



JETSTAR LAUNCHES MACAU SAIGON ROUTE

Jetstar Pacific Airlines launched its first direct flight service from Macau to the largest Vietnamese city



PATACA TO BE USED IN HENGOIN

A scheme to allow local currency circulation in Hengqin is being prepared by the New Area Committee

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WORLD BRIEFS

US-CHINA When Xi Jinping and wife Peng Liyuan visit Washington later this week, Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, face the daunting task of trying to throw a warm and inviting dinner party for guests of honor accused of cyber-spying on the U.S., trampling human rights and engaging in assertive military tactics. More on p11

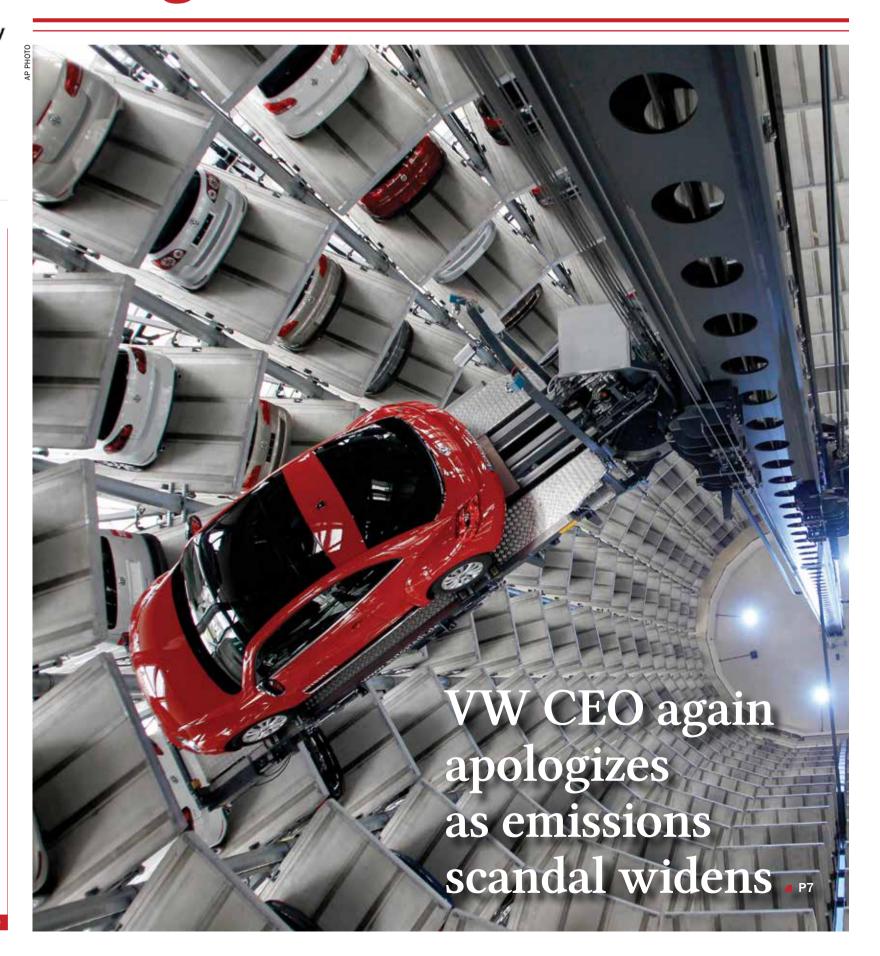


PAKISTAN postpones the execution of the country's first known paraplegic on death row, about an hour before he was to be hanged. The man's family (pictured) welcomed the development with relief and urged authorities to spare his life on medical grounds.

PHILIPPINES Hundreds of Philippine troops launch an offensive to capture at least six foreign Islamic militants and their Abu Sayyaf rebel allies in their latest attempt to crush al-Qaida-linked extremists.

More on backpage

Businessman Ng Lap Seng arrested in the US.



4G services available in October

OCAL telecommunications Loperator Companhia de Telecomunicações de Macau SARL (CTM) has confirmed that its 4G mobile communication network will be available next month. CTM representatives expressed their views on the future of the telecom sector in Macau during a ceremony held yesterday afternoon for the opening of a new shop located in the Areia Preta neighborhood.

Aiming to provide an array of telecommunication services the first '4G+ Concept Store', the shop is located in the Kam Hoi San building and is considered "a step forward in innovation and design," according to a CTM spokesperson. The shop is seen as "the first look into the new vision of CTM for this sector."

With extended opening hours (from 10.30 a.m. to 8 p.m., including Sundays) and three ou-



tdoor kiosks with touch screens that allow access to products and extra information as some of its special features, this 'Concept Store' is hoping to provide "time saving and efficiency".

The shop also features a demonstration area where costumers can experience the 4G+ network speed that the company will launch officially next

Among the current promotions being run by the shop, the company stated that, residents who already have a 3G data plan and a 4G compatible mobile device, starting from yesterday onwards

DSRT DIRECTOR: 4G COULD BE CHEAPER THAN 3G

THE DIRECTOR of the Bureau of Telecommunications Regulation (DSRT) Hoi Chi Leong said yesterday that the prices of the 4G network are already settled and comparatively to the current 3G they will eventually be cheaper per unit. However, he reminded that since the 4G is faster, citizens are likely to use more data, which can result in a larger bill if the users do not take the necessary precautions regarding the Internet usage.

will be given the option of a onemonth trial period of the new 4G network.

At the sidelines of the shop's opening yesterday, CTM also introduced the latest Apple Watch model, being the first telecom operator to do so in Macau. RM

Lionel Leong meets with gaming operators

THE Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, has exchanged views with gaming operators on how to maintain economic vitality, enhance Macau's competitiveness, stabilize the job market and strengthen social responsibility in the sector.

According to a statement from Mr Leong issued by the Government Information Bureau, the government has always been concerned with the healthy development of the sector and employment opportunities for local people, stressing the principle that non-resident workers should only be brought in to compensate for shortfalls in local human resources.

In a meeting with the representatives of six gaming concessionaires on 18 September, the Secretary urged the operators to continually provide more on-the-job training to their workers, in order to improve their upward mobility. The government, in return, would make more effort in job ma-



As one of the pillars of the local economy, the healthy development of gaming industry has a profound impact on Macau, he said. According to Mr Leong, the government intends to optimize legislation to strengthen the regulation of concessionaires and junket operators, and to encourage more contributions from non-gaming elements – all in order to further expedite adequate diversification of

tching and career changing.

the economy and enhance the sector's worldwide competiveness.

Representatives from gaming concessionaires said that they would follow the government's policy direction to propel the development of non-gaming features and support locally made products. The representatives also hoped for more support during the consolidation period and more quality visitors to support the tourism industry.

TRANSPORT

Coutinho urges gov't to disclose traffic study findings

AWMAKER José Pereira LCoutinho has urged Macau's government to disclose the findings of a research study conducted on the topic of the city's traffic and population mobility behavior between 2009 and 2014.

"The Transport Bureau (DSAT) commissioned a survey to a private company for MOP5.3 million to assess Macau's traffic situation and population mobility behaviors in 2014," he stated in a written enquiry, adding that citizens have questioned the utility of such a study.

The lawmaker argued that residents have filed complaints with the Citizens' Support Office, which claimed that DSAT's study was not useful, and was therefore "a waste of time and public mo-

Residents, he added, also claimed that the questions posed during the survey were similar to existing surveys in the monthly bulletins, which were conducted by the Census and Statistics Services.

Coutinho claimed that there have been no improvements to the region's public transport system since 2009, and concluded by asking the question, "What kind of concrete results have DSAT's survey provided?"



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Local real estate developer arrested in the US

Aurrested Macau real estate developer Ng Lap Seng on Saturday. Alongside his assistant, Jeff Yin, Mr Ng was charged with engaging in a two-year scheme to import over USD4.5 million into the United States under false pretenses.

PICTURE WITH CLINTON CAUSES EMBARRASSMENT

ACCORDING TO a ProPublica report, Macau businessman Ng Lap Seng figured prominently in a U.S. political scandal a decade earlier by carrying hundreds of thousands dollars of cash into the United States and funneling it to Democratic candidates through a Chinese-American intermediary. "More than a dozen people eventually pleaded guilty to violations of federal campaign contribution laws. The Clinton administration was deeply embarrassed when a photo surfaced of Ng with President Clinton," the report reads.



Ng Lap Seng (left) with Bill and Hillary Clinton in the 1990s

Reuters has reported that both man were informed of the accusations through a criminal complaint released on Monday by a federal court in Manhattan, in which they were said to be engaging in a conspiracy to obstruct and make false statements to U.S. customs authorities.

A spokesman for Manhattan U.S. attorney Preet Bharara said that both men were arrested on Saturday. Prosecutors from the public corruption unit are now handling the case, following a probe by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

According to the complaint, the Macau real estate developer and

his assistant brought more than USD4.5 million in cash into the United States from China between July 2013 and September 2015.

The complaint alleges that Ng and Yin had concealed the true purpose of the money they had imported by repeatedly telling U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials that they would be buying art, antiques, real estate, or using the money for gambling.

However, the complaint did not disclose what the true purpose of the money turned out to be. It mentions, however, a June 2014 meeting in the New York City borough of Queens with an unnamed business associate, to whom Ng had brought USD400,000 in cash. According to the complaint, he had falsely stated that the money would be used to buy paintings and for gambling.

Moreover, in July 2014, an FBI agent served a federal subpoena to Ng in connection to an unrelated probe.

Reuters reported that it is unclear why public prosecutors from Bharara's public corruption unit are handling the case.

Ng's name was also mentioned in a Congressional probe into how foreign money was funneled into to the Democratic National Committee before the 1996 presidential election during Clinton's administration, but he was never charged.

The Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, has declined to comment on Ng's arrest, according to a TDM report. Mr Ng is a member of Macau's Economic Development Committee. He did not attend the committee's most recent meeting, which was held yesterday. "I have no information on this subject. According to information I gathered from the Committee, Mr Ng - who is a member – has requested not to attend today's [yesterday] meeting. I don't have any additional information at hand, therefore I will not comment further," Chui Sai On stated. CP

Panda 'Shuxiang' to return to the mainland

Giant panda 'Shuxiang' will be sent back to the mainland for a national breeding program in November, the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, announced yesterday. Following a meeting on health, animal and plant quarantine and food safety, which was attended by representatives from Guangdong, Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Zhuhai, Ms Chan revealed to reporters that the departure date is still to be confirmed with the mainland departments. The government will organize a farewell ceremony for the male panda, who has lived in Macau since 2010.







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GPDP denies breach of privacy accusations from New Macau

Catarina Pinto

THE coordinator of the Office for Personal Data Protection (GPDP), Vasco Fong, has denied claims made by Macau's pro-democracy group, the New Macau Association (ANM), that the bureau has been authorizing the police to access citizens' personal data.

Mr Fong reiterated that there was a misunderstanding following the release of GPDP's latest report, through which the office confirmed that it had authorized PJ officers to request personal data on members of local associations from the Identification Services (DSI).

GPDP's coordinator stressed that authorities are not collecting personal data on association members' political affiliations or religion/beliefs. He explained that if authorization is granted to the Judiciary Police to obtain information on members of local associations, it is true that particular conclusions can be drawn upon inspection of such data.

