



SEX SCAMMERS ARE BACK TARGETING STUDENTS

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THOUSANDS TURN OUT FOR WYNN'S CASINO OPENING

Wynn Resorts CEO Matt Maddox said he envisions Encore Boston Harbor becoming a template for the company's future

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PROTESTERS CROWD WAN CHAI SKYSCRAPER

A new demonstration called for tomorrow will try to draw the attention of world leaders attending the Group of 20 summit in Japan

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

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WORLD BRIEFS

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TRADE WAR

Chinese and U.S. trade negotiators are discussing ways to resolve disputes ahead of a meeting between Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping at the G-20 summit in Japan later this week, a Chinese official said. The sides were seeking to "consolidate the important consensus reached between the two leaders" in a telephone call last week, Wang Shouwen, a Commerce Ministry vice minister, told reporters. *More on p11*

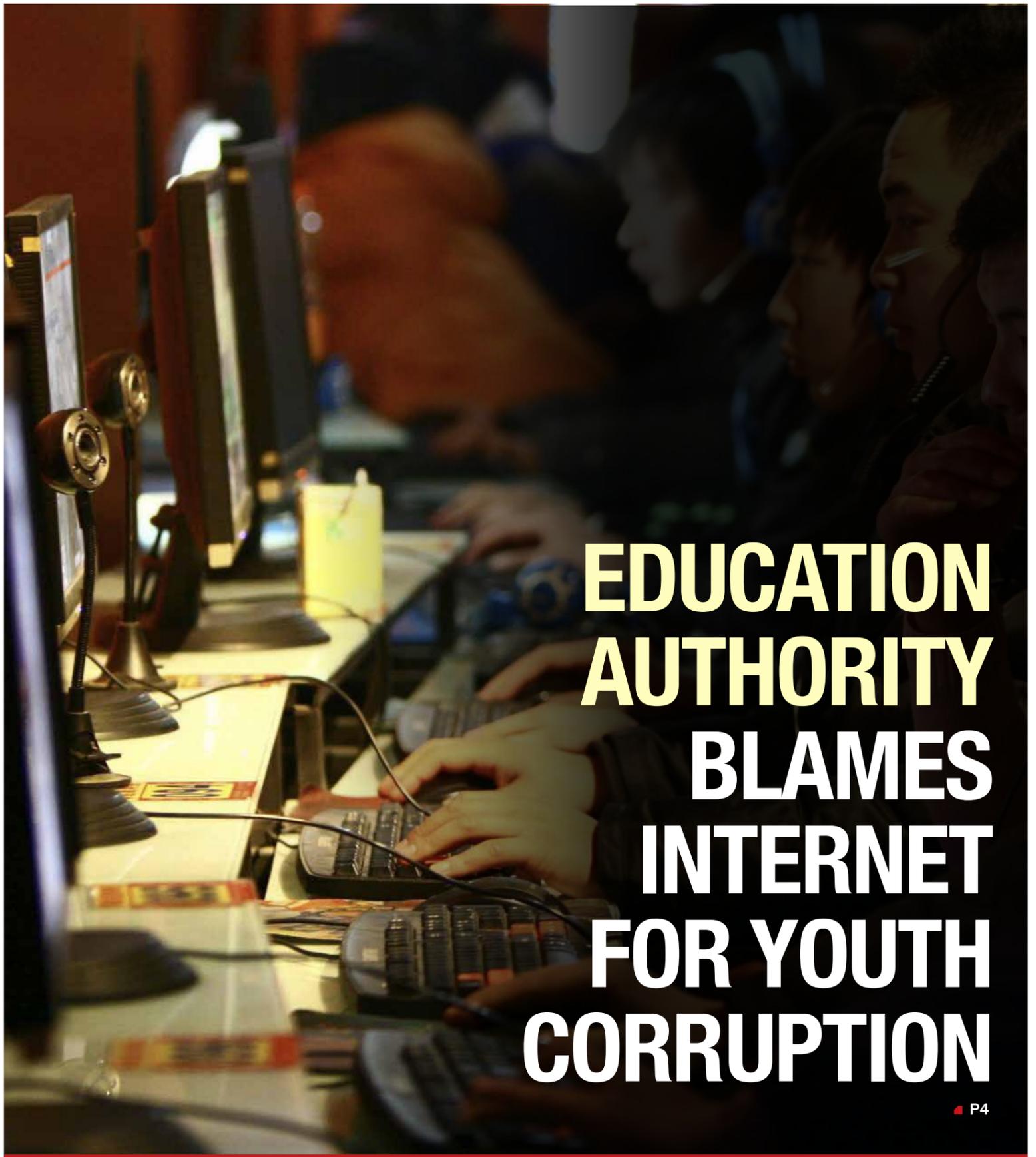
AP PHOTO



CAMBODIA

Rescuers yesterday found two survivors in the rubble of a building that collapsed two days earlier while under construction in a Cambodian beach town, killing 28 workers and injuring 26 others as they slept in the unfinished condominium that doubled as their housing.

More on backpage



EDUCATION AUTHORITY BLAMES INTERNET FOR YOUTH CORRUPTION

▲ P4

Graft buster slams Ilha Verde Hill mismanagement

▲ P3

CRIME

Local student loses 48,000 patacas in online sex scam

Julie Zhu

A local student has fallen victim to an online scam after seeking sexual services through a social network, according to the Judiciary Police (PJ).

The PJ received a report on June 21 from the local resident, who is a student in his 20s.

On June 15, the victim used a social network to search for the services of a prostitute. He successfully contacted a figure he believed to be a woman, however, the police information did not disclose the gender of the self-proclaimed woman.

Similar to several cases reported in the past, the victim believed that the suspect could provide him with sexual services but only under certain conditions. In this case, the victim had to purchase a game recharge card.

The victim later switched to another social network and reached an agreement with the suspect. He would purchase a game recharge card valued at MOP800 and in return, the suspect would provide him with sexual services.

The victim followed the terms of the agreement and sent the details of the receipt to the suspect. However, the sexual service was never provided following the purchase of the game recharge card.

In addition to the first game recharge card, the suspect requested that the victim purchase additional game recharge cards.

According to the police, the victim also received a phone call from a Mandarin-speaking man who told the victim that, in order to secure the sexual services, the victim would need to send photos of his ID card, home return



permit and bank card to the suspect.

After sending the photos, the victim was asked to purchase another game recharge card valued at more than MOP10,000. However, the suspect failed to reply to the victim concerning the sexual services again.

During the entire process, the victim purchased a total of 27 game recharge cards with a total value of MOP48,471.

Worried that his personal information might be taken advantage of in the future, the victim reported the case to the police authority.

In 2018, a 17-year-old local male student met a "female ne-

tizen" online who claimed to be able to provide sexual services in return for the purchase of a game recharge card.

In just nine days, the boy spent a total of MOP68,000 buying game recharge cards for the scammer.

OVERSTAYER ACCIDENTALLY TURNS HIMSELF IN

An overstaying non-resident accidentally "turned himself in" to the police authority after he called the police to solve a dispute between he and his friend, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) reported during yesterday's joint police press conference.

On June 21 at Praça de Luís de Camões, the suspect, who is Indian, in his 30s and named Bhupinder, called the PSP to report a quarrel between he and his friend. When police arrived at the scene and located the man, he was drunk.

Upon police inquiry, the man failed to provide his ID or travel documents. PSP officers reviewed the man's staying record and found he was overstaying in Macau. However, he told the police officer he was unaware of his overstaying status and that his employer was in the process of canceling his blue card.

The man was then transferred on the same day to the pro-

secution authority for overstaying. His girlfriend was also transferred to the prosecution authority for providing him with shelter. His girlfriend is a Filipino resident who works in Macau as a saleswoman.

LENDERS DEFRAUDED BY GAMBLERS

A group of moneylenders has been defrauded out of HKD1.9 million after contributing to a gambling activity carried out by two mainland men, according to the PJ.

The case was reported to PJ on June 21. The two suspects are Zheng, 35, an unemployed mainland man, and Liu, 34, a mainland male hairdresser.

On June 20, the two suspects, together with the victims, gathered HKD2.5 million for gambling. The two suspects provided HKD550,000 while the victims contributed the rest. After the suspects and the victims got all the money together, Zheng went to gamble under the victims' supervision.

The suspects only played two rounds. They then left the gambling table with the remaining HKD2.49 million and went to the bathroom.

While the victims waited outside the bathroom, Liu started shouting inside the casino, saying that the contribution of the money was illegal and claiming he would report the case to the police.

Concerned, the victims left the scene. Liu and Zheng then went to the casino cage to change the chips into cash, without success. The police authority was called to the scene to handle the case. One of the victims was invited to the scene to assist in the investigation.

The two suspects were transferred to the prosecution authority on the charge of fraud. The victim who returned to the scene was a Macau resident. The identity of the other victims remains unknown.

Sidónio Pais café victim of second crash in two months

Staff reporter

THE Public Security Police Force has confirmed to the Times that a rubbish collection truck crashed into an old cafeteria on Avenida de Sidónio Pais at around 3:40 a.m. on yester-

day morning.

The driver was a local resident approximately 60 years old. The driver was not injured and a test showed no traces of alcohol. Currently, the cause of the crash is suspected to be the driver failing to brake in time.

Another accident took place at the exact same location about two months ago. In the previous accident a tour bus crashed into the cafeteria. The façade of the cafeteria and the door of the bus were damaged. Some 40 passengers were trapped inside the

bus for about an hour.

A similar incident occurred almost three years ago, in which a tour bus crashed into a clinic near the back entrance of Kiang Wu Hospital. In that incident, 29 were injured and three were left in a severe condition.

Meanwhile, lawmaker Agnes Lam has said that the government of South Korea has begun mandating the installation of automatic emergency braking systems and lane departure warning systems in all vehicles starting in January of this

year. She raised the possibility of Macau following South Korea's example.

The latter issues a warning when the vehicle goes out of its lane, and the former is an assistive brake system which is widely utilized in Japan, Russia and the EU.

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Anti-corruption agency slams gov't in Ilha Verde Hill probe

MACAUS anti-corruption agency has found that two government departments violated the Urban Planning Law and the Cultural Heritage Protection Law in their conservation and planning of a land parcel at Ilha Verde Hill.

Following complaints submitted by various companies and associations in Macau, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) began an investigation into a 56,000-square-meter land plot at Ilha Verde Hill. According to the property registration and cadastral records, the parcel at Ilha Verde Hill consists of the hill itself and the adjacent areas.

The complaints initially concerned the process of title obtaining, delineation and area calculation of the land parcel, however, also covered what the complainants suspected was damage to the hill and landscape caused by poor conservation efforts. During the course of the investigation, the CCAC uncovered a pattern of public department mismanagement.

It found that, when it came to the conservation and planning of the land parcel, the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) and Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) had failed to adhere to regulations outlined in the aforementioned laws.

The CCAC objected in particular to the DSSOPT's granting of plans to construction projects before the Ilha Verde Urbanization Plan had been revised.

