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CARBON EXCHANGE MARKET

A FINANCIAL EXPERT SAID MACAU COULD BE TESTING GROUND FOR CARBON CREDITS TRADING P2



China appealed to Washington for a quick end to their trade war but gave no indication yesterday what additional steps Beijing might want before carrying out what President Donald Trump says is a promise to buy up to \$50 billion of American farm goods.



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte fell off his parked motorcycle on the palace grounds, suffering bruises and scratches, but the minor injuries won't affect his schedule, his spokesman said yesterday.



Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe yesterday visited northern towns devastated by the deadly typhoon and promised residents his government's support for their speedy recovery.



Pakistan Britain's Prince William and his wife Kate toured Pakistan's eastern city of Lahore yesterday, where they are set to visit a cancer hospital previously visited by William's mother, the late Princess Diana.

Iraq The government will only take back its own citizens and their families who fought with the Islamic State group in Syria, not those from other countries, Iraq's foreign minister said yesterday.

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SURPRISE GRAND PRIX LINEUP ANNOUNCED AFTER MAJOR DROPOUTS

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The life and times of Pedro Lobo, one of the most important figures in the modern history of Macau. He headed the Economic Affairs Department for 27 years, negotiated with the Japanese during World War II to feed thousands of starving people and managed a gold monopoly that made him a fortune.

times Extra

CARBON TRADE EXCHANGE COULD BE TRIALED IN MACAU

ANTHONY LAM

ZHANG Ping, deputy director general of China's National Institution for Finance and Development, has suggested that Macau could trial a carbon emissions market, as the city studies the feasibility of establishing a securities exchange.

Zhang said that Macau needs to diversify the types of services it provides and that a stock exchange, if realized, could help to deepen financial cooperation between Macau and Guangdong.

But the mainland expert also suggested that a carbon exchange could be tested in Macau with unified valuation. Carbon exchanges permit the trading of carbon production credits, a market-based tool to limit greenhouse gases.

Macau is currently studying the possibility of establishing a stock exchange. The idea was first unveiled in the Outline Development Plan for the Greater Bay Area, wherein it was suggested that Macau utilize a securities market, most widely believed to take the form of a stock exchange, to better position the city as the bridge linking China and the Portuguese-speaking world.

Earlier this week, a Guangdong official said that a plan had been submitted to Beijing and would likely be approved before the Special Administrative Region's 20th anniversary. In response, the Monetary Authority stressed that the concept was still being studied.

Yesterday, Secretary for Economy and Finance Lionel Leong said that the Macau government had not yet submitted any report to the central government on the



issue of establishing a securities market.

Leong remarked that there was a lot of work for Macau to do before its own stock exchange could become a reality, including the development of a legal framework and service platforms. That being said, the sale and distribution of securities in Macau had evolved significantly in recent years, said Leong, as part of efforts to push forward the development of specialized financial services.

The deputy director general of China's National Institution for Finance and Development made the comments on the sidelines of a symposium titled "Jointly Build the Bay Area and Create the Fu-

ture", held yesterday as part of the annual Macau International Trade and Investment Fair. The event attracted finance professionals and experts to discuss the mechanism through capital within the Greater Bay Area can seamlessly connect.

During the symposium, Zhang spoke broadly of his views on the integration of the Area in terms of services. He expressed his confidence in the success of the Greater Bay Area.

The mainland expert said that the enhancement of the service industry in mainland China and its connection to the infrastructure of the SAR is a key area in the development of Guangdong-Macau cooperation.

Such infrastructure, according to Zhang, includes financial services. It is not merely tangible and material structures, but more about the regulations and connection in payment system.

The Chief Executive of Hong Kong, the neighboring Special Administrative Region, Carrie Lam, during her policy address press conference on Wednesday, also commented on the speculated stock exchange. No matter where financial developments take place, be that Macau, Shanghai or Shenzhen, she said, Hong Kong sees it as an opportunity for cooperation.

Meanwhile, speaking on the sidelines of the symposium, Wen

Wenxing, president of Guangdong Hengjian Holdings Ltd., organizer of the event, made a positive evaluation of the conceptual stock exchange in Macau.

"Macau has higher level of internationalization, with frequent international communications," said Wen. "Utilizing Macau as a platform to boost financial transactions will both improve Macau's global image and economic diversification."

Stressing the Greater Bay Area's economic potential, Wen foresaw the Macau stock market will be attractive to both mainland and foreign companies, with mainland ones prevailing. "Because when they need to expand to outside the country, they need a platform to facilitate the move," Wen said.

Another financial professional attending the event, who requested not to be identified, explained that stability is the main attractiveness of Macau to global investors.

However, he noted that there are a lot of areas that need to be addressed before the market can be inaugurated.

"Macau is lacking the industry professionalism and knowledge," he said, "including the requisite laws and regulations, the professional workforce and the market's positioning."

The finance professional said it was imperative that the Macau market find ways to differentiate itself from other neighboring markets.

Consultancy firms have been commissioned by the Macau government to study the feasibility of setting up the securities market. According to Secretary Leong, the studies will focus on Macau "serving the country's development needs, while delivering on its inherent strengths," in addition to taking into consideration the SAR's specific needs.

920 voters eligible for by-election participation

AN aggregate of 920 individuals representing community interests will be eligible to take part as voters in the upcoming by-election for a Legislative Assembly (AL) seat, according to the Government Information Bureau, which confirmed the number after the registration period for voters

closed on October 10. The by-election has been organized for November 24, and relates to a seat allocated to the industrial, commercial and financial sector, under the indirect election portion of Macau's electoral system.

The law requires a by-election to be held to fill the seat left vacant by

Chief Executive-elect Ho Iat Seng, who resigned from the AL earlier this year.

During a gathering on Wednesday, the Commission met with representatives of the Public Security Police Force and of the Printing Bureau, to discuss ballot paper design and arrangements relating to any

transfer of an individual ballot.

According to the administrative timetable for the election, the campaigning period for the by-election will run from November 9 to 22.

The Chairman of the Electoral Affairs Commission for the Legislative Assembly Election, Tong Hio Fong, said that

the Commission was required by law to provide opportunities for campaigning during the period. Such opportunities included venues for presenting promotional materials, and radio and television airtime to promote their messages.

However, in order to monitor such activities and ensure they are legal,

candidate teams must notify the Commission of their campaigning. Associations linked to candidate teams should also notify the Commission regarding their intention to organize events involving benefits for participants. The Commission should be notified of any such intentions on or before November 6. **DB**

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Oktoberfest returns with 'Macanese elements'

OKTOBERFEST Macau at MGM 2019 officially kicked off yesterday at MGM Cotai.

The annual 11-day Bavarian celebration presents an array of traditional German brews and food under the gigantic beer tent, to the singing of "Nei Hou, Macau!" with the Högl Fun Band.

"Macau has many great traditions and events, and we are very proud that Oktoberfest at MGM has become one of the most anticipated events for our local community as well as tourists," said CEO and executive director of MGM China Holdings Limited, Grant Bowie.

"In the future, MGM is going to offer more exciting and diverse activities to enrich Macau's tourism offerings, with the aim of strengthening Macau's position as the World Center of Tourism and Leisure," he added.



Other than the must-have authentic German food and beverages, entertainment and decorations, this year, MGM incorporates hints of Macanese elements.

"It's the excitement and camaraderie. Our team is always excited to do it a little different, a little bit extra. The band is bringing in some local content and one of the

special treats is that we have a German [guest] that sings in Mandarin," Bowie added.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Macau SAR, all Macau ID holders will be eligible to enjoy a MOP20 discount on each entry ticket and a 20% discount on Oktoberfest merchandise.

Additionally, MGM is again bringing back the Fa-

mily Day Oktoberfest on the afternoon of October 27, welcoming all guests to a Bavarian entertainment brunch with special offers.

The event was officially opened by a beer keg tapping ceremony overseen by Alexis Tam, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, and other government officials including Wang Xindong, secretary general of Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Macau, and Dieter Lamlé, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Hong Kong.

This year's event continues to partner with the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Hong Kong and the German Macau Business Association, and is supported by the Macao Government Tourism Office.

Macau Oktoberfest will be held until October 28, excluding October 20, at MGM Cotai's Roof Terrace. **LV**

GOV'T HQ OPENS TO PUBLIC THIS WEEKEND

THE Government Headquarters will be opened to the public this year on two sessions held on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on both days. The sessions will feature a series of performances, flower displays and a photography exhibition.

This year, the activities have been designed with the theme of celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Macau SAR.

A display near the Government Headquarters' lawn area will feature a decorative clock with its hands pointing to "1949" and "2019".

Flowers by the lawn will be arranged to form the number "70" to mark the founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China, whilst at the back of the flower beds will be two decorations in the form of bridges, representing the interconnection of Macau and China.

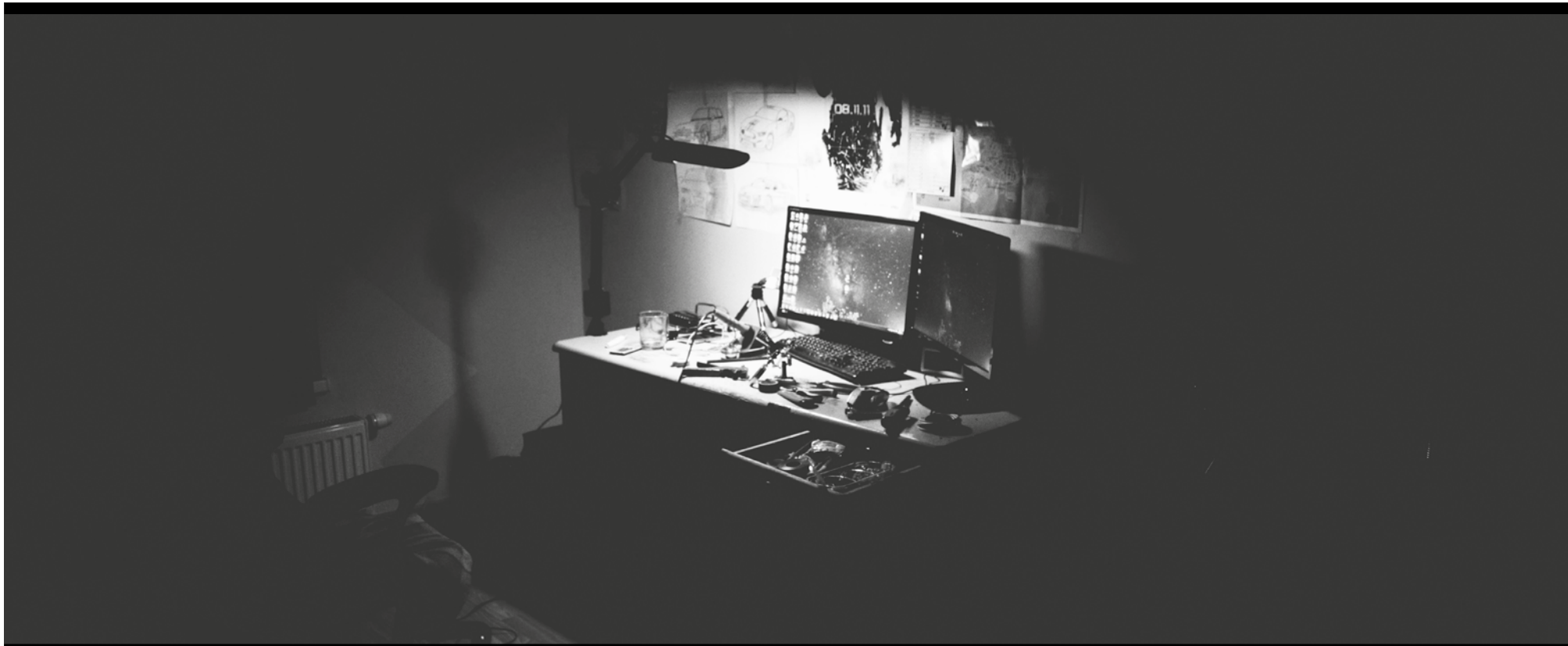
The Open Day sessions will offer guided tours of the upper floor of the Government Headquarters. There will be additional displays and a photography exhibition open to the public.