"If someone is establishing a



Vasco Fong

religious association, we can draw conclusions about that person's religious convictions. Therefore we pointed out in the report that [authorities] that have access to that [association's] database need to treat this information carefully," he told reporters yesterday, on the sidelines of a seminar on data protection and credit cards.

He added that the PJ was not requesting access to information on all associations. "In an ongoing probe, when [authorities] are still gathering evidence, if they believe that they need to have access to specific information, they may have access to that data," he explained, adding that the access to citizens' personal data by authorities is then monitored and controlled to ensure that it is accessed for the purposes of the investigation.

Political activist and vice-president of the New Macau Association, Jason Chao, recently accused GPDP of "selling Macau people's privacy to the police."

GPDP said in its annual report that it authorized the Judiciary Police to collect information through the Identification Services on members of local associations, including their "views on the world's state," political convictions, political affiliations, trade union relations and religious beliefs.

GPDP reiterated that the PJ is only allowed access to citizens' personal data under the current legal framework.

Mr Fong has acknowledged that Macau's Personal Data Protection Law needs to be updated to meet current digital industry trends, particularly regarding credit card payment operations.

He believes that, in addition to reviewing Macau's current data protection laws, there's a need to promote the importance of protecting personal data.

The coordinator pointed out that the office is also looking to build closer relationships with other data protection authorities in neighboring regions, since trans-regional crimes involving breaches of data protection regulations are on the rise.

Mr Fong revealed last May that there are plans to restructure the office and turn it into a Commission for Privacy and Data Protection, to ensure that it is recognized as an independent entity by overseas organizations. He said that this is an ongoing process, and that they're still waiting for an assessment from the government.

Jetstar launches Macau – Saigon route

JETSTAR Pacific Airlines launched its first direct flight service from Macau to the largest Vietnamese city yesterday morning at the Macau International Airport.

This new flight service will be offered twice weekly and adds to the airline's existing rou-

Business, tourism and cultural exchange are the goals we are seeking to achieve through this new route.

> NGUYEN TUAN ANH CHIEF COMMERCIAL OFFICER OF JETSTAR PACIFIC AIRLINES



tes to Danang and Haiphong.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new route's opening, the Consul General of Vietnam to Macau and Hong Kong, Hoang Chi Trung, said that the link to Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City, commonly known as Saigon, serves to "strengthen the relationship between the MSAR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam"

Mr Nguyen Tuan Anh, chief commercial officer of Jetstar Pacific Airlines, highlighted in his speech that the company now runs "18 flights per week between Vietnam and Macau," and adding: "Business, tourism and cultural exchange between Vietnam and Macau are the goals we are seeking to achieve through this new route."

This is the first time that Jetstar Pacific Airli-

nes has launched a route between the MSAR and Vietnam since the suspension of the route to Hanoi, the country's capital, which had only been in operation for just over four months, as reported by the Times in August 2014.

The Hanoi route was suspended after violence escalated in Vietnam over a disputed oil drilling area that was claimed by both Vietnamese and Chinese authorities. In August 2014, a Macau International Airport Company Limited representative told the Times that the route was only being suspended temporarily due to concerns for safety and was due to be relaunched soon. However, there are currently no signs of the route being resumed. RM

MACAU-OKINAWA ROUTE

JETSAR HAS advised that a new route will be launched from December this year. The flight will connect Macau to the Japanese island of Okinawa.

Cinematheque opens applications for film screening workshop

CINEMATHEQUE-PASSION will host a Digital Screening Workshop on Saturday, 3 October, at 2:30 p.m. The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) announced that the event is free of charge and applications to attend are now open.

The workshop will be conducted by Wong Po Luen, founder of East Technology (Asia) Limited. It is hoped that participants can familiarize themselves with the operation of digital projectors and the principles of film screening through witnessing a demonstration of the operation of an on-site projector Mr. Wong has been engaged in the inspection and maintenance of projection equipment for more than three decades. Seats are limited but representatives from local film companies and film associations, as well as film practitioners, will be given priority.

The Cinematheque opened on September 14 on a trial basis. More details about the series of public activities at the venue will be released in October, IC announced.





Coloane seen from Hengqin island

Local currency to be used in Hengqin

AINLAND thorities are striving to draw up a preliminary scheme within the year that would allow local currency to be used in Hengqin before they move to seek approval from the Chinese central bank. This information was revealed by Hengqin New Area Administrative Committee director Niu Jing yesterday on the sidelines of a session exploring financial cooperation with the neighboring island.

While the Hengqin free trade zone further prepares for collaboration between local and mainland enterprises, the initiative to encourage shopping,

catering and entertainment in Hengqin has vet to see a concrete framework, because the government is still considering regimes and precautionary measures against financial safety risks associated with the move, Niu said.

The recent yuan depreciation has not deterred Macau entrepreneurs.

NIU JING

He also said that "the recent yuan depreciation has not deterred Macau entrepreneurs" from launching their businesses in the zone, as the sentiment has remained "strong" and "active."

Since July 13, the Chinese Central Bank has granted mainland entrepreneurs who have business ventures registered in Hengqin permits to receive loans from the mainland. This information was revealed by Wan Sin Long, a committee member from the Monetary Authority of Macau, who added that a total of 11 direct loans have been made from local banks to such businessmen, amounting to RMB730 million. AU

Alleged spy detained at Gongbei border

THINESE authorities have confirmed that they are investigating an American businesswoman who is suspected of threatening China's national security, corroborating earlier media reports that Phan Phan-Gillis of Houston had been detained when trying to enter

According to her family, Phan-Gillis is the head of the Houston Shenzhen Sister City Association. She visited China on a trade delegation with business people and city officials from Houston, Texas, and was detained while attempting to cross from the southern city of Zhuhai to Macau on March 19. She has been held by Chinese authorities for about six months.

Foreign ministry spokesman Hong Lei said yesterday that Beijing is handling the case of Phan-Gillis according to China's laws, and confirmed that the woman is in a healthy condition.

Phan-Gillis is a Vietnamese-American of Chi-

nese descent. As reported by Reuters, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said that Phan-Gillis was suspected of "endangering China's national security" and is being investigated by "relevant Chinese authorities."

The Houston Chronicle reported on Monday that the woman was in a trade delegation to China when she was stopped on her way to Macau.

Her husband, Jeff Gillis, told the Chronicle that he has decided to publicize her six-month detention just as Chinese President Xi Jinping is visiting the U.S. this week, in the hopes of pressuring Beijing and Washington to secure her release.

According to a statement, cited by Reuters. Jeff Gillis described his wife as "a hard-working businesswoman who spends huge amounts of time on non-profit activities that benefit Houston-China relations." "Sandy is not a spy or a thief," he added.

Macau-Portugal illustration exhibition to open in October



A^N exhibition featuring up to 20 Portuguese and local illustration artists will make its appearance at the Rui Cunha Foundation gallery between October 8 and 31 after being showcased in the Portuguese city of Porto.

The "Macau and Portugal Art of Illustration Exhibition," hosted by the Yunyi Arts and Cultural Communications Association, aims to popularize local art pieces overseas while bringing contemporary illustrations from Portugal into the region for appreciation. Besides, the organizer hopes that the bonding between artists from both sides will further be cemented through such a platform.

"Our goal is to provide local artists opportunities to expand and grow in their careers, and to share their work with the general public on a large scale," the group stated in a press re-

The organizer also expressed wishes that the individuals, while visiting the gallery, could deepen their understanding of the illustrations, which was said to be closely interrelated to different sectors in the society.

The exhibition will open to the public after its opening ceremony on October 7 at 6.30 p.m. It will remain open until the end of the month. A total of 40 art pieces will be featured at the Rui Cunha Foundation.

Telecom sector tops **Consumer Council** complaints

THE number of complaints submitted to the Consumer Council increased during the first half of this requests and suggestions. year. 887 complaints were made, one quarter of them related to the telecommunications sector, mainly about tariffs, roaming charges and the quality of both pre- and post-sale services on 3G mobile phones.

During the first half of the year there was also a significant number of complaints (76) about public transportation, mostly related to the cancellation of airline tickets during this summer's MERS outbreak in South Korea. Other complaints were related to areas such as cosmetic treatments, food and beverages, and tourism and retail services.

The Consumer Council

announced that it assessed over 3,500 cases, including complaints, information







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EMISSIONS SCANDAL

VW boss 'endlessly sorry', company set aside USD7.3 billion for fallout

Volkswagen AG, the world's top-selling carmaker, escalated yesterday as the company issued a profit warning following a stunning admission that some 11 million of its diesel vehicles worldwide were fitted with software at the center of a U.S. emissions scandal.

The German company said it was setting aside around 6.5 billion euros (USD7.3 billion) to cover the fallout from the scandal that has tarnished VW's reputation, raised questions over the future of CEO Martin Winterkorn and battered its share price.

Winterkorn pledged a fast and thorough investigation.

"Millions of people across the world trust our brands, our cars and our technologies," he said in a video message. "I am endlessly sorry that we have disappointed this trust. I apologize in every way to our customers, to authorities and the whole public for the wrongdoing."

"We are asking, I am asking for your trust on our way forward," he said. "We will clear this up."



The damage to Volkswagen's reputation is reflected in the market's response. Volkswagen's share price slid a further 16.2 percent yesterday to a near four-year low of 112 euros. The fall comes on top of Monday's 17 percent decline.

The trigger to the company's market woes was last Friday's revelation from the U.S.'s Environmental Protection Agency

that VW rigged nearly half a million cars to defeat U.S. smog tests.

The company told U.S. regulators that it intentionally installed software programmed to switch engines to a cleaner mode during official emissions testing. The software then switches off again, enabling cars to drive more powerfully on the road while emitting as much

as 40 times the legal pollution

"In my German words: we have totally screwed up," the head of Volkswagen's U.S. division, Michael Horn, told an audience in New York on Monday.

In a statement Tuesday, Volkswagen gave more details, admitting that there were "discrepancies" related to vehicles with Type EA 189 engines and involving some 11 million vehicles worldwide. The number of vehicles involved is more than the 10 million or so cars it sold in 2014.

Volkswagen said it is "working intensely" to solve the problem and that it "does not tolerate any kind of violation of laws whatsoever."

To cover the necessary service measures and what Volkswagen says are "other efforts to win back the trust" of customers, the company said it is setting aside some 6.5 billion euros in the current quarter. There was no mention of fines or penalties in the company's statement. The EPA has indicated that it could, in theory, fine VW up to \$18 billion. **AP**

SOUTH KOREA TO PROBE VW DIESEL VEHICLE EMISSIONS

SOUTH KOREA said yesterday it will investigate emission levels of Volkswagen diesel vehicles after the world's topselling automaker admitted cheating U.S. tests.

Park Pan-kyu, a deputy director at South Korea's environment ministry, said that four models — Golf, Jetta, Beetle and Audi A3 — are subject to the probe, which is expected to end in November. About 6,000 vehicles made in 2014 and 2015 were sold under those nameplates in South Korea.

Volkswagen AG admitted that it rigged U.S. tests so it would appear that its diesel-powered cars were emitting fewer nitrogen oxides, which can contribute to ozone buildup and respiratory illness.

