



MAN DETAINED FOR HAVING SEX WITH UNDERAGE GIRL

The police has detained a man after he was alleged to have had sex with a girl under 14, which has led to her becoming pregnant

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POLICE OFFICER CAUGHT FOR FORGERY AND FRAUD

The Commission Against Corruption is handling a case concerning the forging of documents and fraud involving a PSP agent and the Public Prosecution Office

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CHAMPIONS LEAGUE KICK OFF WITH RONALDO AND MESSI AFTER RAUL'S RECORD

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WORLD BRIEFS

XINJIANG Two men have been sentenced to death and another to life imprisonment for killing a pro-government Muslim cleric in China's far-western city of Kashgar, state media said yesterday. A court in Kashgar on Sunday convicted Ghani Hasan and Numemet Abidilimit of organizing and leading a terrorist group as well as intentional homicide, and sentenced them to death, the government-run news portal Tianshan Net said. The third man, Atawulla Tursun, was convicted of participating in the terror group and sentenced to life in prison, Tianshan said.

CHINESE customs authorities say a policeman died after about 20 Vietnamese citizens attacked him and other officers who had impounded a vessel suspected of smuggling in the southern province of Yunnan. The Kunming customs district said yesterday that Li Shunlin and seven other police officers were taking the impounded boat to a pier last week when a Vietnamese vessel entered Chinese territory on the Red River.



AP PHOTO

JAPAN-N.KOREA Negotiators from North Korea and Japan meet in a northeastern Chinese city for talks on the abduction of Japanese citizens by North Korean agents. The meeting between Japan's Junichi Ihara and North Korea's Song Il-ho in Shenyang was expected to last only one day, with Japan expected to pressure the North Korean delegation to produce a preliminary report on the issue.

N KOREA The world's most famous North Korean disappears from public view for three weeks, and state media gently note that he has been ill. That has set off a global smorgasbord of speculation about what's eating Kim Jong Un: maybe gout brought on by a cheese obsession, or too much fried chicken and beer. [More on p12](#)

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Lusophone food hub launched by IPIM at S. Domingos Square

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RENATO MARQUES

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to Fr. Stilwell and Fr. Tolentino Mendonça

I was delighted to hear during an interview given by Fr. Stilwell and Fr. Mendonça to TDM-Radio today [yesterday], in Portuguese, that from now on they would decline to comment any further on my case. I believe that this is both wise and welcome, especially after all the bad publicity brought about by the open admission that my sacking from USJ had been triggered by political motives, something that is clearly in breach of article 6 of the Labor Law of Macao. Unfortunately, the sagacity of this decision not to make things worse comes about a tad late, especially because Fr. Mendonça made several additional comments last Thursday and Friday in regards to my termination of contract. I had already given up on charitable thoughts coming from that institution when my academic life was derailed at the worst time for me to find a new position—that was 3 months ago, but I did not expect deception and half-veiled slander to openly surface with the visit of Catolica's envoy.

Let me recap briefly what Fr. Mendonça said, especially in the comments he made to Ponto Final on September 26 under the title "Vice-reitor da Católica diz que afastamento de Eric Sautedé foi ditado por percurso académico." First, Fr. Mendonça insisted that the Catholic University of Portugal was, through him, in full solidarity with the decision taken by Fr. Stilwell to terminate my contract, and this was for two reasons: 1. Because of my "academic cursus"-credentials, not having finished my doctorate; and 2. Because he did not disagree with the idea that commenting or researching on local politics was not proper, and could actually be a reason for dismissal if it did put the university in a "delicate situation". Ultimately, Fr. Mendonça reiterated that all this was "in line with the values and requirements" of the Catholic University of Portugal.

As far as the doctorate is concerned, I am quite disturbed. First, because if that was a requirement to teach in university—which is not by law in Macao—more than half of my former faculty colleagues would have to be sacked, and this does not only apply to USJ. Moreover, a former diplomat who has served some time in Macao right after the handover has just been hired by USJ whereas he only holds a Bachelor's... As far as my own credentials are concerned, I hold, on top of my Bachelor's in history from the Sorbonne, a diploma and a MA in political science (in



fact slightly higher, it is called a DEA in France, obtained in 1993) from the best institution there is in my home country, Sciences Po Paris, a school from which many politicians and academics alike have graduated from and that is tightly connected to the LSE in the UK and Columbia in the US. I have furthermore been enrolled in a PhD at the EHESS in Paris since 2010, under the supervision of renowned sinologist Prof. Michel Bonnin, and 2014/2015 corresponds to my last year before defending my thesis. I have lived in this part of the world for 20 years, published dozens of articles, including in SSCI journals, edited books, published book chapters in my area of studies (Politics in Asia and Internet in Asia) and I sit on the board of three international academic journals. I was also the editor for many years of the main academic French bilingual journal on contemporary China and started (and then direc-

ted) an English-Chinese journal of intellectual dialogue for a pretty famous Jesuit institution based in Macao. As far as teaching is concerned, and when USJ still had a working mechanism of teaching evaluation, I always had very good reviews from the students. Moreover, the recent mobilisation and declarations made by quite a significant number of students speak for themselves. So, I am asking Fr. Mendonça: what makes a "good" scholar and tertiary educator in his view? Isn't the relevance and depth of academic insights shared openly in academic publications one of the main criteria? What about teaching capabilities then? And the duty to accommodate a diversity of view points and perspectives?

As to the justification of political self-censorship and that this represents the "values and requirements" of the Catholic University of Portugal, I was under the impression when I was invited to give a talk at

Catolica Porto over the summer and later on met with someone from the Catolica Lisbon in Coimbra that this was not exactly a unanimously shared sentiment. Obviously, in Portugal, democracy and social justice do not contradict the social doctrine of the church—both of them universal. In Coimbra, Prof. Ming K. Chan publicly characterised what was happening to me as a "new inquisition". I of course disagree with that perspective, although my consideration for the head of the Macao diocese has somehow been altered by this whole upheaval, but I sincerely believe that there is some kind of twisted form of supposedly long gone "lusotropicalism" at work here. Fortunately, it only seems to affect the weakest and darkest minds. I did not expect neither Fr. Stilwell nor Fr. Mendonça to be among them.

Yours sincerely,
Eric Sautedé

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DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela
CHINA & FOREIGN EDITOR_Vanessa Moore vanessa@macaudailytimes.com

DESIGN EDITOR_João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS_Albano Martins, António Espadinha Soares, Catarina Pinto, Cyril Law, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Phillips, João Pedro Lau, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Keith Ip, Renato Marques (photographer), Richard Whitfield, Robert Carroll (Hong Kong correspondent), Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Sum Choi, Viviana Segui | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, Bloomberg, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

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ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com
SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com
ADDRESS 2nd Floor 62 Av. Infante D. Henrique, MACAU SAR
Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

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USJ looks to improve Portuguese language and culture curriculum

Catarina Pinto

THE University of Saint Joseph (USJ) has officially appointed Maria Antónia Espadinha, professor of Portuguese language and culture as vice-rector, in an inauguration ceremony held yesterday. Currently teaching at the University of Macau (UM), she said the vice-rector position would be “a great challenge” that will take her on a mission to develop USJ’s Portuguese language and culture curriculum that is offered.

“There’s a great interest to de-

velop the Portuguese language and Portuguese culture academic [Program offered in universities]. That is also of great interest to me. We can improve the conditions of Portuguese language [here],” she said.

Maria Antónia Espadinha did not want to unveil concrete measures to be taken to develop the Portuguese language and culture teaching at the university, but stressed she will be bringing ideas to discuss with her future team.

“This university is very much related to the training of teachers; that’s something we lack in Macau, and we can probably start



Maria Antónia Espadinha (left)

working [in this area],” she added.

Maria Antónia Espadinha has spent the last 20 years teaching in University of Macau’s Portuguese department.

USJ’s rector, father Peter Stilwell recalled that, even though the university adopted English as its teaching language, Portuguese remains an important asset, given the institution’s roots.

“A Portuguese dimension is present in the university; Portuguese is also taught here, but it’s not enough. When I invited Maria Antónia Espadinha to be vice-rector, I intended to resume one of the institution’s first elements. We all know that both the central and local governments see Macau

as a platform between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries,” he stressed.

Peter Stilwell added that it is crucial for a higher education institution with “a Portuguese DNA” to develop that particular DNA, and turn it into a more active element of life.

The Portuguese Catholic University’s vice-rector, José Tolentino Mendonça, said he leaves Macau with a positive image of USJ, which he thinks is a higher education institution that is “striving for quality.”

He stressed that USJ’s controversial image hasn’t been conveyed in Portugal.

“USJ is growing very consis-

tently. It’s building up its own identity. The idea we have is not that of a controversial university, but rather (...) a university that conveys a great deal of confidence,” he said.

Peter Stilwell mentioned in his speech the controversy surrounding the university’s new campus funding. Speaking to reporters, he clarified that back in 2012 when he was appointed rector “there was a big scandal in the media” regarding the way the new campus was being funded. “It was said that funds hadn’t been well managed,” and therefore the Catholic Foundation decided to appoint a new team to run the university.

In his speech yesterday, father Peter Stilwell claimed the university urges students “to see the world critically.” He also stressed how the institution has attracted a large number of international students, now reaching about 400 people. He stated that “it’s an important opportunity for us, to continue promoting a dialogue between different cultures.”

Yesterday, the inauguration ceremony also served to officially appoint USJ’s new administrator, professor and researcher Susana Mieiro, as well as pro-rector for academic affairs Vincent Yang.

‘NO COMMENT’ ON ERIC SAUDEDE CASE

THE UNIVERSITY of Saint Joseph’s rector, father Peter Stilwell, and the vice-rector of the Portuguese Catholic University have refused to comment further on the dismissal of political scientist and professor Eric Sauteade that occurred in June. Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of new academic staff inauguration ceremony, Peter Stilwell said he had “nothing to comment on that matter,” when asked if firing Eric Sauteade had influenced the number of students enrolling in the university

this year. The Portuguese Catholic University’s vice-rector, José Tolentino Mendonça, said recently while visiting Macau that USJ had justified Eric Sauteade’s dismissal because of his “academic path.” He said he could not comment on the matter any further.

Upon his sacking, however, Peter Stilwell confirmed that Eric Sauteade was dismissed for expressing his political views in regular opinion columns and in interviews with local media, including the Times.

FORUM MACAU

IPIM setting up food distribution center at S. Domingos district

MACAU Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) president Jackson Chang has revealed that his institute is planning to set up a Portuguese-speaking countries (PLP) food distribution center at 1 Rua de São Domingos (also known as Rua das Mariazinhas).

The president spoke to the media yesterday after a special meeting of the Permanent Secretariat of China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries Economic Cooperation Forum (Macau).

He said that participants of the meeting are concerned with the arrangement of exporting foods to mainland China through Macau.

IPIM, he suggested, has been communicating closely with the Chinese Ministry of Commerce and the authorities that are



responsible for quality supervision, inspection and quarantine.

“In the future, the importing of PLP food products into mainland China through Macau involves quality inspections and quarantine issues. Macau will keep in close contact with the quality supervision departments in mainland. Work will be done with the assistance of the Ministry of Commerce

in order to allow the importing of PLP food products into mainland through Macau,” he said.