Selfie sticks, pets, umbrellas, drinks and food are all barred from the premises, according to the government. Special traffic management arrangements will be in force during the Open Day sessions along a part of Travessa do Paiva. Motorists are urged to pay attention to the temporary traffic signs and follow police advice. **DB**

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KAUR KRISTIAN



CYBERCRIME BILL PROPOSES UP TO FIVE-YEAR SENTENCES FOR CRIMINALS

JULIE ZHU

AN amendment to the cybercrime law was passed in general terms at the Legislative Assembly (AL) yesterday, meaning that a specific crime of fraudulent mobile base stations will be established once the law comes into effect. Furthermore, the investigation authority will be able to collect evidence from abroad and use it to pursue cybercrime cases in Macau.

According to Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak, Macau recorded the first case of fraudulent mobile base stations back in November 2014. Since then and until September 2019, the police authority carried out 36 crack-down operations on such crimes, having detained 126 people, 86 of which were mainland Chinese.

Currently, these fraudulent stations mainly target 2G mobile devices. According to Wong's explanation, although Macau has

already dismissed 2G, in certain places such as at the border gates, particularly while tourists or local residents are moving between Macau and Zhuhai borders, there may be moments when passengers receive messages from these stations due to imperfections in the 3G service.

In order to tackle fraudulent mobile base stations both now and in the future, when these stations may start attacking 3G mobile devices, a specific crime is needed.

The amendment proposes a maximum five-year imprisonment or penalty to be applied to criminals who operate fraudulent mobile base stations.

In general, criminals will face three years of imprisonment or equivalent fines. Serious crimes, such as a criminal profiting from an operation, or when a criminal uses the station to transmit illegal advertisements, pornographic content, or illegal gambling ac-

tivities, are punishable by imprisonment between one and five years.

Wong explained that crimes whose penalties are not clearly stated in the passed bill, will see perpetrators fined in accordance with the general principle of the penal code.

Lawmaker Sulu Sou expressed his concerns over the amendment which proposes mandatorily giving specific individuals access to specific information, even when doing so is not in the interests of a person.

The Secretary explained that a suspect has the right to refuse to provide passwords to relevant computers, and that the suspect's family members also have the right to refuse. However, Wong affirmed that the cybercrime bill is in absolute accordance with international conventions.

Lawmaker Agnes Lam asked about authorization concerning cloud technology jurisdiction.

The Secretary explained that only when a case is related to Macau's jurisdiction the police authority can approach the data.

Wong explained that obtaining cloud data does not differentiate whether a suspect is a Macau local resident or a non-local person, as long as Macau's penal code indicates that the Macau government has jurisdiction over the relevant case.

Commenting on the cybercrime bill, Wong stated that the Macau government will obtain any computer data in absolute accordance with international conventions, having remarked that some of the U.S.'s behavior is not in accordance with international convention.

"The U.S. did everything. I can tell everybody," said Wong. "This is widely known by the world. As a government principal official, I am not afraid to say it here. We do not dare to [breach] international conventions."

The cybercrime bill amendment also aims to strengthen the protection of critical infrastructure operators, public departments' computer systems, and also computer systems used by the central government's organizations in Macau.

If a computer crime is perpetrated against the aforementioned computer systems and data, the penalty will be increased by one-third and the crime will be characterized as a public crime.

In addition, the criminalization of violating occupational secrecy has been proposed in addition to a heavier penalty.

In order to tackle computer crimes which are taking advantage of science and technology, the security authority will gradually improve the scientific and technological level of their equipment. Moreover, the security force will enhance training of investigators to be capable in relevant scientific and technological skills. According to Wong, all police officers have been required to learn computer skills in recent years.

The bill is proposed to take effect on December 22. It now faces detailed scrutiny in the Legislative Assembly.

Personal data may exit Macau under certain circumstances

THE personal data of individuals in Macau can leave the territory under certain conditions, specifically, when legal proceedings are undertaken to obtain the data, according to Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan.

"The personal data protection law does not ban personal data from going abroad as long as the pro-

cedure is legal," said Chan, who then explained that approval from the Office for Personal Data Protection – or by the terms outlined in the law – will be sufficient to allow Macau's personal data to leave the territory.

Chan's statement was made yesterday during the Legislative Assembly (AL) plenary meeting after she was asked by lawmaker

Zheng Anting whether personal data of Macau individuals could be used in Zhuhai.

Providing convenience, improving the government's service, and protecting personal data from being stolen or damaged are the advantages that Macau's e-government will offer the city, according to Chan.

A bill proposing that the

Macau government mature its e-governance was passed in general terms yesterday at the AL.

The bill will allow the provision of electronic-based public services to residents and between government departments, the issuance of e-certificates by public departments to residents instead of traditional paper documents, and the notification of re-

sidents through electronic methods.

Chan pledged that personal data will remain protected even though the administrative procedures involve electronic procedures.

Lawmaker Leong Sun Lok asked about personal data privacy with regard to Macau's smart streetlamps.

A government repre-

sentative responded by saying that in the future, data collected by smart streetlamps will be handled by a mechanism created by the e-Government bill. The representative also revealed that there will be a sharing mechanism regarding data collected by smart streetlamps but this sharing will be regulated by a legal framework. **JZ**

Macau Grand Prix entry lists revealed with surprise lineup

RENATO MARQUES

WITH less than one month to go until the Macau Grand Prix kicks off this year, the Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee (MGPOC) yesterday released the almost complete entry lists for this year's event.

A press conference event held at the Macao Science Center presented the lists of entrants for the six-events weekend. Several unexpected names featured.

One of the biggest surprises of the day was the announcement of the unexpected return of two-time Macau winner Dan Ticktum to defend his F3 World Cup title.

The entry of the British racer is particularly unexpected as Ticktum, after winning in Macau last year, was involved in a series of issues, namely with his major sponsor, Red Bull. These issues took him away from a bid for a seat on one of the team's single-seaters on Formula 1 (F1). Eventually, Ticktum ended up spending a season at Japanese Super Formula with Team Mugen Honda.

If that seemed to be a poor outcome for the man who was known as Red Bull's leading junior driver, this position allowed him to participate in the first day of official Formula 1 testing with Aston Martin Red Bull Racing during the first in-season test in Bahrain in April this year, as well as the second in-season test in Barcelona one month later.

However, in late June, Helmut Marko, Red Bull F1 program advisor, announced that Ticktum was no longer a member of Red Bull's Junior program. Ticktum only completed the first three rounds of Japanese Super Formula this

RENATO MARQUES



year, scoring one single point from an eight-place finish on the first round in Suzuka.

Now Ticktum seems to have found his way up, surfacing as title defender and attempting to make history by claiming a third successive Macau GP success. Ticktum lines up for Macau F3 race this year with Carlin Buzz Racing. Alongside the British driver will be American Logan Sargeant and Brazilian Felipe Drugovich who have been racing with the team all season.

To free a seat for Ticktum, the team dropped Japanese Teppei Natori who had a very difficult season in the series, scoring only one point and placing 24th overall.

Other surprises in this racing event have to do with the

swapping of drivers across teams. For instance, the entry of David Schumacher with Sauber Junior Team by Charoux came as a surprise as he had signed an agreement with Campos Racing less

than three weeks ago leading to his participation in the last race of the season in Sochi, Russia.

Now, the German who carries the name of one of the most successful families in formula racing

is making his debut in Macau with Sauber which has completely changed its lineup of drivers for Macau.

Alongside Schumacher will be the experienced Callum Ilott who made the all-season on Formula 2 this year and will take the opportunity to break into the F2 championship.

The third seat on Sauber's lineup will be also occupied by another surprise driver, Enzo Fittipaldi, the young Brazilian grandson of the two-time Formula 1 champion Emerson Fittipaldi. He is climbing his way up the ranks following a great season this year at the 2019 Formula Regional European Championship (former F3 European Series). Fittipaldi currently occupies the second position of this championship, with only one round left to be raced, this weekend in Monza.

In response to media questions regarding the absence of German racer Sophia Flörsch from the entry list, who was believed to be making a return to Macau, the president of the MGPOC, Pun Weng Kun said, "[the driver] does not have any experience with the new specifications Formula 3 car and so she cannot participate as this is a requirement from the FIA."

At the same opportunity, Pun noted also that the works on the buildup of the Circuit are running well and assured that by "the first week in November, all the infrastructures and facilities will be ready."

AFTER MAJOR DROPOUTS, MOTORCYCLE GP SEES RETURN OF HUTCHINSON

AS the Times reported on Wednesday, several big names from the motorcycle racing world have decided not to join this year's Macau Grand Prix. However, some other names that have been absent from the race in the last couple years are making their comeback.

Among the most noted is Ian Hutchinson, who will return to racing action this November aboard a BMW from Team Milwaukee with SMT, after having missed several events due to severe injuries.

The 16-time Isle of Man TT winner makes his return to Macau on a BMW, after having competed in this year's North West 200 and TT with the official Honda team, albeit without much success.

Still recovering after accidents back in 2010 and 2017, Hutchinson announced his return to Macau three years later to try to end the dominance of the three-time race winner Peter Hickman, and eight-time winner Michael Rutter. **RM**

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BOWIE: 'CHALLENGING TIMES' FOR MACAU BUT HOPEFUL FOR 2020 GROWTH

DESPITE the year-on-year 22.5% plunge in the city's VIP baccarat gross gaming revenue in the third quarter, the CEO and executive director of MGM China Holdings Limited, Grant Bowie said that he is satisfied with the current performance of MGM Cotai, citing the increase in the number of its visitor arrivals.

Speaking to the press yesterday on the sidelines of the official opening of the MGM Oktoberfest 2019, Bowie said the current trend in the gaming market is of a rising mass market segment.

"I think this process [the slow-down] has been ongoing for some time. I think we're all transforming. In fact, what we're seeing is the transformation of the business and I think everybody understands that the mass market is now moving up in terms of ultimately being the dominant source of revenue," said Bowie.

"That's what we were expecting to happen 10 to 15 years ago. Now we're seeing it. I think this is a positive thing ultimately for Macau."

"It is a challenging time right now though," the executive admitted.

Commenting on the properties' Golden Week arrivals, Bowie said that the company has seen more visitors at its Cotai property, while

MGM Macau saw a similar number of tourist arrivals as last year.

For Bowie, lowering the properties' room rates are not an option, despite the weakened spending of visitors, arguing that it would always maintain its standards and the value of its brand.

"Macau now is no longer as dependent on the big holidays. I think we're now becoming more of a 365 destination, and again, that's good," Bowie remarked.

In terms of his expectations for the fourth quarter, the MGM China CEO expressed hopes that gaming operators in the SAR would experience improvements into the next year, despite seeing some deterioration and year-on-year reductions in the third quarter.

Although he was not expecting much of a change for this quarter's gross gaming revenue, he said that the business is seeing stabilization and has "reached a new norm," adding that the firm is becoming closer to being at a baseline from which the company can grow in future.

"Clearly what we would all like to see is the growth in the market, but these things happen in the industry and we're all very equipped to cope with those changes," said the executive. LV

LYNZY VALLES



US

Wynn replaces Boston Casino president four months after opening

WYNN Resorts Ltd. named a new president at its Encore Boston Harbor resort, replacing management of the \$2.6 billion hotel and casino four months after it opened.

Brian Gullbrants, a Wynn veteran who oversaw the opening of the company's Encore casino in Las Vegas in 2008, was named president. He replaces Robert DeSalvio, who led the Boston resort development for five years.