Park said Volkswagen could be fined up to 4 billion won (USD3.4 million) and required to recall the vehicles if wrongdoing is found.

corporate bits

SANDS CHINA CELEBRATES HOUSEKEEPING WEEK



Sands China Ltd. is celebrating International Housekeeping Week with activities for team members at The Venetian Macao, Sands Cotai Central and Sands Macao. Team member events at the three properties include prize draws, talent shows, torch relays, a mummy-wrapping game, tug-of-war, a bed-making competition, and a sustainability-minded competition that will challenge team members to use recyclable materials to create a 3-D model.

"These team member events are a way to celebrate and recognize the hard work and dedication of Sands China's housekeeping team, and to help further boost team spirit and encourage the continued drive for service excellence," said Ciaran Carruthers, senior vice president and director of Venetian and Plaza operations for Sands China Ltd. "Having a dedicated week allows Sands China to plan activities for its housekeeping teams to participate in and enjoy, while allowing team members in other departments to recognize the important contribution that housekeeping makes to our daily operations."

International Housekeeping Week is marked annually during the second week of September, and has been celebrated around the world since 1981. The Venetian Macao first observed International Housekeeping Week in 2008.

MEDIA

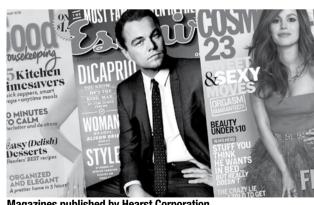
Hearst invests USD21m in pop-culture network Complex Media

Lucas Shaw

HEARST Corp. has made another bet on an emerging pop-culture brand, investing USD21 million in Complex Media, a digital-media company that operates websites devoted to music, fashion, food and movies.

Hearst, the publisher of Cosmopolitan and Esquire magazines, last year acquired a 25 percent stake in youth-focused online programmer Awesomeness TV and invested in Vice Media through its jointly owned A+E Networks. This most recent round brings the total raised by Complex, whose properties include the fan-boy site Collider, to \$52 million, according to a statement Tuesday.

Media companies are



Magazines published by Hearst Corporation

investing in online enterprises that provide promising, inexpensive new formats and talent at a time of uncertainty in the traditional television business. Hearst, based in New York, is targeting very strong brands that could turn into cable networks of the future, said Neeraj Khemlani, president of the company's digital studios unit. He said

Complex could especially help Hearst attracting young men.

"What really matters here is allowing great content creators and editors at Complex to be able to continue to super serve this very elusive audience," Khemlani said in an interview. "This is a way to learn from great brands, find ways for them to work together

and look for opportunities."

Complex has been profitable since 2010, according to the statement. It will use the new capital to produce more original video, a major avenue of growth for the company, which began as a magazine, said Chief Executive Officer Rich Antoniello.

The company's network of channels generated 192 million monthly views last month, a fivefold jump from a year earlier. The company has sewn up collaborations with talent including Spike Lee, Tony Hawk and Bunim/Murray Productions, the company that makes shows including "Real World" and "Keeping Up With the Kardashians."

Complex, also based in New York, plans to produce television and movies for traditional media outlets, and potentially for new distributors like Apple Inc., according to Antoniello. Hearst owns local television stations, as well as stakes in ESPN, A+E Networks and Esquire Network. **Bloomberg**



Brian Chappatta

TISSISSIPPI, the poo-Mrest U.S. state, is selling its first bonds backed by gambling taxes after its share of the winnings fell to the lowest since 1997, two casinos closed and its neighbors began looking at expanding into the business. Investors may still like the odds.

The USD200 million of bonds carry Standard & Poor's fifth-highest credit rating because the state's gaming revenue covers the debt service 10 times over, even though it's fallen almost 30 percent from the 2008 peak.

Potential competition from neighboring states, along with closures of a Harrah's casino in Tunica and another on the Gulf Coast, may lead the state to dangle higher-than-average yields to draw buyers to the offering today, said Burt Mulford at Eagle Asset Management.

"There has been a trend of decline in this sector in terms of state gaming revenue," said Mulford, a manager of tax -exempt funds for the St. Petersburg, Florida-based firm, which holds \$2.4 billion of municipal bonds. "It'll come at a very wide spread, at least initially, and because it's a name a lot of managers don't own, they're going to want to add it."

Mississippi joins states across the U.S. that have seen their share of gambling money dwindle as others expanded the industry to bring in cash after the recession. Last year, casino revenue dropped in 10 of the 12 biggest gambling states, including Mississippi, according to data compiled by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

With more than \$2 billion in revenue from 28 casinos, Mississippi's industry ranks sixth nationwide. That's drawn the attention of its neighbors: Alabama and Georgia pushed to legalize gambling in the last legislative session, said Jon Griffin, who tracks the issue for the National Conference of State Legislatures in Denver.

As casinos falter, Mississippi sells debt backed by gambling tax



The Isle of Capri Casino in Natchez

Alabama sought to establish a lottery and authorize casino gambling. Georgia lawmakers proposed a constitutional amendment to overturn its casino ban. Neither effort succeeded.

"Legalized gaming in Alabama could severely affect gaming revenue" because Mississippi's Gulf Coast casinos drew 2.5 million visitors from its neighbor in 2014, according to the offering statement. Gambling on the Mississippi River, a center of the state's casino industry, has already suffered from expanded options in Arkansas, with visitors from the state and Tennessee declining more than 50 percent in the past four vears, the statement says.

In addition to the two casinos that closed last year, the Isle of

Almost twothirds of the 23 million visitors to Mississippi casinos in 2014 came from another state

Capri Casino in Natchez will shutter next month, according to bond documents. Offsetting that, a new one is set to be bui-It by the end of 2015 along the Gulf Coast with more than twice as many slot machines and seven times as many table games.

Mississippi's tax revenue from gambling fell in the 2014 budget year to about \$164 million, a 17year low, from as much as \$230 million in 2008, according to offering documents. For the 12 months ended June 30, the collections totaled \$167 million.

The state's view on the gaming industry "is it's going to be stable for quite some time," Mark Valentine, director of the bond advisory division in Mississippi, said in an interview. "It's not like there's just one or two casinos.'

Almost two-thirds of the 23 million visitors to Mississippi casinos in 2014 came from another state, according to bond documents. While that keeps cash in the pockets of its citizens, it also makes Mississippi more vulnerable to competition, said Howard Cure at Evercore Wealth Management.

"If you attract people from all over the country, you're taxing tourists, which is always preferred from a political point of view," said Cure, head of municipal research in New York at Evercore, which oversees about \$6 billion. "But there's definitely a saturation point to this. I usually stay away from these type of pure gaming-securedtype debt instruments because of those risks."

Mississippi's gambling revenue is also vulnerable to bad weather. After Hurricane Katrina struck in 2005, the Hard Rock Casino didn't open until almost two years later, according to offering documents.

Proceeds will be used to repair and replace bridges. In particular, as much as \$18 million will go toward the Vicksburg Bridge, which spans the Mississippi River into Louisiana. It's the most-heavily traveled bridge in the state to be considered "structurally deficient," according to Mississippi's transportation department.

The state's 23-year history in the casino business has given it a leg up on states trying to capture its market share, said Mulford, the investor at Eagle Asset Management. He said that provides some cushion for the bonds, which mature from 2016 to 2035.

Twenty-year tax-exempt revenue bonds with a similar rating yield about 3.7 percent, compared with about 3 percent for top- rated debt, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

"The trend is down," Mulford said. "But they have such excess coverage in their ability to cover debt service that they're in a good position to cover declining revenues." Bloomberg

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ANGOLA

Chinese group CITIC modernizes agriculture

CHINESE group CITIC is in talks with the Angolan government to be granted 30,000 hectares of land to farm in Bié province, Chinese state news agency Xinhua reported. The agency said that the land would be allocated to rice production, as part of a project that has the financial support of Chinese banks.

The Chinese state group currently manages two major agricultural areas with a total of 20,000 hectares in the provinces of Uíge and Malanje, which are pilot areas for agricultural development in Angola.

"Angola has a lot of rainfall and we are trying to recover its status as a major grain producer in Africa," said Liu Guigen, general manager of CITIC Construction Africa group that is involved in the project. The CITIC farm in Malange, 380 kilometers from Luanda, is considered the most modern and advanced farming unit in Angola, having harvested over 10 tons of grain last season. The Uíge farm, in addition to agriculture, is also developing an animal husbandry project. MDT/Macauhub

Angola and Mozambique attract retail chains

ANGOLA and Mozambique have attracted major international retail chains and, according to the "African Retail Development Index" drawn up by A.T. Kearney, are among the 15 most attractive African countries for this type of investment.

The consultancy puts Angola in 3rd place among the most attractive African countries for international retail chains, behind Gabon and Botswana, and ahead of Nigeria, taking into account factors such as the size of the urban population, business efficiency and risk to investors, in the study published this month in New York.

Angola has one of the fastest growing African economies and retail and real estate are booming the consultancy said noting, however, that the Angolan middle class is still "small" and consumer spending is also low.

The sharp population increase and average income



Nosso Super, Angola

in Angola has made chains such as South Africa's Spar, following the example of other South African groups such as Shoprite, decide to invest in the country, after Brazilian group Odebrecht was called in by the government to partner in the logistics management of state supermarket chain Nosso Super.

Among the major international chains that have been expanding in Africa are US company Wal-Mart, but also giants from South Africa such as Woolworths and Pick 'n Pay Stores. In the study by A.T. Kearney, Mozambique emerged as the 15th most attractive country for these bonds.

The consultancy believes

that the Mozambican retail sector is dominated by South African companies, particularly Shoprite, but also that the impact of economic growth, the highest in Africa, mainly related to mining activity is not felt to a great extent in the cities.

As in Angola, the Chinese community is strongly represented in the retail trade and has been investing in large stores. In Mozambique a new hypermarket recently opened that is managed by "Number One Supermarket" offering food, beverages, household appliances and other products, following an investment of US\$2 million in the city of Quelimane, capital of Zambézia province. According to Mozambican newspaper Notícias, in the medium term Chinese investors want to build a similar project in the city of Mocuba in central Zambézia province. MDT/Macauhub

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Chinese Uighur upholds long tradition of tightrope walking



Askar Obulqasim perform walking on a tightrope during a show at a theme park outside Kunming in southwest China's Yunnan province

Helene Franchineau Wulong Karst National Park

ASKAR Obulqasim scans a valley between limestone cliffs reminiscent of a classic Chinese painting as he plots out the terrain for his next big feat.

He plans to string a 1,000-meter rope some 300 meters above the ground in the Wulong Karst National Park in central China, then walk to the middle of it and sit down for an hour with a bottle balanced on his head.

Already the holder of several tightrope world records, including the fastest walk across a 100-meter rope in 2013, Askar hopes to draw international attention to the profession known among fellow ethnic Muslim Uighurs as dawaz.

"I want to transmit the culture of tightrope walking to the next generation of children so that when we are gone, they can also transmit this art to the next generation," he said after surveying the dramatic landscape below him. Many Uighurs consider the more than a millennium-old tradition of dawaz one of the noblest exports of their home region of Xinjiang, and pride themselves on doing their feats without safety nets. Fellow Uighur Adili Wuxor gained fame after spending 60 days walking on a tightrope in Beijing's Bird's Nest Stadium in 2010.