It said that, after the passage of the Cultural Heritage Pro-



tection Law in 2013 and the fact that Ilha Verde Hill had been classified as a site with cultural heritage value, the former Ilha Verde Urbanization Plan, drafted in 2010 and 2011, was made redundant.

Accordingly, in August 2014, the DSSOPT commenced the procedure of revising the urbanization plan. In December 2017, based on the opinions provided by the IC, the bureau revised some of the contents of the urbanization plan, which expanded the green conservation zone to the entire hill, shrank the areas in which bui-

lding is permitted and lowered the permitted maximum building height in some of the areas.

"However, the DSSOPT has never conducted public consultation on and publicized the aforesaid revisions of the Ilha Verde Urbanization Plan," noted the CCAC in a summary statement issued yesterday, and in this way failed to "obtain opinions from the Urban Planning Committee, the general public and the parties concerned in accordance with the 'principle of transparency and promotion of public participa-

tion' provided for by the Urban Planning Law."

"The practice of approving projects before reviewing the urbanization plan is simply 'putting the cart before the horse' and will inevitably raise doubts about whether or not some acts are intentionally hasty," concluded the CCAC. "It will also seriously undermine the effectiveness of the urbanization plan."

Meanwhile, the anti-corruption agency accused the IC of being complacent in its inspection works of the land parcel, saying that in a recent case, the

bureau should have urged the mandatory inspection with the respective costs borne by the owner of the property.

"In the CCAC's opinion, as the IC is vested with the authority to take adequate and effective means by the law, it should proactively motivate and even carry out the relevant repair works and faithfully shoulder the statutory responsibility for safeguarding the cultural heritage. It should not allow Ilha Verde Hill, the convent and the other structures there to remain haphazard and in such disrepair." **DB**

Sulu Sou wants police-demonstrator mechanism

LAWMAKER Sulu Sou has asked the government to establish a specific communication mechanism between demonstration organizers and police authorities for future demonstrations, in order to avoid having the police authority add sudden restrictions to the activities of the demonstration.

In his written inquiry to the government, Sou accused the police authority of coming up with extra restrictions during demonstrations, which reduce the effectiveness of the expression

of public opinion.

The practice also lacks legal grounds and is suspected of violating the city's demonstration law, according to Sou.

"The Director of the Public Security Police Force (PSP) has always been able to impose restrictions on the time or place before an assembly. The police also impose further temporary verbal restrictions during an assembly. These on-the-spot verbal restrictions often become the trigger point for the dispute between the police and the people, and may even lead to

other conflicts," writes Sou.

Moreover, according to the lawmaker, frontline police officers and demonstration organizers generally do not have contact with each other.

"Does the government admit that these temporary restrictions, which are unreasonable [and] unrealistic, have undermined the original peaceful and orderly gathering atmosphere? How will the government review its practices to improve the police-civilian relationship at the assembly site?" Sou asked. **JZ**

New taxi law may create monopoly for recording devices

THE city's new taxi law is suspected of creating a monopoly due to its regulations on the installation of voice recording equipment inside taxis.

During Macau Forum on Sunday, current affairs commentator Fong Nim Seong said that the government's intention to outsource the equipment installation service to a single company may create a monopoly.

Fong believes that doing so will be benefi-

cial to the government in terms of supervision. However, he hopes that the government will openly communicate with the taxi industry.

Deputy President of the Macau Taxi Association Tai Kam Leong opposed the installation of voice recording devices by a third-party company, stating that the taxi industry can install the devices independently.

According to Tai, the taxi industry disapproves of the government

charging MOP10 per day for the maintenance of the equipment.

In Tai's opinion, the government can set up the requirements for the equipment, and the taxi industry can install the devices themselves to save time and for the convenience of future maintenance.

A member of the audience, who is a taxi driver, had some doubts about the company's ability to provide 24-hour maintenance services. **JZ**

Education authority concerned internet corrupting youth values

RENATO MARQUES



Cheong Man Fai (left) and Io Lok Fong

Renato Marques

THE influence of the Internet on the values of Macau's younger generation is a growing concern for officials in charge of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ).

The chief of the DSEJ's Department of Youth, Cheong Man Fai, made the acknowledgment during yesterday's press conference after the Youth Council's plenary meeting.

"The Internet is twisting the values of young people. We are trying to see what we can do in order to correct this problem for them not to deviate [from desirable values]," Cheong said when commenting on issues the bureau found to be concerning in the implementation of the "Macau Youth Policy 2012-2020" plan.

Questioned by the Times on the topic and what the DSEJ proposes doing about it, the official added, "the Internet can profoundly influence the values of young people in several aspects. At this moment we cannot do much about it. What we can do is to cultivate correct judgment and correct reasoning from the youth."

According to Cheong, this was one of the aspects that was targeted with comments from Sun Yat-Sen University, the institution in charge of the plan's mid-term evaluation report.

"Sun Yat-Sen University also gave us opinions on this matter [during the mid-term review]. We would like to focus on the

cultivation of good judgment in young people. That is our long-term goal," Cheong reaffirmed, noting that "raising the capacity of independent thinking" was one of the areas included in the plan which will conclude by 2020.

■ Sun Yat-Sen University specialists had also suggested topics such as national education and the 'cultivation of the love for the motherland'

Although Cheong acknowledged the concern and interest in addressing the topic, the official could not explain how the bureau expects to develop the topic, nor what activities it would use to do so.

Cheong noted that when the mid-term review occurred, the university issued a total of eight opinions from specialists on aspects the government should improve upon, reinforce or change.

The 2012-2020 plan included a focus on four major areas, including, "The Promotion of Social Participation," "Stimulation

of Physical and Mental Growth," "Creation of a Warming Atmosphere," and "Promotion of Social Mobility."

According to Cheong, the plan developed into a total of 270 projects and 10 measures in 2014, when Chief Executive Chui Sai On announced the creation of an interdepartmental group involving 12 public services and departments to follow-up on the action plan.

Nevertheless, the official observed that the plan had mostly developed into "attention to society, to the State and to the Country."

Division head of the DSEJ's Department of Youth, Io Lok Fong, elaborated on the topic, noting that among the 270 projects developed, there were

activities "regarding the Basic Law and other diverse laws of Macau in order to raise the judicial awareness of the youth," as well as "collaboration with the Health Bureau on smoking awareness and its consequences and also with Sports Bureau on topics such as illegal betting on football matches."

NEW PLAN, SAME PURPOSE

Questioned by the media on the topic, Cheong noted that the final evaluation of the 2012-2020 plan is being prepared and will be subjected to a public consultation on how the plan is to develop after 2020 in the near future.

As Cheong noted, "in 2020 we are going to enter on a new

phase of these policies," for which the DSEJ is now gathering a group of specialists. The specialists will build upon the study and compose a draft plan, which will enter public consultation.

Io added that the specialist team should be ready as soon as next month and the public consultation document should be ready during the first half of 2020.

For the time being, the officials did not want to expand on areas or topics that could be included in the new Youth Policy, with Io saying, "the Greater Bay Area, the reinforcement of the sentiment of love for the motherland, as well as the development of a national consciousness and [knowledge of] Chinese history could be new topics added."

Io added that during the mid-term review, the Sun Yat-Sen University specialists had also suggested these possibilities. In fact, among the initiatives and the range of activities developed during the current plan, a large number included topics such as national education and the "cultivation of the love for the motherland." In late May, during an activity said to be included in the plan, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam inaugurated the "Pavilion of the Sentiment of Love for the Motherland" at the Cheng I building at Ilha Verde, together with several other officials, including DSEJ director Lou Pak Sang, deputy director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government of the PRC in Macau, Xue Xiaofeng, the head of the Bureau of Policy Studies of the Commissariat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC in Macau, Ran Bo, and the chief of the Macao Army Garrison Office of the PLA, Colonel Peng Wei.

According to the DSEJ, the venue is meant to "cultivate in young people a sense of identity and belonging to society and country, [and help them] to understand and respect their country and culture" and "to attend to the needs of young people to have a reasonable space to carry out activities."

Local specialists wanted for Macau Youth Policy review

CHIEF of the Department of Youth at the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ), Cheong Man Fai, revealed at the press conference that followed the plenary meeting of the Youth Council yesterday that the DSEJ is preparing a team of local specialists to perform the final review of the Macau Youth Policy 2012-2020 and draft a new policy plan for after 2020.

According to Cheong, the specialists "should be local people with a very rooted knowledge of Macau youth and its development."

Questioned by the media on the requirements, given that the 2016 mid-term plan review was assigned to the mainland's Sun Yat-Sen University, Cheong said, "the Sun Yat-Sen University

did the mid-term review because we wanted to enlist a third-party," adding, "their specialists are also very knowledgeable about the cities of the Greater Bay Area region, as well as Macau and Hong Kong."

Cheong added that the DSEJ is "very confident about the professional opinions of the team," remarking, "they are very professional and know how to conduct this kind of study very well. This has nothing to do with the reinforcement of the sentiment of love for the motherland."

She said that the invitation was extended to the university, in order to obtain the perspective of a third-party for comparison with the perspectives of local academics. **RM**

AP PHOTO



WYNN RESORTS

Thousands turn out for new Boston casino opening

MASSACHUSETTS' third casino officially opened its doors near Boston on Sunday to thousands of patrons, including some who had lined up in the early morning hours to finally get their first look at the glitzy \$2.6 billion Encore Boston Harbor facility after years of anticipation and controversy.

The crowd, which packed the pathways and harbor walk that surround the tree-lined, waterfront casino complex, cheered as dignitaries and a handful of the roughly 5,000 new workers participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony using oversized golden scissors. Puffs of brightly colored smoke could be seen for miles, shot into the air following a countdown. Wynn Resorts had expected 50,000 visitors.

The facility, which features a 671-room bronzed-toned hotel tower, a gambling floor with 3,100 slot machines and 231 table games, 15 bars and restaurants, shops, lavish art displays, sits on 33 acres of formerly industrial land along the Mystic River in Everett, Massachusetts. It was billed Sunday as opportunity to finally transform the reputation of a city of more than 46,000, just north of Boston.

"When you drive through Everett, you'll no longer smell gas and sulfur and oils. But you'll smell flowers and trees," Mayor Carlo DeMaria told the enthusiastic crowd, which included many of his residents. "We will no longer be the back door to the city of Boston. We will now be the front door to the city of Everett." Emotional at times, DeMaria

thanked his wife and family for supporting him throughout the challenging process of getting the casino complex built, which took more than seven years. The development project involved an environmental cleanup of a former chemical plant. The project has also been mired in controversy since Wynn Resorts won the lone state gambling license reserved for the wealthy and populous Boston area nearly five years ago.

■ Maddox said he envisions Encore Boston Harbor becoming a template for the company's future

Casino regulators in Massachusetts and Nevada hit Wynn Resorts with \$55 million in fines and other penalties after determining officials failed to investigate allegations of sexual misconduct against Steve Wynn, the company's founder. Wynn has denied the misconduct allegations but resigned as CEO last year. And the company, weeks before opening, negotiated to sell the Everett casino to MGM, but those talks ended amid public criticism.

