's behavior, so it will "abide by basic standards, both regulatory standards in Britain but also journalistic ethical standards."

Britain's communications regulator, Ofcom, said it was assessing the complaint "as a priority" and would take "necessary enforcement action" if it found any rules had been broken.

In 2012, Ofcom revoked Iranian state-owned Press TV's license following a complaint by Newsweek journalist Maziar Bahari that the station aired an interview with him while he was detained. Bahari said he was forced to do a scripted interview with his captors, who threatened him with execution. **AP**



Ralph Jennings, Taipei

TAIWAN

**T**AIWAN'S ruling party was handed a major defeat in local elections Saturday that were seen as a referendum on the administration of the island's independence-leaning president amid growing economic and political pressure from China.

Soon after the results came in, President Tsai Ing-wen resigned as head of the Democratic Progressive Party. She will remain as president and her resignation will have no direct effect on the business of government, although the results bode ill for her re-election chances in two years.

Rival China said the results reflected a desire of Taiwanese for better relations with the mainland. Ma Xiaoguang, the spokesman for Beijing's Taiwan Affairs Office, said his government will continue to treat Taiwan as part of China and "resolutely oppose separatist elements advocating 'Taiwan independence' and their activities," according to the official Xinhua news agency.

In another victory for China, voters rejected a proposal to change the name of its Olympic team to Taiwan from the current Chinese Taipei. They also approved a referendum opposing same-sex marriage in a setback to LGBT couples, though ballot initiatives in Taiwan are non-binding.

The DPP lost the mayoral election to the Nationalist party in the southern port city of Kaohsiung, where it had held power for 20 years. The Nationalists also defeated the DPP in the central city of Taichung, home to much of Taiwan's light industry, while Ko Wen-je, the independent mayor of Taipei, the capital, narrowly won a second term. The Nationalist candidate in Taipei has asked for a recount.

At a brief news conference at DPP headquarters late Saturday, Tsai announced she was stepping



Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen waits to cast her ballot at a polling station

down as DPP chair and said she had refused Premier William Lai's resignation, saying she wanted him to continue her reform agenda.

"Today, democracy taught us a lesson," Tsai said. "We must study and accept the higher expectations of the people."

The elections for mayors and thousands of local posts were seen as a key test for Tsai's 2-year-old administration, which has been under relentless attack from Beijing over her refusal to endorse its claim that Taiwan is a part of China.

Tsai and the DPP won a landslide victory in 2016, but China swiftly responded by cutting all links with her government. Beijing has been ratcheting up pressure on the island it claims as its own territory by poaching its diplomatic partners and barring its representatives from international gatherings, while staging threatening military

exercises and limiting the numbers of Chinese tourists visiting Taiwan.

The Nationalists, known also as the KMT, had campaigned on their pro-business image and more accommodating line toward Beijing.

Since her election, Tsai has walked a fine line on relations with China, maintaining Taiwan's de facto independent status that the vast majority of Taiwanese support, while avoiding calls from the more radical elements of her party for moves to declare formal separation from the mainland.

Taiwanese officials had warned that Beijing was seeking to sway voters through the spread of disinformation online similar to how Russia was accused of interfering in U.S. elections.

Although domestic concerns were in the foreground, China played a major factor in voter sentiment, analysts said.

"I think part of the reason for the vote on Saturday was concern about relations between Taiwan and mainland China," said Huang Kwei-bo, vice dean of the international affairs college at National Chengchi University in Taipei. "Their relations have slid backward."

Saturday's results also throw Tsai's political future into question. While the DPP still controls the national legislature, local politicians are crucial in mobilizing support among grass-roots supporters.

"I'm afraid it will be a big challenge for her in 2020," said Gratiana Jung, senior political researcher with the Yuanta-Polaris Research Institute think tank in Taipei.

Economic growth, employment and pension reforms were among key issues in the elections, which drew high turnout from the island's 19 million voters. Government employees who feel slighted

by pension cuts that took effect in July probably mobilized against Tsai's party, Jung said.

Nationalist Party Chairman Wu Den-yih told reporters Saturday that his party would keep trying to avoid diplomatic friction with China and ensure smooth two-way trade.

**Rival China said the results reflected a desire of Taiwanese for better relations with the mainland**

"We hope the two sides will soon go back to a peaceful and stable trend in relations," he said.

Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists rebased their government to Taiwan in 1949 amid the civil war with Mao Zedong's Communists. They ruled under martial law until the late 1980s, when the native Taiwanese population began to take political office, mostly through the DPP.

The vote against changing the name used in international sporting events to Taiwan was seen as a test of support for independence. It was symbolic in nature, as the International Olympic Committee had ruled out a name change, which would be opposed by China. AP

## Taiwanese reject legalizing same-sex unions in referendum

**V**OTERS in Taiwan passed a referendum asking that marriage be restricted to one man and one woman, a setback to LGBT couples hoping their island will be the first place in Asia to let same-sex couples share child custody and insurance benefits.

The vote on Saturday, organized by Christian groups that make up about 5 percent of Taiwan's population and advocates of the traditional Chinese family structure, goes against a May 2017 Constitutional Court ruling. Justices told legislators then to make same-sex marriage legal within two years, a first for Asia where religion and conservative govern-

ments normally keep the bans in place.

Although the ballot initiative is advisory only, it is expected to frustrate lawmakers mindful of public opinion as they face the court deadline next year. Many legislators will stand for re-election in 2020.

"The legislature has lots of choices on how to make this court order take effect," said referendum proponent Chen Ke, a Catholic pastor in Taiwan and an opponent of same-sex marriage.

Ruling party lawmakers backed by President Tsai Ing-wen had proposed legalizing same-sex marriage in late 2016, but put

their ideas aside to await the court hearing.

Opposition to same-sex marriage crested after the court ruling. Opponents have held rallies and mobilized votes online.

Courts will still consider local marriage licensing offices in violation of the law by May 2019, if they refuse same-sex couples, a Ministry of Justice spokesperson said last week.