Askar, 42, said the profession is less about athleticism than it is about resilience.

Resilience is a common theme among Uighurs (pronounced WEE-gurs), who often feel left out of government-driven economic development in their home region; critics have said the growth benefits incoming Han Chinese more than native Uighurs. This discontent has driven many to try to leave China through Southeast Asia en route to Turkey, to which Uighurs have linguistic and cultural ties. It also has fueled unrest that has erupted in terrorist attacks, including a March 2014 knife attack by eight assailants that killed 29 people at the railway station in Kunming, far from Xinjiang in southern China.

Some of that unrest may have spilled over into Thailand, where authorities suspect a recent deadly bombing involved people linked to the illegal trafficking of Uighurs through Thailand.

Askar, who lives and works near Kunming, said he deeply resents militants who have launched attacks for marring the reputation of Uighurs. He said that after the railway attack, he dared not say he is from Xinjiang, preferring to pretend instead that he is from Turkey.

"I was very afraid," he said during a recent two-day tour with a journalist of the Wulong park, near Chongqing, and the theme park in Kunming where he normally works. "Why? Because a small group of bad people influenced the way all the Uighurs are perceived."

Rope walking has a long tradition among Uighurs and originally was tied to religion, said Uighur language professor and researcher Gulnisa Nazarova of Indiana University.

"Climbing on top of the rope was regarded as a way of ascending into the abode of God," Nazarova said. "Those who ascended the rope enjoyed a special status among the common folk and were particularly revered as holy men."

It also ties into the Uighur sense of heroism and adventure, Nazarova said. "To the Uighur mind, dawaz tightrope walkers are emblematic of the Uighurs' inherent adventurousness and, perhaps, foolhardiness. They believe that this temperament is in their genes."

It's isn't clear how many dawaz practitioners there are, although prominent tightrope walkers can be found in many cities across Xinjiang. The most famous Uighur tightrope walker is probably Adil Hoshur, who appeared in the film "Kings of the Sky."

Nowadays, when Askar is not looking for his next challenge, he can be found performing twice daily at Dwarf Empire, a theme park featuring dwarfs. He and a fellow Uighur who goes by the single name of Anwar, 23, have a well-rehearsed performance involving stunts like lying down or running on the rope.

The Wulong park walk is likely to happen within a few months, but no exact date has been set.

After years of performing professionally, Askar said he is not afraid anymore, no matter how high the rope is.

But he still has his preperformance routine.

Seconds before stepping on the rope, he checks messages on his cellphone, his long dreadlocks hanging around his face. Then, he utters a short prayer to Allah, grabs a long metal pole and starts walking.

About 10 minutes later, as he steps off the rope and puts back the metal beam that helped him maintain balance, Askar is sweaty and out of breath, but a radiant smile shines on his face. AP



Newseum on Pennsylvania Avenue

Newseum displays freedom slogans in Chinese during Xi visit

WASHINGTON'S popular museum about news media is preparing an eye-catching welcome for Chinese President Xi Jinping's high-profile state visit this week: large banners calling for his authoritarian government to respect human rights and press freedom.

The nonprofit Newseum, which lies on Pennsylvania Avenue a few blocks from the White House, has unveiled the Chinese-language slogans yesterday. Xi is set to arrive in Washington tomorrow ahead of an Oval Office meeting with President Barack Obama.

Jeffrey Herbst, the Newseum's chief executive officer, said it is the first time the museum, which has occupied its current site for seven years, has used its prominent facade to highlight a situation in a foreign country when its head of state visits Washington. The facade also has a permanent 75-foot-high rendering of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that enshrines the right of free speech.

"It's a vivid contrast with the repression of speech, expression and religion in China right now," Herbst told The Associated Press yesterday.

Among the six slogans to be displayed are: "Release human rights defenders in China," 'Long live freedom and democracy" and "Lift restrictions, free the press."

The Newseum will also highlight the cases of imprisoned journalists and activists, and display a model of the "Goddess of Liberty" created for the 1989 Tiananmen Square prodemocracy protests that were crushed by Chinese authorities, killing hundreds of people.

Herbst said that it was important for the museum to take a very public stance on free speech in China because as a rising power and home to nearly a fifth of the world's population, "in a very real sense, the world can't be free unless China is free."

Since Xi became president in 2013, China has waged its toughest crackdown in years on activists. That's part of a wider move to stymie Western-style freedoms in China's increasingly prosperous and connected, but politically constrained, society.

Delphine Halgand, U.S. director of Reporters Without Borders — one of several rights groups working with the Newseum on the display — said 24 professional journalists and 84 citizen-journalists are currently in jail in China.

She said the Newseum display would give a platform for a message that people in China are unable to express freely themselves.

"The Chinese government is very good at isolating protesters, but they can't avoid seeing banners like these on Pennsylvania Avenue," she said.

It wasn't immediately clear whether Xi would pass the site during his stay. It lies on a broad avenue that runs between the White House and the Capitol. The display will stay up until Sunday. **AP**



Nancy Benac, Washington

T'S never good when tension is on the dinner menu. When Chinese President Xi Jinping and wife Peng Liyuan visit Washington later this week, President Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, face the daunting task of trying to throw a warm and inviting dinner party for guests of honor accused of cyber-spying on the U.S., trampling human rights and engaging in assertive military tactics.

China, in turn, is miffed at the U.S. for what it says are groundless accusations about hacking, and wants the U.S. to butt out of territorial disputes in the South China Sea. Not to mention the long-standing dispute over Taiwan.

Where will all this leave the few hundred guests selected to attend Friday night's lavish state dinner honoring the Chinese president?

Most likely still thrilled to be there, geopolitics be damned.

"Who wouldn't want to be in the room?" says Cosmopolitan editor-in-chief Joanna Coles. who attended a 2014 state dinner for French President Francois Hollande. "Die-hard cool people are excited to be there. No one is too cool to be in the room with the head of China and the head of the U.S.

So, guests will be happy to be there. But also keenly aware of the dining-with-frenemies dynamic of an event where all sides will be working to be on their best behavior.

"It's a delicate dance, and it always has been," says Anita McBride, who served as chief of staff to first lady Laura Bush.

She said the Chinese will be looking for a "sign that you are not offending them" while Americans will be looking for a sign that Obama is "standing up for us."

Under the best of diplomatic

ANALYSIS

Undercurrent of tension on China state dinner menu



President Barack Obama toasts with Chinese President Xi Jinping at a lunch banquet in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing

circumstances, the Chinese can be quick to perceive a slight.

During the last state visit for China, in 2011, the pianist Lang Lang's decision to play a song from the soundtrack of a 1956 film about the Korean War was widely seen by the Chinese as a snub directed at the American hosts, although the Chineseborn virtuoso himself said that

It's a delicate dance, and it always has been.

ANITA MCBRIDE FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF (TO LAURA BUSH) was nonsense.

The escalating U.S.-China tensions of recent months will add extra layers of drama to what already would have been a sensitive event.

Will Obama and Xi be photographed toasting one another?

Will the promised blunt talk over policy differences during the leaders' daytime meetings carry over to their dinner-table conversation? Probably not.

Will invited guests mix it up over U.S.-China policy disputes even if the host and guest of honor don't? We may never know.

And what about critics who don't make the dinner list? Will their protests register with those who do? It's happened befo-

In 2006, a screaming protester interrupted the White

House welcoming ceremony for China's Hu Jintao and called on President George W. Bush to stop Hu from persecuting the Falun Gong religious movement. The tirade went on for several minutes before the woman was removed, as Bush whispered to Hu: "You're OK." Adding to the tension, a White House announcer at the same ceremony made the cringe-worthy gaffe of referring to China as the "Republic of China," the formal name of Taiwan.

When it comes time for Friday's dinner toasts, Obama will be in the awkward position of raising a glass in grand fashion with the leader of a country he's threatening to punish for industrial espionage and faulting for its crackdown on activists.

That's causing palpitations among the president's critics, especially the Republicans hoping to succeed him in the White House.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio says it should have been bumped down to a working visit sans pomp and pageantry. Celebrity businessman Donald Trump says he would've offered Xi a Big Mac - double-sized, at

White House officials, for their part, defend the dinner as an important opportunity to improve relations between two world powers. They stress that for all their many differences, China and the U.S. have successfully worked together on plenty of other matters, including climate change, North Korea's nuclear threat and the Iran nuclear deal.

Obama's challenge, McBride, will be to "convey toughness with graciousness."

As for the White House party planners, their focus remains largely the same regardless of who's the guest of honor: sticking to the established statedinner framework and executing it with perfection.

"There are always four sets of eyes that look at all the logistics," says Capricia Marshall, a former Obama protocol chief and social secretary in the Clinton administration.

Marshall expressed confidence the Obama team would ensure "there are no protocol slip-ups." She added, though, that when "oopsidoodles" do occur, "you try to keep those behind the curtain." AP

US-CHINA

Cyberespionage puts 'enormous strain' on ties

TYBERESPIONAGE ✓ for economic gain by China is putting "enormous strain" on U.S.-China relations and needs to stop, President Barack Obama's national security adviser said yesterday.

Susan Rice was speaking relations between the two world powers at George Washington University ahead of a high-profile state visit this week by Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Rice urged China to join the U.S. in promoting responsible forms of state behavior in cyberspace. She said it would be a



National Security Adviser Susan Rice

"critical factor" in determining trajectory of US-China ties.

"This isn't a mild irri-

tation; it's an economic and national security concern to the United States. It puts enormous strain on our bilateral relationship," Rice said.

Hacking attacks on U.S. companies and government agencies have become a growing source of tension ahead of the visit by Xi, who will meet Obama on Friday.

"We want a business climate where intellectual property rights and trade secrets are respected, not stolen," Rice said.

China is suspected in the recent theft of personal data of millions of current and former U.S. government employees. The U.S. has not publicly blamed China for that breach, which experts suspect was designed to gather intelligence rather than for commercial gain.

Rice's overriding theme was a familiar one: The U.S. wants to cooperate with China on tackling global concerns, but China should abide by global norms — in economic policy, its security policy and behavior in the disputed seas of East Asia and in human rights.

"This is a vital relationship of the 21st century, and we have to be upfront about our differences, because they are

preventing us from reaching the full potential of our cooperation," she

Referring to the South China Sea, where China has spooked its neighbors by building artificial islands with military facilities to assert its disputed territorial claims, Rice asserted that the U.S. "will sail, fly and operate anywhere that international law permits."

But Rice noted that confidence-building measures by the U.S. and Chinese militaries agreed last year have reduced the risk of "unintended incidents" between the two forces in the Asia-Pacific — where China is emerging as a challenge to decades of U.S. pre-eminence. AP

AUSTRALIA

New prime minister receives opinion poll boost

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

USTRALIA'S new prime Aminister received a boost from a respected opinion poll yesterday, but the fallout lingers from a bitter party battle as the leader he ousted has attacked the credibility of his new treasurer.