However, Matt Maddox, the new CEO of Wynn Resorts, recently told The Associated Press "the controversy is behind us" and "our eyes are on the future." The Everett facility is the company's first casino

outside the gambling centers of Las Vegas and Macau.

Glenn Reynolds, 65, of Quincy, was so excited about the new casino that he arrived 17 hours before the doors opened so he could be first in line. He spent much of the time waving to drivers and giving interviews to reporters. He told MassLive.com that he has waited for hours outside Fenway Park on opening day as well. But for this occasion, he brought a homemade sign with the words "Encore" and "Great!" with an American flag sticker.

"With [Encore] when I saw it and I said 'I'm going to take it up a notch,'" Reynolds said. "I'm going to make a nice sign, come here and enjoy this casino."

During the speaking part of the ceremony, Maddox recalled standing with DeMaria about seven years ago on the property when there wasn't a blade of grass.

"Now there's a thousand mature trees, 50,000 flowering plants, tens of thousands of shrubs and a living shoreline for the first time in 100 hundred years," said Maddox, who told AP he envisions Encore Boston Harbor becoming a template for the company's future and the casino industry more broadly as Wynn Resorts continues to extend its reach to other cities.

DeMaria promised to continue efforts to redevelop Everett's industrial waterfront area, including improvements to rail and water transportation.

"We're going to take this Superfund site," he said, referring to the federal program to clean up and redevelop contaminated land, "and make it a super site." AP

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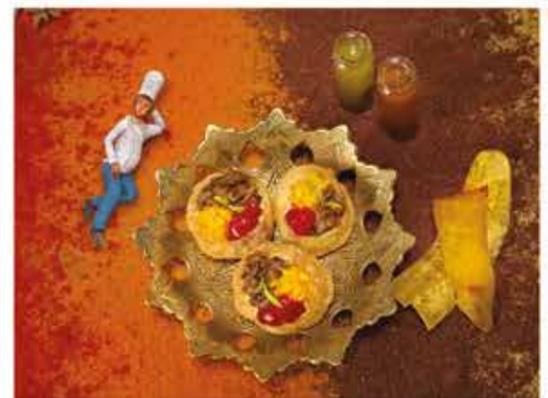
GREAT TIMES

An illuminating journey of culinary discovery by Le Petit Chef

A true dining experience is one that doesn't just satisfy your sense of taste, but also engages all your other senses. That's exactly the big culinary adventure you can expect from the smallest chef in the world, Le Petit Chef, a unique dining experience presented to you by MGM MACAU.

Le Petit Chef tells the journey of a small animated chef who appears before your eyes through the use of 3D projection mapping technology. The little figure will go about his adventures on your plate, and proceed to 'cook' your food right in front of you.

The experience was first created by Belgian artist collective Skullmapping in 2015. A YouTube video about it went viral and captured the imagination of people from all over the world. Michelin-starred chef Jeff Ramsey curated a menu to complement the story, to combine entertainment with culinary excellence.



MGM, as the creator of memorable experiences, is currently hosting this culinary adventure in MGM MACAU. The 2-hour dining show, titled A Feast for the Senses, takes you on a Silk Road-inspired culinary tour with Le Petit Chef as your guide. His journey comes to life on the pages of a book placed in front of you, and then on your plate - with waiters carefully placing dishes and table decorations to fit around the animated scene. The 6-course menu reflects the virtual creations of Le Petit Chef as he experiments with the new ingredients he chances upon on his travels.

Le Petit Chef's journey begins in Marseille, France where he sets sail on a vast glittering ocean, just as you are served a delightful seafood starter. His next stop is the hot and heady atmosphere of an authentic Arabian souk, alive with noise and energy, with traditional fare for you to enjoy. He then soars through the sky to an Indian market filled with vibrantly colored exotic spices, which times nicely with a mouthwatering Indian spicy. Next, the little chef scales the breathtaking snowy heights of the nearby Himalayan mountains; join him as you indulge in a cold, tangy treat. He continues his journey exploring all the mysterious sights, sounds and tastes of ancient China before finally returning to Le Petit Chef's homeland of France, where you will be served with a grand dessert to finish.

Le Petit Chef is taking place at MGM Macau from July 12 to September 13. Don't miss this chance to watch him present a truly immersive and unique dining experience, one that combines entertainment and gastronomy. Call 8802 2555 to reserve your seat now.



GAMING

New poker room opens at Roosevelt Hotel

Staff reporter

MACAU junket Meg-Star Group has opened its second poker room, blending luxury watch viewing with poker games. The new establishment opened June 21 at the Roosevelt Hotel.

The group has branded the poker room "Poker Time Club," which the group claims is the only one of its kind in the world. The poker club provides luxury watches for both viewing and sale to guests, aside from the core attraction of poker games. The group aims to create a new wave of poker heat in Macau.

Apart from watch viewing, the Roosevelt's poker room provides five separate circular VIP rooms, and an alfresco bar and lounge.

The concept was co-created by Swiss Time Group, a manufacturer for more



than 600 brands, including A. Lange & Söhne, Audemars Piguet and Van Cleef & Arpels.

The Times asked a professional poker player in Macau about the new concept. He said that even though he is more interested in poker than any other peripheral service, he thinks it

is appealing to many people. With more elements in the poker room, more people are likely to be attracted to play. He also added that with "some expensive jewelry around, it can attract players or their relatives."

The professional player believes there is much

more work to be done to attract poker players to Macau. For example, he mentioned that many poker rooms in the U.S. offer a jackpot to the second-best hand of cards. He said it is attractive to some people and is a viable option in Macau.

Baccarat is the most popular type of casino game in Macau. Last year, VIP and mass baccarat generated more than MOP268 billion in Macau, accounting for about 88 percent of the city's total revenue for year. Comparatively, MOP340 million was generated by Texas Hold'em.

The Meg-Star group, however, sees a lot of room for development in this respect. It aims to provide hybrid poker rooms to attract more players to Macau. Currently, 90% of the games the group provides are baccarat and 10% are Texas Hold'em.

Passengers on alert for EVA Air strike

Staff reporter

A total of 10 flights to and from Macau have been canceled due to Taiwanese airline EVA Air's cabin crew strike, as of yesterday. Passengers are being reminded to contact the airline for updates.

Four flights between Macau and Taoyuan (Taipei), four between Macau and Kaohsiung, and two between Macau and Taichung have been canceled.

Taiwan's Ministry of Transportation and Communications emphasized that order had been restored at three major airports, namely Taoyuan, Taichung and Kaohsiung. The ministry, the airline and the trade union are in constant negotiation.

Meanwhile, the trade union has confirmed that 15 flight attendants have been left behind in Vienna and Houston and won't be flown home by the airline unless they sign a "non-strike declaration," Taiwanese media reports.

Furthermore, EVA Air is currently not employing any male cabin crew staff but the trade union said the company is preparing to loosen the restriction. Coincidentally, the airline is recruiting new flight attendants but has denied allegations that it is replacing the current crews on strike, emphasizing that it is just a regular recruitment drive.

AD

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FMCC Business Luncheon
Disruptors within Luxury and the Impact on Overall Business
Speaker: Ms. Fleur Roberts, Head of Luxury Goods Research, Euromonitor International

Introduction:
Consumer activism and technology-driven behavioral changes are forcing luxury marketers to look anew at sustainable manufacturing, digital marketing, ecommerce and mobile, targeting millennials and Gen Z without alienating baby boomers and Gen X, as well as at the resale and rental markets. How are these factors to change their way of doing business in the year ahead?

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HONG KONG

Protesters block gov't building access, plan new action

Dake Kang, Hong Kong

PROTESTERS fearing an erosion of Hong Kong's legal autonomy blocked access to a government office building for nearly two hours yesterday and plan more demonstrations to draw the attention of leaders attending the G-20 summit this week.

About 100 demonstrators jammed the entryway and lobby of the Inland Revenue Tower, a skyscraper in the Wan Chai district in the city center.

Earlier, one of the main protest groups announced a demonstration planned on Wednesday to try to draw the attention of world leaders attending the Group of 20 summit in Japan.

The leaders of the Civil Human Rights Front said they hope the world leaders meeting in Osaka will hear the protesters' concerns over the weakening of the city's legal autonomy by mainland China.

Hundreds of thousands of people have filled the streets and sidewalks in recent

weeks to oppose legislation seen as increasing Beijing's control and police treatment of the protesters. The activists spoke on Monday near the city government headquarters, where a few protesters remained though the offices in the building had reopened.

Kelvin Ho, one of the group's several leaders, said the protest was meant to "urge the international community to give stress on Beijing that we need democracy."

China has rejected foreign commentary over the protests and the extradition issue as interference in its internal affairs.

At a briefing in Beijing, Zhang Jun, an assistant foreign minister, said "I can tell you that for sure the G-20 will not discuss the issue of Hong Kong and we will not allow the G-20 to discuss the issue of Hong Kong."

Hong Kong's government "has taken a series of measures to safeguard fairness and justice of society and to block loopholes in the legal system. We believe what

they have done is completely necessary and the central government supports these measures," he said.

Joshua Wong, another activist who helped galvanize mass pro-democracy protests in 2014, said on Twitter that he was urging his followers to join the protest on Wednesday.

Pro-democracy activists and legislators and others critical of the extradition bill have insisted they are not satisfied with apologies from the authorities over the handling of the unpopular legislation and over police moves during protests that many Hong Kong residents considered overly aggressive.

Hong Kong has a separate legal system from the rest of China under an agreement struck before Beijing took control of the former British colony in 1997. The extradition legislation would enable some suspects to be sent from Hong Kong to stand trial in mainland Chinese courts.

The opponents' concern is that suspects might be pursued for corrupt or political

reasons and be unable to get fair trials in courts dominated by the ruling Chinese Communist Party.

Bonnie Leung, another leader in the Civil Human Rights Front, said the extradition bill, which has been indefinitely shelved for now, would affect not just Hong Kong residents but potentially anyone visiting the city.

"The whole world who have connection with HK would be stakeholders," she said. "This is not about a power struggle. This is about the values that make the world a better place, such as the rule of law."

"If you also treasure these values please speak up and do speak up before it is too late," she said.

Hong Kong's Chief Executive Carrie Lam, who has apologized over the controversy but refused calls to step down, said the legislation was needed to ensure criminals would not use the territory to evade capture and to meet international standards such as rules against money laundering. **AP**

GUANGZHOU

Robot employed to help rehab drug addicts

Guangzhou has employed a talking robot to aid the rehabilitation of substance users through human-machine counseling, reports state media agency Xinhua. While robots elsewhere are made to blur the line between humans and machines, the robot in the Guangdong capital boasts a special appeal to addicts who find it embarrassing to talk to human community workers. Aided by artificial intelligence algorithms and big data, the machine offers individual counseling, psychological evaluation and a reminder of urine tests. It is co-developed by the district's narcotics control commission and a Chinese tech firm to streamline the rehab service, according to the commission. After swiping an ID card and undergoing facial recognition, a user can start counseling, an important part of the follow-up care after drug addiction treatment, with the robot, which generates a report afterward. The commission said they have plans to utilize the same robot model at more community rehab centers in the district.

