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ARNALDO DE OLIVEIRA SALES, A LEADER OF THE MACANESE COMMUNITY IN HK WHO LEFT A LASTING IMPRINT ON SPORTS, HAS DIED AGED 100 P4

VIOLENT CRIMES GROW 4.7% AS GOV'T CALLS MACAU MOSTLY SAFE P4

THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY HINTED THAT IT MIGHT AMEND THE CRITERIA FOR SCHOOL RESUMPTION, BUT NO OFFICIAL WORD AS YET P5

China At least 10 people were killed in the collapse of Chinese hotel that was being used to isolate people who had arrived from other parts of China hit hard by the coronavirus outbreak, authorities said yesterday. [More on p6](#)

AP PHOTO



Syria At least 26 Iraqis were among those killed in a Syrian highway accident last week, in which a fuel truck collided with passenger buses and other cars. Iraq's foreign ministry spokesman said yesterday. Ahmad al-Sahhaf said at least 16 Iraqis were also injured in what he described as a "regretful" traffic accident, and not a militant attack.

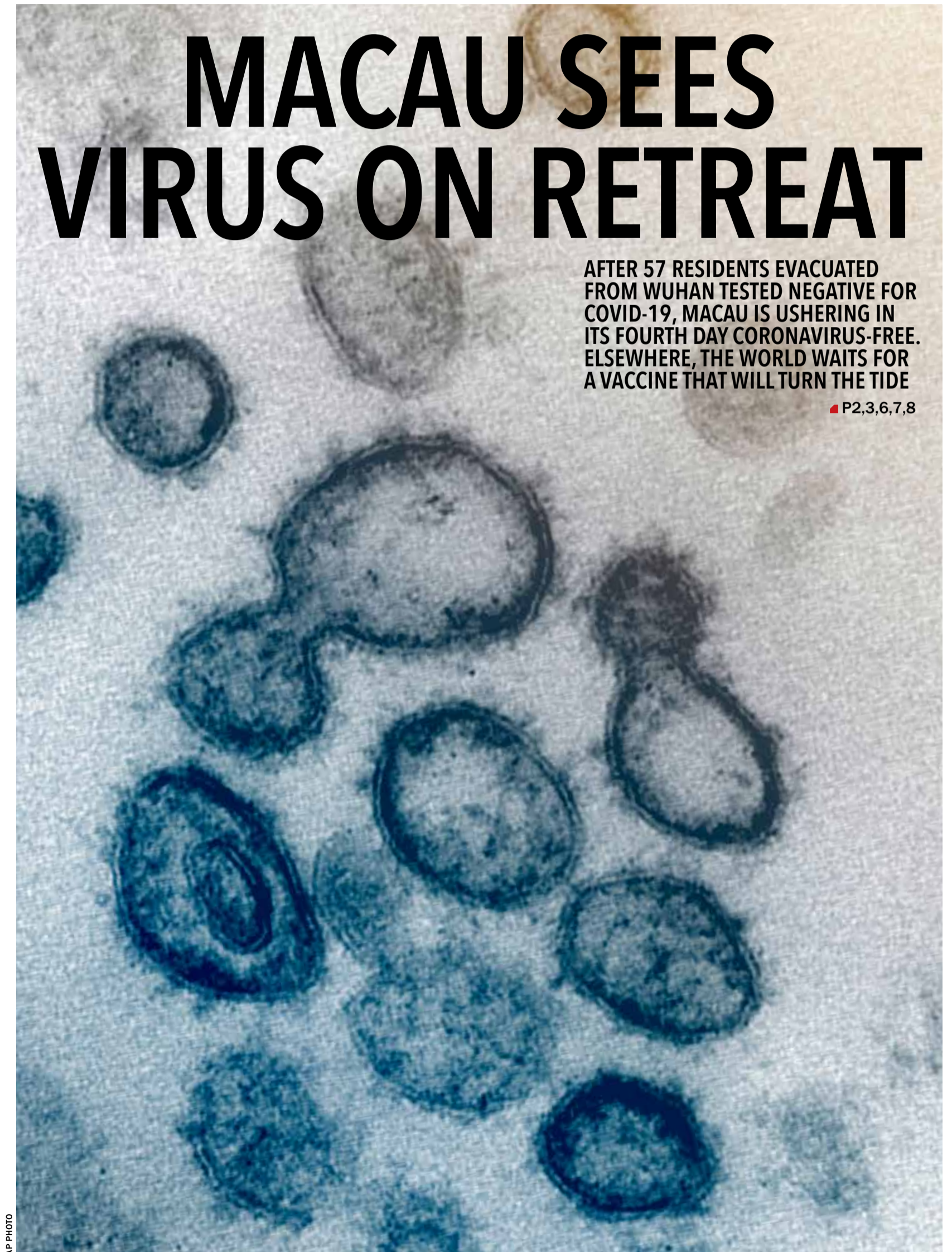
AP PHOTO



Saudi Arabia's King Salman was shown in state media yesterday in apparent good health and working, just days after the arrest of two senior princes triggered speculation about a possible coup attempt or a sudden deterioration in the king's health. Two people close to the royal family said Saturday that the two princes were under arrest for not supporting Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who has consolidated control of all major levers of power inside the kingdom with the support of his father, King Salman.

Austria Six people were killed in two separate avalanches in the Austrian Alps yesterday, Austrian authorities said. Five snowshoers who were hiking in central Austria were hit by one avalanche at about 9:30 a.m., Austria's APA news agency reported. Several people witnessed the avalanche and immediately informed emergency services, but the hikers, believed to be from the Czech Republic, were already dead by the time rescuers got to them.

More on backpage



MACAU SEES VIRUS ON RETREAT

AFTER 57 RESIDENTS EVACUATED FROM WUHAN TESTED NEGATIVE FOR COVID-19, MACAU IS USHERING IN ITS FOURTH DAY CORONAVIRUS-FREE. ELSEWHERE, THE WORLD WAITS FOR A VACCINE THAT WILL TURN THE TIDE

P2,3,6,7,8

AP PHOTO

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY URGES PEOPLE TO KEEP PARKS CLEAN

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) has urged park users to maintain hygiene and cleanliness after many used facemasks were found littered around trails and parks. The IAM pointed out that the act not only violates the environment, but also harms efforts to contain infectious diseases. Furthermore, signs of bicycle motocross (BMX) activities were also found, including homemade jump platforms. It could be a danger to other park users, the bureau said. The IAM asked cyclists to cycle on designated bicycle paths. In addition, the public should also help ensure environmental hygiene and cleanliness. In accordance with applicable regulations, violators of these park rules may face fines of between 300 patacas and 600 patacas.

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME COULD LEAD TO EYE PROBLEMS

People staying home and using the Internet extensively during the current Covid-19 outbreak may damage their eyesight, a Zhuhai optician has warned. During this period, they may watch movies or use the Internet for extended periods of time. The optician said even staying indoors for a long time may cause psychological unease, which can lead to eye problems including blurry vision. The optician reminded people to be mindful of their eyes. Furthermore, the American Optometric Association has suggested that people take a break from focusing on any screen, every 20 minutes, by looking at a sight 20 feet away for 20 seconds.

ONE-THIRD OF STILL-NEW ENTERPRISES FINDING OTHER WAYS TO OPERATE

A survey conducted by a business incubation center found that about one-third of new local enterprises had managed to find new ways to operate under the current Covid-19 outbreak. The survey collected 49 valid responses. The majority of respondents (76%) had online-offline hybrid business models, and about 83% of respondents had been affected by the outbreak. The main problems they faced included cash flow, decrease in demand, rising costs, and logistical problems. Most of the respondents agreed that the government's relief measures would be able to help them solve issues with cash flow. Three-quarters of them thought the e-coupon scheme would help revive the market. However, many of the respondents are in the scientific innovation sector, hence they might not benefit from the scheme.

NEW QUARANTINE FOR THOSE FROM GERMANY, FRANCE, SPAIN, JAPAN

THE Macau SAR government now requires individuals who have travelled to Germany, France, Spain or Japan in the 14 days prior to their arrival in the city to undergo a 14-day quarantine before entry.

On Saturday, individuals who had traveled to the four countries were required to submit to a medical examination prior to entering Macau.

According to a statement issued by the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center, visitors and residents who have traveled to the aforementioned countries must undergo medical observation at a designated venue for 14 days, without prejudice to other epidemic prevention measures of the government.

