

SOU'S THREE QUESTIONS ON JUDICIAL INTEGRITY

Lawmaker Sulu Sou is calling for greater transparency in the judicial system in face of a bill barring non-Chinese judges



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

KITESURFER TO ATTEMPT DELTA CROSSING FOR OCEAN CLEANUP FUNDRAISER

■ P4 MDT EXCLUSIVE



HUAWEI UNVEILS 5G PHONE WITH FOLDING SCREEN

Huawei unveiled a new folding-screen phone, joining the latest trend for bendable devices as it challenges the global smartphone market's dominant players

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#### WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA Hospitals are using facial recognition to identify people who sell doctors' appointments at an illegal markup, the latest application of an emerging technology that is being used in places to tighten Communist Party control over the country's 1.4 billion people. More on p10

BANGLADESH An official says a flight headed to Dubai made an emergency landing in Chittagong, Bangladesh, after a hijack attempt. No further information was released by press time.

JAPAN The people of Okinawa voted yesterday on a plan for a U.S. military base relocation in a referendum that will send a message on how they feel about housing American troops in Japan, who many see as a burden on the group of tiny southwestern islands.



INDIA At least 150 people have died and about 200 people have been hospitalized after drinking tainted liquor in two separate incidents in India's remote northeast, authorities said yesterday.

More on backpage

# Domestic workers root for 'Roma' to grab Oscar

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**TOURISM** 

Spending declines even as visitor numbers increase

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**HANOI SUMMIT** 

Kim's road trip through China to meet Trump and trouble P11, 12-13



#### **COURTS**

## Sulu queries gov't plans to safeguard judicial integrity

AWMAKER Sulu Sou **L** has presented a written enquiry to the Macau government calling for greater transparency in the judicial system now that the Legislative Assembly has approved a controversial bill barring non-Chinese judges from ruling on matters of national security.

The written enquiry contains three questions posed to the government on the protection of the independence and integrity of the courts and the promotion of judicial transparency.

Citing Article 83 of the Macau Basic Law - which reads, "the courts of the Macau Special Administrative Region shall conduct trials independently and obey only the law without any interference" - Sou remarked that judicial independence is "the most important spirit and cornerstone of the rule of law in society."

"Judicial independence should be the universal value of human beings. There should be no distinction between national boundaries, regions, rich or poor, nor can judicial independence be defined as the exclusive Western or Eastern road," he wrote. "The significance



of judicial independence lies in making decisions based on law and facts. Therefore, the independence of the system and the [judges] are crucial."

Noting the importance of "winning the trust of society with integrity," Sou observed that "in recent years, some members of the public have had doubts about whether the independence of Macau's judiciary has been shaken." The lawmaker has asked

the government whether it plans to take measures to safeguard the core value of judicial independence.

The written enquiry continues with a request for greater transparency in the judiciary system, including the justification for the appointment or substitution of judicial officers over cases that involve matters of national security.

It also calls for transpa-

rency over the general administrative operations of the courts. For example, the lawmaker requests the full publication of "all the contents of the SAR courts" that do not violate the personal data of the parties or are legally required to remain confidential.

Sou has requested a written reply from Chief Executive Chui Sai On within 30 days of receiving the enquiry. **DB** 

#### **CRIME**

### Suspect of Cotai homicide arrested on the mainland

Aman has been detained on the mainland by local police authorities in relation to the homicide that occurred last week in a Cotai hotel, the Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson disclosed at a press conference.

According to the PJ, the suspect now in custody is a 27-yearold male resident from Shanxi province.

The police authorities also advanced that the man entered the region on Saturday, February 16 and left the region that night through the Lotus Flower Border checkpoint in Cotai.

He was detained on the mainland in an operation conducted with the cooperation of local police authorities.

For the time being, man is the only suspect in the case unveiled on February 17, when a 41-year-old man was found dead on the floor of a hotel room in Conrad Hotel.

The next day, after a preliminary analysis, PJ criminal investigators identified the man as a mainland resident surnamed Mui, adding that he was known as a regular presence in local casinos.

On Friday, the PJ revealed that the victim dedicated himself to exchanging currency and gaming chips in local casinos but could not confirm if a dispute regarding such activity might be connected to the homicide, leaving the uncovering of such details to the Chinese police authorities, who are conducting part of the investigation.

The authorities also revealed that an autopsy showed the cause of death was a wound to the heart caused by a bladed weapon.

More details to the case will be revealed by the mainland authorities, the PJ spokesperson said. RM



by Dr Ruan Du Toit Bester

#### GUIDE TO CANINE SEIZURE DISORDERS

The most common canine seizure disorder is **L** epilepsy, but there are also other conditions that can cause seizures. As a dog owner it is important to identify a seizure and apply suitable treatment, so that the dog doesn't get hurt or experience complications.

#### Causes of seizures in dogs

In addition to epilepsy, an inherited canine disease can cause periodical seizures. These can

- Liver problems
- Poisoning
- Encephalitis
- Brain tumors or other disorders
- Hypocalcemia or low calcium levels in the
- Hypoglycemia or low blood sugar
- Thyroid problems such as hypothyroidism or a low amount of thyroid hormones released in the dog's system

In some cases, the seizures may be idiopathic, or of causes that are not known. In these cases, the vet will suppose the seizures are due to epilepsy.

#### Symptoms of seizures

The seizures will have a sudden onset. The dog may be acting normally and then he'll suddenly display a weird behavior. The dog may look like he is yawning, but his jaws may be blocked in the yawn position. The dog will lose control over his muscles and may have spasms. He might collapse and move his feet without having control over

The dog may hurt himself, so it is important to remove all sharp objects and place a few blankets or pillows nearby, and make sure the dog is not near a flight of stairs. Don't touch the dog iust allow the seizure to pass. Seizures can last anywhere between 1 and 10 minutes.

Don't try to hold the dog's tongue (as it is indicated in human seizures), because dogs won't you try to hold his tongue.

Diagnosing seizure disorders The seizure disorders may be diagnosed by a vet by performing a general consult and running a few tests. A complete blood count, a urinalysis and a thyroid screen test will all be performed. A diagnostic imaging test may also be performed to look for any brain abnormalities. A cerebrospinal analysis may also be needed. However, even after performing all tests, the vet may not be able to pinpoint the problem causing the seizures.

swallow their tongue during a seizure. The dog

cannot control his actions and he may bite you if

#### Seizure treatment

The treatment options will depend on the cause of the seizures. Some dogs will experience seizures triggered by certain events or noises. These triggers should be identified and reduced as much as possible.

The medication treatment available for dogs with seizure disorders will include:

- Phenobarbital (typically for dogs with epi-
- Potassium bromide



- Gabapentin
- Chlorazepate

In some cases, the vet will recommend mixing a few drugs such as phenobarbital and potassium bromide.

These anticonvulsants may not be always recommended. If the seizures are only experienced rarely (less often than once per month), the vet will not recommend medication.

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#### TOURISM | ANALYSIS

## Many more visitors spending much less

**Daniel Beitler** 

**ACAU** retailers saw little to no improvement to their business in the last quarter even as tourism authorities boasted a record number of visitors.

The latest data from the Statistics and Census Service shows that while the number of visitors increased by 13.8 percent year-on-year in the fourth quarter of 2018, tourist spending (excluding gaming activities) climbed just 1.3 percent.

Accordingly, per-capita spending in the fourth quarter decreased 11 percent year-on -vear to MOP1,844, with the spending of same-day visitors leading the decline.

As reported by the Times last week, Macau lawmakers from across the spectrum are finding common ground on tourism-related issues.

Lawmakers Pereira Coutinho and Leong Sun Iok are calling on the government to be more strategic in tourism promotion, focusing on quality over quantity. In the words of lawmaker Leong Sun Iok, Macau needs to "attract tourists of high consumption [value]," rather than low-spend visitors who add little to the local economy while contributing to a growing overtourism problem.

The lawmakers' calls come as a string of recent policies from the mainland designed to curb money laundering and capital outflows are beginning to take effect.

The policies, which include facial recognition at ATMs to match the identity on bank cards and the mandatory declaration of valuables flowing across the border, have the effect of deterring wealthy visitors from bringing funds into the Macau SAR and deflating per capita spending in the process.

Moreover, the final quarter of 2018 may be indicative of an emerging inverse correlation between visitor spending and visitor growth.

Tourist spending grew by 23 percent in 2017 to reach MOP61.32 billion, while visitor arrivals were up 5.4 percent to 32.6 million. In 2018, the two metrics started to converge, with a 13.6 percent increase in non-gaming spending and a 10 percent rise in the number of visitors. In per-capita terms, visitor spending for the whole year rose by 3.5 percent, despite the 11 percent decrease in the final quarter.

The correlation is in part due to the fact tourist spending dropped harder and more suddenly than visitor numbers in the aftermath of the 2014 gaming crunch.

It took seven consecutive quarters of year-on-year decline in visitor spending before a recovery was noted in the third quarter of 2016. Meanwhile, annual visitor arrivals have not fallen below the 30-million mark post-2014, slipping just 2.6 percent in 2015 and increasing 0.8 percent in 2016 and 5.4 percent in 2017.

The most recent business climate survey on restaurants and the retail trade showed a similar sentiment among business owners in these sectors. About

36 percent of interviewed restaurants and 39 percent of interviewed retailers registered a year-on-year increase in revenue in December 2018, while 33 percent of restaurants and 43 percent of retailers reported a decrease.

Retailers and restaurant owners were more optimistic in their expectations for January, with 73 percent and 78 percent of those interviewed anticipating revenue growth, respectively.

The first quarter of 2019 may also find a bounce in visitor spending from the holidays earlier this month. This Chinese Lunar New Year Golden Week saw a record number of tourists arrive in the city, beating the tourism authority's preliminary estimates to climb 26.6 percent to more than 1.2 million. It is yet to be seen how the significant jump this year will translate into visitor spen-

#### Japan bringing the money

PER-CAPITA spending by visitors in the fourth quarter declined almost as fact. declined almost as fast as the number of visitors grew, according to information released yesterday by the Statistics and Census Service.

Overnight visitors spent on average MOP3,064 in the fourth quarter and same-day visitors spent MOP678, dropping 4.2 percent and 17.3 percent respectively.

Visitors from mainland China spent an average of MOP2,091, down by 13.5 percent year-on-year, just as visitors from Singapore (MOP1,710), Malaysia (MOP1,594) and Taiwan (MOP1,577) also saw declines.

Conversely, average visitor spending was buttressed by those from Japan (MOP2,281) and Hong Kong (MOP1,053), which increased by 18.2 percent and 2.8 percent respectively. DB

### Electronic vote counting for CE election

The vote-counting process for the election of the fifth Chief Executive of Macau will be conducted electronically, similarly to the previous election, the Electoral Affairs Commission for the Chief Executive (CE) Election revealed on Friday after its second meeting. The electronic counting system aims to improve work efficiency and save manpower. During the meeting, voting locations were also discussed. According to Song Man Lei, chairman of the commission, the commission will select the voting locations based on practical needs and convenience, among other factors. A decision regarding the voting locations will be announced once a consensus is reached.

#### 31 penalties applied in food safety cases

In 2018, penalties were applied in a total of 31 cases where the concerned party violated the city's food safety law, the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) reported on Friday. All of the penalties were less than MOP50,000. During the year, the IAM examined a total of 3,432 food samples from restaurants, with 11 samples failing to pass the IAM's standards. The percentage of failed samples is similar to that of the previous year. The IAM pledges to continue inspecting and supervising food safety, while simultaneously combating behaviors that violate food safety regulations. The bureau urged the food industry to manage food safety risks, adding that consumers carefully select food online and food from outside Macau.