The food distribution center, to be located in the 24-story building that housed GCS in the past, is one of three centers that Forum Macau announced it would be establishing last year, to promote further cooperation strategies between China and the Portuguese-

speaking countries.

The center is forecast to open in late 2017 or at the beginning of 2018, TDM’s Portuguese channel reported.

The Times has spoken to Maria Fernanda Does from Visão Global, a Portuguese food importer, about the food distribution center.

Ms Does, who has had a company in Macau for two years now, was born here and says she has a sound knowledge of the Chinese and Portuguese taste, which she thinks is important for knowing which products might sell here.

The business owner thinks that the food distribution center is a good idea. “Regarding the center for distribution of products from the Portuguese-speaking countries, I think it’s a good idea. It will be

an asset. I think there’s already a venue with similar purposes in the NAPE area. Several companies from Macau showcase their products there,” she said.

Ms Does also suggested that while it is good for the center to act as a venue to develop business ties, it will be more beneficial if merchants can introduce their products to the local market through this venue as well.

“I think if the center is intended to be a place to develop business ties or for [business] matching purposes, it’s good. But it would be even better if the center is intended for introducing these companies’ products into the market... for showcasing and selling our products, because the center will be located in such a busy area, where so many people pass by every day,” she said. CP/JPL

PORTUGUESE MERCHANT SEES OPPORTUNITY IN BABY FOOD

MARIA FERNANDA Does has said that since she established her company two years ago, she has avoided products that are already being exported to Macau. This prompted her to try selling baby rice. “Baby rice is a special rice for babies aged at least six months old. It is certified by the European Union, and we will start exporting to Hong Kong, too. The Portuguese government has also held talks with the Chinese government regarding this product. So we hope to be able to

export to China as well,” she said.

The merchant believes that the baby rice is a popular product here due to its quality and the fact that it is subject to strict control procedures from its production to the packaging. “Also because children eat a lot of rice here and we have already been selling it in Macau for a year now,” she stated. Another product her shop has been selling that is also popular in Macau is cherry liquor, from Óbidos, a small town in Portugal.

Filipino scholar says Macau people should be 'more relaxed'

João Pedro Lau

THE Chairman of the Philippines National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), Professor Felipe M. de Leon, Jr., visited the University of Saint Joseph last week and gave a public

I think what Macau people can learn from the Filipino [people] is how to relax. After all, Filipino people are among the most relaxed people

FELIPE M. DE LEON, JR.

lecture on the heritage of Filipino culture.

He spoke to the Times on the sidelines of the event and said that Macau citizens can learn from the Filipino culture of being relaxed.

"Macau people are very good in business (...) I think what Macau people can learn from the Filipino [people] is how to relax. After all, Filipino people are among the most relaxed people," he said.

Regarding his lecture yesterday, Prof de Leon said that most people, including Filipinos themselves, are not aware of the true nature of Filipino culture, which contributes to the problems in his native country.

"Many Filipino politicians, even foreigners, tend to blame Filipino culture for the problems of our society. But our culture is not to blame for it. In fact, it's the absence of Filipino culture in the educational system and in the media that is responsible for the illness of the Philippine society," he said.

The scholar explained that it is



the culture of power and wealth, which exists in every society, that has caused problems within Philippine society.

He said that those beliefs are encouraging people to accumu-

late, exercise and control power, as well as acquire material wealth and be trapped by the comfort and privilege that it brings.

Prof de Leon pointed out that the true "Philippine Culture", the culture of ethnicity, is not like the two examples mentioned above. Rather, Filipino core values include the idea of unity.

"All human beings come from one being – the being of God or the creative principle of the universe," he explained.

Prof de Leon said that the consequence of such belief is a desire to connect with others.

"So, the highest value of the Filipinos is to connect," he said.

The scholar added that having such a high regard for connectivity has rendered the Filipino people healthier in both a physical and psychological sense.

He said that, as the Chairman of NCCA, he and his colleagues were trying very hard to educate people about the core Philippine culture so that they will practice it instead of the culture of power and wealth. But he admitted that

NEW CONSUL-GENERAL ON THE WAY

THE PHILIPPINE Consulate General in Macau is waiting for the new Consul General to arrive. Former incumbent Danilo Ibayan has already departed the MSAR. Consul Pete Raymond V Delfin told the Times that the new Consul General is likely to arrive in the next two months. However, he said that the details of the appointment can only be released later due to diplomatic protocol.

it is "a difficult task."

He also agreed that sometimes his Filipino compatriots are too kind, often avoiding protesting against corruption and other social issues. "But we are getting there," he said, adding that his country has already imprisoned several high profile politicians, including the president and senators.

When it comes to the exchange of cultures between Macau and the Philippines, Prof de Leon suggested that there should be a festival that showcases the cultures and core identities of both regions so that people from both places can learn about each other.

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Man detained for having sex with underage girl

THE Public Security Police (PSP) has detained a man after he was alleged to have had sex with a girl under the age of 14, which has led to her becoming pregnant.

Police information suggested that the victim, now 14, is a student. The suspect is a 27-year-old man surnamed Kou.

On September 27, the victim, her father and the suspect arrived at a PSP station. The victim claimed that she met Kou on a social media website on June 20. They became a couple in the same month and the girl visited the man's house, where the man requested to have sexual intercourse with the victim.

Despite the fact that the girl initially rejected his request and told the man that she was underage and did not have sexual experience, the man was eventually able to lure the victim into complying with his request.

The two had sex several times in the period between June and July. The victim claimed that they were never influenced by drugs or alcohol when they had sexual intercourse.

Later, the victim told the suspect in August that she did not get her menstrual period in that month. The pair then broke up on September 18.

In fact, the break-up took place after an incident in early September in which the girl fainted during school after feeling nauseous and dizzy. It was suggested that she have a pregnancy test after the incident and found out that she was pregnant.

The father told the police that he did not know about the sexual relationship between his daughter and the man, and only found out about the pregnancy after his daughter confided in him.

As a result, the man asked his daughter to find the suspect and then went to the PSP station together to report the issue, as well as stating his intention of legally pursuing the man.

Meanwhile, the suspect claimed that he did know that the girl was underage when they



had sex. Since there is a clear indication that showed the man has already committed the crime of raping a minor under the age of 14, the PSP hence issued a detention order against Kou.

The police also took the girl to the hospital for a medical checkup and found that she was already 14 weeks pregnant. The father and the daughter have declined assistance from social workers.

PSP has already handed the suspect over to the Public Prosecution Office.

The Judiciary Police (PJ), on the other hand, have received a report of attempted rape.

It is alleged that a 19-year-

old female victim from mainland travelled to Macau with her uncle and his friends on September 27. However, since there was not enough room in the hotel for all of them, they decided to only arrange a room for the young woman alone.

Later, the suspect was said to have followed the victim back to her room, with the excuse that he wanted to chat with her. While the victim was taking a shower, the man ran into the bathroom and tried to rape the victim. He was fiercely resisted by the victim and hence decided to drag her out of the bathroom onto the bed. He eventually was unable to rape

the woman due to her continuous resistance.

The two then left the room together. The victim went to the toilet in one of the hotel res-

taurants and called the police. PJ intercepted the suspect in the early hours of September 28, and he was admitted to the crime. **JPL**

POLICE MOTORCYCLE HITS SCHOOLBOY

A STUDENT and a PSP officer were injured after a traffic accident that took place at noon yesterday in which the police motorcycle hit the schoolboy at a pedestrian crossing. The incident happened at the crossing on Avenida do Coronel Mesquita outside the Colegio Dom Bosco (Yuet Wah). PSP suspected that one of its officers failed to

brake in time and hit the young student. The student and the officer were sent to the Kiang Wu Hospital and the Conde de São Januário Central Hospital (CHCSJ) respectively. PSP promised to thoroughly investigate the incident. It is suggested that the officer was delivering documents before he was involved in the accident.

Police officer caught for document forgery and fraud

THE Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) has launched a case concerning the forging of documents and fraud involving a Public Security Police (PSP) officer and the Public Prosecution Office (MP).

Information released by CCAC suggested that the officer was alleged to have forged his attendance re-

cord multiple times in order to defraud the PSP.

After CCAC's investigation, it found that the man has been late, absent and taking early leave while he was on duty. It was even found that he had left Macau during his working hours.

In order to conceal his unreasona-

ble absence from work, the officer thus submitted a forged attendance record almost 100 times to deceive his department and defrauded it out of more than MOP50,000.

Under the Penal Code of Macau, the officer can be sentenced to up to five years in prison if he is found guilty.

21 illegal workers found in Macau

The Public Security Police Force (CPSP) has found 19 illegal workers after conducting inspections at over 400 sites. The Labor Affairs Bureau, which conducted similar inspection procedures in six of the locations, uncovered two people working illegally within the area. In a statement, authorities said that a joint operation also took place in two other locations, but no illegal workers were found. Inspections took place mainly in construction sites and residences, as well as commercial and industrial buildings.

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Package tour arrivals surge by 30 pct in August

THE number of package tour visitors surged by 30 percent year-on-year to about 1,267,000 in August. Data released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) showed that tourists from mainland China increased by 36 percent to 1,050,000, with 396,000 coming from Guangdong province.

Tourists from Taiwan (71,000), Hong Kong (41,000), South Korea (36,000) and Japan (14,000) increased by 13 percent, 7 percent, 11 percent and 20 percent respectively. Visitors from Thailand (11,000) decreased by 31 percent.

In the first eight months of 2014, package tour visitors reached 7,810,000, representing a 21 percent year-on-year increase.

The number of guests checking into hotels and guesthouses has, however, dropped by three percent year-on-year to 965,000 in August. DSEC said this is due to a significant decrease in tourists from Hong Kong (125,000) and Taiwan (32,000). Guests from mainland China however, increased by nine percent to 639,000.

The average length of stay was 1.4 nights, up by 0.1 night year-on-year.

The average occupancy rate of hotels and guesthouses dropped slightly by 0.2 percentage points year-on-year to 90 percent, with 4-star hotels leading at 92 percent.

DSEC released in a statement that there were 98 hotels and guesthouses operating at the end of August 2014, providing 28,000 guest rooms, up by one percent year-on-year. Five-star hotels accounted for 66 percent of the total supply, with 18,000 rooms.

In the first eight months of this year, visitor-guests accounted for 69 percent of the total overnight visitors, down by 1 percentage point year-on-year. **CP**

Police predict 5 to 7 pct increase in border crossing during golden week

THE Public Security Police (PSP) estimated that, compared to the same period last year, the amount of passengers crossing the border checkpoints will increase by about five to seven percent during the Chinese National Day golden week holiday.

In a press release, PSP said that additional border crossing channels will be opened to cater for the week. If the authorities find that the hall of the Border Gate checkpoint is approaching its maximum capacity, it will impose measures to channel passenger traffic. This may include temporarily sealing both sides of the Border Gate Square and setting up temporary entrances and exits. The

authorities may also arrange Macau residents, registrants of the automated passenger clearance system, elderly people, pregnant women, disabled people, and children younger than three years old to be in the same queue, while visitors are directed in another queue, in order to speed up the process.