"Bob leaves Encore with a hand-selected team prepared to take on the challenges ahead," Wynn Chief Executive Officer Matt Maddox said in a statement Wednesday. "I salute him for his commitment to the project and, most importantly, his dedication to his team."

Encore Boston Harbor opened June 23, delivering what analysts said were strong results from table games like blackjack, but weakness from slot machines. The resort generated \$48.9 million in casino revenue in September, down almost 7% from August, according to the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

The casino is the last of three authorized by Massachusetts in 2011. Results from the MGM Resorts International casino in Springfield have been below the company's expectations.

In an interview Tuesday, Jay Snowden, president of Penn National Gaming Inc., which owns the Plainridge Park Casino near Boston, said competition has been fierce, and the

newer operators may have underestimated how loyal customers are, particularly to the competitors in Connecticut.

"At the high end of our database, no question that Encore would like to have those customers," Snowden said. "Their slot business I think has not hit what they forecast. They're spending a lot of money on slot marketing right now."

Wynn has come through a tumultuous two years, including the ouster of founder Steve Wynn in February 2018 for sexual misconduct. The company was also sanctioned by regulators in Nevada and Massachusetts for failing to act properly on accusations leveled against him.

Officials in Nevada took steps this month to revoke Steve Wynn's casino license.

A complaint filed Monday by the state's Gaming Control Board lists sexual misconduct allegations that have been lodged against the mogul since January 2018. The complaint asks Nevada's Gaming Commission, which acts on the board's recommendations and has final say on licensing, to fine Wynn and revoke his status as being found suitable to be licensed in the industry.

Gambling licenses are considered a revocable privilege that can be denied or revoked for those who aren't found suitable. Suitability findings can hinge on a background check and any other action deemed "inimical to the public health, safety, morals, good order and general welfare" of Nevada residents or discrediting of the state and its gambling industry.

Wynn has denied all misconduct allegations against him. It's unclear if Wynn had plans to return to the industry after stepping down from his company and selling his shares. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

SINGAPORE

GAMING OPERATORS FINED NEARLY \$750,000 BY WATCHDOG

SINGAPORE'S gaming regulator has handed out some \$746,700 in fines in the past year to the country's two casino operators, Resorts World Sentosa and Marina Bay Sands, with the former racking up the vast majority.

The Casino Regulatory Authority (CRA) fines in the April 2018 to March 2019 financial year are the highest in the last five years, according to The Straits Times.

Of the nearly \$750,000 handed out in fines, the CRA imposed about \$730,000 on Resorts World Sentosa alone, for offences including social safeguard breaches and the failure to implement directives set out by the regulator. Marina Bay Sands was made to pay \$15,000 in fines, while the

remaining \$1,700 were from court fines on individuals who violated Singapore's Casino Control Act.

Among other offences, some of the fines were related to cases of underage entry into casinos.

The regulator found that Resorts World Sentosa had admitted five minors onto its casino premises and was fined \$80,000. Marina Bay Sands was fined \$10,000 for allowing a minor to enter its casino and fined \$5,000 in a separate case for letting a Singapore resident enter the premises without a valid entry permit.

According to The Straits Times, both casinos have introduced facial recognition technology to enhance security checks for patrons. **DB**



30% OF YOUTH WILLING TO WORK ON MAINLAND

A survey shows that about 30% of respondents were willing to work or start businesses in mainland China, although 83% perceived better career prospects in the north of the country than in the south. The finding comes as the government tries to promote work-life integration in the Greater Bay Area.

The Macao Youth Federation has released the result of a survey it conducted last year regarding the willingness of young people to work or start businesses on the mainland. The survey obtained 669 valid responses from people aged between 18 and 45.

Compared with the same survey conducted two years

ago, significantly more respondents found the mainland brighter in terms of career prospects, with a greater proportion of respondents showing their willingness to work in the mainland. Their main concern for not yet doing so was their ability to compete with mainland residents.

A similar survey released earlier this year focusing on the Greater Bay Area, found that just under 38% of people in Macau had an interest in living or working in other Greater Bay cities.

The survey found that younger respondents and those with a college degree or above held a more open attitude towards working or living in Greater Bay cities. **AL**

TRADE UNION FEDERATION MEETS WITH EDMUND HO

XINHUA



A delegation representing the Macao Federation of Trade Unions has met with Macau's former Chief Executive, Edmund Ho.

The topic of the meeting was the second occupational skill competition to be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Sands Cotai Central between November 4 and 7.

Co-hosted by the Guangdong General Labor Union, the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions and the Macau federation, the competition was created to encourage interaction between Greater Bay Area cities. Other reasons behind its inception include providing workers from different cities with the opportunity to learn from each other.

Leading the delegation were the federation's President Chan Kam Meng and Director General Leong Wai Fong. Leong informed Edmund Ho that this upcoming edition of the competition will see a total of 250 people competing.

Leong further explained that the competition has so far received great support, both financial and intellectual, from the Macau government, casino operators and the Guangdong labor union.

Edmund Ho has been invited to officiate at the opening ceremony. He commented that the competition will not only promote Macau, but also consolidate the Greater Bay as a whole. **AL**

XI SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO SHENZHEN'S CHINA MARINE ECONOMY EXPO

CHINESE President Xi Jinping offered his congratulations in a letter to the 2019 China Marine Economy Expo that opened this week in the city of Shenzhen. Xi expressed his warm welcome to guests from all over the world in the letter.

"The oceans play a significant role in the existence and development of human society. They provide a breeding ground for life, connect the world and promote development," Xi said in the letter.

Xi called for efforts to accelerate marine sci-tech innovation, improve marine

development capacity, and foster and strengthen emerging marine industries of strategic importance.


He urged efforts to promote marine connectivity and cooperation in all areas, and develop a "blue partnership" among all countries.

The Chinese president stressed marine ecological conservation, marine pollution prevention and treatment, protection of marine biodiversity, orderly development and utilization of marine resources, in a bid to leave a clean and tidy marine environment to future generations. **XINHUA**




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HOW A HK HEIRESS TRIGGERED A STARBUCKS BACKLASH

BLAKE SCHMIDT & VENUS FENG

SWEEPING up broken glass and scrubbing graffiti have become regular chores for workers at the various businesses of Maxim's, the 63-year-old restaurant and catering empire founded by a Hong Kong billionaire clan.

This isn't just random vandalism. Protesters have relentlessly targeted the company after the daughter of Maxim's founder, Annie Wu, criticized Hong Kong demonstrators at the United Nations Human Rights Council last month.

It was a rare public appearance from a member of a billionaire family that founded a restaurant group with \$2.6 billion in annual revenue, and that operates more than 1,300 outlets in Hong Kong and other parts of Asia, including Starbucks. In the mainland, Wu received praise from state media, but in Hong Kong, fallout was swift.

Activist Joshua Wong tweeted that Starbucks should drop its deal with Maxim's, and a petition collected more than 59,000 signatures. Fast-food chain Maxim's MX, Genki Sushi and Maxim's Cakes - all part of the clan's empire - were sprayed with graffiti or had windows smashed. At two of the city's leading universities, students held boycott rallies. Beijing's allies in Hong Kong, for their part, have tried to counter the campaign, with one pro-Beijing party calling for supporters to spend more at Starbucks and Maxim's while lawmaker Starry Lee posted photos of herself nibbling on Genki sushi.

Maxim's Caterers Ltd. has sought to distance itself from Wu, the eldest daughter of co-founder James Wu, saying the 71-year-old doesn't hold a position in the company. She does, however, have a stake of less than 1%, activist investor David Webb said in a Twitter post, citing company documents. Chairman Michael Wu, the grandson of Annie's uncle, runs the company.

As Beijing resorts to corporate arm-twisting to influence the narrative in Hong Kong from the National Basketball Association to Cathay Pacific, protesters have largely taken aim at Chinese state-owned companies they view as complicit, including banks and their ATM machines, and China Mobile Ltd. The case of Maxim's, one of a few private companies being targeted, shows that protester anger isn't just reserved for China Inc. Activists called for protests at Apple stores after the company pulled a live-mapping app that tracked deployments of police, though there have been no attacks yet on the fresh target.

The months-long protests have already caused the closure of 100 restaurants across Hong Kong, with about 2,000 employees affected as a result, Financial Secretary Paul Chan said in an Oct. 13 blog post. For the survivors, turnover could drop by as much as 30% from August to October, according to Alice Leung, an analyst at KGI in Hong Kong.

The impact could be more pronounced for Maxim's, which

analysts say has most of its business in Hong Kong. Maxim's revenue grew 16% last year to \$2.6 billion. The shares of its Hong Kong-listed peers Fairwood Holdings Ltd. and Tsui Wah Holdings Ltd. have dropped by more than a quarter since June.

"Given the magnitude and that most of its costs are fixed, the impact on profits will be significant," she said. "Maxim's Group has exposure in fast food, Chinese restaurants and western dining in Hong Kong."

Annie Wu didn't respond to an interview request sent through the Hong Kong Federation of Women, which she was representing at the U.N.

"Regarding the current social events, we genuinely hope all parties will resolve their differences

the Communist Party's political advisory body.

The establishment dates to 1956 when, brothers S.T. and James Wu were indignant about poor service from staff at western restaurants in Hong Kong. Among the slights, detailed in the company's history pamphlet for its 60th anniversary, was regularly being given a table near the bathroom.

"Just because we're Chinese, we're not fit to dine at a western restaurant?" the brothers asked in the official document.

So they opened their own French restaurant and nightclub with salmon flown from Norway and strawberries from Japan. They hosted rock bands and Hollywood stars. In the 1980s, their proficiency with western culinary techniques was key to establishing partnerships in China. Former leader Deng even asked whether they could make French bread, according to the company.

As big hotel groups started offering more grandiose designs and larger live bands, the brothers changed course. They carved a niche with smaller restaurants, opening 20 cafes in two years. By the 1980s they had the backing of Jardine Matheson, one of the city's biggest conglomerates.

In the 2000s, the business opened its first Starbucks store in Exchange Square in Hong Kong. In 2011, Maxim's acquired full ownership of Starbucks in Hong Kong and Macau.

The Wu clan now has a fortune worth at least \$1 billion, derived mostly from their stake in the company, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

Annie Wu's business success is due partly to China. She first visited the mainland in 1978 with a visit to Sichuan province.

She was a founder of the joint venture Beijing Air Catering Ltd. after Deng demanded flight catering services be introduced to the mainland by May 1980. The service didn't exist in Beijing at the time, which meant international flights had to stop in Tokyo to get meals onto airplanes.

"For years, I had been like a lone traveler, leading a rootless wandering life and looking for long-lost treasures," Wu told China Daily in a Sept. 7 interview. "I found my roots."

She also rose politically, serving as a member of the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee, a top advisory body. It was at the UN council alongside fellow heiress Pansy Ho of Macau casino wealth, that Wu most publicly criticized the protesters.

She then turned to Chinese state media to chide protesters as representing a small minority and blamed international media for bias against the "silent majority."

"A lot of those peaceful protests have become violent like riots," Wu said. She called for punishments for faculty and students who boycott.

After her showing, Beijing expressed its gratitude. The Central Political and Legal Affairs Commission, a Communist party organ, posted on its social media account that netizens had sent 650 Maxim's mooncakes - delicacies enjoyed around the lunar festival - to Hong Kong police. **BLOOMBERG**

Ever since China's economic opening, the Wu clan has deepened ties with China, with Annie leading the way

and our community may resume normal operations again soon," Maxim's said in a statement, declining to provide further comment.

Maxim's might seem like an unlikely target for Hong Kong protests, given its long history in the city. But ever since China's economic opening under Deng Xiaoping, the Wu clan has deepened ties with China, with Annie leading the way as a member of

AP PHOTO



HONG Kong's legislature was interrupted for the second straight day as pro-democracy lawmakers shouted down Chief Executive Carrie Lam, a day after their protests forced her to deliver her annual policy address by video.

