



CE ELECTION: GRASSROOTS CONTENDERS

P2-3 MDT REPORT



BERNSTEIN EXPECTS UP TO 5% JUNE GROWTH

Analysts at Sanford C. Bernstein are forecasting growth of between 3% and 5% for the month of June

P3 GAMING



AGENCIES CAN'T CONFIRM KIM BROTHER WAS US INFORMANT

S. Korean agencies could not confirm a report that Kim Jong Nam was a U.S. informant and had traveled to Malaysia to meet his CIA contact

P13



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Jun 2019

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA Attention is turning to a possible meeting of President Donald Trump with Chinese leader Xi Jinping at a summit in Japan later this month as the next step in the vexing trade standoff between the two biggest economies. *More on p11*



THAILAND's junta leader was officially proclaimed prime minister yesterday after the king endorsed Parliament's vote for him to serve another term.



SOUTH KOREA Lee Hee-ho, a feminist activist who fought for democracy against dictatorships alongside her husband and future President Kim Dae-jung, has died. She was 97.

NORTH KOREA

A human rights group said yesterday it has identified hundreds of spots where witnesses claim North Korea carried out public executions and extrajudicial state killings as part of an arbitrary and aggressive use of the death penalty that is meant to intimidate its citizens. *More on p14*

NEW ZEALAND

A court yesterday stopped a man accused of killing a woman in Shanghai a decade ago from being extradited to China, at least for now, due to concerns he could be tortured. *More on p12*

More on backpage



CARRIE LAM BRINGS HER EXTRADITION BILL TO THE LEGCO

SHOWDOWN

UNPRECEDENTED POLITICAL STRIFE READY TO MEET HER

P8-9

HOUSE OF DANCING WATER

Melco renews contract with signature show



Staff reporter

MELCO Resorts & Entertainment Ltd. announced yesterday in a press release that the company has renewed their contract for hosting The House of Dancing Water show at its City of Dreams resort in Cotai.

The agreement is equivalent to an extension of collaboration with show-maker Franco Dragone's company. The latter will carry on staging the influential show "The House of Dancing Water" at the City of Dreams.

The show has been staged for nine consecutive years, having commenced some time after the official opening of the resort itself. The 2,000-seat theater in which the show is staged is another Macau structure designed by the famous Pei Architects. It was designed and its construction supervised by L. C. Pei, son of late master architect I. M. Pei.

The show has also commissioned Hong Kong Cantopop diva Sammi Cheng to be the vocals for the theme song of the show, titled "Water of Love".

The show is arguably the most successful resident show ever staged in Macau.

The show features Chinese elements that are appealing to the main clientele of Macau's tourism market, including high-hung acrobatic movements and a Chinese pavilion. According to data from the company, in its nine years of performance, the

show has attracted a total of 6 million counts of viewers. On travel website TripAdvisor, the show gets an average of 4.5 out of 5 points, with 94% reviewers rating it "very good" or "excellent".

Now, with the initial 10-year contract up for renewal, Melco and Dragone have mutually decided to continue the show under a new operational structure launched under the new agreement.

In the press release, Melco introduced that Dragone's founder and theater director, Franco Dragone, will remain as the show's artistic director and will continue to oversee the artistic and creative direction of the production. Meanwhile, the show will be managed under a new and separate artistic show management entity.

At a given time, the show employs nearly 100 international performers working alongside 200 production staff, technicians and professional divers. The main stage for the show transforms into a 19-million-liter pool.

The respective owners of the two companies, Lawrence Ho and Franco Dragone, are happy about the contract renewal. Both anticipate new heights in the collaboration.

In the show's nine years of operation, Melco and Dragone have invited local associations and schools to visit the theater. They even drained the performance pool so that visitors could reach the bottom of it.

Grassroots candidates

Julie Zhu

MANY Macau residents hope that they will have more people listening to their voices through different opportunities, such as the opportunity for election," the city's youngest lawmaker Sulu Sou said in an interview with the Times yesterday.

As of today, three people have declared their interest in running for Macau's fifth Chief Executive election, including the seemingly most likely candidate to win, Ho Iat Seng, president of the Legislative Assembly, and two "nobodies," Leong Kuok Chao and Hoi Weng Chong.

Locals are taking Ho's candidacy seriously while viewing Leong's, and especially Hoi's, in a more light-hearted manner.

HOI WENG CHONG

Hoi is best known for his protests in central Macau and at the Border Gate.

In 2003, Hoi was dismissed from his then-employer Vantone Insurance Company, after the company found out that Hoi had violated the rules and at least 10 insurance policies (out of more than 200 processed by Hoi) had problems. The insurance policies were all to cover mainland residents.

Between 2003 and 2005, Vantone sued Hoi, accusing him of defamation.

Since March 2005, Hoi has dedicated himself to a non-stop protest against the case following the lawsuit.

Hoi petitioned the Office of the Chief Executive, the Commission Against Corruption and the Public Prosecutions Office. In September 2007, Hoi sued Vantone's representative office in Shanghai. That same year, the Court of First Instance of Macau found Hoi guilty of defamation and sentenced him to one year and three months in jail and a fine of MOP500,000. Hoi then appealed.

In 2008, the Court of Second Instance of Macau acquitted Hoi. In 2011, Hoi, together with another man, gave notice to the now-defunct Municipal Affairs Bureau for a demonstration in six places, including the Liaison Office, and would feature Hoi's personal rights protection case.

The then-director of the Public Security Police Force (PSP) intervened over the demonstration permit, claiming that because the demonstration was close to



the Liaison Office, it would severely affect public interest and safety.

In 2013, Hoi applied to run for the Legislative Assembly, but was refused by the government authority.

LEONG KUOK CHAO

Unlike Hoi, a second candidate interested in the Chief Executive role, Leong Kuok Chao (45), has experience with elections.

In 2005, Leong's team, the Association for Democracy and Social Well-being of Macau, received 4,358 votes in the AL election. However, they did not receive enough votes to make it to the Assembly.

Leong, who is reported to be director of the board of an investment consultancy firm, is expected to run as part of the election in July. He is currently preparing his office.

Leong has pointed out that he is fulfilling his responsibility as a resident and that he is participa-

ting in the election, in accordance with the law.

In Leong's opinion, since the handover, the city's political landscape has been dominated by the official business community and has not been close enough to the people. As a grassroots representative, Leong hopes to reflect the voice of the public and draw the attention of other candidates to the issues he highlights.

Leong said he is confident that he can raise enough votes for his nomination.

ELECTION REQUIREMENTS 'TOO DEMANDING'

Local residents are presumably taking little away from the announcements of Leong and Hoi. However, lawmaker Sulu Sou is endorsing both candidates and will probably endorse more of their kind in future.

"I don't know these two people. I think they deserve encouragement and more diverse people should run for the election," said Sou.

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knocking on Chief Executive's door



Ho Iat Seng



Leong Kuok Chao



Hoi Weng Chong

law, a person can only formally run after gaining a minimum of 66 votes from the Election Commission, which, in turn, left former CE elections with only one formally nominated candidate.

"There have been different people running for each election. Our requirements for a person to run for CE are demanding, too demanding to the point that the majority of qualified residents cannot participate in it," said Sou.

COLUMNIST PREDICTS HO'S WITHDRAWAL

Columnist Lei Keong, who is known for his columns on the never-completed Pearl Horizon real estate project, has predicted that Ho Iat Seng will withdraw from the Chief Executive election.

Last week, Lei wrote an article predicting that Ho will make the withdrawal announcement when he holds what is supposed to be his CE campaign press conference.

"If Ho still has political wisdom, announcing his withdrawal will be the best strategy," Lei writes.

In Lei's opinion, Ho cheated the Beijing government by hiding the fact that he holds Portuguese nationality.

"His dual nationality would not have been such a big joke if he [...] hadn't taken [an] oath to become a lawmaker," Lei writes.

Previously, Ho told local media that he would announce his election campaign formally on May 20.

"What Ho will announce should be the news of his withdrawal," Lei's column reads.

"I think that more people are probably hoping that they can have such a chance, and that's why they are coming out for the election," Sou told the Times, adding that "due to the atmosphere in society, they can't make their voices heard."

"I think that what they appeal for is not important. It is important that they, as well as many other people in Macau, [have a] voice. But there is not a channel [being] given to them," said Sou.

The fact that there is more

than just one interested person in this year's CE appointment is not an exception. In previous elections, there were other interested parties as well.

In 2014, local Chinese medicine doctor Lei Kuong Un applied to run for CE. However, his at-

tempt failed due to a lack of signatures from members of the Electoral Commission. The Chinese medicine doctor participated in three CE elections, failing to be nominated in all of them.

According to Macau's election

GAMING

DICJ planning with operators ahead of peak typhoon season

THE Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) met with Macau's gaming operators earlier this week in order to coordinate measures to be enforced ahead of what is considered to be the peak typhoon season, starting next month.

The local gaming regulator said in a statement after the meeting that the event served to discuss the contingency plans to be enforced.

The DICJ acknowledged that local integrated resorts host a very large number of tourists on their premises, together with a large number of workers. These factors are

important considerations in the event of a severe storm. During an evaluation of the events of the last two years, the DICJ took the opportunity to remind operators to conduct a regular assessment of their venues' emergency plans, especially in cases where the venue is located in an area more likely to be affected by wind, rainfall or flooding.

In 2017, with the passage of Typhoon Hato - considered the most severe to have hit the region in half a century - two casino venues were affected, namely the casino located at Legend Palace Hotel on the waterfront and in the

surroundings of the Outer Harbor, and the Ponte 16 Casino, located in the Inner Harbor area.

At the time, both casinos saw their gaming areas affected by floodwater, with the former being closed for renovation work for a period of about four months.

Official data shows that the region is affected by five to six typhoons on average every year.

According to statistics, the majority of typhoons that hit the region occur between July and September. The official typhoon season extends from May until November. **RM**

GAMING

Bernstein expects up to 5% June growth

ANALYSTS at Sanford C. Bernstein are forecasting growth of between 3% and 5% for the month of June, citing a normalization of comparison months from the previous year.

"Heading into June and July, we expect y/y comparison to begin easing," the analysts wrote. "Recall GGR was quite robust in early 2018, until U.S.-China trade tensions heightened beginning last summer."

Channel checks show that gross ga-

ming revenue during the first nine days of the month reached MOP6.65 billion, with an average daily rate of MOP738 million, or 12% higher than in the previous month.