A Newspoll published in The Australian newspaper found that Malcolm Turnbull is Australia's most popular prime minister in more than five years — a period that covered the terms of Julia Gillard, Kevin Rudd and Tony Abbott.

The poll found 55 percent of respondents preferred him as prime minister — 18 points more than Abbott received when the last poll was taken two weeks ago.

Turnbull also opened a 34-point lead over opposition leader Bill Shorten, who had led Abbott in most Newspolls this year.

Newspoll also puts Tur-

nbull's coalition government ahead of the center-left Labor Party's opposition for the first time since April last year. However, the government's 51 percent to 49 percent lead over the opposition is less than the survey's 3 percentage point margin of error.

In Abbott's last news conference as prime minister after he was ousted in a surprise leadership ballot of lawmakers in the ruling Liberal Party, he promised to make the transition to the new administration "as easy as I can.'

"There will be no wrecking, no undermining and no sniping," Abbott said.

But in his first media interview since then, Abbott contradicted the new Treasurer Scott Morrison's version of events leading up to the leadership challenge.

Morrison has said he played no role in the challenge that resulted in his own promotion from social services minister



Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull

to the senior economics portfolio, which is regarded as the most prestigious after the prime minister.

Morrison also said he warned Abbott's office days before Turnbull's challenge that "things were pretty febrile and they should be on high alert."

But Abbott told The Daily Telegraph newspaper in an interview published yesterday that there was no such warning.

"Not true, not true. Scott never warned anyone," Abbott told the newspaper after a morning surf in Sydney on Monday. "I'm afraid Scott badly misled people."

Abbott's version of events will likely heighten the anger of his allies within the government ranks who accuse Turnbull and his supporters of treachery.

The Newspoll was based on a telephone survey of 1,645 voters nationwide from Thursday until Sunday last week. The poll was taken after Turnbull was sworn in as prime minister but before his Cabinet was sworn in on Monday. His Cabinet is younger, more moderate and contains more women than the previous Cabinet chosen by the more conservative Abbott.

The poll mirrored two opinion polls last week that found Turnbull was more popular that Shorten.

Shorten says the poll bounce is just a short-term reaction to the removal of an unpopular prime minister. AP

NEPAL

Gov't eases curfews though constitution protests persist

PROTESTS against Nepal's new constitution were abating, Nepal said yesterday, just hours after police opened fire on a crowd and injured three in the east of the Himalayan nation.

Curfews imposed amid weeks of violent demonstrations that left more than 40 dead are now being relaxed in parts of the country, the Home Ministry said yesterday. "The situation is improving," ministry spokesman Laxmi Prasad Dhakal said, describing the continuing protests as "small."

The violence has alarmed neighboring India, with New Delhi calling its ambassador to report on the situation Monday.

"We are deeply concerned over the incidents of violence resulting in death and injury in regions of Nepal bordering India," the Indian foreign ministry said in a statement.



A Nepali woman shouts slogans during a protest against the Nepalese government and demanding it be restored as a Hindu nation, in New Delhi, India

"The issues facing Nepal are political in nature and cannot be resolved through force."

On Monday, police opened fire on a crowd of stone-hurling protesters in the eastern city of Biratnagar, and one officer was injured, police said.

A spokesman for the Nepal Oil Corporation, Dipak Baral, said Indian oil tankers are refusing to enter Nepal

"because of security concerns." Trucks carrying cargo from India were also stopping short of the border.

While many in Nepal cheered Sunday's adoption of a permanent constitution after a 10-year effort, some ethnic groups say their concerns that the seven newly defined states would have borders cutting through their ethnic homelands were ignored. Some groups have also argued for bigger territory and more seats for ethnic minorities in parliament and government, and other protesters want the country to remain Hindu, rather than secular, as was decided.

"We will continue our protests until the major parties fulfil our demands," said Abhisek Pratap Sah, who leads a group that wants provinces carved out for its members in the southern plains of Ne-

The government sees the new constitution as a much-needed success for the nation of 28 million, still recovering from a devastating April 25 earthquake that killed thousands.

Amnesty International urged Nepal to rein in security forces, noting in a statement Monday night that investigations by human rights groups "found that in many of the protest-related deaths, the force used by security forces was excessive, disproportionate unnecessary, contrary to international legal standards." AP

After outrage, Delhi rethinks draconian social media policy

THE Indian government **■** backtracked yesterday on a proposed requirement for all messages sent on social media and mobile chatting apps to be saved for several months as a way of defeating encryption tech-

The proposed law stipulated that all social media users would have to save plain-text versions of messages for 90 days. Services such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Viber and Google Chat encrypt messages as they are sent between

There was widespread outrage online over the threat to privacy and the possibility of prosecution for those who refused to save their communications.

The uproar comes just days before India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi heads to Silicon Valley where he is to meet technology entrepreneurs to persuade them to invest in India. Modi is scheduled to meet the chief executives of Microsoft and Google as well as visit the Facebook campus where he will address a townhall-style meeting with the social media giant's cofounder Mark Zuckerberg.

India has more than 350 million Internet users and that number is expected to grow rapidly as more people use smartphones to go online.

Communications and Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said the government was withdrawing its draft encryption policy. The amendment to an existing telecoms law would be redrafted and would not affect most peo-

"I wish to make it very clear that it is just a draft and not the view of the government," Prasad told a press conference.

The proposed law would also have required foreign companies using encryption to submit their software to scrutiny by Indian government agencies.

The government has set an Oct. 16 deadline for public feedback on the law. AP

PHILIPPINES

Gunmen abduct 2 Canadians, 1 Filipino from resort off Davao City

Oliver Teves, Manila

UNMEN abducted two Canadians, including a former mining company executive, a Filipino woman and the Norwegian marina manager at an upscale resort complex on a southern Philippine island, sparking an air and sea search by authorities, officials said yesterday.

At least 11 men armed with pistols and two rifles arrived on two motorboats and entered the Holiday Ocean View Samal Resort before midnight Monday on Samal Island off Davao City, military and police officials said, citing witnesses and a security video that captured part of the kidnapping.

The gunmen attempted to seize an American and his Japanese companion on one of the yachts docked at the marina, but the couple resisted and escaped by jumping off the boat. The two suffered minor injuries as they struggled to break free from the kidnappers, police

Amid the commotion, Canadians John Ridsdel and Robert Hall and the Filipino woman, Teresita Flor, rushed out of their yacht and were taken. Norwegian Kjartan Sekkings-



A man walks inside the compound of Holiday Ocean View Samal Resort, on Samal Island in southern Philippines

tad, who was the resort's marina manager, was seized when he approached to check what was happening, said Senior Supt. Samuel Gandingan, the police chief Davao del Norte province, which includes Samal Island.

Government forces later heard of the abductions and began a

"Unfortunately, the lead time that the abductors had and the darkness of night were able to cover the retreat of the abductors," military spokesman Col. Restituto Padilla told reporters in Manila.

Government forces on planes and helicopters were scouring the waters and coastal areas in the Davao Gulf. Two motorboats were found in nearby Davao Oriental province and authorities were trying to ascertain if they were the boats the kidnappers had used, Gandingan

Norwegian officials said they have been notified about the reported abduction but have yet to independently confirm it.

"We are obviously very concerned now," Olav David Sekkingstad, the father of the abducted Norwegian, told the Bergens Tidende newspaper in Norway.

Ridsdel is the former chief operating officer of mining company TVI Resource Development Philippines Inc., a subsidiary of Canada's TVI Pacific, where he is still a consultant, a company officer said.

There were no immediate booking cancellations and departures of tourists on Samal island although resort operators expect a drop in the number of visitors once news of the abductions spreads, said Araceli Ayuste, who operates two resorts.

No group has claimed responsibility. Muslim and communist rebels, al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf militants and criminal syndicates have been active for years in the restive southern region due to weak law enforcement in rural areas despite years of on-and-off government crackdowns.

Communist New People's Army guerrillas are active in the hinterlands of the Davao region, about 975 kilometers (610 miles) southeast of Manila, where they have denounced foreign mining operations and military counterinsurgency as-

Abu Savvaf militants are notorious for kidnapping foreigners and Filipinos for ransom in the vast Mindanao region. In 2001, Abu Sayyaf militants tried unsuccessfully to seize hostages from the Pearl Farm Beach Resort south of Ocean View during a ransom-kidnapping spree.

The Abu Sayyaf abducted 21 people, mostly European tourists, from a diving resort in neighboring Malaysia in 2000, then abducted three Americans and 17 Filipinos the following year from the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan province southwest of Manila.

Abu Sayyaf gunmen are still holding other hostages, including two Malaysians, a Dutch bird watcher kidnapped nearly three years ago, and a town mayor. All are believed to be held by the militants in their jungle bases in southern Sulu province. AP

THAILAND

International NY Times blocked over king article

THE local printer of International **L** the New York Times decided not to publish yesterday's edition in Thailand because of an article on the future of the Thai monarchy that it called "too sensitive to print" in the country, where strict laws limit open discussion of the royal family.

The article, headlined "As Thai king ails, crown's future unclear," discussed the declining health of 87-year-old King Bhumibol Adulyadej and concerns about the monarchy's succession. The story, published on the front page of the newspaper's Asia editions, was written by its Bangkok-based correspondent.

In an email sent to subscribers, the newspaper said the decision to blo-



ck Tuesday's edition was made by its Thailand-based printer.

"Today's edition of the International New York Times was not printed in Thailand because it includes an article that our locally contracted printer deemed too sensitive too print," the newspaper said.

"This decision was made

solely by the printer and is not endorsed by the International New York Times," it added, referring readers to its website where the Asia edition could be accessed online, as well as its smartphone and tablet apps.

A spokeswoman for the newspaper in London confirmed the information, and said she had no further comment.

Self-censorship is common among the media in Thailand, where discussion of the monarchy is an extremely sensitive because strict lese majeste laws make criticism of the royal family punishable by up to 15 years in prison. Foreign publications are sometimes affected, most notably The Economist magazine, which several times in recent years has not been sold or sent out by its Thai distributor when it has carried critical content.

Over the past year, there has been a significant increase in lese majeste convictions, which rights groups say is part of a wider crackdown on critics and dissent since the military seized power from a civilian government in May 2014.

The targets are often users of social media. Even before the coup,

authorities blocked websites they considered offensive. AP

AMY WINEHOUSE DOCUMENTARY TO BE LESSON FOR THAI DELINQUENTS

SOCIAL WORKERS in Thailand think the tragic story of the late singer and

songwriter Amy Winehouse can be a lesson to wayward youth, so they treated about 100 of them to a movie about her.

Winehouse, bedeviled by addictions to drug and drink before her death in 2011 at the age of 27, was the subject of a wellreceived documentary this

year, "Amy." The Thai Health Promotion Foundation and the Stop Drink Network arranged for nearly 100 boys from a juvenile detention center,



British singer Amy Winehouse

together with dozens of university students and members of various youth groups, to watch the film today, saying they hope it inspires them to overcome their own problems. The film documents Winehouse's talent, how she tried to cope with the pressures of fame, and her death of accidental alcohol poisoning.