"The referendum is a general survey, it doesn't have very strong legal implications," said Shiao Hong-chi, professor of gender studies and communications management at Shih-Hsin University in Taiwan. "One way or another it has to go back to the court."

Voters approved a separate measure Saturday calling for a "different process" to protect same-sex unions. It's viewed as an alternative to using the civil code. A third initiative, also approved, asked that schools avoid teaching LGBT "education."

Amnesty International told the government it needs to "deliver equality and dignity."

"This result is a bitter blow and a step backwards for human rights in Taiwan," Amnesty's Taiwan-based Acting Director Annie Huang said. "However, despite this setback, we remain confident that love and equality will ultimately prevail." AP



A couple kiss and hold their marriage certificate during a rally supporting a proposal to allow same-sex marriage in Taipei





Clouds hang over North Sentinel Island



American adventurer John Allen Chau (right)

Ashok Sharma, New Delhi

INDIA

## Police map area of island where US man was killed

POLICE said they have mapped the area of a remote Indian island where tribespeople were seen burying the body of an American adventurer and Christian missionary after allegedly killing him with arrows this month.

But before they can even attempt to recover the body of 26-year-old John Allen Chau, authorities have to learn from experts "the nuances of the group's conduct and behavior, particularly in this kind of violent behavior," said Dependra Pathak, the director-general of police of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where North Sentinel Island is located.

During their visit to the island's surroundings on Friday, investigators spotted four or five North Sentinel islanders moving in the area from a distance of about 500 meters from a boat and studied their behavior for several hours, said Pathak.

"We have more or less identified the site and the area in general," Pathak said by phone on Saturday.

Indian authorities have been struggling to figure out how to get the remains of Chau, who was killed by North Sentinel islanders who apparently shot him with arrows and then buried his body on the beach.

Friday's visit was the second boat expedition of the week by a team of

police and officials from the forest department, tribal welfare department and coast guard, Pathak said. The officials took two of the seven people arrested for helping Chau get close to the island in an effort to determine his route and the circumstances of his death. The fishermen who had taken Chau to the shore saw the tribespeople dragging and burying his body on the morning of Nov. 17.

Officials typically don't travel to the North Sentinel area, where people live as their ancestors did thousands of years ago. The only contacts, occasional "gift giving" visits in which bananas and coconuts were passed by small teams of officials and scholars who remained in the surf, were years ago.

Indian ships monitor the waters around the island, trying to ensure outsiders do not go near the Sentinelese, who have repeatedly made clear they want to be left alone.

Chau went to "share the love of Jesus," said Mary Ho, international executive leader of All Nations. All Nations, a Kansas City, Missouri-

ri-based organization, helped train Chau, discussed the risks with him and sent him on the mission, to support him in his "life's calling," she added.

"He wanted to have a long-term relationship, and if possible, to be accepted by them and live amongst them," she said.

When a young boy tried to hit him with an arrow on his first day on the island, Chau swam back to the fishing boat he had arranged to wait for him offshore. The arrow, he wrote, hit a Bible he was carrying.

"Why did a little kid have to shoot me today?" he wrote in his notes, which he left with the fishermen before swimming back the next morning. "His high-pitched voice still lingers in my head."

Police say Chau knew that the Sentinelese resisted all contact by outsiders, firing arrows and spears at passing helicopters and killing fishermen who drift onto their shore. His notes, which were reported Thursday in Indian newspapers and confirmed by police,

make clear he knew he might be killed.

"I DON'T WANT TO DIE," wrote Chau, who appeared to want to bring Christianity to the islanders. "Would it be wiser to leave and let someone else to continue. No I don't think so."

Chau paid fishermen to take him near North Sentinel, using a kayak to paddle to shore and bringing gifts, including a football and fish.

The Indian government lifted restrictions on traveling to the island in August, Ho said. She said she couldn't comment on why Chau arrived there the way he did, but that he carefully planned it.

All Nations contacted the U.S. Department of State, Ho said. She doesn't know yet whether it will be possible to recover Chau's body.

"We are just in grief and in shock about his death," she said. "At the same time, we consider it a real honor to have worked with him, to have been a part of his journey."

Scholars know almost nothing about the island, from how many people live there to what language

they speak. The Andamans once had other similar groups, long-ago migrants from Africa and Southeast Asia who settled in the island chain, but their numbers have dwindled dramatically over the past century as a result of disease, intermarriage and migration.

Five fishermen, a friend of Chau's and a local tourist guide have been arrested for helping Chau.

Chau, whose friends described him as a fervent Christian, attended Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Before that he had lived in southwestern Washington state and went to Vancouver Christian High School.

In an Instagram post, his family said it was mourning him as a "beloved son, brother, uncle and best friend to us." The family also said it forgave his killers.

Authorities say Chau arrived in the area on Oct. 16 and stayed on another island while he prepared to travel to North Sentinel. It was not his first time in the region, as he had visited the Andaman islands in 2015 and 2016.

With help from the friend, Chau paid fishermen USD325 to take him there, according to Pathak.

After the fishermen realized Chau had been killed, they left for Port Blair, the capital of the island chain, where they broke the news to Chau's friend, who notified his family, Pathak said. **AP**

MALAYSIA

## Jho Low's presence at 1MDB meeting was erased from audit report

Anisah Shukry

MALAYSIAN financier Jho Low Taek Jho's appearance at a 1MDB board meeting was scrubbed from a government's audit report on the troubled state firm, the auditor general said.

The removal was done at the request of the then-principal secretary to former Prime Minister Najib Razak, a week before the document was presented to a select parliamentary committee in March 2016, Madinah

Mohamad said in a statement yesterday.

The rationale was that mentioning Low would be sensitive, and omitting the information would prevent the opposition from using it against the government, Madinah said. Najib also ordered that paragraphs containing two versions of 1MDB's financial statements for the year ending 2014 be removed from the document, which was prepared by Madinah's predecessor Ambrin Buang.

In its initial form, the government categorized the 1MDB audit report as a crisis, Madinah said. A number of changes were made in late February 2016 following discussions between the audit team and representatives of the government and 1MDB, including then president and CEO Arul Kanda.