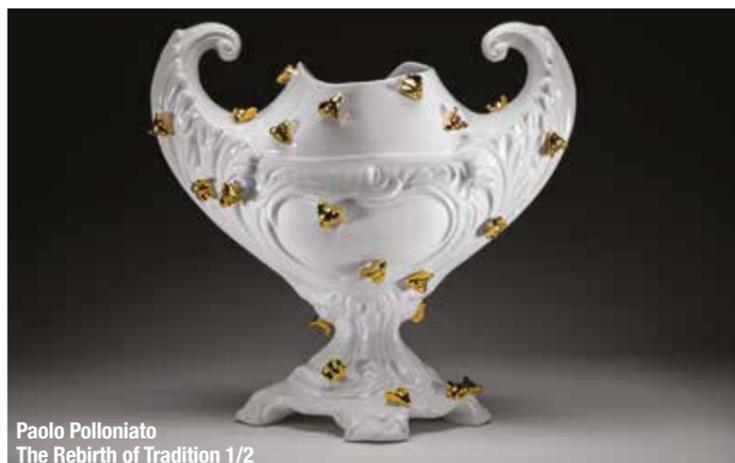
Bernstein also said it expects Melco, Galaxy and SJM gained some market share over their rivals during the first nine days of the month.

June has been a consistent poor performer in recent years, recording the second-lowest monthly take in both 2018 and 2017,

and the lowest in 2016.

Gross gaming revenue in June 2018 amounted to MOP22.49 billion, closing the first half of last year with some MOP150 billion in revenue, up almost 19% compared with a year earlier.

Revenue from gambling activities stands about 1.6% lower in the first five months of 2019 compared to the equivalent period last year. Growth of up to 5% year-on-year in June would almost close that gap. **DB**



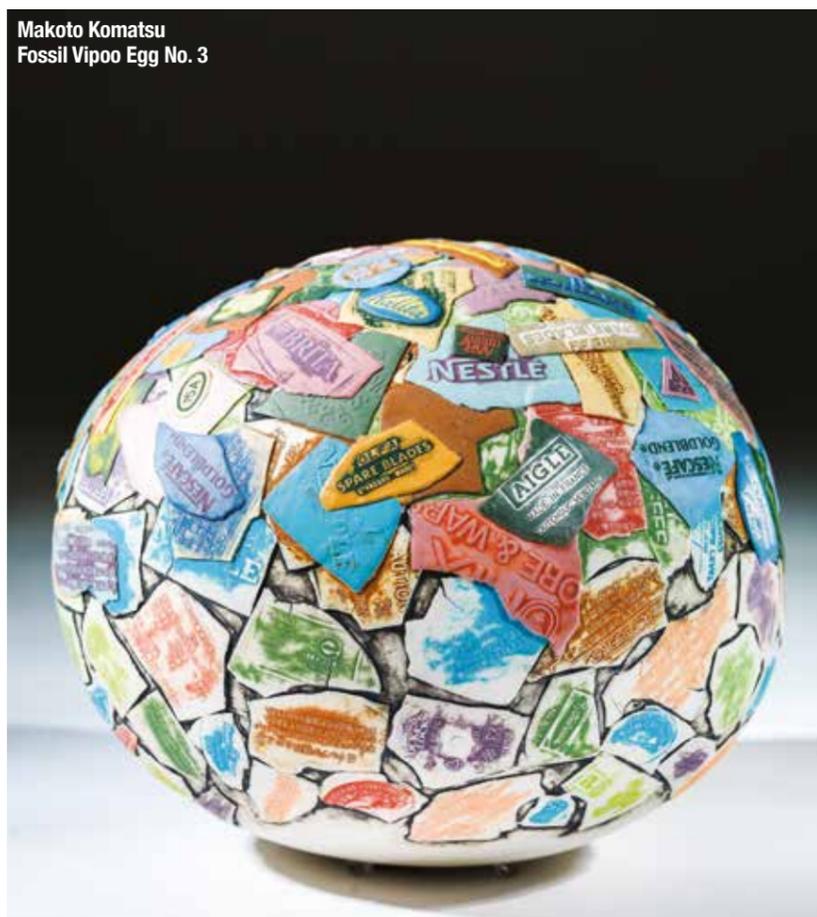
Paolo Polloniato
The Rebirth of Tradition 1/2



Jason Walker
Wildflowers



Garth Johnson
Shoulou / Money Tree



Makoto Komatsu
Fossil Vipoo Egg No. 3



Peter Pincus
Bottle



Caroline Cheng
Prosperity

Sands China showcases museum-quality

TO support the Macau SAR's mega-art project, Art Macao 2019, Sands China Ltd. has launched a museum-quality ceramics exhibition: All That's Gold Does Glitter – An Exhibition of Glamorous Ceramics, featuring a total of 90 ceramic masterpieces from outstanding artists from 13 different countries and regions.

The largest and highest-level ceramic art exhibition in the Greater Bay Area to date, the exhibition will run at multiple Sands China properties.

The exhibition was curated over the course of 10 months by internationally renowned ceramic artist Caroline Cheng, who convened a meeting of 27 artists from all over the world to create ceramic works under the theme of All That's Gold Does Glitter – a nod to Sands China's name in Chinese, "Golden Sand."

The majority of the works on display at All That's Gold Does

Glitter were created especially for the exhibition, and all contain elements in the colour gold in line with the theme.

"With 2019 being a celebratory year marking the Macau SAR's 20th anniversary and Sands Macao's 15th anniversary, Sands China is very pleased to support the inaugural Art Macao with this exhibition," said Dr Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China Ltd.

"Our company understands the importance of culture and arts, and we are excited to have an internationally renowned artist of Ms. Cheng's calibre curate this unique exhibition for us. We hope the exhibition can help promote Macau's cultural and creative industries, and inspire local Macau artists in their personal and professional creative endeavours."

Dr Wong has applauded the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture for its patronage, to the Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Macao Government Tourism

Office for their support.

"Staging this museum-quality exhibition in the main lobby of The Venetian Macao – where daily visitation is over 100,000 – was a significant challenge for both the company and our curator. The outcome is awe-inspiring," he added, noting that the resulting exhibition has become a miracle.

I think Art Macao should continue and improve, and really become the event that people would want to come to.

CAROLINE CHENG
CERAMIC ARTIST

With China as the birthplace of porcelain, Sands China selected the material as the exhibition's featured art form in homage to Macau's rich history as a vital centre in the global ceramics' trade.

Macau was an important hub in the Maritime Silk Road, as testified by the many fragments of 16th and 17th century Kraak porcelain still buried on the coast. The powerful connection between ceramics and Chinese and Macanese civilizations made it an ideal choice for Sands China's exhibition.

As the theme is also heavily in line with the characteristics of Sands China's hotel properties, which echo glamor and sophistication, the curator remarked that the exhibition reflects Sands China, Art Macao and the call for creativity and innovation.

"They are all technically well made. I didn't want to have one [artwork] that is not technically good to come and participate in

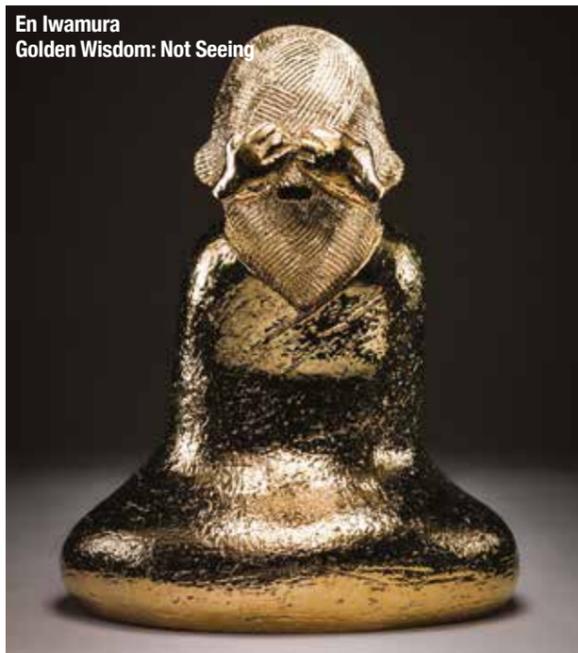
this exhibition," said Cheng.

For Cheng's "Prosperity" masterpiece, located at one of the entrances of The Venetian Macao, her oriental-designed piece consists of intricately handmade porcelain butterflies with real gold luster sewn on a Chinese dress.

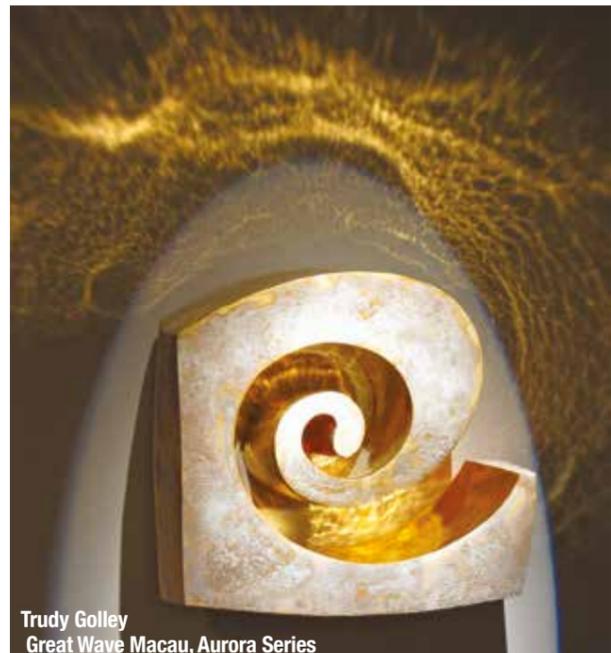
Each butterfly in the work – all of different shapes – is composed of nine pieces of unglazed color porcelain clay. It is made by the local artists of Jingdezhen with their fingertips and palms. When all the components are formed, they are fired in Jingdezhen and transported to Shanghai by hand. It takes two months to make two thousand butterflies, and the largest piece of Prosperity uses over 15,000 ceramic butterflies.

Cheng described the whole Art Macao project as a fantastic idea, making use of the city's creativity and freedom to showcase art, paving the way to lead by example.

"We are able to showcase really



En Iwamura
Golden Wisdom: Not Seeing



Trudy Golley
Great Wave Macau, Aurora Series



Vipoo Srivilasa
Plum



Tetsuya Ishiyama
Amitabha

ceramics exhibition as part of Art Macao

good exhibitions to lead the way in Macau," said the artist.

"Sands China has the best exhibition this time at Art Macao because we built this. I called several artists to set up the show and we started from scratch. Usually an exhibition like this would take two years, not ten months," Cheng added.

Cheng has shared her appreciation towards the gaming operator for supporting the art industry and for providing her with the opportunity to bring together works from this incredible selection of global talent and share the beauty and joy of ceramics at this unique exhibition.

"I think Art Macao should continue and improve, and really become the event that people would want to come to. It could be biennale," Cheng remarked.

"It is a pleasure to be able to share my passion for ceramic art with the people of Macao and its visitors from around the world. I am grateful for Sands

China's support of our industry," she added.

The exhibition runs at multiple Sands China properties until October 9 and features over 90 ceramic masterpieces.

All That's Gold Does Glitter – An Exhibition of Glamorous Ceramics is being held across four venues: The Venetian Macao; The Parisian Macao; the Four Seasons Hotel Macao; and Sands Macao. The exhibition is expected to welcome more than 100,000 daily visitors.