GREECE

Tsipras: bailout rebel to bailout enforcer



Leftwing leader Alexis Tsipras, left, shakes hands with President Prokopis Pavlopoulos

Elena Becatoros, Athens

GREEKS have elected Aledrist Tsipras prime minister for the second time this year but with a strikingly different mandate: Instead of the vehemently anti-austerity platform he espoused in January, he has now agreed to implement yet more stringent spending cuts and tax hikes.

The 41-year-old left-wing leader, who was sworn into office yesterday, pulled off the remarkable gamble he took when he resigned in August, barely seven months into his four-year term, triggering elections to face down a rebellion within his Syriza party over his policy U-turn in accepting more austerity in return for a third bailout for Greece.

But now he must implement deeply unpopular measures of the sort he made his political career railing against.

Tsipras was re-forming his previous government with his former coalition partner, the small right-wing populist Independent Greeks who narrowly made it into parliament in se-

venth place in Sunday's election. Their administration will have a narrow majority of 155 seats in the 300-member legislature.

Crucially, however, Tsipras no longer has to worry about the hard left radicals within his own party who triggered his previous government's demise by voting against him on Greece's bailout, costing him his parliamentary majority. The new anti-bailout party they formed did worse than they expected on Sunday, failing to win any parliamentary seats.

The pro-bailout parties now control at least 258 seats, with the anti-austerity camp reduced to the Nazi-inspired Golden Dawn, which came in third place, and the Communist Party.

"The splintering of the more vehemently 'anti-memorandum' faction of Syriza and the renewed electoral mandate for Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras reduces the immediate political uncertainty that had arisen with the decision to call snap elections," said the Fitch ratings agency, referring to the memorandum of understanding signed for the bailout. "It should

also be possible to continue to rely on the votes of some of the centrist parties for key reforms, if necessary."

Tsipras won the election with ease, getting 35.5 percent of the vote and leaving the conservative New Democracy party trailing with 28.1 percent. But voter turnout was at a record low, with nearly 45 percent abstaining in a country with traditionally high turnout. Election fatigue played a part, with this being the third national vote this year, after the January election and a July referendum in which Tsipras successfully urged Greeks to reject creditor reform proposals.

Others saw little to choose from in the election, as whoever was victorious was still bound by the bailout terms to implement the deal.

The election results "were disappointing, and I am pessimistic, because we already knew which line of politics would be followed; the politics of the third (bailout), said Athens resident Nikos Georgopoulos. "So we know that there is nothing good for the Greek people to wait for."

Tsipras' new government now

has its work cut out for it — and it can afford to waste little time.

Not only must it start implementing painful austerity measures, including an overhaul of the pension system, increased taxation for farmers and producing a budget for 2016, but it also has to deal with the growing refugee crisis that has hammered the country.

More than 260,000 refugees and migrants have entered Greece so far this year, with hundreds more arriving each day. Although the vast majority don't want to stay in Greece and head north to more prosperous European countries, Greek authorities must still handle the new arrivals. Overstretched island authorities have struggled to provide adequate shelter and food, and long delays in registering the newcomers has led to severe overcrowding and occasionally violent demonstrations.

One of his first appearances in his newly elected post will be in Brussels on Wednesday to attend a European Union summit on migration.

But it is the handling of the bailout — a three-year 86-billion euro (\$97 billion) package of

The splintering of the more vehemently 'anti-memorandum' faction of Syriza and the renewed electoral mandate reduces the immediate political uncertainty.

FITCH RATINGS

rescue loans — and its accompanying austerity measures that is likely to be the new government's biggest test.

Greece's European creditors have made clear they expect the deal to be implemented in full. A review by creditor representatives is expected next month, and the country still has stringent banking restrictions introduced to prevent an all-out bank run in late June.

Tsipras has made no secret of the fact he disagrees with the bailout. He has argued its conditions are too harsh, but said he had no choice but to accept them as the alternative would have been bankruptcy and a potentially disastrous Greek exit from Europe's joint currency. He has pledged to soften the blow as much as he can and negotiate for alternatives where possible.

"I think that the most important (thing) is that we are now able to design a long-term plan," Tsipras told Independent Greeks head Panos Kammenos during a meeting Monday to discuss the new government makeup.

"We now have a big opportunity, with stability and within a four-year (term), to implement our basic commitment, which is to give the honorable fight — and bleed if needed — in order for our people to stop bleeding."

It is talk that makes analysts and markets nervous.

"The risks to the program's success remain high," Fitch said, noting the poor voter turnout suggesting disillusion with Greek politics.

"Political rhetoric still contains an anti-austerity element notwithstanding Syriza's official commitment to implement the program," the ratings agency said, adding that "it will therefore take time for trust to be restored between Greece and its creditors, which increases the risk of delayed program reviews.

"Meanwhile, political and popular backing for the third bailout appears ambivalent, making that the government's negotiating stance unpredictable." AP

Brahima Ouedraogo, Ouagadougou

BURKINA Faso's coup leader said yesterday that negotiations are still ongoing even though a deadline given by the military for the junta to disarm has expired.

Gen. Gilbert Diendere, the coup leader who was head of an elite presidential guard until last year, said he awaits the results of talks by West African regional mediators in Abuja, Nigeria. He said that is likely where a solution lies.

BURKINA FASO

Coup leader says awaiting regional decision

Diendere said there is no use for confrontations at this time, and he is confident in negotiations.

"We will find a solution between brothers in arms to avoid confrontations," he said.

Burkina Faso's media reported that the junta had been given a 10 a.m. (1000 GMT) deadline to disarm. The National Armed Forces said



Anti coup protestors near the entrance to the Libya hotel were talks about the recent Burkina Faso coup are taking place

it wanted the mutinous soldiers to lay down their arms and return to barracks without bloodshed.

Soldiers from around Burkina Faso poured into the capital, Ouagadougou, overnight in a show of force as the military has vowed to disarm the mutinous presidential guard behind last week's coup yesterday, with force if needed.

"I call on the population of Burkina Faso to remain calm and to have confidence in the National Armed Forces who have reaffirmed their unfailing commitment to preserve the unity of the nation," Gen. Pingrenoma Zagre said in a statement.

A civic organization told residents to remain in their homes. **AP**

Nicole Winfield, Christine Armario

OPE Francis ended his visit to Cuba yesterday with a Mass at the country's most revered shrine and a pep talk with families before flying north to Washington for the start of his U.S. tour.

Francis' address to families and symbolically potent flight to the United States underscore two of the big themes of his Cuba pilgrimage: encouraging reconciliation within families and between the U.S. and Cuba. He worked behind the scenes as mediator in 18 months of secret talks on re-establishing diplomatic relations between the two nations.

On his arrival in Cuba, the pope described the success of the negotiations as an example of peacemaking for the entire world. The Vatican spokesman said that this trip was aimed partly at encouraging progress in the continuing effort to normalize U.S.-Cuba ties in fields ranging from commerce to environmental cooperation.

Beyond its importance to the pope, the state of the family has been a longtime concern for the Roman Catholic Church in Cuba. Economic deprivation and successive waves of emigration have left many families

CUBA

Pope ends trip with address to families, heads to US



Pope Francis, right, and bishop Emilio Aranguren Echeverria, look out from the pilgrimage site Hill of the Cross, in Holguin

broken and divided, and the church has focused intensely in recent years on trying to encourage traditional values like hard work, respect and fidelity that many Cubans worry have been lost over the years.

Those concerns about moral degradation are widespread among Cubans regardless of how religious they are.

While around 10 percent regularly attend Mass, many more believe in religious icons like the Virgin of Charity of Cobre,

whose sanctuary is important to both observant Catholics and followers of Afro-Cuban Santeria traditions. The foottall wooden statue is kept in an ivory-colored church with soaring red domes nestled in the shadow of the Sierra Maestra mountains in the small community of Cobre just outside Santiago. One corner of the church where Francis celebrated Mass yesterday is dedicated to offerings left for the Virgin, including votives and thousands of

handwritten notes.

"She means so much," said Juana Isabel Gonzalez Huart, a retired state worker. "She's the mother who protects us.'

Before flying to Santiago on Monday, Francis celebrated Mass in Holguin, a city of about 300,000 in eastern Cuba. In his homily, he pressed some of the subtle themes he has developed during this balancing act of a Cuban visit. He told the crowd of how Jesus picked a lowly and despised tax collec-

Do you believe it is possible that a traitor can become a friend?

POPE FRANCIS

tor, Matthew, and instructed him without casting judgment to follow him. That act of mercy changed Matthew forever.

Francis told the Cubans that they, too, should allow themselves "to slowly overcome our preconceptions and our reluctance to think that others, much less ourselves, can change."

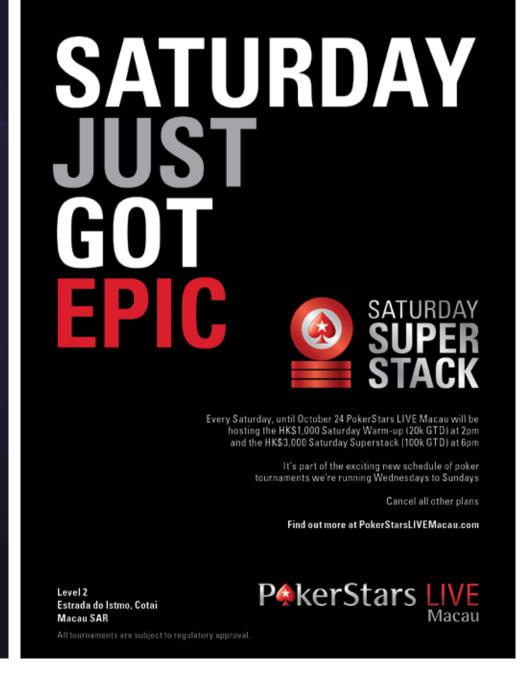
"Do you believe it is possible that a tax collector can be a servant?" he asked on Day 3 of his visit to the island. "Do you believe it is possible that a traitor can become a friend?"

It was a theme Francis sketched out Sunday night in an offthe-cuff encounter with young people. He encouraged them to dream big about what their life could be like, and not be "boxed in" by ideologies or preconceptions about others.

"If you are different than me, why don't we talk?" Francis asked the crowd. "Why do we always throw rocks at that which separates us?" AP

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what's ON



Installation 'Valkyrie Octopus'

BY JOANA VASCONCELOS

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 31, 2015

VENUE: MGM MACAU, Av. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

Inspiration in Stars Exploring - Exhibition of ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY WORKS BY LEI CHI FAI

TIME: 10am-6pm

(Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: October 18, 2015 VENUE: Taipa Houses-Museum

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100

2015 ART TROUPE-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAMME

- Free Yourself

TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm (Closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: November 1, 2015

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: 10 Fantasia - A Creative Industries

Incubator, 10, Calçada da Igreja de S.Lázaro, Macau

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

TEA CULTURE HOUSE

TIME: 9am-7pm daily

(Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays) VENUE: Macau Tea Culture House, Lou Lim loc Garden, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 7103 / 2858 6250

Western Views on China:

PAINTS OF THE 19TH CENTURY ABOUT CHINA

TIME: 10am-7pm

(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: December 31, 2015 VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Our 'Belle Époque'

- Exhibition of Macau Fashion Design

TIME: 12pm-7pm

(Closed on Tuesdays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: October 4, 2015

VENUE: No Cruzamento da Avenida do Coronel Mesquita com a Avenida Almirante Lacerda Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0026

Uttbeat

ROAD REPAIR CREW ACCIDENTLY BURIES A DRUNKEN MAN IN INDIA

Road construction workers in central India killed a man when they accidentally buried him in a pit while repairing a road, police said yesterday.