As for the pedestrian traffic control measures at Avenida de Almeida Riberiro (San Ma Lo), the PSP statement indicated that there will be measures imposed on the street in front of Senado Square, the intersection between San Ma Lo and Avenida Infante D. Henrique, and part of the Avenida da Praia Grande if the roads have reached their ma-

ximum capacity.

For example, the pavements on both sides of San Ma Lo will only allow one-way pedestrian traffic. People who want to enter Avenida Infante D. Henrique from San Ma Lo will also need to use the pedestrian crossing facilities in front of HSBC Bank and the old court house instead of crossing the road directly in front of BNU Bank and the Bank of China.

PSP urged residents and visitors to follow police instructions and take care of the elder and young children travelling with them. It also said that people can access the real-time border-crossing situation through PSP's website and a mobile app. **JPL**

Rotary Club hosts seminar to celebrate UN Peace Day

THE Rotary Club of Macau hosted a 'Peace Seminar' to celebrate the United Nations' International Day of Peace earlier this month.

The Rotary District 3450 Peace Committee Chair, Vice-President of Hong Kong UNESCO, Past President of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Mitzi Leung and Rotarian Mei Ling Ng were invited by the Rotary Club of Macau as guest speakers in their September 18 Club meeting.

Ms Mitzi Leung reiterated that the peaceful environment we enjoy nowadays is not easy to come by, especially as



many parts of the world are continuously plagued by increasing political and social conflicts. She stated that peace starts from harmony at home, extending to individual peace, cultural peace, ecological peace, social harmony and political peace. Ms Leung motivated all Macau Rotarians to practice these 5 actions in order to promote peace in Macau society.

This year, Rotary District 3450, together with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Hong Kong Association also launched a 'Fostering Global

Citizenship' Youth Program.

The program aims to empower learners to engage active roles both locally and internationally to face and resolve global challenges; to build a sense of global community and common humanity in the world; and to contribute to a more peaceful, tolerant, inclusive, secure and sustainable world.

Furthermore, on the same day, there was also a UN International Peace Day celebration at the HK Asia Society's Hong Kong Center featuring an international food bazaar and cultural performances. **VM**

Lenovo looks to expand after IBM acquisition



People walk past a Lenovo flagship experience store in Beijing

Joe McDonald, Business Writer, Bangkok

LENOVO Group has received U.S. and European approval to complete its acquisition of IBM Corp.'s low-end server business and plans to use it to grow faster outside its personal computer business, Lenovo's chairman said yesterday.

The USD2.1 billion acquisition is due to close Wednesday following a successful review by a U.S. government security panel and European and Chinese regulators, the company said.

The IBM assets will add a "growth engine" to a growing array of businesses that include computers, mobile devices and services, chairman Yang Yuanqing said in a telephone interview.

Lenovo, which bought IBM's PC unit in 2005, has carried out a flurry of acquisitions and laun-

ched initiatives including creating a smartphone brand to expand into faster-growing businesses.

Also this year, Lenovo bought the Motorola Mobility smartphone business from Google for USD2.9 billion.

"Our mobile business and our enterprise business will be growing even faster than our PC business," said Yang.

Lenovo has said the IBM acquisition will propel it from a No. 9 ranking among server manufacturers to No. 3 behind Hewlett Packard and Dell.

Lenovo, with headquarters in Beijing and in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, passed HP in 2013 as the No. 1 PC maker, though that achievement was tempered by a slowdown in demand as users shift to mobile devices.

Lenovo has said it expects mobile devices to become the bulk of its business in coming years.

In the quarter ending in June, sales of smartphones, tablet computers and other wireless technology rose 32 percent over a year earlier, Lenovo reported earlier. That helped to boost quarterly profit by 23 percent to \$214 million.

The latest acquisition includes IBM's System x, BladeCenter and Flex System blade servers and switches, x86-based Flex integrated systems, NeXtScale and iDataPlex servers and associated software, blade networking and maintenance operations.

The price was reduced from the previously announced \$2.3 billion due to a change in valuation of IBM's inventory and deferred revenue, according to Lenovo. It said none of the terms of the agreement changed.

The IBM manager in charge of the x86 server business, Adalio Sanchez, will stay in that post with Lenovo, the company said. **AP**

HK dollar, stocks retreat amid protest crackdown

Kana Nishizawa, Weiyi Lim and Fion Li

HONG Kong's stocks fell the most in almost three weeks, the city's currency weakened and equity-market volatility surged amid the biggest police crackdown on protesters since the city returned to Chinese rule.

The benchmark Hang Seng Index sank 1.9 percent to 23,229.21 at the close in Hong Kong, its biggest loss since Sept. 10, as developers and retailers tumbled. A gauge of stock volatility jumped 24 percent, the steepest surge in three years. The city's currency slid to a six-month low and one-year interest-rate swaps climbed the most in 15 months.

Pro-democracy protesters vowed to press ahead with demonstrations unless Hong Kong's top official steps down. Rallies in the shopping neighborhoods of Causeway Bay and Mong Kok are picking up after a lull in the morning, leading banks to shut branches and deterring tourists.

"In terms of sentiment the market is likely to remain very cautious," said Tai Hui, chief Asia market strategist at JP-Morgan Asset Management, which oversees about USD1.7 trillion worldwide. "This is a very unusual situation for Hong Kong. In the short term there's

going to be shock to the markets but it's still more important to look at aspects such as fundamentals and valuations."

The showdown adds to concerns about falling retail sales and rising U.S. interest rates that fueled a 6.5 percent drop in the Hang Seng Index from this year's high on Sept. 3 through last week.

"We expect the battleground atmosphere on Hong Kong's streets to add to the drag on retail sales in September," Tim Condon, Singapore-based head of Asian research at ING Groep NV, wrote in a note to clients.

Retailers and tourism-related companies may be among the most affected on speculation protests will deter mainland tourists from visiting during National Day holidays that begin Oct. 1, said Gavin Parry, managing director of Hong Kong-based brokerage Parry International Trading Ltd. Financial shares in the \$3.7 trillion market may also come under pressure, said Ronald Wan, the chief China adviser at Asian Capital Holdings Ltd. in Hong Kong.

HSBC Holdings Plc was the biggest drag on the Hang Seng Index, falling 1.8 percent. Luk Fook Holdings International Ltd., which sells jewelry, sank 4.8 percent. Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. tumbled 3.2 percent. **AP**



People walk past an electronic ticker showing Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng Index dropping more than 500 points soon after opening yesterday

corporate bits

ASIAN AIR LAUNCHES BANGKOK TO PALAU VIA MACAU ROUTE



Last Friday, Asian Air launched charter flights from Bangkok to Palau via Macau. The flight service is scheduled to operate at weekly intervals providing about 250 seats by Boeing 767-200, creating a precedent of using Macau's freedom of air carriage, expanding to more destinations and networks in the region.

In recent years, Macau International Airport has been closely cooperating with airlines and rela-

ted tourism entities to strengthen existing flights and encourage airlines to increase flight frequencies to popular destinations, actively cooperating with travel agencies to develop charter flight services, taking advantage of Macau's air freedom rights to develop potential routes into becoming regular ones, endeavoring to develop air services to major Asian cities, and providing travelers with more destination options.

CONRAD MACAO RECOGNIZED AS 'TOP 25 CONFERENCE HOTEL IN ASIA'

Conrad Macao, Cotai Central located at Sands Cotai Central was recently awarded 'Top 25 Conference Hotel in Asia' by online travel magazine SmartTravelAsia.com's annual 'Best in Travel' Poll 2014.

SmartTravelAsia.com conducts the Poll annually and invites its global readers over a three-month period to vote for their favorite brands across many travel industries and segments. The votes are based on a combination of actual experiences, word-of-mouth and perceptions drawn from advertising and media editorial.

On average voters took an average of 12 annual air trips and 70% of voters are based in Asia and Australia, 15% from



Europe and 15% are from the USA.

This year's Poll saw Conrad Macao's ranking gain three points to come in at number 21 on the list (from number 25 in 2013).

CEM AND MACAU FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS JOINTLY ORGANIZE "HEALTHY EATING" INDUCTION COOKING CONTEST

In order to promote the use of induction cookers and the concept of healthy eating, last Sunday CEM and the Macau Federation of Trade Unions jointly organized the "Healthy Eating" Induction Cooking Contest at the Macau Federation of Trade Unions' Catering Services & Cooking Training Centre. A total of 18 finalists each designed and cooked a healthy dish using induction cookers.

The contest judging panel was formed by Lam Heong Sang, Vice-Chairman of the Macau Federation of Trade Unions, Lei U Weng, President of the United Association of Food and Beverage Merchants of Macau, Olivia Chau, Executive Director of the Macau Professional Nutritionist Asso-



ciation, Sou Wai Leong, Director General of the Macau Federation of Trade Unions' Association of Macau Restaurants, and advisor to CEM's Executive Committee lun lok Meng.

The gold, silver and bronze prizes went to Chiu Mei Ha, Lau lut leng and Van Siu leng respectively and electrical appliances coupons worth MOP3,000, MOP2,000 and MOP1,500 respectively were given to the winners.

Mozambique among countries with highest growth in 2014

MOZAMBIQUE is this year among the fastest growing economies in the world, with growth in all sectors, especially the financial and mining sector.

The country recorded a growth of 6.9 percent in the second quarter of 2014, according to figures published last week by the National Statistics Institute (INE). This compared with annual averages of about 4.5 percent for sub-Saharan Africa and 3 percent worldwide.

In the first quarter, growth exceeded all expectations, rising to 7.5 percent, despite some adversity related to the floods earlier in the year and a lack of security in some parts of the country.

Of the 15 economic sectors considered by the INE, all posted growth, especially financial services (19.3 percent) and mining (13.4 percent), which was driven by increased production in some mines, particularly the Moatize mine operated by Brazil's Vale.

The industrial sector also posted strong growth of 12.5 percent in the first half, in a year that sees the launch of major industrial projects, notably the Chinese-



Mozambican automotive partnership Matchedje Motor, which reached the market last week.

Founded about three years ago in the town of Machava on the outskirts of the Mozambican capital, Maputo, Matchedje Motor is the result of investment by China Tong Jian Investment Co., Ltd, and the unit is currently operating with two assembly lines and an annual production capacity of 30,000 vehicles.

In the second phase, planned for 2016-2017, the factory's pro-

duction capacity will increase to 100,000 vehicles per year, after which it should be increased to about 500,000 vehicles.

Electricity and water production also saw significant growth at the beginning of the year, of 11.9 percent.

According to the Economist Intelligence Unit, as in previous years "faster growing economic sectors continue to be driven by foreign direct investment in large-scale mines and energy."

The EIU forecasts growth of 7.3 percent this year and, given the indications that economic growth could have been higher in 2013, is awaiting publication of national accounts by INE.

In the next few years Mozambique is due to receive huge investments to develop natural gas reserves found in the north of the country, which are among the biggest discoveries made worldwide in recent years.