In addition, the exhibition is lending four of its feature works to the Macao Museum of Art from June 6 to Oct. 8 for display at Art Macao's main exhibition: Jason Walker's intricately illustrated Wildflowers, Trudy Golley's illuminated Great Wave and Vipoo Srivilasa's whimsical Plantimals, among many other outstanding works.

Among them, three pieces were created by three well-known deceased ceramic artists, whose artworks are part of

Cheng's personal collection and are on loan for the exhibition.

All That's Gold Does Glitter – An Exhibition of Glamorous Ceramics is presented under the patronage of the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture, and is supported by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Macao Government Tourism Office.

The exhibition is part of Art Macao 2019, a six-month mega international arts and cultural event organised by the SAR government, with the participation of hotels, integrated resorts, and foreign consulates.

The event line-up features the International Art Exhibition and a variety of other events, including diverse musical, dance and theatrical performances, and art installations in outdoor public spaces.

SANDS CHINA BRINGS IN ARTISTS, FACILITATES EXCHANGE

Sands China has brought in a total of 21 artists from 13

different countries and regions to take part in the official opening ceremony of All That's Gold Does Glitter – An Exhibition of Glamorous Ceramics.

This opportunity allowed the artists to explain and share the inspiration for their works showcased in the exhibition.

Vipoo Srivilasa's, a Thai-born, Melbourne-based artist, curator and arts activist, said that Sands China's initiative of bringing artists to promote their artwork is essential in bringing art closer to the public.

"I think it's quite important because it creates a bridge between our works and the audience. Sometimes big art fairs only have the artworks without having the artists present, and it becomes mechanical and soulless," said Srivilasa.

"Having this resort as a place to exhibit the artworks is a good idea; it takes the ar-

works to a new context," the artist added.

Echoing the sentiment, Trudy Golley, whose creations are in public and private collections in Canada, China, Denmark and Australia, said that the positioning of their artworks makes them more accessible to the public.

"When people go to museums, they feel a little bit intimidated by the works. [...] if it's in a more public kind of setting, then it reaches more people where they feel more comfortable and that is really important," said Golley, who showcases a total of four art pieces, two of which are in the Macao Museum of Art.

"I feel really privileged to be here and be able to make that connection," she added.

Sands China has aimed to facilitate international exchanges at a personal level by bringing in international artists, many of whom are in the SAR for the first time.

MGTO shares ideas for nocturnal tourism

The Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) has released the results of its study on nocturnal tourism. Some study participants urge nighttime events should be located away from residential areas, while others expect more diverse tourism products. A representative of an urban development group suggests the government consider holding such tourism events in the future Reclamation Zone B, mainly planned for government offices, which is vacant at night. The head of the Tourism Council used the Ruins of St. Paul's as an example, saying that it has different views at night, which may be appealing to some tourists.

PJ trained in domestic violence investigation

A professional in dealing with domestic violence cases from the Hong Kong Police Force has been invited by Macau's Judiciary Police (PJ) to hold a workshop training local investigators on how to better work on such cases. The Hong Kong veteran introduced concerned laws and policies in place in the neighboring SAR, the constitution of investigation, psychological effects on victims, risk evaluation and other aspects. The Domestic Violence Law has been in place for almost three years in Macau. A legally-required review will be conducted in October this year.

FSS adapting to Greater Bay changes

In response to developments in the Greater Bay Area project, Iong Kong Io of the Social Security Fund (FSS) has said that the fund is a member of a work group concerning labor and social security affairs in both Macau and Guangdong. Macau citizens can get their provident fund and disability subsidy at mainland banks, as well as update their alive status in the mainland. The FSS has started to study changing the minimum length of stay in Macau to cope with the fact that more people are now living and working in the Greater Bay Area.



Sulu Sou questions gov't on threat to Guia Hill heritage

Renato Marques

LAWMAKER Sulu Sou is questioning the government again concerning height limits for buildings in the Guia Hill area, with protection of heritage sites such as the Guia Lighthouse in mind.

In a written inquiry to the government Sou questions once more the high-rise buildings that have been built in the eastern area of the city and that, in his opinion, threaten the preservation of Macau's history

and heritage.

Citing several examples, the lawmaker accused the government of repeatedly ignoring the guidelines issued by the UNESCO heritage committee by approving several high-rise buildings that violate the body's resolutions. Sou called attention to one such resolution issued in June 2017, noting that the construction works - halted nearly 11 years ago - of a building located at Calçada do Gaio were deemed to have reached an illegal height.

The lawmaker's inquiry comes after it became known that the government finally approved the building at its current height (81.32 meters). Sou contests the approval on the basis that it violates the rules established for the area.

The lawmaker noted that last month, the World Heritage Committee issued a new resolution, reminding the SAR government of the guidelines in "Code of Practice for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage Convention."

The Committee highlighted that a restart of the project may have an "irreversible impact on the world heritage [site]."

Similar concerns were also expressed regarding other new developments, such as those in the area of the Fisherman's Wharf and at Avenida do Dr Rodrigo Rodrigues in ZAPE.

Sou questions the government on the outcomes of studies made by the authorities with the purpose of identifying buildings and structures essential to Macau's listed heritage landscape.

SPORTS

Victory for Macau diving team in Singapore

Staff reporter

THE Macau diving team has participated in the 10th Singapore National Diving Championships by invitation, winning a total of 11 medals over three days.

The competition was held between June 7 and 9 at the island country's OCBC Aquatic Centre.

Team Macau deployed a hybrid team consisting of veterans and new athletes. Several new faces made it onto the podium during the three-day competition.

The team had a good start, as the first day of the series of contests saw Tang Hio Fong, a new face on the team, win a silver medal in the 3-meter Open Category Single.

On the second day, veteran Tsui Sut Kuan partnered with Tang to compete in the 3-meter Open

Category Mixed Double, in which they secured a gold medal. Lei Ming Hin, on the other hand, won silver in the 16 to 18-year-old 3-meter Women's Single. Leong Sut In won silver in the 10-meter, Tang won another silver in the 1-meter and newcomer Wu Hio Tong won bronze in the 1-meter.

Team Macau continued to perform well on the third day. Another new face, Ho Lok I, championed the 1-meter match for new female divers, while Leong and her twin sister Sut Chan got the laurel for the 10-meter Women's Open Category. Lei won another silver, Tsui and Leong Sut Chan's partnership secured them bronze and Lam Chi Hei also won bronze.

Wong Ho Wai and To Ka Him went with the team as referees for the championships.

Cultural exhibition, shows return from Zhejiang

Staff reporter

INTANGIBLE cultural heritage from Zhejiang province in China has returned to Macau for an exhibition and a show. The exhibition officially opened yesterday at the Municipal Affairs Bureau Art Gallery. Two shows featuring the heritage will also be staged.

Zhejiang province is located on the eastern coast of the country, neighboring the Municipality of Shanghai. The city of Hangzhou, which is praised for its beauty, is located in the province. Currently, Zhejiang possesses 10 items of international intangible cultural heritage, 217 of them national and 886 of them provincial, with

more than 1,100 items in total.

This series of events, titled "Root and Spirit," showcases Zhejiang's intangible cultural heritage and culture in the forms of exhibition, presentation, performance and workshop.

The exhibition, which will run until June 25, features the province's customs, arts and poetry, aiming to present the tenderness and aesthetics of Zhejiang through tea, silk, ceramics, calligraphy and festive rituals.

The shows, on the other hand, will be staged at 7 p.m. tonight in Senado Square and 8 p.m. tomorrow at Iao Hon Garden. They will feature traditional music, dances and drama.

Art Macao 藝文薈澳

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MELCO

Political strife looming on eve of extradition bill's second reading

Christopher Bodeen,
Hong Kong

OPPONENTS of legislation in Hong Kong that would allow criminal suspects to be extradited to mainland China are planning more protests and labor strikes in an attempt to block the move, which they say endangers the territory's judicial independence and Western-style freedoms.

The government plans to present the amendments to Hong Kong's Legislative Council today, despite a weekend protest that brought hundreds of thousands of people into the streets in the territory's largest political demonstration in more than a decade.

The legislation has become a lightning rod for concerns about Beijing's increasing control over the former British colony, which had been promised it would retain its own legal and social institutions for 50 years after its return to Chinese rule in 1997.

Hong Kong's leader, Chief Executive Carrie Lam, has consistently defended the legislation as necessary to close legal loopholes with other countries and territories. The legislature's president, Andrew Leung, has scheduled a vote on June 20.

Sunday's protest was widely seen as reflecting growing apprehension about relations with the Communist Party-ruled mainland, whose leader, Xi Jinping, has said he has zero tolerance for those demanding greater self-rule for Hong Kong. Critics believe the extradition legislation would put Hong Kong residents at risk of being entrapped in China's judicial system, in which opponents of Communist Party rule have been charged with economic crimes or ill-defined national security offenses, and would not be guaranteed free trials.

Lam, who canceled her regular question and answer session today, said the government has considered concerns from the private sector and altered the bill to improve human rights safeguards.

She emphasized that extradition cases would be decided by Hong Kong courts.

"Even the chief executive could not overrule the court, to say that because [a country] wants this offender, I will surrender," Lam said.

Ronny Tong Ka-wah, a lawyer and member of Lam's administration advisory committee, said Sunday's protest showed a lack of trust in Hong Kong's administration, partly because Lam was selected by a small number of electors rather than by popular vote. However, China's patience



Police stand guard at fencing surrounding the Legislative Council to help block protesters during upcoming meetings on the government's extradition law bill

with Hong Kong's demands has its limits, Tong said.

"We need to gain the trust and confidence of Beijing so they can allow us the freedom of political reform," Tong said. "They don't want to see Hong Kong as a base of subversion. And I'm sorry, we're doing exactly that."

Opponents of the proposed extradition amendments say the changes would significantly compromise Hong Kong's legal independence, long viewed as one of the crucial differences between the territory and mainland China.

Hong Kong Bar Association Chair Philip Dykes said a lack of faith in Beijing's commitment to respecting Hong Kong's unique status remains a crucial issue.

"The government is asking these people with decades of mistrust suddenly to trust the system and to accept assurances that the [Chinese] mainland will offer that they be honored. And that's clearly not persuading the people," Dykes said in an interview.

Hong Kong currently limits extraditions to jurisdictions with which it has existing agreements and to others on an individual basis. China has been excluded from those agreements because of concerns over its judicial independence and human rights record.

The proposed amendments to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance would expand the scope of criminal suspect transfers to include Taiwan, Macau and mainland China.

Lam has said the changes are necessary for Hong Kong to uphold justice and meet its international obligations. Without them, she said Hong Kong risks becoming a "fugitive offenders' haven."

Supporters have pointed to the case of Chan Tong-kai, a Hong Kong man who admitted to Hong Kong police that he killed his girlfriend during a trip to Taiwan. Because Hong Kong and Taiwan don't have an extradition agreement, he has not been sent to Taiwan to face charges there, though he has been jailed in Hong Kong on money laundering charges.

