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“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

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A MACAU RESIDENT HAS LOST A TOTAL AMOUNT OF HKD1.75 MILLION IN A PHONE SCAM, THE POLICE SAID

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THE TIS UNIVERSITY FAIR ATTRACTED 80 INSTITUTIONS AROUND THE WORLD TO THEIR ANNUAL EVENT, THE LARGEST TO DATE

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AP PHOTO



Indonesia At least 20 people were killed yesterday, including three shot by police, in violent protests by hundreds of people sparked by rumors that a teacher insulted an indigenous student in Indonesia's restive Papua province, officials said.

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AP PHOTO



Philippines At least two workers were killed and another was injured yesterday when part of a small budget hotel they were demolishing in Manila collapsed, Philippine officials said.

AP PHOTO



Lebanon A senior United States Treasury official was visiting Beirut yesterday, where he's explaining the motives behind recent U.S. sanctions targeting Lebanon's Iranian-backed Hezbollah group, Lebanon's central bank governor said.

AP PHOTO



Algeria An Algerian military tribunal yesterday opened an unprecedented trial of a brother (right) of former President Abdelaziz Bouteflika (left) and two ex-intelligence chiefs, over an alleged plot against the state.

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OVER 617,000 INDIVIDUALS CASHED THEIR HANDOUT

A note from the Financial Services Bureau (DSF), informed that the works on the distribution of the 2019 Wealth Partaking Scheme concluded on September 13. In the course of implementation, a total of 377,489 beneficiaries received the government premium through bank transfer, totaling an amount of MOP3.69 billion, while another 338,621 bank cheques were mailed. The DSF said that so far, around 71% of the second premiums have been successfully cashed, representing some MOP3.28 billion. The government also noted that during the distribution period, some 15,142 inquiries were handled, the majority of which were received through a telephone hotline, totaling 8,156 inquiries, (54%). The second most popular channel was a personal visit to the service centers, serving up to 6,800 or 45% of total inquiries. During the process and due to loss or misplacement, a total of almost 1,500 cheques had to be reissued.

CHECK-IN BAGGAGE SCREENING CHANGES AT MIA

The check-in baggage screening process has been amended at the Macau International Airport (MIA), starting yesterday for check-in zones A and B, and will change from 6 a.m. tomorrow for check-in zones C and D. From this point onwards, departing passengers at Macau International Airport will approach their airline's respective check-in counter first, where check-in procedures will take place. Departing passengers travelling without check-in baggage may proceed directly to the departure lounge after check-in. After these formalities take place, all passengers are requested to make their way to the restricted departure area, clearing passenger security screening and passport control, at their earliest convenience.

LAWMAKER WANTS BETTER AIR IN UNDERGROUND PARKING LOTS

Lawmaker Ng Kuok Cheong has written an interpellation to the government requesting the improvement of air quality in underground parking lots. Ng wants the underground parking lots' supervisory government department to monitor their air quality. In his opinion, the ventilation systems of nearly all of Macau's underground parking lots are merely decorative, since not only do parking lot users feel the humidity, but they also experience poor breathing and chest discomfort. Ng asked whether the Transport Bureau will issue guidance to parking lot operation companies for making improvements, and also asked whether the Environmental Protection Bureau will set up air quality requirements for parking lots.

LVS RECOGNIZED IN DOW JONES SUSTAINABILITY INDEX

SANDS China's parent company, Las Vegas Sands Corp. (LVS), has once again been recognized by the S&P Dow Jones Indices (S&P DJI) for its performance in environmental, social and governance efforts, making it the only integrated resort company included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices North America.

According to the SAM Corporate Sustainability Assessment results, LVS made significant performance improvements in human rights, corporate citizenship and philanthropy, as well as operational eco-efficiency in 2019.

There are several initiatives that LVS has implemented to promote the above objectives. These initiatives include the Sands ECO360 global sustainability program, the Sands Cares corporate giving and



LVS President Robert Goldstein

community engagement program, the global employee development program "Sands Academy" and Project Protect, a program focused on

responsible gaming, financial crimes and counter-trafficking practices.

In addition, according to a statement from the company,

LVS claims strong track record in sustainable business performance through the economic value and social impact it has delivered as part of its commitment to making the regions it serves better places to live and work.

"Sands is driven by delivering strong returns to all of the stakeholders we serve, and inclusion in the DJSI affirms the emphasis we place on positive business impact and good corporate citizenship," said Robert Goldstein, LVS president and COO, according to the statement.

"Our leadership among integrated resort companies and inclusion with this outstanding group of peers is an accomplishment that is highly valued in our company and continues to drive our continued focus on environmental, social and governance issues." **AL**

IPIIM TESTING NEW IMMIGRATION VETTING FOLLOWING PROBE

THE Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIIM) is testing its new assessment measures for the review of immigration applications related to "major investment immigration" and "technical immigration."

In July last year, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) published a report condemning IPIIM's immigration application assessment measures for having loopholes.

The CCAC pointed out that IPIIM lacked stringent vetting and approval mechanisms for major investment immigration applications, that the investment amounts of some major investment immigration projects were too low, and too large a proportion of the investment amounts in some of the major investment immigration project

applications concerned immovable property investments.

When processing technical immigration applications, there were problems such as a lack of stringent vetting and approval criteria, leading to technical immigration applicants rarely staying in Macau and obtaining temporary residency through fictitious employment.

The CCAC ordered an inquiry into the vetting and approval procedures for major investment immigration and technical immigration applications carried out by IPIIM.

Questioned by lawmaker Lei Cheng I, IPIIM said that the bureau conducted "many opinion collection meetings in regard to the evaluation mechanism for immigration applications related to major investment immigration and technical immigration."

The Institute added that it had "listened to the opinions of approximately 20 departments, including economic development committees, human resources development committees, higher institutions, professional organizations, and social clubs."

According to IPIIM, in 2018 the department proposed a law amendment and "conducted many internal meetings" concerning the Macau permanent residence bill, the immigration law and administrative regulations related to immigration policies.

"Simultaneously, IPIIM has referred to and studied neighboring regions' relevant policies and measures. It is now analyzing and studying a series of important legal questions in order to seek a better solution," IPIIM president Irene Lau wrote in the reply to Lei. **JZ**

CONSUMER PRICES GROWING FASTER IN AUGUST

THE Composite Consumer Price Index (CPI), a key measure of inflation in the territory, increased 2.83% year-on-year to 116.41 in August, according to the latest information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

DSEC attributed the rise, akin to a 0.23 percentage point increase from July's 2.6% growth, to higher charges for eating out, rising rentals for dwellings and dearer prices for certain goods, notably motor cars, gasoline, gold jewelry and fresh pork.

Among the various goods and services, the price indexes of the education and transport categories grew faster than the monthly aggregate rate, growing 5.83% and 5.06% respectively year-on-year. Meanwhile, the index for communication dropped 2.53% year-on-year in August, and the index for alcoholic beverages and tobacco edged down 0.91%.

The average Composite CPI for the first eight months of 2019 went up by 2.77% year-on-year, according to DSEC. For the 12 months ending in August, the average Composite CPI rose by 2.92% from the previous period, with notable growth in the price indexes of the education and transport sector.

The Composite CPI is an indicator of inflation, reflecting the impact of price changes on average households in Macau. **DB**

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GAMING

China disputes mass exodus from Cambodia's online casino blackout

AS many as 120,000 Chinese nationals may have departed Cambodia since the announcement of a ban on online gambling last month, about half of the estimated number living in the country.

That's according to comments from Cambodia's Interior Ministry, but state-run media outlets in China are painting a different picture of just a few thousand leaving. One writer for the ultra-nationalist Global Times said the exodus may amount to no more than 5,000 people who had gone to Cambodia believing it would be a "shortcut to wealth via cheating and extortion."

China is stepping up a crackdown on gambling activity by its citizens offshore, threatening what has become a lucrative industry for gaming operators.

However, despite the Communist Party's call to halt online gaming, which causes an illegal outflow of money, business in Southeast Asia is booming. In the Philippines, as well as in Cambodia where it was recently banned, online casinos have become a major driver of the economy.

All forms of gambling by Chinese people in overseas casinos are illegal, according to Beijing.

Macau has also weighed in on the issue, forbidding local junket operators from using the territory as a settling platform for gambling services provided elsewhere, reported Bloomberg last month.

MARKUS WINKLER



As the only place in China where gambling is legal, the Special Administrative Region of Macau has a lot on the line.

There are signs that the offshore services are penetrating more deeply into China's population than expected. Some online gaming websites offer punters wagers as low as 10 yuan and have round-the-clock live streams, making them easily accessible by lower-income Chinese in rural areas, who do not have the means to go to Macau.

In response to Chinese pressure, Cambodia decided to phase out online gaming, initiating the exodus. Reports noted that two-thirds of the Chinese population in Cambodia's Vietnamese border town of Bavet are prepared for a similar exit.

However, Cambodia may yet revoke its decision, as online gaming has become a significant economic driver in Sihanoukville. The business has attracted hundreds of thousands of Chinese workers, catering to clients that

mostly reside within mainland China.

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen issued a directive last month that orders the halting of new online gaming permits, which also means that the dozens of licenses that will expire this year will not be renewed.

The move was intended to tackle "security and social order" as well as "foreign criminals" that have been engaging in "online fraud." However, there are no details yet on how the directive will

be implemented.

Last month the Philippine Amusement Gaming Corporation announced a suspension in accepting applications for offshore gaming operations, which China hoped meant that it could jointly tackle criminal activities, including online gambling.

China had previously expressed concerns, calling on the Philippines to halt all forms of online gambling after the nation said that it had caused hundreds of millions of yuan to illegally flow out of its economy.

However, President Rodrigo Duterte said earlier this month said that online gambling will continue despite the opposition from Beijing, citing job opportunities and the government revenue acquired from the activity.

Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators are expected to deliver some \$154 million (1.24 billion patacas) in license fees alone for the government this year.

According to reports, the online gambling industry has occupied a significant number of office rentals and condominium sales in Manila.

The activity is responsible for employing some 350,000 people, over 100,000 of which are Chinese, many of whom are responsible for marketing and customer service.

Meanwhile, several dens of online gambling and alleged telecommunication fraud conducted by Chinese nationals have been recently busted by authorities, in both Cambodia and the Philippines.

According to the most recent data, nearly 1,000 suspects have been apprehended by Chinese and Cambodian police in a joint crackdown on online gambling, telecommunication fraud and gang crimes this year. **DB**

TOURISM

Double-digit visitor growth shows signs of slowing

DANIEL BEITLER

THIS year's rapid growth in visitor arrivals decelerated markedly in August, growing just 6.5% year-on-year compared to 16.3% year-on-year in July. The slowdown follows an exceptionally strong first half of 2019, which registered over 20% growth in the number of visitors and sparked concerns of over-tourism that are yet to be allayed.

The number of visitor arrivals reached 3.62 million in August 2019, according to data newly released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC),

taking the total for the first eight months of 2019 to 27.43 million visitor arrivals, or 18% more than a year earlier. This represents a slowdown from the year-to-date visitor growth of 20% seen in the first seven months of the year.