#### Amaral bus terminal design expected later this year

The design for the Praça de Ferreira do Amaral bus terminal improvement is expected to be completed in 2019, according to the Transport Bureau's reply to lawmaker Lei Chan U's written enquiry. The improvement plan for the terminal remains unchanged. The bureau still intends to build a large-scale shelter, adjust bus lanes, improve the platforms and traffic conditions. The bureau also stated that it will continue to improve the affiliated facilities at the terminal's underground parking lots and encourage more residents to use said parking lots.





**ADVENTURE** 

## Kitesurfer to attempt delta crossing for ocean cleanup fundraiser

**Renato Marques** 

HILLIAN Siu is to attempt something never before done: a solo crossing of the Pearl River Delta starting at Hong Kong's Cheung Chau Beach and arriving at Macau's Ha Sac Beach in Coloane using only kitesurfing equipment.

Aside from the crossing being a first-of-a-kind adventure, the challenge has another meaningful objective, the kitesurfer explained to the Times.

"I aim to raise awareness of the problem of ocean plastic and garbage," said Siu.

Scheduled for tomorrow, the crossing "will be a trial run prior to a fundraising event that I'm planning," serving as a safety check and a way to test the conditions and collect data for the bigger event planed for November.

For the main event in November, Siu hopes to surf "together

with 30 other kitesurfers to fundraise for the ocean [protection] cause."

Speaking to the Times, Siu advanced that there are a few conditions necessary for the success of the attempt - most decisively, the wind conditions.

■ There are a few conditions necessary for the success of the attempt - most decisively, the wind

"The wind is really the major aspect. We need to see if we can get enough wind to perform the crossing as we rely entirely on that," she said. "If the wind stops and my kite drops, then I won't be able to put it back up to continue [the trip]."

Another major challenge concerns maritime traffic in the area. "We are definitely avoiding the ferry routes and trying to do the crossing all the way out as much as possible, from Cheung Chau Island and in the direction toward Hac Sa."

The solo crossing will count on the support of a small team of five, who will travel nearby in a boat and offer assistance in an emergency.

Simon Holliday, a Hong Kong resident who swam the crossing between the two regions a few years back, encountered an immigration issue upon reaching his Macau beach destination.

Regarding the immigration issue, Siu said, "we are aware of the [bureaucratic] difficulties and our plan is in fact not to reach land in Macau but to jump back on the boat after rea-

ching a defined 'finish line' and from there go with the crew to do a proper immigration check."

She said that, technically, the crossing will be done by boat. "But there is nothing that says that I can't do a watersports activity during this boat trip."

As Siu noted, the purpose

As Siu noted, the purpose is meaningful - just as in the case of Holliday's crossing – "seeking funding for an innovative project related to ocean cleanup, which is to be the [final] beneficiary of the fundraising event."

"If a 45-kilogram tiny woman can do this, I think that it more than proves that any other kitesurfer can do it too," she said laughing.

Depending on the wind conditions, the equipment used and the personal skill of the kitesurfer, Siu estimated that the crossing could take from one hour up to five.

For tomorrow's attempt, Siu is hoping to depart Cheung Chau in the early morning and arrive in Macau in the early afternoon "if the wind allows."





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**ROMA** 

## Domestic workers see their reality reflected in Oscar-nominated film



**Lynzy Valles** 

OME domestic workers in the SAR are keen on the Oscar-nominated film, Roma, noting that it is rare for the community to have their experience be given the spotlight in the film industry.

The Netflix movie depicts the life of a domestic worker in black and white.

Recently shown at the third edition of the Macao International Film Festival, the Mexican movie has been nominated for 10 Academy Awards.

"These kinds of films raise awareness of the situation of domestic workers. At the same time, it also tackles racism and discrimination, so it's very realistic," said Benedicta Palcon, chairperson of a local migrant group.

"It also shows [...] the bravery of women that work in this position, so it is really something that we could connect to," she added.

Another migrant worker re-

marked, "it is good that there are films that give visibility to the hard work and everyday struggles of domestic workers. I'm happy that it was nominated in the Oscars, as it could show our reality."

The film is inspired by the childhood of film director Alfonso Cuarón, who dedicated the movie to his domestic helper.

Cuarón himself has advocated for domestic workers' rights and has spoken against racial discrimination in Mexico, where the success of lead actress Yalitza Aparicio — a newcomer of indigenous origin and the daughter of a domestic worker — has generated derogatory remarks.

Cuarón has also made public service announcements calling on employers of these workers to "pay fairly, set clear expectations, and provide paid time off."

The director's urgings echo the calls of the city's domestic workers for basic rights.

Just this month, several migrant

groups had a meeting with the Labour Affairs Bureau calling for a review of policies on domestic workers, including an outdated housing allowance, and requesting a review of the minimum wage proposal.

The movie has given domestic workers global visibility and started a conversation about the importance of their job after years of being poorly paid and marginalized.

It stars Yalitza Aparicio as Cleo, a domestic worker for a Mexico City middle-class family in the turbulent early 1970s.

Aparicio, a 25-year-old primary school teacher, is nominated alongside Glenn Close, Lady Gaga, Olivia Colman and Melissa McCarthy at today's Oscars.

Meanwhile, the U.S. National Domestic Workers Alliance has organized a red carpet event where dozens of domestic workers will be honored today as the "heroes of our homes."

"There are two million women ners will be announced today.

who do this work and are not protected by our labor laws," said Aijen Poo, executive director at the alliance, an organization founded in 2007 that promotes the rights of domestic workers in the United States, The Associated Press reported.

"They are taking care of our families, but they can't take care of their own families doing this work. We think this is a huge opportunity to expand our support for making these jobs dignified and for valuing the workers," she said.

Since its August debut at the Venice Film Festival, where it earned the Golden Lion, the film has received accolades and awards at the Golden Globes and the British film academy's BAFTAs, among others.

Meanwhile, two other films that also starred at the third IFFAM, "Green Book" and "The Favourite," have been nominated in the same award category. The winners will be announced today.

#### 54 restricted knives seized from border crossers

A mainland resident and a Macau resident have been caught carrying a total of 54 knives across the border from Zhuhai. Last week, the Gongbei customs authority spotted the Macau resident while she was crossing the border from Zhuhai to Macau. Three knives were seized from her belongings. She claimed that the knives were for her home use. The other 51 restricted knives. which belonged to a mainland resident, were seized from two luggage bags at the Zhuhai port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge.

#### DSEJ pledges to continue anti-bullying training

The Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) has reiterated that the bureau will continue training teachers, consultants and students in order to prevent school bullying. Last week, nine local youths were transferred to the prosecution authority following cruel actions towards a 12-year-old girl. According to the bureau, the school attended by the victim of the bullying case will deliver a report to the DSEJ. The DSEJ will also arrange police officers to conduct bullying prevention educational campaigns at the concerned school.

#### **GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE**

#### Macau's IFFAM shares Academy Awards pick

THE third edition of the International Film Festival and Awards (IFFAM) opened with "Green Book," a film nominated for the Oscar's Best Picture, Best original Screenplay and Best Film Editing, among other awards.

IFFAM's artistic director, Mike Goodridge, expected that "The Favourite" would get a Best Picture nomination as well, which it is currently nominated for.

"We work very hard to get these films to play here and it's not easy to get the right's holders to agree or the studios to agree, but you know, they obviously want exposure for these films," Goodridge told the Times in December.

"Roma' and 'The Favourite' were in

Venice and had huge, huge successful responses there, in Venice. 'Green Book' was in Toronto and won the People's Choice Award. So, they know now that the films will be well received," he added.

Commenting on the Netflix film "Roma", Goodridge said that Alfonso Cuarón's new film is "one of the most exquisitely beautiful films you've ever seen."

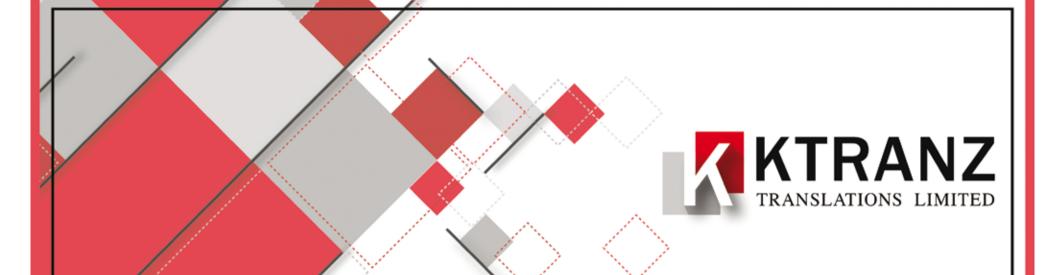
Meanwhile, the production crew at the Oscars yesterday had its last dress rehearsal, when the musical acts from 'Queen' to Lady Gaga ran through the numbers one more time before the cameras go live to the world for the 91st Oscars today. LV



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## Harrow School Zhuhai confident in attracting Macau students

Julie Zhu, Zhuhai

ARROW International (China) has presented its new bilingual schools in China-Innovation Leadership Academies (ILA) with an admission plan for students from mainland China as well as those from Macau and Hong Kong.

Yesterday, during an introduction session held in Zhuhai, Harrow presented ILA's three new campuses – one in Hengqin, one in Tangjiawan (Zhuhai), and a third in Chongqing.

On the sidelines of the session sharing Harrow's new programs in mainland China, Michael Farley, Director of Group Operations for Asia International Schools Limited, told the Times that the school is confident it can attract students from Macau.

"One of the core reasons why we focused on the wonderful opportunities we have in Zhuhai and why we decided to establish two ILAs in Zhuhai is the access to not just Hengqin and Tangjiawan, but also Macau," said

> 表行复文制空間 ALBERGUE SCM



Michael Farley (right)

Farley, after being asked whether the organization has an admission plan for students from Macau.

Hong Kong, which already has one Harrow School, is also on the list of admission targets of ILAs in Zhuhai.

"Hong Kong, I should mention as well. We think that we will attract students from those

locations as well as other parts of the Southeast and, certainly, even central China," said Farley, adding that "we are a boarding school. [...] We very much believe in the house system, [...] both day students and boarding students."

According to Farley, he imagines that Hong Kong students would be all boarded, whereas

BAMBUT

Macau students would probably be split evenly between day and board students.

"We think our school will be really attractive to Macau residents," Farley said.

Currently, Macau has both traditional Chinese schools and schools that provide a western education.

When questioned about how

ILA will compete with Macau schools, since local students will need to cross the border in Zhuhai to get to school, Farley said that "we think that the Harrow ILA is not the best school in the world, but it's the school for some people."

"Some families will choose to use other international schools and there are some very good private, international, national [schools] in the area and in Macau," said Farley, adding that "we are very confident in the quality of what we are providing and the uniqueness of what we are providing,"

"Our school develops wonderful young people, so we are very confident that some families will choose to use the Harrow ILA; some won't," said Farley. "We are quietly confident, but we are not aggressive."