About a dozen opposition lawmakers were dragged from the city's Legislative Council by security staff yesterday for raising noisy objections. The ejected legislators shouted at Lam and waved placards that showed the chief executive with blood on her hands from recent violent protests in the financial hub.

The body's president suspended the session twice, but the opposition's disruptions resumed with the proceedings. When the session was eventually adjourned - with only three questions asked by friendly, pro-establishment lawmakers - the opposition politicians followed Lam out of the chamber, yelling at her.

The pro-democracy bloc only comprises about one-third of lawmakers, but the displays this week showed they have the ability to delay or even shut down debate on major economic initia-

Fresh chaos in HK's legislature shows gridlock facing Lam

tives, even if they don't have the votes. That spells even more trouble ahead for an economy sliding into recession as protests against Beijing's grip over the city grow increasingly violent.

A day earlier, agitating lawmakers used a projector to shine the protest slogan "Five Demands, Not One Less" onto her face, with Lam repeatedly pausing as she tried to deliver her policy address in the Legislative Council, known as LegCo. Finally she gave up, and delivered her address, which normally details economic priorities, via video instead.

"If she fails to respond to the five demands, it would be a fantasy to expect normal business to resume in the Legislative Council," said Alvin Yeung, a pro-democracy lawmaker who participated in the disruption, on Wednesday. "All of these livelihood

issues, she could have introduced them a year ago. She's trying to compete for popularity. She's trying to win over people's hearts. But this is doomed to fail without any legitimacy."

In her address, Lam pledged to make housing more affordable and promised cash handouts for students, many of whom have been on the front lines of demonstrations that have spurred regular clashes with police over the past four months. They were among some 200 initiatives aimed at easing some of the discontent that has fueled the protests.

But she'll have a hard time implementing them as well as a \$2.4 billion stimulus package announced in August without the support of lawmakers.

"Many of these measures cannot be implemented without funding approval from the Legis-

lative Council," James Lau, acting Financial Secretary, said in an emailed statement on Wednesday, referring to the stimulus. A backlog of projects worth more than HK\$70 billion (\$8.9 billion) and involving about 14,000 jobs is awaiting approval by the Finance Committee, Lau said.

More than 50 legislative proposals are currently awaiting action, according to an Oct. 16 meeting agenda. While some deal with mundane administrative issues - fees on karaoke parlors and bus route schedules - others include deliberations on a face-mask ban implemented under a colonial-era emergency law and the official withdrawal of the extradition bill that sparked the protests.

"We've already suffered from delays in many, many discussions," said Iris Pang, economist with ING Bank NV in Hong Kong. "I have no idea when those po-

licies in the policy address can really be discussed or passed in the Legislative Council. This is a big question mark I think every Hong Kong person has in mind now."

Regina Ip, a member of Lam's advisory Executive Council, said it was still possible to push things through despite the "disgraceful" interruptions by opposition lawmakers. Certain measures announced in the policy address that don't require new funding - including relaxed mortgage rules for first-time home buyers and land requisition for new housing - could be implemented without lawmaker approval, she said.

Still, Ip said the blame for inaction would lie with the opposition lawmakers, if they don't let meetings proceed as planned. "What they're doing is very destructive, very hurtful to Hong Kong," she said. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

HONG KONG

Activist renews call for march after hammer attack

SHELLY BANJO

ONE of Hong Kong's most prominent protesters was recovering after being attacked on the street by men wielding hammers.

Jimmy Sham - convenor of the Civil Human Rights Front, which has organized many of the city's largest peaceful protests - issued a plea from his hospital bed yesterday for police to allow a Sunday march to go ahead in the Tsim Tsa Tsui area as planned. Sham was assaulted by four to five men Wednesday while on his way to a meeting in nearby Mong Kok - the second time he's been attacked since August.

"When Jimmy was at his

street counter, many of the citizens expressed that they really hope there will be a safe march on Sunday," the Civil Human Rights Front said in a statement Thursday. "Jimmy therefore urges the Police to issue Letter of No Objection, so that Hongkongers can express their views."

The Civil Human Rights Front has helped organize several of the largest protests ever held in the former British colony, including two largely peaceful marches in June that drew more than a million people. The demonstrations have since mushroomed into a broader push for greater democracy, leading to regular clashes between protesters

and police and occasional incidents of mob violence.

The coming weekend will be the Asian financial center's 20th-straight weekend of unrest.

Ng Tak-nam, chief police inspector for the Mong Kok area, condemned the attack on Sham, which he said appeared to have been premeditated. "The police will investigate impartially and seriously, regardless of the person's background and identity," Ng told reporters.

Sham, who is planning to join the district council elections next month, was attacked in August by two masked men with a baseball bat and knife. Police have arrested three men in

connection with that earlier case, charging two of them with conspiracy to assault causing bodily harm. The third is on bail pending further investigation.

The Civil Human Rights Front said that the assailants in the latest attack appeared to be aiming for Sham's head, elbows and knees. The group said he suffered several wounds, but had no broken bones.

"The Civil Human Rights Front strongly condemns the acts of the perpetrators," the group said. "It is not hard to link this incident to a spreading political terror in order to threaten and inhibit the legitimate exercise of natural and legal rights." **BLOOMBERG**

BLOOMBERG



Jimmy Sham, convenor of the Civil Human Rights Front

A TRENDY CORNER OF MADRID LAYS BARE FLAW IN EUROPE INFLATION

TODD WHITE

IN the trendy Malasaña neighborhood of Madrid, Ramon G. Del Pomar's rent tripled to 3,500 euros (about 31,000 patacas) per month when his contract came up for renewal. It was the kind of bumper increase that's become a scourge of up-and-coming areas across Spain in recent years - all while official inflation averages about 1%.

"When I hear 1%, I laugh," the 69-year-old Del Pomar said in an interview. "The figure must be false, because many, many people now pay more than half their income just for an apartment."

The apparent disconnect between official statistics and real-world costs hints at a problem at the heart of European monetary policy: Despite the best efforts of the central bank and quantitative easing totaling 2.6 trillion euros, inflation remains stubbornly low. If the experiences of people like Del Pomar are anything to go by, gauges of consumer price growth could be undershooting because they're missing important inputs - meaning European Central Bank policy is calibrated incorrectly.

With a new era of stimulus beginning and critics railing against central banks for their impotence, the question of how to calculate inflation is a crucial part of the debate. And the accuracy of euro-area housing statistics has long been a point of contention.

S&P Global Ratings said this week the ECB should include homeowners' costs in housing calculations. That would likely take it down another policy path, toward financial stability and away from easing, according to S&P economist Sylvain Broyer.



"If the ECB had been targeting this higher inflation measure, they might have refrained from restarting QE in September," Broyer said in an interview.

In Europe there are no private figures on housing costs for government statisticians to use as a comparison, and somehow they have become minimized in inflation readings in Spain and many developed countries.

Home purchase prices, which tend to lead or track rents, are climbing about 5% a year in Spain and 4% in the euro

zone overall.

S&P reckons that if the ECB took into account prices of owner-occupied dwellings, its CPI

The apparent disconnect between official statistics and real-world costs hints at a problem: gauges of consumer price growth are missing important inputs

measure would increase by 0.3 percentage points and fuel a "sustainable rise" in the central bank's inflation expectations.

Spain is trying to improve the way it takes the temperature of the housing market and will unveil a new index next month. Most

rental contracts for new apartments entering the market are excluded from inflation, according to a Bank of Spain report. Asking prices for rent jumped 50% nationwide in the previous 5 1/2 years, the research showed. Government statisticians figured housing costs rose barely 3% in the period.

The nation's consumer-price reading and the bond market

are unlikely to be rocked just yet, however. Government and central bank officials wouldn't speculate on whether the new index might reflect more robust price growth, or if it will be used in CPI, which currently puts annual consumer inflation at just 0.2%.

A spokesperson for Eurostat, which compiles price data, said that while revising the inflation index to capture more housing costs was considered and rejected in 2018, "research will continue." An ECB spokeswoman declined to comment.

Eurostat calculations assume consumers spend more on water, power and gas than they do on their rent. In Spain's case, it implies a household with 2,000 euros a month in disposable income pays only 60 euros a month in rent.

"How can 60 euros a month cover the cost of housing?" said Boris Cournède, a veteran economist at the Organization of Economic Development who wrote a 2005 research paper studying the impact of excluding housing from CPI calculations. "A campground fee would be more than that."

By contrast, housing is weighted at about 33% of the U.S. spending basket.

Spain's new index was not meant for calculating inflation. It was demanded by a 2019 law as a tool for curbing rental spikes that have driven tenants from neighborhoods where they've lived for decades - which is exactly what happened to Del Pomar.

Like tens of millions of Europeans, housing is his biggest monthly expense. Yet it is minimized in inflation statistics, the undershooting of which have implications for everything from bond pricing and wage increases to pension payments across the \$14 trillion euro-area economy.

"There's definitely a big part of housing consumption that's not in consumer prices," Cournède said. **BLOOMBERG**

CORPORATE BITS

Wynn team visits historical exhibition to cultivate patriotism



To strengthen team members' understanding of Chinese history and the country's cultural development, Wynn gathered a group of team members, led by Linda Chen, Vice Chairman and Executive Director of Wynn Macau, to

visit the "Historical Documentary Exhibition for Celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Macau SAR," the company informed.

The exhibition was organized as part of the celebrations of the twin milestone anniversaries and is divided into eight major themes, showcasing nearly 100 exhibits including precious literature, historical photographs, and booklets, all lent by the National Library of China, facilitating a greater appreciation of the history of the country's development.

Wynn hopes that this visit will encourage team members to deepen their knowledge of national history as well as help to inspire and cultivate their patriotic feelings towards the country, as well as their sense of belonging, identity, and pride towards the motherland.

Golf Champions conduct youth clinic in Macau



Golf Champions Phil Mickelson and Li Haotong will be hosting a Golf youth clinic in Macau on Monday in an initiative of Las Vegas Sands

Corp. (LVS) that invites the highlighted players.

The trip will be the first visit to Macau for the World Golf Hall of Famer Mickelson, the

company informed.

"We are excited to have Phil and Haotong in Macau and look forward to them interacting with our guests and the local community," said Rob Goldstein, LVS's president and chief operating officer.

"This is yet another opportunity to put a spotlight on Macau as a world-class leisure and business tourism destination. Phil Mickelson has a tremendous international following and Haotong's popularity is only going to continue to rise, especially as he plays in events like the 2019 President's Cup later this year. It will be great to have them both in Macau," Goldstein remarked.

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Dior apologizes to China over map excluding Taiwan

JINSHAN HONG

CHRISTIAN Dior SE became the latest company to face a backlash in China over political sensitivities, after making a presentation at a university that included a map of the country that excluded Taiwan.

The French luxury brand apologized on Weibo yesterday after a video clip circulated online showed a human resources worker at a recruiting event in China being questioned by a student on why Taiwan wasn't included on the map.

Western organizations from the U.S. National Basketball Association to fashion retailers Givenchy and Dolce & Gabbana are increasingly coming under fire for perceived slights to Beijing's One China policy. Citizens are becoming more vocal in support of China's sovereignty over its territories as the government confronts pro-democracy protesters in Hong Kong and a trade war with the U.S.

At Dior's presentation, the female student's question about Taiwan was met with applause from the audience. The Dior worker answered that Taiwan is too small to be visible on the map, but the student noted that it isn't smaller than the island of Hainan, which was visible. The audience burst into applause again.

The worker then said that she only managed mainland China for Dior, while Taiwan and Hong Kong are covered by others at the company.