ZHUHAI

Hippo ivories, products confiscated

Customs authorities in south China's Guangdong Province have confiscated a batch of hippopotamus ivory and related products. A total of 1.66 tonnes of hippo ivory and their products were intercepted by Gongbei customs in Zhuhai city. The ivory and products were apprehended in a company in May, according to customs authorities. The company imported the products from abroad and hired workers to process and sell them illegally. Three people have been arrested by local police, and further investigation is underway.

SHENZHEN

Cartoon and animation festival set for July

The 11th Shenzhen Cartoon and Animation Festival (SZCAF) is slated for July 18-22 at the Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, according to the event's website. Known as one of China's four major animation festivals, SZCAF has been held in Shenzhen every summer since 2009 as the city's biggest animation-themed event that attracts cartoon and animation companies and fans alike. This year's event will take place at three halls dedicated to two-dimensional artworks (also known as ACGN, or Anime, Comic, Games and Novels), cartoon and animation and interactive entertainment, respectively.

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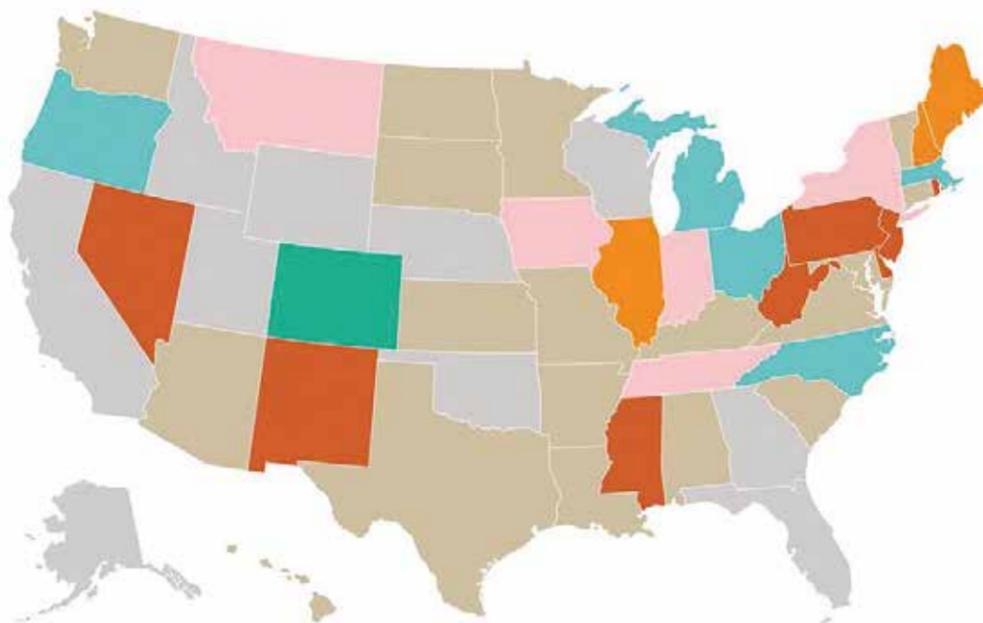
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MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times

" THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

Status of sports betting around the U.S.

- Happening
- Legal but not yet happening
- Awaiting governor's signature
- On ballot 2019
- Being considered
- Was considered but did not pass
- No legislation 2019



Geoff Mulvihill, New Jersey

UNITED STATES

Drive to legalize sports betting differs by region

IN the year since the U.S. Supreme Court cleared the way for every state to legalize sports betting, a regional divide has opened as states decide whether to expand their gambling options.

By year's end, legalization is possible in a dozen states in the Northeast and Midwest. But most states in the Deep South and far West — SEC and Pac-12 territory in college sports — are staying on the sidelines, at least for now.

State lawmakers are weighing the benefits of a slight boost in state revenue and the ability to add consumer protections against concerns about the morality of allowing another form of gambling. Sorting out complex business interests and opposition from some casino-operating tribes also has emerged as thorny challenges.

It's not clear whether legalization will happen in all corners of the country over the next few years or if opposition will keep it concentrated in the regions where it's already taken root.

With just two exceptions, the Deep South states have been among the most resistant to legalizing sports betting. In Louisiana, a legalization bill passed the Senate earlier this year but died in the House.

Republican state Sen. Danny Martiny favors legalization, saying Louisianans already are betting on sports through bookies, offshore websites and casinos in neighboring Mississippi. He said Louisiana should regulate and tax sport bets, with the receipts largely earmarked for early childhood education.

"We have all of the ills of gaming," Martiny said during a committee hearing, "but none of the benefits."

Opponents such as Rep. Valarie Hodges, also a Republican, said gambling preys on the poor and that the state should find a better way to pay for early education.

"What we legalize, we legitimize," she said.

Hodges' side prevailed in the legislative debate, aided by a dispute among gambling interests over whether sports betting should be limited to the state's 16 casinos and four race tracks or also available at 2,800 truck stops and other locations with video poker terminals.

Before the May 2018 Supreme Court ruling that allowed sportsbooks across the country, full-service ones were running legally only in Nevada. Last year, they opened in seven more states. So far this year, sportsbooks have been legalized but haven't yet begun operating in another five, plus the District of Columbia.

Bills are awaiting signatures from the governors in Illinois, Maine and New Hampshire. Colorado voters will decide the matter for that state in November. In Oregon, the state lottery is working on regulations with the plan of launching sports be-

etting under existing law in time for the start of the NFL season.

Four more states are considering legalization during their current legislative sessions, but most legislatures have wrapped up their work for the year. Lawmakers in 18 states rejected sports betting legalization bills for 2019, according to a tally of legislation by The Associated Press.

There are several other states where lawmakers might have an appetite for legalization, but there isn't agreement in the complicated and tightly regulated gambling industry on how or whether to do it.

A common factor in those places, including California and Florida, is the prevalence of casinos operated by Native American tribes. Agreeing to allow sports betting might mean the tribes would face increased competition.

Chris Grove, a gambling industry strategist at Eilers & Krejci, said he expects several states — mostly in the Northeast and upper Midwest — to legalize sports betting in the next year, and then for the spread to slow because the remaining states are reluctant to allow gambling generally or because of tribal influence.

"As you move farther west, the more complex the stakeholder

picture and the harder it is to get anything done," he said.

But Bill Pascrell III, a lobbyist for some gambling companies, expects that even some states that have been traditionally reluctant to legalize gambling will allow sports betting in the future. He points to Tennessee, a state without any casinos, deciding to legalize online sports betting.

The absence of sports gambling in California, Texas and Florida, the nation's most populous states, leaves a gaping hole in the industry. They are home to more than a quarter of the teams in the four major professional sports and have about the same combined population as all the states that have adopted legalized sports betting, including those where bills have been sent to governors but not signed into law.

Other states, including Utah and South Carolina, are unlikely to welcome sports betting anytime soon because it's difficult to sell any form of gambling there.

Over the past year, states with legal sportsbooks have reported about \$9 billion in bets being made. But sportsbooks are a relatively low-margin business for their operators, who pay taxes only on how much they win, not how much is gambled.

According to their most recent financial reports, three of the states with legal sportsbooks are on pace to bring in far less than they expected in taxes their first fiscal year. Mississippi is bringing in about half of what it needs each month to reach an informal state target. Rhode Island and West Virginia are both on pace to bring in 20% to 30% of their expected revenue, according to an AP analysis.

Even in New Jersey, where mobile betting has caught on quickly, sports betting taxes amount to far less than 1% of all state revenue.

Washington state Rep. Derek Stanford, the Democratic chairman of a committee overseeing gambling activity, said he thinks the state is not ready for sports betting, and that's a reason none of the three bills to legalize it there gained traction this year.

He said the state needs to work through concerns ranging from the effects of legalized sports betting on public health to figuring out how it would affect tribal casinos.

"My sense is that we don't want to be the ones breaking new ground here," he said. "If other states are doing this, we can see what experience they have." **AP**

opinion

THE BITTER CONTEST FOR CHINA'S ONLINE SHOPPERS

Nisha Gopalan, Bloomberg

Carrefour SA, Europe's largest retailer, may be the latest Western company to pull back from China. It's unlikely to be the last.

Over the past few years, the French company's plans to shrink its China footprint has been one of the worst-kept secrets in banking. Though Carrefour sold the business pretty cheaply – with a valuation of 0.2 times 2018 sales, compared with the industry average of 0.84, according to Citigroup Inc. – loosening its ties to the mainland may be a smart move, whatever the price. With sales in the country flagging and losses piling up, the deal comes as China's macroeconomic picture is also darkening.

Yet the key challenge for Carrefour preceded the trade war. In recent years, online-only players such as Alibaba have been piling pressure on brick-and-mortar operations, with Tesco Plc, Best Buy Co. and Marks & Spencer Plc each announcing plans to pull back from the mainland market. Carrefour's share of the country's hypermarket segment fell to 4.6% last year from 8.2% in 2009, Citi writes.

That's a problem in a country with one of the world's biggest rates of e-commerce penetration. China's online retail sales reached 3.86 trillion yuan in the first five months of this year, accounting for more than one-fifth of the country's total purchases of consumer goods, according to a recent report by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

To make matters worse, foreign brands no longer have the cachet they once enjoyed – at least in low-end consumer goods. In a survey last year, Credit Suisse AG said that Chinese consumers preferred domestic purveyors in categories like food and drinks and home appliances. With the trade war whipping up nationalist fervor, that trend may accelerate: The bank's latest poll of shoppers 18 to 29 years old showed that 41% preferred phones made by Huawei Technologies Co., up from 28%, while interest for Apple Inc.'s products fell to 28% from 40%.

For many firms, ceding control to a local partner is probably the best way forward. Carrefour appears to be borrowing a page from the playbook of McDonald's Corp., which sold 80% of its China business in 2017 to a tie-up between state giant Citic Group Corp. and private equity firm Carlyle Group LP.

Or consider Walmart Inc., which sold its e-commerce delivery site to JD.com Inc. in 2016 in exchange for a stake in the Chinese retailer. The U.S. firm now aims to open 40 of its Sam's Club stores in China by 2020. Costco Wholesale Corp. is also betting on China's appetite for bulk buying, with plans to open its first bricks-and-mortar store in August. Whether Costco can pull this off without a local partner remains unclear.

What is clear is that Carrefour won't be the last retailer to rethink its China strategy. Germany's Metro AG is also looking to sell its \$1.5 billion Chinese business. At a time when Chinese acquisitions overseas have dried up, bankers at least can thank Western firms for managing to drum up some business from the mainland.



Carrefour sells control of China business at a discount

CARREFOUR SA has agreed to sell an 80% stake in its China unit for 4.8 billion yuan (USD698 million) in cash to local retailer Suning.com Co. as it rethinks its exposure in the world's No. 2 economy after years of decline.

The yielding of control comes after a long search for a partner for the French company's struggling Chinese operations. Once the premier foreign supermarket chain locally, it failed to adjust to the onslaught of e-commerce in recent years and sales slumped.