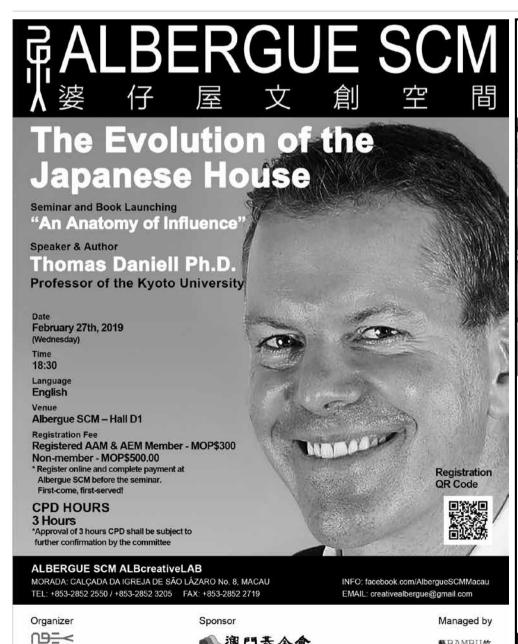
In mainland China, international schools are currently categorized into different groups according to Chinese law. Accordingly, the schools' curriculums are different.

Discussing the curriculum at Harrow, Farley remarked that ILA seeks to blend the Chinese and the British curriculums.

Providing bilingual K-12 education, ILAs offer day and boarding schooling to families in the Greater Bay Area.

ILA Tangjiawan and ILA Hengqin are both planned to open in September 2020.

AD



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(Ref: 16095490) 664 sq.ft. HKD 4.25 M Rate: HKD 6,404

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Ocean Garden Elm Court

(Ref: 18105563) 1,610 sq.ft. HKD 11.88 M Rate: HKD 7,378

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WA BAO, TAIPA

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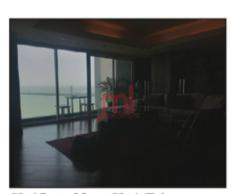
Taipa, fabulous and bright two bedroom apartment with two bathrooms. Lovely views one the Taipa Stadium, Galaxy and across to Hengquin are just stunning. Well designed kitchen. This beautiful home is located close to shops, cafes, restaurants and banks. Very convenient for all types of transportation and within walking distance to Taipa village and 'Cotai.



Sea View Condo, Hellene Gardens

(Ref: 18085559) 1663 sq.ft. HKD 7.95 M Rate: HKD 4,780

This lovely 3-bedroom apartment features two balconies with breathtaking views of the South China Sea and the beautiful green hillside, where you will awaken to stunning sunrises. Recently renovated, the apartment also features a luxuriously spacious open kitchen with white cabinets, bar counter and high quality, European appliances.



Choi Long Meng Chui, Taipa

(Ref: 18045555) 3,398 sq.ft. HKD 17.8 M Rate: HKD 5,238

Fabulous apartment with stunning open views across to Macau. Orginally four bedrooms coverted to three bedrooms with three bathrooms, two en suite. State of the art open plan kitchen with entertainment counter and plenty of room for casual dining, built in appliances with a seperate utility area.



The Buckingham, Unit C, Taipa

(Ref: 18025544) 1,186 sq.ft. HKD 9.1 M Rate: HKD 7,672

Great two bedroom apartment in Central Taipa. Open plan kitchen with fitted appliance. Two double bedrooms sharing one walk in shower room. Good size living area with balcony.



Two Shops, Down Town Macau

(Ref: 19015573) 1,404 sq.ft. HKD 24.99 M Rate: HKD 17,805

Two seperate shops for sale although currently rented as one unit under a Grade 1 restaurant license, with a rental contract until Feb 2022.



Nova Taipa Gardens, T21

(Ref: 18115570) 2,500 sq.ft. HKD 14.5 M Rate: HKD 5,800

Fantastic apartment in a central location. What was a large four bedroom apartment has been converted into three bedrooms, making the most fabulous master suite with masses of built in storage, dressing area and en suite bathroom. If a fourth bedroom is required it would be simple to revert to the original design.

Office: (853) 2835 2699

Email: Info@JMLProperty.com

Contact Property Consultants Today.

Juliet Risdon (English Speaker) +853 6680 9804 / Juliet@JMLproperty.com MacauDaily APPENDER •

#### Kelvin Chan, Barcelona

HINA'S Huawei is set to take the wraps off a new folding-screen phone, joining the latest trend for bendable devices as it challenges the global smartphone market's dominant players, Apple and Samsung.

The company plans to unveil the device, which can be used on superfast next-generation mobile networks that are due to come online in the coming years.

Huawei will reveal the phone on the eve of MWC Barcelona, a four-day showcase of mobile devices, as the company battles U.S. allegations it is a cybersecurity risk.

Device makers are looking to folding screens as the industry's next big thing to help them break out of an innovation malaise, although most analysts think the market is limited, at least in the early days.

Samsung recently revealed its own highly anticipated foldable smartphone, the Galaxy Fold, which comes complete with a hefty price tag of nearly USD2,000.

Huawei Technologies is trying to raise its profile in the fiercely competitive smartphone market. Almost everyone with a smartphone has heard of Apple and Samsung, the top device makers, and Google, the power behind Android's pervasive software.

Huawei, a Chinese company with a name many people in the West don't know how to pronounce, wants to join the market's upper echelon.

It's getting close. Samsung was the No. 1 smartphone seller for all of last year, followed by Apple, according to research

## Huawei set to unveil 5G phone with folding screen



firm International Data Corp. Huawei came third, though in some quarters it took second place, IDC data showed.

The company stealthily became an industry star by plowing into new markets, honing its technology, and developing a line-up of phones that offer affordable options for low-income households and luxury models that are siphoning upper-crust

sales from Apple and Samsung in China and Europe.

But Huawei's products are few and far between in the U.S. The scarcity stems from long-running security concerns that the company could facilitate digital espionage on behalf of China's government. Washington has been lobbying European allies to keep its equipment out of new 5G networks.

The cloud over Huawei also includes U.S. criminal charges filed last month against the company and its chief financial officer, Meng Wanzhou, who U.S. prosecutors want to extradite from Canada. They accuse her of fraud and say the company stole trade secrets, including technology that mobile carrier T-Mobile used to test smartphones.

Huawei is making its push at a time that both Samsung and Apple are struggling with declining smartphone sales amid a lull in industry innovation that is causing more consumers to hold on to the devices until they wear out instead of upgrading to the latest model as quickly as they once did.

The company sells high-priced smartphones as well as an extensive range of cheaper models priced from \$200 to \$600 that offer a good camera and other features most consumers want, analysts said.

But Huawei wouldn't be where it is today if it had been content focusing merely on China and other Asian markets.

The company took a huge step forward several years ago when it began pouring millions into promoting its brand and building partnerships in major European markets such as Germany, France, Britain, Spain and Italy. Research firm Gartner estimates it now sells about 13 percent of its phones in Europe.

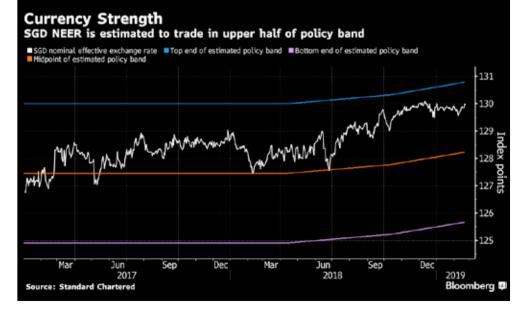
As for the U.S., Huawei can only make so much headway as long as the government is casting the company as a cybervillain, said Gartner analyst Tuong Nguyen.

"Brand building is a long-term exercise, but it's going to be especially difficult in the U.S. because of the way they have branded all of China," he said. "The barriers in the U.S. are just getting more difficult." **AP** 

### Singapore dollar bulls eyeing MAS hawkish path

THE Singapore dollar's three-month winning streak is facing its stiffest test yet as global growth headwinds dim the outlook for further central bank tightening. An above-consensus inflation report today would go a long way toward ensuring the currency's advance remains on track.

A gauge of the country's nominal effective exchange rate, which the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) guides to conduct policy, is showing signs of weakness amid continued global trade tensions and a slowdown in China. On the flip side, strong domestic demand and resilient inflation are keeping alive wagers that the MAS will accelerate the pace of



appreciation for a third straight time in April.

The clashing signals raise the stakes for economic data due in the run up to the decision.

Unlike most central banks that use interest rates to tackle inflation and growth, the MAS instead steers the local dollar against a basket of its counterparts, adjusting the pace of appreciation, known as the slope, the width of the target band and the level at which that band is centered. The MAS tightened policy in both of its decisions last year, spurred by rising inflation underpinned by an improving labor market and a robust economic expansion.

The country's leading index suggests growth is set to remain steady, even amid increased downside risks to the global economy. Similar gauges tracking the OECD nations and China show waning momentum.

Resilient domestic demand will continue to put pressure on core inflation, which is hovering at the highest since 2014. Should growth accelerate, there could be a greater pass-through of import and labor costs to consumers, the MAS and Trade Ministry said in their last inflation report

in January.

The central bank's April policy decision is still "live," Mohamed Faiz Nagutha, an economist at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, wrote in a Feb. 19 note to clients. The central bank could surprise the market with a hawkish bias given core inflation at or above the historical average, he wrote.

Still, increasing uncertainty over the global growth outlook has taken some of the wind out of the Singapore dollar's sails. The International Monetary Fund cut its forecast for the world economy for the second time in three months in January, while warning rising trade tensions could spell further trouble. MDT/Bloomberg





People check on travel packages offered by travel agencies during the Guangzhou International Travel Fair in Guangzhou

## Beijing bars millions from travel for 'social credit' offenses

Joe McDonald, Beijing

**CKIPPED** paying a fine in Ochina? Then forget about buying an airline ticket.

Would-be air travelers were blocked from buying tickets 17.5 million times last year for "social credit" offenses including unpaid taxes and fines under a controversial system the ruling Communist Party says will improve public behavior.

Others were barred 5.5 million times from buying train tickets, according to the National Public Credit Information Center. In an annual report, it said 128 people were blocked from leaving China due to unpaid taxes.

The ruling party says "social credit" penalties and rewards will improve order in a fastchanging society after three decades of economic reform have shaken up social structures. Markets are rife with counterfeit goods and fraud. The system is part of efforts by President Xi Jinping's government to use technology ranging from data processing to genetic sequencing and facial recognition to tighten control.

Authorities have experimented with "social credit" since 2014 in areas across China. Points are deducted for breaking the law or, in some areas, offenses as minor as walking a dog without a leash.

Human rights activists say "social credit" is too rigid and might unfairly label people as untrustworthy without telling them they have lost status or how to restore it.

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence criticized it in October as "an Orwellian system premised on controlling virtually every facet of human life.'

The ruling party wants a nationwide system by 2020 but has yet to say how it will operate. Possible penalties include restrictions on travel, business and access to education. A slogan repeated in state media says, "Once you lose trust, you will face restrictions everywhere."

Companies on the blacklist can lose government contracts or access to bank loans or be barred from issuing bonds or importing goods.

Offenses penalized under "social credit" last year included false advertising or violating drug safety rules, the government information center said. Individuals were blocked 290,000 times from taking senior management jobs or acting as a company's legal representative.

Since the launch of such "joint punishment," the system has caused 3.5 million people to "voluntarily fulfill their legal obligations," the Information Center said. It said that included 37 people who paid a total of 150 million yuan (USD22 million) in overdue fines or confiscations.

The report gave no details of how many people live in areas with "social credit" systems.

"Social credit" is one facet of efforts by the ruling party to take advantage of increased computing power, artificial intelligence and other technology to track and control the Chinese public.

The police ministry launched an initiative dubbed "Golden Shield" in 2000 to build a nationwide digital network to track individuals.

Human rights activists say people in Muslim and other ethnic minority areas have been compelled to give blood samples for a genetic database. Those systems rely on foreign technology. That has prompted criticism that U.S. and European suppliers might be enabling human rights abuses.