The new quarantine measures are due to the rising number of Covid-19 cases in the four countries. The latest data shows that the number of cases in France and Germany have risen to about 950 each, while Spain has about 600 cases and Japan has just over 500.

Macau residents will be quarantined at a domestic venue deemed appropriate by the health authorities, whereas non-Macau residents will be placed at a designated hotel at their own expense.



As announced earlier, individuals attempting to enter Macau who have visited South Korea, Italy or Iran in the last two weeks are also required to undergo 14 days of medical observation at a designated venue at the discretion of the health authorities.

As of last night, South Korea had over 7,300 confirmed cases, while Iran had 6,500 and Italy had nearly 5,900. Only mainland China has more cases than these three territories, with over 80,000.

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The Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre is reminding the public that individuals who contravene these requirements may be subjected to mandatory isolation in addition to the corresponding criminal liabilities under Article 10 of Law no. 2/2004 – “Law on the Prevention, Control and Treatment of Infectious Diseases.”

Previously, the government announced that non-residents undergoing the two-week quarantine period in Macau would have the cost of 8,750 patacas reduced to some 5,000 patacas by Pousada Marina Infante, the hotel where the quarantined individuals are currently staying. LV

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Philippines gov't brings nationals stranded in the SAR back home

A total of 163 Filipinos who were stranded in Macau due to the suspension of direct flights between the SAR and Manila arrived in the Philippine capital on Saturday after a chartered flight was arranged by the Philippine government.

The repatriates underwent medical examinations that were carried out by the Philippine Bureau of Quarantine upon their arrival.

The Philippines' Department of Health said that the first group of Filipinos repatriated from Macau will undergo a health assessment to evaluate which individuals, if any, have symptoms of Covid-19.



According to the Philippines' Department of Foreign Affairs, five passengers were unable to board the chartered flight. Another passenger boarded the flight late.

“We thank the authorities of Macau, who worked in close coordination with the Philippine Consulate General [... in] arranging this repatriation flight,” said Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo in a statement to ABS-CBN News.

“With the surge of news reports on [Covid-19], the Philippine government remains ready and is prepared in serving and protecting Filipinos here and abroad.”

Last month, a group of 134 Filipinos sent the government a petition via the Philippine Consulate General in Macau requesting a chartered flight back to Manila. Among them were elderly people, pregnant

women and people with infants. However, negotiations with the airline supposed to arrange the flight failed after the company expressed concern over the quarantine measures that would be applied to crew members.

Currently, Filipino nationals are barred from traveling to China and its SARs except overseas Filipino workers and permanent residents of the regions. Those travelling back to the Philippines from China, Macau and Hong Kong are also being subjected a 14-day home quarantine period.

There are still no flights from Manila to Macau as Philippine Airlines, Cebu Pacific Air and AirAsia, the three airlines who fly the routes, have not resumed operations as yet. LV

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Macau residents repatriated from Hubei cleared of virus in initial tests

ANTHONY LAM

FIFTY-SEVEN people who were rescued by the Macau government from the central Chinese province of Hubei over the weekend have tested negative for Covid-19, Lei Chin Ion, director of the Health Bureau (SSM) has said.

Although two of the repatriates had coughs, they were allowed to board the chartered flight operated by local flag carrier Air Macau as they were able to prove that the symptoms were from influenza and not the coronavirus. They obtained medical consultations in Wuhan. The two people are of aged 28 and 2.

All 57 Macau ID holders are currently undergoing quarantine at the Public Health Clinical Center on Coloane Alto, along with three recovered patients who are in recovery quarantine. There are 60 people in

the center altogether.

Among them, 14 are under the age of 14, while six are under the age of five. Pediatricians were sent to the center to conduct checkups. Examinations of the throat, mouth, ears, abdomen and chest were conducted and the medical team did not find any issues.

Additionally, authorities had previously disclosed that a 10-year-old, one of the repatriates who was to be quarantined at Coloane Alto with a guardian, was not in the repatriated group. Yesterday, the authorities made a correction – the 10-year-old was, in fact, onboard the flight with his 17-year-old sister. Both were sent to Coloane Alto upon arriving in Macau to be quarantined for 14 days.

However, a teenager was denied entry at Wuhan airport as their body temperature was 0.2 degrees Celsius above the key level

of 37.5 degrees, as ascertained by the authorities. Lei disclosed that the teenager's mother had contacted the Tourism Crisis Management Office (GGCT) yesterday morning to provide an update on her son's situation.

The mother said that the teenager returned to his grandmother's place in Huanggang, Hubei Province. He is now under home quarantine.

Besides the 57 returnees from Hubei, the center also houses three recovered Macau residents who are in recovery quarantine. As of last weekend, all Macau's 10 patients have recovered from Covid-19.

Admitted to the center on February 27, the 10th and last-to-be-infected Macau patient tested negative on March 3. Yesterday, the recovered patient told medical staff at the center that he had mild diarrhea, so he was tested for the virus

again. The results were not issued as of press time.

The ninth patient was admitted to the center on March 3. Her initial throat swab was negative but her stool sample tested positive. Therefore, the center shortened the buffer period

and conducted a supplementary test on her yesterday.

The eighth patient was the last one to have been discharged from hospital. She left hospital on Saturday and was immediately admitted to the center for

recovery quarantine. She will be tested between the fifth and seventh days of her admission.

The three recovered local residents will remain in quarantine at the center for 14 days, before moving back home for another 14 days of quarantine. The SSM director noted that this is a new guideline from mainland authorities.

Cases of reinfection have been recorded in mainland China, and patients have tested positive again even after 14 days of quarantine. As a result, the mainland authorities had to amend their guidelines.

With the last patient discharged, currently Macau has no Covid-19 patients in hospital. Yesterday was the 32nd day with no new cases in the city.

In response to upcoming measures to quarantine people who have travelled to Italy, Spain, France and Japan, the GGCT has sent text messages to Macau mobile phones registered on a Japanese network to remind these users about the upcoming changes. A total of 173 messages were sent.

Text messages were also sent to mobile phone numbers used by locals in Europe. As of press time, the GGCT could not confirm the number of messages sent.

Regarding the cost of the repatriation mission, Inês Chan from the Macao Government Tourism Office said that the office needed more time to provide an answer to the question.

Chan said the completion of the repatriation was due to the hard work of a lot of people, adding that a lot of different projects were going on or were being implemented simultaneously to control the Covid-19 outbreak.

AD

The Correct Way and Procedures of Using A Mask

Put on a mask properly

1. Wash hands before wearing a mask.
2. Identify the correct direction of the mask. The coloured side (usually blue or green) should face outwards with the metallic strip uppermost.
3. Place the elastic loops around the ears. Extend the mask to fully cover nose, mouth and chin, and mould the metallic strip over nose bridge.
4. Avoid touching the outside of the mask, as well as your nose and mouth after wearing.

Take off a mask properly

1. Hold both ear loops and lift the mask off the face, do not touch the outside of the mask.
2. Join the ear loops to draw the mask inwards.
3. Throw the mask into a covered rubbish bin, or if the rubbish bin is without a cover, put the mask in a plastic bag and tie the bag closed before disposal.
4. Perform hand hygiene immediately after taking off the mask.

Scan the QR Code to learn about updates to the National WhatsApp applet website.

or visit 138
<https://www.ssm.gov.mo/PreventMeaslesInfection/>
Tel: 26106600
(Any report to the latest epidemic information from the MSAR Government)

The Macao SAR Government urges:
Let's all persist; Avoid crowd gathering; Wash hands frequently;
Wear a mask properly; Declare health conditions; Reduce leaving Macao.
Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre

RENATO MARQUES

KNOWN as a leader of Hong Kong's (HK) Macanese community and perhaps the father of Hong Kong sports, Arnaldo de Oliveira Sales died on Friday, just a few months after turning 100 years old.

Sales, affectionately known as "Sonny" amongst his friends, died on Friday at the Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital. He had stepped away from public life in the 2000s due to illness, and spent his last decade in the institution.

Sales, who is of Portuguese descent, was born on January 13, 1920, in Guangzhou and moved to Hong Kong when he was 8. He is an alumnus of La Salle College in Hong Kong and Saint Joseph Diocesan College in Macau, where he lived during World War II. In his college years, he excelled at hockey.