Some of the visitor growth is linked to the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge in October last year, where the number of bridge-crossers has outpaced the decline in visitors arriving by ferry.

The bridge may also be facilitating a shift in the type of tourist coming to Macau. Much of the tourism growth in 2019 has

been fueled by soaring numbers of same-day visitors, who spend on average just 0.2 days, or about five hours, in the Macau SAR.

The 6.5% growth in August visitors was led by a 20.2% surge in same-day visitors, while overnight visitors dropped by 5.7% year-on-year to just under 1.7 million. Considering the first eight months of the year, same-date visitors have increased by 31.6% year-on-year to reach 14.54 million. Meanwhile, overnight visitors grew at a much slower rate of 5.7%, and the average length of stay held steady at 1.2 days.

Macau is on track

to break the symbolic 40-million level this year, previously earmarked by the Institute for Tourism Studies as the city's "optimal tourism carrying capacity." Last year's influx of 35.8 million tourists represented an almost 10% rise from a year earlier.

The rapid rise in the number of visitors has become a source of concern for the Macau public, especially as gaming receipts and other tourism spending are growing at a much slower pace or not at all.

Chinese tourists continued to form the bulk of visitors to the Macau SAR in August, growing 4.7% year-

on-year to 2.64 million. Tourists from the mainland continued to come mostly from Guangdong Province and Hunan Province, with the former accounting for about half of visitor arrivals during the month. Those from the Greater Bay Area surged by 23.8% year-on-year to 1.15 million, with Zhuhai visitors growing by almost 50% year-on-year.

As for other popular source markets of Macau tourism, visitors from Hong Kong grew 19.7% to 666,000, while those from Taiwan edged up 1.2% to 95,000. The number of South Korean visitors fell 5% year-on-year to 62,000.

Analyzed by mode of transport, the DSEC data shows that the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge continues to be a major factor buttressing land arrivals. Visitor arrivals by land surged 33.7% year-on-year to 2.74 million in August, with 448,000 traveling via the still-new bridge spanning the Pearl River Delta. The number of bridge travelers dipped from the 553,000 seen in July, when land arrivals soared by 49%.

At the same time, the number of visitor arrivals by air rose 18.4% year-on-year to 356,000 in August, while those traveling by sea halved to less than 522,000.

HANNAH WEI



CRIME

RESIDENT LOSES TOTAL BANK SAVINGS IN PHONE SCAM

RENATO MARQUES

A resident of Macau, aged 71, has reportedly lost a total amount of HKD1.75 million in a phone scam, the Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson Choi Ian Fai informed yesterday during the joint police forces press conference held at the Public Security Police Force (PSP) facilities.

According to the victim's report to the PJ, the case occurred on September 15 around 10 a.m. when she received a call from a phone number from outside Macau. When she picked up, the person on the line claimed to be from an express mail company and informed her that a parcel under her name had been retained by customs authorities because it contained forbidden articles.

The same person also said that she might be involved in a case of "stolen identity" and that other people might have used her data.

After this first exchange, the person transferred the victim to a second person, a self-proclaimed Beijing police officer that asked her for the number of her license card to travel to the mainland. The man also informed the victim that she was involved in a scam that was being investigated by the Beijing police and that, since the case was confidential, she should

not inform other people of it.

In a later call, the same man asked the victim which banks she had accounts with and how much money was in each of them. The victim informed him that she had money in two local banks.

A third scammer was then involved in the case, with the call being once more transferred, this time to someone claiming to be a public prosecutor in Beijing, who told the woman that to prove her innocence in the case, she had to transfer all the money to a given account, to be verified.

He also told her that the money would be fully returned if confirmed that she had no involvement in the case.

Proceeding in fear and good faith, the woman then transferred over the course of three days (from September 17 to 19) all of the funds she possessed to a bank account in Hong Kong. After that, she lost contact with the scammer and, suspecting that she had been scammed, she presented the complaint to the PJ.

TAIWAN RESIDENTS CONNED IN MACAU VIP ROOM

In a separate case, two residents of Taiwan claimed that they were scammed by a third man, also a Taiwan resident, while gambling in a VIP room of

a local casino.

The case occurred on September 19 when the PJ received a report from the victims, aged 51 and 44.

The men claimed to the PJ that they had been victims of a scam performed by a 47-year-old man from Taiwan and an unknown accomplice in the VIP room of a casino in Taipa. The victims claimed to have met the suspect a few days before in Taiwan, and he had offered them a deal to come to Macau and play in a certain VIP room. The deal was that if the men made an initial exchange of cash for gaming chips in the amount of HKD1 million, they would get a commission of HKD35,000.

They accepted the deal and arranged to come and play in Macau. After arriving at the agreed upon location they said there were two men on site, to which each of the victims handed HKD500,000 in cash, receiving the same amount in gaming chips.

After playing for a while, the men made a profit of HKD18,000 and decided to stop for a while, depositing all the chips, as instructed, into the VIP room account. After some time, allegedly when they were preparing to play again, they realized that soon af-

ter they deposited the chips into the VIP room account, the money had been withdrawn from a different location. The victims then called the PJ.

Each of the Taiwanese victims claims to have lost a total of HKD526,500 in this case.

The PJ spokesperson said that the case is still under investigation.

HOTEL HOSTESS SEXUALLY HARASSED

A 20-year-old hostess at a hotel in Cotai has called the police on a 23-year-old man, a university student from the mainland, over a case in which she claims to have been a victim of sexual harassment.

The victim, also a mainland resident and working in Macau with a permit, said that while she was performing her duties on September 22 and providing information to a hotel guest, the suspect approached her and groped her buttocks.

She immediately grabbed the man's hand and called the PSP.

Arriving at the scene, the officers heard the report from the victim and questioned the man, but he did not admit to having committed the crime.

The officers then reviewed the surveillance footage of the place where the incident occurred, and the spokesperson said that there is "strong evidence" that the man did perform the criminal act punishable under Macau law. The suspect was sent to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) yesterday.

PROSTITUTE ARRESTED IN CENTRAL DISTRICT

The PSP spokesperson also informed yesterday that the police have detained a 37-year-old female resident from the mainland after an anonymous complaint informed that the woman was performing prostitution activities in a room at a hotel located on Avenida da Amizade in Macau's central district.

On September 19, police officers deployed to the location were said to have observed the woman taking several men up to a room for a short duration before escorting them out.

After being detained, the woman admitted to offering prostitution services, saying that she had been doing so since she arrived in Macau on September 15, having received a total of 33 clients over the four days since, charging each client MOP350 in exchange for the services provided. According to this information, she has earned MOP12,250.

During the police questioning, the woman said that she had managed to engage in such activities thanks to a man, a friend of one of her friends, who was responsible for advertising the services via a website, and who she paid RMB300 per day. According to the woman, she had already paid the man RMB900 for three days of advertising. The police say that there is strong evidence that indicates that the case falls under the law provisions for "sexual exploitation" and the woman has been sent to the MP while the investigation to find the people behind the scheme continues.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



6,200 team members have graduated from Sands China's development programmes

SANDS China Ltd. has prioritized a series of development programmes, not just for its team members but also for its retail partners and local small, medium and micro enterprises whom it views as its strategic partners.

Earlier this month, the Sands China Academy held its Diversified Local Talent Graduation Ceremony at Sands Cotai Central, to celebrate the achievements of its local team members and business partners nurtured through Sands China's various human resource development programmes.

At the ceremony, Sands China Ltd. President Dr Wilfred Wong and officiating guests presented certificates to representatives of graduating team members, retailers and SME suppliers.

The event also included a sharing session featuring video, a quiz show and a theatrical performance, highlighting the successes of Sands China's varied talent development initiatives. Some of those initiatives were the first of their kind in Macau and are now being offered to others who are not direct employees of Sands China, such as employees of Sands China's partners.

A total of 6,200 participants

graduated in 2018-2019, with over 700 representatives attending the ceremony.

The integrated resort operator has been holding a series of seminars for free in a bid to continually strengthen skills and to increase the knowledge of its employees and partners.

"Learning is a lifelong process," said Dr Wong. "As a leading integrated resort operator in Macau, Sands China is more than pleased to provide a diversity of initiatives for local talent, not only by providing short-term courses, but by offering a continuous, fruitful learning experience," the president added.

With more than 8.3 million training hours offered to team members to date, including more than 1.7 million training hours delivered in 2018 alone, the Sands China Academy will continue to help team members grow along with the company.

The company will continue to adhere to the government's call to produce local talent.

"We will continue to align ourselves with the Macau SAR's local talent-building strategy to cultivate diverse tourism and leisure talent for the industry, for Macau, and for the Greater Bay Area," said Dr Wong.

Three key areas of the company's focus are horizontal and vertical management talent development, professionalism training, and development of industry professionals outside of Sands China.

HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL MANAGEMENT TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Sands China offers an abundance of horizontal and vertical career mobility options to its team members through a variety of trailblazing talent development initiatives, of which more than 20 talent development programmes are specifically designed to cultivate senior management team members. The first large-scale horizontal development programme in Macau, the My Way programme, was launched in 2016, with more than 2,200 team members having joined the programme to date.

Diversified management development programmes have helped over 1,600 team members to advance their careers since 2016, by completing more than 30 programmes.

PROFESSIONALISM TRAINING

Launched in 2016, the company's professionalism training programme is the

first programme in the SAR to be co-organised with the Labour Affairs Bureau and the Macao Federation of Trade Unions, and has since trained over 5,100 team members from 19 departments. Various initiatives since 2016, such as the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Visit and seminars conducted by renowned chefs, have helped enhance team members' knowledge of the latest developments in mainland China.

DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS OUTSIDE SANDS CHINA

The Sands Retail Academy is the first training programme of its kind in Macau for retail professionals and has provided over 37,000 training hours for more than 9,000 participants to date. The first of its kind in Macau for local SME suppliers, the Sands Procurement Academy has graduated five cohorts to date, comprising more than 140 representatives from local SMEs.

NEW INITIATIVES

Sands China continually explores additional avenues for nurturing local talent, and is introducing five new programmes,

including the National Studies Programme at the National Academy of Governance, the Sands China Integrated Resort Business Analyst Development Programme,

The All-Round Food and Beverage Management Programme, the Casino Talent Development Programme, and Professionalism Training for Non-Gaming Team Members.

Sands China considers these and other human resource initiatives as an essential part of the company's commitment and determination to nurture local talent.

Sands China created the Sands China Academy as a platform to give team members training for their career development, and to help foster professional talent in the wider Macau community. One of the major training venues of the Academy is the Adelson Advanced Education Centre at The Venetian Macao, which works to equip team members and local residents with skills to help achieve their career goals. The academy works in concert with the Macau SAR government's efforts to raise Macau's profile as a world centre of tourism and leisure.

(To be continued tomorrow)



Total on-the-job Training for Team Members

8.3M Hours



Total Training for Team Members last year

1.7M Hours

ANOTHER 'LEVEL 0' INCIDENT REPORTED AT POWER PLANT

RENATO MARQUES

MACAU'S Unitary Police Service (SPU) received a notice last Thursday regarding an operational failure at a facility of the Taishan Nuclear Power Plant in Guangdong Province.