This week, Waltham, Massachusetts-based Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. said it no longer would sell or service genetic sequencers in the Muslim-majority region of Xinjiang in the northwest following complaints they were used for surveillance.

As many as 1 million Uighurs, Kazakhs and other Muslim minorities in Xinjiang are detained in political education camps, according to U.S. officials and United Nations experts. The government says those camps are vocational training centers designed to rid the region of extremism. AP

### 21 killed in bus accident at largest silver mine

A total of 21 people ning Co. in the sprawling Stock Exchange, and have been killed and Inner Mongolia region produces around 201 29 injured in a bus accident blamed on faulty brakes at China's largest silver mine in the country's north, the Emergency Management Ministry said yesterday.

Meanwhile, five fishermen were missing after their boat collided with a cargo ship almost ten-times its size on Saturday afternoon in the sea off the eastern province of Zhejiang.

A search was underway and further investigations into both incidents are ongoing.

Saturday morning's accident at the mine operated by the Yinman Mi-

occurred when a bus carrying 50 miners to the underground operation crashed into the side of the tunnel. The mine also produces lead and

A working team from the ministry was sent to "guide and assist" in the rescue and investigation at the accident site.

Executives of the company have been placed under travel restrictions while the investigation is underway, the ministry said.

Yinman is a subsidiary of Inner Mongolia Xingve Mining Co., Ltd. listed on China's Shenzhen

tons of silver annually, according to state media.

China is the world's third-largest producer of silver, producing 2,500 tons of the metal in 2017, a little more than twice what the U.S. produces.

Photos posted online showed what appeared to be the scene where the bus rammed head-on into an outcropping in the narrow tunnel.

Despite huge safety improvements in recent years, scores of Chinese miners die each year, largely in gas explosions, underground floods and collapses due to structural defects. AP

#### DOC'S APPOINTMENT BLACK MARKET

#### Gov't to use facial recognition to thwart scalpers

nition to identify people who sell doctors' appointments at an illegal markup, the latest application of an emerging technology that is being used in places to tighten Communist Party control over the country's 1.4 billion people.

More than 30 hospitals in Beijing have installed the technology and have already identified more than 2,100 individuals who appear regularly to make appointments, then turn around and sell them to others for a profit, state media said yesterday. Chinese public hospitals require patients to line up for appointments on

**THINESE** hospitals the day they wish to see a of personal information Care using facial recog- doctor, creating a lucrati- about individual citizens. ve secondary market for scalpers to sell them better numbers and save on waiting time.

China's markets are rife with counterfeit goods and fraud, and China has been aggressively applying facial recognition technology in everything from distribution of toilet paper by public lavatories to identifying jaywalkers virtually in real time.

It's among the technologies that President Xi Jinping's government is deploying - also including the processing of big data, buying habits and genetic sequencing - to increase the party's store

Such data is being fed into a system of "social credit" that rewards or penalizes individuals based on their behavior. Those with offenses ranging from failure to pay taxes and fines to walking a dog without a leash can face punishments including being barred from buying tickets for flights or seats on the country's high-speed trains.

Human rights activists say "social credit" is too rigid and might unfairly label people as untrustworthy without telling them they have lost status or how they can win it back. AP



### In Chinese border city, locals hope North Korea opens up



Peeking on neighbours, half a mile away: tourists sit on the riverbank looking into North Korea from the Chinese border city of Dandong in Liaoning Province

#### Dake Kang, Dandong

WHEN a green-andyellow train carrying North Korean leader Kim Jong Un rolled slowly over a bridge into the Chinese city of Dandong late Saturday, few locals took notice.

"I didn't really know much about it," a 79-year-old retired farmer who gave only his surname, Shi, said yesterday, pausing during a walk along the river Kim crossed on his way to Vietnam to meet President Donald Trump for their second summit.

Over the past few decades, North Korea has receded into irrelevance as the contrast with China has grown starker and starker. Many Chinese now regard North Korea as a curious relic of the past, and Dandong does a roaring trade in tourism centered on China's neighbor across the water.

Street vendors hawk binoculars, boat tours and booklets of North Korean currency during the day, while digital bill-boards light towering apartments at night. Sinuiju, less than a kilometer away across the Yalu River, lays silent, with few signs of activity among its motionless cranes, marooned ships and squat, unlit apartments.

But some in this border city of over 2 million expect that if North Korea opens up, they will be among the first to benefit.

"Dandong is the biggest border city in China," said Liu Yujun, a former trader from Dandong who says real estate prices have been going up in anticipation of detente on the Korean Peninsula. "Their economy could pull Dandong up along with it. If they open up, then we can invest a lot into their economy."

China's economy is facing its worst slowdown since the global financial crisis amid a bruising trade war with the United States. Strict U.N. sanctions on North Korea have hit Dandong's traders and shippers hard in the past few years, with some cutting employees or pivoting toward other businesses, a former freight company executive told The Associated Press.

But the sudden thaw in tensions on the Korean Peninsula over the past year has raised anticipation that the sanctions may soon be eased. Investors rushed in to snap up apartments, prompting Dandong's government to enact new regulations on real estate last May. On the North Korean side of the river, a tall, round concrete building is under construction — a rare sign of development.

Shi believes if North Korea follows China's lead by reforming its economy and opening up to trade, it could boom. He thinks the reason why North Korea struggled while China surged ahead was because of Pyongyang's overemphasis on military spending.

"They put so much effort into missiles and nuclear weapons research," Shi said. "If they didn't focus on this research so much, they might not be so backward." AP

ADVERTORIAL

### SANDS CHINA NEWS

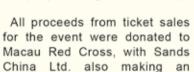
Sands China Team Members Perform at Company Talent Show

Show raises MOP 280,000 for charity

Sands China team members took the stage at the Cotai Arena Feb. 1 for the Start Your Show team member talent competition.

It is the sixth time Sands China has held this signature team member event, giving them an opportunity to perform at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena in front of their fellow peers and invited guests. This year, the show was titled Start Your Show + Sands Cares, adding a charity element to bring team members and the community together to enjoy a show for a good cause.

Hosted by Hong Kong television presenters Paisley Wu and Marcus Kwok, the Feb. 1 show featured a theme of "Shine on Stage, Show We Care," highlighting the importance of giving back to the community. The event included a video presentation showcasing 10 years of Sands China's community affairs efforts, including past and current volunteer events and initiatives, typhoon relief work, financial assistance to worthwhile causes, and other initiatives of Sands Cares, the global corporate citizenship programme of parent company Las Vegas Sands Corp.





Sands China Ltd. President Dr. Wilfred Wong (left) presents a ceremonial cheque to Macau Red Cross at the Start Your Show team member talent competition Feb. 1 at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena. The show raised funds for Macau Red Cross through ticket sales and other means.

additional donation for each ticket sold. Additional funds were raised through game booths and special sales at team member back-of-house areas, and food booths near the arena. Sands China presented a ceremonial donation cheque for MOP 280,000 to Macau Red Cross during the event. The funds will be used for the joint preparation of typhoon emergency kits — which will be distributed in advance to families in need by Macau Red Cross in cooperation with Sands Cares Ambassadors.

In addition, Fuhong Society of Macau, Macau IC2 Association, and the Macau Association of Parents of Mentally Handicapped held charity sales at the arena concourse before the show.

Start Your Show's opening ceremony was officiated by guests of honour from the Macao government, higher education institutes and local NGO partners – who were also part of a group of around 150 guests invited to enjoy the show.

A total of 81 acts comprising 207 team members auditioned for Start Your Show, with finalists competing in front of an audience of around 3,000 in five categories, including a People's Choice Award, which gave team members a chance to vote for their favourite acts. Winners were awarded over MOP 100,000 in cash and prizes.



Winners, finalists, performers, judges and special guests gather together on stage after performing at the Start Your Show team member talent competition Feb. 1 at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena.



#### **KIM-TRUMP**

### Hanoi summit nightmare scenario: Bad

Foster Klug, Hanoi

**▼HE** nightmare scenario heading into the second summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un isn't so much "fire and fury" and millions dead. Rather, some experts fear the meeting could result in an illconsidered deal that allows North Korea to get everything it wants while giving up very little, even as the mercurial leaders trumpet a blockbuster nuclear success.

There's little argument that just sitting down together again in the same room this week in Hanoi is a positive sign for two men who seemed to be flirting with a second Korean War in 2017, and there is, as the White House trumpeted ahead of the summit, "a tremendous opportunity" here to address a monumental problem that's flummoxed generations of policymakers.

But with the stakes so high, a growing chorus of experts

highlight a particular risk: That Trump, burned by criticism that the results of his June meeting with Kim in Singapore were vague at best and an outright failure at worst, will ignore his more cautious aides and try to strike a deal that's cobbled together on the fly with little preparatory work.

Why is this potentially dangerous? Because when it comes to North Korean nuclear diplomacy, all deals are not created equal.

A look at some of the anxieties that are swirling ahead of the Hanoi summit:

#### WORRY NO. 1: A PIECEMEAL DEAL

South Korean papers have been filled with unidentified government sources suggesting that Trump and Kim might strike a deal that stops far short of the road map for the full denuclearization of the North that the United States has long insisted on.

Instead, Kim could agree to give up only part of his arsenal — his intercontinental missiles aimed at America, for instance, or his main nuclear reactor — in return for an easing of harsh sanctions. There's also fear that Trump will eventually orchestrate some sort of drawdown of U.S. troops from South Korea or an extended halt to U.S.-South Korean military drills.

For Trump, such a deal could generate a much-needed rush of "breakthrough" headlines to help distract from swirling investigations in Washington while helping assure his supporters that he's protecting the American mainland.

Kim, for his part, would be taking a huge step toward cementing the North as a nuclear weapons state and, as a bonus, driving a wedge in the U.S.-South Korea alliance that the North maintains is aimed at the overthrow of the Kim family – all without addressing the North's arsenal of short- and mid-range nuclear armed missiles aimed at Seoul, Tokyo and other parts of Asia. ▶



### North Korea leader Kim Jong Un boards train to summit

Dake Kang, Dandong

NORTH Korea leader Kim Jong Un was on a train Sunday to Vietnam for his second summit with President Donald Trump, state media confirmed.

Kim was accompanied by Kim Yong Chol, who has been a key negotiator in talks with the U.S., and Kim Yo Jong, the leader's sister, the North's official Korean Central News Agency reported. TV footage and photos distributed by the North's staterun news agency showed Kim inspecting a guard of honor at the Pyongyang station before waving from the train.

Late Saturday, an Associated Press reporter saw a green-and-yellow train similar to one used in the past by Kim cross into the Chinese border city of Dandong via a bridge.

The Trump-Kim meeting is slated for Wednesday and Thursday in Hanoi.

Their first summit last June in Singapore ended without substantive agree-



Kim Jong Un waves from a train before leaving Pyongyang Station, North Korea, for Vietnam

ments on the North's nuclear disarmament and triggered a months-long stalemate in negotiations as Washington and Pyongyang struggled with the sequencing of North Korea's nuclear disarmament and the removal of U.S.-led sanctions against the North.

Kim's overseas travel plans are routinely kept secret. It could take more than two days for the train to travel thousands of kilometers through

China to Vietnam.

Vietnam's Foreign Ministry announced Saturday that Kim would pay an official goodwill visit to the country "in the coming days" in response to an invitation by President Nguyen Phu Trong, who is also the general secretary of Vietnam's ruling Communist Party.

In his upcoming meeting with Trump, experts say Kim will seek a U.S. commitment for improved bilateral relations and par-

tial sanctions relief while trying to minimize any concessions on his nuclear facilities and weapons.