The road repair crew failed to notice that a drunken man had fallen into a crater on the side of the road in Sleemanabad, a village in Madhya Pradesh state.

Working in the evening, the workers dumped gravel and an asphalt mixture into the pit, burying the man, before using a large roller to smoothen the road, said Constable Dhruvsingh Thakur.

The death was discovered when villagers noticed that part of the man's hand was visible in the road and police dug out his body on Monday.

The man, in his mid-30s, had gone to a village fair and later stopped at a liquor store. He was heading home when he fell into the pit and lost consciousness, his neighbors told Thakur.

Two workers of the road repair crew were arrested and have been charged with homicide.

Poorly maintained roads with large potholes are common in India.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
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News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast 13:30

RTPi Live 14:30

Trail of Lies (Repeated) 18:20 TDM Interview (Repeat) 19:00

19:40 Soap Opera

Main News, Financial & Weather Report 20:30

21:00 Montra do Lilau 21:40 Miscellaneous

22:10 Trail of Lies

23:00 **TDM News** 23:30 Miscellaneous

01:10 Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)



CINETEATRO

19 SEP - 23 SEP

MAZE RUNNER: THE SCORCH TRIALS

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm (3D) 7.15

Director: Wes Ball

Starring: IDylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario, Thomas

Brodie-Sangster Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 131min



EVEREST

гоом 2

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm (3D) 7.15

Director: Baltasar Kormakur

Starring: Jason Clarke, Josh Brolin, John Hawkes,

Robin Wright Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 121min

GUIA IN LOVE

поом 3 2.15, 5.45, 7.30 pm **Director: Sam Leong**

Starring: Wong You Nam, Steohy Tang, Annie Lau Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 104min



ATTACK ON TITAN: END OF THE WORLD

коом 3

4.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Shinji Higuchi

Starring: Haruma Miura, Kiko Mizuhara Language: Japonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 90min

MACAU TOWER

10 SEP - 30 SEPT

MAZE RUNNER: THE SCORCH TRIALS

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

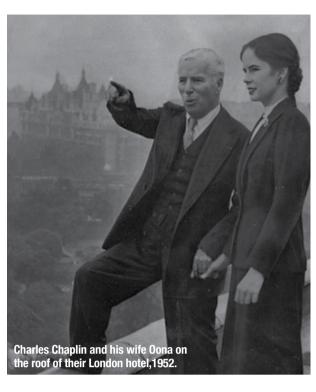
Director: Wes Ball

Starring: IDylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario, Thomas

Brodie-Sangster

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 131min



1952 CHARLIE CHAPLIN **COMES HOME**

World famous film actor and director Charlie Chaplin has returned to England for the first time in 21

He arrived with his wife Oona - daughter of playwright Eugene O'Neill - and their four children at Southampton on the Queen Elizabeth cruise liner.

He was greeted by hundreds of well-wishers and told waiting journalists he and his family planned to travel around the country. "We're here for the opening of the benefit for the Royal Society for Teaching the Blind and then after

that we have an idea of touring beautiful England and going to all the historical spots." He added: "This is the first time that my wife has been abroad and naturally we're going to try and

cram in as much as we can." But he would not comment on reports that the US Attorney General James McGranery may not allow him to return to America pending an investigation into alleged "subsversive", left-wing activities.

The Chaplin family then took a train to London's Waterloo station where he was again greeted by cheering crowds.

Mr Chaplin later gave a press conference outside the Savoy Hotel where he told reporters it was a "shock" to see Waterloo Bridge - which has been rebuilt since he was last in the capital - but that Big Ben was "a beautiful sight".

He has come over from America to promote his latest film, Limelight, a story of life in the music hall set in 1917.

The premier will be shown on 16 October at the Odeon Cinema, Leicester Square.

Mr Chaplin was born in London in 1889, the son of music hall entertainers. His mother had a nervous breakdown and his father died when little Charlie was

He danced in the street for pennies with his half -brother, Sydney, and was then sent to an orphanage. He came to America when he was 17 with a troupe of players and in 1912 joined the Keystone company to appear in his first silent film, Making a Living.

In 1919 he co-founded United Artists and made such classics as The Kid (1921), City Lights (1928), Modern Times (1936), and The Great Dictator (1940).

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

A month later, Charlie Chaplin went to Paris where he was awarded the Legion of Honour for his contribution to cinema. After Paris he went to Rome and then Switzerland, where he made his home after he was barred from the US for his left-wing views. He and his wife went on to have four more

In 1972 he was not only allowed back for a visit but awarded a Special Academy Award. Three years later he was knighted by the Queen. He died in 1977.

In 2002 confidential Foreign Office papers from 1956 released by the Public Record Office in Britain revealed the comic's knighthood had been delayed because of his "communist" sympathies and worries about his morals.

TamacauDaily mental with the state of the st

YOUR STARS



Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You are dealing with one detail too many today - so do what you can to pass them off on others who can tackle them more effectively. The good news is that your allies can come to the rescue!



Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

You need to get some straight talk from a good friend or close colleague. Their advice can make the difference between spinning your wheels and racing over the finish line, so listen up.



Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You are as predictable as a fine timepiece today — and there's nothing wrong with that! Sometimes you like to act on impulse, but for now, you'd rather just stick to your routines.



Libra

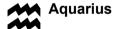
Sep.23-Oct. 22

Take in everything that goes on around you today — it's all grist for the mill, and your listening skills serve you better than almost any of your other amazing talents. Reflect what you hear!



Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Try to focus on the little details today

they are more important than usual, and while they might start to feel like they're dragging you down, they're really keeping you grounded.



Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You've got to be wary of others today, if only so they know you're watching. It's a good time for you to step up and warn someone before they cross the line, rather than letting them feel vour wrath.



Taurus

April 20-May 20 Your affectionate side is on

display now - and you may find that your people are hungry for more! Give as much as you can, because there's no telling how it will all be repaid.



Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Your analytical side is dominant today. That could mean you're better at math, or it could mean that you alienate a friend — it's up to you how you want to deploy this cold, hard logic.



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You may need to go out of your way to tidy up at work or at home something just doesn't sit right with you. Fortunately, it's easy to address. and you should find smooth sailing thereafter.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You acquire a new source of information that should prove to be quite reliable - if a little out of the ordinary. Test it at first, but you will likely come to trust it in the long run.



Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You dig up the one missing clue

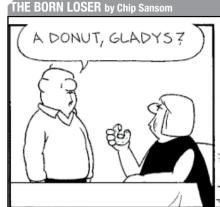
that has been keeping you from breaking this case wide open. It could be romantic or work-related. but it should all start to fit together



Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

It's way too easy for you to go overboard with criticism today which isn't usually your style. Even if someone asks directly for your input, you need to just keep it positive as much as possible.



ON A DIET TODAY ?



CONDITION

SUDOKU

Easy

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WEATHER

MIN

OLUMIA.			
CHINA			
Beijing	19	25	cloudy/shower
Harbin	9	26	cloudy
Tianjin	20	28	cloudy/drizzle
Urumqi	12	20	clear/shower
Xi'an	18	23	drizzle/overcast
Lhasa	11	22	shower/cloudy
Chengdu	20	25	drizzle
Chongqing	25	23	drizzle/moderate rain
Kunming	17	24	shower
Nanjing	20	27	overcast
Shanghai	22	26	cloudy/drizzle
Wuhan	21	28	clear/cloudy
Hangzhou	20	27	overcast
Taipei	22	30	drizzle/moderate rain
Guangzhou	25	31	shower/cloudy
Hong Kong	26	30	shower/cloudy

MAX

WORLD

Moscow	8	20	drizzle
Frankfurt	9	20	clear
Paris	10	19	clear
London	13	14	cloudy/drizzle
New York	24	22	cloudy/clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Poor actors; 5- As to; 9- Munich mister; 13- "What I Am" singer Brickell; 14- Actress Garson; 15- Zeno of ___; 16- Pretense; 18- Diner's card; 19-Guarantee; 20- Pertaining to tactics; 22- "The Highwayman" poet; 23- One-twelfth of a year; 24- Hot rock; 26- Chemically active metallic element; 31- Sympathetic sounds; 34- Farm unit; 37- Dreadlocks wearer; 38- In spite of; 42- Portals; 43-"Beetle Bailey" dog; 44- Cinque follower; 45- Killer; 47- Related by blood; 50- Fads; 53- Bing Crosby's record label; 57- Vindictive; 61- Sell directly to the consumer; 62- Water pitcher; 63- Metaphorical; 65- Blood fluids; 66- Atty.-to-be exams; 67-Guitarist Clapton; 68- General ___ chicken; 69- First name in architecture; 70- Pier;

DOWN: 1- Macho guys; 2- A Bell for ____; 3- Young girl; 4- Film follow-up; 5- Discount rack abbr; 6- Cool!; 7- V-shaped fortification; 8- Builds; 9- Prefix with sphere; 10-Util. bill; 11- Actress Sofer; 12- Actor Julia;

14- Golly!; 17- Bear in the sky; 21- Sharppointed plant outgrowth; 23- Like a he-man; 25- Large container; 27- Pop; 28- Egyptian goddess; 29- Magazine founder Eric; 30-Wise trio; 31- No ifs, __...; 32- Fleece; 33-Greek portico; 35- Queue after Q; 36- Kett and James; 39- Twisted; 40- Grenoble's river; 41- Fine; 46- Form of lottery; 48- Think tank product: 49- Took home: 51- False front; 52- "Enigma Variations" composer; 54- City on the Nile; 55- Honda model; 56- Smart guy; 57- Sleeveless garment: 58-Farm females; 59- Adopted son of Claudius; 60- Mardi ___; 61- Monopoly quartet: Abbr.; _-Aztecan languages;



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PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300

IACM 28 387 333

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Electricity - Report 28 339 922

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Chong Fok

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Ref: 15070520

Dahlia Court, Ocean Gardens Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Taipa

1,054 sq ft / HKD 6.88M HKD 6,527sq ft Ocean Garden Complex Ref: 15095453

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Coloane

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Ref: 15070515

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Japan fans celebrate the 34-32 win against South Africa in the Rugby World Cup Pool B match

RUGBY

Long wait over as Ives finally gets World Cup chance for Japan

Jerome Pugmire Sports Writer

Wednesday, 9:30pm Scotland v Japan H 1.17, D 41, A 6.5

APAN lock Justin Ives is not afraid to admit he "completely lost the plot" after the shock win against South Africa at the Rugby World Cup—and he didn't even play in it.

Now the 31-year-old Ives, who was born in New Zealand, gets his chance against Scotland today, after watching Saturday's high drama from the stands. He's been waiting long enough.

Four years, in fact. He qualified for Japan on residency in 2011, but in his eighth test that year, the last warm-up for the Cup in New Zealand, he tore ligaments, and had to withdraw from the Cup squad because of the second serious knee injury of his career.