According to the report made via the mechanism established under the "Guangdong-Macau Cooperation Consensus in Case of a Guangdong Nuclear Power Plant Emergency," the incident was classified as "below the scale," i.e. a "Level 0" event.

The incident description reads that a "temporary failure occurred in the power transmission cable of an external network," which led to the "reactor to activate an automatic safety shut-down."

According to the report, the plant's staff immediately stabilized the power production Unit 1, of Taishan, according to the established safety procedures.

Although Macau received the information report on Thursday (September 19) the incident occurred at 8:08 p.m. on September 17, two days earlier.

This is the fourth minor incident this year and the second in Taishan after two others at Yangjiang Nuclear Power Station, also in Guangdong.

The classification of an incident as "Level 0" indicates that the case had no significant effect on the operation of the nuclear power station, the health of the operating staff, the safety of the public or the protection of the environment.

EDUCATION

TIS ATTRACTS 80 UNIVERSITIES AT 'LARGEST FAIR TO DATE'

THE International School of Macao (TIS) held its university fair yesterday, attracting over 80 universities around the globe to participate in the annual event.

According to a statement released by the school, this event is its largest fair to date, adding that it was also open to eight different high schools in the region.

The fair's ninth edition provided an opportunity to meet university representatives from different regions including the U.K., the U.S., Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, Macau, the Philippines, Spain, France, Italy, Japan and Singapore.

Universities from Macau including the Macau University of Science and Technology, University of Macau, Macao Institute for Tourism Studies and City University of Macau also participated in the fair to offer post-secondary opportunities for students to consider and to further demonstrate the aca-

DANIEL BEITLER



demic landscape of Macau.

Students were able to meet representatives one-on-one, and had the opportunity to attend various seminars on topics such as how to write a personal statement, how to apply to universities in certain jurisdictions and how to navigate the admissions and application process.

The university fair also provided students with important information about the university application pro-

cess, degree programs, scholarship opportunities, visa procedures and campus life.

"Students are able to meet with university reps face-to-face and in break-out sessions to have their questions answered in person, which is invaluable," said Jody Hubert, head of Academic Counselling & IB DP Coordinator.

"The fair serves as an important research tool for finding the right university," she added.

Unlike universities in Hong Kong and Macau, universities across the globe are already accepting applications for the 2020 academic year.

Earlier this year, TIS and the Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong & Macau co-hosted a "Study in Canada Seminar," where consular staff spoke on the advantages of studying in the country, as well as on platforms for international graduates to stay and work in Canada. LV

AD



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EDUCATION

Standardized history textbook adopted by more grades

JULIE ZHU

THE standardized history textbook launched by the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) has been adopted by more grades in local secondary schools, according to Wong Kin Mou, Head of the Department of Education Research and Resources.

The textbook was launched and initially adopted in 2018 as a material for the compulsory subject in the first grade of middle school and for all grades in high school. This September, the DSEJ launched another version of this history book, which is said to be more appropriate for the second grade of middle school and all high schools as material for selective courses, according to Wong.

Over half of secondary schools are using this new textbook as selective course material, while as many as 90% are using this or the older version. There are schools in Macau that still have not adopted this history book due to the instruction language of the schools.

The history book, which is co-written by the DSEJ and People's Education Press of mainland China, was scrutinized by the public in 2016 after doubts surfaced over how it would treat controversial episodes in recent Chinese history.

Mainland history textbooks are often accused of disguising and rewriting the history of the Chinese Communist Party in modern China, or of ignoring the man-made disasters and struggles caused by the Chinese Communist Party.

The issue became charged

after it was announced that the textbook was planned to be comprehensively rolled out across Macau schools.

In 2018, the textbook was under the spotlight once again due to its depiction of the Portuguese as perpetrators of "illegal smuggling" and "bribery" during the 16th century.

Previously, some local schools doubted the accuracy of the new history textbook.

"In the past, [history] textbooks published by other regions did not consider the needs of our [Macau's] demands for the course, nor did they include historical content concerning Macau," said Wong. "This time, we published this textbook very much targeting [the history related to Macau]."

Wong said that schools have been giving positive feedback to the DSEJ concerning the

new history book.

"From the reactions of schools and teachers, they see that it [the book] helped them because, in the past, when this textbook did not exist and when they talked about Macau history, they needed to spend extra time looking for supplemental materials. Now, the textbook includes Macau history," said Wong.

Recently, during the weekly Hong Kong protests, popular mainland Weibo official accounts, suspected of being run by the mainland government, praised Macau for "using exactly the same history textbook as mainland China." The accounts thus suggested that the reason why Hong Kong youngsters are protesting while Macau youngsters do not lies in the adoption or not of the history textbook.

Author of 'violent book' responds to Chan Hong's complaints

INDIRECTLY-elected lawmaker Chan Hong submitted another inquiry to the government regarding the selling of book that depict violence, murder, cannibalism, cults, and other so-called inappropriate subjects, as she believes the business should be regulated.

After giving the example of a certain book that she thinks should be banned in Macau, its author replied to her in a social media post.

The Hong Kong-based author of the books responded via his social media page, posting a screen cap of two paragraphs from the inquiry and a comment.

He wrote: "I found a die-hard fan in Macau, who has bought and read all of my publications. If [the social media platform] doesn't name her a top fan, the algorithm should be reviewed."

He added that he would post in a few days a true story of a "cold-blooded school principal killing students." However, he stressed he was not trying to mock Chan's role as the vice principal of a Macau secondary school.

The current law governing publications, Law 10/78/M, has authority only on sexual and indecent publications and audio-visual productions. It cannot govern publications of violence and suicide, or other topics.

Chan fears that such publications will have significant psychological effects on youngsters, who she says may even imitate what is depicted in the publications. She then started naming publications to support her inquiry.

Chan asked the administration if there is any law governing publications featuring violence, murder, suicide, cannibalism, cults, and how it will handle the materials already in circulation. She also inquired as to how the government plans to promote the reading of "healthy" materials. **AL**

AD

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HONG KONG

AIRLINES SEEK FEE WAIVERS AS PROTESTS HIT BUSINESS

KYUNGHEE PARK

AIRLINES operating in Hong Kong are urging the government to implement temporary policies to offset damage to their business as months of pro-democracy protests have disrupted operations and hurt visitor numbers.

In a letter to the Secretary for Transport and Housing, the Board of Airline Representatives, which represents 70 carriers operating in Hong Kong, asked for short-term measures including a waiver of landing and parking fees at the city's airport.

"It would definitely help if the government could temporarily waive these operating expenses so that airlines operating in Hong Kong can remain commercially viable," the board's chairman, Ronald Lam, wrote in the letter, which was dated Sept. 16. "Many airlines have already re-



duced or cut their services to and from Hong Kong as many routes have become unprofitable."

Tourism to Hong Kong declined almost 40% in August, according to Financial Secretary Paul Chan, as protests sparked by opposition to a bill on extraditions to mainland China meant fewer people visited the city and temporarily paralyzed the

airport. The BAR's Lam said the group expects the decline in passenger numbers to worsen through the rest of the year.

A representative from Hong Kong's biggest carrier Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. said in a text message the company would welcome a temporary waiver of operating expenses as landing and parking fees at the airport along with ren-

ts represent "a significant expenditure." The carrier's passenger traffic fell the most in more than a decade in August.

The Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong said earlier this month that the number of Chinese group tours to the city in the first 10 days of September plunged 90% from a year earlier. That followed a 63% drop in August. **BLOOMBERG**

GUANGZHOU

LATE FORMER POLITICAL ADVISOR YE XUANPING CREMATED

YE Xuanping, former vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) who died of illness last week, was cremated yesterday in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province. Ye died at the age of 95 on September 17.

Senior mainland officials including Xi Jinping, Li Ke-qiang, Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao had either visited Ye when he was in the hospital or offered their condolences to his families after his death.

Entrusted by the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, Wang Yang, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, paid his final respects to Ye at the funeral service in Guangzhou.

Wang stood in silent tribute and bowed three times in front of Ye's body, shook hands with Ye's family members and conveyed the condolences from Xi, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, and other senior leaders.

Born in 1924 in Guangdong, Ye joined the revolutionary cause in January 1941 and became a CPC member in September 1945. Ye served as the vice chairman of the seventh, eighth and ninth national committees of the CPPCC. He was also a member of the 12th, 13th and 14th CPC central committees.

Ye was described in an official statement as an excellent CPC member, a long-tested and loyal communist fighter, a proletarian revolutionist and an outstanding leader of China's economic development. **XINHUA**

AD



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JULIE ZHU



Guangzhou incubator helps ease headache of HK, Macau firms entering mainland

AFTER exploring registering a company in Shenzhen and Zhuhai in 2013 and 2015, ChiMan Chan, a Hong Kong entrepreneur, finally made the plunge and launched a business on the Chinese mainland in 2017 when he came across the Tianhe District Service Center for Hong Kong and Macao Youth Entrepreneurship.

The service center, a non-profit organization which acts as an incubator for emerging enterprises, is located in the heart of Guangzhou's bustling central business district, Zhujiang New Town.

Since it was established in 2017, the center has embraced more than 2,200 young entrepreneurs from the two Special Administrative Regions, and 45 Hong Kong and Macau enterprises have settled down at the center.

Chan is now the founder and chief executive officer of Deming ProDevelop, an engineering consultant agency with four offices scattered across the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area.

In Chan's view, the service

center played an instrumental role in his company's current success. "Without the help of the service center, there is no way we could have thrived to such an extent on the Chinese mainland," Chan said.

Establishing a business is tough in itself, but for newcomers to the mainland, the application and registration process can especially present a massive initial hurdle, according to Chan.

Chen Jingzhan, director of the center's entrepreneurship and innovation department, said many Hong Kong and Macau entrepreneurs that have set their eyes on development on the mainland often face similar headaches.

"It's not just a matter of investing enough time to complete the registration process. Without professional guidance, many Hong Kong and Macau newcomers to the mainland simply do not know where to start," said Chen, adding that is where the service center comes in.

Not only does the center help entrepreneurs get started, but it also offers support as they continue to develop

through free registration, entrepreneurship, policy, intellectual property rights, law, and market resource consulting services.

To enterprises that meet specific requirements, the center even provides office space for two to three people free of charge, with aims of "reducing the operational costs associated with startups, and offering more development opportunities to Hong Kong and Macau enterprises," said Chen.

Since the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area was released in February, more and more entrepreneurs and small businesses from the two special administrative regions have set their sights on Guangdong.

Ye Zhengqiao, a young entrepreneur from Hong Kong, is one of them. Drawn to the Greater Bay Area after graduating from university in the U.S., Ye now is the founder of Geometry Technology Co., Ltd., a company that has launched an online intelligent pet platform. Ye's platform lists pet-related service providers and product sellers in a one-stop online so-

lution for pet owners in China.

Ye said the construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area has given young people like him "more confidence and opportunity." He said he believes "the rate of success in Guangdong is higher than in Hong Kong," and that the Greater Bay Area gives young people "more room to try new things with lower capital requirements."