While Kim wants to leverage his nuclear and missile program for economic and security benefits, there continue to be doubts on whether he's ready to fully deal away an arsenal that he may see as his strongest guarantee of survival.

Last year, North Korea suspended its nuclear and long-range missile

tests and unilaterally dismantled its nuclear testing ground and parts of a rocket launch facility without the presence of outside experts, but none of those steps were seen as meaningful cutbacks to the North's weapons capability.

While North Korea has repeatedly demanded that the United States take corresponding measures, including sanctions relief, Washington has called for more concrete steps from Pyongyang toward denuclearization.

Hanoi has been gearing up for the summit with beefed-up security. Officials say the colonial-era Government Guest House in central Hanoi is expected to be the venue for the Trump-Kim meeting, with the nearby Metropole Hotel as a backup. Streets around the two places have been beautified with flowers and the flags of North Korea, the U.S and Vietnam.

Workers were also putting final touches on the International Media Center. Vietnam's Foreign Ministry says some 2,600 members of the foreign press have registered for the event.

Also expected to land in

Vietnam on Sunday was Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov. Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said that Lavrov will pay an official visit ahead of a Russia-India-China ministerial conference in China, according to Interfax news agency.

Meanwhile, Vietnam has announced a traffic ban along Kim's possible arrival route.

The Communist Party's mouthpiece Nhan Dan newspaper quoted the Department of Roads as saying the ban will first apply to trucks 10 tons or bigger, and vehicles with nine seats or more on the 170-kilometer stretch of Highway One from Dong Dang, the border town with China, to Hanoi from 7 p.m. Monday to 2 p.m. Tuesday, followed by a complete ban Tuesday on all vehicles from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The People's Committee in Lang Son province, where the Dong Dang railway station is located, issued a statement Friday instructing the road operator to clean the highway stretch and suspend road works, among other things, from yesterday to Thursday as "a political task." AP

#### MacauDaily APPENDER •

### deals and little change



Those in favor of this kind of piecemeal deal say it's simply a matter of accepting reality: North Korea won't give up nukes it sees as crucial to deterring what it calls U.S. hostility, so the wise move is to work to first limit

or freeze the program's most worrisome aspects and then work toward total denuclearization.

Skeptics say this would give the North too much in return for too little. They want instead something that first

forces Pyongvang to list the particulars of its nuclear program, then allows outsiders to verify the list and see the program demolished.

"Ad hoc deals or piecemeal negotiations absent an agreedon road map would allow Pyongyang to dictate the terms, pace and duration of the diplomatic process without making a dent in North Korea's nuclear arsenal," Duyeon Kim, a Koreas expert at the Center for a New American Security, recently wrote.

"There is a serious risk of Trump ad-libbing his way into a bad deal, as he did in Singapore in June 2018, by relinquishing vital bargaining chips that disadvantage U.S. interests and Asian allies' security," she added.

#### WORRY NO. 2: KIM AND TRUMP ARE TOO ALIGNED

There's a joke being shared by some North Korea experts: Did you hear that Kim Jong Un and Donald Trump both want the same thing from their Hanoi summit? The United States out of South Korea.

Funny or not, the dark humor gets at serious doubts churned up by Trump's repeated public expressions of a deep wariness about the U.S.-South Korea alliance that many in Seoul and Washington see as a lynchpin of Northeast Asian security.

The best example may be Trump's stunning announcement in Singapore of the suspension of annual military drills by Seoul and Washington that North Korea rails against as "invasion preparation."

Trump called the drills "very provocative," mirroring North Korean language. Although his lieutenants say the removal of American troops isn't on the agenda in Hanoi, Trump has said that he wants to eventually bring home the 28,500 troops stationed in the South. Just this month Trump said: "South Korea — we defend them and lose a tremendous amount of money. Billions of dollars a year defending them."

#### WORRY NO. 3: NORTH KOREA HASN'T CHANGED

There's also alarm that Trump and South Korea's dovish president are misreading North Korea.

"Kim is not going to unilaterally surrender his nuclear weapons," Vipin Narang, a North Korea nuclear expert at MIT, said in an interview. "It is now pretty clear that Trump doesn't care that Kim isn't going to unilaterally disarm, so long as he doesn't embarrass Trump by visibly flight testing missiles or openly testing nuclear weapons."

Despite the positive spin on North Korean intentions by the liberal government in Seoul, critics say, Pyongyang, as it has since the Korean War, still claims to be the sole legitimate Korean

government, and is therefore working to split South Korea from its U.S. protector and enshrine its nuclear program, even if partially, as a way to eventually coerce Seoul into doing its bidding.

North Korea has famously called its nuclear arsenal a "treasured sword." And a senior North Korean official said last year that dialogue won't continue "if the U.S. is trying to drive us into a corner to force our unilateral nuclear abandonment."

Asked at a recent press briefing if the North was negotiating in good faith, a senior U.S. official who refused to give his name under White House rules said: "I don't know if North Korea has made the choice yet to denuclearize. But the reason why we're engaged in this is because we believe there's a possibility that North Korea can make the choice to fully denuclearize.'

Still, there are big doubts about the North's intentions. When the two leaders meet in Hanoi, Kim "will further ensnare Trump on his march toward full nuclearization, compelling Trump to make more concessions like a peace agreement and drawdown of military support for South Korea," said Sung-Yoon Lee, a Koreas expert at Tufts University. "'Peace' sounds very pleasant, even hypnotically alluring, but a peace agreement between the U.S. and North Korea and allowing Kim Jong Un to buy more time only increases the chance of war." AP

### Kim, Trump impersonators draw ire of Vietnam's authorities



Donald Trump impersonator Russell White, and Kim Jong-un impersonator Howard X pose for photos outside the Opera House in Hanoi, Vietnam

Hong Kong-based impersonator who uses the

week.

name Howard X, posted on Facebook that about 15 police or immigration officers demanded a mandatory "interview" with them following a talk they gave at the sta-

**7IETNAMESE** au-

amused by the antics of

two impersonators of

North Korean leader Kim

Jong Un and President

The duo has been

making rounds of Hanoi, taking pictures with

curious onlookers ahead

of the second summit

of the two leaders next

However, on late Fri-

day, a Kim lookalike, the

Donald Trump.

thorities are not

"They then said that this was a very sensitive

te-run VTC station.

time in the city due to the Trump/Kim summit and that our impersonation was causing a 'disturbance' and suggested that we do not do the impersonation in public for the duration of our stay as these presidents have many enemies and that it was for our own safety."

According to Howard X, there was a back-and-forth with an unnamed Vietnamese officer who "did not seem pleased with my answer" and threatened the impersonators with deportation, saying they were breaking immigration rules. Finally, he said they were driven back to their hotel and told to stay put until authorities decide how to treat them.

"Although I am not surprised that I got detained for doing my impersonation in Vietnam, it's still pretty annoying. What it shows is that Vietnam has a long way to go before they will be a developed

country and I wonder if they ever will under these conditions," he wrote on his Facebook page. "If the Vietnamese authorities are willing to give this kind of harassment over something as trivial as an impersonation to a high profile foreigner, imagine what all the Vietnamese artists, musicians, film producers and all the political activists have to endure for simply wanting to release a controversial film, songs or for simply speaking up about real injustices in this country."

Vietnam is a tightly controlled communist country that tolerates no dissent.

Howard X was also questioned by Singaporean immigration authorities when he and his colleague appeared in the city-state for the first Kim-Trump summit last June.

The impersonator's real name is Lee Howard Ho Wun. AP



R. Kelly leaves his Chicago studio on his way to surrender to police

**USA** 

## R. Kelly met underage girl while on trial for child porn

Michael Tarm, Chicago

WHILE on trial for child pornography in 2008, R. Kelly still found time to talk to fans, give autographs and to meet an underage girl he later invited to his home, according to prosecutors who depicted the R&B star as manipulative and sometimes violent.

Other accusers included a girl who met Kelly at her 16th birth-day party and a hairdresser who expected to braid the singer's hair only to find that he wanted oral sex instead, court documents said.

The accounts emerged Saturday as Kelly made his first court appearance since being accused of sexually abusing four people in a case that could produce another #MeToo reckoning for a celebrity.

A judge gave Kelly a chance to go free while awaiting trial, setting bond at USD1 million. That means the 52-year-old Grammy winner must post \$100,000 to be released or remain behind bars until he is tried on the allegations that date back as far as 1998 and span more than a decade.

The prosecution released four detailed documents — one for each accuser — outlining the basis for the charges.

The 16-year-old girl who attended Kelly's trial got his autograph after a court session. He later invited her to his home in the Chicago suburb of Olympia Fields, where they had sex multiple times, according to the documents, which said he also slapped, choked and spit on her.

In 1998, another girl reported meeting Kelly at a restaurant where she was having a 16th birthday party. Kelly's manager gave her the singer's business card and suggested she call Kelly. The girl's mother heard the exchange, took the card and told the manager her daughter

But her daughter later retrieved the card from her purse. She contacted Kelly, who gave her instructions and money that she assumed was for the taxi fare to his studio, where they had sex periodically for a year, the documents said.

In early 2003, a Chicago hairdresser told prosecutors that she thought she was going to braid Kelly's hair, but he pulled down his pants and instead tried to force her to give him oral sex. The woman, who was 24, was able to pull away, but Kelly ejaculated on her and spit in her face, the documents said.

Prosecutors also described a witness who had access to videotapes showing Kelly having sex with a 14-year-old girl. The witness turned a tape over to authorities and identified the girl, who repeatedly stated her age on the footage, according to the documents.

Kelly's DNA was found in semen on one of the accuser's shirts, and semen found on a shirt worn by another was submitted for DNA testing, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx said. It was not clear when the accusers turned the shirts over to authorities, whether it was shortly after the abuse or more recently.

At the bond hearing, Kelly's attorney, Steve Greenberg, said his client is not a flight risk. He told the judge, "Contrary to the song, Mr. Kelly doesn't like to fly." One of Kelly's best-known hits is "I Believe I Can Fly."

Greenberg said Kelly "really doesn't have any more money," suggesting that others had mismanaged his wealth. Still, he said he expected that Kelly would be able to come up with enough money for bail.

The judge called the allegations "disturbing." The singer-songwriter looked down at the floor as the judge spoke.

■ The recording artist has been trailed for decades by allegations that he violated underage girls and women and held some as virtual slaves

After the hearing, Greenberg told reporters that Kelly did not force anyone to have sex.

"He's a rock star. He doesn't have to have nonconsensual sex," Greenberg said.

The judge ordered Kelly to sur-

render his passport, ending his hopes of doing a tour of Europe in April. Kelly defiantly scheduled concerts in Germany and the Netherlands despite the cloud of legal issues looming over him. Greenberg denied that any tour was planned.

The recording artist, whose legal name is Robert Kelly, has been trailed for decades by allegations that he violated underage girls and women and held some as virtual slaves. He was charged with 10 counts of aggravated sexual abuse.

Kelly, who was acquitted of child pornography charges in 2008, has consistently denied any sexual misconduct. He broke into the R&B scene in 1993 with his first solo album, "12 Play," which produced such popular sex-themed songs as "Bump N' Grind" and "Your Body's Callin'."

He rose from poverty on Chicago's South Side and has retained a sizable following. Kelly has written numerous hits for himself and other artists, including Celine Dion, Michael Jackson and Lady Gaga. His collaborators have included Jay-Z and Usher.