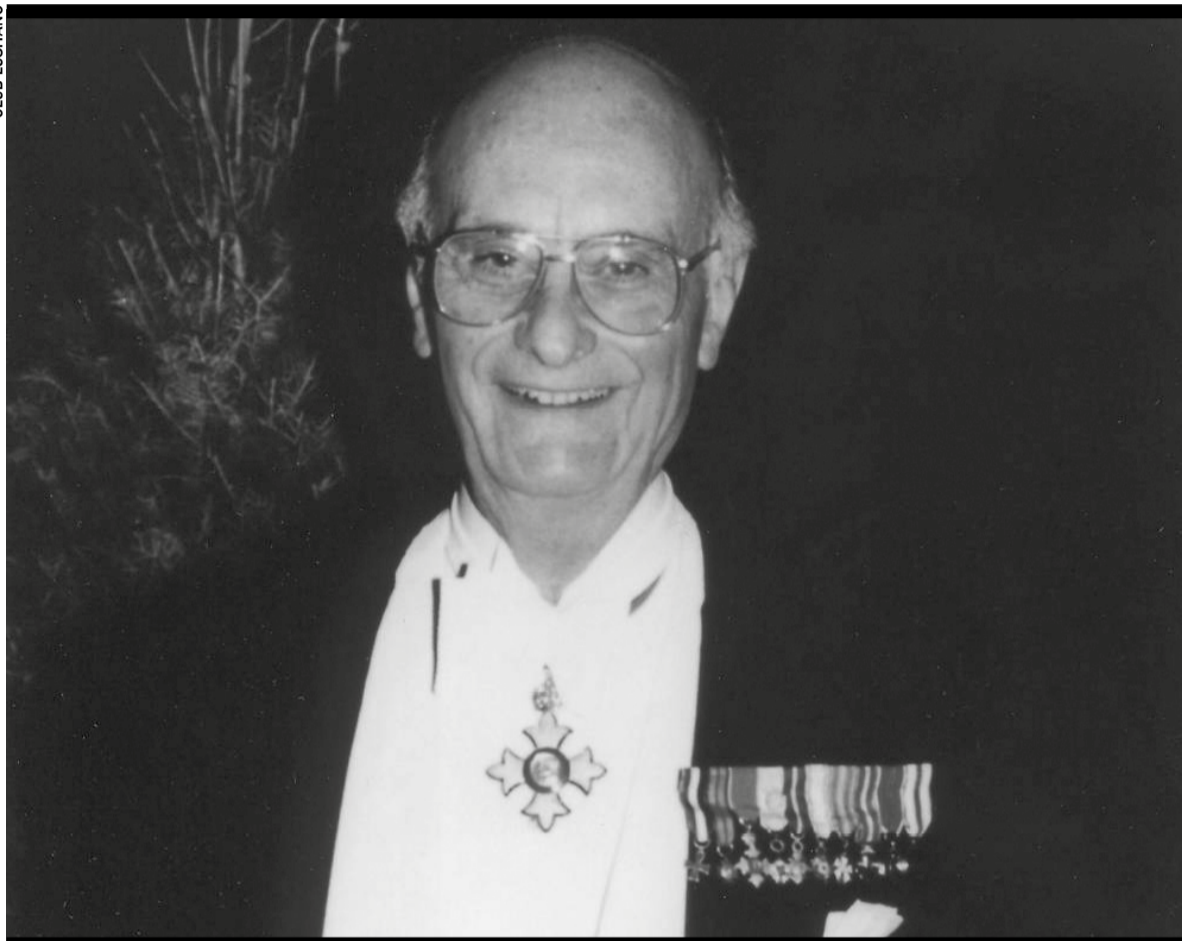
He continued to pursue sports development in the following years, playing a major role in the founding of the Amateur Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong in 1950 and becoming its president.

Sales made a significant impact in this role by providing Hong Kong athletes the opportunity to represent the then-British colony in international sporting competitions, including the Olympics, as a separate entity. This allowed the region to be recognized as a separate entity by the International Olympic Committee, something that has remained unchanged even after the handover.

Known for being a strict person who followed the rules and made no exemptions for anyone, Sales was somewhat unpopular with

HK MACANESE COMMUNITY LEADER DIES AT AGE OF 100

CLUB LUSITANO



several sports associations in his early days.

In addition to his numerous sports diplomacy roles, he is also famously known for confronting and negotiating with Palestinian terrorists during the 1972 Munich Olympic Games. Sales risked his life by confronting the armed Palestinians holding the Hong Kong, Israeli, and Uruguayan teams hostage, and successfully secured

the release of his team.

Sales was also a member of Hong Kong's Urban Council for many years, chairing the council between 1973 and 1981. He was also a former president of Hong Kong's Sports Federation and Olympic Committee, as well as a member of the Hong Kong Basic Law Consultative Committee.

Upon hearing the news of his death, many people expressed

their condolences and recalled his enormous contributions.

Timothy Fok, the current president of the Hong Kong Football Association and the eldest son of Hong Kong tycoon Henry Fok, recalled some of Sales' contributions and told the South China Morning Post (SCMP) that, "As the chairman of the Urban Council, he [Sales] fostered the construction of many swimming pools in

various districts which were envied by many developed countries."

"Other major sports facilities, such as Queen Elizabeth Stadium, Coliseum, [and] Wan Chai Sports Ground were also [connected] to him," added Fok.

The vice-president of the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, Vivian Lau, added, "It is a great loss and we will always remember him. He was a figure who was very important in the history of Hong Kong sports. He did so much for Hong Kong sports and international sports."

Hong Kong Chief Executive, Carrie Lam, was also among those who paid tribute to Sales, recalling his numerous roles over the years and highlighting his contributions which gave local athletes an opportunity to compete at the international level under the Hong Kong flag.

"He helped to promote overseas competition opportunities for Hong Kong athletes, and helped Hong Kong athletes compete on the international stage under the name of Hong Kong, China after 1997," Lam said.

For over 30 years, Sales was also head of one of the most important associations in Hong Kong, and perhaps the most prominent Portuguese-roots association in the world, Club Lusitano.

Sales has received numerous honors for his service to the community, including Honorary Officer of the Order of the British Empire, Honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire, Grand Cross of the Portuguese Order of Prince Henry, and the Grand Bauhinia Medal.

Violent crimes grow 4.7% as gov't calls Macau mostly safe

LYNZY VALLES

VIOLENT crimes in Macau increased by 4.7% last year, led by a significant growth in cases of rape, according to statistics issued by the Office of the Secretary for Security.

According to the data, rape crimes increased by 43% to 43 cases in total, while theft and kidnapping crimes recorded an increase of 15% and 8% respectively.

Last year, the Judiciary Police (PJ) reported that two schoolgirls were raped in two separate cases by a janitor and one of the girls' fathers. The cases, although unrelated, were both reported during a similar period of time and involved six-year-old children.

Meanwhile, the statistics show that the occurrence of general crime decreased by



1.3% in 2019 compared to 2018, meaning that "security situation remained stable in general," according to the office.

In 2019, the PJ opened 14,178 criminal investigations in total, which translates to a drop of 1.3%

compared to 2018. "Violent crimes," "crimes against property" and "crimes not classified in other groups" registered slight increases, however.

Last year, overall fraud crimes also increased by 27.6% compared to 2018,

of which casinos contributed the largest proportion. Cybercrime decreased nearly 30% year-on-year.

Meanwhile, 456 cases of fraud related to gambling were registered, an increase of 209 cases compared to a year earlier.

Most of these were related to the illegal exchange of currency, where the victims exposed themselves individually to the criminal actions of the suspects and were fooled by counterfeit currency or falsifying proof of transfer and remittance of funds.

The SAR also recorded the highest total face value of counterfeit gaming chips in the city's casinos last year, which reached nearly HKD18.5 million - the highest tally in the last three years.

Although the data did not provide a breakdown of the distribution of the gaming chips, 176 of them carried a face value of HKD100,000, while 158 of them were worth HKD5,000. The others were worth HKD10,000, HKD1,000 and HKD500.

There was a total of 2,157

crimes related to fake currency, representing an increase of 14.5%, compared to last year's 1,884 cases.

Meanwhile, cases of gaming-related usury increased by 8.7%, reaching 602 cases in total compared to 54 cases last year.

According to the office, the suspects and the alleged victims in the majority of the cases were people from outside Macau.

The statement said that "cross-border criminal groups" accounted for some of the loan sharking activities related to gambling recorded last year.

The office recalled its collaboration with Zhuhai authorities to combat the loan sharking groups in October and November, 2019, which led to the confiscation of HKD5.5 million and HKD400,000 of alleged criminal funds.