These reserves, the EIU said, should attract "more foreign investors and new business partners," "especially among the large Asian countries that are importers of natural gas." **MDT/Macauhub**

ANGOLA

Moçâmedes Railroad receives three more locomotives

THE fleet of the Moçâmedes Railroad will be increased in a few days with the arrival of three new locomotives acquired in the United States, the chairman of the rail management company said.

Daniel Quipaxe said that six locomotives were currently in service, which were recently acquired in China and India, and that the three new units would streamline "the process of movement and transport of people and goods in between Namibe, Huila and Kwando Kubango."

The chairman of the Moçâmedes Railroad said there were enough tanker trucks to carry fuel and water, but there is a shortage of wagons to carry black granite, because those available are cramped and demand is starting to increase, a situation that will be remedied with the arrival of new wagons.

On the occasion of the 109th anniversary of the company, Quipaxe told daily newspaper Jornal de Angola that in the future a branch line over 300

kilometres long would be built between Tchamutete, Jamba, to the border with Namibia, and that currently studies were being conducted for its construction.

The work to rebuild and modernize the railway line is almost at the final stage and by the end of October the contractor is due to deliver most of the infrastructure.

The contractor, Chinese company China Hyway, is completing the construction of over 800 homes along the rail route between the city of Namibe (the current name of Moçâmedes) and Menongue.

The Moçâmedes Railroad linking the coastal town of Namibe to Menongue, the provincial capital of Kwando Kubango provincial capital in eastern Angola, started to be built on 28 September, 1905 and was completed on 6 December, 1961.

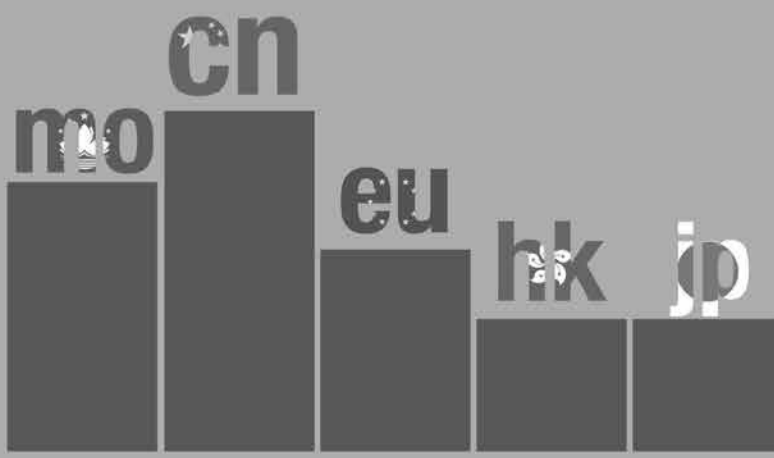
The line is 860 kilometers long, including branch lines to the old mining areas of Jamba and Cassinga. **MDT/Macauhub**

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Mainlanders receive limited coverage of 'illegal' democracy clashes

ON a day when front pages of newspapers in Hong Kong and around the world carried stories on pro-democracy protesters confronting riot police in the city, the lead article in China's official People's Daily focused on a new book of President's Xi Jinping's speeches.

The Communist Party's flagship newspaper didn't mention the protests at all in today's print edition, looking instead at how the compilation of Xi's speeches had been translated into several languages. A top story on the Xinhua News Agency's website discussed changes to Chinese family life over the past 65 years. The state-run Global Times said the "radical activists are doomed."

China's government took broad steps to limit the flow of information about the Hong Kong protests to its population of almost 1.4 billion people.



Protestors disperse as tear gas is fired by police during a protest near the central government offices in Hong Kong

What coverage there was in state media of the demonstrations argued that the confrontations were illegal and lacked widespread support.

"It is completely unsurprising that the Chinese government

has a big fear of news of what is essentially a pro-democracy demonstration streaming to China," said Brad Williams, an assistant professor of Asian and international studies at the City University of Hong Kong. "Sig-

nificant social turmoil has been caused by protesting students."

That was a reference to the government's move in 1989 to crush the student-led pro-democracy protests in Tiananmen Square in Beijing. Xinhua published a story yesterday saying that people from all walks of life in Hong Kong denounced the rally.

A Xinhua story in English said protesters "violently charged the police cordon line on Sunday" and police fired tear gas "when repetitive warnings ended in failure." On its English-language website, the People's Daily said the protests had "spun out of control" Sunday.

Chinese regulators demanded websites clear information about the Hong Kong protests, according to the Berkeley, California-based China Digital Times website, which tracks

the government's media control efforts.

China Central Television, China's state-controlled broadcaster, reported on the protests without showing images of the clashes. One piece said that the Hong Kong government has listened to the public, with another package on China opposing "unlawful action" in Hong Kong.

Posts on the Weibo microblogging service delivered images and foreign media coverage of the protests to Chinese readers, though government censors deleted many posts, David Bandurski, editor of the China Media Project website of the University of Hong Kong, wrote yesterday.

"As of mid-day, most major news sites had no prominently placed coverage at all," Bandurski said on the project's website. **Bloomberg**

HSBC among banks that shuttered HK branches



Demonstrators use barricades to block the entrance of the Citic Tower during a protest in Hong Kong

Alfred Liu and Cathy Chan

STANDARD Chartered and HSBC were among banks that shuttered some branches in Hong Kong as pro-democracy protesters remained on the streets following weekend clashes with police.

About 44 branches, offices and automated teller machines were closed yesterday, according to the Hong Kong Monetary Authority. The front entrance of the Cheung Kong Center, home to Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Barclays Plc in the city, was barricaded, with demonstrators gathered peacefully on a blocked road about 200 meters away in the late afternoon.

Hong Kong stocks dropped after protest-rallies mushroomed Sunday, leading to violent clashes, and people dressed in black blo-

cked some roads into the business district yesterday. The closures marked the biggest disruption to banks' operations in the city since at least the 1970s, though a lull through most of the day allowed people to go to work in the financial hub.

"I have not seen anything like this before," Ma Yue, a finance professor at City University of Hong Kong, said by phone. "While Hong Kong had experienced social disturbances in the '60s, those are not comparable with today's situation because Hong Kong was not an international financial centre."

An office for Barclays in the Cheung Kong Center building was closed, while three Citigroup outlets in the city were also shut, according to a list released by the HKMA. Some Citic Securities International Co. and Ernst & Young staff were working

from home, the firms said.

Local and foreign banks together have about 1,372 branches in Hong Kong. The financial-services industry employs more than 220,000 people, or approximately 6 percent of the city's workforce. HSBC had 29,000 employees in Hong Kong as of the end of last year, while Standard Chartered has about 6,000 people.

An HSBC branch in Mong Kok district, which is one of the city's most densely populated areas, was among those closed after protests unexpectedly spread beyond the main island. The bank also shut outlets in the shopping district of Causeway Bay, where demonstrators had congregated, and Admiralty, home to the government's main offices and site of the most violent confrontations during the weekend.

Services elsewhere were operating normally, including at its main office in the Central district, the London-based bank said in an e-mailed statement. Europe's biggest bank has about 162 sites in Hong Kong, according to its website.

"Investors are feeling uneasy as the Occupy protests are still going on," Castor Pang, head of research at Core Pacific-Yamaichi in Hong Kong, said by telephone. "Developments in the next one to two days will be crucial because that will let us know whether the protesters will voluntarily disperse." **Bloomberg**

Instagram blocked amid HK protests

Shai Oster

USERS of Instagram reported the photo-sharing service was inaccessible in China yesterday, as the government sought to limit news of pro-democracy protesters clashing with police in Hong Kong.

Greatfire.org, a group that monitors Internet restrictions, said its tests showed Instagram's website was blocked. The service went down early, said Frank Yu, the chief executive of Beijing-based online gaming company Kwestr. He described himself as a regular user of the service who also runs an forum of other users.

"I post an image or two in the morning and 3-4 during the day but now it's blocked," Yu wrote in an e-mail. "I got two off though this morning."

With Facebook's own service blocked in China, Instagram was one of the few overseas social-media apps that remained available on the mainland. More popular photo sharing services such as that of Tencent Holdings Ltd.'s WeChat service are already tightly controlled, while social apps from Line Corp. and Kakao Corp. also face restrictions. Twitter, Yahoo! Inc.'s Flickr and YouTube are inaccessible as well.

Facebook is aware of reports that the service is down and is investigating, Singapore-based spokeswoman Charlene Chian said in an e-mail.

Instagram is "following in the steps of Twitter, Facebook and YouTube," Duncan Clark, chairman of technology consulting firm BDA China Ltd., wrote in a message. "Often it seems unrest is precursor to a major shut-



Demonstrators disperse as tear gas is fired in Hong Kong

down. It's a one-way street, though. We haven't seen unblocking of any major blocked sites before so this will likely be permanent, too."

China's leaders have long managed Internet content, blocking pornography, dissident websites and any other information it deems a threat. The Instagram app was removed from Android app stores in China in July, according to an analysis by Greatfire.org.

The limits on Instagram came as China's government took broad steps to limit the flow of information about the Hong Kong protests to its population of almost 1.4 billion people. What coverage there was in state media of the demonstrations argued that the confrontations were illegal and lacked widespread support.

China's Foreign Ministry didn't immediately respond to a faxed request for comment about Instagram. At a briefing earlier yesterday, spokeswoman Hua Chunying said what happens in Hong Kong is a domestic affair. China took back control of the city from the U.K. in 1997. **Bloomberg**



A Hong Kong protester wears a mask



Despite a night of clashes with riot police, student protesters continue to occupy the streets



Pro-democracy protesters sit on a road as they face-off with local police

Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

HONG KONG

'Umbrella Revolution' protests spread as numbers swell

PRO-DEMOCRACY protesters wearing masks and wielding umbrellas to protect against pepper spray and tear gas expanded their rallies throughout Hong Kong yesterday, defying calls to disperse in a major pushback against Beijing's decision to limit democratic reforms in the Asian financial hub.

Hong Kong's police yesterday defended their use of tear gas and other tactics to control protests that have paralyzed the city's financial district, appealing to the thousands gathered to demand more democracy to stop the unprecedented mass act of civil disobedience for the sake of safety and stability.

Crowds grew yesterday evening as people getting off work joined weary-looking students camped on major roads near the city's government headquarters and in several other parts of the city. Uniformed police manned barricades and looked on, preventing access to some buildings, but did not otherwise intervene.

Police said they used 87 rounds of tear gas on Sunday in what they said was a necessary but restrained response to protesters' efforts to push through cordons and barricades. They said 41 people were injured, including 12 police officers.

"Police cordon lines were heavily charged, by some violent protesters. So police had to use the minimum force in order to separate the distance at that moment between the protesters and also the police," Cheung Tak-keung, the assistant police commissioner for operations, told reporters yesterday.

Riot police withdrew from the extraordinary scene of chaotic tear gas-fueled clashes that erup-

ted the evening before and the government asked the student-led protesters to disperse peacefully.

But the demonstrators, whose use of umbrellas, plastic wrap and other improvised defenses has led some to dub their movement the "Umbrella Revolution," remained camped out on a normally busy highway near the Hong Kong government headquarters. Supporters were using the phrase on social media.