The jury in 2008 acquitted Kelly of child pornography charges that centered on a graphic video that prosecutors said showed him having sex with a girl as young as 13. He and the young woman allegedly seen with him denied they were in the 27-minute video, even though the picture quality was good and witnesses testified it was them, and she did not take the stand. Kelly could have gotten 15 years in prison.

Charging Kelly now for actions that occurred in the same time frame as the allegations from the 2008 trial suggests the accusers are cooperating this time and willing to testify.

Because the alleged victim 10 years ago denied that she was on the video and did not testify, the state's attorney's office had little recourse except to charge the lesser offense under Illinois law, child pornography, which required a lower standard of evidence.

Each count of the new charges carries up to seven years in prison, and the sentences could be served consecutively, making it possible for him to receive up to 70 years. Probation is also an option.

The walls began closing in on Kelly after the release of a BBC documentary about him last year and the multipart Lifetime documentary "Surviving R. Kelly," which aired last month. Together they detailed allegations he was holding women against their will and running a "sex cult."

#MeToo activists and a social media movement using the hashtag #MuteRKelly called on streaming services to drop Kelly's music and promoters not to book any more concerts. Protesters demonstrated outside Kelly's Chicago studio. AP

MacauDaily arresponder •

**IRAN** 

### President faces calls to resign over economic crisis

Nasser Karimi, Tehran

Iran marked the 40th anniversary of its Islamic Revolution, a white-turbaned Shiite cleric at one commemoration targeted President Hassan Rouhani. a fellow clergyman, with this sign: "You who are the cause of inflation; we hope you won't last until spring.'

Already lashed by criticism over his collapsing nuclear deal and renewed tensions with the U.S., the relatively moderate Rouhani faces anger from clerics, hard-line forces and an ever-growing disaffected public that now threatens his po-

Iranian presidents typically see their popularity erode during their second four-year terms, but analysts say Rouhani is particularly vulnerable because of the economic crisis assailing the country's rial currency, which has hurt ordinary Iranians and emboldened critics to openly call for his ouster.



Iranian President Hassan Rouhani speaks in an open session of parliament, in Tehran, Iran earlier this month

Though such a move only has happened once in the Islamic Republic's four-decade history, the popular discontent heard on

streets throughout Iran now could make it possible.

"I don't care who is in the presidential palace: a cleric, a gene-

ral or anybody else," said Qassim Abhari, who sells hats and socks on the streets of Tehran. "We need someone who creates jobs and firmly pushes the brake pedal on rising prices."

It's been a long fall for Rouhani, who secured the 2015 nuclear deal after two years in office and won the praise of Iranians, who flooded the streets to celebrate it. Under the deal, Iran limited its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.

But the benefits of the deal never reached much of the Iranian public. Even before President Donald Trump pulled America from the accord in May, uncertainty over its future caused the rial to crater, fueling sporadic, nationwide protests.

Now the rial is dropping again, down to 133,000 to USD1. It had been 32,000 to the dollar at the time of the deal. On social media, hard-liners share price lists showing food staples like beans, rice and tomato paste rising as much as 238 percent.

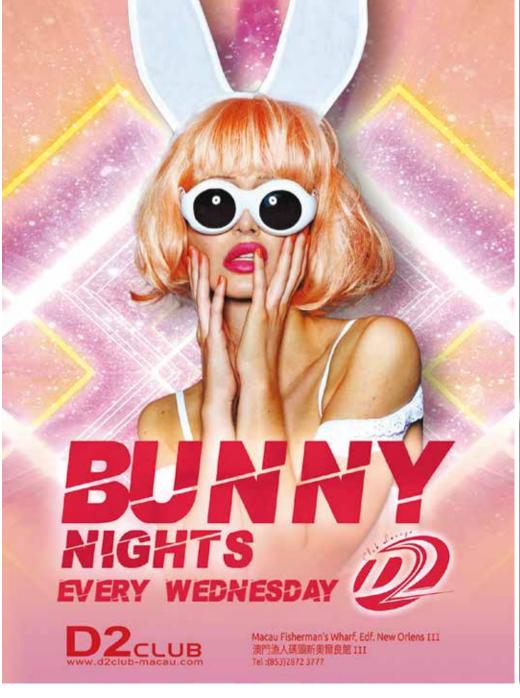
Hard-liners stopped parliament speaker Ali Larijani, an ally of Rouhani, from addressing a crowd in Karaj, only 40 kilometers west of Tehran. Rouhani's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, typically collected, appeared visibly frustrated at times during a recent security conference in Munich.

Hassan Abbasi, a retired general in Iran's hard-line Revolutionary Guard, which answers to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, gave a speech after Karaj saying he believed people will spit on Rouhani, Larijani and Zarif in the streets over the nuclear deal after they leave office. He said they are "shivering" over the accord's collapse.

"Mr. Hassan Rouhani, Mr. Zarif and Mr. Larijani, go to hell," Abbasi said to applause.

Tension between hard-liners and more-moderate forces within Iran are nothing new. The Islamic Republic's political structure muddles who wields power between paramilitary forces within the Guard and the country's civilian government.

Iranian law also allows Rouhani to resign, and criminal charges could push him from his post. His brother, Hossein Fereidoun, is on trial over corruption charges that his supporters call politically motivated. Rouhani's four-year term runs until 2021. AP





#### what's ON



No Where There - Works by Tang Jing TIME: 11am-1pm & 2pm-6pm (closed on Sundays) UNTIL: March 16, 2019

VENUE: 1844 Macau Photography Art Space

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 6311 1390

MICRO VIEW - A COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION OF

**PAINTINGS** 

TIME: 12pm-7pm (closed on Wednesdays)

UNTIL: March 2, 2019

VENUE: At Light, Pátio do Padre Narciso nº 1, R/C

ADMISSION: Free ENQUIRIES: (853) 6595 7203

Macau Giant Panda Pavilion and Pavilion

of Rare Animals

TIME: 10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm daily

VENUE: Seac Pai Van Park

ADMISSION: MOP10 (Pavilion of Rare Animals) ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0087 3rd Macau Printmaking Triennial TIME: 10am-7pm (no admittance after 6:30pm,

closed on Monday)

VENUE: Macau Contemporary Art Center - Navy

Yard No.1

Exhibitions Gallery and Nostalgic House

of the Taipa Houses UNTIL: March 16, 2019

VENUE: 1844 Macau Photography Art Space

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

#### **Offbeat**

### OSCARS: US LATINAS RALLY AROUND 'ROMA' ACTRESS YALITZA APARICIO

Yalitza Aparicio, the Oscar-nominated, firsttime actress in "Roma," is finding strong support among Mexican-American women who identify with her indigenous roots despite backlash she is receiving in Mexico.

Some Mexican-American women say they are glad Aparicio's high-profile role is challenging typical images of lightskinned Latinas in Spanish-language films and TV shows, and they are



**Yalitza Aparicio** 

expressing pride that she's the first indigenous woman to be nominated for best actress at the Oscars.

U.S. Latina Aparicio fans are holding Oscar watch parties, commenting to each other online with excitement and sharing on social media every move Aparicio makes.

"She's brown girl magic," said Jennie Luna, a Chicana/o Studies professor at California State University Channel Islands in Camarillo, California. "My students can't stop talking about her."

The praise north of the U.S.-Mexico border among fans of Mexican descent comes as Aparicio, who is from the Mexican state of Oaxaca, faces racist attacks online in her homeland and scorn from some Mexican actors. More recently, Mexican actor Sergio Goyri was caught on video criticizing Aparicio's nomination and using a racial slur to describe her. He later apologized.

After she appeared on the cover of Vogue México last vear. Aparicio was hit with a tirade of online racist comments that criticize her physical appearance.

"I am proud to be an Oaxacan indigenous woman and it saddens me that there are people who do not know the correct meaning of words," Aparicio, who is of Mixtec descent, said in a statement earlier this month.

In "Roma," Aparicio plays Cleo, a domestic worker for a Mexico City middle-class family in the turbulent early 1970s. She speaks in an indigenous dialect and in Spanish and works to navigate the different worlds for her own survival.

Aparicio, a 25-year-old primary school teacher, is nominated alongside Glenn Close, Lady Gaga, Olivia Colman and Melissa McCarthy at Oscars' night [this morning, Macau time].

#### TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Mistura Fina
15:50	Os Compadres
16:35	Grande Entrevista - Dulce Maria Cardoso
17:30	Tempo Final
18:15	Contraponto (Repetição)
19:20	Aqui Há História (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Desporto
22:20	Impostores Sr.1
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Magazine Liga dos Campeões 2018/2019
00:25	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:10	RTPi Directo

#### **CINETEATRO**

21,22, 24 - 27 FEB

**MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM NT (NARRATIVE)** 

поом 1 2:30, 7:30 pm

Director: Toshikazu Yoshizawa Starring: Junya Enoki, Tomo Muranaka Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

**Duration: 88min** 

FATE/STAY NIGHT: HEAVEN'S FEEL II

LOST BUTTERFLY

**ROOM** 1 4:30, 9:30pm

Director: Tomonori Sudô

Starring: Yu Asakawa, Mai Kadowaki, Hiroshi Kamiya

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

**Duration: 117min** 

**DUMPLIN** 

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:30, 9:30 pm **Director: Anne Fletcher** 

Starring: Danielle Macdonald, Jennifer Aniston,

Odeya Rush

Language: English (Chinese)

**Duration: 110min** 

**ALITA: BATTLE ANGEL** 

ROOM 2 9:30pm воом 3 4:45pm

Robert Rodrigue

Starring: Christopher Waltz, Mahershala Ali

Language: English (Chinese) **Duration: 122min** 



**KURSK гоом 3** 

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

Director: Thomas Vinterberg

Starring: Léa Seydoux, Colin Firth, Michael Nyqvist

Language: English (Chinese)

**Duration: 117min** 

#### this day in history



#### 1982 PARENTS CAN STOP **SCHOOL BEATINGS**

Corporal punishment in Britain's schools has been dealt a blow by the European Court of Human Rights.

It has ruled that beating schoolchildren against their parents' wishes is a violation of the Human Rights Convention because parents should have their children taught "in conformity with their own religious and philosophical

It is a legally binding decision and ends a four-year court battle brought by two Scottish mothers, Grace Campbell and Jane Cosans.

In 1979, Mrs Campbell brought her private case to court when Strathclyde regional education authority refused to guarantee her 11-year-old son would not be beaten with the tawse, a leather strap used to beat the palm of the

Strathclyde has since banned the tawse.

Mrs Cosans' son was suspended for refusing to report for the belt after breaking a rule and Fife regional education authority also refused to guarantee he would not

David Hart, general secretary for the National Association of Head Teachers said the judgement - which does not ban caning - will cause confusion in schools which will have to distinguish between children who are allowed to be beaten and those who are not.

"You cannot have one section of pupils who may be subject to punishment and another section who cannot be punished," he said.

"My advice to members is - carry on caning."

Tom Scott of Stopp, the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment, welcomed the ruling.

"It is a tremendous day for children, parents, teachers and society as a whole because corporal punishment is not only nasty and humiliating, it is counter-productive," he said.

Mrs Campbell said she was pleased by the judgement. "The result of the case will benefit all British children," she said. Britain is the only country in western Europe that still

allows corporal punishment in schools. It was outlawed in the Republic of Ireland last year and

has been banned in France since World War I. A third of Britain's 35,000 schools already ban beatings.

The government says it will have to study the 40-page ruling before it can make any decision on changing the

**Courtesy BBC News** 

#### IN CONTEXT

In 1986, beatings in state schools were outlawed.