Education authority hints school reopening might not wait on Guangdong

ANTHONY LAM

THE Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) hinted over the weekend that it might amend the criteria for school resumption. At the daily press conference yesterday, Lei Chin Ion, director of the Health Bureau (SSM), expressed his understanding of the education regulator's decision.

Previously, the DSEJ had stated that schools would resume only if two criteria were met: there must be no new infections in the neighboring Guangdong province for a period of 14 days, and the cities of Zhuhai and Zhongshan must both resume classes.

After meeting with education associations, the DSEJ has changed its position slightly and has said that it may change the criteria for school resumption. According to the education regulator, the associations suggested that it had referenced neighboring cities only and omitted those further away. They believed that the disease would not disappear.

Yuen Kwok-yung, a professor of microbiology at the University of Hong Kong, made a similar comment yesterday.

Yuen said that the Covid-19 epidemic would not end soon. He foresees the situation in Macau improving in the summer, however, he believes the disease will spread to the Southern Hemisphere as it enters autumn and winter. When the cooler seasons return to the Northern Hemisphere, the disease



AP PHOTO

may return as well.

Given that most cases in the neighboring city were imported to Hong Kong, the microbiologist reminds people to refrain from travelling and be mindful of their personal hygiene. In Yuen's opinion, this tactic will buy scientists time to produce and test vaccines and medicines.

He also pointed out that accurate education on personal hygiene can help society return to normal faster. With adequate hand washing and other adjunct measures, school

resumption should not cause major problems.

At yesterday's press conference, aside from referring to Yuen's comment to explain his bureau's position on school resumption, the SSM director also noted that it was a difficult decision to determine how tight or lax a measure should be.

"The best scenario is to have no new cases in the whole world. However, it seems that is not possible," Lei said. "If we insist on waiting for that day, perhaps all students will never have the chance

to return to school."

Lei emphasized that the government's strategy would constantly be adjusted to suit the situation. "For example, on day one, we said wearing a mask at all times is not necessary. But as the situation developed, we amended our suggestions," the director recalled.

"With several days clean [of new cases] in Guangdong, should we reset our clock?" Lei asked.

Based on these comments, he came to the conclusion that society's activities cannot be suspended

for an indefinite length of time. "A society that doesn't operate will severely affect people's daily life," the director noted.

However, Elsie Ao Ieong U, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, has noted that the criteria for university resumption has not changed – at least officially. School resumption for higher education will still follow the two aforementioned criteria.

The Higher Education Bureau (DSES), meanwhile, is also working to help Macau students studying abroad.

As far as Lei knows, the DSES has been in contact with the parents of these students and is also coordinating the sale of facemasks to these students.

Ten masks are available for Macau residents and legal foreign workers at the price of 8 patacas within each 10-day period. Purchases can only be made upon presentation of a valid ID card.

In a statement released by the DSES, overseas Macau students are eligible to purchase facemasks through their parents. "Overseas Macau students should have their ID with them," the SSM director noted.

Prior registrations must be made on the DSES's website, before purchasing facemasks between March 8 and 12 at the Macau Polytechnic Institute.

After their purchases, the parents of these students can approach the designated counters at post offices to mail the facemasks to their children.

Local universities climb QS rankings in latest tables

LYNZY VALLES

THE University of Macau has ranked 387th in the newly released QS World University Rankings, 56 places higher compared to its ranking last year.

As one of two Macau institutions to make the ranking, the public university scored 28.7 points out of 100 overall, while its academic reputation scored 11.2 points.

The university's ranking in the QS World University Rankings has improved compared to 2015, when it ranked 701. It was only last year that UM made it to 443rd position after it had been in the top 501-550 for two consecutive years.

Meanwhile, Macau's Ins-



titute for Tourism Studies, ranked 14th worldwide and 2nd in Asia among higher education institutions in hospitality and leisure management, according to the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020.

The institution – which

ranked first in Macau – said that it was the highest rank the institute had achieved since the ratings service began covering the subject in 2017.

Last year, the institute was 33rd in the same subject ranking.

In the QS Asia University rankings, the National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University and the University of Hong Kong were the top 3 respectively.

Tsinghua University, Peking University and Zhejiang University followed, retaining their rankings as China's top three universities.

Meanwhile, the top universities in Hong Kong saw a drop in their rankings, which reflected the decline in the competitiveness of research in the neighboring SAR.

According to a report issued by the South China Morning Post, QS director of research Ben Sowter said that the anti-government protest did not have an im-

pact upon this year's university rankings. The anti-government protests began in June.

Sowter said that the data was collected between January and April 2019, and that analysis was only conducted in October to December.

"What happened in 2019 is yet to be manifested in the results; we will see that over the next three years," Sowter said.

The subjects of politics and international studies suffered the sharpest declines, slipping to 31st from 16th last year.

However, HKU remained the world's fourth-best institution for dentistry.

In an alternative ranking, the Times Higher Education

World University Rankings 2020 published in September last year, the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) was the top-rated university in the region.

According to the guide, the current top university in the city was placed in the top "251 to 300" range for all higher education institutions worldwide.

The University of Macau followed, placing in the "301 to 350" range, similar to its previous rankings. The two universities are the only ones in the Special Administrative Region to make it onto the list. MUST had an overall score of 46.9 to 50.1 out of 100, according to the ranking, while UM scored 44.5 to 46.8.



BEHIND THE SCENES, SCIENTISTS PREP FOR COVID-19 VACCINE TEST

A team of scientists jostled for a view of the lab dish, staring impatiently for the first clue that an experimental vaccine against the new coronavirus just might work.

After weeks of round-the-clock research at the National Institutes of Health, it was time for a key test. If the vaccine revs up the immune system, the samples in that dish - blood drawn from immunized mice - would change color. Minutes ticked by, and finally they started glowing blue.

"Especially at moments like this, everyone crowds around," said Kizzmekia Corbett, an NIH research fellow leading the vaccine development. When her team sent word of the positive results, "it was absolutely amazing."

Dozens of research groups around the world are racing to create a vaccine as Covid-19 cases continue to grow. Importantly, they're pursuing different types of vaccines — shots developed from new technologies that not only are faster to make than traditional inoculations but might prove more potent. Some researchers even aim for temporary vaccines, such as shots that might guard people's health a month or two at a time while longer-lasting protection is developed.

"Until we test them in humans we have absolutely no idea what the immune response will be," cautioned vaccine expert Dr. Judith O'Donnell, infectious disease chief at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center. "Having a lot of different vaccines - with a lot of different theories behind the science of generating immunity - all on a parallel track really ultimately gives us the best chance of getting

something successful."

First-step testing in small numbers of young, healthy volunteers is set to start soon. There's no chance participants could get infected from the shots, because they don't contain the virus itself. The goal is purely to check that the vaccines show no worrisome side effects, setting the stage for larger tests of whether they protect.

First in line is the Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute in Seattle. It is preparing to test 45 volunteers with different doses of shots co-developed by NIH and Moderna Inc.

Next, Inovio Pharmaceuticals aims to begin safety tests of its vaccine candidate next month in a few dozen volunteers at the University of Pennsylvania and a testing center in Kansas City, Missouri, followed by a similar study in China and South Korea.

Even if initial safety tests go well, "you're talking about a year to a year and a half" before any vaccine could be ready for widespread use, stressed Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

That still would be a record-setting pace. But manufacturers know the wait - required because it takes additional studies of thousands of people to tell if a vaccine truly protects and does no harm - is hard for a frightened public.

"I can really genuinely understand everybody's frustration and maybe even confusion," said Kate Broderick, Inovio's research and development chief. "You can do everything as fast as possible, but you can't circumvent some of these vital processes."

BEHIND-THE-SCENES IN NIH'S LAB

The new coronavirus is studied with a protein aptly named "spike" that lets the virus burrow into human cells. Block that protein, and people won't get infected. That makes "spike" the target of most vaccine research.

Not so long ago, scientists would have had to grow the virus itself to create a vaccine. The NIH is using a new method that skips that step. Researchers instead copy the section of the virus' genetic code that contains the instructions for cells to create the spike protein, and let the body become a mini-factory.

Inject a vaccine containing that code, called messenger RNA or

mRNA, and people's cells produce some harmless spike protein. Their immune system spots the foreign protein and makes antibodies to attack it. The body would then be primed to react quickly if the real virus ever comes along.