The final report was presented to a select parliamentary committee in March of that year but it remained protected by the Official Secrets Act

until Najib was defeated at the May 2018 general election. Days after he was sworn in as prime minister, Mahathir Mohamad ordered a renewed probe in 1MDB and declassified the document.

The report showed investigators expressed concern about anomalies in 1MDB's accounts, and that officers on several occasions undertook investigations without the full knowledge of the board and at other times acted against their advice. **Bloomberg**



Protesters hold portraits of Jho Low illustrated as a pirate during a protest in Kuala Lumpur



## JAPAN

# Osaka to host 2025 World Expo, beating Russian city

Angela Charlton, Alex Turnbull

**T**HE Japanese city of Osaka will host the World Expo in 2025, after beating out cities in Russia and Azerbaijan in the race to host an event expected to draw millions of visitors and showcase the local economy and culture.

Shouts of joy in Japanese erupted in the Paris auditorium when the 170 member states of the Bureau International des Expositions voted Friday in favor of Osaka's bid. Dark-suited officials hugged and jumped up and down, and Japan's economy and trade minister, Hiroshige Seko, said he felt "Excellent! I'm excited! I also feel a heavy responsibility to make Expo 2025 successful."

Back in Tokyo, Japan's prime minister, Shinzo Abe, said in a statement that the country will make an utmost effort to "achieve a magnificent expo in Osaka that would give dreams and sur-



Japanese delegation with Japan's Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshige Seko (center), Osaka Mayor Hirofumi Yoshimura (center, right back) and Osaka Gov. Ichiro Matsui (right) celebrate after winning the vote

prises to everyone in the world." Hosting a world expo in Japan would be "a golden opportunity to promote fascinating charms of Japan to the rest of the world," Abe said.

Past world's fairs introduced such wonders as the Eiffel Tower, the Ferris Wheel and Seattle's Space Needle. Today's version is aimed at finding solutions to challenges

facing humanity.

Osaka proposed an expo on a man-made island on the theme of "Society 5.0" and how to leverage robotics and artificial intelligence for the public good.

World Expos, which are held every five years, can last up to six months and cost millions of dollars to host, but can help put a city on the global map by bringing in international visi-

tors and attention. Milan hosted the last one in 2015, and Dubai in the United Arab Emirates is set to host the next one in 2020. No U.S. city has hosted a world's fair since the 1980s.

The Russian city of Yekaterinburg was runner-up — the second loss this week for Russia at an international organization, after the Russian candidate to be president of global police agency Interpol lost out to a South Korean rival.

The capital of the oil-rich former Soviet country of Azerbaijan, Baku, came in third in Friday's expo vote.

Osaka pitched itself as the safe, reliable choice — notably because it already held the 1970 Expo, while the other cities are lesser known and would have been first-time hosts.

Leaders in Osaka, Japan's third-largest city and the largest in western Japan, are hoping the expo will revitalize a city that has lost much of its luster to Tokyo, the nation's political and

economic capital. They have plans to transform the site into a casino resort after the expo, though there is opposition from residents to bringing casino gambling to town.

Russian President Vladimir Putin had backed the Yekaterinburg bid via video message, and a Russian singer tried to rev up the crowd with song and dance. The Russian city, on the boundary between Europe and Asia in Russia's Ural Mountains, was one of several Russian sites that hosted World Cup matches this year.

The Russian reaction to the loss was muted. Alexander Chernov, who led Yekaterinburg's bid, told Russian news agencies on Friday that it shows that "in some areas we didn't work hard enough." Asked if Russia may have been voted down because of the current political climate, Chernov said he didn't notice any political overtones during his talks with delegates.

Baku lost despite a lavish bid including a proposed venue designed to evoke the geometry of Azerbaijani carpets. The Caspian Sea city of 2.2 million has recently hosted a series of international events, including the Eurovision Song Contest and F1 Grand Prix. It is set to host some UEFA Euro 2020 matches. **AP**

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# EU endorses Brexit divorce deal but hard work lies ahead

Lorne Cook, Jill Lawless

**I**N a bittersweet landmark, European Union leaders yesterday approved an agreement on Britain's departure next year — the first time a member country will have left the 28-nation bloc.

It took leaders a matter of minutes at a summit in Brussels to endorse a withdrawal agreement that settles Britain's divorce bill, protects the rights of U.K. and EU citizens hit by Brexit and keeps the Irish border open. They also rubber-stamped a 26-page document laying out their aims for future relations after Britain leaves in March.

Barely half an hour after leaders sat down, European President Donald Tusk tweeted: "EU27 has endorsed the Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration on the future EU-UK relations."

British Prime Minister Theresa May, waiting in the wings as the other leaders met, joined them once they had given the deal the seal of approval to discuss the next steps on the road to Brexit.

May has hailed the deal as the start of a new chapter for Britain, but European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said the U.K.'s departure was a tragedy.

"It's a sad day," Juncker said as he arrived.

He told reporters that deal was "the best possible," but the sum-



Jean-Claude Juncker (right) shakes hands with Theresa May

mit "is neither a time of jubilation nor of celebration. It's a sad moment, and it's a tragedy."

The agreement paves the way for Britain's smooth departure from the bloc from the EU side, though a bumpy ride still awaits in the U.K.

In a formal statement endorsing the deal, the leaders called on EU institutions "to take the necessary steps to ensure that the agreement can enter into force on 30 March 2019, so as to provide for an orderly withdrawal."

The U.K. is due to leave the EU at midnight Brussels time on March 29.

EU chief negotiator Michel

Barnier said now that the first phase was done, Britain and the EU needed to work for "an ambitious and unprecedented partnership."

"Now is the time for everybody to take their responsibility — everybody," he said.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte said the deal — the product of a year and a half of often grueling negotiations between Britain and the EU — was regrettable, but acceptable.

"I believe that nobody is winning. We are all losing because of the U.K. leaving," Rutte said. "But given that context, this is a balanced outcome with no political winners."

The last big obstacle to a deal was overcome on Saturday, when Spain lifted its objections over the disputed British territory of Gibraltar.