Carrefour will retain a 20% stake in the China business, which generated net sales of 3.6 billion euros (28.5 billion yuan) in 2018. It will also get two seats out of seven on the China unit's Supervisory Board, according to a statement Sunday.

The valuation of Carrefour's China unit at 0.2 times its 2018 sales – compared to an industry average of 0.8 times – is at a “significant discount to peers

likely due to poor financial results,” said Citigroup Inc. analysts led by Lydia Ling in a note yesterday.

“The consolidation in store network, supply chain, logistics and membership could improve efficiency and profitability for both parties,” said the Citi note.

A growing number of European and American retailers are either scaling back their presence or tying up with local partners in order to stay competitive in China, where e-commerce penetration is one of the highest globally. Walmart Inc., which has a network of around 400 supermarkets, relies on JD.com Inc. for its delivery service, while Germany's Metro AG is said to be trying to offload a majority stake in its Chinese business.

“The big problem for Carrefour and other western grocery chains is that they have major challenges in their home countries and can't afford to grow in China,” said Pascal Martin, a Hong Kong-based partner at OC&C Strategy Con-

sultants. “In China, if you want to grow in the groceries space, you have to continue to invest capital in less developed cities.”

It's the end of an era for one of the first foreign brands to gain a loyal following among Chinese consumers. Carrefour entered the country in 1995, ahead of Walmart, and its massive hypermarkets where one could buy fresh pork along with a TV ushered in a new style of shopping for a country just opening up to the outside world.

But it has struggled to maintain profitability as buyers moved online rapidly in recent years, a shift that's favored home-grown giants like Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.

For Nanjing-based Suning, primarily an electronics retailer, the deal will help it cut procurement and logistics costs and boost profitability, the company said in a statement Sunday.

Alibaba holds a 20% stake in Suning and the two com-

panies are closely allied. They've been investing in brick-and-mortar retailers with the goal of building an empire where offline and online shopping are seamlessly integrated. Earlier this year, Suning bought 37 department stores from Wanda Group, while Alibaba paid \$2.9 billion in 2017 for a 36% stake in Sun Art Retail Group Ltd., China's biggest supermarket chain. The Carrefour deal is likely to strengthen Alibaba's foothold in the fiercely competitive groceries market in China.

The acquisition has been cleared by Carrefour's board and is expected to close by year end, but still needs approval from the Chinese regulator, said the companies.

Carrefour's decision to retain a 20% holding shows how China remains a strategic market for global retailers. Keeping that stake will allow it to maintain a foothold in an innovative retail market, a company spokeswoman said Sunday. **MDT/Bloomberg**

US, China discuss Xi-Trump summit as trade tensions simmer

THE U.S. and China are discussing arrangements for the meeting between Donald Trump and Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit, a senior Chinese trade official said, as Beijing warned about consequences of American trade measures.

The trade teams were working to implement the decision by the top leaders, Vice Commerce Minister Wang Shouwen told a news briefing yesterday in Beijing. Wang provided no specifics on what communications have occurred. "Compromise will be on both sides. It will be a two-way street," he said, adding that any talks must be based on mutual respect, meaning "respect for each other's sovereignty."

The face-to-face meeting between the leaders of the world's two largest economies will be closely watched, as markets anticipate an effort to cool mounting trade and security disputes. Talks broke down last month after Trump accused China of reneging on its commitments, increased tariffs on USD200 billion of Chinese imports and threatened to target the remaining \$300 billion with duties of as much as 25%.

Although the U.S. has taken steps to ease tensions in recent days, postponing a planned speech by Vice President Mike Pence on Chinese human rights, mounting strategic disputes have tempered expectations for a trade breakthrough. The China Daily, a state-run English-language newspaper, said in an editorial Sunday that "for such a meeting at such a point, course-setting is probably more important than any specifics."

Trump and Xi planned to discuss a range of shared issues in Japan, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Zhang Jun told the briefing on Xi's G-20 plans. Chinese officials also called on the U.S. yesterday to roll back restrictions on Huawei Technologies Co. and other technology firms and refrain from weighing in on the recent unrest in Hong Kong.

Wang, the commerce ministry official, argued that blocking Chinese companies including Huawei from buying U.S. software and components also harms the interests of American firms and restricting exports doesn't help to balance trade. China hoped the U.S. would remove its companies from the entities list, Wang said.

Meanwhile, China's foreign ministry said at a separate brief-



President Donald Trump meets with China's President Xi Jinping during their bilateral meeting at the G20 Summit, in Buenos Aires, in December 2018

ing that the Memphis, Tennessee-based FedEx Corp. needed to better explain its errors with packages related to Huawei. In the latest case, the shipping company has said it made a mistake last week by rejecting a shipment sending one of the Chinese company's phones to the U.S. from the U.K.

I want to tell individuals in the U.S. that they have been living in a panic made by themselves.

GENG SHUANG
FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN

"The U.S. government has been trumping up charges to abuse national security and employing state power to clamp down on a Chinese company," Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said in response

to a question on the incident at a regular news briefing yesterday in Beijing. "That is the root cause of the problem. U.S. bullying has hurt Chinese companies and U.S. companies. It affects normal operations of businesses and disrupts normal cooperation."

"I want to tell individuals in the U.S. that they have been living in a panic made by themselves, and they have reached a state of

extreme nervousness in which they even apprehend danger in every sound," Geng said.

Globalization has brought an "unprecedented" level of division of labor across borders and societies, reducing the significance of where products are manufactured and assembled, Geng said.

"Against such a backdrop, any attempt to achieve 'absolute security and controllability' by

isolating oneself is nothing but fool's talk," Geng said.

Another sticking point could be Hong Kong, where historic protests against a Beijing-backed extradition bill have prompted U.S. legislation to revisit the former British colony's special trading status. Activists have announced a "G-20 Free Hong Kong rally" on Wednesday in an attempt to put the issue on the summit's agenda. **MDT/Agencies**

State media says Beijing will fight 'to the end'

CHINA has the strength and patience to withstand the trade war, and will fight to the end if the U.S. administration persists with it, China's state-run People's Daily said in an editorial Saturday.

The U.S. must drop all tariffs imposed on China if it wants to negotiate on trade, and only an equal dialogue can resolve the issue and lead to a win-win, the newspaper said.

The paper, a mouthpiece for China's ruling Communist Party, said the U.S. had failed to take into account the interests of its own people, and they are paying higher costs due to the trade dispute. "Wielding a big stick of tariffs" also dis-

regards the condition of the U.S. economy and the international economic order, according to the editorial.

U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping will meet on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Japan next week to discuss the trade war between their two countries. Trump has repeatedly asserted that tariffs on Chinese imports are paid by China, not U.S. consumers - in defiance of the consensus of economists.

If the U.S. chooses to talk, "then it must show some good faith, take account of key concerns from both sides and cancel all tariffs," the paper said. **Bloomberg**

Australia repatriating eight youth from Islamic State families

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

EIGHT Australian offspring of two slain Islamic State group fighters had been removed from Syria in Australia's first organized repatriation from the conflict zone, Australia's prime minister said yesterday.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the eight children being repatriated were in the care of Australian government officials. He would not identify the children or say when they would reach Australia.

Media reported that they include five children and grandchildren of Sydney-born convicted terrorist Khaled Sharrouf and three children of Islamic State group fighter Yasin Rizvic, from Melbourne. Both men and their wives died in the conflict zone.

The children had been taken by an aid agency on Sunday to Iraq, The Australian newspaper reported.

"The opportunity now is for these young children who are coming back to Australia, they can't be held responsible for the crimes of their parents," Morrison told reporters.

The children would be provided with support services so that "they can fully integrate into a happy life in Australia," Morrison said.

"They've got off to a horrible start in life as a result of the appalling decisions of their parents and they'll find their home in Australia and I'm sure they'll be embraced by Australians and as a result of that embrace, I'm sure they'll live positive and happy lives," Morrison added.

Morrison had for months said he would not risk any Australian official to rescue Australians from Islamic State group-held territory.

Critics had argued that he



Australia's PM Scott Morrison

had not been prepared to take the political risk of repatriating families of Islamic extremists until he won a narrow election victory on May 18.

Morrison said he had kept his government's efforts "very low-key" in the interests of the safety of everyone involved, including the aid agencies that had helped the government.

Sharrouf's Sydney-based mother-in-law Karen Nettleton has launched several attempts to rescue the children from Syria and has led the campaign for Australian government intervention.

Her lawyer Robert Van Aalst said he hoped Nettleton was with the children in Iraq, but had no direct communication with her due to security concerns.

The eldest child, Zaynab, turned 18 last week and has been expecting her third child. Australian Broadcasting Corp. reported she'd yet to give birth.

Zaynab would return to Australia with the newborn, her two children — Ayesha, 3, and Fatima, 2 — her 16-year-old sister Hoda, and her 8-year-old brother, Humzeh.

"There will be medical examinations and various other support provided by the government which they have told us about to help the children acclimatize," Van Aalst told ABC.

"There are also some wounds that may need to be attended to. Young Hoda was wounded in the leg. Zaynab, I believe, had shrapnel wounds. It is not just physical wounds that have to be looked into but there is

some other psychological issues, no doubt, that will have to be looked into," he added.

The Rizvic children are two boys and a girl aged between 6 and 12, The Australian reported.

Clarke Jones, an Australian National University criminologist who specializes in radicalization, said the children would need treatment for trauma and could be radicalized. They could also be threatened by elements of the Australian community.

"There are a lot of people who don't want them back at all," Jones said. "Because of that, they would also be under threat."

Australian National University counterterrorism researcher Jacinta Carroll wrote in a

research paper last week that Zaynab had become both a victim and supporter of terrorism in a case that was legally and morally complex.

Zaynab became a prominent Islamic State group propagandist making social media posts supporting atrocities and the activities of her father and her husband Mohamed Elomar, an Australian Islamic State group fighter who was killed while she was pregnant in 2015, Carroll said.

She had lived a relatively privileged life under the Islamic State regime in Syria in a house with slaves, posting photographs of herself with other veiled women with assault rifles and a luxury BMW sedan. She boasted a "luxury jihad" life in Syria, Carroll said.

Carroll said disengagement services, also known as deradicalization programs, were available in Australia to help the children integrate into the mainstream Australian community.

"I think that will be very challenging for the Sharroufs," Carroll said. "The profile and the publicity around this family will also make it quite problematic for them to just integrate back into normal life in Australia."

Mat Tinkler, director of the Save the Children Fund charity, said there were at least 50 Australian women and children in Syrian refugee camps and all should be repatriated.

Khaled Sharrouf horrified the world in 2014 when he posted a photograph on social media of his young son clutching the severed head of a Syrian soldier.

Then-U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry described that image as "one of the most disturbing, stomach-turning, grotesque photographs ever displayed."