The concept behind the Greater Bay Area also provided the inspiration for ChiMan Chan's business. While working on a project related to the construction of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge, the Greater Bay Area's most iconic structure, Chan saw the potential for a bridge of his own: a platform to connect Chinese mainland engineers and their Hong Kong, Macau and overseas counterparts.

Ye Zhengqiao said that he hoped more young people from the two SARs can latch on to the business opportunities provided for by the Greater Bay Area, and "come to the mainland more often to appreciate the opportunities available." **MDT/XINHUA**

SHENZHEN

SUBWAY LINE ADOPTS FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY

The southern city of Shenzhen has adopted facial recognition technology on a subway line, allowing for fast and easy entrance for the elderly aged 60 and above, according to state media Xinhua citing the local subway operating company. Instead of using tickets, the elderly can look at a screen to unlock the electric gates after completing a real-name registration on a smart service system. To improve the travel efficiency and experience, the system has been launched at all 18 stations on the subway line, with a total of 28 automatic gate machines and 60 self-service ticket processing machines installed. The facial recognition service will extend to other groups who enjoy free subway service such as the disabled, according to the company.

GUANGZHOU

CUSTOMS DESTROY OVER 300 KILOGRAMS OF DRUGS

Customs of Guangzhou have destroyed a total of 312 kg of drugs which were seized in recent years, according to Xinhua. The drug destruction activity was held in Nansha District, one of 11 urban districts of the prefecture-level city of Guangzhou, with all the drugs poured into a high-temperature incinerator. The smuggled drugs included heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana and catha edulis (khat), which were found in consignments, luggage and postal parcels, according to the customs service. Customs in the provincial capital also disclosed that from January to August this year they have busted over 38 drug cases, captured 15 suspects and seized 17.3 kilograms of drugs.

GUANGZHOU

DOMESTICALLY-MADE 12-INCH WAFER CHIPS MASS PRODUCED

A 12-inch wafer production line, the first of its kind in south China's Guangdong Province, has been put into operation. The 12-inch chip production line, which started operation Friday, is at the first phase and is expected to achieve a monthly production capacity of 40,000 12-inch chips. With a total investment of 28.8 billion yuan (about \$4.06 billion), the facility began construction in March 2018 in Guangzhou. "The project is aimed at scarce products in the country, such as high-end analog chips, automobile electronics, biomedical testing and 5G front-end modules, which is expected to further drive the upstream and downstream enterprises to achieve a production value of 100 billion yuan," said Tony Chen, president and CEO of CanSemi Technology Inc., which owns the production line. Statistics showed that there are 26 12-inch chip production lines being built and under construction in China, and upon completion, the total production capacity of 12-inch chips will reach 1.11 million per month. Guangdong already has two chip manufacturers, featuring production of 8-inch and 6-inch wafers, with a combined capacity of about 70,000 wafer chips per month. It is far short of the chip demands in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area.

BLOOMBERG



GOOGLE BRACES FOR LANDMARK GLOBAL PRIVACY RULING

AOIFE WHITE

Google is bracing for another landmark privacy decision at the European Union's top court, five years after a "right-to-be-forgotten" ruling forced it to delete links to personal information on request.

The EU Court of Justice will rule today on the U.S. giant's follow-up fight with a French data-protection regulator over whether the right should apply globally and where to draw the line between privacy and freedom of speech.

The Alphabet Inc. unit is challenging the French authority's order to remove, on demand, links

on all of its platforms across the world if they lead to websites that contain out of date or false information that could unfairly harm a person's reputation. Judges may also clarify what links can stay online in the public interest.

For Google, the fate of the internet is at stake. The 2014 ruling already forces it to offer up different search results in Europe than the rest of the world. France's CNIL says Google should purge those results globally. Google's backers in the case, which include press freedom groups, warn this could allow authoritarian regimes to censor the entire internet by extending to the world their decision

on what can be made public.

Creating a global right to be forgotten "would create a serious clash with U.S. concepts of freedom of speech" and it could also be used by other states to "suppress search results on a global basis," according to Richard Cumbley, a lawyer at Linklaters in London.

The EU court is hard to second-guess. The initial ruling shocked Google by rejecting its arguments that the search-engine was merely a neutral pathway for serving up information. The decision effectively left it to Google to decide if a link that someone asked to be deleted contained something that

was "no longer relevant."

Since 2014, Google has had to weigh nearly 850,000 separate requests to remove links to some 3.3 million websites. Its staff have taken on a semi-regulatory role to strike a balance between what information should stay public and what should now be removed.

The court now will have to spell out how widely Google should remove the links. Should it pull links viewed in one country or across Europe? Must it strip them from local sites such as France's google.fr or also on the global google.com domain - and what should it do if they're accessed from France, Europe or elsewhere?

Since 2016 the company has used so-called "geoblocking" to filter all Google site results to Europeans so they won't see information a person in their country wants to limit.

The EU court will also have to weigh whether Google can refuse to remove some information that might be in the public interest. It will advise French courts over a dispute on deleting links over a personal relationship with a public office holder and an article mentioning the name of a Church of Scientology public relations manager.

Judges in London and Paris have been sympathetic to efforts to suppress unflattering information. Last year a London court told Google to remove news reports about businessmen's criminal convictions, in line with an English law that aims to aid people to put past crimes behind them. Paris judges also told Google to reduce the visibility of stories about a former chief financial officer fined for civil insider-trading violations.

Mountain View, California-based Google and France's privacy authority CNIL declined to comment ahead of the ruling.

Privacy has become a battleground for internet giants in Europe. Google has faced numerous privacy probes across the region, including scrutiny of contractors listening to audio from its digital home devices and data processing for ads. The company was fined 50 million euros (\$55 million) by France's CNIL earlier this year over lack of transparency for its privacy policy and for failing to correctly processing user data for ads. It was one of the first penalties levied under powerful new data-protection rules.

Google's importance as the leading search engine in Europe has led to an EU declaration that it dominates the European market. The company is separately challenging billions of euros in antitrust fines at the same EU courts in Luxembourg. **BLOOMBERG**

CORPORATE BITS

Cognac maker Hennessy stages exhibition at Galaxy Macau



French cognac maker Hennessy is staging an exhibition at the Galaxy Macau integrated resort, which recaps the brand's history and latest invention.

The Hennessy Declassified exhibition is not a traditional event, but an interactive and immersive experience that explores the history and art of the

Hennessy family.

The brand will invite viewers to take a peek at the secrets of Hennessy, and start on a palatable journey of the cognac.

A tasting room is especially made to pair with this exhibition. It is called the Hennessy Tasting Committee's Grand Tasting Room, which is mode-

led after the closed-to-public tasting room situated on Rue de la Richonne in France.

It is opened from Fridays to Sundays and prior reservation is required. Registered participants will take on the role as a member of the enigmatic Grand Tasting Committee, where they will learn to understand and make decisions regarding the cognac, with important members of the committee, before they sample some of the finest production of the brand.

The exhibition is open until October 6 at the Crystal Lobby of Galaxy Macau. The same exhibition has been staged at Shanghai and Hangzhou, among other cities.

MGM premieres Chinese folk dance drama Jinggang Jinggang



To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and the 20th anniversary of the Macau SAR, MGM held the premiere in Macau for Chinese folk dance drama "Jinggang Jinggang" last Friday and Saturday.

It was held in association with the Henry Fok Foundation, the Beijing Dance Academy and the Macau Dancers Association at MGM Theater, MGM Cotai.

With the support of the Liaison Office of the Central Peo-

ple's Government in the Macau SAR, the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, the Cultural Affairs Bureau and other supporting entities, this performance aims to strengthen the sense of patriotism and national pride among Macau residents.

Since its premiere in 2017, "Jinggang Jinggang" has been touring around the country and has won many accolades, including the Dance Drama Award at the 11th Lotus Awards, one of the highest awards of Chinese dance.

For its premiere in Macau, the performance paired with the ultra-high resolution LED screen at the MGM Theater to present a fine blend of traditional art and innovation.



Gov't boosts presence at Alibaba, private giants

LULU YILUN CHEN

THE government of one of China's top technology hubs is dispatching officials to 100 local corporations including e-commerce giant Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., the latest effort to exert greater influence over the country's massive private sector.

Hangzhou, in the eastern province of Zhejiang, is assigning government affairs representatives to facilitate communication and expedite projects, the city

government said on its website. Chinese beverage giant Hangzhou Wahaha Group Co. and automaker Zhejiang Geely Holding Group Co. are among the other companies based in the prosperous region that have been singled out, according to reports in state media.

The Hangzhou government said the initiative was aimed at smoothing work flow between officials and China's high-tech companies and manufacturers. But the move could be perceived also as an effort to keep tabs on

a non state-owned sector that's gaining clout as a prime driver of the world's No. 2 economy. Representatives of the country's public security system are already embedded within China's largest internet companies, responsible for crime prevention and stamping out false rumors.

Government agencies may also be heightening their monitoring of the vast private sector at a time China's economy is decelerating - raising the prospect of destabilizing job cuts as enterprises try to protect bottom li-

nes. Alibaba is hosting its annual investors' conference this week in Hangzhou against the backdrop of a worsening outlook for the country.

"They might be checking whether the Communist party units are working effectively within the companies," said Paul Gillis, a professor at Peking University's Guanghua School of Management. "While China legitimized capitalism, the level of government influence was never intended to disappear. Occasionally private entrepreneurs forget about this and are reminded of it."

Zhejiang is considered the cradle of modern Chinese private enterprise, home to a generation of self-made billionaires from Alibaba's Jack Ma and Geely founder Li Shufu to Wahaha's Zong Qinghou. The Communist Party

accepted so-called "red capitalists" or private entrepreneurs into the Party in 2001, allowing them to become part of the country's legislature a year later.

Still, the relationship between Beijing and well-known business people remains sensitive. The government has been seen to try and step up an official presence within non-state firms, by among other things mandating that private companies of scale set up and maintain a Party branch. It wasn't clear whether the 100 Zhejiang-based companies included foreign enterprises.

"We understand this initiative from the Hangzhou city government aims to foster a better business environment in support of Hangzhou-based enterprises. The government representative will function as a bridge to the private sector, and will not interfere with the company's operations," Alibaba said in a text statement. Representatives for Wahaha and Geely didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

The Hangzhou initiative also underscores how the government is trying to arrest a slowdown in the economy brought on by the trade war, said Brock Silvers, managing director of Kaiyuan Capital. He expects similar policies to soon follow for other manufacturing-intensive areas.

"The economic slowdown and trade war are having a significant impact on China's manufacturing base, and officials probably don't see a quick resolution on the horizon," Silvers said. "As the government expects manufacturers to experience near-term difficulties, it wants to exert a firm control over local policy decisions and implementation." **BLOOMBERG**

Beijing's love affair with Australia fizzles as tourism boom ends

AUSTRALIA is losing its appeal for Chinese tourists and students as the harmful trade war between the U.S. and Beijing, paired with a slowing economy at home, spooks them into staying put.