The U.S. on Monday expressed "grave concern" over the legislation. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang yesterday reaffirmed the government's support for the extradition legislation and urged the U.S. to "exercise caution in its words and deeds and stop interfering in Hong Kong's affairs and China's internal affairs."

Under its "one country, two systems" framework, Hong

Kong was guaranteed the right to retain its own social, legal and political systems for 50 years. As a result, residents enjoy far greater freedoms than people on the mainland, such as the freedom to protest or publicly criticize the government.

Nevertheless, the Communist Party exerts influence on the Hong Kong government.

Hong Kong voters cannot directly elect their chief executive. Lam was elected in 2017 by a committee dominated by pro-Beijing elites and is widely seen as the Communist Party's favored candidate.

The Legislative Council, Hong Kong's parliament, includes a sizable camp of pro-Beijing lawmakers. Although the legislation was expected to easily pass the city's legislature, which is dominated by Beijing loyalists, the opposition had introduced scores of amendments to undermine or slow the proposal's approval. Hong Kong Legislative President Andrew Leung set aside almost 70 hours of debate, ending June 20.

Beijing has made substantial efforts in recent years to integrate Hong Kong with the mainland. Last October, China opened the world's longest sea-crossing bridge, connecting Hong Kong and Macau to the city of Zhuhai in southern

Guangdong province. The government has named the three combined locales the "Greater Bay Area," which it aims to turn into a center for technological innovation and advanced manufacturing.

Those in Hong Kong who anger China's central government have come under greater pressure since Chinese President Xi Jinping came to power in 2012.

The detention of several Hong Kong booksellers in late 2015 intensified worries about the erosion of Hong Kong's rule of law. The booksellers vanished before resurfacing in police custody in mainland China. Among them, Swedish citizen Gui Minhai is currently being investigated on charges of leaking state secrets after he sold gossip books about Chinese leaders.

In April, nine leaders of a 2014 pro-democracy protest movement known as the "Umbrella Revolution" were convicted on public nuisance and other charges.

In May, Germany confirmed it had granted asylum to two people from Hong Kong who, according to media reports, were activists fleeing tightening restrictions at home. It was the first known case in recent years of a Western government accepting political refugees from Hong Kong. **AP**



Hong Kong bracing for unprecedented strikes

HONG Kong braced for rare strikes and further protests amid an escalating standoff over a controversial bill that would allow extraditions to mainland China.

Local companies said they would suspend work or allow flexible office hours on Wednesday to accommodate workers planning to demonstrate near the city's Legislative Council, which will meet to debate amendments. The Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions, a pro-democracy labor group, and several student

associations urged members to join the strike and reprise a protest Sunday that drew hundreds of thousands.

The government said it opposed the student strike. It urged schools to make their pupils' safety a priority and respect different opinions, Hong Kong's Under Secretary for Education Choi Yuk Lin told reporters.

The legislature is expected to gather around 11 a.m. today for a general meeting before considering changes proposed by opposition lawmakers. The body's leader closed off the area outside

the chamber - a popular protest site known as the Drum - after scuffles in that area early Monday morning.

Opponents want Hong Kong's

leader, Chief Executive Carrie Lam, to withdraw the legislation and threatened to organize a bigger, general strike on June 17 to keep up the pressure.

When we will call this off is up to Carrie Lam. If she doesn't scrap this controversial extradition bill, Hong Kongers will fight on.

CLAUDIA MO
LAWMAKER

"We are calling on Hong Kong people to come and join our protest rally right outside LegCo," opposition lawmaker Claudia Mo said a news conference with other protest organizers yesterday. "When we will call this off is up to Carrie Lam. If she doesn't scrap this controversial extradition bill, Hong Kongers will fight on."

Lam's popularity has fallen to its lowest rating since she took power in 2017, according to a survey by Hong Kong University's Public Opinion Programme. The poll, which was taken before Sunday's protests, saw her approval rating plunge to a record low 43 points, down from 64 points the week she assumed office.

Hong Kong-listed Most Kwai Chung Ltd. said in a Facebook post that it would close business for the day because "Hong Kong is sick" and they "wish Hong Kong will get well soon."

Law firm Vidler & Co. Solicitors said it had notified all employees that "in the event they wished to act in accordance with their conscience" and not attend work today to go on strike against the bill, the firm would support their actions.

While the potential scale of the strike was difficult to assess, one unconfirmed list of participating companies circulating online had grown to 1,000 mostly local firms by late afternoon. People claiming to be airline crews and teachers urged strikes in their own organizations online.

Some of the almost 1,400 multinational corporations with regional offices in Hong Kong, such as the global accounting firm Deloitte, gave employees the option of working from home or at offices away from the protest site. Hundreds of thousands of protesters wearing white and calling for Lam's resignation marched through the center of the city Sunday in one of the biggest mass demonstrations since the city was returned from British rule in 1997. **MDT/Bloomberg**

Student activist vows to resist extradition bill

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

MANY Hong Kong residents were angered by a decision by the territory's leader to move ahead with an extradition bill despite a massive weekend protest, a prominent student activist said Monday.

Agnes Chow is among a group of young activists leading the opposition against proposed amendments to the territory's extradition law. The changes would allow people in Hong Kong to be sent to mainland China to face criminal charges.

Chow told reporters in Tokyo on Monday that those sent to mainland China wouldn't have the same rights that are guaranteed in Hong Kong and the legislation endangers the territory's rule of law, basic rights and democracy.

Hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets Sunday in what was likely Hong Kong's largest protest in more than a decade.

Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam said Monday the legislation will help the territory uphold justice and fulfill

its international obligations. She said that safeguards added in May will ensure that the legislation protects human rights.

"I believe that most of the Hong Kong people felt really angry with Carrie Lam's response to our rally," Chow said. "I hope that the Hong Kong government would respect our opinion."

Chow said she and other opponents think the legislation is "very dangerous" to all Hong Kong residents as well as visitors from overseas, because anyone could be

sent to mainland China, "a place without the rule of law, without protection of human rights and freedom."

The legislation is also "destroying" Hong Kong's special status of having "one country, two systems," the rule of law and its special status as an international financial city, she said.

Chow arrived in Tokyo on Monday to appeal to Japanese media and politicians.

Hong Kong's Legislative Council is slated to take up the extradition bill today. **AP**



Agnes Chow

Foxconn names iPhone czar, CFO to Terry Gou's inner circle

HON Hai Precision Industry Co. will appoint its group finance chief and the overseer of the world's largest iPhone production base to a newly created operations committee, anointing potential successors to billionaire founder Terry Gou.

Hon Hai, the largest listed arm of Foxconn Technology Group, is establishing a body of nine executives who will represent its top decision-making unit after the board, the company said in exchange filings, confirming a previous report from Bloomberg News.

They include Foxconn Chief Financial Officer Huang Chiu-lian and Lin Zheng-hui - known also as Lin Cheng-hui - who heads the company's enormous iPhone-making facility in central China's Zhengzhou. The group will rule on major business matters, a person familiar with the matter said, asking not to be identified because the appointments aren't public.

Lin and Huang are among a cadre of executives tipped to



Terry Gou (left) with Huang Chiu-lian in 2013

take the reins of the world's largest contract manufacturer from Gou, who is trying to win a party nomination to compete in the 2020 Taiwanese presidential elections.

Gou, who built the company from a maker of TV knobs into a global powerhouse in consu-

mer electronics, is expected to step back from Foxconn's day-to-day operations to focus on his political endeavors.

The 68-year-old billionaire, who has said he plans to quit as Hon Hai chairman after shareholders elect a new board in June, is shifting his focus just

as his company grapples with the unprecedented uncertainty of U.S.-Chinese tensions.

That escalating trade spat is hurting consumer sentiment and raising fears about the impact on Foxconn's plants, most of which are located in the world's No. 2 economy.

Washington is threatening to hit Beijing with new tariffs on about USD300 billion worth of Chinese goods including phones and laptops, directly affecting the company's business with a swathe of the world's major electronics brands. Beijing has in turn shown a growing willingness to retaliate against American names.

Foxconn straddles the world's two largest economies because it manufactures most of its devices in China, many of which then find their way to American consumers. In its exchange filings, the company said it will localize some of its manufacturing across production bases covering 16 countries from Japan and Mexico to the U.S. and India. It didn't elaborate on specific plans.

Gou's company wields unusual influence for an Asian company in the U.S. When President Donald Trump called for more investment in local manufacturing, Gou was among the first to heed the call, agreeing to build a 13,000-worker facility in Wisconsin in exchange for more than \$4.5 billion in government incentives. Hailed by Trump as "one of the great deals ever," the project has since come under criticism for low-paying jobs, sudden dismissals and ever-changing goals. **MDT/Bloomberg**

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TARIFF WAR

Beijing mum on Trump-Xi meeting as Huawei says sales slowing

Wong Wai Bor, Shanghai

A Chinese government spokesman has refrained from confirming that leader Xi Jinping intends to meet with President Donald Trump at a summit in Japan later this month.

"We note that for some time, the U.S. has made multiple public statements that it looks forward to a meeting between the two heads of state during the G-20 Osaka Summit," Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told reporters in Beijing. "We will release information on this when we have it."

Trump has imposed 25% tariffs on USD250 billion worth of Chinese exports and is preparing to expand them to cover another \$300 billion. Beijing has hit back with its own retaliatory tariff increases.

The trade hostilities between the two largest economies reflect Trump's unhappiness with China's longstanding and huge trade surplus with the U.S. and deeper concerns over Chinese ambitions to help its own industries gain a lead in key technologies such as robotics and artificial intelligence.

Nearly a year after Trump began imposing the higher tariffs to ramp up pressure on Beijing, attention is focusing on the potential for a top-level compromise to break a stalemate in talks that broke down last month.

Trump said in an interview



with CNBC's "Squawk Box" on Monday that if Xi doesn't meet with him at the Group of 20 major economies gathering in Osaka, Japan, later this month, more U.S. tariffs on Chinese exports will go into effect.

But Trump said he expects Xi to attend.

No talks are planned before the Osaka event, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin told reporters over the weekend.

Each side is blaming the other for the logjam in negotiations.

"We do not want a trade war, but we are not afraid of fighting one," Geng said, reiterating earlier statements. "If the US is ready to have equal consultations, our door is wide open. But if it insists on escalating trade fric-

tions, we will respond to it with resolution and perseverance."

Meanwhile, at a consumer electronics show in the business hub of Shanghai, a top executive of telecom gear maker Huawei Technologies hinted that pressure from Washington on other countries to exclude it from next-generation, or 5G, telecom networks is taking a toll on its sales.

Huawei vaulted past Apple to become the No. 2 global smartphone brand behind South Korea's Samsung last year, as its total sales surged almost 20% to exceed \$100 billion.