The deal must still be ratified by the European Parliament, something parliament President Antonio Tajani said would likely take place early in 2019. Tajani said a "large majority" of European parliamentarians supported the deal.

## The deal must be ratified by the EU Parliament and also needs approval from Britain's Parliament

More dauntingly for May, it also needs approval from Britain's Parliament. May is under intense pressure from pro-Brexit and pro-EU British lawmakers, with large numbers on both sides of the debate opposing the divorce deal and threatening to vote it down when it comes to the House of Commons next month. Brexiters think it will leave the U.K. tied too closely to EU rules, while pro-Europeans say it will

erect new barriers between Britain and the bloc — its neighbor and biggest trading partner.

Pro-Brexit Conservative lawmaker Iain Duncan Smith said yesterday that May should demand new conditions from the EU. He said the deal as it stands "has ceded too much control" to Brussels.

May insists her deal delivers on the things that matter most to pro-Brexit voters — control of budgets, immigration policy and laws — while retaining close ties to the U.K.'s European neighbors.

And EU leaders warned that Britain could not hope to get a better offer.

"This is the deal, it's the best possible and the European Union won't change its fundamental position when it comes to this issue," Juncker said.

May plans to spend the next couple of weeks selling it to politicians and the British public before Parliament's vote in December.

In a "letter to the nation" released yesterday, May said she would be "campaigning with my heart and soul to win that vote and to deliver this Brexit deal, for the good of our United Kingdom and all of our people."

"It will be a deal that is in our national interest - one that works for our whole country and all of our people, whether you voted 'Leave' or 'Remain,'" she said.

She said Britain's departure from the EU "must mark the point when we put aside the labels of 'Leave' and 'Remain' for good and we come together again as one people."

"To do that we need to get on with Brexit now by getting behind this deal." AP

Gregory Viscusi, Alan Katz

**P**OLICE used tear gas and water cannons to control thousands of protesters on the Champs-Élysées in Paris, some of whom were setting fires, as a week-long series of demonstrations against higher gasoline taxes converged on the French capital.

Among the protesters were members of far-right political movements who confronted riot police, according to Interior Minister Christophe Castaner. Police kept demonstrators away from French President Emmanuel Macron's office and residence.

The social-media-driven movement, which branded itself "gilets jaunes" - after the yellow safety vests drivers need to keep in their cars - began a week ago, when almost 300,000 protesters threw up some 2,000 roadblocks. The protests

FRANCE

## Police fire tear gas, water cannons at Paris fuel-tax crowds

are knitting together disparate groups united not just by their opposition to gas taxes, but anger at the president himself. Their complaints range from vanishing local services to the abolition of a wealth tax to the rising cost of living.

"It's just taxes, taxes, taxes," said Marianne, 51, who declined to provide her last name because she works for a local government near Paris. "Everything is expensive. We can't get to the end of the month. This goes way beyond just diesel."

Authorities had made a downtown park available for Saturday's demonstration. Instead, protesters headed mainly to Avenue des Champs-



Demonstrators, called the yellow jackets, gather around the Arc de Triomphe as they protest against the fuel tax

Elysées, Paris's most famous street. There were about 8,000 protesters in the city, Castaner said. The national turnout was about 106,000, significantly lower than on the

previous Saturday, he added.

"There were two types of demonstrators today," Castaner said distinguishing between protesters looking to send

a message and what he termed members of far-right groups who deliberately attacked riot police.

Over the course of several hours, demonstrators set up multiple barricades on the avenue, lit fires, and dug out cobblestones to use as projectiles. The majority of protesters moved on and off the Champs-Élysées, retreating from the smoke or tear gas and returning when riot police pulled back.

The government's response to roll back the tax plan has so far been ineffective. Offers of aid for cleaner vehicles and home-heating systems haven't calmed the protesters, and Macron's

administration has refused to back down from a tax plan that's aimed at reducing fuel consumption and cutting harmful emissions.

On Tuesday, the government is scheduled to make policy announcements to try to address the issue.

More than three-quarters of the public support the protesters, according to polls. The standoff has pitted Macron's mostly urban supporters - many of whom don't rely on cars - against France's rural and small town populations, who do.

The government raised diesel and gasoline taxes at the start of this year, and a further increase is scheduled for 2019. Taxes account for about 60 percent of the price at the pump.

Macron, in a tweet, thanked the police for their courage and said, "shame on those who attacked them." Bloomberg



Sam Mednick, Juba, South Sudan

**A**FTER coming face to face with “unpredictable” gun-waving children almost 25 years ago, the former commander of the failed U.N. peacekeeping mission during the Rwandan genocide dedicated his life to eliminating the use of children as weapons of war.

In an interview with The Associated Press in civil war-torn South Sudan, Romeo Dallaire, who is widely known for warning the U.N. about Rwanda's massacre in 1994, said the current approach to combatting child soldier recruitment is not “sufficient.” Local security forces must be part of the solution, he said.

“My personal experiences of having to negotiate with, having to face children with weapons ... may not have been the right way of doing it,” Dallaire said.

His visit marked the launch of a three-year-program by the Canada-based Romeo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative. The USD2.2 million project funded by Global Affairs Canada aims to work with at least 1,200 South Sudanese soldiers, police and prison personnel. The first round of training will include 50 senior army officers.

With 19,000 children associated with armed groups, South Su-

# In South Sudan, a new approach in ending child soldiers' use

dan has one of the world's highest rates of child soldiers, according to the U.N. Almost 6,000 child soldiers were recruited by government and opposition forces in the past four years of fighting, according to a U.N. report released in September.

“The figures are unacceptably high,” Virginia Gamba, the new U.N. chief for children and armed conflict, said during a recent visit.

South Sudan leads the world with the highest number of child soldiers released, but rapid rates of recruitment are stifling progress. In the last two years UNICEF facilitated the release of over 900 child soldiers yet more than 1,650 children were recruited by armed groups over approximately the same period, according to the U.N.

“These kids' families were poor when they left and they're still poor when they go back, so kids return to the army once released,” William Deng Deng, chairman for South Sudan's national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration commission, told



AP PHOTO

AP. While it's not government policy to recruit children, Deng said it happens because youth socialize with armed groups in their communities.