Police had tried earlier to negotiate, with an officer asking them through a bullhorn to clear the way for the commuters. A protester, using the group's own speaker system, responded by saying that they wanted Hong Kong's Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying to demand a genuine choice for the territory's voters.

"Do something good for Hong Kong. We want real democracy!" he shouted.

With rumors swirling, the Beijing-backed and deeply unpopular Leung reassured the public that speculation that the Chinese army might intervene was untrue.

"I hope the public will keep calm. Don't be misled by the rumors. Police will strive to maintain social order, including ensuring smooth traffic and ensuring the public safety," Leung said. "When they carry out their duties, they will use their maximum discretion."

Across Victoria Harbor, in crowded Kowloon, crowds blo-

cked a major intersection, as young people climbed atop subway station exits and activists rallied the crowds.

While many Hong Kong residents support the calls for greater democracy the unrest worries others.

"I strongly disagree with the protesters," said an older wo-

■ The demonstrators, whose use of umbrellas and plastic wrap has led some to dub their movement the "Umbrella Revolution," remained camped out

man who gave only her surname, Chan. "Those of us who came to the city 60 or 70 years ago had nothing and we worked and suffered so much to make Hong Kong the rich city it is today. And now the protesters have made our society unstable. For me, being able to eat and sleep

is already a luxury. I don't need democracy. What does it mean?"

Many younger Hong Kong residents have much higher expectations. Raised in an era of plenty and with no experience of the political turmoil of past decades in mainland China, they are demanding universal suffrage and protesting Beijing's decision last month that candidates in the city's first-ever election for the top leader must be hand-picked by a committee of mostly pro-Beijing tycoons, a move many residents of the former British colony view as reneging on promises to allow greater democracy in the semi-autonomous territory.

China has called the protests illegal and endorsed the Hong Kong government's efforts to quell the demonstrations, which are undermining the city's image as a safe financial haven. Beijing has taken a hard line against a variety of threats to the Communist Party's monopoly on power, including clamping down on dissidents and Muslim Uighur separatists in the country's far west.

The Hong Kong authorities' efforts to shut down the protest so far have backfired, said Steve Tsang, a senior fellow at the University of Nottingham's China Policy Institute.

"People are feeling a kind of guilt that they were allowing the young kids in their late teens and early 20s to take all the risks, so people are coming out to support them. That's what we are seeing

on the ground," he said.

While Hong Kong was under British rule, its leader was chosen by London in an arrangement that faced virtually no opposition. After China took control from the British in 1997, it agreed to a policy of "one country, two systems" that allowed the city a high degree of control over its own affairs and kept in place liberties unseen on the mainland. It also promised the city's leader would eventually be chosen through "universal suffrage," a pledge that Hong Kongers now say Beijing is failing to keep.

The protests began a week ago with a class boycott by university and college students, who said they would stand firm until officials meet their demands for reforming the local legislature and withdrawing the requirement that election candidates be screened.

Leaders of the broader Occupy Central civil disobedience movement joined them early Sunday, saying they wanted to kick-start a long-threatened mass sit-in demanding Hong Kong's top leader be elected without Beijing's interference.

Occupy Central issued a statement yesterday urging Leung to resign and saying his "non-response to the people's demands has driven Hong Kong into a crisis of disorder." It said the protest is now "a spontaneous movement" of all Hong Kong people. AP

AP PHOTO



Authoritarian North Korean leader Kim Jong Un

Mystery over Kim Jong Un fuels health rumors

Foster Klug, Seoul

NORTH Korea's authoritarian leader makes no public appearances for three weeks, skipping a high-profile event he usually attends. An official documentary shows him limping and overweight and mentions his "discomfort." What follows is a smorgasbord of media speculation about what's eating Kim Jong Un.

Maybe it's gout, unidentified sources tell South Korean reporters, or diabetes, or high blood pressure. A thinly sourced British report says the Swiss-educated dictator has been laid low by a massive cheese addiction. A headline in Seoul offers up the possibility of a common South Korean obsession: fried chicken and beer.

So what's going on? Maybe not much.

As is always the case, much more than what's seen publicly is happening behind the well-guarded scenes with North Korea's No. 1. But just the fact that Pyongyang acknowledges that Kim is ailing suggests that he may not be suffering from anything particularly serious. The hugely micromanaged state media, for instance, were tight

-lipped when Kim's father, Kim Jong Il, suffered major health problems late in his rule.

The intense outside fascination with even scraps of information creates a scramble in South Korea and the West to play up any hint of change or turmoil in a country notorious for resisting outside prodding and for releasing information only as it sees fit.

North Korea is unique: a poor, largely cloistered, fiercely proud, nominally Stalinist country led from its founding in 1948 by a family that has passed down power through three generations. It's also in possession of a handful of crude nuclear bombs and working toward producing nuclear-armed missiles that could target the mainland United States.

Because of this, there's powerful curiosity about what would happen should Kim Jong Un be incapacitated. Kim is believed to have been groomed for the leadership by Kim Jong Il after the elder man suffered a stroke in 2008. Kim Jong Un, who is thought to be 31, reportedly has at least one young daughter but no adult heirs.

The recent health speculation started when Kim, always a large man, began showing

up in pictures and video noticeably heavier, and with a distinct limp. For more than three weeks, he hasn't been seen performing his customary public duties in state media coverage, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry, which monitors the North.

And then, on Thursday, his usual seat was empty at a session of the country's rubber stamp parliament. Although Kim Jong Il occasionally missed the meetings, it was the first no-show for Kim Jong Un since he took over after his father's death in late 2011, Seoul officials said.

The same day as the parliamentary meeting, the North aired a documentary with footage from August that showed a limping Kim inspecting a tile factory. "Our marshal continues to light the path for the people like a flame despite his discomfort," a narrator said.

The documentary, which was shown again yesterday, marked the first and only time state media have made a direct comment on Kim's health since he took power, the Unification Ministry said.

South Korean officials told reporters yesterday they don't think anything serious

is happening, but that hasn't stopped the rumors.

North Korea's propaganda specialists carefully construct their media images, especially those of Kim, with an eye on the domestic elite and, to a lesser extent, on foreign, mostly South Korean, audiences.

The recent images of Kim limping and the documentary are "an attempt to quell rumors within the North Korean public and show confidence that Kim's health problems

are trivial," said Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert at Dongguk University in Seoul.

Kim Jong Il was reportedly a very sick man in the last years of his life, but state media was silent about the reported 2008 stroke.

Kim Jong Un is usually a near-constant one-man show in state media, but he has kept a low profile before. In 2012, he wasn't seen publicly for about three weeks, South Korean officials say.

■ **The recent health speculation started when Kim began showing up in pictures noticeably heavier and with a distinct limp**

Senior North Korean officials do vanish on occasion — sometimes for good.

After surviving several earlier purges, Kim's uncle, Jang Song Thaek, was publicly shamed and then executed on treason charges in December 2013. In 2012, North Korea purged its army chief, which also caused wild speculation in Seoul, including a report from a South Korean newspaper, citing "unconfirmed intelligence reports," that Ri Yong Ho may have been wounded or killed in a blaze of gunfire when soldiers loyal to him resisted an armed attempt to detain him. Ri's fate is still unknown.

Whatever's going on, avid North Korea watchers will get another chance for a carefully staged look on Oct. 10, when the North stages a celebration of the founding anniversary for the ruling Workers' Party. **AP**

US ENVOY SAYS NO TALKS WITH N KOREA IN SIGHT

WASHINGTON BELIEVES that North Korea is increasingly unwilling to live up to its nuclear disarmament commitments, and is using three detained Americans as pawns, a senior U.S. envoy said yesterday. Glyn Davies, the U.S. special representative for North Korea policy, told reporters in Beijing that North Korea's unwillingness to release the three Americans is an impediment to resuming disarmament talks. "We remain open to having a responsible dialogue with North Korea if they were signaling willingness of meeting us half way. But we

haven't seen that yet," he said, adding that the detained Americans are being used as pawns. "They are really using them," he said. He said North Korea is drifting further away from its obligations to denuclearize.

North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Su Yong told the United Nations General Assembly over the weekend that his country's nuclear program is not "a bargaining chip," but is needed to guard against U.S. hostility.

Davies met with his Chinese counterpart Wu Dawei to discuss how to bring North Korea back to disarmament negotiations.

JAPAN

5 more bodies found at volcano, death toll rises to 36

Emily Wang, Kiso

FIVE more bodies were found near the summit of a Japanese volcano yesterday, bringing the total presumed dead to 36, police said, as toxic gases and ash from the still-erupting mountain forced rescue workers to halt efforts to recover the victims.

Eight more bodies were airlifted off Mount Ontake before work on the ash-blanketed peak was called off around 1:30 p.m., said Naofumi Miyairi, a spokesman for the Nagano prefecture police.

Together with four victims brought down on Sunday, 12 bodies have now been recovered, leaving 24 near the summit. Exactly how they died remains unclear, whether from gases, suffocating ash, falling rocks or other causes.

Police said the latest victims were found near a shrine at the summit, the same area where other victims were reportedly

found.

Japanese TV network TBS showed soldiers carrying yellow body bags one-by-one to a military helicopter that had landed in a relatively wide-open area of the now bleak landscape, its rotors still spinning.

The bodies were flown to a nearby athletic field, the surrounding forested hills contrasting with Mount Ontake's ash-gray peak in the background, a reduced plume still emerging from its crater.

The bodies were then taken to a small wooden elementary school in the nearby town of Kiso, where they were being examined in the gymnasium.

Family members of the missing waited at a nearby municipal hall.

More than 200 soldiers and firefighters, including units with gas detection equipment, were part of the search mission near the peak, said Katsunori Morimoto, an official in the village of Otaki.

The effort was halted because of an increase in toxic gas and ash as the volcano continued to spew fumes, he said.