Corbett's team had a head start. Because they'd spent years trying to develop a vaccine against MERS, a cousin of the new virus, they knew how to make spike proteins stable enough for immunization, and sent that key ingredient to Moderna to brew up doses.

INOVIO'S APPROACH

Inovio's approach is similar - again using genetic code, in this case packaged inside a piece of

synthetic DNA that acts as the vaccine. One advantage Broderick cites for a DNA approach is that unlike many types of vaccines, it may not need refrigeration.

A MERS vaccine that Inovio designed the same way passed initial safety studies in people, paving the way for testing the new Covid-19 vaccine candidate. Inovio is doing similar animal testing to look for presumably protective antibodies.

While it gets ready for human safety tests, Inovio also is prepping for another piece of evidence — what's called a challenge study. Vaccinated animals will be put in a special high-containment lab and exposed to the new coronavirus to see if they get infected or not.

PLACEHOLDER VACCINES?

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals is exploring a different approach: simply injecting people with coronavirus-fighting antibodies instead of teaching the body to make its own. This method could provide temporary protection against infection or work as a treatment for someone already infected.

Regeneron vaccinated mice genetically engineered to make human antibodies. Last year, it performed a successful safety test of experimental antibodies designed to fight MERS.

The difference between using antibodies as a treatment or a vaccine? Low-dose shots in the arm every few months might give enough antibodies to temporarily ward off infection, while treatment likely would require far higher doses delivered intravenously.

Regeneron is pursuing both, and hopes to begin first-step safety testing in early summer. "This is the fastest we have gone," Fauci said of the NIH's vaccine candidate, although he warned it might not be fast enough. **MDT/AP**

10 KILLED IN CHINA HOTEL COLLAPSE

At least 10 people were killed in the collapse of a Chinese hotel that was being used to isolate people who had arrived from other parts of China hit hard by the coronavirus outbreak, authorities said yesterday.

The sudden collapse of the building in the southeastern city of Quanzhou on Saturday evening trapped 71 people, China's Ministry of Emergency Management said.

The ministry said that 38 had been rescued and 23 were still missing. Most of the rescued were taken to hospitals for treatment, some with serious injuries.

The cause of the collapse was under investigation, and the owner of the building was put under police control, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Two retail spaces on the first floor of the seven-story building were undergoing remodeling, and a pillar reportedly deformed a few minutes before the collapse, Xinhua said, quoting a housing and development official.

Built in 2013, the building was later converted to a 66-room hotel that opened in June 2018, Quanzhou

authorities said. The coastal city is in Fujian province, across the Taiwan Strait from the island of Taiwan.

The city said that 58 people from epidemic-hit areas were staying at the Xinjia Hotel for medical observation. All had tested negative for the virus. Most Chinese cities are isolating people coming from Hubei province, where the disease is most widespread, for 14 days.

Hotel workers and employees of an auto shop in the building were also inside at the time of the collapse.

More than 1,000 firefighters and seven rescue dogs were dispatched to the site, according to the Ministry of Emergency Management. News photos showed rescue workers with lights bringing out people, some bloodied by the collapse. Rubble could be seen on cars in front of the building.

China, where the new virus first emerged in December, has confirmed more than 80,000 cases, about 75 percent of the global total. More than 3,000 people have died in China. Most of the cases have been in Wuhan, an inland city in Hubei province about 670 kilometers northwest of Quanzhou. **AP**

Thailand does the once unthinkable by hindering Chinese tourism

ANUCHIT NGUYEN & SIRAPHOB THANTHONG-KNIGHT

THAILAND is hindering Chinese tourists because of the novel coronavirus outbreak, normally an unthinkable step for a country that relies on their spending for economic growth.

The government signaled Friday it prefers arrivals from China, Hong Kong, Macau, South Korea, Iran and Italy to self-quarantine for 14 days to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 disease. They also have to report daily to officials and face fines for non-compliance.

It remains unclear if the self-quarantine is mandatory or just strongly recommended, but at the very least officials have the power to impose it. Travel has already slumped, but the overall stance is set to further deter tourists from the six territories while the measures are in place.

Other countries have imposed restrictions on people coming from China, the epicenter of the outbreak, but few are as reliant on Chinese tourists as Thailand. They spent more than \$17 billion in the Southeast Asian nation last year, over a quarter of all foreign-tourism receipts, and the industry as a whole accounts for about a fifth of the economy.

"Thailand has been hit very hard because we rely significantly on tourism," said Thidasiri Srisamith, chief investment officer at Kasikorn Asset Management Co. in Bangkok. "Chinese visitors are the biggest tourists and their absence has a vicious impact on the economy."

The Thai government plans an economic stimulus package worth more than 100 billion baht (\$3.2 billion) to shore up growth, and said Friday tourist numbers have already halved after the virus dried up travel. It's assuming the

BLOOMBERG



disease outbreak can be contained and will end within six months.

"If Thailand can't contain the outbreak, all tourists will be gone," Kobsak Pootrakool, head of the Council of Economic Ministers, said in a briefing in Bangkok, adding that first-quarter economic growth is set to be "bad."

Thailand reported two new cases of infection Saturday, taking its total to 50. More than 3,000 people have died globally and in excess of 100,000 have been infected.

The travel restrictions and global economic gloom sparked by the new pathogen have soured sentiment toward Thai assets.

The benchmark SET index is down almost 14% this year, more

than the drop of about 8% in the MSCI AC Asia-Pacific index. The baht has gone from being the strongest performer against the dollar among major Asian currencies last year to the weakest so far in 2020 with a slide of 4.6%.

The government tweeted Friday afternoon on the self-quarantine requirements following a series of confusing flip-flops, but uncertainty remains.

One post said restrictions may be put on visitors from the six territories, including China, after they were designated danger zones for the virus. Other tweets suggested the quarantine requirements have been imposed and that people would be fined 20,000 baht for breaching them.

On March 3, Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul said on Facebook that people arriving from a slew of territories must self-quarantine. The post was subsequently deleted.

On March 5, the Health Ministry recommended self-quarantine for people from high-risk nations. Later the same day, it said this was mandatory for a subset of those countries, before flipping back Friday to the position that it's advice, not a requirement.

Reflecting the confusion, airline Cathay Pacific said in an advisory that travelers from China, Hong Kong, Macau, South Korea, Iran and Italy "are allowed to enter the country but may be re-

quired to self-quarantine at their hotel or residence until their departure date."

The Tourism Authority of Thailand, a government agency, said if tourists from these territories view the new Covid-19 measures as "inconvenient," they may "consider postponing travel to another period."

Thais are now hunkering down for a painful few months in a country that relies on tourism and exports, both of which are suffering from the fallout of the coronavirus outbreak.

"The government's economic stimulus will help alleviate some of the economic impact, but not all," said Thidasiri of Kasikorn Asset Management. **BLOOMBERG**

Japan's ancient sport sumo grapples with coronavirus

JIM ARMSTRONG, TOKYO

JAPAN'S ancient sport of sumo is grappling with the harsh reality of the coronavirus outbreak.

The Spring Grand Sumo Tournament kicked off yesterday in Osaka at Edion Arena with no spectators as part of Japan's extraordinary efforts to halt the spread of the virus.

Wrestlers arrived wearing face masks and were required to use hand-sani-

tizing spray before entering the arena. They were also required to take their temperatures before entering the raised ring. If a wrestler has a temperature above 37.5 degrees for two or more days, he will be forced to sit out the tournament.

Sumo officials have said if a wrestler is diagnosed with the new coronavirus, the 15-day tournament will be immediately halted.

Usually contested before a packed house, yes-

terday's opening day was eerily quiet as wrestlers sat next to judges at ringside to watch the action against a backdrop of empty stands.

"It will be a new experience for all of us," said sekiwake wrestler Asanoyama. "I want to get used to the atmosphere as soon as possible and get focused on the competition."

Wrestlers will maintain the time-honored tradition of offering a ladle of "chikara mizu" or power

water to another wrestler but will only go through the motions and not put their mouth to the ladle.

Normally, wrestlers often use public transportation to go the arena but are being chauffeured in taxis or hired cars to avoid contact with the general public.

The long colorful banners that display the wrestlers' names were not on display yesterday nor were the tradition taiko

drums that greet fans as they arrive at the stadium.

Sumo is just one of the main sports in Japan that is taking measures to halt the spread of the virus. Japanese preseason baseball games are being played at empty stadiums, professional J-League soccer games have been cancelled through the first half of March while the season-opening women's JPGA golf tournament in Okinawa was called off.