In an attempt to break this cycle, the Dallaire initiative keeps in mind the realities that both soldiers and children face in conflict. By providing guidance to soldiers on how to interact with children in specific scenarios, the training focuses on behavior change, said

Shelly Whitman, the executive director.

“We don't come in to do the finger-pointing. We come in to say, ‘How can we help change that?’” Whitman said.

One expert said that while persuading armed groups not to recruit children is an important step, the issue can only be addressed as part of a broader protection strategy.

“That's the mistake that inter-

national donor governments continue to make, to believe that complex development challenges like the phenomena of child soldiers can be addressed with one-off interventions and innovations over a short funding cycle. It can't,” said Samantha Nutt, founder of War Child USA, an organization that supports children and families in war zones.

The Dallaire initiative comes during South Sudan's latest fragile attempt at peace, with opposition leader Riek Machar once again to serve as President Salva Kiir's deputy in their third attempt at working together since the country gained independence in 2011.

Dallaire said he hopes his initiative, which already operates in several countries and plans to launch in Nigeria, Sudan and Congo, will advance the peace efforts. He said any force in South Sudan that even considers working with child soldiers should instead see children as a “liability to their engagement in the peace process.” AP

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## what's ON



CHAPAS SÍNICAS - STORIES OF MACAU IN TORRE DO TOMBO

TIME: 10am-6pm (closed on Mondays and public holidays)

UNTIL: December 7, 2018

VENUE: Archives of Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2859 2919

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

## CANADIAN SCIENTIST NAMES BEETLE AFTER JOSE BAUTISTA

Jose Bautista has a new namesake buzzing around.

Entomologist Bob Anderson of the Canadian Museum of Nature has dubbed a newly discovered species of beetle *Sicoderus bautistai* after the former Toronto Blue Jays star.

Anderson decided to name the insect — known as a weevil for its long snout — after Bautista because of the bat-flip home run that propelled Toronto to the 2015 American League Championship Series.

"It was one of those moments in Toronto baseball sort of lore where he hit this big home run," Anderson said Thursday. "And I thought what a great way to kind of recognize his contributions to Blue Jay baseball and to Canadian baseball, really, as a whole."

The 38-year-old Bautista played for Toronto from 2009 to 2017. He's a free agent after splitting last season with the New York Mets, Atlanta Braves and Philadelphia Phillies.

The *Sicoderus bautistai* is a tiny black weevil that is found in Bautista's native Dominican Republic.

Anderson has named about 120 weevils over his career.

"One of the nice things about this is that you have some latitude to do something kind of quirky," Anderson said. "[Naming] sort of builds on a history and the names tell little stories."

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Portuguese Soap Opera
15:50	Cartoons
16:15	Portuguese Comedy
19:00	Portugal Fashion
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	You, Me & Apocalypse
22:00	Funny Things To Know
22:25	Portuguese Serie - Liberty 21
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Documentary
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:30	RTPi Live

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

22 - 28 Nov



FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE CRIMES OF GINDELWALD

ROOM 1

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

Director: David Yates

Starring: Eddie Redmayne, Johny Depp, Jude Law

Language: English

Duration: 130min



THE CURED

ROOM 2

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

Director: David Freyne

Starring: Sam Keeley, Ellen Page,, Tom Vaughan-Lawlor

Language: English

Duration: 130min

KAMEN RIDER BUILD X

ROOM 3

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

Director: Kazuya Kamihouriuchi

Language: Japanese (Chinese)

Duration: 112min



MY HERO ACADEMIA

ROOM 3

9:30 P.M.

Director: Kenji Nagasaki

Language: Japanese (Chinese, English)

Duration: 112min

## this day in history



## 1992 QUEEN TO BE TAXED FROM NEXT YEAR

A British monarch is to pay income tax for the first time since the 1930s.

The Prime Minister, John Major, told the House of Commons the Queen had informed him earlier this year that she wished to make changes to her tax arrangements.

She will also take responsibility for the working expenses of most of her family under changes Mr Major said should be implemented in April 1993.

The decision has been broadly welcomed by Westminster and is fully supported by the Prince of Wales, who already pays some tax on his income.

Buckingham Palace has denied the announcement is related to growing public concern about the rising cost of the monarchy.

Questions have been raised about who will foot the bill for repairing Windsor Castle, which was severely damaged in a fire last week.

But a palace spokesman said the Queen and Prince Charles had made their decision before the July summer recess of Parliament.

Under the new arrangement the only royals who will be paid for by the public will be the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Queen Mother.

Chairman of the influential Tory backbench 1922 Committee Sir Marcus Fox said public pressure should now come off the monarchy.

And constitutional expert Lord St John of Fawsley said the decision proved the Queen was in tune with public opinion.

"She's a wise woman - she's known nine prime ministers and she's been on the throne for 40 years," he said.

But historian David Starkey told the BBC even bigger changes were needed.

"This is not the solution, this is simply addressing the symptom - the solution is to find something positive for the monarchy to do," he said.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Since 2001 the monarchy have published their annual accounts in an attempt to make royal finances more transparent.

The Queen's duties as head of state continue to be funded with public money.

In the financial year 2003-2004 this amounted to £36.8m.

Her personal fortune is estimated to be about £275m.



YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

In addition to a few personal conflicts, there will be quite a few semi-insurmountable scheduling conflicts that will throw a wrench into your plans for most of the day.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

The universe is reminding you that you are the most important thing in your life. After all, if you can't take care of yourself, how can you take care of the people you love? It's not selfish. It's smart.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

But it's easy to make lemonade out of this lemon-like experience ... look upon this as a turning point, when the slate is wiped clean and the future is yours to create in a new way. Dictate your dreams and go.

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

If you are in the midst of making a big decision, ask this person to help you sort things out. You have to invite them into your life if you want them to be in your life. Do you understand?