The ban was not extended to fee-paying schools until March 1998. All physical punishment of children - at home or at school - is banned in eight European countries: Sweden, Cyprus, Latvia, Croatia, Austria, Norway, Denmark, Finland.

From January 2005, a law came into force banning parents in England and Wales from smacking children hard enough to leave a mark on the skin.

But children's charities in Britain and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child continue to put pressure on the government for an outright ban on smacking of children and give them the same legal rights as adults.

#### Times

#### YOUR STARS



#### Aries

#### Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Your spiritual side can take care of itself for a bit - you need to deal with your physical needs today! That could just mean hunting for work, but more likely you need to exercise, dance or otherwise blow off steam.

#### Gemini

#### May 21-Jun. 21

You know what's best - and today, that could mean almost anything! Your options are pretty solid, and while they may not stay the same forever, you should be able to convince a few others you're right.



#### Leo

#### Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You may be mistaken for a celebrity today by someone who is blinded by your star power. It's fun to play along, but you need to let them down gently before they get all carried



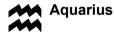
#### Libra

should make sure that your people are there to help you define it. Today is all about goals and ambitions, so set yours down and take the allimportant first steps.



#### Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You're moving quickly today and that brings travel to mind. Your great energy craves novelty, and if you can plan or even take off on a trip today, you should feel absolutely grand.



#### Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Your impulsive side is making your life much nuttier than usual — and your friends may be both worried and delighted! Something you do or say is sure to keep them talking for vears.



#### **Taurus**

#### April 20-May 20

Your belief in yourself is admirable, but you need to tone it down a bit if you're dealing with folks who are in a position to evaluate you. They don't want to see any signs of ego!



#### Cancer

#### Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You've got a lot to work with, and it's easier than usual to show off what you've got. Flaunting it isn't the same as rubbing others' noses in it, as long as you're respectful of what they've got, too!



#### Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You are not the favorite to win, but you are feeling pretty good about your odds. Things may get a little crazy for

you, so see if you can just do vour best and make it to the finish line in one

Scorpio

If you're employed, you may have a serious run-in with the boss today

isn't a great time for interviews, so polish up that resume and reach out

watch out! If you're looking, this

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



#### Sep.23-Oct. 22

You know what you want — and you



#### Capricorn

to your network instead.

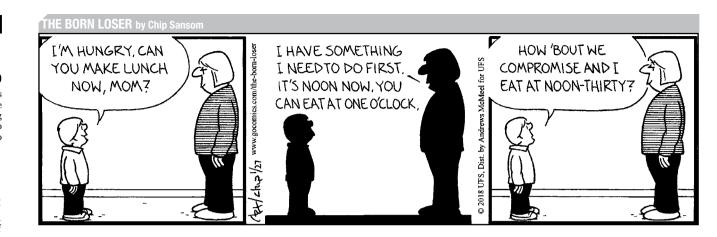
Dec. 22-Jan. 19 People are acting like sharks at work - or, worse, in the search for jobs. You may need to sit today out if you don't want to get drawn into the whole mess, but sometimes that's



#### **Pisces**

#### Feb.19-Mar. 20

The boss doesn't like it - but you can't help it! Of course, the word 'boss' may mean quite a few things to you, but the situation is the same: You're in trouble. Fortunately it doesn't last too long.



#### SUDOKU

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

#### Easy

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#### Hard

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#### **NEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	-1	10	cloudy
Harbin	-8	3	clear
Tianjin	1	8	clear/cloudy
Urumqi	-10	-5	clear
Xi'an	2	15	clear
Lhasa	-1	10	cloudy
Chengdu	7	10	clear/cloudy
Chongqing	9	15	overcast
Kunming	7	22	clear/cloudy
Nanjing	0	13	cloudy
Shanghai	6	12	cloudy
Wuhan	3	14	cloudy
Hangzhou	5	12	cloudy
Taipei	15	17	drizzle
Guangzhou	12	19	cloudy
Hong Kong	16	20	cloudy
WORLD			

#### WORLD

Moscow	-8	1	sleet/flurry
Frankfurt	-2	8	clear
Paris	0	9	clear/cloudy
London	4	10	drizzle/clear
New York	1	14	heavy rain

ACROSS: 1- Audacity; 5- Examines closely; 10- Once around the sun; 14- Et \_ 15- Hurl; 16- Within (prefix); 17- Fishhook feature; 18- It comes from the heart; 19- Prefix with drama; 20- Of dark complexion; 22- Receive by succession; 24-"You've got mail" co.; 25- \_\_\_ Clemente; 26- Home; 29- Thoroughfares: Abbr.; 32- Drop in on; 36- Bananas; 37- One of the Furies; 39- Jackie's second; 40-Like afterschool activities; 43- Flight formation; 44- Candy brand; 45- Sneaky guy?; 46- First name in cosmetics; 48- Poor grade; 49- Pinnacles; 50- Explosive stuff; 52- Two of them; 53- Group of fruit trees; 57- Section; 61- \_\_\_ me tangere; 62- Garlic-flavored mayonnaise; 64- Intestinal sections; 65- Util. bill; 66- Column type; 67- Close; 68- Whistle blowers; 69- Deteriorate; 70- Festive;

DOWN: 1- Shoots the breeze; 2- What there oughta be; 3- Old Italian money; \_; 7- Part of ETA; 8- Don't

4- Retriever; 5- Lesley of "60 Minutes"; 6- Bok look at me!; 9- Graceful birds; 10- Aden native; 11- Steven Chu's cabinet dept.; 12- King of the Huns; 13- Dig like a pig; 21- Wing-tip tip; 23- Devastation; 26- Advil rival; 27- Crates; 28- Group of eight; 29- Swung around; 30- Curt; Rocky debris; 33- Hawthorne's birthplace; 34- Hot under the collar; 35-Wearies; 37- Whiz; 38- \_\_\_ the season...; 41- Field house; 42- About to take place; 47- Morals; 49- Summer mo.; 51- Swap; 52- Thaw before takeoff; 53- Doozy; 54-Acting part; 55- Staff symbol; 56- Fashion designer; 57- Lost traction; 58- Zeno's home; 59- Actress Patricia; 60- Scarlett's home; 63- Guadalajara gold;



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#### **ÚSEFUL 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

Telephone – Report 1000 Electricity - Report 28 339 922

Macau Daily Times 28 716 081

Water Supply - Report 2822 0088

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

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#### Three Bedroom Apartment Ref: 18105563

Taipa, Supreme Flower City Macau 2060 sq. ft / HKD 16.4 M HKD 7.961 sq ft Four Bedroom Apartment

Ref: 13105367

#### Sea View Condo, Hellene Garden

Macau 1,663 sq ft / HKD 8.8M HKD 5,291 sq ft Three Bedroom Apartment Ref: 18085559

#### Va Fat, Taipa Village

Taipa 638 sq ft / HKD 4.48 M HKD 7,021 sq ft Two Bedroom Apartment Ref: 17085533

#### Taipa, Nam Long

Taipa 550 sq ft / HKD 4.08 M HKD 7,418 sq ft Two Bedroom Apartment Ref: 18095561

#### Coloane Village

Coloane 664 sq ft / HKD 4.25 M HKD 6,404 sq ft Two Bedroom Apartment Ref: 16095490





## Indonesia's Lombok to host two major motorsports events in 2021

**Renato Marques** 

THE Indonesian island of Lombok, sadly famous due to last year's deadly earthquakes and tsunamis, is preparing to re-enter the spotlight for a more positive reason: the tourist resort island is set to host not one, but two of the most significant motorcycle racing events on the planet.

The official announcement was made over the weekend when Dorna Group, the exclusive commercial and TV rights holder for the both MotoGP and World Superbike Championships, announced a final agreement with Indonesia's integrated tourism developer and operator ITDC to bring both motorcycle racing events to the island of Lombok in 2021.

According to a statement from Dorna, the agreement was finalized during a visit of the representative of ITDC to Madrid on January 28, but was only now made official.

The contract confirms that Indonesia will welcome MotoGP and the FIM Superbike Wor-



Motorsport fans in Sepang, Indonesia

ld Championship (WorldSBK) starting 2021 and valid for three years, to the island of Lombok, more specifically to "The Mandalika", a large-scale integrated tourism estate.

Another novelty of this announcement is that this will be the first time that MotoGP and WorldSBK categories race on a "street circuit," as racing events in these two top categories have always been restricted to permanent circuits

On the topic, Dorna Group CEO Carmelo Ezpeleta said, "What a unique project this will be, having an urban, world class circuit in a country where MotoGP has such a huge following. Indonesia is a key market for us with a considerable percentage of motorsport fans living here and the MotoGP atmosphere will be even stronger once the circuit is complete," adding, "including Lombok to the WorldSBK calendar makes this offer more attractive for local fans having two world-class events in the area during the year."

The CEO of ITDC, Abdulbar M. Mansoer also noted, "We are

very excited to have partnered up with Dorna and are delighted to be able to bring world-class motorsport events to Indonesia and the Mandalika in Lombok together."

Besides pursuing the natural tourism advantages related to such events, the project was said to intend to help the island recover from the severe damage inflicted by the 2018 earthquakes that killed over 500 people in July and August and collapsed a significant number of the island's most fragile facilities.

The motorcycle races will be held on a completely new 4.32-kilometre street circuit which, according to released project information, will have 18 corners and will, at least in part, be used as regular circulation roads throughout the year.

This announcement, confirming many long-standing rumors, follows Thailand's MotoGP debut last year.

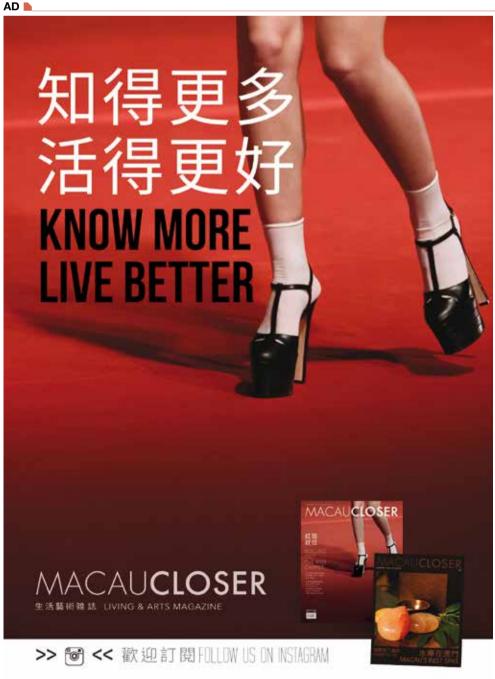
Motorsports has been fastgrowing in Southeast Asia, where it has very strong support from fans and where most manufacturers, namely the Japanese ones, hold important industrial production units.

Last month, media also reported that in Australia's New South Wales State, Bathurst Regional councilor Warren Aubin expressed interest in receiving the WorldSBK event at the city's famous 4.5-kilometre-long permanent Mount Panorama Motor Racing Circuit.

According to Aubin, this circuit usually hosts only car racing events but sits alongside the existing road course, conditions that could provide the "ideal home for the WorldSBK series in the future."

Aubin also noted the value of hosting the WorldSBK event in a different location than the one used by MotoGP (Phillip Island) located in Victoria, Melbourne.

Media reports hint that a WorldSBK in Bathurst could happen as early as 2021.





**RUGBY** 

## Wales overcome England 21-13 to be last unbeaten team in Six Nations

**Foster Niumata, Cardiff** 

'ARREN Gatland training camp. The Wales coach especially loves a good training camp.