Sharrouf's wife, Tara Nettleton, brought their five children from Sydney to Syria in 2014. She died in a hospital a year later of a perforated intestine. Her husband and two eldest sons later died in an airstrike. **AP**

NEW ZEALAND

Government to start protecting bank deposits of most savers

NEW Zealand remains one of the few developed countries where people with bank savings have no recourse if their bank fails, but the government said yesterday that's about to change.

Finance Minister Grant Robertson announced plans for a program aimed at in-

dividual account holders that would guarantee bank deposits of up to 50,000 New Zealand dollars (USD33,000).

Robertson said the scheme would fully protect about 90% of savers, and would cover about 40% of the total NZD352 billion kept in bank deposits.

"This is about tipping the balance in favor of the depositor, of the people who banks are there to serve," Robertson said.

He said some details are still being worked through and he expects the program to be finalized into legislation next year.

The announcement came

as part of a wider banking system review aimed at making banks and their executives more accountable.

New Zealand was forced to introduce a temporary deposit protection program after the 2008 global financial crisis but never used it because no major banks failed. **AP**



New Zealand's Finance Minister Grant Robertson

INDIA

Death toll in encephalitis outbreak rises to 152

INDIA'S Supreme Court yesterday directed state and national authorities to file reports to the court on an encephalitis outbreak in the eastern state of Bihar this month in which 152 children have died.

A senior health department official in Bihar, Sanjay Kumar, said the epidemic is showing signs of slowing with no new deaths yesterday. The fatalities have occurred in 20 of the state's 38 districts.

The outbreak has been exacerbated by a heatwave, with temperatures in Patna, Bihar's capital, reaching a high of 45.8 Celsius.

"We're hoping with the onset of the monsoon, the epidemic will ease further," Kumar said.

More than 700 cases of encephalitis have been



registered since the outbreak began June 1, officials said. Young children are particularly vulnerable to the illness, which can cause swelling of the brain, fever and vomiting.

The Supreme Court was responding to a petition filed by a lawyer. "The

deaths of children are a direct result of negligence and inaction" on part of authorities, said Manohar Pratap, the petitioner.

The court expressed concern over the deaths and asked the governments to respond within seven days with details

on medical facilities, nutrition, sanitation and hygiene conditions in the state.

Thousands of Indians suffer from encephalitis, malaria, typhoid and other mosquito-borne diseases each year during the summer monsoon season.

India's central government has sent medical experts to Bihar to help doctors treat the patients.

The Bihar authorities have been sharply criticized because patients were sharing beds in crowded hospital wards with too few doctors. The families who could afford it transferred their children to private hospitals in Patna and other larger cities.

The Press Trust of India news agency reported that about 6,000 deaths from encephalitis occurred in India between 2008 and 2014. **AP**

INDONESIA

Strong quake recorded in Banda Sea, no tsunami

A strong earthquake struck yesterday in Indonesia's Banda Sea, but authorities said there is no tsunami threat.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude 7.3 quake was centered 208 kilometers below the earth's surface. It was felt in parts of Indonesia and in East Timor's capital Dili but there were no reports of damage.

Indonesia's geophysics agency said the deep quake didn't cause a tsunami.

The Banda Sea quake was recorded minutes after a 6.1 tremor in a thinly populated area 233 kilometers west of Papua province's Abepura town, at a depth of 20 kilometers.

Rahmat Triyono, Indonesia's head of earthquake and tsunami center, said the Papua quake was followed by several smaller aftersh-

ocks, but there is no immediate report of major damage or injuries.

The large quake was felt across Australia's most northern city, Darwin, where many people evacuated high-rise buildings.

Office workers were seen throughout Darwin outside buildings after the quake rattled the city for around five minutes.

One worker, who gave her name only as Robyn, said no alarm had gone off but workers had decided to get out of her building anyway.

She said it was the strongest quake she had ever felt in Darwin.

There was no damage or injuries reported in Darwin.

A powerful Indian Ocean quake and tsunami in 2004 killed a total of 230,000 people in a dozen countries, most of them in Indonesia. **AP**

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People shop at the old main bazaar in Tehran

IRAN

People say their 'bones breaking' under US sanctions

Nasser Karimi
& Mohammad Nasiri, Tehran

AS the U.S. piles sanction after sanction on Iran, it's the average person who feels it the most.

From a subway performer's battered leather hat devoid of tips, to a bride-to-be's empty purse, the lack of cash from the economic pressure facing Iran's 80 million people can be seen everywhere.

Many blame President Donald Trump and his maximalist policy on Iran, which has seen him pull out of Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers and levy punishing U.S. sanctions on the country.

In recent weeks, Iran has threatened to break out of the deal unless European powers mitigate what it calls Trump's "economic warfare." Iran also appeared ready to push back against the buildup of U.S. forces in the region, after shooting down an American drone it says violated its airspace last week.

In response, U.S. officials have vowed to pile on more sanctions.

But alongside Trump, many Iranians blame their own government, which has careened from one economic disaster to another since its Islamic Revolution 40 years ago.

"The economic war is a reality and people are under extreme pressure," said Shiva Keshavarz,

a 22-year-old accountant soon to be married.

She said government leaders "keep telling us to be strong and endure the pressures, but we can already hear the sound of our bones breaking."

The economic war is a reality and people are under extreme pressure.

SHIVA KESHAVARZ, 22

Walking by any money exchange shop is a dramatic reminder of the hardships most people are facing. At the time of the nuclear deal, Iran's currency traded at 32,000 rials to USD1. Today, the numbers listed in exchange shop windows have skyrocketed — it costs over 130,000 rials for one U.S. dollar.

Inflation is over 37%, according to government statistics. More than 3 million people, or 12% of working-age citizens, are unemployed. That rate doubles for educated youth.

Depreciation and inflation make everything more expensive — from fruits and vegetables to tires and oil, all the way to the big-ticket items, like mobile pho-

nes. A simple cell phone is about two months' salary for the average government worker, while a single iPhone costs a 10 months' salary.

"When importing mobile phones into the country is blocked, dealers have to smuggle them in with black market dollar rates and sell them for expensive prices," said Pouria Hassani, a mobile phone salesman in Tehran. "You can't expect us to buy expensive and sell cheap to customers. We don't want to make a loss either."

Hossein Rostami, a 33-year-old motorbike taxi driver and deliveryman, said the price of brake pads alone had jumped fivefold.

"The cause of our problems is the officials' incompetence," he told The Associated Press as fellow motorbike drivers called out for passengers in Tehran. "Our country is full of wealth and riches."

The riches part is true — Iran is home to the world's fourth-largest proven reserve of crude oil and holds the world's second-largest proven reserve of natural gas, after Russia.

But under Trump's maximum-pressure campaign, the U.S. has cut off Iran's ability to sell crude on the global market, and threatened to sanction any nation that purchases it. Oil covers a third of the \$80 billion a year the government spends in Iran, meaning that a fall in oil revenues cuts into

its social welfare programs, as well as its military expenditures.

The rest of the country's budget comes from taxes and non-oil exports, among them oil-based petrochemical products that provide up to 50% of Iran's \$45 billion in non-oil export.

In Tehran's Laleh park, retired school teacher Zahra Ghasemi criticized the government for blaming "every problem" on U.S. sanctions.

She says she has trouble paying for her basic livelihood. The price of a bottle of milk has doubled, along with that of vegetables and fruit.

"We are dying under these pressures and a lack of solutions from officials," Ghasemi said.

Years of popular frustration with failed economic policies triggered protests in late 2017, which early the following year spiraled into anti-government demonstrations across dozens of cities and towns.

The current problems take root in Iran's faltering efforts to privatize its state-planned economy after the devastating war with Iraq in the 1980s, which saw 1 million people killed.

But Oil Minister Bijan Zanganeh said earlier this month that the crunch on oil exports is hitting harder today than during the 1980s war, when Saddam Hussein's forces targeted Iran's oil trade.

"Our situation is worse than

during the war," Zanganeh said. "We did not have such an export problem when Saddam was targeting our industrial units. Now, we cannot export oil labeled Iran."

Still, many Iranians pin the economic crisis on corruption as much as anything else.

"Our problem is the embezzlers and thieves in the government," said Nasrollah Pazouki, who has sold clothes in Tehran's Grand Bazaar since before the 1979 Islamic Revolution. "When people come to power, instead of working sincerely and seriously for the people, we hear and read after a few months in newspapers that they have stolen billions and fled."

He added: "Whose money is that? It's the people's money."

Sanctions do cause some of the problems, said Jafar Mousavi, who runs a dry-goods store in Tehran. But many of the woes are self-inflicted from rampant graft, he said.

"The economic war is not from outside of our borders but within the country," Mousavi said. "If there was integrity among our government, producers and people, we could have overcome the pressures."

Yet people come and go each day to work on Tehran's crowded metro, seemingly earning less each day for the same work. In one train car, Abbas Feayouji and his son Rahmat play mournful-sounding traditional love songs known as "Sultan-e Ghalbha," or "King of Hearts" in Farsi.

"People pay less than before," said the elder Feayouji, a 47-year-old father of three, as he took a short break to speak to the AP. "I don't know why they do, but it shows people have less money than before." **AP**

Report: US must communicate better with hostage families

Eric Tucker, Washington

THE United States must do a better job communicating with families of American hostages held overseas, including telling "hard truths" to loved ones about the chances for rescue and clarifying the government's position on ransom payments to captors, according to a report by a private advocacy group.

The report also says hostages who do make it home need more support, including for financial and mental health problems, and that Americans unlawfully detained by foreign governments should get the same level of attention from the U.S. as hostages held by terror groups.

The study from the James W. Foley Legacy Foundation is the first nongovernment effort to measure the successes and shortcomings of changes to the hostage recovery process enacted by the Obama administration and left in place by



Diane Foley, mother of journalist James Foley, who was killed by the Islamic State terrorist group in a graphic video released online

President Donald Trump. The foundation is named for James Foley, a journalist from New Hampshire who was kidnapped in Syria in 2012 and killed by Islamic State militants two years later.

The 2015 actions included the creation of an FBI-led intra-government fusion cell that works

full time on hostage cases and the appointment of a State Department presidential envoy to handle diplomatic negotiations.

The changes were meant to streamline the hostage recovery process after complaints from American families that the government had failed to prioritize the rescue of their lo-

ved ones and communicate effectively with them. The report — based on interviews with 27 people connected to hostage cases, including former hostages themselves and loved ones — makes clear that those changes have led in some instances to better interactions between government officials and hostage families but that challenges still remain.

Among its main recommendations is that the U.S. should communicate more honestly and regularly with hostage families, and be straightforward about capabilities and limitations in recovery efforts as well as the outcome of the case.

"Families asserted that they want to be spoken to directly and not placated; to be told hard truths and not how to feel," the report says. One anonymous family member is quoted in the report as saying "the U.S. government should not make assumptions on what I can and cannot handle."

The report also suggested that the U.S. improve its communi-

cations of laws and policies to families, particularly the government's stance on ransom payments to captors. The Obama administration in 2015 reaffirmed its position that while the government would not make ransom payments, it would also not prosecute families who did so and would support families attempting to negotiate their loved ones' releases.

"Nonetheless, given the complexity revolving around negotiations and private payments of ransoms, confusion among hostage families persists," the report states.