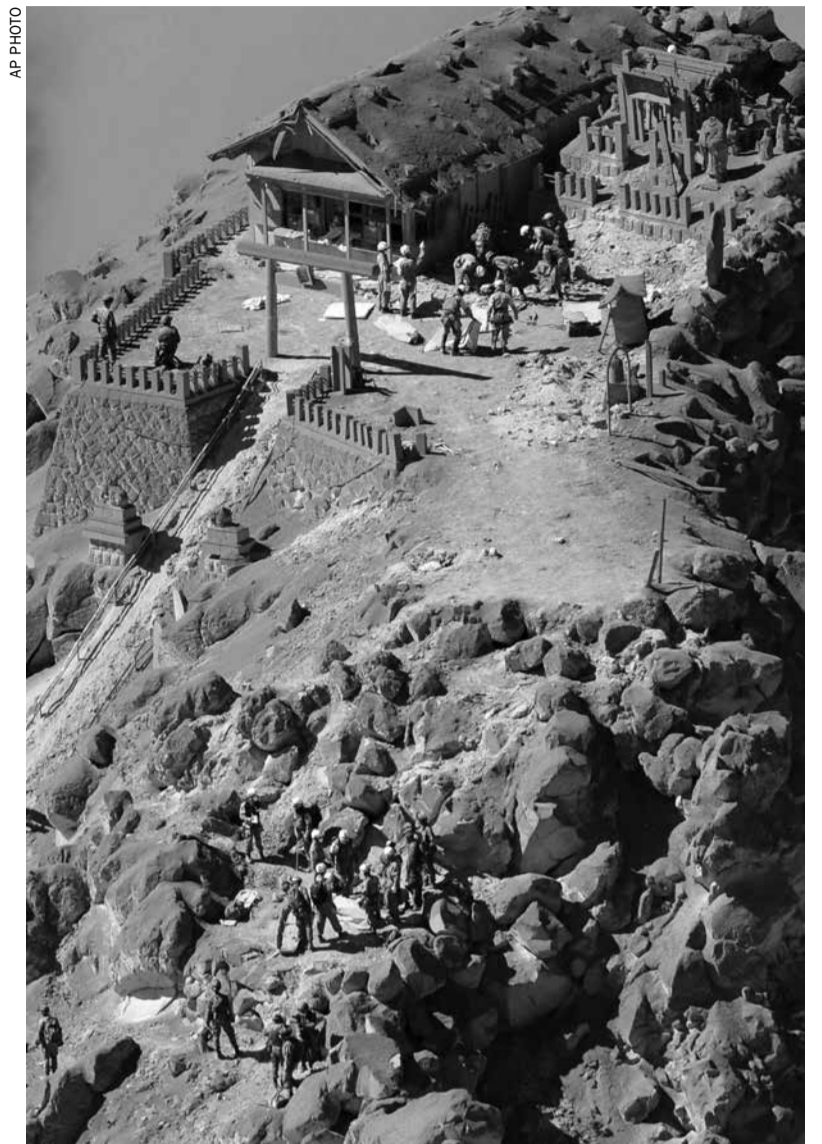
"It sounds like there is enormous ash fall up there," he said.

The rescuers reported a strong smell of sulfur, Morimoto said.

Saturday's eruption was the first fatal one in modern times at the 3,067-meter mountain, a popular climbing destination 210 kilometers west of Tokyo. An eruption occurred in 1979, but no one died.

Japanese media reported that some of the bodies were found in a lodge near the summit and that others were buried in ash up to 50 centimeters deep.

The mountain erupted shortly before noon at perhaps the worst possible time, with at least 250 people taking advantage of a beautiful fall Saturday to go for a hike. The blast spewed large white plumes of gas and ash high into the sky, blotted out the midday sun and blanketed the surrounding area in ash.



An aerial view shows rescue workers searching for missing people on erupted Mount Ontake, central Japan

Hundreds were initially trapped on the slopes, though most made their way down by Saturday night.

About 40 people who were

stranded overnight came down on Sunday. Many were injured, and some had to be rescued by helicopters or carried down on stretchers. **AP**

AFGHANISTAN

Ashraf Ghani sworn in as president after disputed vote

Rahim Faiez and Amir Shah, Kabul

ASHRAF Ghani Ahmadzai was sworn in yesterday as Afghanistan's new president, replacing Hamid Karzai in the country's first democratic transfer of power since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion toppled the Taliban.

Moments after Ghani Ahmadzai took the oath, he swore in his election challenger, Abdullah Abdullah, as chief executive, fulfilling a political pledge he had taken to share power and defuse election tensions that had threatened to spark violence between the country's north and south.

In his first speech, Ghani Ahmadzai called on the Taliban and other militants to join the country's political process and lay down



Afghan President Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, left, is sworn in by Chief Justice Abdul Salam Azimi, during his inauguration ceremony at the presidential palace in Kabul

their weapons. However, extremist violence yesterday killed at least 12 civilians and police officers as foreign forces prepare to withdraw from the country at the end of the year.

"We are tired of war,"

Ghani Ahmadzai said in a televised address. "Our message is peace, (but) this doesn't mean we are weak."

Ghani Ahmadzai, a former World Bank official and Afghan finance minister, wore a dark

black turban popular in the country's south as he swore in his two vice presidents and then Abdullah.

Abdullah, a former foreign minister, spoke first and thanked Karzai for his service and

the people of the country for casting votes in the millions despite the threat of attack from Taliban militants who tried to thwart the election process.

"We are committed as one in the national unity government," Abdullah said. "Our commitment will be fulfilled together as unified team to create national unity."

Ghani Ahmadzai then congratulated Karzai for a peaceful and democratic transition of power, and he thanked Abdullah for making the national unity government possible. The new president also promised to confront the country's endemic corruption.

"We want to be held accountable. I am your leader but I am no better than you. If I make mistakes, you should hold me accountable," Ghani Ahmadzai said.

Karzai — the only pre-

sident Afghanistan and the West have known since the invasion — wore a wide smile as he greeted his presidential guards upon entering the palace. Karzai has said he is glad to be stepping down after more than a decade of what the U.S. ambassador recently said was one of the most difficult jobs in the world.

The inauguration caps a nearly six-month election season that began when ballots were first cast in April. A runoff election in June between Ghani Ahmadzai and Abdullah stretched on for weeks as both sides leveled charges of fraud. The United Nations helped carry out what it said was the most thorough recount in its history, a count that reduced Ghani Ahmadzai's vote percentage from 56 percent to 55 percent, but still gave him the win. **AP**

US AIRSTRIKES

Obama: US 'underestimated' Islamic State threat



A U.S. Navy F-18E Super Hornet receives fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker over northern Iraq after conducting airstrikes in Syria

Ken Dilanian, Intelligence Writer, Washington

PRESIDENT Barack Obama acknowledged that U.S. intelligence agencies underestimated the threat from Islamic State militants in the Middle East and overestimated the ability and will of Iraq's army to fight such extremists.

Obama described the U.S. intelligence assessments in response to a question during a CBS "60 Minutes" interview that aired Sunday, in which he also conceded that the U.S. led military campaign against that group and an al-Qaida affiliate in Syria was helping Syrian dictator Bashar Assad, a man the U.N. has accused of war crimes.

But Obama said he had no choice but to order U.S. air strikes on Assad's enemies, the Islamic State and the Khorasan Group because, he said, "those folks could kill Americans."

The Islamic State group, which derived from but has broken with al-Qaida, has taken control of large sections of Iraq and Syria. The Khorasan Group is a cell of militants that the U.S. says

is plotting attacks against the West in cooperation with the Nusra front, Syria's al-Qaida affiliate.

Obama was asked how Islamic State fighters had come to control so much territory in Syria and Iraq and whether it was a surprise to him. The president said that during the Iraq war, U.S. military forces with the help of Iraq's Sunni tribes were able to quash al-Qaida fighters, who went "back underground."

"During the chaos of the Syrian civil war, where essentially you have huge swaths of the country that are completely ungoverned, they were able to reconstitute themselves and take advantage of that chaos," Obama said, according to an excerpt release before the show aired.

He noted that his director of national intelligence, James Clapper, has acknowledged that the U.S. "underestimated what had been taking place in Syria." Obama also said it was "absolutely true" that the U.S. overestimated the ability and will of the Iraqi army.

Both the Islamic State group and the Khorasan Group have been targeted by U.S. airstrikes in recent days; together

they constitute the most significant military opposition to Assad, whose government the U.S. would like to see gone.

On the fact that the U.S.-led military campaign had worked to Assad's benefit, Obama said, "I recognize the contradiction," but added: "We are not going to stabilize Syria under the rule of Assad," whose government has committed "terrible atrocities."

Republican Sen. John McCain, who lost the presidential election to Obama in 2008 and has been a frequent critic on foreign policy, said Monday that the administration had miscalculated the necessity for the United States to keep a residual force of troops in Iraq after the war there ended.

"We predicted exactly what would happen. ... It's like watching a train wreck," McCain said on CNN. "A residual force would have stabilized the situation. It is a direct result of our failure to leave a residual force there."

The United States and the government of then-Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki could not come to terms on agreement providing a residual force of American troops to remain in Iraq.

the president said. "Syria is a more challenging situation."

House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner questioned Obama's strategy to destroy the Islamic State group. Boehner said Sunday on ABC's "This Week" that the U.S. may have "no choice" but to send in American troops if the mix of U.S.-led airstrikes and a ground campaign reliant on Iraqi forces, Kurdish fighters and moderate Syrian rebels fails to achieve that goal.

"These are barbarians. They intend to kill us," Boehner said. "And if we don't destroy them first, we're going to pay the price."

Obama also conceded that the U.S. led military campaign was helping Syrian dictator Bashar Assad

Obama, though, made clear he has no interest in a major U.S. ground presence beyond the 1,600 American advisers and special operations troops he already has ordered to Iraq.

"We are assisting Iraq in a very real battle that's taking place on their soil, with their troops," the president said. "This is not America against ISIL," he said, using an alternative name for the Islamic State group. "This is America leading the international community to assist a country with whom we have a security partnership."

Only the U.S. can lead such a campaign, Obama said. "We have capacity no one else has. Our military is the best in the history of the world. And when trouble comes up anywhere in the world, they don't call Beijing. They don't call Moscow. They call us."

US-LED AIRSTRIKES HIT 4 SYRIAN PROVINCES

U.S.-LED COALITION strikes targeted Islamic State group positions overnight across in northern and eastern Syria, including one that hit a grain silo and reportedly killed civilians, activists said yesterday. Washington and its Arab allies opened their air assault against the extremist group last week, going after its military facilities, training camps, heavy weapons and oil installations. The campaign expands upon the airstrikes the United States has been conducting against the militants in Iraq since early August.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said coalition forces hit Islamic State group facilities overnight in Aleppo, Raqqa, Hassakeh and Deir el-Zour provinces. It said there were casualties, including civilians, but that it did not have concrete figures. One of the strikes hit a grain silo in the extremist-held town of Manbij in Aleppo province, setting it ablaze, the Observatory and the Aleppo Media Center activist group said. Another activist collective, the Local Coordination Committees, also reported what it said were coalition air raids on Manbij.