Dior said in the Weibo statement that it is "deeply sorry for the incident where the wrong description and wrong explanation were made by human resources staff in the campus event." It said this was inappropriate behavior by its employees, and that the

company respects the One China principle. Dior said it is investigating the matter and will treat it seriously.

Local media identified the school as Zhejiang Gongshang University. The university's official WeChat account confirmed that Dior held a career presentation on Wednesday.

The incident comes a week after the NBA became engulfed in controversy over a tweet by the Houston Rockets' general manager supporting Hong Kong's pro-democracy protesters. The comment provoked a storm that led to the cancellation of sponsorships and NBA events, as well as a blackout of exhibition games by the state broadcaster.

Dior also joins other fashion companies including Coach, Givenchy and Versace in the nationalism spotlight. The three fashion brands were called out in August for T-shirt and product designs identifying Hong Kong and Taiwan as separate countries from China.

Dolce & Gabbana has suffered after its advertisement last year showing a Chinese model struggling to eat spaghetti and pizza with chopsticks sparked outrage and a boycott of the luxury fashion retailer's goods. In April, Leica Camera AG quickly distanced itself from a promotional video bearing the camera maker's name that depicted the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests.

Western companies have had to tread carefully not to draw the ire of consumers in one of their biggest markets. Chinese consumers are estimated to account for at least a third of current luxury sales and two-thirds of the industry's growth, according to figures from consultancy Bain & Co. **BLOOMBERG**

SANDS MACAU FASHION WEEK

Sands Macao Fashion Week is finally here! Macao's hottest fashion event features runway presentations highlighting the latest looks, special promotions, and exclusive showcases, including our headline event, The Balmain Couture Exhibition. Discover the glitz and glamour of the city's fashion scene, only at Sands Resorts Macao.



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The main event of SMFW is an exclusive showcase of couture pieces by Balmain. The collection highlights the outstanding couture legacy and the creative genius of the brand. The Balmain Couture exhibition will be on display in the main lobby of The Venetian Macao from 18 October to 23 October.

SMFW Schedule

FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER	SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER	SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER
11.30 Auralo Arte Fashion Show at Shoppes at Venetian	12.00, 14.00, 16.00 & 18.00 Walk on Water Show, Shoppes at Venetian	12.00, 14.00, 16.00 & 18.00 Walk on Water Show, Shoppes at Venetian
13.30, 16.00, 18.00 & 20.00 Boutique Shows, Shoppes at Parisian	13.00, 15.00, 17.00 & 19.00 Boutique Shows, Shoppes at Parisian	13.00, 15.00 & 17.00 Boutique Shows, Shoppes at Parisian
15.00, 17.00 & 19.00 Walk on Water Show, Shoppes at Venetian		20.00 CPTTM Designers Runway Show, Shoppes at Parisian

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PHILIPPINES BLASTS DREAMWORKS' FILM 'ABOMINABLE' OVER CHINA MAP

CECILIA YAP

THE animated movie "Abominable" from DreamWorks Animation has landed in controversy in Southeast Asia after the film featured a map of China showing the Asian giant's maritime claims disputed by its neighbors.

A top government official in the Philippines backed a boycott of all movies from the Comcast Corp.-owned production house, joining Vietnam that has also raised its objections. At the center of the dispute is the movie's apparent endorsement of Beijing's so-called "nine-dash line" that lays claims to 80% of the South China Sea. In Malaysia, censors have ordered the scene removed from the movie, Reuters reported yesterday.

"For me, call a universal boycott of all DreamWorks production here on," Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin said in a tweet this week, reacting to a Twitter post by a maritime-law professor calling for the movie to be banned in the Southeast Asian country. But unlike Vietnam, which has ordered cinema halls to pull the movie, the Philippines hasn't imposed any restrictions yet.

DreamWorks is the latest example of a business getting caught in the geopolitical crossfire as countries tussle over issues ranging from sovereignty claims to maritime boundaries. The National Basketball Association found itself

in the center of a storm last week after a team official in the U.S. expressed his support for the pro-democracy protesters in Hong Kong in a tweet that was later deleted.

While Vietnam has been the region's most forceful nation in pushing back against Beijing's claims in the South China Sea, tensions have been simmering between the Philippines and China as well. President Rodrigo Duterte, in a rare rebuke of China earlier this year, told his giant neighbor to lay off an island in the disputed waters. Manila has also escalated a protest over the presence of more than 200 Chinese vessels near the area.

Duterte is also pressing ahead with a plan to explore oil and gas in the sea jointly with China, which has promised 60-40 revenue sharing favoring the Philippines. The U.S. estimates the region has \$2.5 trillion in unexploited hydrocarbon resources.

In a separate tweet Thursday, Locsin said "failure to react may be seen as a kind of submission on the diplomatic level," adding "but our reaction must be minimally invasive of free speech concerns."

"Abominable" is a Chinese co-production about a teenage girl named Yi, who finds a yeti on the roof of her home in Shanghai. She names him "Everest" and sets off to help him get home to his family. The movie opened in U.S. theaters late last month. **BLOOMBERG**



Gov't detains two US citizens who ran teaching program

YANAN WANG, BEIJING

CHINA said yesterday it detained two U.S. citizens on suspicion of organizing others to illegally cross the border, amid sharpening tensions between the sides over trade, technology and other sensitive issues.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said police in the eastern province of Jiangsu arrested Alyssa Petersen and Jacob Harlan on Sept. 27 and Sept. 29.

"The department handling the case has informed the U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai in a timely manner, arranged U.S. diplomats to conduct consular visits and protected the legitimate rights and interests of the two," Geng said at a regular press briefing.

Harlan is the owner and

Petersen the director of a Rexburg, Idaho-based organization called China Horizons, whose website says it is an English teaching program that offers an "immersive experience within a Chinese school."

However, a post on the 17-year-old group's Facebook page dated Saturday said it would be shutting down at the end of the month.

"Unfortunately, because of increasing political and economic problems between the U.S. and China, we are no longer able to send teachers to China safely," the post said.

It said Harlan and Petersen may be detained "for the next few months or years."

"They are being charged for bogus crimes and their families are working on getting them international lawyers to help them get

back home to the States," the post said.

Police in the Jiangsu city of Zhenjiang, where the two are being held, did not immediately respond to questions submitted by phone and fax.

A pair of GoFundMe sites set up for the two has raised nearly \$40,000 toward their legal defense and other expenses.

According to Harlan's site, he is a father of five from Utah who was taken from his hotel room on the morning of Sept. 28, along with his 8-year-old daughter, Viara.

It said that Viara Harlan was allowed to make a brief call to her mother in Utah after 48 hours, but not permitted to disclose her location or say anything about what had happened. Police later allowed her to fly home to the U.S. accompanied by a

family friend, according to the site.

Petersen's page says she was held incommunicado for two weeks after being taken away by police and was located only after her family went to the State Department for assistance.

"We received information that she is doing OK. She wakes up when told, she goes to sleep when told. She spends her day in a jail cell or walking in a circle counting steps," the site said.

The site said Petersen taught and trained the group's teachers, ran the Rexburg home office and attended Brigham Young University-Idaho, a school affiliated with the Mormon church.

The charge of organizing others to illegally cross the border carries a minimum sentence of two years, with punishment

as severe as life imprisonment under certain circumstances.

The U.S. Embassy in Beijing confirmed that it's aware of the detentions and the charges brought against the two but gave no further details.

"We take seriously our responsibility to assist U.S. citizens abroad and are monitoring the situation," an embassy spokesman said on routine condition of anonymity.

While the charge generally applies to human traffickers, it has also been used in the past against those accused of conducting missionary work in China, which the officially atheist communist government strictly forbids. Last year, a U.S. missionary, the Rev. John Sanqiang Cao, was sentenced to seven years in prison on the same charge.

The case comes as relations have soured between Beijing and Washington over a range of issues, including punitive U.S. tariffs leveled on Chinese exports over accusations that China cheats on trade and uses theft or coercion to illicitly obtain American technology.

They have also tangled over U.S. criticism of Chinese human rights abuses, the handling of increasingly violent anti-government protests in Hong Kong and China's assertion of its claims to virtually the entire South China Sea.

Geng, however, downplayed the possibility of outside factors weighing on Petersen and Harlan's cases.

"I did not see any specific connection between this matter and the current China-U.S. relations," he told reporters. **AP**

INDONESIA

Gov't arrests 40 militant suspects ahead of inauguration

NINIEK KARMINI, JAKARTA

INDONESIA'S elite anti-terrorism unit went on a busy 24-hour spree to root out suspected Islamic militants ahead of a presidential inauguration this weekend that will be attended by Asian leaders and Western envoys.

At least 40 suspects have been detained by the counterterrorism squad, known as Densus 88, in eight provinces, including four who were captured yesterday, national police spokesman Dedi Prasetyo said. The sweep followed a tipoff about possible attacks against police and places of worship in several areas.

Six of the arrested militants, including a woman, were presented in a news conference yesterday in orange detainee shirts and under heavy guard at the police headquarters. They were not identified by police, who also displayed explosive chemicals for bomb-making, knives, jihadi books, airsoft guns and rifles with silencers and sniper scopes they said were seized from the suspects.

Another police spokesman, Muhammad Iqbal, said Wednesday among the arrested suspects were two female police officers who have been radicalized and were willing to be suicide bombers.

The arrests follow an attack last week in which a militant stabbed Indonesia's top security minister,



Wiranto, who is recovering from his wounds. A husband and wife were arrested in that attack. President Joko Widodo, who will take the oath of the office on Sunday at a ceremony in the capital, Jakarta, ordered government forces to hunt down the militant networks responsible for the attack.

Wiranto, a local police chief and a third man were wounded in the broad daylight attack in Banten province last Thursday

by suspected militant Syahril Alamsyah and his wife, Fitria Andriana. Both are believed to be members of a local affiliate of the Islamic State group known as the Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, or JAD.

Prasetyo said the arrested husband, known as Abu Rara, would face heavier sanctions for handing a knife to his 15-year-old daughter to help assault the police. The child declined out of fear.

Indonesia, the world's most

populous Muslim nation, has been battling militants since bombings on the resort island of Bali in 2002 killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists. Attacks aimed at foreigners have been largely replaced in recent years by smaller, less deadly strikes targeting the government, mainly police and anti-terrorism forces and local "infidels."

In May last year, two families carried out suicide bombings at

churches in Indonesia's second-largest city, Surabaya, killing a dozen people and two young girls whose parents had involved them in one of the attacks. Police said the father of the two girls was the leader of a cell in a larger militant network that claimed allegiance to IS.

The inauguration of Widodo, who won a second term with 55.5% of the vote in the April 17 election, will be attended by Southeast Asian leaders and Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

Several envoys, including China's Vice President Wang Qishan and U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao, are also scheduled to attend.

Prasetyo said 31,000 security personnel were being deployed to secure the capital during the inauguration, though there has been no warning of a possible attack.

"The arrested suspects planned to attack police and worship places instead," Prasetyo said.

He said police were hunting down other suspected militants, mostly participants in a social media chat group who are believed to be linked to JAD.

Police have seized 10 homemade pipe bombs believed to be intended for suicide attacks, chemicals for use in explosives, airsoft guns, knives, documents on planned attacks, jihadi books, laptops and cellphones in separate raids.

In West Java's Cirebon district, investigators found that three of the suspects had been working on a chemical bomb containing methanol, urea fertilizer and rosary pea seeds, which are the main ingredient of abrin, an extremely toxic poison, Prasetyo said. **AP**

Australia promises more money for overwhelmed spy agency

ROD MCGUIRK,
CANBERRA

A government minister on yesterday promised an unprecedented funding increase for Australia's main spy agency, which is struggling to meet demands posed by the nation's new foreign interference laws, espionage and terrorism.

Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton promises more money and staff a day after the Australian Security Intelligence Organization, better known as ASIO, revealed in an annual report an "increasing gap between demand for our counter-espionage and foreign interference advice and our ability to furnish this assistance."



"It's getting unprecedented funding and we'll continue to support," Dutton told reporters.

"We have more demands on our intelligence services and law enforcement agencies than ever before," he added.

Australia last year outlawed covert foreign

interference in world-first legislation that has angered China, its biggest export market.

Since December, individuals and businesses that are attempting to influence the government and Australian politics on behalf of a foreign government have had to register, a re-

quirement meant to add transparency for the public and government decision-makers.

The public register is a response to a government-commissioned classified report that found the Chinese Communist Party for a decade had tried to influence Australian policy, compromise political parties and gain access to all levels of government.

There have been no public reports of anyone being charged with breaching the legislation by attempting to covertly influence government.

Dutton said whether individuals were charged was a matter for police.

The ASIO report said the passage of new laws on fo-

rein interference espionage affected the threats.

Some foreign spy agencies had reassessed the risks of conducting clandestine intelligence operations in Australia, the report said.

"However, we anticipate the most capable foreign intelligence services will adapt their behavior over time to circumvent the new legislation," the report said.

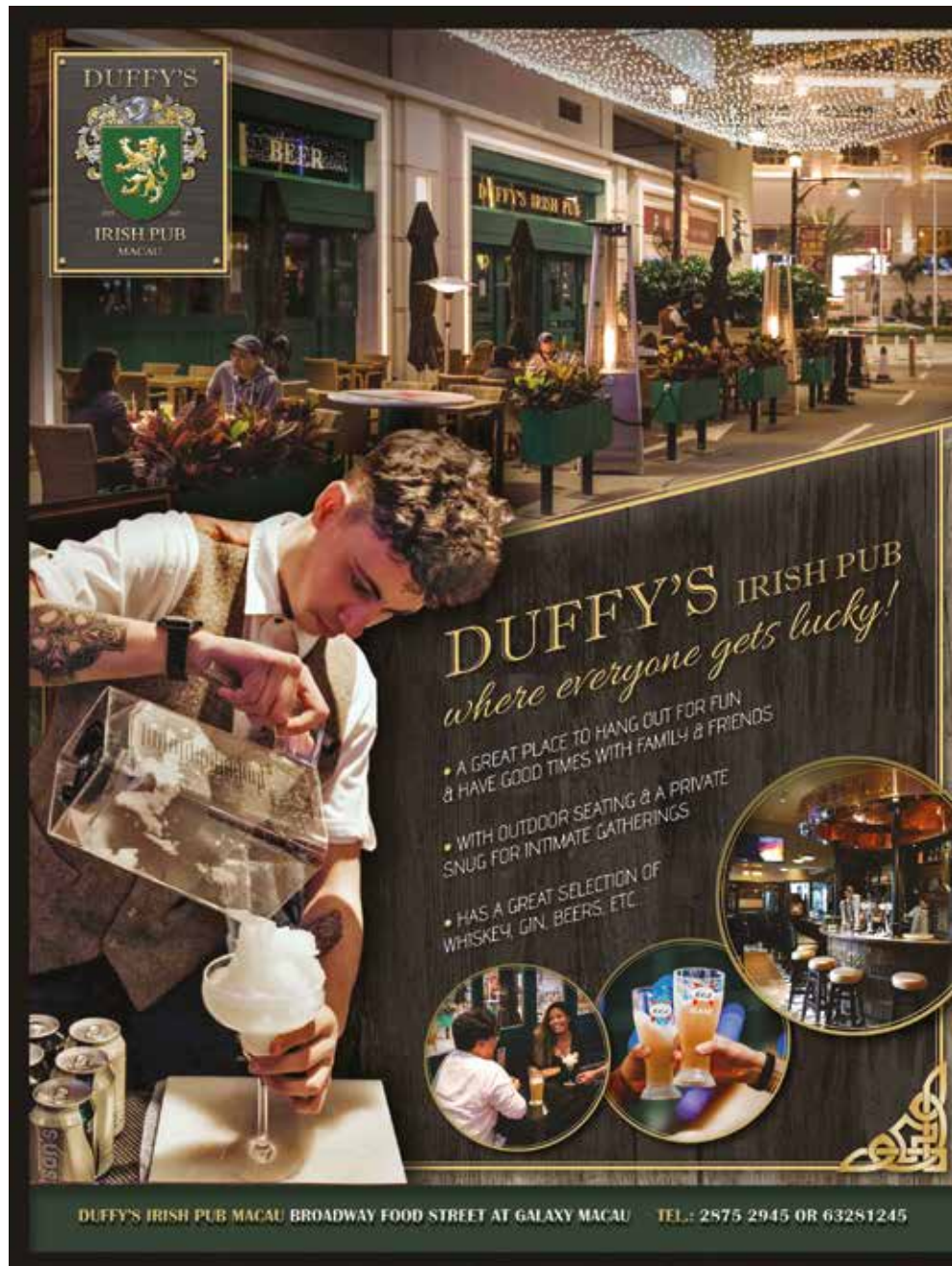
The elevated threat of espionage and foreign interference, combined with greater awareness of the threat among Australians, had increased demand for ASIO's help and was "stretching current resources," the report said.

"We will necessarily prioritize our finite resources — across our counter-

-terrorism, counter-espionage and foreign interference, border integrity and protective security advice programs — toward addressing activities of the greatest potential harm to Australians and Australian interests," the report said.

Opposition spokeswoman on the Home Affairs Department portfolio Kristina Keneally said the government should be alarmed by ASIO's resourcing concerns.

"It's an incredibly important agency in our national security framework and for them to be reporting in this time when the challenges they face are quite complex, that they are stretched for resources, well that's an alarm bell," she said. **AP**



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UK, EU reach tentative Brexit deal that still needs ratification

RAF CASERT
& JILL LAWLESS, BRUSSELS

BITAIN and the European Union finally reached a new tentative Brexit deal yesterday hoping to escape the acrimony, divisions and frustration of their three-year divorce battle. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson now faces the Herculean task of selling the accord to his recalcitrant parliament — including his allies in Northern Ireland.

Only hours before Brussels hosted a summit of the bloc's 28 national leaders, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker tweeted: "We have one! It's a fair and balanced agreement for the EU and the UK and it is testament to our commitment to find solutions."

Johnson tweeted that the two sides had struck a "great new deal" and urged U.K. lawmakers to ratify it in a special session being held Saturday — only the first time since 1982 that British lawmakers have been at work on that day.

"This is a deal which allows us



European Union chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier

to get Brexit done and leave the EU in two weeks' time," Johnson tweeted.

The pound hit a five-month high against the U.S. dollar on the news.

Yet immediately complicating matters was Johnson's Northern Irish government allies, which didn't waste a minute before announcing they could not back the tentative Brexit deal because of the way it handled the Irish border.

Johnson, however, needs all

the support he can get to push any Brexit deal past a deeply divided Parliament and that knowledge tempered jubilation at the EU summit. The U.K. Parliament already rejected a previous Brexit deal crafted by former British Prime Minister Theresa May three times.

EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier has been through this scenario before.

"We have this history. That is why my mountaineering tem-

perament keeps me careful and cautious," said Barnier, who hails from the French Alps and organized the 1992 Olympic Winter Games there.

Barnier was in the room when the leaders called each other and said Johnson "told President Juncker this morning that he believed he was able to get the deal approved," adding Johnson said he was "confident about his capacity to convince a majority."

The agreement must still be formally approved by the bloc and ratified by the European Parliament.

The key hurdle to a Brexit deal was finding a way to keep goods and people flowing freely across the border between EU member Ireland and the U.K.'s Northern Ireland after Brexit. That invisible, open border has underpinned the region's peace accord and allowed the economies of both Ireland and Northern Ireland to grow.

Johnson insists that all of the U.K. — including Northern Ireland — must leave the bloc's customs union, which would seem to make border checks and tariffs inevitable.

But Barnier said the deal "squares this circle" by leaving Northern Ireland inside the EU single market for goods — so border checks are not needed — and also eliminating customs checks at the Irish border. Instead, customs checks will be carried out and tariffs levied on goods entering Northern Ireland that are destined for the EU.

That effectively means a customs border in the Irish Sea — something the British government long said it would not allow and something Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party vehemently opposes.

DUP leader Arlene Foster and the party's parliamentary chief Nigel Dodds said they "could not support what is being suggested on customs and consent issues," referring to a say the Northern Irish authorities might have in future developments on the border.

The party said their position was unchanged after the announcement of the provisional deal.

But the EU has compromised, too, by allowing Northern Ireland special access to its single market. And the deal gives Northern Ireland a say over the rules, something that was missing from May's previous rejected agreement. After four years, the Northern Ireland Assembly will vote on whether to continue the arrangement or end it. **AP**

AD

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Street Dance Competition
7:00 pm
Judges:
Chris (Yunnan)
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Style: Hip-hop Free Style
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Way (Taiwan)
DJ AMAZING (Jinan)
Battle Guest: Yip@Asylum (Hong Kong)

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13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Agua de Mar
15:30	Zig Zag
15:30	Os Ursos Boonie e o Fantástico Outono
16:00	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
16:55	Geoparque Açores - Fim
17:50	Amor Maior (Repetição)
18:35	Semana Internacional (Repetição)
19:10	Resumo Liga dos Campeões 2019/2020
19:30	Ouro Verde Sr.1
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Talk Show
21:50	Livros com João Guedes
22:00	Todas as Palavras
22:25	Amor Maior
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Justiça de Chicago
00:55	Liga Europa: PSV Eindhoven - Sporting (Directo)
03:00	Liga Europa: Porto - Young Boys (Directo)
05:00	RTPi Directo

Offbeat

MUSICIANS HALL OF FAME TO HONOR GROUP WITH NEW JERSEY ROOTS



Seven years after hitting the road to perform and share their stories of recording with some of the biggest names in pop music, a New Jersey-based group of former A-list session musicians is being recognized for its efforts.

The Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville is giving its first "Road Warrior" award to The Hit Men, a group originally assembled in 2012 by former members of Frankie Valli and Four Seasons. The group has toured steadily since then, and its Oct. 28 concert at Nashville's City Winery will close a month of shows in California, Arizona, Maine, Louisiana and Tennessee.

"It's an incredible honor to be recognized for the work we've each put into our careers supporting the greatest names in the music industry," founding member Lee Shapiro said.

The museum opened in 2006 and showcases the often-unsung musicians who have backed legendary pop performers. Among its famous inductees are the Wrecking Crew, the group of L.A. studio musicians that played on numerous '60s pop hits; and the Funk Brothers, Motown Records' house rhythm section.

Seeking to ride the musical nostalgia wave and the success of the Four Seasons-inspired musical "Jersey Boys," The Hit Men formed in 2012 in a basement studio in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, about 10 miles from New York. Their roots extend decades further.

Shapiro, keyboardist for Valli during the singer's mid-1970s comeback, had played with guitarist Don Ciccone and drummer Gerry Polci with the Four Seasons and knew bassist Larry Gates from childhood. Ciccone and guitarist Jimmy Ryan had scored hits with the pop group The Critters in the '60s. All had extensive credits playing behind artists from Carole King and Carly Simon to Elton John, the Rolling Stones and dozens more.