Left unclear, for instance, is how far immunity from prosecution extends and whether friends and acquaintances could be prosecuted for contributing to a ransom fund.

The report also cites a disparity in treatment given to hostages and to Americans who are wrongfully detained by foreign governments. The 2015 actions were meant to cover hostages — people held by an individual or group looking to extract concessions as a condition of release — "but only optionally and partially" apply to cases in which an American is held overseas and is acknowledged to be detained by a foreign government, according to the report. AP

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what's ON



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TIME: 10am-10pm (Sundays to Thursdays)
10am -2am (Fridays to Saturdays)

UNTIL: August 28, 2019

VENUE: Galaxy Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8883 3998

REMINISCENCES OF THE SILK ROAD - EXHIBITION OF CULTURAL RELICS OF THE WESTERN XIA DYNASTY

TIME: 10am-6pm (No admission after 5:30pm; closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: July 1, 2019

VENUE: Macau Museum

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

MASTERPIECES FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF CHINA

TIME: 10am-7pm (No admittance after 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: July 28, 2019

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

Offbeat

FLYING WALLENDAS SAFELY CROSS TIMES SQUARE ON HIGH WIRE



Aerialist Lijana Wallenda walks on a high wire above Times Square

Two siblings from the famed Flying Wallendas safely crossed Times Square on a high wire strung between two skyscrapers 25 stories above the pavement.

Nik Wallenda is a seventh-generation acrobat, but this time, he said he was nervous. His sister, Lijana Wallenda, joined him yesterday [Macau time] for the first time since her near-fatal accident in 2017, when she broke nearly every bone in her face.

The siblings walked from opposite ends of the 1,300-foot wire suspended between the towers, crossing each other in the middle, where Lijana Wallenda sat on the wire and let her brother step over her. Both then continued to the opposite side.

Their latest daredevil stunt was streamed live on ABC and watched by thousands of spectators from below. The two were wearing tethered safety harnesses required by the city in case they fell.

The Wallenda family has been a star tightrope-walking troupe for generations, tracing their roots to 1780 in Austria-Hungary, when their ancestors traveled as a band of acrobats, aerialists, jugglers, animal trainers, and trapeze artists. They never use nets in live shows or in rehearsals.

In 1978, 73-year-old Karl Wallenda fell to his death from a high wire strung between two buildings in Puerto Rico. In 1962, Karl Wallenda's nephew and son-in-law died, and his son was paralyzed, after a seven-person pyramid collapsed during a performance. Lijana Wallenda's fall happened during an attempt to break a Guinness world record with an eight-person pyramid.

Nik Wallenda's high-wire walks above Niagara Falls, the Chicago skyline, and the Little Colorado River Gorge near Grand Canyon National Park were broadcast on national television.

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 em Portugal

16:50 Quem Quer Ser Milionario

17:45 Amor Maior (Repetição)

18:15 TDM Desporto (Repetição)

19:35 Os Nossos Dias Sr.2

20:30 Telejornal

21:15 TDM Entrevista

21:50 Filhos da Nação Sr.3

22:25 Amor Maior

23:15 TDM News

23:50 Motel Bates Sr.2

00:35 Telejornal (Repetição)

01:20 RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO

20 - 26 Jun



MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL

ROOM 1

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

Director: F. Gary Gray

Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Tessa Thompson, Liam Neeson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

INVINCIBLE DRAGON

ROOM 2

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

Director: Fruit Chan

Starring: Jin Zhang, JuJu Chan, Anderson Silva

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 113min



THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2

ROOM 3

2:30, 4:15, 6:00, 7:45pm

Director: Chris Renaud, Jonathan del Val

Starring: Patton Oswalt, Kevin Hart, Harrison Ford

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 86min



ALADDIN

ROOM 2

4:30pm

ROOM 3

9:30pm

Director: Guy Ritchie

Starring: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

this day in history



1950 UN CONDEMNS NORTH KOREAN INVASION

North Korea has invaded South Korea at several points along the two countries' joint border.

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has denounced North Korea's actions as a breach of the peace and has called for an immediate ceasefire.

The United States President Harry S Truman has gone a step further and urged western nations to go out to Korea and help repel the communist invasion.

"By their actions in Korea, communist leaders have demonstrated their contempt for the basic moral principles on which the United Nations is founded," he said.

The invasion took the international community by surprise, even though the American Economic Co-operation Administration has its biggest mission - about 2,000 staff - in South Korea.

The seven-power commission of the United Nations in Korea (Uncok) confirmed North Korean troops crossed the border - known as the 38th parallel - in 11 places after artillery bombardments were reported in South Korea at 0400 local time.

Uncok has identified northern forces in the Ongjin peninsula and the north-western town of Kaesong and northerly town of Chunchon and landings on the east coast around Skagnung, almost 40 miles from the border.

Their statement also contained details of machine-gun attacks by four 'Yak' aircraft on military and civilian airfields outside the South Korean capital Seoul, destroying aircraft and jeeps and setting fire to petrol tanks.

President Syngman Rhee of South Korea - who denied early rumours of war - told Uncok at least 36 North Korean tanks and armoured cars had been counted on their way to Seoul by the shortest routes.

The North Korean wireless station, in the capital Pyongyang, justified the invasion saying communist forces were counter-attacking against border incursions by the South Koreans in the early hours of the morning and reported a state of war shortly after noon local time.

After an emergency meeting with his cabinet South Korea's foreign minister Ben Limb urged the people of the republic to resist the "dastardly attack".

The UN Security Council met at Lake Success, Detroit after the Korean Ambassador John Myung Changan sent an urgent petition to the State Department in Washington.

Korea has been divided since the Japanese withdrawal at the end of World War II left the USSR occupying the area north of the 38th parallel and the US to the south.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

For the first time the UN asked broadcasters - including the BBC and Voice of America - to transmit the UN ceasefire resolution to North Korea. The republican government fled Seoul and the following day America offered military aid - including air and sea support - to South Korea. On 28 June North Korean troops entered the capital and took control. The UN invoked military sanctions shortly afterwards. President Truman and his government interpreted the invasion as Russian-backed communist aggression. The USSR and North Korean authorities claimed they were responding to attacks from the republican south. The war cost about two million lives. Fighting did not stop until 1953 with the signing of the armistice on 27 July. But a peace deal has never been reached. American troops remain stationed in the de-militarized zone on and around the 38th parallel separating North and South Korea.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
You need to stick it out today — otherwise, there's just no telling what might pop up tomorrow or the next day. Things are only going to work out for you if you believe in yourself.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
You need to indulge yourself today — even if you feel tapped out. In fact, a little decadence may go a long way toward recharging your batteries, so don't feel guilty about it!

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
It's time to take care of basic business — the kind you'd rather leave to others. There's some paperwork that only you can do, so make sure that you're on the ball. Things should perk up in a few days.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
This is not the time to edit yourself — in fact, you need to let your freakiest ideas out to play! Something really wild is sure to catch fire, so make sure that your people are playing with you.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
You need to finish up with some old project that has lingered long beyond its welcome. It may be time to formally cancel it, or maybe you can actually push it past the finish line somehow.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You're looking deep within yourself today — whether you mean to or not! Your amazing personal energy leads to a spiritual discovery, and you should end the day wiser than you started it.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
You may find it harder than usual to deal with your people, thanks to some little problems that haven't quite made it to the surface yet. It's not as serious as it may seem, so try to relax.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
This is a great day to practice detachment. You may not know which of your entanglements are actually holding you back, but if you focus on one and pull away, things should get simpler.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Today is all about the small stuff — which, you may remember, you shouldn't sweat. Still, you do have to address all the details of today's plan or project, so get a handle on them and then get to work!

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Your conscientious demeanor actually pays off for you today, as you find that you've earned the trust of someone who is naturally quite skeptical. Don't push it, but you should find things going your way.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Your elders are more important than ever today — so try to reach out to them (or reach within yourself, if they're no longer with you). That kind of wisdom is impossible to achieve by other means.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Enjoy the finer things in life — and make them yourself, if possible! Cooking is perfect, but you could also be crafting or doing almost anything that leads to a sweeter experience.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

	7		5	9				
	2	4						6
9		6			2	1		
8	4	2						
2			1					3
				4	2	7		
9	4		7				8	
8			9	1				
7	3			4				

Easy+

		3				4		
7					4			8
5				8	7	3		
	6			9	5			1
7							9	
1		3	6				7	
		5	4	2				6
8			1					9
2						1		

Medium

7	3					9		
1					8	3		
2				9	1			
3	7	2			5			
			7	9				
			8			2	5	7
			9	4				6
		8	5					4
	7							1

Hard

							9	1
8		3						
3			5					
4	7					5		
				9	2			
			6					
	2							5
		8				4		
9								

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	22	36	cloudy
Harbin	12	24	cloudy
Tianjin	23	34	clear
Urumqi	19	28	cloudy
Xi'an	21	26	moderate rain
Lhasa	13	25	shower
Chengdu	21	29	cloudy
Chongqing	25	31	overcast
Kunming	19	28	cloudy
Nanjing	22	25	moderate rain
Shanghai	22	25	drizzle
Wuhan	24	31	moderate rain
Hangzhou	22	25	moderate rain
Taipei	25	30	overcast
Guangzhou	27	34	cloudy
Hong Kong	28	33	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	14	31	clear
Frankfurt	17	24	drizzle
Paris	18	21	drizzle
London	12	19	drizzle
New York	19	26	drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Grim; 6- Working away; 10- Voting-pattern predictor; 14- ___ the side of caution; 15- Adidas rival; 16- Slangy suffix; 17- Do not disturb; 18- Dancer Pavlova; 19- Metallica drummer Ulrich; 20- Reduce; 22- Athenian philosopher; 24- Pea's place; 26- Blanch; 27- Violent whirlwind; 31- Summer along the Seine; 32- Tolerated; 33- Boite ___; 36- 1972 treaty subj.; 39- Sets one's sights; 40- Closes in on; 41- Glamour rival; 42- ___ Victor; 43- Handle; 44- Box; 45- ___ room; 46- Most accessible; 48- Small spots; 51- Monetary unit of Japan; 52- Surprised; 54- Bigot; 59- Dissolve, as cells; 60- Dynamic beginning; 62- Mother of Isaac; 63- Adamson's lioness; 64- Sourpuss; 65- Singer Lopez; 66- Undesirable plant; 67- Salingir girl; 68- Donkeys;

DOWN: 1- Put on the market; 2- Hammock holder; 3- Liberal pursuits; 4- Steals; 5- Rollerblader's protector; 6- Gasteyer of "Saturday Night Live"; 7- Sardine containers; 8- Tell me about it!; 9- Tutors; 10- Sense of taste; 11- Speechify; 12- Actress Sophia; 13- Election defeat; 21- Silent assent; 23- Baptism, e.g.; 25- Gift recipient; 27- Boris Godunov, for one; 28- Auricular; 29- Italia's capital; 30- Refusals; 34- Granola morsel; 35- Satirical dialogue; 36- Winglike parts; 37- Diner orders; 38- Shake hands with; 40- Choker, e.g.; 41- Drift, make a mistake; 43- Religious offshoot; 44- Variety of rummy; 45- Scan again; 47- Always, to a poet; 48- Genre; 49- Old hat; 50- Prophets; 52- Killed; 53- Apothecary's weight; 55- Limos, hatchbacks, and coupes; 56- Eye part; 57- Having a sound mind; 58- Not that; 61- UK honor;



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- 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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1,390 ft² \$8,980,000 (ref: 19065010ST)
- [Taipa] Nova City 3 2 2
1,494 ft² \$13,980,000 (ref: 17050001RT)

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1,317 ft² \$15,000/mth (ref: 17050649)
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FOOTBALL

After World Cup rage, Cameroon faces demands for punishment

AFTER all the rage and rebellion in the stadium, England players received a far more convivial reception back at their hotel they shared with Cameroon.