With Japan set to host the 2020 Tokyo Olympics in just over four months, the government is taking a series of urgent measures to combat the outbreak including cancelling school.

"It's a real shame," said sumo fan Yuji Hoshino, who caught a few minutes of opening day action on TV at a Tokyo electronics store. "But the safety of the wrestlers is the most important thing. I hope they all stay healthy." **AP**

AP PHOTO



EXPERTS: CRUISE SHIPS NO PLACE FOR A QUARANTINE

CRUISE ships hit by coronavirus outbreaks have quickly found themselves with no ports for thousands of passengers as countries on four continents have quarantined vessels or kept them at sea for days.

Keeping all the passengers on board instead of letting them disembark on land is a strategy that can backfire, however, according to experts, because the ventilation systems and close quarters of cruise ships make them ideal places for illness to jump from one person to the next.

"They're not designed as quarantine facilities, to put it mildly," said Don Milton, an epidemiologist with the University of Maryland.

A ship with more than

3,500 people aboard was sailing in circles off the coast of California on Saturday after 19 crew members and two passengers tested positive for the new virus. Originally bound for San Francisco, the Grand Princess might be sent instead to a non-commercial port, officials said.

While President Donald Trump has said he doesn't want the Grand Princess to dock, he also said he would yield to the advice of health officials. Refusing to let the ship into port for an extended period could hasten the spread of the virus on board, experts said.

Milton, who studies the spread of virus particles in the air, said recirculating air on a cruise ship's ventilation system, along with people

living in close quarters and in communal settings, make the vessels vulnerable to the spread of infection.

"You're going to amplify the infection by keeping people on the boat," he said.

A Purdue University air quality expert said cruise ship air conditioning systems are not designed to filter out particles as small as the coronavirus.

"The passengers should be quarantined on shore if there is a suitable facility," Qingyan Chen said in an email message. Grand Princess "should run 100% outdoor air in their air conditioning system and not use recirculated air."

Top cruise line executives met Saturday with Vice President Mike Pence at Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, after which Pence announced "significant changes" to the industry going forward, but gave no indication what would happen next with the Grand Princess.

Pence said cruise officials agreed to enhanced entry and exit screenings and to establish shipboard testing for the virus, along with new quarantine standards established by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The industry also was asked to come up with and fund a new plan on how to transport cruise passengers

who contract the disease.

Princess officials said the new protocols include asking all new passengers to sign a health declaration, and temperature screenings as passengers leave. Anyone coming from a "high-risk area is also undergoing a medical evaluation," Dr. Grant Tarling, chief medical officer for Carnival Corporation, told reporters.

Government officials made it clear in their language that they were walking a fine line with industry officials about the best way to prevent the disease from spreading without causing significant economic hardship to cruise lines.

"We want to ensure the American people can continue, as we deal with the coronavirus, to enjoy the cruise line industry," Pence said.

Meanwhile, Princess officials also appeared frustrated about the lack of detail on the Grand Princess' next steps, repeatedly telling reporters they were waiting for definitive information about when and where the ship will dock, who will be tested, and whether passengers will be allowed to get off.

"We need to get the ship into a port as soon as possible," said Jan Swartz, group president of Princess Cruises and Carnival Australia. **MDT/AGENCIES**

this day in history



1967 STALIN'S DAUGHTER DEFECTS TO THE WEST

The daughter of the Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin has requested political asylum at the United States Embassy in India.

The American Mutual Radio network broke the news but the American State Department has so far refused to comment.

Since her father's death in 1953, little has been heard of 42-year-old Svetlana Alliluyeva - who prefers to be known by her mother's maiden name.

She has been living in a flat in Moscow near the British Embassy working as a researcher and translator.

Svetlana is the only daughter of Joseph Stalin by his second wife Nadezhda Alliluyeva who committed suicide in 1932 when Svetlana was nine years old.

When she was just 18, Svetlana, married a Jewish fellow student at Moscow University against her father's wishes.

She had a son by him but the marriage was dissolved and her ex-husband sent to his death in a Siberian labour camp.

Her second husband was Yuri Zhdanov, the son of Andrei, a close ally of Stalin.

This marriage was also dissolved.

In 1964 she married Brajesh Singh, an Indian communist.

He died last November and Svetlana came to India on 20 December last year to bury his ashes.

She is believed to be planning to go to Geneva, Switzerland, after the Indian authorities refused her permission to stay in the country for fear of marring relations with the Soviet Union.

She leaves behind a grown-up son and daughter in Moscow.

Courtesy BBC News

CRUISE SHIP NON GRATA

IN JAPAN, leaders were criticized for confining more than 3,700 passengers and crew on the Diamond Princess for two weeks last month because of the virus. About 700 people were sickened on the ship and three died. Health officials defended the quarantine as necessary and adequate.

IN EGYPT, a cruise ship on the Nile with more than 150 aboard was quarantined after 12 people tested positive for the virus.

IN MALTA, which reported its first case of the virus, the MSC Opera agreed not to enter port even though there were no infections on board.

IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, the Malaysian port of Penang turned away the cruise ship Costa Fortuna with 2,000 people aboard because there were 64 passengers from Italy, the center of Europe's epidemic. It was the second port after Phuket in Thailand to reject the ship, which is now headed to Singapore.

IN CONTEXT

Svetlana Alliluyeva was allowed to stay in Switzerland for three months.

She went to the United States in April 1967.

On arrival at New York, she held a press conference and astonished the world by denouncing her father's regime - much to the irritation of the Soviet leader of the time, Alexei Kosygin, who said she was a "sick person".

Later that year, she published her memoirs, *Twenty Letters to a Friend*, and another autobiography in 1969 called *Only One Year*.

Svetlana became a US citizen and changed her name to Lana Peters when she married American architect, William Peters in 1970. But they separated after their daughter, Olga, was born.

She returned to the Soviet Union in 1984 and settled in Tbilisi, Georgia - her father's homeland.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
 Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 A short and sweet conversation early in the day could plant the seeds for some interesting ideas in your head. These should blossom over the course of the day.

TAURUS
 Apr. 20-May. 20
 Someone who holds some power over you might have a vested interest in discouraging you from moving forward with your goals, but they can't stop you, and that's what is important.

GEMINI
 May. 21-Jun. 21
 If you've been playing a flirtatious game with a certain sassy someone, be aware that it might come to a screeching halt today. You could find out that they aren't exactly as available as you thought they were!

CANCER
 Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 Parties are supposed to be places where you can relax and have fun. If you only see them as routes to get closer to someone you think can make things better in your life, then you're selling yourself short.

LEO
 Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 One of your friends is being indecisive right now, and it could be delaying some exciting social plans. Light a fire under them today, and let them know that everyone is waiting for them.

VIRGO
 Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 You can change the minds of some influential people today. All you have to do is get a little bit of face time with each of them. Use your warm charm and some cold logic to enlighten these people.

LIBRA
 Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 You should just talk about new things today. The same old topics of conversation aren't cutting it, so it's time for you and your conversational skills to move into newer, greener pastures.

SCORPIO
 Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 This isn't a day to gloss over unusual minor details. If something raises a red flag, no matter how small it may be, you need to pay attention to it! Is your car making a funny sound? Look into it!

SAGITTARIUS
 Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Sure, you know that you're totally right about how to fix a problem that's making everyone else freak out, but your ideas are going to fall on deaf ears right now.

CAPRICORN
 Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Today, an average exchange of ideas could generate a sublime experience in your life, so be open to talking to anyone at any time. You should try to get a little bit more creative.

AQUARIUS
 Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 Today, you could be syncing up with a lot of different types of people. This means it's a great time for you to start building a foundation for something unique and new in your life.