The group added veteran session vocalist Russell Velasquez and has played 40 to 60 dates per year ever since, adjusting its set list as the "Jersey Boys" phenomenon faded.

cinema

CINETEATRO

17 - 24 Oct



MALEFICENT: MISTRESS OF EVIL
ROOM 1
2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm
Director: Joachim Rønning
Starring: Angelina Jolie, Elle Fanning, Harris Dickinson
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 117min



GEMINI MAN
ROOM 2
2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm
Director: Ang Lee
Starring: Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Will Smith, Clive Owen
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 117min

BRAVE FATHER ONLINE
ROOM 3
2:30, 4:45, 7:15pm
Director: Teruo Noguchi, Kiyoshi Yamamoto
Starring: Kentaro Sakaguchi, Kôtarô Yoshida
Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)
Duration: 114min



JOKER
ROOM 3
9:30pm
Director: Todd Phillips
Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Robert De Niro, Zazie Beetz
Language: English
Duration: 122min

this day in history



1963 ARISTOCRAT IS NEW PRIME MINISTER

A Scottish Earl has won one of the most bitterly-fought leadership contests in the history of the Conservative Party to become Britain's next Prime Minister.

As Lord Home arrived at 10 Downing Street, he told reporters, "It is a great honour to be asked to do this."

He now has three days in which to persuade two of his bitterest rivals in the leadership contest, the former deputy Prime Minister Rab Butler, and former Chancellor, Reginald Maudling, to join his cabinet, so that he can form a government.

The former Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan, has been battling illness for some time, and announced his resignation at the Conservative Party conference less than a week ago.

Four candidates emerged to take over: Mr Butler, Mr Maudling, Lord Hailsham and Lord Home.

The leadership battle became increasingly bitter, and split the party into two camps - one supporting Mr Butler, and another behind Mr Maudling.

Lord Home, who was foreign secretary in the Macmillan Government, was initially regarded as an outsider, and was the only one of the four who expressed reluctance to take up the post.

He also has a low public profile outside the House of Commons, although he is well-liked and respected at Westminster.

But as the rivalry between the two camps became a bitter feud, Lord Home's name was increasingly mentioned as the compromise candidate.

Mr Macmillan's choice of a peer to succeed him as prime minister - the first to hold the office since 1895 - is highly controversial, and has been greeted with bewilderment by the supporters of Rab Butler, who was widely believed to have been the prime minister's favoured candidate.

The press and the opposition have also attacked Lord Home's aristocratic background and perceived lack of a public profile.

"No party can ever have portrayed such a total lack of confidence in each other as to have to resort to such a drama in order to find the lowest common denominator," commented the deputy leader of the opposition, George Brown.

The Liberal leader Jo Grimond said of Lord Home, "He has many admirable qualities, but they do not seem to have counted as much as the fact that he did not want the job."

"That surely is an insufficient reason for giving it to him."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Lord Home renounced his hereditary title soon afterwards, and became Sir Alec Douglas-Home.

He was prime minister for less than a year, making little impression before losing the General Election of 1964 to the Labour Party under Harold Wilson.

Mr Wilson - portraying himself as an "ordinary bloke" - relentlessly attacked Sir Alec's aristocratic background during the campaign. After the controversy surrounding Harold Macmillan's choice of successor, the Conservative Party changed the way it selected a new leader.

When Sir Alec resigned as leader of the opposition in July 1965, his successor was chosen by a ballot of Conservative MPs for the first time. The shadow Chancellor, Edward Heath, won.

Sir Alec served as foreign secretary for Mr Heath in opposition and in government after 1970.

He left the Commons before the October 1974 general election, and was given a life peerage with the title, Baron Home of the Hirsel.

He remained a prominent figure in the House of Lords until his death in October 1995.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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 Sansom



SUDOKU

EASY

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

EASY+

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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

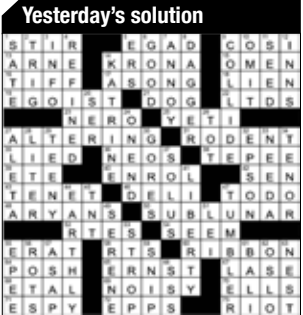
WORLD

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- Playwright Burrows; 4- Author Jong; 9- Mideast capital; 14- Fall behind; 15- Continental identity of a Chinese person; 16- Sierra ____; 17- Striking; 19- 4th letter of the Greek alphabet; 20- Itty-bitty; 21- Fill with joy; 23- 1999 Ron Howard film; 24- Soup server; 27- Jazz technique; 30- Green citrus beverage; 32- Numero ____; 33- Endanger; 37- Cleft; 39- Listen; 40- Fill to surfeit; 42- Bluffer's play; 43- Missive full of dots and dashes; 44- West ender?; 45- Legislative bodies; 48- Beat by a nose; 50- Baggy; 51- Low in pitch; 55- Brother of Moses; 57- Winter drink; 58- March man; 60- Fishing bait; 64- Wrath; 65- Eliminate; 66- Rock's ____ Speedwagon; 67- Gaggle members; 68- Prevent; 69- Big D.C. lobby;

DOWN: 1- Winged; 2- Revealed; 3- White heron; 4- New Orleans is The Big ____; 5- They appear before U; 6- Jr.'s junior; 7- Tin; 8- Bassett or Lansbury; 9- "Scientific American Frontiers" host; 10- Runs into; 11- One level above the atomic; 12- Aardvark morsel; 13- Teachers' org.; 18- Ltr. holder; 22- ____ Zeppelin; 24- Miller offering; 25- "So be it"; 26- Bear lair; 28- Clarence's accuser; 29- Tribal symbol; 30- HOMES, e.g.; 31- ____ Park, CO; 33- Babe Ruth's number; 34- Got wind of; 35- Instrument for measuring precipitation; 36- Hosp. sections; 38- Hog; 40- Complete collections; 41- Nautical direction; 43- Chinese "way"; 46- "Xanadu" grp.; 47- Don't bother; 49- Lightens; 51- Fiddle stick; 52- Nut of an oak; 53- More peeved; 54- Navigators Islands, today; 56- Seldom seen; 57- "Believe" singer; 58- Slump; 59- Washington's bill; 61- Exist; 62- Long-tailed rodent; 63- Mao ____-tung;



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[Cotai] One Grantai 4 1/2 2 1/2
2,556 ft² \$25,600,000 (ref: 19096001)

[Taipa] Kinglight Garden 1 1/2 1 1/2 1 1/2
800 ft² \$6,980,000 (ref: 19055005ST)

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[Taipa] Nova Grand 2 1/2 1 1/2
935 ft² \$17,800/mth (ref: 19091004)

[Taipa] Manhattan 4 1/2 2 1/2
2,305 ft² \$26,800/mth (ref: 19091003)

[Macau] La Marina Studio 1 1/2
2,352 ft² \$11,200/mth (ref: 19091001)

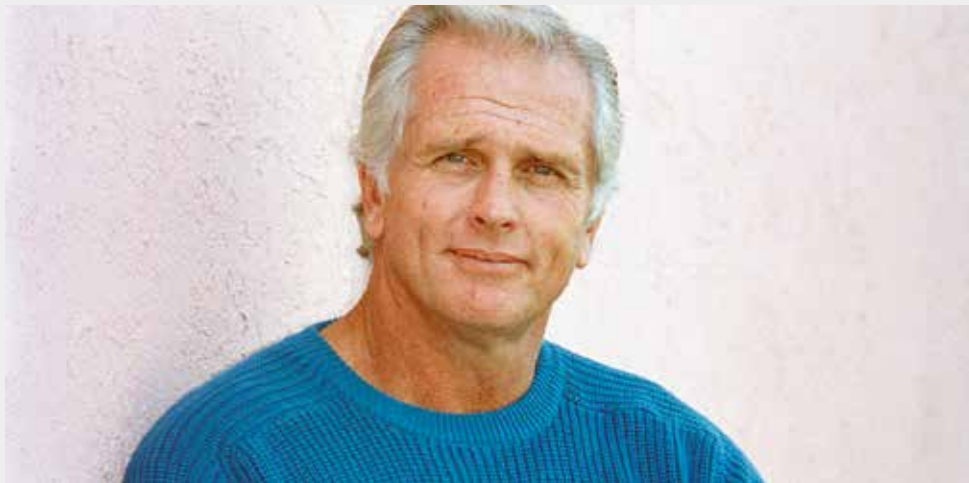
[Cotai] One Grantai 3 1/2 3 1/2
2,122 ft² \$23,000/mth (ref: 19030001RT)

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AP PHOTO



HOLLYWOOD

‘TARZAN’ ACTOR RON ELY’S WIFE KILLED; SON SHOT BY DEPUTIES

TARZAN actor Ron Ely’s wife was stabbed to death in their California home by their 30-year-old son, who was then shot and killed by sheriff’s deputies, authorities said yesterday.

Deputies summoned to the home by a 911 call found Valerie Lundeen Ely, 62, dead with multiple stab wounds shortly after 8 p.m. Tuesday, a Santa Barbara County sheriff’s statement said.

The deputies talked to Ron Ely and identified his son, 30-year-old Cameron Ely, as the suspect, and found him outside the home in Hope Ranch, a suburb of luxury homes outside Santa Barbara, authorities said.

Cameron Ely posed a threat to deputies, four of whom opened fire and killed him, the statement said. It did not say what he had

done that was threatening.

Ron Ely, 81, played the title character on the NBC series “Tarzan,” which ran from 1966 to 1968.

He was host of the Miss America pageant in 1980 and 1981 and later married Valerie Ely, a former Miss Florida. The couple had three children.

There was no report of Ron Ely being injured. Authorities confirmed he was at the home during the stabbing and the shooting, and an earlier sheriff’s statement said an elderly man in the home was taken to a hospital for evaluation.

The home where the killings took place is one of two addresses listed in public records for Cameron Ely. It is not clear whether he had been living with his parents.

LIT

FARROW BOOKS SELLS ACROSS AUSTRALIA DESPITE LEGAL THREAT

RONAN Farrow’s new book is being sold in Australia despite threats of defamation lawsuits that the Pulitzer-winning journalist believes led some Australian retailers to drop the bestseller.

“Catch and Kill” covers events leading to Farrow’s New Yorker magazine expose of Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein’s alleged sexual misconduct as well the reporter’s account of his contentious divorce from his previous employer, NBC News. The detailed stories on Weinstein published by The New York Times and The New Yorker in 2017 shared a Pulitzer Prize and are credited with igniting the global #MeToo movement.

Farrow’s book also makes repeated references to former National Enquirer editor in chief Dylan Howard, whose lawyers sent letters to Australian booksellers threatening lawsuits.

Amazon Australia and Booktopia declined to comment yesterday on their decisions not to sell Farrow’s book.

A number of smaller Australian book retailers received letters from Howard’s law firm McLachlan Thorpe Partners, but most did not.

Lawyer Andrew Thorpe, who signed the letters, did not respond when asked by AP who had received them.

One letter shown to The Associated Press said Howard believes the book contains “false and defamatory allegations.” The letter warns that if the Australian publisher, Ha-

AP PHOTO



chette Australia, is sued for defamation, “our client will have no alternative but to join you as a party to those proceedings as a distributor.”

Hachett Australia spokeswoman Anna Egelstaff declined to comment on the legal threat but said the book had been distributed as planned.

“It’s been distributed widely across Australia. It’s now available in bookshops and some online retailers,” Egelstaff said.

Farrow tweeted that some Australian book outlets had “caved and banned it due to frivolous legal threats.”

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RUGBY WORLD CUP

Uncertainty cloaks latest match in England-Australia rivalry

STEVE DOUGLAS, OITA

Saturday, 15:15
England v Australia
H 1.36, D 34, A 3.75

Saturday, 18:15
New Zealand v Ireland
H 1.22, D 41, A 5.5

Sunday, 15:15
Wales v France
H 1.4, D 29, A3.75

Sunday, 18:15
Japan v South Africa
H 7, D 41, A1.18

ODDSCHECKER.COM

UNDERCOOKED or fresh for the challenge ahead? That's the question hovering around England.

As for Australia, the main issue is this: Can a team known for pulling out a big performance when it matters reverse the course of recent history?

No one can say with any real confidence how Saturday's quarterfinal match at the Rugby World Cup will turn out in the latest chapter of one of sport's great international rivalries.