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

An awkward silence can easily evolve into a long period of miscommunications. So if you put your foot in your mouth today, rely on honesty to dig you out of that hole.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

If you are considering turning back on an emotional journey today, try to hang in there for one more day! If you just keep going a little further, you can turn a corner very soon, and see a broad.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Clarity will come if you listen to your instincts and cut yourself some slack. If you feel distanced from the people who really matter in your life, that is a problem that can be easily remedied.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Don't worry about creating quality time; just have fun. Right now, quantity does mean more than quality, no matter what the relationship experts on TV tell you.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Celebrate the fact that you are secure enough in yourself not to feel threatened when the people you care about get some credit too. Plus, there could be some fragile egos at stake, and you'll be feeling generous.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Today the cautious, humble side of you is telling you to stop for a moment to review the situation. Listen to this little voice inside of you - and don't let yourself get caught up in the moment.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

In one of your newer relationships, things are well on their way toward gaining real momentum. This is a partnership built on mutual respect and a shared sense of what is right.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

These extra sacrifices might be temporary, and if you make a big issue out of them, you might be causing more drama than you need in your life right now. Try to hold your tongue and keep the peace.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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6				8				4
	1					5	8	
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	8			2	1	5	7	
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Easy+

5					8	6	9	
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Medium

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Hard

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1-Alabama city; 6- Impair; 9- Takes on; 14- Thin as \_\_\_\_; 15- Ecol. watchdog; 16- Missouri feeder; 17- Brief article; 19- Coniferous evergreen forest; 20- Draft org.; 21- Tolkien tree creatures; 22- Durango dwellings; 23- Ladies of Sp.; 25- Manufacturer; 26- Abduct; 29- Neb. neighbor; 31- Concur; 32- Shielded; 36- Sound quality; 37- Anatomical pouch; 38- \_\_\_\_ for All Seasons; 40- Finback; 43- Strip; 45- Annapolis inst.; 46- Beginning; 47- Pond scum; 50- Screws up; 51- Astrologer Sydney; 52- Delhi dress; 54- \_\_\_\_-cone; 57- Morocco's capital; 58- Schooling; 61- Military camp; 62- Dr. Dre's genre; 63- Fabric of jeans; 64- Cruise ship; 65- Gallery display; 66- Think the world of;

DOWN: 1- Dupes; 2- Notable periods; 3- Metallica drummer Ulrich; 4- Actress Farrow; 5- Math subj.; 6- Wherewithal; 7- PDA entry; 8- Stadium cheers; 9- Griddle-cooked batter; 10- Singer Chris; 11- Bluffer's ploy; 12- Actress Samantha; 13- Mariners can sail on seven of these; 18- Harvests; 23- Villain's look; 24- Actress Charlotte; 25- Dallas player, briefly; 26- Crazy \_\_\_\_; 27- Aviation pioneer Sikorsky; 28- Bond classic; 29- Milan's La \_\_\_\_; 30- Medic; 33- Tirades; 34- Flightless flock; 35- Miami's county; 37- \_\_\_\_ Francisco; 39- After taxes; 41- Fourth part; 42- Ply; 43- Column style; 44- Where It's at; 47- Stradivari's teacher; 48- Father of Leah and Rachel; 49- Wine fruit; 50- Blow one's top; 51- Hurler Hershisier; 52- Lab fluids; 53- Jewish month; 54- Prefix with Tibetan; 55- Film \_\_\_\_; 56- Treater's words; 59- Oklahoma city; 60- A Kennedy;

Friday's solution

A	S	E	T		T	A	L	I	A		S	O	A	P
T	R	U	E		T	R	A	N	I		W	E	R	E
A	T	R	A		E	N	T	E	R	T	A	I	N	S
N	A	O	M	I		E	T	E	R		I	N	L	E
S	E	N	A	T	E		T	R	E	E		T	O	P
A	V	A	T	A		N	A	E	S		O	P	A	
S	A	D	E		S	T	A	R	S		S	E	E	P
S	D	I	E		A	T	A	T		T	I	E	R	R
Y	E	A	R	N	E	D		C	E	N	T	R	A	L
B	A	S	T	E		L	O	M		N	O	O	N	S
U	N	H	A	L	L	O	W	E	D		O	P	U	S
S	N	I	T		A	L	A	T	E		S	I	L	T
S	A	N	E		M	A	Y	O	R		S	E	L	S

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993

PJ (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300

IACM 28 387 333

Tourism 28 333 000

Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Water Supply – Report 2822 0088

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Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



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Kapok Court, Ocean Gardens  
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Ref: 18100690

Ocean Garden Elm Court  
Taipa  
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HKD 7,378 sq ft  
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Va Long, Central Macau  
Macau  
Two Bedroom Apartment  
Partial Sea View  
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Ref: 18100694

WA BAO, TAIPA  
TAIPA  
1020 sq ft / HKD 8.5M  
HKD 8,333 sq ft  
Two Bedroom Apartment  
Ref: 18115568

Manhattan F Unit  
Taipa  
2 Bedroom Apartment  
Fully Furnished  
HKD 25,000 / 1,720 sq ft  
Ref: 18110695

Va Fat Taipa  
Taipa  
550 sq ft / HKD 4.58 M  
HKD 8,327 sq ft  
Two Bedroom Apartment  
Ref: 18115566

Macau One Central High  
Floor  
Macau  
2 Bedroom Apartment  
HKD 23,000 / 1,269 sq ft  
Ref: 18100693





## Rugby Academy

# A bright start for Macau Bats on Sandy Bay

Donald Shaw, Hong Kong  
Special to MDT

**T**HE Macau Bats attended the second Hong Kong rugby festival of the season in mid-November. The tournament was hosted by Hong Kong University at Sandy Bay, Pok Fu Lam.

The first of the club's six teams to play were the U7s who started the day brightly with wins over Tin Shiu Wai Eagles (4-3) and Hong Kong FC (5-2) before two narrow losses against Sai Kung Stingrays (2-4), and USRC Tigers (3-4).