"If we had not encountered anything unexpected, we would have become number one in the world by the fourth quar-

ter," Huawei's chief strategist, Shao Yang, said yesterday at the Consumer Electronics Show in Shanghai.

"But now we have to wait a little bit longer to achieve that," he said, without referring directly to President Donald Trump or the trade war.

Washington last month put Huawei on a blacklist that effectively bars U.S. firms from selling to the company without government approval. U.S. officials have accused Chinese technology companies such as Huawei of stealing trade secrets and threatening cybersecurity — possibly at the behest of the ruling Communist Party.

Chinese authorities say the United States is exaggerating

security concerns to block a potential competitor.

Huawei has denied it would share user secrets with the Chinese government and demanded that the U.S. provide evidence to show that such a risk exists. Earlier, it insisted that the trade friction with Washington was not taking much of a toll on its global business.

But U.S. officials have made it their mission to persuade other governments to avoid working with Huawei, warning that Washington might not share sensitive information with allies if they are using Huawei equipment and networks that the Washington suspects could be compromised.

Apart from the U.S. pressure, which has effectively shut Huawei out of the world's most lucrative market, growth in smartphone sales overall has been slowing.

And some phone carriers, such as Japan's SoftBank Corp. and KDDI, have delayed sales of Huawei brand smartphones to assess their safety, potentially detracting from earlier forecasts.

In his comments to the electronics show, Shao said the company will march on in its development of the technology.

"People see 5G, but we see beyond that," he said. "Those who are not brave will not progress, they will lag behind. So everything that we do is to define our direction in the new round of competition." AP

Apple's US iPhones can all be made outside of China if needed

Debby Wu

APPL Inc. has a backup plan if the U.S.-China trade war gets out of hand.

The Cupertino, Calif.-based company's primary manufacturing partner has enough capacity to make all iPhones bound for the U.S. outside of China if necessary, according to a senior executive at Hon Hai Precision Industry Co. The Taiwanese contract manufacturer now makes most of the smartphones in the Chinese mainland.

China is a crucial cog in Apple's business, the origin of most of its iPhones



and iPads as well as its largest international market. But President Donald Trump has threatened Beijing with new tariffs

on about USD300 billion worth of Chinese goods, an act that would escalate tensions dramatically while levying a punitive tax

on Apple's most profitable product.

Hon Hai, known also as Foxconn, is the American giant's most important manufacturing partner. It will fully support Apple if it needs to adjust its production as the U.S.-Chinese trade spat gets grimmer and more unpredictable, board nominee and semiconductor division chief Young Liu told an investor briefing in Taipei yesterday.

"Twenty-five percent of our production capacity is outside of China and we can help Apple respond to its needs in the U.S. market," said Liu, adding

that investments are now being made in India for Apple. "We have enough capacity to meet Apple's demand."

Apple has not given Hon Hai instructions to move production out of China, but it is capable of moving lines elsewhere according to customers' needs, Liu added. The company will respond swiftly and rely on localized manufacturing in response to the trade war, just as it foresaw the need to build a base in the U.S. state of Wisconsin two years ago, he said.

It's unclear if India will ever become a major production base for Apple's marquee device. Foxconn is now running quality tests for the iPhone Xr series there and plans to begin mass production at a facility in the suburbs

of Chennai. Older models are already assembled at a Wistron plant in Bangalore.

Foxconn has also agreed to build a 13,000-worker facility in Wisconsin in exchange for more than \$4.5 billion in government incentives. But that project has since come under criticism for low-paying jobs, sudden dismissals and ever-changing goals. Yesterday, executives reaffirmed that employment goal, saying construction remained on schedule and that it will hire as many as 2,000 Americans by the end of 2020.

It will also start making networking and server products for the U.S. market by the end of next year, on top of LCDs starting next year, Liu said. **Bloomberg**

New Zealand court stops man from being extradited to China

Nick Perry, Wellington

A New Zealand court yesterday stopped a man accused of killing a woman in Shanghai a decade ago from being extradited to China, at least for now, due to concerns he could be tortured.

The long-running case represents the first time China has attempted to extradite a suspect from New Zealand, and the Court of Appeal said the issues in the case were difficult. It concluded torture is illegal in China but remains widespread in its criminal justice system.

The court ruled New Zealand Justice Minister Andrew Little must reconsider whether Kyung Yup Kim should be extradited to China, where he faces one count of intentional homicide.

The ruling comes at a time that Hong Kong is considering a bill that would allow suspects in the semi-autonomous territory to be extradited to mainland China (more on p8-9). The proposal has prompted hundreds of thousands of people to take to the streets in the largest protests there in at least a decade.

Critics believe the legislation would risk Hong Kong residents, who were promised they could maintain greater freedoms after the former British colony's handover to China in 1997, being entrapped in China's opaque judicial system.

New Zealand doesn't have a formal extradition agreement with China and the case is con-



sidered an important precedent.

According to court documents, Kim is a Korean citizen who moved to New Zealand 30 years ago with his family when he was aged 14. He is accused of killing a 20-year-old woman, Pei Yun Chen, in Shanghai in 2009. Chi-

nese police say they have forensic and circumstantial evidence linking him to the crime.

Kim claims he has a defense to the charge but won't get a fair trial in China.

Kim was arrested in 2011 and spent five years in New Zealand

jails as his extradition case proceeded before he was released on bail.

In its judgment, the court found that China conceals torture so it's hard to monitor and that there are substantial disincentives for anybody who is detained

there to report torture. It said that there is a cultural shift away from torture in China.

"Nevertheless, torture remains widespread and confessions obtained through torture are regularly admitted in evidence," the court found in its 99-page judgment.

China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said yesterday that Beijing attaches "great importance to the protection and promotion of human rights."

■ The court found that China conceals torture so it's hard to monitor and that there are substantial disincentives for anybody who is detained there to report torture

"The Chinese judicial system effectively guarantees various legal rights of the criminal suspects, and the achievements we have made in terms of human rights protection in the judicial field are there for all to see," he said at a regular news briefing.

He said it was important to "uphold justice for the victims."

"We hope that New Zealand can handle it in a fair manner and extradite Kim back to China as soon as possible," Geng said. **AP**

Philippines to tighten rules for foreigners amid Chinese influx

Andreo Calanzo

THE Philippines will tighten rules for foreign workers as more Chinese nationals enter the Southeast Asian nation to take up jobs.

Along with a permit from the Labor Department, foreign workers will now also need a working visa and a tax number, President Rodrigo Duterte's spokesman Salvador Panelo said in a statement yesterday. Agencies

agreed to the new requirements at a meeting with Duterte on Monday night, Panelo said.

More than half of the 45,000 work permits issued by the Labor Department in 2017 were given to Chinese nationals, according to the agency's latest available data. The number of Chinese workers who secured permits doubled in 2016 to 18,000 when Duterte assumed the presidency and fostered friend-

lier ties with Beijing.

The tighter rules will be imposed despite Duterte's directive last year to go easy on illegal Chinese workers as Filipinos also work abroad without proper permits. The Finance Department is also targeting Chinese workers in the Philippine online gaming industry in an effort to secure an estimated USD423 million in uncollected taxes.

Bloomberg

Regulators suspend popular financial news app

WALLSTREETCN.COM, a popular financial news app in China, said Monday it was suspended by regulators.

The company has taken its app and website offline to make changes to comply with laws and regulations, according to a statement on its Weibo account, which has almost three million followers. It will strengthen self-inspection, improve management, and try to bring the app back online as soon as possible, it said.

The app and website became inacces-



sible earlier Monday without an official explanation, causing confusion among its users. The blackout comes after news sites including the Washington Post and the Guardian were blocked in China last week, according to a tweet from Greatfire.

org, an organization that tracks censorship in China. The Bloomberg News website is also blocked. Wallstreetcn.com has quickly become one of the leading financial news providers in China. It was founded in Shanghai in 2013, according to

a LinkedIn posting.

The app offered quick finance news coverage which was helpful to traders, according to Meng Huan, a portfolio manager at private fund Yunhan Capital. The app was free and the company also provided seminars and lectures that are useful to investors, she said.

In March, its parent company was fined by regulators in Shanghai for publishing news without appropriate licenses and for "disturbing" the order of online news broadcasting, according to local media reports later confirmed by the Cyberspace Administration of China. **Bloomberg**

SOUTH KOREA

Agencies can't confirm Kim brother as CIA source

SOUTH Korean agencies said yesterday they could not confirm a report that the half brother of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was a U.S. intelligence source and had traveled to Malaysia to meet his CIA contact before being assassinated there in 2017.

Officials at South Korea's National Intelligence Service and Unification Ministry, which oversees ties with North Korea, said they couldn't confirm Monday's report by The Wall Street Journal, which attributed the details to an unidentified "person knowledgeable about the matter."

It's extremely difficult for outside governments and media to verify information about North Korea and members of its secretive ruling family because Pyongyang closely watches visitors and enforces a stringent information blockade on its citizens. Outsi-



Kim Jong Nam

de media have a checkered history of relying on sources purporting to reveal secret information about the North that's later proven incorrect or incomplete.

While Kim Jong Nam spent much of his life abroad after falling out of favor with his family, he was constantly aware of the monitoring presence of Pyongyang and obsessed by fears that he would get assassinated, South Korean officials have said.

Following his death, the NIS told South Korean lawmakers that North Korea had tried for several years to kill him and that he sent a letter to Kim Jong Un in 2012 begging for the lives of himself and his family.

The Journal said Kim Jong Nam met on several occasions with CIA operatives, but also that many details of his relationship with the agency remain unclear.

Messages left with the CIA weren't immediately returned.

Kim Jong Nam was killed on Feb. 13, 2017, when two young women smeared VX nerve agent on his face at a Kuala Lumpur International Airport terminal.

Murder charges were dropped against the women earlier this year. They had been accused of colluding with four North Koreans who prosecutors said had fled the country the day of the attack.

Lawyers for the women have said they were pawns in a political assassination with clear links to the North Korean Embassy in Kuala Lumpur. The U.S. and South Korea, too have blamed North Korea, but Malaysian officials never officially accused Pyongyang of involvement.

Kim Jong Nam was the eldest son in the current generation of North Korea's ruling family and could have been seen as a threat to Kim Jong Un's rule. AP

THAILAND

Tycoon gets additional year in prison in poaching case

Pitcha Dangprasith, Bangkok

A Thai construction tycoon yesterday was sentenced to an additional one year in prison for bribing a park ranger in relation to a high-profile case of poaching endangered animals in a wildlife sanctuary last year.

A Bangkok court said in a statement that it sentenced Premchai Karnasuta, the president of Italian-Thai Development PLC, for attempting to bribe the sanctuary's chief ranger, who had arrested him, to let him go free.

In February last year, Premchai and his company's employees were found with guns and the carcasses of a black panther and other animals in the sanctuary where they had set up a camp to hunt animals.

Premchai was sentenced to 16 months in prison for possessing the carcass of an endangered Kajij pheasant and firearms in public areas. He was released on bail.