Quite simply, there are too many unknowns.

England arrived at the tournament with concerns about the team's mental fragility, prompting the hiring of a psychologist. Now the worries are as much about their physical shape.

The World Cup hasn't really got going for the 2003 champion, with



England rugby player George Ford trains at Beppu, Japan

low-key run-outs against Tonga and the United States followed by what pretty much ended up being a walkover against an Argentina lineup reduced to 14 men for almost an hour. The last pool-stage game, against France, was canceled because of Typhoon Hagibis.

So what state will the English really be in after two weeks without a match? Can they suddenly switch into battle mode against the old enemy?

"Come and watch training," England lock Courtney Lawes said this week, offering an invitation to the doubters.

"The way we train is to mimic games," added teammate Elliot Daly.

England, with its pent-up frustration, could just as easily explode out of the blocks in Oita, or gradually shrug off the rust and grow into the game.

Australia is another mystery.

There are no worries over whether the Wallabies are battle-hardened, after a pool stage where

they opened with tough matches against Fiji and Wales before finishing with a typically physical test against Georgia.

The concern is whether they can pull out a run of three big displays to win the World Cup for a record-tying third time. Results over this World Cup cycle suggest otherwise and the team has only impressed in patches this tournament, summing up the second half of Michael Cheika's five-year tenure. There's also uncertainty about the lineup, with 19-year-old Jordan Petaia getting a start in the centers in a big selection gamble from Cheika. England rearranged its midfield, too. Flyhalf George Ford was benched, with Owen Farrell moving into 10, Manu Tuilagi moving in one to inside center and Henry Slade starting at No. 13 as England reverted to its Six Nations formation.

"It's going to be a big step up and we're ready," Australia fly-half Christian Leali'ifano.

One of the highlights of Cheika's

time in charge was the 33-13 win over England in the pool stage at the 2015 World Cup that contributed to the host nation getting eliminated, in unprecedented fashion, before the knockout stage. Australia went on to reach the final, losing to New Zealand.

Since then, the Wallabies have lost six straight tests against England, starting with a historic 3-0 sweep in a series in Australia in 2016. The following three defeats came at Twickenham, in autumn tests in 2016-18.

LINEUPS

ENGLAND: Elliot Daly, Anthony Watson, Henry Slade, Manu Tuilagi, Jonny May, Owen Farrell (captain), Ben Youngs; Billy Vunipola, Sam Underhill, Tom Curry, Courtney Lawes, Maro Itoje, Kyle Sinckler, Jamie George, Mako Vunipola. Reserves: Luke Cowan-Dickie, Joe Marler, Dan Cole, George Kruis, Lewis Ludlam, Willi Heinz, George Ford, Jonathan Joseph.

AUSTRALIA: Kurtley Beale, Reece Hodge, Jordan Petaia, Samu Kerevi, Marika Koroibete, Christian Leali'ifano, Will Genia; Isi Naisarani, Michael Hooper (captain), David Pocock, Rory Arnold, Izack Rodda, Allan Alaalatoa, Tolu Latu, Scott Sio. Reserves: Jordan Uelese, James Slipper, Taniela Tupou, Adam Coleman, Lukhan Salakaia-Loto, Nic White, Matt Toomua, James O'Connor.

BOXING

Patrick Day dies of brain injuries 4 days after fight

BOXER Patrick Day died yesterday [Macau time], four days after sustaining head injuries in a fight with Charles Conwell.

Promoter Lou DiBella said Day died at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. He was 27.

"He was surrounded by his family, close friends and members of his boxing team, including his mentor, friend and trainer Joe Higgins," DiBella said in a statement on his website. "He was a son, brother, and good friend to many. Pat's

kindness, positivity and generosity of spirit made a lasting impression with everyone he met."

Day had brain surgery after being knocked out in the 10th round Saturday night at Wintrust Arena. Knocked down twice earlier in the bout, the junior middleweight was taken from the ring on a stretcher.

Two days after the fight, Conwell posted a heartfelt message to Day on social media.

"I never meant for this to happen to you. All I ever

wanted to do was win. If I could take it all back I would. No one deserves for this to happen to them," Conwell wrote. "I replay the fight over and over in my head thinking what if this never happened and why did it happen to you."

From Freeport, New York, Day had a career record of 17-4-1 with six knockouts. As an amateur, he won two Nationals titles, the New York Golden Gloves tournament and was a U.S. Olympic team alternate in 2012. **AP**



Patrick Day (right) punches Elvin Ayala during the fifth round of a WBC super welterweight boxing bout in New York in October 2018

OPINION

Bizcuits

Leanda Lee



SNAKES, RANTS AND WITCH-HUNTS - SYMBOLS OF CHANGE

The University of Macau presents as a pragmatic and grounded institution that gets on with the business of education and research. Said to be guided by five values (Humanity, Integrity, Propriety, Wisdom and Sincerity), UM strives to elevate Macau's position in the world as a region with certain intellectual gravitas. It is mostly a hive of solid business-as-usual academic activity across the entire gamut, from brilliant imported professionals, some extraordinary student and research outcomes, and the ordinary hubbub of an institution keeping itself above any humdrum mediocrity. We have a soft spot for our university.

Usually, it is the institution that government and corporates go to for joint projects, training and reports that require scientific expertise and a semblance of independence. All as to be expected.

UM has changed its persona over the years. It has fewer academics who could readily be identified as international. The kindly, senior, eccentric lecturers of all colours and creeds, sufficiently steadfast in their views to be unpredictable (and perhaps troublesome) in classrooms and meetings have dropped off or moved on one by one.

UM's rankings have scored highly on internationalisation but the nature of that internationalisation has changed. Well-published mainland Chinese academics with PhDs and CVs full of experience from North American and UK universities are leapfrogging local colleagues. Mandarin has become more commonly used across the administration and in seminars, where previously English had been the accepted norm. Google says UM is a public university in Zhuhai!

Messages to UM from the Central Government, although continuing to express expectations for UM to develop into a world-class institution, have shifted in character: from Hu Jintao's 2009 message of hope that UM would "develop into a world-class university with world-class facilities, world-class faculty, world-class graduates, world-class achievements, and greater contributions to the socioeconomic development of the Macao society - global benefits for Macau - to Xi Jinping and the Ministry of Education's 2018 expectations for "UM's commitment to disseminating the fine traditional Chinese culture and traditional Chinese virtues", for UM's "historic mission to produce graduates with a love for their motherland to contribute to the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and the long-term prosperity and stability of Macao", and that it would "produce more graduates with a love for their homeland and for Macao... and would "contribute to the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area."

Within this context, the white witch in me has been rattled by the kind of news reported on UM this week: the rant, the witch-hunt and the snake. The so-called rant against the west and "white people" by an award-winning and prolific UM economics researcher detracts greatly from some otherwise valid points that he had to make, or which are at least worthy of discussion. The complaint filed by a mainland student against a politics lecturer for holding a class discussion on Hong Kong's dire political conundrum smacks of ideological persecution. Is the other report of the bite of the serpent in the grass against the hapless foreigner portentous, or is it simply that there is now an atmosphere of license that permits negative ethnic profiling and silencing of discourse?

Universities are ideally places of diversity and difference, and it is the role of academics to test ideas and stand up to debate issues, sometimes uncomfortably, with their colleagues, seniors, administration and students, and to do so professionally, with Humanity, Integrity, Propriety, Wisdom and Sincerity out in the broader community.

Universities do not just develop people, but draw upon the legacies of eons of humanity's wisdom and knowledge over which they have custodianship to develop knowledge further. With these tools, the powerful are called to account and others can be trained to do the same. The safeguards of academic freedom ensure that the difficult questions of our time can be openly and fully explored, but within the bounds of professionalism and respect, and without repercussion.

DA VINCI'S 'VITRUVIAN MAN' DRAWING CAN GO ON LOAN TO LOUVRE

An Italian court has ruled that Leonardo Da Vinci's iconic "Vitruvian Man" drawing can be loaned to France's Louvre Museum, solving an ongoing cultural dispute between Italy and France.

The Venice court last week had suspended the loan of the world-famous drawing, which is part of a batch of works by Leonardo and Raphael that the Italian government had agreed to send to Paris.

Wednesday's ruling cleared the way for the loan, rejecting a complaint filed by an Italian heritage group Our Italy, which contended that the drawing was too fragile to travel and risked being damaged.

The "Vitruvian Man" is currently kept in a climate-controlled vault in Venice's Accademia Gallery and is put on public display only occasionally.

HK PROTEST DEMANDS ARE UNREALISTIC, SINGAPORE PM SAYS

AP PHOTO



PROTESTERS in Hong Kong are making unrealistic demands in an effort to take down the government, Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said.

"Those are not demands which are meant to be a program to solve Hong Kong's problems," Lee said at the Forbes Global CEO Conference in Singapore on Wednesday. "Those are demands which are intended to humiliate and bring down the government. And then what?"

What began as a series of marches in Hong Kong against a proposal to allow extraditions to mainland China has grown into a broader challenge to Beijing's grip on the city. Four months of unrest have brought regular scenes of tear gas, vandalism and transit network disruptions that are beginning to weigh on the financial hub.

Hong Kong's demonstrators have called for an independent inquiry into the violence, an amnesty for those charged during the unrest, rescinding the categorization of participants as "rioters" and the ability to nominate and

elect their leaders.

Lee called for Hong Kongers to solve problems gradually, including respect for the "one country, two systems" framework, universal suffrage and housing in one of the world's most expensive markets.

"As one Hong Konger put it very neatly, from

"You must be prepared to make changes [...] and so far the SAR governments have gone for conservative approaches."

LEE HSIEN LOONG
SINGAPORE PRIME MINISTER

China's point of view they must not only think of one country but remember that this is two systems and from Hong Kong's point of view, you must not only think of two systems, but remember that this is one country," he said to applause. "And that calls for wisdom and constraint on both sides."

Lee also said that Hong Kong would need to find "political courage" to solve its housing problems.

"You must be prepared

to make changes which will have very significant social and economic consequences, and so far the SAR governments have gone for conservative approaches and the problem has not really significantly improved," he said.

Hong Kong's Chief Executive Carrie Lam on

Wednesday announced a slew of measures aimed at reducing the cost of living for poorer members of the city, a bid to address some of the underlying economic issues that have helped fuel discontent. She planned to boost compulsory land purchases for housing, relax mortgage rules for first-time home buyers, give cash

to students and increase subsidies for low-income families.

Singapore, which competes with Hong Kong as a center of finance in Asia, has faced criticism by human rights groups for taking a heavy hand to block dissent and suppress free speech. The city currently has the second most expensive residential housing market in the world behind Hong Kong, according to research by CBRE. **BLOOMBERG**

AP PHOTO



Spain Catalonia's separatist leader vowed yesterday to hold a new vote to secede from Spain in less than two years as the embattled northeastern region grapples with a wave of violence that has tarnished a movement proud of its peaceful activism.

AP PHOTO



Germany From his post as a teenage SS private in a watchtower in Nazi Germany's Stutthof concentration camp, Bruno Dey could hear the screams of Jews dying in the gas chamber. And, Dey later told investigators, the carting of their lifeless bodies to the camp's crematorium was a daily sight.

Russia The foreign ministry says police stopped three American diplomats trying to enter an area of northern Russia where a secrecy-shrouded explosion at a navy range caused a brief spike in radioactivity levels.

AP PHOTO



UK French President Emmanuel Macron has welcomed the new Brexit deal but warned that the agreement still faces major hurdles in both the U.K. and EU parliaments.

AP PHOTO



USA The U.S. ambassador to the European Union distanced himself yesterday from President Donald Trump, planning to tell House impeachment investigators that he was disappointed Trump directed him to work with his personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani on Ukraine policy and that he believes it's wrong to invite a foreign government to conduct investigations for the purpose of influencing American elections.