The number of visitors from China increased just over 1% in the 12 months through July, matching the weakest rate in nine years, while the growth in students traveling Down Under to attend university has also slowed rapidly. Even a weakening Aussie dollar hasn't managed to halt the downturn.

"We suspect the trade dispute is a large reason for the decline," said Hayden Dimes, an economist at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. It "creates uncertainty for both visi-



tors and, in particular, students."

Dimes reckons that if the slowdown in Chinese students and visitors is prolon-

ged, it could cost Australia's economy - the most China-reliant in the developed world - about A\$800 million (\$543 million) over the next

two years. Austrade, the government's trade promotion and investment attraction agency, is already scaling back forecast tourist arrivals.

Australia has so far mostly benefited from the U.S.-China trade dispute: Beijing's stimulus to offset weaker shipments has boosted demand for its commodities and the lower Aussie dollar is making firms more competitive. Indeed, the slowdown in Chinese tourism and education in the face of a weaker currency is surprising given it makes cities like Sydney cheaper for visitors. Services are increasingly important to Australia's economy. Over the past five years, such exports have grown at an average of about 13% per annum, Dimes said, noting tourism and education's share have both increased. China is the single largest country for Australia for international students and visitors, accounting for about

26% and 15%, respectively, he said.

"Weakening economic activity and political tensions around technology, communications and trade have influenced Chinese tourist numbers," said Ryan Felsman, a senior economist at the securities unit of Commonwealth Bank of Australia. "The slowdown highlights some downside risks to Australia's services sector."

Still, there is some light emerging from the trade war's instigator. North American tourists are flocking to Australia in record numbers, inspired by the U.S.'s record economic expansion as well as the Aussie's 16% slump against the greenback since the beginning of last year, and weaker Canadian dollar. **BLOOMBERG**



CHINESE TRADE DELEGATION CALLED OFF FARM VISITS AT US REQUEST

JENNY LEONARD, MIKE DORNING, JORDAN FABIAN & MARIO PARKER

CHINA'S cancellation of a planned visit to farms in the American heartland was done at the request of the U.S., people familiar with the matter said, indicating it wasn't caused by a negative turn in the lower-level discussions held in Washington last week.

U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer's office didn't find out about the visit until it was set up and subsequently asked the Chinese delegation not to go, one of the people said. The Chinese were told this was because of domestic rea-

sons, another person said.

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He plans to visit Washington in the second week of October to meet Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin for high-level negotiations, according to separate people familiar with that planning, and the two sides are aiming for a high-level meeting around Oct. 10.

The news about the cancellation came about an hour after President Donald Trump said he wasn't interested in "a partial deal" with China based on Beijing increasing its purchases of U.S. agricultural products. China's Vice Agricultural Minister Han Jun, a member of the trade dele-

gation, said Saturday at an event in Washington that the farm tour had been discussed but not finalized, and the U.S. will extend an invitation for another time.

"Negotiations on the agriculture area went very well, and the two sides held thorough and candid communication," Han said at the event, according to Chinese media. He also said China is willing to expand agriculture trade with U.S. and deepen cooperation "on the basis of equality and mutual respect".

'GOODWILL' GESTURE

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue said Thursday that the Chinese delegation's farm tour

represented a "goodwill" gesture by Beijing.

But on Friday, the Montana Farm Bureau Federation said it was told by the Chinese embassy that the delegation "had an adjustment of their agenda" and would return to China earlier than planned. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture, which also had planned to host the delegation, confirmed their visit was canceled, too.

U.S. farming has become a main target for Beijing, where leaders are cognizant of the political importance of rural American to Trump's re-election. China's retaliatory tariffs on everything from American apricots to soybeans

crimped demand at a time when producers have also suffered from extreme weather.

But Trump told reporters in a meeting with Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on Friday that the dispute won't damage his 2020 bid for re-election. He said he wouldn't relent without reaching a "complete deal" with China.

Trump said that while he has an "amazing" relationship with Chinese President Xi Jinping, right now they're having "a little spat."

"I think the voters understand that," the president added. "I don't think it has any impact on the election."

BAD-FAITH ACCUSATIONS

Nevertheless, Trump said it would probably be "positive" for his re-election prospects if the two countries can reach a deal.

U.S. and Chinese negotiators held "productive" talks on Thursday and Friday in Washington, the U.S. Trade Representative's office said in a statement. The U.S. is looking forward to hosting "principal-level" negotiations in October, according to the statement.

China's Ministry of Commerce called the meetings "constructive," and said both sides agreed to continue communication on relevant issues, according to a statement on Saturday. The ministry did not immediately respond to a fax about the farm tour and the dates for the next round of talks.

Top White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow said recent developments have created a "positive atmosphere" surrounding the standoff, which has been fueled by accusations of bad faith from both sides. **BLOOMBERG**

US tariffs spur China interest in Thai manufacturing sites

MORE Chinese manufacturers are looking to Thailand as a production base to avoid U.S. tariffs, based on trends in demand for the Southeast Asian nation's industrial estates.

WHA Corp., the top Thai provider of such estates, said it expects Chinese companies to account for as much as half of its land sale contracts both this year and next, up from about 12% in 2018. The firm also develops industrial parks in Vietnam.

"People are moving some production," David Nardone, the group executive for the firm's industrial-development unit, said in an interview. "It will be a significant impact for Thailand and Vietnam. A drop of water for China can be a flood for us, be-



cause of the different size of the economies."

Thailand has rolled out incentives including tax breaks to woo manufacturers seeking to skirt the tariffs the U.S. and China have

imposed on each other. Recent evidence suggests rival Vietnam has pulled ahead in the race to lure producers.

For instance, more than three times as many com-

panies are planning to relocate or divert production from China to Vietnam than to Thailand, according to research by Nomura Holdings Inc.

At the same time, the

value of net foreign-direct investment applications to Thailand from Chinese firms is surging. It rose five-fold in the first half of 2019 compared with a year earlier, Board of Investment data shows.

Chinese and Hong Kong applications combined were worth about USD1 billion, second in value only to Japan, whose firms have long manufactured in Thailand.

WHA expects to add six industrial parks to its current roster of 10 in Thailand and has begun selling space in its estate in Vietnam.

Nardone doesn't see Thailand and Vietnam as competitors, saying each has strengths and weaknesses. It takes a long time to set up plants in Vietnam, while Thailand has a labor shortage, he said.

Manufacturers appear to be moving only a slice of production out of China given the size of its market, he added in the Sept. 19 interview in Bangkok.

WHA's shares have climbed about 8% this year, exceeding the 4.6% rise in Thailand's benchmark SET index of equities. Ten of 11 analysts recommend the stock as a buy, with one rating it as a sell.

Thai officials have said companies including Sony Corp., Sharp Corp. and Harley-Davidson Inc. are moving some manufacturing to the country.

They are hopeful foreign-direct investment will help revive the export-led economy, whose growth has slowed due to currency strength, the impact of the trade war and domestic political flux. **BLOOMBERG**

Duterte suspends any loan talks with backers of rights probe

JIM GOMEZ, MANILA

PHILIPPINE President Rodrigo Duterte has suspended any negotiations over loans or grants from 18 countries that backed a U.N. human rights resolution calling for an inquiry into human rights conditions in the Philippines, an official said yesterday.

Presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo said Duterte asked his executive secretary last month to issue a confidential memo ordering the suspension of talks on any loans and grants that might be offered by the 18 countries.

Panelo initially denied last week that Duterte had issued the order but then said the president later remembered he had done so when he was shown a copy of the Aug. 27 memo signed by his executive secretary.

The 18 countries supported an Iceland-initiated resolution in July that asked the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights to look into human rights conditions in the Philippines under Duterte's anti-drug crackdown, which



has left thousands of mostly poor drug suspects dead. Duterte reacted angrily to the 18 countries, particularly Iceland.

Panelo downplayed the effect of Duterte's move, saying it would not have a significant effect on the government's infrastructure

program.

Existing foreign grants of about USD377 million, some from countries which supported the proposed U.N. human rights investigation like Australia, will not be affected, Panelo said.

Only a loan from Britain is

likely to be affected because it has made compliance with human rights standards a requirement for loan approval, officials said.

"It will not dramatically, even slightly I think, impact on our economy," Panelo said. He quoted Duterte as saying, "tell them

I'm really deliberately resorting to expletives because I'm angry at what they're doing to us and our country. They want us investigated and look who are talking, they are actually the murderers."

The U.N. Human Rights Council voted 18-14 with 15 abstentions in July to approve the resolution, which called on the Philippine government to take all steps to prevent extrajudicial killings in addition to asking the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a comprehensive report on the Philippines.

The resolution called for Philippine government cooperation, "including by facilitating country visits and preventing and refraining from all acts of intimidation or retaliation."

Duterte, a former prosecutor, has repeatedly lashed out at U.N. human rights experts critical of his anti-drug campaign. Separately, an International Criminal Court prosecutor is examining information about the drug killings.

Duterte and the police have denied authorizing extrajudicial killings.

However, he has repeatedly threatened drug suspects with death in televised speeches and encouraged law enforcers to shoot suspects who fight back. He has warned that the crackdown will be more dangerous for suspects in the final three years of his six-year term. **AP**

INDONESIA

Protesters burn buildings in Papua province

NINIEK KARMINI,
JAKARTA

HUNDREDS of protesters in Indonesia's restive Papua province set fire to homes and other buildings yesterday in a protest sparked by rumors that a teacher had insulted students, and a soldier was killed in another protest in the region, police said.

An angry mob torched local government buildings, shops and homes and set fire to cars and motorbikes on several roads leading to the district chief's office in Wamena city, said Papua police chief Rudolf Alberth Rodja.

Television footage showed orange flames and black smoke billowing from burning buildings.

Rodja said the protest was triggered by allegations that a high school teacher in Wamena who is not from Papua called an indigenous Papuan student "monkey" last week.

He said that a police investigation did not find any



racism against the student, and that false rumors have been spreading among students in other schools and native communities.

"We believe this false information was intentionally designed to create riots," Rodja told reporters in Jayapura, the capital of Papua province. "This is a hoax and I call on people in

Papua not to be provoked by untrue news."

Papua police spokesman Ahmad Musthofa Kamal said in a statement that students from another school in Wamena who refused to join the protest brawled with another group of students.

Video circulated on the internet showed dozens of

people, many armed with machetes, standing in front of their shops and homes to protect them from the angered mob.

An airport official in Wamena, Joko Harjani, said yesterday's protest forced authorities to close the city's airport. It will remain closed until the situation returns to normal.

Papua military spokesman Lt. Col. Eko Daryanto said in a statement that at least one soldier was killed when police, backed up by soldiers, forced the protesters off the campus.

A mob of angry students attacked a soldier with machetes, Daryanto said. The soldier died on the way to a nearby hospital. At least two police officers were injured.

Conflicts between indigenous Papuans and Indonesian security forces are common in the impoverished Papua region, a former Dutch colony in the western part of New Guinea that is ethnically and culturally distinct from much of Indonesia.

Papua was incorporated into Indonesia in 1969 after a U.N.-sponsored ballot that was seen as a sham by many. Since then, a low-level insurgency has simmered in the mineral-rich region, which is divided into two provinces, Papua and West Papua.