PISCES
 Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 The greatest thing about the energy you feel today is that it can give you all the focus you need to take the most complicated ideas and make them simple enough for anyone to understand.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	-2	11	clear
Harbin	-16	0	clear
Tianjin	0	12	cloudy
Urumqi	-2	7	clear
Xi'an	2	16	cloudy
Lhasa	-2	11	cloudy
Chengdu	10	15	overcast
Chongqing	11	16	overcast
Kunming	8	20	cloudy
Nanjing	2	12	clear
Shanghai	5	10	clear
Wuhan	5	16	clear
Hangzhou	4	12	cloudy
Taipei	15	16	drizzle
Guangzhou	13	18	overcast
Hong Kong	16	19	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	2	6	cloudy
Frankfurt	2	10	moderate rain
Paris	6	9	moderate rain
London	2	10	drizzle
New York	0	9	drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- First name in photography; 6- Spicy stew; 10- Mami's predecessor; 14- Model Campbell; 15- Ovid, e.g.; 16- Ayatollah's land; 17- Center of Florida; 18- Sea-going eagle; 19- Infatuated; 20- Seasoned; 22- Western; 23- Green land; 24- Assume; 26- WWII female enlistee; 29- Golden rule preposition; 31- Duple; 32- Cabinet dept.; 33- Lepidopterous insect; 34- Apportions; 38- Camaro model; 40- Exclamation of relief; 42- Facilitate; 43- Puget Sound city; 46- Hindu hero; 49- Laugh syllable; 50- Down; 51- Seth begat him; 52- Metro area; 53- Cleansing preparation; 57- Comprehends; 59- Warsaw residents; 60- Screenplay; 65- Busy; 66- Capital of the Ukraine; 67- Liquid waste component; 68- Hindu mother goddess; 69- Memo opener; 70- Where Hercules slew the lion; 71- Util. bill; 72- Antlered animal; 73- Judges;

DOWN: 1- All over again; 2- Neck part; 3- Caribbean dance music; 4- Chew the scenery; 5- Soft metallic element; 6- Light musical work; 7- Traditional passed-down knowledge; 8- Gives for a time; 9- Had a little lamb; 10- Nickname for New York City; 11- Muse of love poetry; 12- Wise ones; 13- Capture; 21- Cube creator; 22- Indescent gemstone; 25- Country bordered by Canada and Mexico; 26- Hold off; 27- Pearl Mosque city; 28- Gator's cousin; 30- Chicago's airport; 35- "Magnum, PI." setting; 36- Boris Godunov, for one; 37- Belgrade native; 39- Skin preparation; 41- Aftereffects of drunkenness; 44- Charts; 45- Foofaraw; 47- Champagne name; 48- Shock with wonder; 53- One in a black suit; 54- The Hilton, e.g.; 55- Not dead yet; 56- Suppose; 58- Carousal; 61- In this place; 62- Like some excuses; 63- Up and ___; 64- Votes for; 66- Young goat;

Friday's solution

S	E	A	R	G	L	A	D	P	L	A	T
A	N	T	A	A	N	E	A	R	K	A	G
F	O	O	D	S	U	T	R	A	E	N	I
E	S	P	I	E	S	O	P	C	A	N	A
S	A	R	E	S	N	E	V	E			
S	C	E	N	A	R	I	O	R	I	D	L
P	E	R	T	S	P	S	S	E	R	I	E
E	L	O	G	A	T	E	S	E	S	L	
F	L	S	T	I	E	L	I	L	T	O	G
D	O	E	S	N	T	G	L	E	A	N	S
O	D	E	S								
H	E	L	L	E	P	A	M	A	I	D	E
E	L	L	A	T	A	S	T	E	O	R	S
E	M	I	T	E	N	T	E	R	T	E	A
D	O	S	E								
R	O	O	T								

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>Kinglight Carpark, Taipa HK\$1,450,000 1</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>Spacious Apartment, Ocean Gardens \$35,000/mth 3,700 ft² 4 4</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>[Taipa] Two Units connected 4 2 2 1,404 ft² \$8,380,000 (ref: 19096006)</p> <p>[Macau] Lakeview Tower 3 2 2 1,344 ft² \$11,000,000 (ref: 19126001)</p> <p>[Taipa] Nova City 3 2 2 1,515 ft² \$11,750,000 (ref: 19106001)</p> <p>[Macau] One Central 2 2 2 1,349 ft² \$14,839,000 (ref: 19096004)</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>[Taipa] One room apartment 1 1 1 740 ft² \$10,900/mth (ref: 19101006)</p> <p>[Coloane] Hellene Garden 1 3 3 1,663 ft² \$14,000/mth (ref: n/a)</p> <p>[Taipa] Nova Grand 2 1 1 935 ft² \$17,800/mth (ref: 19091005)</p> <p>[Cotai] One Grantai 3 3 3 2,122 ft² \$23,000/mth (ref: 19030001RT)</p>
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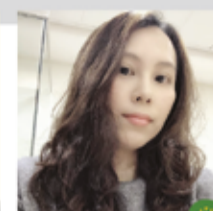
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Property of the Week



Kinglight Carpark, Taipa HK\$1,450,000 1 🚗

Conveniently located near the Central Park in Taipa, this single bay carpark has a neat location on the 2nd basement floor.



Property Hotlist



Manhattan Carpark, Taipa

\$1,380,000

1 🚗



Ocean Garden Carpark, Taipa

\$1,190,000

1 🚗



Spacious Apartment, Ocean Gardens

\$35,000/mth

3,700 ft²

4 🛏 4 🚿



Nam Long Neat Apartment, Taipa

\$11,800/mth

645 ft²

2 🛏 1 🚿



Vai Fung Triplex, Macau

Beautiful and renovated triplex in the heart of Macau heritage area.

\$15,800/mth

1,065 ft²

2 🛏 2 🚿



More Listings

For Sale

- [Taipa] Two Units connected 4 🛏 2 🚿 1,404 ft² **\$8,380,000** (ref: 19096006)
- [Macau] Lakeview Tower 3 🛏 2 🚿 1,344 ft² **\$11,000,000** (ref: 19126001)
- [Taipa] Nova City 3 🛏 2 🚿 1,515 ft² **\$11,750,000** (ref: 19106001)
- [Macau] One Central 2 🛏 2 🚿 1,349 ft² **\$14,839,000** (ref: 19096004)
- [Taipa] Jade Garden 4 🛏 3 🚿 3,180 ft² **\$18,000,000** (ref: 19126002)

For Rent

- [Taipa] One room apartment 1 🛏 1 🚿 740 ft² **\$10,900/mth** (ref: 19101006)
- [Coloane] Hellene Garden 1 🚗 3 🛏 3 🚿 1,663 ft² **\$14,000/mth** (ref: n/a)
- [Taipa] Nova Grand 2 🛏 1 🚿 935 ft² **\$17,800/mth** (ref: 19091005)
- [Cotai] One Grantai 3 🛏 3 🚿 2,122 ft² **\$23,000/mth** (ref: 19030001RT)
- [Taipa] Manhattan high floor 4 🛏 2 🚿 2,305 ft² **\$26,800/mth** (ref: 19091003)

Recent Movements

Sold Pearl on the Lough, Taipa, 4 beds

Rented Buckingham, Taipa, 2 beds

Rented Duplex studio, Macau



JML Events



Cradle of Hope



Caritas Macau



Macau Bats Junior Rugby Team



Macau Golf Masters

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Without fans, Bahrain Grand Prix among events hit by virus

SAKHIR, BAHRAIN

FORMULA One's Bahrain Grand Prix has been closed to spectators due to the global virus outbreak, but won't be postponed like the Chinese round of the championship.

The Bahraini organizers' decision comes as the wider sporting world battles turmoil caused by the new coronavirus. Soccer, golf, skiing, marathons and Olympic qualifying tournaments have all been disrupted.

More Serie A soccer matches could be postponed after the Italy's sports minister said on yesterday that the country's soccer federation should consider suspending the games — minutes before the first match of the day was set to kick off in an empty stadium.

Parma-Spal kicked off after a 75-minute delay as officials considered an appeal from sports minister Vincenzo Spadafora minutes before the scheduled start.

Japan's Spring Grand Sumo Tournament started yesterday



AP PHOTO

without spectators, and with wrestlers arriving in face masks.

Bahraini organizers said having crowds at the March 22 race would have undermined "aggressive social distancing measures" used to prevent the spread of the virus,

which causes the COVID-19 disease. Discouraging people from gathering in large crowds can prevent the virus from spreading.

"Given the continued spread of COVID-19 globally, convening a major sporting event, which

is open to the public and allows thousands of international travellers and local fans to interact in close proximity would not be the right thing to do at the present time," organizers said in a statement.

The F1 season is set to begin with the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne on March 15. China was scheduled to hold the fourth race of the season on April 19, but that was postponed due to the virus outbreak and no new date has been set.

Serie A soccer games were set to resume Sunday in empty stadiums amid strict anti-virus measures in Italy, while a French league game between Strasbourg and Paris Saint-Germain was postponed from its scheduled date Saturday.