It came remarkably from Cameroon supporters who were far more graceful than some of their dissenting national team players earlier on Sunday evening in the humid cauldron of Stade de Hainaut.

England players who had denied their country a place in the Women's World Cup quarterfinals by winning 3-0 were applauded back into the Royal Hainaut Spa and Resort Hotel.

The England traveling party led by Phil Neville welcomed the unexpected reception.

The manager had concerns

the moment he was informed by the team operations manager that they were sharing with the opposition in the small city of Valenciennes.

"I thought, 'No, that's not right,'" Neville said. "Then we went to hotel and it's been amazing. We saw them go out to training [on Saturday] and they had a ghetto blaster and the kit man went out singing and dancing.

"My players joined in dancing in the corridors. Our meal and meeting rooms were side by side. That's the spirit of football."

But what unfolded on Sunday in the last-16 game was far from the "carnival atmosphere" Neville enjoyed the previous day in the newly opened hotel on a site of a former hospital.

By revolting against VAR decisions and contemplating not resuming play, the Cameroon players left Neville "completely and utterly ashamed."

The Cameroonians were convinced of a plot against them by the refereeing team.

In the dressing room at half-time, trailing 2-0 after Ellen White had been awarded a second goal initially scrubbed out for offside, Cameroon coach Alain Djeumfa inflamed the anger.

"The referee wants England to win today," Djeumfa said, according to an account of midfielder Raissa Feudjio.

As Cameroon seethed and wept at times on the field, there was at least one high-profile advocate of the petulant behavior: The head of the FIFA ad-

ministration. AP

FIFA secretary general Fatma Samoura tweeted the Cameroon players "inspired many young girls," with "passionate and talented play on the field that made your fans proud and your country is proud of you."

The view from the Confederation of African Football was very different.

Isha Johansen, president of CAF's women's committee, said the match "reflected badly not only on African women's football but African football on the whole" and wants punishments imposed.

"It is an issue which will be addressed and dealt with at the appropriate levels of governance," she added on Monday.

But Samoura endorsed the

conduct of players who openly undermined the authority of referee Quin Liang by forcing delays to restarts as they huddled to protest against England goals.

Instead, Liang was just following the laws of the game by allowing White's goal to stand and then denying Ajara Nchout a chance to pull it back to 2-1 for another offside call that went against Cameroon on a video review. Nchout was in tears as angry teammates delayed the restart once again.

England players seemed more clued up about the application of VAR and the laws after pre-tournament briefings before flying out.

"Maybe [it's] why you've seen our players in a little more control," defender Lucy Bronze said.

As the opposition anger boiled over, the English just waited for it to subside.

"As soon as you get caught up in that, or get worried about it," defender Millie Bright said, "you will lose momentum in the game. We stayed away from it."

Unlike some Cameroon fans in the stadium, who moved into seats right behind the benches where the coaches and fourth official sit. It led to issues which FIFA tried to explain away in a contorted statement after Neville reported hearing of fighting in the stadium's area.

"A number of Cameroon fans had moved to the seats behind the team benches during the match in order to create a 'fan block,'" FIFA said. "This required management by stadium stewards who, in the interests of all spectators, moved other ticket holders into hospitality seating.

"Although there was some verbal exchange between Cameroon supporters and stewards, there has been no report of any physical confrontation."

FIFA was silent on action against the team itself, or any criticism of disobedience that led to the most chaotic scenes in Women's World Cup history. **AP**

AD

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opinion

Our Desk

Julie Zhu



SETTING EXAMPLES, NOT JUST UTTERING WORDS

August is around the corner. Is Macau well prepared to embrace all the smells and colors of trash?

Macau's recycling spirit should start being developed immediately in primary and middle schools. It is beyond any doubt that in some parts of the world recycling education starts at an even earlier age.

In Chinese culture, multiple sayings can be found to remind people that setting an example is a more effective teaching method.

The majority of the city's adults have certainly failed at setting a good example for the children in terms of recycling. When are Macau's schools and teachers going to take a step forward to give children fair opportunities to recycle in schools, which is the place where children spend most of their time?

In Japan, schools implement a strict recycling routine, which is quite similar to the Japanese society's common practices. Students who eat at school are obliged to recycle what is left. Step by step, it is the students' duty to clean waste materials before putting them into recycling bins. As a result, school is simply a scaled-down version of Japan's society in what concerns recycling.

In Macau, schools keep a quite similar same pace as the Macau society in that regard.

In Macau, the government spent (does not spend anymore) a little bit effort by putting out trash classification and collection facilities on streets, thinking that their hard [machinery] working would make a difference in the lives of Macau residents. Moreover, as one of its routine works, the Macau government launched, in 2016, a reward program called "Green Schools", which proactively carries out environmental protection works.

In 2018, 25 schools were awarded for being Green Schools.

Macau cannot build a strong knowledge of recycling among students by simply asking them and rewarding them for designing a bunch of "environmental protective teaching plans".

Knowledge can only be learnt, enhanced through practice. Some knowledge requires longer periods of practice. Recycling does not: it only takes a short time of practice for people to learn a lot about it.

If these 25 schools were awarded for presumably doing nothing or for simply having implemented a better recycling scheme than other schools, then the majority of Macau's residents should be awarded for just being better than some people because they do not spit or pee on streets while some people engage in these kinds of behavior.

Being better does not mean being good. A blind approbation does not encourage anybody; it only enhances one's self-deception.

I truly believe that the Macau community is eager to help Macau catch up to world standards in terms of city management. But either the efforts are not enough, or they have been spent wrongly, or the engine behind the efforts has been improperly designed.

The local government should just make sure that next time it fails at something, it should not blame others. The 30 million tourists have been constantly blamed for polluting Macau. I don't doubt that is partially true.

It is however the government's duty to sort out a solution. The government can change the tourists' behavior before the tourists behavior poses a great impact to the city.

THE TRUMP SUGGESTS OTHER COUNTRIES PAY US FOR PROTECTING TANKERS

President Donald Trump is suggesting the United States should not protect ships in the strategic Strait of Hormuz without compensation from other countries.

The U.S. blamed Iran for attacks on two oil tankers this month near the Strait of Hormuz, denouncing what it called a campaign of "escalating tensions" in a region crucial to global energy supplies.

Trump says most of the oil China and Japan

import goes through "the Strait," adding, "All of these countries should be protecting their own ships on what has always been a dangerous journey."

Trump said Monday the U.S. doesn't "even need to be there" because of its vast oil supply. He tweets the U.S. request for Iran is simple: "No Nuclear Weapons and No Further Sponsoring of Terror!"

Iran calls allegations of its involvement in the oil tanker attacks "a lie."

Huge crowds for LGBT pride parade in Brazil's biggest city

Anna Jean Kaiser, Rio de Janeiro

HUNDREDS of thousands of people filled a main São Paulo thoroughfare for one of the world's largest LGBT pride parades — the first since the election of far-right President Jair Bolsonaro.

Nineteen moving stages dotted the avenue with live performances by well-known Brazilian artists, while supporters cheered speeches by LGBT activists encouraging resistance to the wave of conservative politics that has swept Brazil.

Participants collectively carried a huge rainbow flag down the avenue, with many more sporting rainbow hats, bracelets and T-shirts. The parade was dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots in New York City.

Some parade-goers carried signs calling for the president's ouster

"Because of all we went through with the election, this is one of the most important pride parades to show that we are here, we are going to continue here to exist and resist," said Diego dos Santos Oliveira, one of the parade's organizers.

Many of those attending took aim at Jair Bolsonaro, a far-right former army captain who took office as Brazil's president Jan. 1 and once described himself as a "proud homophobe."

"I will do everything I can do with my voice for you all, because we're in this together," singer Luísa Sonza told the crowds. "Long live love! Not him!" she screamed, using an anti-Bolsonaro rallying cry.



Some parade-goers carried signs calling for the president's ouster. "We won't be in the closet, nor in a grave. Out with Bolsonaro," read one banner.

"We need to change society's way of thinking," Patricia Luzivo said as she watched the parade. "So many people are dying for coming out of the closet and being homosexual."

While São Paulo hosts one of the world's largest pride parades and Rio de Janeiro is a well-known gay tourist destination, LGBT people in Brazil suffer high levels of violence. According to activist group Grupo Gay Bahia, 141 LGBT people were killed in homophobic crimes or committed suicide between January and May 15 of this year — an average of one every 23 hours.

Many activists say Bol-

sonaro's anti-gay rhetoric incites or legitimizes violence against LGBT people. He once said he would rather have a dead son than a gay son, and he made headlines in April when he told reporters that Brazil "can't be a country of the gay world, of gay tourism."

LGBT activists won a major battle this month when Brazil's Supreme Court voted to criminalize discrimination against homosexuals and transgender people.

Bolsonaro criticized the ruling as "totally wrong" and said it will "deepen class wars." He also said the decision would hurt LGBT people because employers would be less inclined to hire LGBT employees because they could be taken to court "if they make a joke."

Station	Air quality
Roadside	15-35 Good
High Density Residential Area	15-35 Good
Ambient	15-35 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

HIMALAYAS Bad weather has delayed the recovery of the bodies of international climbers who went missing while attempting to scale an unclimbed Himalayan peak in northern India, officials said. Veteran British mountaineer Martin Moran was leading a team which included three other Britons, two Americans, an Australian and an Indian on the expedition on Nanda Devi East.



USA President Donald Trump will sign an executive order that calls for upfront disclosure by hospitals of actual prices for common tests and procedures to help keep costs down. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar (pictured) told reporters the idea is to give patients practical information that they can use to keep costs down.



USA Four people, including three children, found dead in South Texas near the border with Mexico likely died of dehydration and heat exposure after crossing the Rio Grande into the U.S. A law enforcement official close to the investigation told The Associated Press the four were overcome by the heat and foul play is not suspected.



UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt (pictured) stepped up his attacks yesterday on front-runner Boris Johnson in the race to become Britain's next prime minister, challenging him to face public scrutiny amid the fallout from a reported quarrel with his girlfriend that prompted a police visit. Writing in the Times of London, Hunt said Johnson needs to earn the public's trust by facing television debates before the Tories' vote.