In recent years, some Papua students, including some who study in other provinces, have become vocal in calling for self-determination for their region. **AP**

AP PHOTO



TRAVEL CHAOS, JOBS LOST AS UK FIRM THOMAS COOK COLLAPSES

GREGORY KATZ & CARLO PIOVANO, LONDON

HUNDREDS of thousands of travelers were stranded across the world yesterday after British tour company Thomas Cook collapsed, immediately halting almost all its flights and hotel services and laying off all its employees.

Britain's Civil Aviation Authority confirmed Thomas Cook, a 178-year-old company that helped create the package tour industry, had ceased trading. It said the firm's four airlines will be grounded, and its 21,000 employees in 16 countries — including 9,000 in the U.K. — will lose their jobs.

The collapse of the firm will have sweeping effects across the entire European and North African tourism industry and elsewhere, as hotels worried about being paid and confirmed bookings for high-season winter resorts were suddenly in doubt.

Overall, about 600,000 people were travelling with the company as of Sunday, though it was unclear how many of them would be left stranded, as some travel subsidiaries were in talks with local authorities to continue operating.

The British government said it was taking charge of getting the firm's 150,000 U.K.-based customers back home from vacation spots across the globe, the largest repatriation effort in the country's peacetime history. The process began yesterday and officials

warned of delays.

A stream of reports yesterday morning gave some sense of the extent of the travel chaos: some 50,000 Thomas Cook travelers were stranded in Greece; up to 30,000 stuck in Spain's Canary Islands; 21,000 in Turkey and 15,000 in Cyprus alone.

An estimated 1 million future Thomas Cook travelers also found their bookings for upcoming holidays canceled. Many are likely to receive refunds under travel insurance plans.

The company, which began in 1841 with a one-day train excursion in England and now has business in 16 countries, has been struggling financially for years due to competition from budget airlines and the ease of booking low-cost accommodations through the internet.

Thomas Cook also still owned almost 600 travel shops on major streets in Britain as well as 200 hotels, adding real estate costs to its crushing debt burden.

"The growing popularity of the pick-and-mix type of travel that allows consumers to book their holiday packages separately, as well as new kids on the block like Airbnb, has seen the travel industry change beyond all recognition in the past decade, as consumers book travel, accommodation, and car hire independently," said Michael Hewson, chief market analyst at CMC Markets.

Things got worse this year,

with the company blaming a slowdown in bookings on the uncertainty over Brexit, Britain's impending departure from the European Union. A drop in the pound made it more expensive for British vacationers to travel abroad.

The company had said Friday it was seeking 200 million pounds to avoid going bust

Terror attacks in recent years in some markets like Egypt and Tunis also hurt its business, as did heat waves in Northern Europe.

The company had said Friday it was seeking 200 million pounds (USD250 million) to avoid going bust and held talks over the weekend with shareholders and creditors in an attempt to stave off collapse.

CEO Peter Fankhauser said in a statement read outside the company's offices before dawn yesterday that he deeply regrets the shutdown.

"Despite huge efforts over a number of months and further intense negotiations in recent days, we have not been able to secure a deal to save our business," he said. "I know that this outcome will be devastating to many people and will cause a lot of anxiety, stress and disruption."

Britain's aviation authority said it had arranged an aircraft fleet for the complex repatriation effort, which is expected to last two weeks. British Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said dozens of charter planes, from as far as Malaysia, had been hired to fly customers home free of charge. He said hundreds of people were staffing call centers and airport operations centers.

Julie Robsson, a 58-year-old retiree from Yorkshire, was among those waiting yesterday on the Spanish island of Mallorca for a replacement flight to Manchester, England.

She said while she was satisfied with the information she received from British authorities, the Thomas Cook representative had not appeared at her group's hotel since the first rumors of financial difficulties emerged last week.

"I'm quite sad because it's an old company. The prices were all reasonable. The planes were clean," Robsson said.

Unions representing Thomas Cook workers reacted with anger. "The staff have been stabbed in the back without a second's thought," said Brian Stratton, head of the British Airline Pilots' Association.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, traveling to New York for the United Nations General Assembly, said the government was right not to bail out the com-

pany, arguing that travel firms should do more to ensure they don't collapse. He said bailing out Thomas Cook would have established "a moral hazard" because other firms might later expect the same treatment.

"We need to look at ways in which tour operators one way or another can protect themselves from such bankruptcies in future," Johnson said.

Most of Thomas Cook's British customers are protected by the government-run travel insurance program, which makes sure vacationers can get home if a British-based tour operator fails while they are abroad.

An earlier repatriation exercise following the 2017 collapse of Monarch Airlines cost the British government about 60 million pounds (\$75 million).

Thomas Cook's collapse is a huge blow to many companies in vacation resorts that have long relied on it for business.

Spain's Canary Islands, for example, are a favored year-round destination for Northern Europeans that is likely to take a hit to its high-season winter bookings. The association of hotels said it fears the economic impact and the Spanish government was holding meetings with regional authorities to assess the likely damage to local economies.

In Tunisia, the TAP news agency said the tourism minister intervened after reports emerged that some Thomas Cook tourists in Hammamet were locked into one hotel and "being held hostage" as the hotel demanded they pay extra, for fear that Thomas Cook would not pay its debts.

The government said Thomas Cook clients would not be prevented from leaving the country. **AP**

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

律師事務所



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what's ON



ONENESS: CALLIGRAPHY BY PROFESSOR JAO TSUNG-I

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

UNTIL: September 30, 2019

VENUE: Jao Tsung-I Academy

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRY: (853) 8598 6718

THE GOLDEN AGE OF ARABIC SCIENCE: EXHIBITION FROM 1001 INVENTIONS

TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Thursdays)

UNTIL: October 27, 2019

VENUE: Gallery 2, Exhibition Center, Macau Science Center

ADMISSION: MOP25 (several discounts available)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

LYRIC POETRY – WORKS OF ARTISTS IN MACAU AND PORTUGAL FROM THE MAM COLLECTION

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

UNTIL: November 4, 2019

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

WYNN PRESENTS: GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS

TIME: 10am-10pm

UNTIL: October 6, 2019

VENUE: Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 6882 2839

SANDS PRESENTS: ALL THAT'S GOLD DOES GLITTER – AN EXHIBITION OF GLAMOROUS CERAMICS

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 9, 2019

VENUE: The Venetian Macao, The Parisian Macao, Sands Macao & Four Seasons Hotel Macao

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8888

Offbeat

COLORADO DRIVER PUTS INJURED BOBCAT IN CAR NEXT TO CHILD



Officials have a warning after a Colorado Springs woman put an injured bobcat in her car, inches away from where her child was in a safety seat: Don't pick up wildlife.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife spokesman Bill Vogrin says the woman spotted the injured adult male cat while driving, wrapped it in a blanket and put it in the back of her SUV last week.

A boy, about 3 years old, was in the back seat.

Agency officials told her to get her boy and herself out of the vehicle when she called to ask what to do.

Vogrin says District Wildlife Manager Sarah Watson responded to the call, opened a door and slammed it shut when she spotted the 20-pound cat.

Watson used a trapping device to remove the animal, which was hissing and resisting despite severe internal injuries and paralyzed rear legs. The mortally injured cat was euthanized.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Água de Mar
15:30	Zig Zag
15:45	Os Ursos Boonie e o Fantástico Outono
16:00	Viajante da Música
16:30	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:30	Amor Maior (Repetição)
18:25	TDM Desporto (Repetição)
19:30	Ouro Verde Sr.1
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Entrevista
21:50	Culinária na Ásia
22:15	Amor Maior
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Motel Bates Sr.3
00:35	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:20	RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO

19 - 25 Sep



IT CHAPTER TWO

ROOM1

2:30, 6:00, 9:00pm

Director: Andy Muschietti

Starring: Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy, Bill Hader

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 169min



ABIGAIL

ROOM2

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

Director: Aleksandr Boguslavskiy

Starring: Tinatin Dalakishvili, Eddie Marsan, Rinal Mukhametov

Language: English (Chinese)

UNDERCOVER PUNCH AND GUN

ROOM2

7:30pm

Director: Koon-Nam Lui, Frankie Tam

Starring: Shuai Chi, Joyce Wenjuan Feng, Luxia Jiang

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

FAGARA

ROOM3

2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Heiward Mak

Starring: Kenny Bee, Vicky Chen, Sammi Cheng

Language: Chinese (English)

Duration: 120min

SOUND! EUPHONIUM THE MOVIE -

OUR PROMISE: A BRAND NEW DAY

ROOM3

4:45, 7:30pm

Director: Tatsuya Ishihara

Starring: Robbie Daymond, Erica Mendez, Lucien Dodge

Language: Japanese (Chinese)

Duration: 110min

this day in history



1988 GOLD FOR JOHNSON IN 100M SPRINT

Ben Johnson has won the 100m gold at the Seoul Olympics and reaffirmed his position as the world's fastest man.

The Canadian also smashed his own world record with a time of 9.79 seconds in the most exciting race of the Games so far.

Johnson's American rival Carl Lewis - chasing his 1984 Los Angeles medal tally of four golds - could only manage silver.

Third place was claimed by Britain's Linford Christie who became the first European to dip below 10 seconds.

Johnson led for the entire race, destroying the competition by hitting a maximum speed of 30 mph (48.3 km/h).

It took him just 48 strides to reach victory after an explosive start from the blocks - once again demonstrating his ability to react so fast to the starter's gun he can almost secure a race in the first second.

The confident Canadian slowed slightly in the last few metres to look across his shoulder and raise a finger of triumph in the air.

And the sprinter told reporters at the post-race news conference he felt easily capable of running an even faster time.

"If I had gone through I would have got 9.75 - but I'm saving that for next year," he said.

But he told the BBC he valued the gold medal above the world record.

"No one can take it away from me," he said.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Ben Johnson tested positive for anabolic steroids after the race. The result was confirmed to the public two days later. The International Olympics Committee stripped him of his gold medal and sent him home in disgrace.

He was banned from competing for two years and stripped of all the other world records and medals he held.

He began racing again in January 1991, but never regained his 1988 form and did not even make the 100m final at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

In January 1993 he tested positive again for steroids at an indoor meeting in Montreal, Canada and the International Association of Athletics Federations banned him from competition for life.

YOUR STARS

ARIES
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
You have shown amazing patience with someone who seems to be making the same mistakes over and over again - despite their promises that they would stop.

TAURUS
Apr. 20-May. 20
Someone has been desperately trying to get your attention, but you have been so busy focused on other things that you haven't slowed down to notice them by the side of the road, trying to flag you down.

GEMINI
May. 21-Jun. 21
This is a day that offers a lot of great starts and beginnings, but there will be no follow through on any of them - you are going to be just too busy to help lead things into a formative phase.

CANCER
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You have the ability to help the people you care most about today, so use it! And don't worry - it won't be difficult to make some major changes start happening for others.

LEO
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Today, teamwork will only be effective if you put in your fair share of ideas. Do not hide behind the camouflage of other people, hoping their involvement will be enough to get things done.