The Alpine skiing World Cup Finals, Italian cycling races and the women's ice hockey world championships have all been canceled.

British sporting events could soon be held without spectators, with a meeting between sports bodies, broadcasters and the government set to take place on Monday.

When events do go ahead, fans and athletes are taking new precautions. Soccer players in the English Premier League have scrapped their traditional pre-game handshakes, while leading cricket players have used fist-bump greetings and been issued with hand sanitizer. Face masks are an increasingly common sight in crowds around the world. AP

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OPINION

World Views

Nisha Gopalan, Bloomberg

**SARS LESSONS INOCULATE
 HK AGAINST EPIDEMIC**

Hong Kong has fewer coronavirus cases than the U.S., Singapore or Italy. That might seem surprising for a city that sits on the doorstep of mainland China and has intertwining business, tourism and personal connections with the source of the epidemic. The reason can be summed up in one word: SARS.

The outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome in 2003 sowed extreme caution in Hong Kong, a former British colony that had returned to Chinese sovereignty six years earlier. The city, which maintained its own customs and passport controls after the handover, was home to an eventual 299 of the 744 SARS fatalities. That was the highest number worldwide, though the disease originated in southern China. The wariness instilled by that experience has persisted.

Take me. I still compulsively wash my hands, 17 years after the outbreak. I have friends that have been using toothpicks to press elevator buttons for years. Some use tissues to open the doors of public washrooms, or carry spare masks in their handbags in case they catch the sniffles. This is all evidence of the indelible impact SARS has had on Hong Kong's psyche. For many of us, advice from health officials on how to minimize the risk of Covid-19 infection has been superfluous.

Born in Hong Kong, I returned newly married to the city from a five-year spell in London in late 2002, a couple of months before SARS first appeared in China. People in Hong Kong became aware of the disease the following March after a visiting doctor from Guangdong, the adjoining mainland province, infected visitors on his hotel floor. He later died.

For months between the first infection, of a farmer in southern China, and mid-March when the World Health Organization issued a global alert, we were in the dark about the appearance of this mysterious new pneumonia-like illness. We continued to eat out, hold new year's celebrations, and mingle freely. The fear that ensued when the spread of this deadly disease became public knowledge engendered habits many of us still can't shake off.

Restaurants and bars largely emptied, and stayed that way until SARS receded in the middle of the year. That pattern is repeating itself. Restaurants are suffering, especially after a hotpot dinner led to multiple infections among one family. On the other hand, Hong Kong's hiking trails have been packed as crowds seek open spaces and fresh air where the chance of infection is lower.

Reminders of SARS are everywhere, from the ubiquitous face masks and near-empty subway carriages to the daily news flow. Officials ordered engineers to inspect toilets at a public housing complex in the city's northwest after coronavirus infections emerged. That recalled the tragedy at Amoy Gardens, a cramped 19-block apartment development where 329 residents contracted SARS and 42 died after defective plumbing helped to spread the virus.

The vigilance instilled by these memories has contributed to Hong Kong's relatively low number of Covid-19 infections: 97 and two deaths, out of a population of 7.4 million, as of Friday. Singapore (population: 5.6 million) had 117 confirmed cases and no fatalities. South Korea, with 6,593 infections and 42 fatalities, is the second-worst hit country after China, while Italy had 3,858 cases and 148 deaths, the most deaths after the mainland. Focus has also turned to the spread of the disease in the U.S., where authorities reported 126 cases and 11 fatalities as of Friday.

The government has played a part in encouraging social distancing, and has taken some draconian measures, most notably by closing schools until the middle of April at least.

Still, the part played by individuals can't be overlooked. With a traditionally laissez-faire economic system and little in the way of social welfare, the people of Hong Kong have been accustomed to taking responsibility for themselves rather than waiting for the guiding hand of the state. It's that spirit — and the scars left by SARS — that have inoculated Hong Kong against the worst of the latest coronavirus outbreak.

The Chinese owner of gay dating app Grindr has reached a deal to offload one of the world's largest LGBT social platforms, a year after U.S. regulators pressed for disposal over national security concerns.

Beijing Kunlun Tech Co. said in a Friday filing to the Shenzhen Stock Exchange that it has agreed to sell its 99% stake in Grindr LLC to San Vicente Acquisition LLC for about \$608.5 million. The deal needs the approval of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S., better known as CFIUS, which required the Chinese firm to unwind its purchase of Grindr, according to the filing.

The sale underscores a growing concern in the U.S. that Beijing could use Chinese tech companies as a tool to amass sensitive data on millions of American citizens. The U.S. watchdog has also begun a review of ByteDance Inc.'s 2017 purchase of the business that became TikTok, a viral mini-video app.

Kunlun bought a majority stake in Grindr for just \$93 million in 2016, and acquired the remaining shares two years later. Prior to the CFIUS inquiry, the Chinese firm was planning an initial public offering for the app overseas.

**TAIWAN'S PRO-CHINA
 KMT STAKES FUTURE ON
 YOUNG NEW LEADER**



SAMSON ELLIS

TAIWAN'S Kuomintang selected a reform-minded chairman to rebuild the beleaguered opposition party, a decision that could upend Beijing's decades-old framework for building ties with Taipei.

Lawmaker Chiang Chi-chen overcame the former mayor of Taipei City, Hau Lung-bin, with more than 68% of ballots cast by party members in Saturday's vote.

At 48 years of age, Chiang is the youngest permanent leader of the KMT in almost 100 years. In the wake the party's landslide election defeat in January, he has vowed a full "redesign," including rethinking the "92 consensus," the vague agreement that underpinned ties between the KMT and China.

"I'm going to work harder so that all party members can see change in the KMT and once again feel proud to be a member of the KMT," Chiang said after the election at the party's headquarters in Taipei Saturday.

Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen - who hails from the pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party

- easily secured a second four-year term against the KMT's Han Kuo-yu in part by making herself one of the Communist Party's most high-profile critics, a stance that appealed particularly to younger Taiwanese voters wary of China's goal of incorporating the island into the People's Republic.

The KMT needs to find a way to bring its China policy in line with public opinion

China claims the island as part of its territory, while Taiwan's government sees itself as a sovereign, independent state.

January's electoral setback deepened the crisis facing the KMT, which favors eventual unification with China. The loss represented its fourth defeat in the six presidential elections since 2000. Prior to that, the party had governed Taiwan exclusively for the five decades after Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists moved the Republic of China government to Taipei amid the Chinese civil war in 1949.

The party's finances are one of the most pressing issues facing its new chairman. Despite revenue of NTD430 million (\$14 million) in 2018, the KMT paid out NTD1.8 billion in personnel costs that year, NTD1.6 billion of which was for pensions for former employees, according to a January report by Lo Chen-gung from the Graduate Institute of Financial & Economic Law at Southern Taiwan University of Science & Technology.

In addition to its finances, Jonathan Sullivan, director of the University of Nottingham's China programs, says the KMT also needs to find a way to bring its China policy in line with public opinion while at the same time maintaining good relations with Beijing for the financial benefits it brings, and also to differentiate the party from Tsai's DPP.

"China policy is one thing, finances another, differentiation from DPP and appealing to young people are all huge challenges," he said. "But even a severely flawed candidate like Han got 5 million votes and anyone writing off the KMT is a fool." **BLOOMBERG**



Greece A fire broke out at a refugee center on the Greek island of Lesbos, Greece's firefighting service said yesterday, causing considerable damage to a warehouse but no injuries. It was the second fire at an installation built for migrants, after a reception center was burned down by unknown perpetrators last Monday. The warehouse, which contained furniture and electrical appliances, was completely destroyed.



Kyrgyzstan Police in the capital of Kyrgyzstan have detained about 60 people after an unauthorized rally to mark International Women's Day was broken up by a group of men. The disorder took place yesterday at a main square in Bishkek. Demonstrators gathered for a rally to express support for women's and children's rights, but unidentified males barged into the gathering.



UK Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, will fulfill their final royal commitment when they appear today at the annual Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey in London. It's the last time they will be seen at work with the entire royal Windsor clan before they fly off into self-imposed exile in North America.

Italy announced a sweeping quarantine yesterday for its northern regions, igniting travel chaos as it restricted the movements of a quarter of its people in a bid to halt the new coronavirus' relentless march across Europe. Shortly after midnight, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte signed a decree affecting 16 million people in the country's prosperous north, including the Lombardy region and at least 14 provinces in neighboring regions. The extraordinary measures will be in place until April 3.