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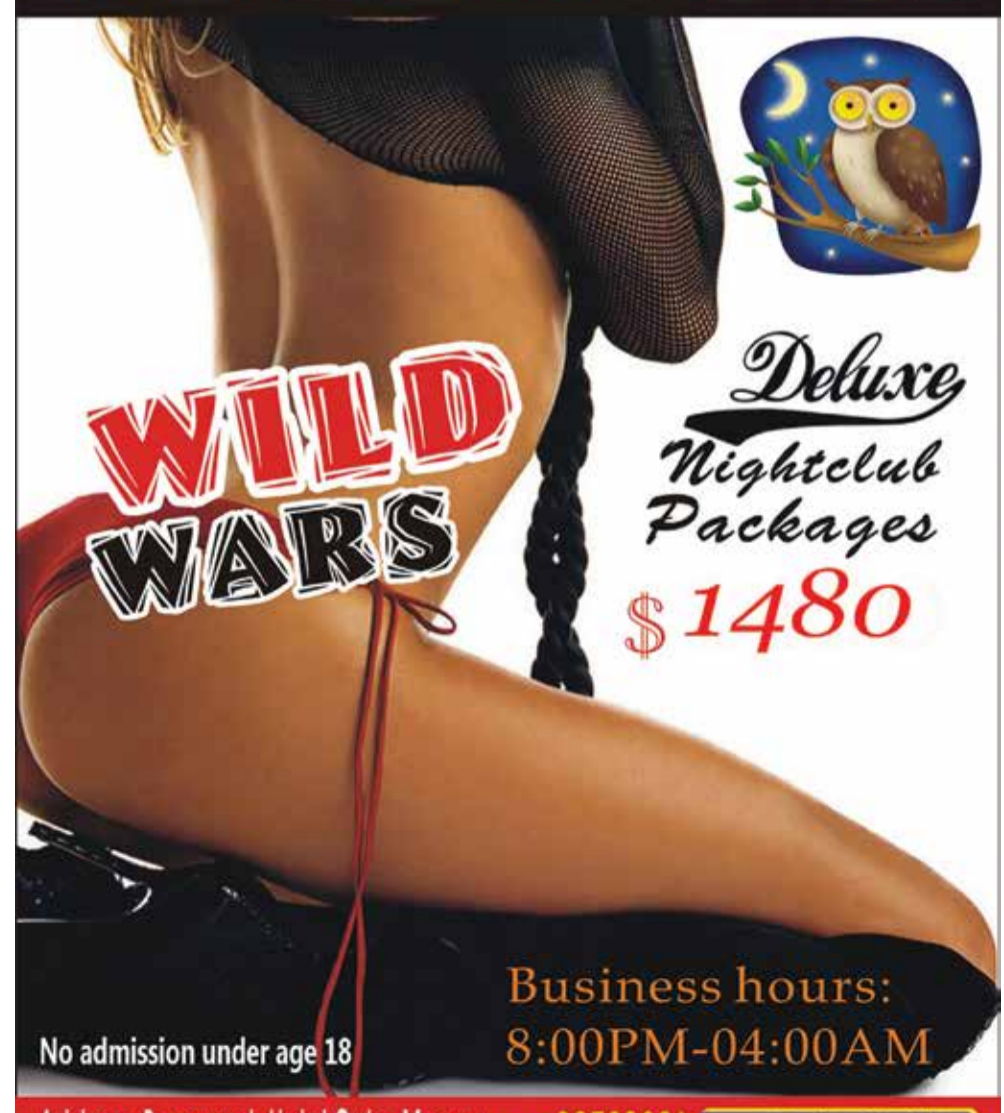
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what's ON



"MACAU OF MY OWN" PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION
BY EDUARDO MAGALHÃE
TIME: 2pm-7pm (Closed on Sundays)
UNTIL: October 7, 2014
VENUE: Creative Macau, G/F Macau Cultural Centre Building, Xian Xing Hai Avenue
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 3282

HERE IT IS - SANDY LEONG EXHIBITION
TIME: 10am-8pm (Closed on Sundays)
UNTIL: October 5, 2014
VENUE: Macau Fashion Gallery, Rua de S. Roque, No. 47, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

XXX COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION OF MACAU ARTISTS
TIME: 9am-9pm (open on public holidays)
UNTIL: October 5, 2014
VENUE: Temporary Exhibitions Gallery of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100

PAINTINGS ON SILK
- EXHIBITION ON MACAU FASHIONABLE SCARVES
TIME: 10am-8pm (Closed on Sundays)
UNTIL: October 5, 2014
VENUE: Macau Fashion Gallery, Rua de S. Roque, No. 47, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

TRANSFORMERS 30TH ANNIVERSARY EXPO
TIME: 11am-8pm
UNTIL: October 5, 2014
VENUE: Hall F, Cotai Expo
ADMISSION: MOP100
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8818

SHANDONG PROVINCE ACROBATIC TROUPE
TIME: 8pm
DATE: September 30 & October 1, 2014
VENUE: Macau Forum
ADMISSION: MOP200
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000 / 2833 7676

Offbeat

THEY DID. THEY DO. CLOONEY/
ALAMUDDIN WEDDING NO. 2

George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin had a second opportunity to say "I do" when they celebrated a civil ceremony in a historic palace along Venice's Grand Canal.

The couple tied the knot two days earlier in a private ceremony attended

by Hollywood celebrity friends and family. Yesterday, they followed up with a required civil procedure before Italian authorities.

The newlyweds arrived by water taxi. Clooney looked dapper in gray suit and matching tie, while the bride wore a cream-colored, short-sleeved jacket with palazzo pants and a matching wide-brimmed hat. They turned to wave at hundreds of people waiting hours for their arrival.

Clooney ushered his wife inside. They emerged 20 minutes later with former Rome Mayor Walter Veltroni, who performed both ceremonies.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
17:45	Heavy Load (Repeated)
18:30	TDM Sports (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Interview
21:45	Happy Endings S1
22:10	Heavy Load
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

25 SEP - 30 SEP

THE MAZE RUNNER

ROOM 1

2.00, 5.45, 7.45, 9.45 pm

Director: Wes Ball

Starring: Dylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 113min



THE BOXTROLLS

ROOM 1

4.00 pm

Director: Graham Annable, Anthony Stacchi

Language: Chinese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 97min



THE EQUALIZER

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Antoine Fuqua

Starring: Denzel Washington, Marton Csokas, Chloë

Grace Moretz

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 131min

A WALK AMONG THE TOMBSTONES

ROOM 3

2.00, 4.00, 6.00, 9.45 pm

Director: Scott Frank

Starring: Liam Neeson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 113min

THE BOXTROLLS

ROOM 3

8.00 pm

Director: Graham Annable, Anthony Stacchi

Language: Chinese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 97min

MACAU TOWER

18 SEP - 01 OCT

THE MAZE RUNNER

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Wes Ball

Starring: Dylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 113min

this day in history

2000 SHOCKING IMAGES OF BOY
SHOT IN GAZA

There has been a shocked and angry reaction around the world to TV pictures showing the death of a 12-year-old Palestinian boy caught in Israeli-Palestinian cross-fire on the Gaza Strip.

The footage shows the boy, Muhammad al-Durrah, shot in the arms of his father who was trying to shield him.

His terrifying last moments were captured by French television.

The shocking images, played repeatedly on television, show Muhammad and his father, Jamal, cowering behind a small metal barrel as bullets rain around them.

Jamal can be seen waving desperately at the Israeli soldiers on the other side of the road, as his son screams, obviously terrified, by his side.

Eventually both were hit - Muhammad four times. His father survived but was also critically wounded.

An ambulance driver who came to their aid 45 minutes later was also reported to have been shot and killed.

The tragedy happened at Netzarim junction, one of the worst flashpoints on the Gaza Strip, on the intersection between a Palestinian-controlled main road and a route controlled by the Israeli army leading to a Jewish settlement.

The father and his son were unarmed, and appear not to have been part of the rioting.

Relatives say they were returning from Gaza's popular used-car market and were trying to get home to the Buriej refugee camp where they live.

The boy's death came at the height of clashes between Palestinian and Israeli police in Jerusalem and throughout the occupied territories.

The violence began after a highly controversial visit two days ago by hardline Israeli opposition leader Ariel Sharon to Jerusalem's holiest site, the compound around Al-Aqsa mosque.

The site and its compound, known as Temple Mount to Jews and Haram al Sharif to Muslims, is sacred to both religions.

Yesterday, Israeli riot police stormed the mosque inside the walled compound, opening fire on stone-throwing worshippers.

The move was described by Palestinians as the start of a "religious war" over the disputed shrine.

The United States President, Bill Clinton, appealed for calm after today's violence, which left 16 people dead, including two Israeli soldiers, and more than 500 injured.

"This issue must be solved at the negotiating table and not in the streets," he said.

Peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians have stumbled since the failure of talks at Camp David in July over disagreement over the fate of Jerusalem.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Images of the killing of Muhammad al-Durrah caused an international outcry.

Israel expressed sorrow at the death but accused the Palestinians of making "cynical use" of children in clashes with Israeli troops.

The Israeli Defence Force's subsequent investigation into the killing found that Mohammad and his father could not have been within range of the Israeli soldiers.

There have been other investigations since which have looked at claims the shooting was faked and even that the boy was never killed. The incident is still the subject of great controversy.

In the following five days of bloodshed, two more Palestinian children, one 10 years old, the other just two, were killed.

On October 12 two Israeli reservists were beaten to death and their bodies mutilated by a Palestinian mob in Ramallah. In revenge Israel sent in helicopter gunships to attack the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

It was the beginning of a wave of violence which became known as the second Palestinian intifada (uprising), or by some as the Al Aqsa intifada.

By the end of the first year of the intifada, more than 800 people had died.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Your thinking is pretty far off from the mainstream today — but that just means that the mainstream is wrong (again). Blaze your own trail and make sure at least a few are following you.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
You have taken a philosophical turn today, and should find that your energy is all geared up toward the big issues you're facing. It could also be that you just want to goof off and think big!

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Preaching is a problem — especially if you're at the pulpit! Try to let others take the center stage and make sure if you've got advice to dispense that you find quiet, low-key ways to speak the truth.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Even though it seems like everyone in the world needs a little piece of you, it's still important that you take care of yourself. In fact, it may be more important than ever for you to do just that.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Your energy levels have refilled to max — so make the most of this sudden burst! It's easier than ever for you to convince others that you're right or to get them to at least listen to you.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You're reluctant to do the one thing you know you've got to do — so force yourself. You're the master of self-discipline, so it comes naturally to you, even if you don't like it for the time being.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
You need to express yourself — because nobody else will! Your social energy definitely had you chomping at the bit, and it should be easier than ever for you to make your voice heard.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
You're not easy to convince — but on a day like today, you never know what might happen. Someone appears to have solid arguments, so you should provisionally go along with them.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Express your admiration for someone you like today — it's a great day for smiles and hugs. It's just as good for performance reviews and social media likes, so do whatever fits.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Your political ideals are being tested today, so make sure that you're up to the task at hand. You may need to defend an unpopular notion or stand up against a rising tide of ignorance.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
A new connection makes life much simpler for you — and could be the key to future success. Think things through as you plow through the day, and make sure that you keep lines open.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
You almost certainly say more than you mean to say today — even if you think you've got a tight leash on your feelings. Things shouldn't get too stressful, though. Let yourself work past this.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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Easy+

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Hard

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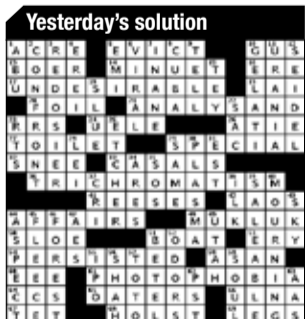
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	10	17	clear/cloudy
Harbin	-2	13	clear
Tianjin	11	19	cloudy/clear
Urumqi	9	19	cloudy/clear
Xi'an	16	25	cloudy/overcast
Lhasa	6	16	overcast/shower
Chengdu	19	27	cloudy
Chongqing	21	29	overcast/cloudy
Kunming	16	23	shower
Nanjing	19	23	shower/overcast
Shanghai	21	24	shower/drizzle
Wuhan	18	24	cloudy
Hangzhou	20	24	drizzle
Taipei	23	31	clear/drizzle
Guangzhou	24	32	cloudy
Hong Kong	27	32	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	4	11	drizzle
Frankfurt	12	23	drizzle
Paris	12	18	drizzle
London	12	19	clear
New York	15	25	overcast