The U8s played well to beat HKFC (5-2), Tung Chung (4-1) and Causeway Bay Monkeys (5-2) with their fourth game forfeited by the opposition. Meanwhile the U9s got off to a strong start against Sandy Bay, quickly establishing a 3-0 lead, however the hosts fought back to earn a 3-3 draw. Clearly stung by the comeback the young Bats made emphatic work of beating Shatin Sha Pei (6-0), USRC Tigers (6-0) and Flying Kukris (7-1) in their next games.

The U10s were determined to maintain their strong start to the season and came out hard and fast against Shatin Sha Pei, running up a 7-1 win. A much tougher game followed against Dongguan Bulldogs and the Bats found themselves behind before fighting back to win a tough game 3-2, scoring the winning try in the final few seconds. This was followed by another fine performance against South Lantau Buffaloes (4-1) and a convincing 7-1 win over Tin Shiu Wai Eagles to return to Macau with a 100 per cent record.

The U12s were playing at Happy Valley in the Richard Hawkes Cup and began with a 2-0 win over a combined Shatin and Tai Hang select. Impressive wins over Sai Kung Stingrays (4-1) and South Lantau / Tung Chung (3-0) set up a final winner takes all game against Causeway Bay Monkeys. As expected this was a tough and bruising encounter with the Bats coming from behind to win 4-2, topping their group and ensuring promotion to the second division.

The U16s were competing in the Hong Kong 1st Division in combination with Kukris and Pirates, producing their best performance of the season so far in defeating Sai Kung Stingrays 42-10 at King George V park in Kowloon.

The busy period continued with the U16s playing in Hong Kong. The next festivals will be held on December 2 and 9.





## FOOTBALL

# Copa Libertadores final postponed after Boca bus attacked

**A**RGININES expected the final of the century between their country's biggest clubs and eternal rivals. Instead, the world witnessed one of the biggest embarrassments in South American soccer history.

The Copa Libertadores final was postponed to today [Macau time] after Boca Juniors players were injured when their bus was attacked by River Plate fans. CONMEBOL President Alejandro Dominguez announced the decision on Saturday, just 10 minutes before the final was supposed to start. "One team didn't want to play and the other didn't want to win under these conditions," Dominguez said.

Boca players were injured in their bus just a few blocks from River's Monumental de Nunez Stadium when rocks and pieces of wood thrown by River supporters shattered the windows.

Some players were also affected by tear gas and pepper spray used by police to quell the violence.



Riot police form a line to keep fans at bay, outside the Antonio Vespucio Liberti stadium

Boca captain Pablo Perez and teenager Gonzalo Lamardo were taken to nearby hospitals, where fans gathered in support. Perez had injuries to his arms and an eye, according to images of Boca's locker room shared on social media. Lamardo had trouble breathing because of the gas.

Earlier, CONMEBOL said in a statement that its doctors noted Boca players "suffered superficial skin injuries" and two "said they had eye injuries, which could not be confirmed." "We believe that

under the medical point of view there is no reason to suspend the match," the doctors of the South American soccer body said.

Dominguez disagreed. "This is football, not war. Neither team wants to play because this match would be unnatural," he said. Dominguez met with club directors and FIFA President Gianni Infantino before he announced the postponement.

"There was a gentlemen's pact with both clubs," Dominguez said. "There was a request from

both clubs for the match to be suspended." The game had been called "The Final For All Time" because it is the first time the two fierce rivals had met in the final of South America's most coveted club tournament.

CONMEBOL initially delayed the kickoff of the second leg for an hour, then postponed it for 2 hours, 15 minutes to 7:15 p.m. local time (2215 GMT). After the match was suspended, fans clashed with police outside the stadium. At least 30 people were arrested, according to local media.

Some of the more than 66,000 River fans also tried to storm into the dressing rooms, interrupting abruptly a TV interview of River president Rodolfo D'Onofrio. "We want to play a match that is head to head," he said before he was forced to run in the chaotic inside of the Monumental de Nunez. "It is regrettable that a divine party like this was interrupted by 15 hooligans. We were stopped from playing a match that the entire world was watching."

D'Onofrio said.

Buenos Aires public security secretary Marcelo Alessandro admitted there was a security failure that opened the way for the attack. Boca President Daniel Angelici was escorted by bodyguards and security forces inside the stadium while River fans shouted "Coward!"

"Matches have to be won and lost on the pitch. But we were not in the same conditions to play," Angelici said. "As an Argentine and as a football executive, I am embarrassed [...] look at the spectacle that we gave the world."

The first leg of the Copa Libertadores final was played three weeks ago and ended 2-2. It was delayed by a day following torrential rain that flooded the field at Boca's La Bombonera stadium. Boca fans were not allowed in the River stadium following a 2013 ban on visiting supporters aimed at fighting Argentina's endemic football violence. But it wasn't enough. No game seems more volatile than Boca vs. River. **AP**

AD

## ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

### Languages:

ENGLISH, CHINESE,  
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,  
KOREAN, SPANISH,  
FRENCH, ARABIC,  
RUSSIAN

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opinion

Rear Window

Severo Portela



BOLDLY INACCURATE

Despite a sort of social commotion rooted in a long-time bonding with Bobo, one would have said that the Flora Garden's oldest (?) inmate passing away was to be taken and handled as nothing more than a news service closing feature, or perhaps a tip-off into further hard and harsh investigative reporting.

Nonetheless, Bobo's quiet departure meant his fate was to become a footnote of the leitmotiv of mistrust in the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) - at the time, the Leal Senado of Macau. Bear Bobo's plaque at the premises displays a bold error: the rescue from a restaurant situated in Rua da Felicidade area was said to be in the year 1984, when it was indeed 1986.

The factual error would go unnoticed perhaps if it were not for the fact that some of news media and journalists who were committed and endeavored to save the caged bear all those years ago are still around. MDT clearly explains that Va Kio Daily dates the bear's rescue to December 19th, 1986 after the municipal authority caved in to the pressure led by Sousa, the first TDM anchor, and the Chinese language newspaper Va Kio.

As a disclaimer, we would like to say that we are taking this episode - an apparent late blooming silly season - as a warning against the rewriting of the past. It may be an excessive step because we are to believe, we want to believe, that the correction of the date Bobo moved to a quarantine enclosure in the Flora Garden was a clumsy mistake, usually attributed to an absent-minded civil servant.