"I've been waiting longer than most people," said Ives, who has 30 test caps. "The sacrifices that so many people have made: My wife, family, and friends, the guys who were there for me four years ago when I got injured. They all encouraged me to come back, so I'm super excited."

Although not quite as excited as he was after Japan's 34-32 win against the Springboks in Bristol.

"I completely lost the plot at the end of the game. I didn't know what to do. We were just hugging and shouting, unbelievable ... memories for the rest of our lives," Ives said.

"We sat in the team room and watched a replay of the game and everyone was shaking. I don't know how many times I've watched the last five minutes. Unbelievable. Hopefully, it's changed the mindset of Japanese rugby and what it's like in our country."

The win has brought the World Cup spotlight like never before onto the Brave Blossoms — and helped rugby, a niche sport in Japan, take attention away from football, baseball and sumo.

It's even impacted in rugby-mad New Zealand, where seven of the Japan squad were raised.

"I was just talking to Hendrik (Tui, teammate). His wife went into a Canterbury store last weekend to buy some jerseys for the kids and she couldn't find any," Ives said. "Then she went in there yesterday and half the store was full of Japan jerseys. It's good to know that Kiwis back home are getting behind us."

The team has no intention of being one-hit wonders, he said.

"We want to back it up, we don't want people to just say 'Oh, well done against South Africa," he said.

Unlike South Africa, the Scots know what's coming at Gloucester's compact Kingsholm Stadium on Wednesday.

"It's their first game, so there could be a little bit of rustiness, but I'm sure they've had a bit of time to look into it," Ives said. "We have to be good against the Scotland lineout."

That's where Steve Borthwick comes in.

The 35-year-old Englishman knows the Scots well, having played 57 tests for England at lock. He has coached Japan's forwards since 2012.

"Steve works on the lineouts like no one else I've ever come across," Ives said. "We were running South Africa's lineouts for the last couple of months against each other, knowing what to look out for and what to call against them. We're not the tallest team but we know we're probably the fastest lineout."

Ives is convinced head coach Eddie Jones will show his tactical nous once again.

"Scotland have a massive height advantage on us, so we'll just have to be smarter, and I'm pretty sure we've got one of the smartest coaches around," Ives said. **AP / Oddschecker.com**

BOXING

Yamanaka beats Moreno to keep WBC bantamweight crown



Japanese champion Shinsuke Yamanaka, left, and Panama's challenger Anselmo Moreno

Shinsuke Yamanaka of Japan won a split decision against Anselmo Moreno of Panama yesterday to successfully defend his WBC bantamweight title for the ninth time. Yamanaka scored points with a late flurry of punches and improved to 24-0-2 with 17 knockouts. Former WBA bantamweight champion Moreno dropped to 35-4-1 (12 KOs). Two judges scored the bout 115-113 in favor of Yamanaka while the third scored it 115-113 in favor of Moreno.

CRICKET

Chances of Pak-India series look slim, says Shaharyar

Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Shaharyar Khan says chances of a series against India in December looks slim as the Indian board is still waiting to get clearance from its government. Both the PCB and the Board of Control for Cricket in India last year signed a Memorandum of Understanding to play six series' between 2015-2023 with Pakistan hosting India for tests, ODIs and Twenty20s in the United Arab Emirates in December. Khan says he doesn't want to give India any ultimatum to confirm December's tour, but thinks "chances are slim as they mix politics with sports."

VOLLEYBALL

Poland beats Japan to stay 1st at World Cup

Poland rallied from one set down to beat Japan 24-26, 27-25, 25-21, 25-19 and maintain first place at the men's volleyball World Cup yesterday. Bartosz Kurek scored 18 points as world champions Poland improved to 10-0 for 29 points, two points ahead of the United States which improved to 9-1 with a 25-23, 26-24, 25-17 win over defending champion Russia. Italy is in third place, one point behind the United States after a hard-fought 22-25, 25-20, 25-21, 20-25, 16-14 win over Argentina. Poland will face Italy on the final day of competition while the U.S. takes on Argentina.

Belgian theater drops Japan Olympic logo case



Belgian designer Olivier Debie displays the official emblem for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and his logo for the Theatre de Liege on a screen

A theater in Belgium has dropped a plagiarism legal case over the design of a logo for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The International Olympic Committee said in a statement yesterday that the Theatre de Liege "has decided to waive the pending procedure." But the Belgian graphic artist who designed the emblem for the theater is vowing to fight on. The first Tokyo logo came under scrutiny because of its similarity to the theater's emblem. The Japanese emblem's designer, Kenjiro Sano, stood by his work but it was eventually withdrawn

opinion

World Views

Editorial Board, Bloomberg

THE MISSING DEMOCRATIC **DEBATES**





Clinton, Sanders

The bounce Carly Fiorina received from last week's presidential debate has undoubtedly left many of her fellow candidates feeling jealous and not just Republicans. Most of the Democrats trying to gain traction against Hillary Clinton are demanding more debates in hopes of raising their public profiles, too. By refusing, the Democratic National Committee not only hurts those candidates, but also denies voters the chance to see a fair fight for the nomination.

The first of four Democratic debates before voting begins will not take place until mid-October - and three of them are on weekends. If the Democratic Party were trying to keep the audience to a minimum, it could hardly have drawn up a better plan. Equally troubling, candidates who participate in any debate not sanctioned by the DNC forfeit their right to join the official debates. Why would a party want to muzzle its candidates this way?

It doesn't take a cynic to believe that the DNC has the Clinton's campaign's best interests in mind. Front-runners almost always prefer to minimize the number of debates and their viewers, and the DNC chairwoman, Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz, was co-chair of Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign. Martin O'Malley has accused her of rigging the schedule and the rules in Clinton's favor, and it's hard not to sympathize

The DNC's priority should be to encourage broad discussion of the issues and give all candidates a chance to make their case. O'Malley is polling at about 2 percent, not far below where Fiorina stood before the second Republican debate. More time in the spotlight might not boost his standing, but voters should make that decision, not the party.

Clinton says she's open to more debates. Yet she refuses to call for them, saying it's the DNC's decision - as though her campaign holds no sway with the party

Happily, the DNC is facing mounting public pressure to act. Over the weekend, when Wasserman Schultz attempted to address a party convention in New Hampshire, she was drowned out by chants of "We want debates!" Some national party leaders have gotten the message. Two of its vice chairs have called for more debates, and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi has joined them.

Clinton should, too. In 2008, when she was falling behind Barack Obama, Clinton saw the virtue of calling for more debates - in no small part because she performed so well in them. Now, they could give her an opportunity to stop the Bernie Sanders boomlet and remind voters why they once viewed her so favorably.

The public seems eager to tune in. The Republican debates have been a ratings bonanza, attracting more than 23 million viewers. Whether they have been more entertaining or informative is itself a matter of debate. Either way, they've given voters a good chance to see the candidates in action.

Democratic voters deserve the same opportunity.

Southern Spanish city hit by power outage for 4 hours

Spanish officials say a major power outage left some 100,000 people in the southwestern port city of Cadiz without electricity for up to four hours.

A city spokesman said the outage between 5 a.m. and 9 a.m. yesterday was caused by line failures in a city power station. He said it affected most city districts although

He said the time of the outage meant its effect on businesses and households was limited. He said police were deployed to coordinate traffic until power was resto-

The official spoke on condition of anonymity in keeping with town hall regulations.

Station Air quality Roadside 20-40 High **Density** 20-40 Residental Good Area

20-40 **Ambient**

Apple withdraws some China apps after malware found



Joe McDonald **Business Writer, Beijing**

PPLE Inc. has removed Asome applications from its App Store after developers in China were tricked into using software tools that added malicious code in an unusual security breach.

Apple gave no details of which companies were affected. But Tencent Ltd. said its popular WeChat app was affected and the company released a new version after spotting the malicious code. Chinese news reports said others affected included banks, an airline and a popular music service.

The malicious code spread through a counterfeit version of Apple's Xcode tools used to create apps for its iPhones and iPads, according to the company. It said the counterfeit tools spread when developers obtained them from "untrusted sources" rather than directly from the com-

The malicious software collects information from infec-

ted devices and uploads it to outside servers, according to Palo Alto Networks, a U.S. -based security firm, which investigated the malware. It was first publicized last week by researchers at Alibaba Group, the e-commerce giant, who dubbed it Xcode-Ghost.

Cybersecurity experts say the episode shows that any device, including those running Apple's iOS software, can be vulnerable to hackers even though Apple is known for rigorously scrutinizing apps that are offered in its store.

"I wouldn't say that the floodgates for iOS malware are open now, but this vector is probably something that other attackers are going to try to replicate in the future," said Ryan Olson, director of threat intelligence for Palo Alto Networks, in an interview. He said Apple is undoubtedly working on improving its ability to block similar attempts.

Hackers are increasingly looking for new ways to tar-

get mobile apps and devices, including iPhones, because they are so widely used by many consumers, added Darren Hayes, a cyber-security expert at Pace University in New York.

The creators of this malware took advantage of public frustration with Beijing's Internet filters, which hamper access to Apple and other foreign websites. That prompts some people to use copies of foreign software or documents that are posted on websites within China to speed up access.

"Sometimes network speeds are very slow when downloading large files from Apple's servers," wrote Claud Xiao, a Palo Alto Networks researcher, on its website. Due to the large size of the Xcode file, "some Chinese developers choose to download the package from other sources or get copies from colleagues."

Companies with apps that were affected include taxi -hailing service Didi Kuaidi, Citic Industrial Bank, China Southern Airlines and the music service of NetEase, a popular Web portal, according to the newspaper Yangcheng Evening News.

The incident is the only the sixth time malicious software is known to have made it through Apple's screening process for products on its App Store, according to Xiao. AP

WORLD BRIEFS

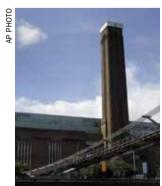
THAILAND The local printer of the International New York Times decides not to publish vesterday's edition in Thailand because of an article on the future of the Thai monarchy that it called "too sensitive to print" in the country, where strict laws limit open discussion of the royal family. More on p13

NEPAL Protests against Nepal's new constitution are abating, Nepal says, just hours after police opened fire on a crowd and injured three in the east of the Himalayan nation. More on p12

AUSTRALIA's new prime minister receives a boost from a respected opinion poll, but the fallout lingers from a bitter party battle as the leader he ousted has attacked the credibility of his new treasurer. More on p12

HONG KONG The Asian **Development Bank cuts** its growth forecast for the region's developing economies to 5.8 percent, citing a softer outlook for China and India and a delayed recovery in the world's advanced industrialized nations.

CUBA Pope Francis is calling on Cubans to rediscover their Catholic heritage and live a "revolution of tenderness," highly evocative words in a country whose 1959 socialist revolution installed an officially atheist government that was long hostile to religion. More on p15



BRITAIN's most popular art gallery, Tate Modern, says it will open a new 10-story extension on June 17 after a revamp that cost 260 million pounds (USD400 million). The gallery in a disused power station beside the Thames in London opened in 2000 and draws more than 5 million visitors a year. The new building by architects Herzog & de Meuron linked to the existing structure by the vast Turbine Hall - will add 60 percent more display