After two weeks on the road - and two opening wins -Gatland was happy to be back at their Vale Resort base west of Cardiff to prepare for the Six Nations rugby showdown with England. To Gatland, the longer they're together, the better they are. Before the match vesterday [Macau time] between the championship's only two unbeaten teams, Gatland said Wales prepared great and looked sharp.

"We went through some pain in terms of how hard we trained," he said. "I told the players there's no way anyone else is training as hard as us. It paid off."

In a big way.

Wales overcame England 21-13 in a dramatic last quarter to become the only unbeaten team halfway through the Six Nations.

As well, their first win over England in six years was their 12th straight overall, a new national record.

In a match high on tension but low on quality, Wales made all the running but was losing until its first try 12 minutes from the end by lock Cory Hill. Then Wales finally showed on the scoreboard how dominant they were by adding a second and final try to wing Josh Adams.

After an error-ridden first half by the Welsh, who kept letting England off the hook, they kept better control of the ball in the second and pounded the visitors into submission. It took more than an hour, but Eddie Jones' men finally broke.

"Not just from a physical point of view, from a mental point of view, too," Gatland



said with pride.

The stunning victory put the Grand Slam in sight, with a visit to Scotland in two weeks, then back home for the last round against defending champion Ireland. That ought to be a crackling atmosphere to rival, when England came to Cardiff favored and in dazzling form.

Gatland doubted England's ability to win the biggest games, having also ruined England's Grand Slam decider in 2013, and beaten the English in the 2015 Rugby World Cup.

"When it's really mattered, I've questioned whether they can win these big games," he said. "We've had a record of being pretty good in them."

Even though Wales won its first two matches, it was flaky in both against France and Italy and continued in that vein through the first half against England despite its great preparation.

Lineout throw-ins were stolen. balls were knocked on, and kicks from hand were wasteful and too often, when men were lined up and England was on the back foot. It all conspired to give relief to England, which grabbed its first try-scoring chance, from a Welsh turnover.

Hooker Ken Owens had the ball swiped from his grip by Courtney Lawes, and in a flash England set up a ruck in the Wales 22, and flanker Tom Curry popped out and beat the sole defender to the try-line. The Welsh stood around wondering where the defense

The defense showed its true colors in an extended injury time when England threw an 11-man scrum at Wales, which just held out to trail 10-3.

Just as against France, overcome from 16-0 down at halftime. the Welsh clicked in the second half. Catches stuck, kicks were

fewer but more effective, Wales played the phases with pick-andgoes, and sustained pressure was put on England, who coughed up penalties.

In quick time, England prop Kyle Sinckler was penalized for obstructing Wales flyhalf Gareth Anscombe, and choking Wales captain Alun Wyn Jones in a tackle. Anscombe kicked Wales to within a point, while Sinckler, whom Gatland called an "emotional timebomb" in the run-up for brain fades, was yanked off.

"The world hasn't ended," Eddie Jones said. "I guarantee you the world's still out there and we'll learn from this."

Without any ball, Owen Farrell wasn't having much influence but kicked a penalty to extend England's lead to 13-9.

Wales, with fresh props Nicky Smith and Dillon Lewis, charged into the visitors for 34 phases, and the home fans in the sold-

out Principality Stadium were roused for the first time since the opening kickoff. George North took it to the right corner flag, then Dan Biggar, who had just replaced Anscombe, played scrumhalf for a charging Hill, who burrowed his 1.96-meter frame under two defenders to score and put Wales ahead for the first time.

Hill was picked to improve Wales' lineout, and he played himself into the ground. The try was his last act on the field.

With still more than 10 minutes to go, Wales began spearing through the flagging England

Biggar, the British Lion saved by Gatland to finish off England, did just that with a crosskick that Adams rose above Elliot Daly to catch and score in the 78th mi-

Moments later, Wales was walking a lap of honor. **AP** 





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#### opinion

#### **Words Views**

Jake Coyle, AP Film Writer

### A BUMPY ROAD TO THE OSCARS COULD END IN TRIUMPH FOR NETFLIX

**The** most tumultuous Oscar season in memory might pale in comparison to the aftermath.

The best picture race to the 91st Academy Awards remains unpredictable, but odds makers peg Alfonso Cuaron's "Roma" as the film most likely to triumph at the end of the night. That would hand Netflix, the insurgent streaming service, the most prestigious honor in a movie business it has thoroughly disrupted.

Change is everywhere at this year's Academy Awards, from the nominees to the show, itself. For the second time in 30 years, there will be no host at Sunday's show, which begins airing live on ABC at 9 a.m. (Macau time, on TVB Pearl). The lead-up to the Oscars has been dominated by dispute over the academy's own attempts at innovation to counter last year's record -low ratings. But after uproar from academy members, those plans — not showing some awards live, introducing a "best popular film" category — were abandoned.

Even if the Oscars end up proceeding more conventionally, the winners promise to be untraditional. Marvel stands to win its first Oscar for either "Black Panther" (up for six Oscars including best picture) or the animated favorite, "Spider-Man: Into the Spider Verse." Spike Lee, aiming for his first competitive Oscar, could become the first black filmmaker to win best director.

"Roma," which comes in with a co-leading 10 nominations, is favored to win best picture, best director, best cinematography and best foreign language film. If "Roma" won best picture, it would be the first foreign language movie ever to do so.

For Hollywood, the most significant milestone would be Netflix triumphing at the Academy Awards, an achievement the streaming giant has fervently pursued. Netflix, which has previously only won one feature-length film Oscar (in 2018 for the documentary "lcarus"), has spent more than \$25 million on a lavish campaign to propel "Roma." It hired veteran Oscar campaign strategist Lisa Taback. It even purchased a Los Angeles billboard company to help promote its many films and series, including "for your consideration" ads along the Sunset Strip for "Roma."

"I'm very grateful for Netflix," Cuaron said in an interview ahead of the Oscars. "On paper, this is a film that wouldn't have this life. It's a Mexican film in Spanish and Mixtec with no recognizable actors when it was done. Black and white. A drama. What I'm so appreciative is that they saw through all those filters to the core of what the film was about and they saw the potential and they really believed in the film."

Cuaron noted that "Roma" has played for months in theaters, longer than it might otherwise have done. Major theater chains, however, have refused to screen Netflix releases since the company won't adhere to the traditional 90-day theatrical exclusivity window. Netflix altered its own policies for "Roma," playing it exclusively in theaters in limited release for three weeks before streaming it. The company declined to release box-office results.

"Roma" would be the first best picture winner ever to be primarily streamed, something some in Hollywood vehemently oppose. Steven Spielberg has said Netflix movies are really "TV movies" that should be eligible for Emmys, not Oscars.

After "Roma" won best picture at the British Academy Film Awards, J. Timothy Richards, the founder and chief executive of Vue, one of Europe's largest theater chains, criticized the British film academy for "choosing to endorse and promote a 'made for TV' film." France's Cannes Film Festival, where "Roma" was set to make its world premiere, also refused to enter any film without theatrical distribution into competition, causing Netflix to pull "Roma" from the festival.

Winning best picture would prove to the filmmakers Netflix is trying to attract that their releases can garner just as much respect as traditional ones. Netflix, which last year spent USD12 billion on original content for its 139 million subscribers, will this year release (among many other films) Martin Scorsese's much-anticipated "The Irishman."

Oscar producers, though, are looking to emphasize box-office hits like "Black Panther" and "Bohemian Rhapsody."

[Abridged]

### OKADA RELEASED 'UNCONDITIONALLY' BY HK ANTI-CORRUPTION AGENCY, AZURE SAYS

Kazuo Okada has been released unconditionally by Hong Kong's anti-corruption agency after being arrested for unspecified offences, the media reported over the weekend.

The reports were based on a statement released on Friday by one of Okada's companies, Aruze Gaming.

Okada, known as "the king of pachinko," had been granted bail by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) since his arrest came to light in August

"Mr Kazuo Okada is pleased to announce that Hong Kong's Independent Commission Against Corruption has released him from bail unconditionally," the statement said as reported by SCMP.

In a separate development, Macau's Court of Second instance dismissed an appeal filed by the Japanese billionaire against a negative ruling by the first court over a billion-dollar lawsuit involving Wynn Macau, as reported by MDT last week.

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#### **WORLD BRIEFS**

USA While on trial for child pornography in 2008, R. Kelly met an underage girl he later invited to his home, according to prosecutors who depicted the R&B star as manipulative and sometimes violent.



USA Retired astronaut
Mark Kelly (pictured)
kicked off a "mission
for Arizona" as he
launched his U.S. Senate
campaign with a rally in
Tucson, the city where
his wife, Gabrielle
Giffords (right), survived
a shooting when she was
a congresswoman. That
attack in 2011 led Kelly to
leave NASA and become
a political activist, pushing
for gun control.



VENEZUELAN migrants yesterday helped clean debris from a bridge where troops loyal to President Nicolas Maduro a day earlier fired tear gas on activists trying to deliver humanitarian aid in violent clashes that left two people dead and some 300 injured.



MOROCCO Prince Harry and Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, flew up to a village in Morocco's rugged Atlas Mountains yesterday to visit a school and encourage girls to pursue an education no matter what the obstacles.



CINEMA Filmmaker Stanley Donen, a giant of the Hollywood musical who through such classics as "Singin' in the Rain" and "Funny Face" helped give us some of the most joyous sounds and images in movie history, has died. He was 94.

### Documentary about 1939 Nazi rally in New York up for Oscar

Acrowd of 20,000 gives the Nazi salute while swastikas flank a giant portrait of George Washington.

Unimaginable to most Americans, the pro-Hitler rally that took place 80 years ago this week inside New York's Madison Square Garden is the subject of a short documentary that's up for an Oscar.

The seven-minute film shows Fritz Kuhn, the leader of the pro-Nazi German American Bund, decrying "the Jewish-controlled press" and demanding "a socially just, white, gentile-ruled United States."

Documentary filmmaker Marshall Curry said that after learning about the 1939 Bund rally, which he could barely believe had happened, he asked a researcher friend to help him locate archival footage of the Feb. 20, 1939, event.

"Once he pulled it all together and I saw it, I thought it was very surreal and frightening, and I wanted to find a way to make something of it and share it with the world," Curry said.

Curry sees parallels to 2019, when Republican President Donald Trump calls news organizations enemies of the people and anti-Jewish attacks are increasing. The anniversary of the rally comes as New York police report a 72



This Feb. 20,1939 file photo shows a crowd of demonstrators outside New York's Madison Square Garden as they seize a uniformed member of the German American Bund

percent increase in hate crimes in the city over the past year, with anti-Semitic crimes making up almost two-thirds of the total of 55.

In "A Night at the Garden," mounted police officers hold back protesters outside the Garden, about a mile north of the arena's present-day location and where the marquee advertises "Pro American Rally" along with a New York Rangers hockey game the following night.

Inside, people in suits and dresses cheer as Kuhn calls for "gentile-controlled labor unions, free from Jewish Moscow-directed domination." A protester rushes the stage and is tackled and beaten by uniformed Bund troops.

The protester, 26-year-old Isadore Greenbaum, was later arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. Details including his name and Kuhn's are not spelled out in the documentary, which immerses the viewer in the rally rather than having a narrator explain it.

Curry said he considered using a narrator but "ultimately almost on a whim I edited it together as if it were a verite documentary where you dropped the audience into this rally and you had to figure out what was going on. I found that it was more compelling that way."

Daniel Greene, a Northwestern University historian who curated an exhibit at the U.S. Holocaust Museum on Americans' response to the Holocaust, said the Madison Square Garden rally was one of the most important events in the relatively short life of the German American Bund, which aimed to build support for a fascist America. AP