However, in such times that fake news revels everywhere from the roots of Trumpism, we have to consider that this is far and above driven by fake news: This is fake facts to feed fake myths to fake history. It is not difficult to understand that fake news is bad and fake history is worse...to allow bad people (sorry for the simplification) to rewrite the past to suit their concealed ends.

As we said, we have nothing to support anything fishier than mere sloppiness or lack of concern, but conventional wisdom tells us that these are the fields in which apathy grows; especially in an enclave where there have been bad examples of ignoring or discarding facts, that is to say suppressing facts, doctoring or spinning...but faking is of another realm.

Just take into consideration what MDT found regarding the consequences of this dating negligence: these reports also indicate that Bobo's age may be less than 35 years old when he died as reported by Municipal Affairs Bureau! If that is true, we could speculate on possible motives to change 86 to 84, but that is not the point, although entertaining. Bobo is gone: long live Bobo.

Back to MSAR's reality or facts. We should highlight the figures that make for budgetary prosperity sourced from its crop culture: the government is expecting the revenue from the gaming sector to grow by MOP122 billion: a Chief Executive dream!

Can this MOP122 billion weight greatly expand the MSAR government's social policy, and finance what investments are proven to be needed, as well as a sound increase in the salary index of Macau public servants?

One final note about the so-called committee for the Coordination of Social Affairs, and the stance that the employees' representatives take on things! The representatives happen to condemn and reject a simple regular government proposal to amend the Labor Law to allow holiday shifts between mandatory public holidays...accusing the government of insisting upon a proposal that goes against the public opinion. That is all about labor...believe it or not!

THE HONG KONG DEVELOPERS OFFER DISCOUNTS AS PROPERTY BOOM GOES FLAT

Hong Kong developers are offering discounts at new projects in the latest sign the city's housing boom is coming off the boil. Country Garden Holdings Co. and Wang On Properties Ltd. are giving discounts of as much as 12 percent at their Altissimo project in the New Territories, a price list shows. Employees of the two developers are granted an additional 5 percent deduction. Lai Sun Development Co. has cut prices 10 percent at eight units in a project on Hong Kong Island.

Developers have been offering discounts and enticements including cash rebates and shopping

vouchers to boost sales as the market slows. New home sales may fall as much as 10 percent to 15 percent by value in the next 12-to-18 months, Moody's Investors Service said yesterday. That added to a chorus of bearish calls on a property market ranked the world's least affordable, with some analysts forecasting prices will slump as much as 15 percent next year.

The discounts come after secondary-home prices last week dropped the most since 2016, sliding 1.3 percent from the previous week, according to the Centa-City Leading Index.

Trial starts for Hong Kong businessman in bribery case

THE New York trial of a prominent Hong Kong businessman charged in a United Nations-linked bribery conspiracy is set to begin with jury selection today.

The trial of Dr. Chi Ping Patrick Ho begins a year after he was arrested on charges accusing him of paying bribes so a Chinese energy conglomerate could secure business advantages. He has been held without bail.

His lawyer has said Ho is looking forward to clearing his name. Ho was once Hong Kong's home affairs secretary.

Ho has insisted he is not guilty of charges that he conspired in October 2014 to bribe the president of Chad and the Ugandan foreign minister.

Prosecutors say Ho's former co-defendant, Cheikh Gadio, will testify at trial that Ho arranged a USD2 million bribe to be delivered to Chad's president in gift boxes.

Last Wednesday, U.S. District Judge Loretta A. Preska overruled defense objections, saying Gadio can testify that he understood Ho's \$2 million cash payment to President Idriss Deby to be a "bribe."

Ho's lawyers had argued that Gadio's testimony as to whether the \$2 million was a "bribe" was lay opinion and



Dr. Chi Ping Patrick Ho, former Hong Kong home secretary

should be kept out of evidence the jury can consider.

Preska said she agreed with arguments by prosecutors that it would be difficult for Gadio to convey his understanding about the payment to the jury without using the word "bribe."

She said banning him from use of the word would risk confusing the jury.

The judge said she will also let prosecutors show jurors evidence that Ho would only contribute money to a former U.N. official if the official agreed to take actions to benefit the energy conglomerate. And she said she'll let

jurors see evidence of Ho's brokering Iranian transactions and arms transactions.

She said she'll ban other evidence though, including arguments about the merits of projects Ho sought to advance through bribery or good causes toward which the officials he bribes could have used the bribe payments.

Preska also noted that defense lawyers have said they will not try to argue that the U.S. brought the case against Ho as part of a broader campaign against China or that the timing of the prosecution was part of a broader political agenda. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo /Ashwini Bhatia



An exiled Tibetan sits on the steps under a string of Tibetan and Buddhist flags as she waits to welcome her spiritual leader the Dalai Lama in Dharmasala, India. The Tibetan leader returned yesterday after visiting Japan.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	70-100 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	55-75 Moderate
Ambient	70-100 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS



ZIMBABWE's 94-year-old former president Robert Mugabe is no longer able to walk as his health declines, his successor said.

UGANDA Diving teams are retrieving bodies from Lake Victoria where police say at least 30 people died in a boat accident near the capital, Kampala.

SWITZERLAND Voters yesterday rejected a national referendum on a cattle farmer's proposal to have the government subsidize herders of goats and cows if they let their animals keep their horns, according to projections.



FRANCE President Emmanuel Macron has condemned violence by protesters at demonstrations against rising fuel taxes and his government. At least 20 people were hurt in the protests, including one with more serious injuries. Dozens of people have been arrested. More on p14



BRITAIN European Union leaders yesterday sealed a divorce deal with Britain, and issued a warning to U.K. politicians who within weeks will approve or reject it — this offer is as good as it gets. For once, U.K. Prime Minister Theresa May was in complete agreement. More on p14

BRAZIL's federal police issued 22 arrest warrants as part of a probe into a corruption and money laundering scheme involving construction of the new headquarters of the state oil company in the northeastern city of Salvador.