In March, three other companions of Premchai were found guilty of possessing the panther carcass. Only one defendant was found guilty of hunting in the wildlife sanctuary, and he and Premchai were fined USD63,132.

However, Premchai was not found guilty of possessing the black panther carcass.

Premchai was released on bail shortly after yesterday's ruling while he appeals the case. AP

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HUMAN RIGHTS

Group locates North Korean execution sites

Kim Tong-Hyung, Seoul

A human rights group said yesterday it has identified hundreds of spots where witnesses claim North Korea carried out public executions and extrajudicial state killings as part of an arbitrary and aggressive use of the death penalty that is meant to intimidate its citizens.

The Seoul-based Transitional Justice Working Group said its research was based on interviews with 610 North Korean defectors conducted over four years who helped locate the sites with satellite imagery.

The group didn't reveal the exact locations of the 323 sites because it's worried that North Korea will tamper with them, but said 267 of them were located in two northeastern provinces near the border with China, the area where most of the defectors who participated in the study came from.

North Korea's public executions tend to happen near rivers, in fields and on hills, and also at marketplaces and school grounds — places where residents and family members of those sentenced are often forced to attend the killings, the report said.

The group also said it documented three sites where people died while in detention and 25 sites where the dead were allegedly dispo-

sed of by the state. It said it also found official locations that may have documents or other evidence related to the killings.

The Associated Press could not independently verify the report, and the group acknowledged that its findings weren't definite because it doesn't have direct access to North Korea and cannot visit the sites defectors told it about. Ethan Hee-Seok Shin, one of the report's authors, also said interviews with defectors suggest that public executions in North Korea are becoming less frequent, although it's unclear whether that's because more people are being executed in secret.

South Korea's Korea Institute for National Unification, a state-sponsored think tank, expressed similar views on its annual white paper on North Korea's human rights released last week. The institute said the North still uses public executions to provoke fear and control the behavior of its citizens, particularly in city and border areas where crimes are more prevalent.

The Transitional Justice Working Group is a nongovernment organization founded by human rights advocates and researchers from South Korea and four other countries. The group said the new report was made possible by funding from the Washington-based National

Endowment for Democracy, which is funded by the U.S. Congress.

North Korea didn't immediately respond to the report, but the nation bristles at outside criticism of its human rights record and claims negative assessments are part of U.S.-led pressure campaigns meant to tarnish the image of its leadership and destroy the country's political system. In a report to the United Nations Human Rights Council in May, North Korea said it "consistently maintains the principle of ensuring scientific accuracy, objectivity and impartiality, as well as protecting human rights in dealing with criminal cases."

A 2014 United Nations report on North Korea's human rights conditions, however, said state authorities carry out executions, "with or without trial, publicly or secretly," in response to political and other crimes that are often not among the most serious offenses. While public executions were more common in the 1990s, North Korea continues to carry them out for the purpose of instilling fear in the general population, the report said.

The new report said its findings show arbitrary executions and extrajudicial killings under state custody have continued under the rule of young leader Kim Jong Un despite international criti-

cism over how North Korea supposedly applies the death penalty without due judicial process.

Since assuming leadership in 2011, Kim has shown a brutal side while consolidating his power, executing a slew of members of the North Korean old guard, including his uncle Jang Seong Thaek, who was convicted of treason, and senior officials accused of slighting his leadership.

Some 267 of them were located in two northeastern provinces near the border with China

Following a provocative run in nuclear and missile tests, Kim initiated diplomacy with Washington and Seoul in 2018 in attempting to leverage his arsenal for economic and security benefits. But North Korea's human rights issues have so far been sidelined in the summitry between Kim, President Donald Trump, and South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

Almost all of the state killings documented in the report were public executions by firing squad. Public executions in most cases are preceded by brief "trials" on the spot where charges are announced and sentences are issued without legal counsel for the accused, the report said.

Criminal charges for executions commonly cited by in-

terviewees included violent crimes such as murder, rape and assault, but also property crimes like stealing copper or cows and brokering defections. With a lack of due process in the North's judicial system, it's unclear whether the charges would actually match the act of the accused, the report said.

Bodies of people killed by state agents aren't usually returned to the family and are often dumped in mountainous areas, buried in the ground without markers, or thrown into a gorge or ravine, the report said.

Authorities often force family members of those sentenced and residents, including children, to watch public executions. Some defectors reported incidents in the mid-2010s where guards used metal detectors to find and confiscate mobile phones from witnesses to prevent them from recording the events, which showed the government's concern about information on the public executions getting outside the country, the report said.

The rights group said the information it gathered will be crucial if a political transition in North Korea allows for the identification of victims, the return of remains to families and investigations into human rights abuses committed by the government.

The group released an earlier report in 2017 based on a smaller number of interviews. It said the new report is better sourced, based on accounts of direct witnesses or those who heard from direct witnesses and were able to provide geographic information of the sites. AP

HUNGARY

Bodies recovered as sunken Danube boat is raised

Pablo Gorondi, Budapest

SEVERAL bodies were recovered from the wreckage of a tour boat that sank in the Danube River as it was lifted out of the river yesterday in the Hungarian capital.

A huge floating crane, barges and rescue personnel were working early in the morning at Budapest's Margit Bridge, where the Hableany (Mermaid) sightseeing boat sank May 29 after colliding with a much larger river cruise ship.

The top of the Hableany was visible, as life jackets floated in the boat's hull.

Divers were searching the boat for more victims. Rescuers carried away four body bags on stretchers to a small police cruise boat waiting nearby.



Nineteen South Korean tourists and a Hungarian crewman have previously been confirmed dead, with eight people still missing. Seven people were rescued after the nighttime collision amid heavy rain.

The lift is planned in several stages, depending, for example, on the condition of the hull as the tour boat is raised off the

river floor and the discovery of bodies in the wreckage.

The plan detailed Monday by rescuers is to lift the Hableany with the floating crane and place it on a long barge. The boat will then be handed over to police investigating the collision.

Efforts to search for the missing victims of the accident and to raise the

Hableany have been hindered by the Danube's high springtime water levels — which are expected to fall significantly over the coming days in Budapest — and the river's fast flow, as well as near-zero visibility under water.

The captain of the other ship in the collision, the Viking Sigyn, has been under arrest since June 1, suspected of endangering water transport leading to a deadly mass accident.

The Viking Sigyn, which left Budapest less than 48 hours after the collision with the Hableany, is back in Hungary on a scheduled trip and docked at the town of Visegrad, north of Budapest. Police said they carried out another inspection on the ship on Monday. AP

Greece: 7 dead after migrant boat capsizes off Lesbos

A boat carrying dozens of migrants to a Greek island from the nearby Turkish coast capsized yesterday, leaving seven people dead, including two children.

Greece's coast guard said 57 people had been rescued, while seven people — two girls, four women and a man — were pulled from the water unconscious and later confirmed dead.

A search and rescue operation in the area off the eastern Aegean island of Lesbos was called off after all those on board had been accounted for, the coast guard said. There were no further passengers reported missing.

It was not immediately clear why the boat capsized. The number of people heading to the Greek islands from the nearby Turkish coast has decreased significantly since the height of the refugee crisis in 2015, when thousands would arrive each day. But hundreds of people continue to make the treacherous journey.

Although the distance from Turkey is short, smugglers often use unseaworthy boats and pack them way beyond capacity, leading to many sinking or capsizing.

Under an agreement reached between Turkey and the European Union designed to stem migrant flows into Europe, those arriving on Greek islands from Turkey remain in camps on the island. They face possible deportation unless they successfully apply for asylum in Greece.

The long and bureaucratic asylum application procedure has led to severe overcrowding and poor conditions in many of the camps. AP

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what's ON



MGM PRESENTS: HUA YUAN EXHIBITION
TIME: 24 hours
UNTIL: September 3, 2019
VENUE: MGM Cotai
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 3333

STROLLING AND FEELING: WATERCOLOUR
PAINTINGS OF LAI IENG
TIME: 10am-7pm (No admittance after 6:30pm;
closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: June 16, 2019
VENUE: 3rd Floor, Gallery of Exhibitions 2,
Macau Museum of Art
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

2019 BRAND STORY - MACAU ORIGINAL
FASHION EXHIBITION II
TIME: 10am-8pm (Closed on Mondays, open on
public holidays)
UNTIL: June 23, 2019
VENUE: Macau Fashion Gallery
ADMISSION: Free admission
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

STAMPS AROUND THE WORLD -
LIECHTENSTEIN, KINGDOM OF STAMPS
TIME: 9am-5:30pm (Closed on public holidays)
UNTIL: August 31, 2019
VENUE: Temporary Gallery, Communications
Museum
ADMISSION: MOP10
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2871 8063

ONENESS: CALLIGRAPHY BY PROFESSOR JAO
TSUNG-I
TIME: 10am-6pm (No admission after 5:30pm,
closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: September 30, 2019
VENUE: Jao Tsung-I Academy
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRY: (853) 8598 6718

Offbeat

COLORADO WILL LEAVE HOUSE-SIZED
BOULDER ALONG HIGHWAY

A boulder the size of a house that tumbled across and gouged a southwestern Colorado state highway last month will stay put. State officials plan to rebuild the highway next to it, saving taxpayers money and possibly creating a tourist attraction.

Democratic Gov. Jared Polis said Tuesday that Colorado will save about USD200,000 by not blasting the 8.5 million pound (3.9 million kilogram) boulder. He said people will also have the opportunity to see the boulder dubbed "Memorial Rock," which fell on Memorial Day weekend.

It was the largest rock in a rockslide on Colorado Highway 145 near the town of Dolores on May 24 and ended up just off the road.

The Colorado Department of Transportation says the total cost of fixing the road, adding a guardrail in front of the boulder and cleanup will be about \$1.3 million.