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sep. 22
Everyone has two sides to their personality (at least), so today if someone is getting on your nerves, focus on the part of their personality that is most compatible with yours.

LIBRA
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
It's not universally true that opposites attract, but you've been noticing some hot magnetic energy between two very different (and very single) people in your life.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
There is some unpredictable energy flying around your environment today, so beware. Nothing is for certain, and nothing is going to be written in stone.

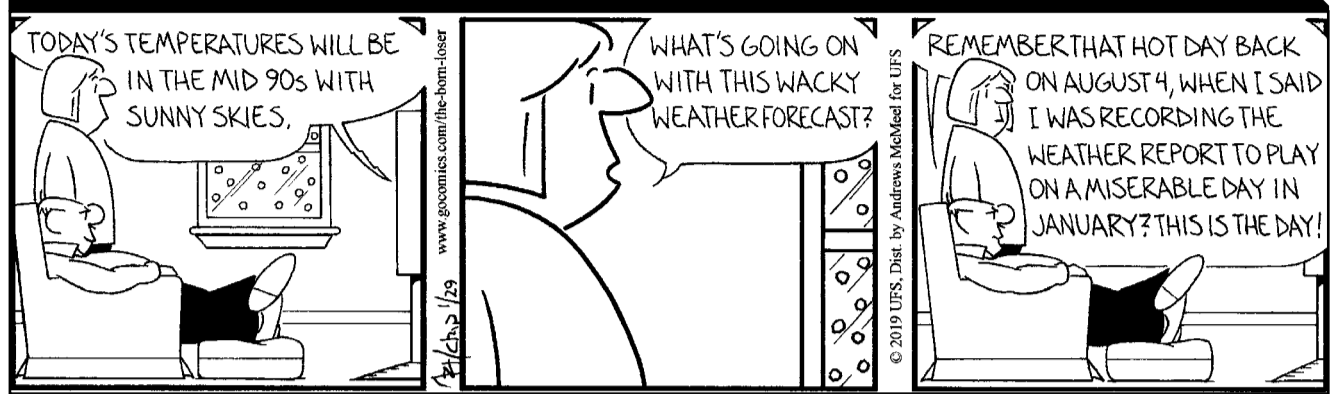
SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Don't worry about losing your edge of falling under the spell of your couch. Just because you're not running around crossing things off your list doesn't mean that you aren't getting things done.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
One of your long lost friends is going to reappear on the scene very soon, and they will offer you a missing link that will connect you to several opportunities - including greater wealth and a hotter romance.

AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
The best kind of wisdom comes from people who know you well, so if you are feeling the urge to start a new relationship with one of your old relatives, then you shouldn't wait to get started.

PISCES
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Tiny details have lives of their own, and if you don't watch them carefully, they'll take you in all the wrong directions. Timing may be an obstacle to overcome, so be aware that last minute delays are possible.

The Born Loser by Chip Sanson



SUDOKU

EASY

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

EASY+

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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							4	1
9								
				2	9	5		
	6	8						
				4				
2							9	
	1	8						
								2

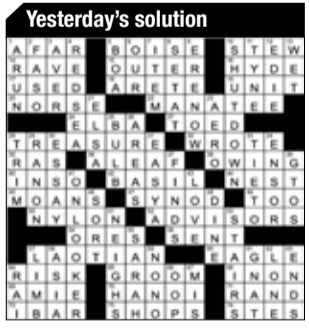
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	27	35	cloudy
Harbin	20	25	thundershower
Tianjin	27	35	thundershower
Urumqi	21	28	shower
Xi'an	24	35	cloudy
Lhasa	11	24	shower
Chengdu	24	34	shower
Chongqing	26	34	cloudy
Kunming	18	24	shower
Nanjing	29	36	cloudy
Shanghai	29	36	cloudy
Wuhan	28	37	clear
Hangzhou	28	38	cloudy
Taipei	26	30	overcast
Guangzhou	26	35	thundershower
Hong Kong	28	33	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	17	22	moderate rain
Frankfurt	21	33	clear
Paris	22	32	clear
London	16	24	clear
New York	18	27	clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1-Capital city of Yemen; 6- Future doc's exam; 10- Conditions; 13- Fiber obtained from a banana plant; 14- Bones found in the hip; 15- Blind piece; 16- Female demon; 17- Painter Chagall; 18- Extended family; 19- Didn't just pass; 20- Anybody; 22- Foolish persons; 24- Vocalist; 28- Agreement; 31- Shove off; 32- Perhaps; 34- Towel word; 36- Put one's foot down; 37- ___ de mer; 38- Consider overnight; 41- "Double Fantasy" artist; 42- Purim month; 44- Dash widths; 45- Phobias; 47- Ventures; 49- Pertaining to the teeth; 51- Clown Kelly; 53- Charge with gas; 56- Negotiate; 59- Commanded; 61- The Buckeye State; 64- ___ Grey, tea type; 65- ___ lazuli; 66- Skating area; 67- Author Wiesel; 68- Skips; 69- One hundred of these equals one Japanese yen; 70- Expensive; 71- Analyze grammatically.

DOWN: 1- Room in a casa; 2- Primitive calculators; 3- Titled; 4- Basic chemistry subject; 5- Small battery size; 6- Brunch drink; 7- A type of bake; 8- Yorkshire river; 9- Folded food; 10- Under the weather; 11- JFK watchdog; 12- RR stop; 15- Views; 20- Addison's collaborator; 21- Zilch; 23- Celestial spheres; 25- University of Florida player; 26- Not odds; 27- Seized vehicle; 29- The ones here; 30- Bark sharply; 32- Woman in charge of a household; 33- What you put on snooze; 35- Cushion, as a blow; 37- Created; 39- Conclude; 40- Become closer to; 43- Nike rival; 46- Joe Namath's alma mater; 48- B&O stop; 50- Hammer user; 52- Cornered; 54- Rhino relative; 55- Prepares for publication or release; 57- Big blow; 58- Horne solo; 60- "___ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto); 61- Surgery sites, briefly; 62- Hurry; 63- B and B; 65- Chop off; n the ___; 56- Siesta; 58- Do gooo;



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



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[Coloane] Large apartment 2 3 2 2
2,530 ft² \$13,800,000 (ref: 19096000)

[Macau] Keng Ou office 3 3 3
2,352 ft² \$17,500,000 (ref: 19096002)

[Taipa] Manhattan 3 2 2
1,720 ft² \$13,600,000 (ref: 19096006)

FOR RENT

[Taipa] Manhattan 3 2 2
\$24,500/mth 1,720 ft² (ref: 19091006)

[Macau] Tai Nin 1 1 1
\$9,200/mth 3,700 ft² (ref: n/a)

[Macau] La Marina Studio 1 1
\$11,200/mth 2,352 ft² (ref: n/a)

[Cotai] Ocean Garden 4 4 4
\$35,000/mth 3,700 ft² (ref: 18040674)

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SOFIA LOREN, VALENTINO RECEIVE STANDING OVATION IN MILAN

SOFIA Loren and Valentino have received a standing ovation from a packed house of fashion and Hollywood A-listers during the third edition of the Green Carpet Awards honoring progress toward sustainability.

Loren, stunning in a black gown and glistening diamond necklace, presented Valentino with an award for legacy achievement yesterday [Macau time]. Loren, 85, said the 87-year-old designer "revolutionized the world of fashion through his ele-

gance, passion and style."

The award capped an evening marking progress in creating more ecological and social consciousness in the fashion industry — recognized as the second-most polluting after oil.

Honorees included women in India trained to transform discarded saris into contemporary, hand-embroidered attire and divers who recover lost fishing nets from the sea floor that are upcycled into nylon for fashion houses like Prada.

INSPIRING SPEECHES ON DIVERSITY, EQUAL PAY RULE EMMY NIGHT



EMMY night is always a chaotic mix of the humorous, the emotional and the inspirational, mixed with some major sequins and glitter. And on this Emmy night, all those elements came together in one glorious moment: Billy Porter's win as best actor in a drama for "Pose," the first openly gay actor to win the award (pictured).

"The category is love, y'all!" he crowed to the audience upon arriving onstage.

He then met the historical moment by quoting James Baldwin. "It took many years of vomiting up the filth I was taught about my-

self and halfway believed before I could walk around this Earth like I had a right to be here," went the powerful quote. "I have the right. You have the right. We all have the right!"

But Porter's speech wasn't the only knock-your-socks-off moment. Michelle Williams gave the audience an eloquent and impassioned lesson on the importance of equal pay for women, especially women of color.

And Patricia Arquette paid tearful tribute to her late transgender sister, issuing a rousing call for better treatment of transgender people.

HOLY ANNIVERSARY! DISPLAYS OF BAT SIGNAL FETE BATMAN AT 80

IT'S no joker. The night is lighting up over the weekend around the world with the famous bat signal to mark a special anniversary for Batman.

DC Comics is carrying off a celebration of Batman Day to mark the 80th anniversary of the appearance of crimefighter Bruce Wayne and his masked identity.

Fan gatherings happened all over the world. But the most ambitious party

plan was the illumination of the bat signal.

It started at Fed Square in Melbourne, Australia. The signal is also appearing in 13 other cities, including Tokyo, Berlin, Rome, Paris, London, Montreal, Sao Paulo and Johannesburg, as well as New York City's Domino Sugar Refinery.

Los Angeles also celebrated with a fan experience concert and the Batman Inaugural 5K run.



AD



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適合男生和女孩5-19歲



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Macau Bats Rugby



New Zealand's players bow to the crowd at the end of the Rugby World Cup Pool B game against South Africa in Yokohama

RUGBY

All Blacks eye Canada next after getting past South Africa

FOSTER NIUMATA, YOKOHAMA

ALL Blacks hooker Dane Coles paused. Their next Rugby World Cup opponent was, um [...] Canada?

Yes.
"One game at a time," Coles said with a smile on Sunday.

He wasn't being cheeky. He'd just spent two weeks focusing on the massive hurdle that was two-time champion South Africa, and getting over the Springboks 23-13 in Yokohama the night before was immensely satisfying though bruising.

With South Africa out of the way, defending champion New

Zealand's campaign next goes through teams it hardly ever meets: Canada and Namibia.

The All Blacks haven't played Canada since the 2011 World Cup. They have won all five previous matchups, three at the World Cup.

They met Namibia their only time also at a World Cup, in 2015. The All Blacks put 58 points on the Namibians.

Winning big again isn't on their minds, Coles said.

"It's key for us that we give them the respect they deserve no matter who the team is," Coles said. "Then it comes back to us about being All Blacks and preparing accordingly. If we can do that, give them respect then

worry about us and represent ourselves and our country the right way, then we shouldn't have a problem."

Coles said just because those teams aren't in the top 10 in the rankings doesn't mean the wins will come easily.

"It's crucial that we give them respect. They're at a World Cup and deserve to be at a World Cup," he said. "If we go in with a 50-50 attitude we won't have a proud performance. I'm sure the whole team has the same motivation.

"You'll see guys who didn't play last night given a chance. They'll want to go out and make their mark as well, create competition in the squad."