TV canal macau



| | |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| 13:00 | TDM News (Repetição) |
| 13:30 | Telejornal RTPi (Diferido) |
| 15:00 | Agua de Mar |
| 15:45 | Zig Zag |
| 16:20 | Santos de Portugal |
| 16:50 | Quem Quer Ser Milionario |
| 17:45 | Palcos Agora |
| 18:15 | Amor Maior (Repetição) |
| 19:00 | TDM Entrevista (Repetição) |
| 19:35 | Os Nossos Dias Sr.2 |
| 20:30 | Telejornal |
| 21:15 | Network Negócios |
| 22:00 | LiteraturAqui |
| 22:30 | Amor Maior |
| 23:15 | TDM News |
| 23:50 | Resumo Qualificação EURO 2020 |
| 00:10 | 5 Para a Meia-Noite |
| 01:50 | Telejornal (Repetição) |
| 02:35 | RTPi Directo |

cinema



CINETEATRO

06 - 12 Jun

X-MEN: DARK PHOENIX

ROOM 1

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

Director: Simon Kinberg

Starring: James McAvoy, Michael Fassbender,

Jennifer Lawrence

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 113min

GODZILLA II: KING OF THE MONSTERS

ROOM 1

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

Director: Michael Dougherty

Starring: Kyle Chandler, Vera Farmiga, Millie Bobby Brown

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 131min



DOG'S JOURNEY

ROOM 2

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

Director: Gail Mancuso

Starring: Josh Gad, Dennis Quaid, Kathryn Prescott

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min



ALADDIN

ROOM 3

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

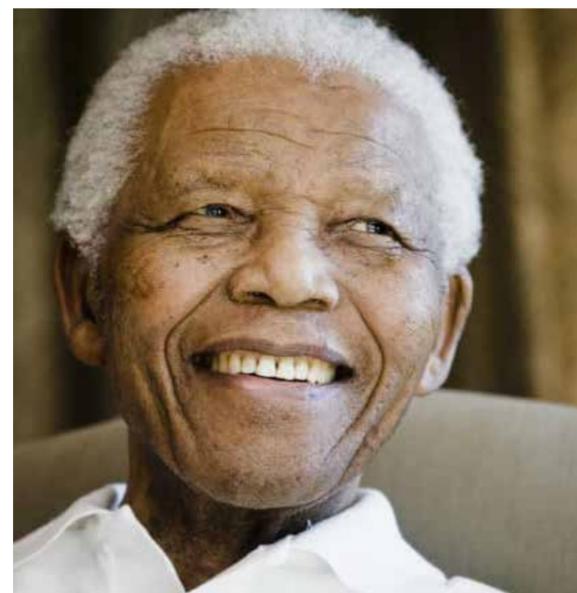
Director: Guy Ritchie

Starring: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

this day in history

1964 NELSON MANDELA
JAILED FOR LIFE

The leader of the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa, Nelson Mandela, has been jailed for life for sabotage.

Seven other defendants, including the former secretary-general of the banned African National Congress (ANC), Walter Sisulu, were also given life prison sentences.

Crowds gathered silently outside the court building in Pretoria's Church Square waiting for the verdict to be handed down. Hundreds of police patrolled the area.

The Rivonia trial - named after the suburb of Johannesburg where several of the defendants were arrested - began eight months ago, with Mandela, 46, and his co-defendants proudly confessing their guilt to plotting to destroy the South African state by sabotage.

As members of the ANC - the main African nationalist movement - they have campaigned for an end to the oppression of black South Africans.

But the movement was banned in 1960 following the Sharpeville massacre and campaigners decided they had no choice but to resort to violent means.

Mandela - a lawyer by training - told the court earlier: "I do not deny that I planned sabotage. I did not plan it in a spirit of recklessness nor because I have any love of violence. I planned it as a result of a calm and sober assessment of the political situation that had arisen after many years of tyranny, exploitation and oppression of my people by the whites."

His co-accused included: Walter Sisulu, Dennis Goldberg, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Moseleli, Andrew Mlangeni - all ANC officials and Ahmed Kathrada, the former leader of the South African Indian Congress.

Lawyer for the defendants, Harold Hansen QC said: "These accused represent the struggle of their people for equal rights. Their views represent the struggle of the African people for the attainment of equal rights for all races in this country."

But the judge, President Quartus de Wet, said he was not convinced by their claim to have been motivated by a desire to alleviate the grievances of the African people in this country.

Judge de Wet said: "People who organise revolution usually plan to take over the government as well through personal ambition."

However, he stopped short of the imposing the supreme penalty of death.

The convicted men were cheered as they left court in a police lorry. The crowd was dispersed without any serious incident.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

This was the second time Nelson Mandela had been tried for high treason - in 1956 he was charged but after a four year trial the case was dropped. There were demonstrations in Britain following the 1964 sentencing. A world petition calling for the prisoners' release was handed to the United Nations Secretary General.

Nelson Mandela spent most of his 27 years behind bars serving hard labour in Robben Island prison off Cape Town.

He was released in 1990, jointly awarded the Nobel peace prize with President FW de Klerk in 1993 and elected South Africa's president in the country's first multi-racial elections held in 1994.

He stepped down in favour of Govan Mbeki's son Thabo in 1999 but continues to travel the world campaigning for peace.

Walter Sisulu died at the age of 90 in May 2003.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Your ability to get stuff done is propelling you forward today...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You are cluing in to something that has been eluding you for a long time — years, maybe.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your thinking is a bit muddled today — but maybe you can work that to your advantage!

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Don't worry about getting tired — you should be able to plow through all your work without breaking a sweat.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You feel a bit more low-key and relaxed than usual, and that might not fit with the high-stress people who surround you.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Organization is your middle name, and you should be able to whip your people into shape without any trouble at all.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Even if the big picture seems to be too optimistic, you can still enjoy the small successes that come your way today.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 If you're a parent, you need to heed today's lesson carefully: There are limits to control.

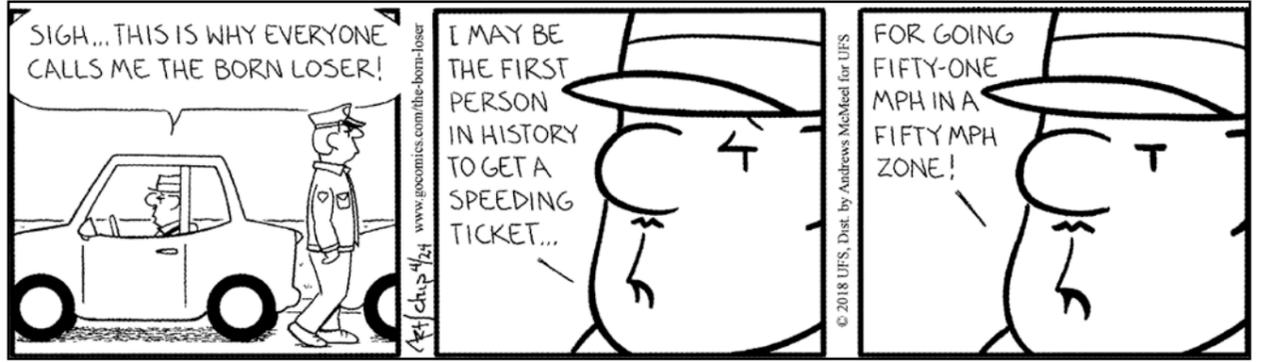
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You're not always the most flexible person in the world, but today you need to extend yourself a bit.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You feel incredible — which could be good or bad. If you're in the dumps, take heart in the knowledge that the feeling can't last long.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Animals have more appeal today — their way of living in the moment is a great lesson for you now.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Try not to hold back with your feelings — though that may be impossible anyway!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table for China and World locations, including temperature ranges and conditions.

CROSSWORDS

CROSSWORD clues: ACROSS: 1-Cavalry sword; 6- Sales pitch; 11- Kilmer of "The Saint"; 14- "The Zoo Story" playwright; 15- Penned; 16- Keats work; 17- Seventh sign; 18- Consumed; 19- Overtime cause; 20- South American ruminant; 22- Avarice; 24- Artist; 28- Womb; 29- Wanders away; 30- Main male; 32- Pronto!; 33- Circus sights; 35- Immerses; 39- Letterman rival; 40- Put two and two together; 41- Home to most people; 42- Letters; 43- Apparel; 45- Ancient Semitic for "Lord"; 46- Levels; 48- Surfing, perhaps; 50- Institution for teaching; 53- Liberty; 54- Maine college town; 55- Castle water pits; 57- Jogged; 58- Speak in a slow manner; 60- Heat unit; 65- Half a fly; 66- Seeps; 67- Starbucks order; 68- Pompous sort; 69- Corpulent; 70- Breed of duck revered for its feathers; DOWN: 1- Gal of song; 2- "Rope-a-dope" boxer; 3- Consumer protection org.; 4- Ballad ending; 5- Land; 6- Vow; 7- Baby carriage; 8- Very small quantity; 9- Tours season; 10- Extent; 11- Elector; 12- Farewell; 13- West Yorkshire city; 21- we forget...; 23- Legible; 24- Sacred song; 25- Uncertain; 26- Tabriz resident; 27- Former gold coin of France; 28- FedEx alternative; 30- El Misti's range; 31- Former Ford; 34- Acquire through merit; 36- Let me repeat...; 37- Device with 88 keys; 38- "The Crucible" setting; 43- Singer Shannon; 44- Category; 47- Black magic; 49- Get cozy; 50- Somewhat, informally; 51- Gross; 52- Sharpens; 53- Wrong; 55- Labyrinth; 56- Has a mortgage; 59- Steal from; 61- Yes, in Yokohama; 62- Airport abbr.; 63- Numbered rd.; 64- Debussy subject;

Yesterday's solution crossword grid with filled-in words.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IAM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



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FOOTBALL

Teenager João Félix drawing comparisons to Ronaldo

Tales Azzoni, Porto

WHEN João Félix first found himself in the same locker room as Cristiano Ronaldo, he said it felt like being in a video game. “It was weird. I had never seen him live, so close to me like that,” the Portuguese teenage sensation said. “I told my friends later that it looked like I was in career mode in PlayStation. He looked like a video-game figure.”

Still wearing braces and sporting a child-like look, Félix doesn't even remember what Ronaldo told him when he arrived.

“I was just thinking that I was standing there by his side,” the 19-year-old Félix told Benfica TV. “It was strange, but it was a dream come true to be with him in the same locker room.”

Not long after that first encounter, Félix was making his international debut with Portugal's national team, playing alongside Ronaldo. A few days later, they were celebrating an international title together at the inaugural UEFA Nations League.

Félix was 3 years old when Ronaldo made his debut with Portugal's main squad at the age of 18. Now the talented youngster is touted as Ronaldo's successor as the country's top soccer star.

“Cristiano Ronaldo is an example for everybody,” Félix said. “We always have to look up to him.”

Félix has been drawing comparisons to the 34-year-old Ronaldo since making a rapid rise through the youth squads of Benfica. He debuted with the first team in August and



Cristiano Ronaldo gestures with Joao Felix (right) during a training session at the Bessa stadium in Porto

quickly established himself as a regular starter for the Portuguese champions.

Extremely skillful and a gifted scorer, Félix was the youngest player to appear in Benfica's “B” team, at 16. He was also the youngest to score at the team's Stadium of Light, at 18, and the youngest to score a hat trick in the Europa League, at 19, after the competition was re-branded in 2009.

Portuguese media said his figures of eight goals and three assists in his first 1,000 minutes with the main squad were better than those achieved by Ronaldo, Neymar and Kylian Mbappe at the same stage of their careers.

Félix finished his first season with Benfica with 20 goals, including one in the match in which the club clinched the Portuguese league title last month.

His impressive rise excited fans and quickly turned him into one of the most high-profile prospects for the upcoming transfer window.

With several top European

clubs showing interest in signing the youngster, Benfica acted quickly to extend the youngster's contract until 2023 and doubled his reported buyout clause from 60 million euros (USD68 million) to 120 million euros (\$136 million), the biggest ever employed by a Portuguese club.