The All Blacks have an 11-day turnaround before facing Canada on Oct. 2 in Oita, then only a four-day turn before meeting Namibia in Tokyo.

The short turn was put on the All Blacks and other leading teams by organizers after complaints at previous World Cups that Tier Two teams were sacrificed for the Tier One teams because they weren't given enough recovery time between matches.

Tier One teams had the squad depth to handle short turnarounds, but scheduling was still an issue. The All Blacks are playing four games in 21 days. Of its other Pool B mates, Namibia has 21 days, Italy 20, and South Africa

and Canada 17 days each.

All Blacks coach Steve Hansen said he will field all of his squad against Canada and Namibia, and some players may double up.

"We're now in a situation where we control our own destiny with regard to where we're going to finish in this pool," he said. "Somebody said we're having 10 days off but there'll be a lot of hard work out there which will allow us to put some miles in the bank so when we get to the quarterfinals, we can freshen up a bit."

While there was a lot the All Blacks could improve on, Hansen and Coles were impressed by the team's defense against the Springboks.

"We scrambled hard," Coles said. "They made some really good breaks and Rich (Mo'unga) made an outstanding cover (tackle) on their winger. Just that willingness to get back and make that tackle, and never give up. That's promising for us.

"It's a good start, but just a start." AP

FOOTBALL

Israel bans entry for most players on Gaza team

ISRAEL has denied travel permits to most players on a Gazan soccer team which had hoped to cross through Israel and into the West Bank to play a local championship final against a rival Palestinian club.

Khadamat Rafah is set to play Balata FC in the West Bank tomorrow. But without the hard-to-obtain Israeli travel permits, the game is unlikely to take place as scheduled.

"We think that this is clear evidence that this Israeli occupation is cruel

but from our side we keep raising it at all the levels of FIFA. We insist that this is our right and we'll continue exerting every effort to allow this team to do this match," the head of the Palestinian Football Association, Jibril Rajoub, told The Associated Press.

The soccer team's predicament highlights the daily difficulties Gazans face under an Israeli-Egyptian blockade, imposed after the Islamic militant group Hamas seized control of the territory in 2007. Citing

security grounds, Israel has greatly restricted movement of Gazans and requires travelers such as students and medical patients to obtain permits to leave.

Critics say these are increasingly harder to come by and are withheld arbitrarily. Israel disputes this and says it grants tens of thousands of permits for Gazans with no militant ties.

Rajoub said his association has long lobbied FIFA to sanction Israel for what it says are its efforts

to restrict the movement of Palestinian players. He slammed the withholding of permits and pledged to hold the game.

Under the Palestinian Football Association's terms, the winners of the Gaza league play the West Bank champions in a two-leg final, one in the Gaza Strip and one in the West Bank. The Gaza game took place earlier this year and this week's game, which had already been delayed for two months over access to permits, was to take place

near the West Bank city of Nablus.

The winner of the final game goes on to compete in the Asian Champions League.

Following the Gaza game, Khadamat Rafah had attempted for two months to obtain permits but its two requests were denied, except for a handful of club members.

"We are a club carrying messages of love and peace and have no security activities as the occupation (Israel) claims," said Ho-

zayfa Lafi, Khadamat Rafah's spokesman.

Gisha, an Israeli rights group that had challenged the move in court, criticized Israel's permit system.

"The ease with which the state labels Palestinians as a security threat turns out to be time and again an arbitrary and sweeping act, while in the best case ignoring the serious harm that is dealt to the fabric of civilian life in the Palestinian territory," said Gisha, an Israeli rights group that had challenged the state's decision along with the players.

A court in Jerusalem upheld the state's decision, yesterday. AP

OPINION

Our Desk

Lynzy Valles



THE FIREWORKS FEVER

The ongoing international fireworks competition has been attracting crowds to experience activities around the vicinity of Nam Van Lake area, Macao Tower and the old bridge.

This year, the tourism bureau announced that it had increased the event to six days in length, inviting 12 pyrotechnic teams to present the fireworks display.

The annual international competition had also increased its budget to MOP24 million, 15% more than last year.

Even hotels from the neighboring region have offered promotions so that diners can enjoy the show, visible even from Zhuhai.

According to the Macao Government Tourism Office, the bureau partnered with Macao Cruise this year, allowing residents and visitors to view the fireworks while on a cruise.

Last weekend, I decided to be part of the crowd as it has been several years since I've watched a fireworks show.

It was almost impossible to make my way through the crowds since there was a massive number of people with cameras and children on their shoulders.

Every firework that popped – particularly if there were heart or star shapes; or even one that was particularly big – the public started to cheer more loudly – creating excitement and a new vibe in the site.

“Woah, ho tat yi ah!” (It's so cute!) some would scream. “Woah, yao xing xing wor!” (There are stars!) others would say.

The 12 pyrotechnic teams choreographed 18-minute fireworks shows to background songs such as “Light Your Fire,” – the song that won the bureau's songwriting contest last year.

Apparently, the background music could just be heard in the site nearby Macao Tower, which was the official place of the event.

I think it just has a different vibe to be there and be amongst the residents that actually enjoy watching fireworks.

Let's admit it. It is rare to find a crowd around that vicinity – even after several measures were placed to attract locals and visitors to visit Nam Van.

The government, as announced back in 2016, described Anim'Arte Nam Van as “a new landmark for leisure, culture and creativity,” which aims to cater to cultural and creative entrepreneurs.

According to the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, the leisure hub “breathes a new dynamic into the neighborhood but also enables residents and visitors to unwind, relax and experience the beauty of Macau.”

I reckon the Anim'Arte Nam Van just gathers people whenever festive events occur, such as the Macau Lantern Festival, Macau Light Festival – which should be happening in a few months – and other activities such as UNESCO Creative Cities of Gastronomy Cooking Show which was held earlier this year.

However, government organizers should still come up with promotion efforts and campaigns for the area.

Although many consider the leisure place as a good activity area for friends and family, many would also agree that it still lacks attractions, particularly during weekdays.

Previously, the Sports Bureau, one of the government bureaus that manages Anim'Arte, said that “MGTO has been putting in efforts to promote this project. Residents and visitors are getting to know about this new landmark, while other departments will continue to improve and enhance the diversity of elements in the Anim'Arte.”

Although I'm still not sure what it meant by “diversity of elements,” I hope we could look forward to more activities that would draw crowds – crowds that would stay and spend their hours at the site.

After a decade of booming enrollment by students from China, American universities are starting to see steep declines as political tensions between the two countries cut into a major source of tuition revenue.

Several universities have reported drops of one-fifth or more this fall in the number of new students from China.

The numbers had been leveling off because of growing international competition, visa complications and other factors

even before the latest tensions with China.

Drops have been reported at such schools as the University of Vermont, which saw a 23% decline in Chinese student enrollment, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, which saw a 20% decrease.

Some schools are stepping up recruiting in other parts of the world and working to hold on to their share of students from China.

BIGGEST BANKS SIT OUT
NEW INDUSTRY CLIMATE-
GOALS COMMITMENT

SAIJEL KISHAN & EMILY CHASAN

ONLY two of the world's 10 biggest banks joined the coalition of 130 global financial firms in agreeing to align their business with international efforts to address climate change and other environmental issues.

The group that signed on to the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Banking represents \$47 trillion in assets, or a third of the global banking industry, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said at the launch event yesterday [Macao time].

Citigroup Inc. and Industrial and Commercial Bank of China joined the pledge, which begins by asking the firms to self-assess their sustainability practices. Signers, including top European banks BNP Paribas SA, Barclays Plc and UBS Group AG, also agreed to develop and publish plans and targets attached to sustainability goals by 2023.

Guterres urged banks to increase financing to businesses that are focused on scaling up green growth. “Invest in climate action and divest from fossil fuels and pollution in general,” he said.

There's a wide range of stronger actions that banks could take, for example, banning thermal coal financing or setting a time line to phase out funding of the fossil-fuel industry. One of the signers, ING Groep NV, said last week it would boost lending to automakers producing more electric vehicles than those that produce vehicles with internal combustible engines.

The principles follow another set of voluntary standards for the asset-management industry-- the Principles for Responsible Investment -- that were adopted by money managers 13 years ago to encourage firms to incorporate environmental, social and



governance factors into their investments. The industry has since grown to more than \$30 trillion.

Among the banks that declined to participate, some said they have their own sustainability programs. Others said they're still reviewing the PRB.

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. said in a statement that it has a number of target-related efforts similar to the PRB underway and will continue to engage with the UN PRB as the initiative develops further. Wells Fargo & Co. said it was successfully working

“ Invest in
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pollution in
general.

ANTÓNIO GUTERRES

toward goals it had set in 2016 to address social, economic and environmental challenges over a five-year period.

JPMorgan Chase & Co., Bank of America Corp. and Morgan Stanley declined to comment.

UN Assistant Secretary General Satya Tripathi said the reluctance of some banks to commit is a signal the principles have teeth. “Some are not ready to be held to account for their lending,” he said during a Sept. 19 panel discussion.

The PRB was launched

at the start of the UN's Climate Action Summit in New York. Transitioning to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies that are aligned with the Paris Agreement requires additional investment of at least \$60 trillion from now until 2050, Christiana Figueres, executive secretary of the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change, said in a statement.

The PRB “offers a ladder to climb for every bank, though some banks start very low and have a particularly big ladder to climb,” said Peter Blom, chief executive officer at Triodos Bank, a Dutch lender that finances renewable energy and organic agriculture, and a signatory to the agreement.

Critics say the principles aren't radical enough, and a four-year window to come up with plans to improve sustainability is too little, too late. In a joint statement, campaigners BankTrack and the Rainforest Action Network said “such time scales were perhaps adequate 30 years ago. Now, however, we consider them to be completely inadequate for the era in which we live.”

As hundreds of banking executives applauded themselves for signing onto the initiative at the United Nations, some said that this would push banks to finally act on fighting climate change. **BLOOMBERG**

Egypt Egyptian security forces rounded up hundreds of people following small but rare anti-government protests, rights lawyers said yesterday, as authorities moved to take harsh preventive measures against more unrest.



Kenya A school collapsed in Kenya's capital yesterday and killed at least seven children, officials said, while some outraged residents alleged shoddy construction. Two other children were in critical condition.

Poland's opposition yesterday called for the dismissal of the nation's chief auditor following allegations that he let his house to a business which rented rooms by the hour and didn't issue receipts.

Italy Authorities say a Bosnian man has been arrested for allegedly selling his daughter for more than 10,000 euros (USD 13,300) for marriage to a cousin.

Germany Karl Muentner, a former SS soldier who was convicted in France of a wartime massacre but who never served any time for his crimes, has died in northwestern Germany. He was 96.

UK Britain has concluded that Iran was responsible for attacks on oil facilities in Saudi Arabia, U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson said Sunday. He said the U.K. would consider taking part in a U.S.-led military effort to bolster the Gulf kingdom's defenses, while Iran's president announced plans for a rival Iranian-led security coalition.



UK Hundreds of thousands of travelers were stranded across the world Monday after British tour company Thomas Cook collapsed, immediately halting almost all its flights and hotel services and laying off all its employees. **More on p14**