There are reports that clubs such as Manchester United and Manchester City, along with Juventus, Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid, are considering making a move for the young Portuguese forward this summer. Benfica has hinted it won't consider selling Félix for anything less than the value in the buyout clause.

Félix made his international debut as a starter in Portugal's 3-1 win over Switzerland in the Nations League semifinals last week. He had a lackluster performance in a match in which Ronaldo thrived, scoring a hat trick that included decisive late goals and reassured him as the nation's biggest star.

“My first reaction was to put my hands in my head,” Félix

said after Ronaldo's performance. “I had never seen a hat trick by Ronaldo live.”

Félix's debut came at the same stadium — the Estádio do Dragão — where Ronaldo scored his first goal with the national team in 2004. It was also the same venue where Lionel Messi made his first appearance with Barcelona's main squad in a friendly against Porto in 2003.

Félix began playing with Porto as a kid before moving to rival Benfica when he was about 15 years old. Portuguese media said he made the move because some at Porto deemed him to be too small and fragile.

Félix's height is listed at 1.8 meters (5-foot-11), but he still looks slim and not nearly as strong as someone like Ronaldo. He has great field vision and is capable of nifty moves with the ball at his feet, but doesn't have the same raw strength to overpower opponents like Ronaldo.

Some in Portugal fear that instead of turning into the next Ronaldo, Félix could become another Renato Sanches, the midfielder who was highly praised a few years ago but disappointed after leaving as a teenager to play for Bayern Munich.

Most Portuguese fans are hopeful, though, that Félix can live up to expectations and one day fill the shoes of Ronaldo.

“It's always hard to compare anyone to Ronaldo, and it's hard to imagine the national team without him,” 26-year-old Portugal fan Marta Fernandes said. “But one day he will stop playing and we hope that sometime in the future Félix can be a worthy successor.” AP

OLYMPICS

Tokyo 2020: Faster, Stronger, but not Higher

THE famous Olympic motto is Faster, Higher, Stronger. Next year in Tokyo, it could be shortened to only “Faster and Stronger.” Higher is out.

That was part of a warning yesterday from Toshiro Muto, the chief executive of the Tokyo Olympics.

Cannabis has been legalized in some parts of the world, but Muto reminded potential visitors to the games that the substance is against the law in Japan.

Muto said at a news conference that at least one member of the executive board brought up the issue at a meeting.

“There are countries and some regions around the world that have relaxed rules recently,” Muto said, speaking through an interpreter. “Unfortunately, the use of cannabis constitutes a violation of law and that needs to be thoroughly communicated.”

Muto said the issue was not on the executive board's formal agenda but came from a concerned member.

“The comment from the member is that it's important that we inform all the participants that use of cannabis is prohibited by law in Japan,” Muto said.

Cannabis is among banned substances listed by the World Anti-Doping Agency for athletes at next year's Tokyo Olympics.

Muto said Japan would be strong in enforcing anti-doping measure at the games, which open next July.

Japan bans cannabis, but it does have relatively lax anti-smoking rules that allow smoking in many Tokyo restaurants and bars.

However, Tokyo Olympic organizers have enacted tougher anti-smoking rules for games venues. Smoking and the use of vaping devices will be banned at all indoor and outdoor Olympic and Paralympic venues, plus within all perimeter areas of the Tokyo Games. AP



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opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



DEMENTIA IN MACAU

A few years ago I had the very sad experience of not being recognized by an old family friend who had been institutionalized because of dementia. This larger than life man, whom I had admired from a young age for his charisma and intellect, was just a hollow shell who did not even recognize his own children and who could not safely live alone.

Dementia is the collective term used to describe neurological disorders that lead to progressively impaired brain function. Many disorders lead to dementia but the most well known is Alzheimer's disease which involves the progressive degeneration and death of brain cells leading to declining thinking, behavioral and social skills that disrupts a person's ability to function independently. The exact causes of Alzheimer's disease aren't fully understood, but at its core are abnormally functioning brain proteins that disrupt the work of brain cells (neurons) and unleash a series of toxic events. Neurons are damaged, lose connections to each other and eventually die. Generally, dementia is irreversible and largely non-treatable.

Most dementia is age related so that as people live longer they are more likely to have impaired brain function. 50+ years ago dementia was largely unheard of because people did not live long enough for it to surface, but it is now becoming more and more common. For example, around 250 people/day are being diagnosed with dementia in Australia and they project that this figure will rise to over 650/day by 2056. A recent Australian report also estimates that it will cost AU\$37 billion/year to care for the estimated 1.1 million dementia sufferers in Australia in 2056.

Prorated for population, this suggests that 5+ cases of dementia are now being diagnosed daily in Macau and that we might have 25,000 cases here by 2050, and each might cost MOP200,000/year to care for. I do not believe that Macau is prepared at all for this emerging problem.

Modern demographic trends – people living longer, families fragmenting so that multiple generations no longer live close together, etc – mean that dementia will increasingly become a community problem in the future. People with mild dementia need a lot of supervision, like children, and so can place a heavy burden on families caring for them. Severe dementia sufferers often do not have adequate brain function to live independently and are mostly put into residential care where their quality of life can often be compromised. Even now, over 50% of the people in elderly residential care in Australia suffer from dementia, and this proportion will rise in the future.

In The Netherlands they are experimenting to develop much better care facilities for dementia sufferers based on what they call the Hogeweyk concept. Facilities following this concept mirror the wider community so that they look like villages with separate "houses" with rooms for 8-10 dementia sufferers in each, and with a central square, a supermarket, local shops, cinema, etc so it seems to be a normal village. Moreover, the support staff dress in "street clothes" and act as helpful friends rather than as doctors and nurses. The idea is that the dementia sufferers do not realize they are institutionalized and continue to live their "normal" lives. The cost of care is not much different, but the prison-like institutional feel is totally eliminated to dramatically improve the quality of life of the residents. This approach is starting to find favor in other countries (Australia included) to lift the quality of care.

Through my previous work I visited several residential care facilities in Macau for the mentally and physically disabled and the elderly. Generally, while the management and care staff in these facilities try their best, the facilities themselves are not well designed or thought out and they are largely unaware of world trends and best practices. No Hogeweyk villages in Macau, which needs to change!

THE DAILY HIV PREVENTION PILL URGED FOR HEALTHY PEOPLE AT RISK

New recommendations urge doctors to prescribe a daily prevention pill to people at high risk of HIV infection.

Studies show Truvada cuts the chances that someone who's still healthy becomes infected from risky sex or injection drug use. But with nearly 40,000 new HIV infections each year in the U.S., only a fraction of people who could benefit are prescribed the drug for prevention.

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force says people at high risk of infection include those with an HIV-positive sexual partner, those who have sex without a condom with people at high risk of HIV, and those who inject drugs.

The recommendations were published yesterday in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Police drops drug charges against Russian journalist

Nataliya Vasilyeva, Moscow

IN a surprising turnaround, Russia's police chief yesterday dropped all charges against a prominent investigative reporter whose detention sparked public outrage and promised to go after the police officers who tried to frame the journalist as a drug-dealer.

Interior Minister Vladimir Kolokoltsev stunned the nation when he announced that drug dealing charges against Ivan Golunov have been dropped after police found "no proof of his part in a crime." Golunov is expected to be released today [Macau time].

Kolokoltsev also said that he will now ask the Russian president to dismiss two senior police officials and suspend the officers who detained the journalist. Among those who are likely to be dismissed is the anti-drugs chief of the Moscow police.

"I believe that the rights of any citizen, whatever his professional affiliation, ought to be protected," the minister said.

Golunov, who works for the independent website Meduza, had been facing drug-related charges that could put him in prison for up to 20 years.

He was stopped by poli-



Ivan Golunov, a prominent Russian investigative reporter

ce on a Moscow street on Thursday and taken into custody, where his defense team says he was beaten and denied a lawyer for more than 12 hours. He was transferred to house arrest following a public outpouring of support, including from high-profile journalists working for state-owned media.

Many have questioned the alleged evidence in the case.

In an apparent attempt to portray Golunov as a professional drug dealer, police on Friday released several photos, reportedly from the journalist's home, of what appeared to be a drugs lab. They later retracted the statement, saying that the pictures were taken elsewhere.

In a separate statement later, the police said they found cocaine at his place.

The speaker of the upper house of the Russian parliament was the first top official on Tuesday to raise concerns about the case.

Valentina Matviyenko, who is Russia's third most senior official after the president and prime minister, said that the law enforcement agencies' "mistakes and violations ... have given rise to distrust in the investigation."

"People are either being unprofessional, or sloppy, or preparing a setup," she said in comments carried by Russian news agencies. "I don't know right now what to call it." AP

US submits extradition request for WikiLeaks founder Assange

THE United States government has formally submitted an extradition request to the United Kingdom for WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, a U.S. official said yesterday.

Assange faces an 18-count indictment that accuses him of soliciting and publishing classified information and of conspiring with former Army private Chelsea Manning to crack a Defense Department computer password. That indictment, which includes Espionage Act charges, was issued by the Justice Department last month and is pending in

federal court in Alexandria, Virginia.

The extradition request had been expected ever since U.S. authorities first announced a criminal case against Assange.

The 47-year-old Assange was evicted on April 11 from the Ecuadorian Embassy in London, where he had been holed up since 2012 after Ecuador granted him political asylum. He was arrested by British police and is currently serving a 50-week sentence for jumping bail. Sweden also seeks him for questioning about an alleged rape, which Assange has denied.

Assange was initially charged with a single computer crime violation on allegations that he worked with Manning to crack a government password. Some legal experts have said the additional Espionage Act charges might slow or complicate the extradition process to the extent the United Kingdom views them as political offenses and therefore exempt from extradition.

The U.S. official spoke on condition of anonymity because the official wasn't authorized to speak publicly. AP

| Station | Air quality |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Roadside | 25-45 Good |
| High Density Residential Area | 30-50 Good |
| Ambient | 20-40 Good |

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



PAKISTAN A court handed over the country's former president to a national anti-graft body yesterday for questions regarding a multi-million dollar money laundering case. Asif Ali Zardari will be held for ten days pending investigation on corruption charges.



IRAN has revoked the press accreditation for The New York Times' correspondent based in Tehran without explanation, the newspaper reported yesterday. The revocation comes amid heightened tensions between the U.S. and Iran stemming from President Donald Trump's withdrawal from Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers a year ago.

BOTSWANA became the latest country to decriminalize gay sex yesterday in a landmark case for Africa when the High Court rejected as unconstitutional sections of the penal code punishing same-sex relations with up to seven years in prison.

GREECE A boat carrying dozens of migrants to a Greek island from the nearby Turkish coast capsized yesterday, leaving seven people dead, including two children. More on p15



VATICAN CITY The Vatican issued an official document rejecting the idea that people can choose or change their genders and insisting on the sexual "complementarity" of men and women to make babies.