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Voting group; 5- Cattle group; 9- Species of antelope found in South Africa; 13- Crowd noise; 14- Uproar; 15- Oboe, e.g.; 16- This, in Tijuana; 17- Harass; 18- Actress Heche; 19- Landlord; 21- U.K. record label; 22- Seed containers; 23- Rise sharply, as a bird would; 25- Ginger cookie; 27- Venerated; 31- Hotel patrons; 35- Brit's exclamation; 36- Suit to ___; 38- Welcome; 39- D-Day craft; 40- Fenced areas; 42- Exist; 43- Distrustful; 46- Feds; 47- What ___ mind reader?; 48- Emphasis; 50- Arterial dilatation; 52- Overabundance; 54- Tennis matches are divided into these; 55- Paul Sorvino's daughter; 58- Kind of school; 60- Land, as a fish; 64- Blind part; 65- Gettysburg general; 67- Church area; 68- Essence; 69- Finished; 70- Purim month; 71- Spanish appetizer; 72- Textile worker; 73- Letterman rival;

DOWN: 1- Songwriter Jacques; 2- Diet successfully; 3- Cereal grain; 4- Peevishly; 5- Attila, e.g.; 6- Sea eagle; 7- Chambers; 8- Desiccant; 9- Fur hunter; 10- Vintner's prefix; 11- Remain undecided; 12- Bad day for Caesar; 14- Remote; 20- "Hollywood Squares" win; 24- Put a new price on; 26- Summer mo.; 27- Small mountains; 28- Personal quality of material belonging; 29- "See ya!"; 30- Skin layer; 32- Sordid; 33- Garr and Hatcher; 34- Water vapor; 37- Utopias; 41- Scoffed; 44- Boat race; 45- Fashion monogram; 47- Weapons supply; 49- Added; 51- U of U athlete; 53- Itty-bitty; 55- High-ranking NCO; 56- Bones found in the hip; 57- Coarse file; 59- Florida's Miami-___ County; 61- Fill with cargo; 62- Lendl of tennis; 63- Fiddling emperor; 66- ___ Rosenkavalier



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Joseph Wilson, Barcelona

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE PREVIEW

Ronaldo, Messi take aim at Raul's tournament goal record

THE Champions League returns today [Wednesday 2:45am] with Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi competing for yet another prize as the rival stars take aim at the tournament's all-time scoring record.

While the world's top two players continue their individual battle, three of England's four teams seek their first win, and the Spanish and Italian champions clash this week in Europe's top-tier competition.

Ronaldo and Messi are neck-and-neck in a race to become the Champions League's all-time leading scorer by breaking the record held by Raul Gonzalez.

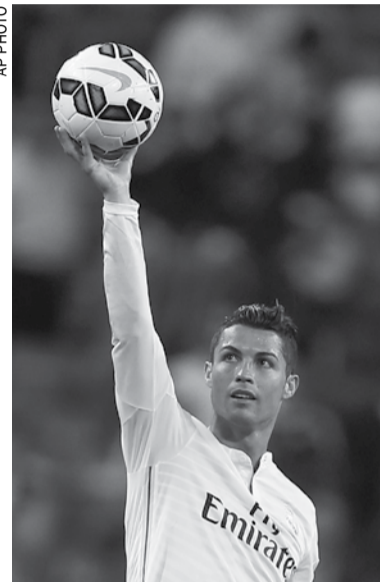
Ronaldo has 68 goals in Europe's top club competition, one more than Messi. Raul scored 71.

Ronaldo may have a better chance of getting there first as Real Madrid plays at Bulgaria's Ludogorets in Group B on Wednesday, a day after Messi's Barcelona has a tougher trip to Paris Saint-Germain in Group F.

The Portugal forward looks primed to increase his goal haul in Sofia after scoring 10 goals in his last six matches, including one four-goal performance and a hat trick.

Messi, meanwhile, scored his 400th and 401st goals for club and country in Barcelona's 6-0 rout of Granada on Saturday.

Their latest two-man contest comes after they have divided up the Ballon d'Or for the world's best player for the past six years



Real's Cristiano Ronaldo



Barcelona's Lionel Messi

and have taken turns leading the Champions League in scoring for the past seven seasons.

PSG not only has the problem of stopping Messi. It may have to do so without striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

When Ibrahimovic has been sidelined, the team has won only 40 percent of its matches. And coach Laurent Blanc is sweating on his fitness after Ibrahimovic missed the last two games because of a left heel injury.

"I don't know which attacking players I will have available against Barcelona," Blanc said. "We don't play the same way when Ibra's here and when he isn't. For the time being there is still a question mark. The medical staff will do everything to try and heal him."

Liverpool was the only English team to open the Champions League with a win, and only with a last-gasp goal against newcomer Ludogorets. Basel will

present a far tougher challenge on Wednesday with striker Daniel Sturridge out injured as Liverpool looks to keep pace with Madrid in Group B.

Chelsea's reliance on Diego Costa for goals seemed clear when the striker sat out the 1-1 draw against Schalke in the Group G opener. And ongoing problems with Costa's left thigh are likely to force him to miss today's game at Sporting Lisbon.

"He's doing almost nothing (in training)," Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho said. "He's just resting and recovering from the tight muscle he has. Every time he accumulates fatigue."

Mourinho, who worked at Sporting as assistant to Bobby Robson between 1992 and 1993, is out to end Sporting's 16-match unbeaten home run in Europe.

Manchester City faces a formidable test today with the visit of a Roma side which has made a perfect start to the season at home and in Europe. It's been a patchy beginning to the campaign for City, which opened Group E with a loss at Bayern Munich.

In Group D, Arsenal hosts Galatasaray on Wednesday with both Mikel Arteta and Aaron Ramsey

out injured.

Atletico Madrid was minutes away from winning the European Cup last May before the title slipped away to Madrid.

Now after losing this season's opener, the Spanish league champions face a crucial game on Wednesday when Serie A champion Juventus comes to town.

A loss to Juventus, combined with an Olympiakos win at Swedish side Malmo, would leave Atletico six points adrift in Group A.

Atletico will be boosted by the return of coach Diego Simeone to the sidelines after he missed the first game due to suspension.

Bayern travels to CSKA Moscow in Group E with midfielder Xabi Alonso firmly in control of his new team.

The Spaniard was only signed at the end of the transfer period after several players went down with long-term injuries.

But Alonso stepped right in and has been impressive in directing Bayern's attack.

On Saturday, Alonso set a Bundesliga record by touching the ball 206 times in a 2-0 win at Cologne. **AP**

TENNIS

Serena avoids bagel, then cruises at China Open

Justin Bergman, Beijing

SERENA Williams narrowly avoided a bagel against Spanish qualifier Silvia Soler-Espinosa, then won 13 of the next 15 games to pull out a 7-5, 6-2 victory yesterday in the first round of the China Open.

Williams looked lethargic and flat-footed at the start, pushing the ball back without much pace or direction and occasionally shanking groundstrokes several feet out. After only 15 minutes, she had already dropped serve three times and fallen behind 5-0.

Just as quickly as she gave up such a big lead, however, Williams turned it around. In the next game, the 18-time major winner saved a set point and broke Soler-Espinosa to finally get on the board.

"I didn't want to lose 6-love," Williams said. "I just started fighting. I was like, just let me at least try to break here."



Serena Williams

Soler-Espinosa had another set point on Williams' serve in the following game, but the American saved it with a cross-court backhand winner at the net and cruised the rest of the way.

Williams routinely does out the bagels in matches, but she's rarely on the receiving end of one. The last player to win a 6-0 set against her was another Spaniard, Anabel Medina Garrigues, in Madrid last year. Williams came back to win that match, too, 6-3,

0-6, 7-5.

After the match, Williams said she hadn't been sure she'd be healthy enough to play in Beijing after pulling out of a match against Alize Cornet with dizziness and nausea last week at the Wuhan Open.

"I just started hitting a couple days ago, taking it day by day. Finally I decided I'm here, I may as well see what happens," Williams said. "I'm feeling a lot better. I have more energy. I look back. Like my eyes aren't as dead as they were."

It was the latest health issue to sidetrack Williams this year. She also pulled out of a Wimbledon doubles match after looking completely out of sorts in her warm-up and hitting four straight double-faults in the match. She later blamed a viral illness.

On the men's side, U.S. Open champion Marin Cilic struggled with his consistency against Chinese

wild-card entry Bai Yan, ranked 462nd in the world, but held on to win 6-3, 6-4.

Cilic said he's still getting used to the feeling of being a Grand Slam champion and dealing with all the pressure and attention that brings.

"Most of the guys at the top are dealing with that already for a few years. It's a bit new thing for me, so I'm learning day to day," he said. "Most important for myself is also not to put too many expectations on my own shoulders."

Other winners included ninth-seeded Ana Ivanovic, who took advantage of eight double-faults by Belinda Bencic to beat the rising Swiss teenager 6-2, 6-1, and U.S. Open semifinalist Peng Shuai of China, who defeated Zhang Kailin 6-4, 6-1.

Fourteen-time major winner Rafael Nadal also returned to the court for the first time since injuring his wrist in July to play a doubles

match. He and partner Pablo Andujar lost to Tomas Berdych and John Isner 7-5, 4-6, 10-4.

Nadal will play his open-

ning singles match against Richard Gasquet, while top-seeded Novak Djokovic faces Guillermo Garcia-Lopez. **AP**

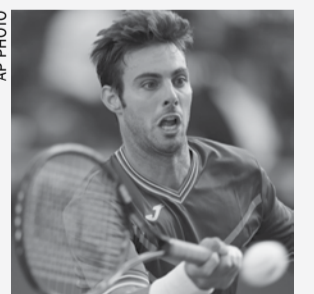
MARCEL GRANOLLERS BEATS DAVID FERRER AT JAPAN OPEN

MARCEL GRANOLLERS

of Spain rallied from a set down to beat second-seeded David Ferrer 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 and advance to the second round of the Japan Open. Granollers converted four of nine break points at Ariake Coliseum and will next face Steve Johnson of the United States. Johnson lost only seven of his first service points and hit 12 aces to beat Japanese qualifier Hiroki Moriya 7-6 (4), 6-2.

The early loss could dent Ferrer's hopes of qualifying for the ATP finals in London in November. The top eight players qualify and Ferrer is currently ranked seventh.

"I lost my focus in the second



set," said Ferrer, who recently split with coach Jose Francisco Altur. "I have not been playing well recently and have got on a bad run of results."

Also, seventh-seeded Kevin Anderson of South Africa defeated Dominic Thiem of Austria 7-6 (5), 6-4, and Gilles Muller of Luxembourg beat Federico Delbonis of Argentina 6-3, 6-4.

opinion

Our Desk
João Pedro Lau



DON'T BE LAZY, BE AN ATHEIST

For the majority of us it is very easy to be comfortable with a set of beliefs or an ideology that we would rather defend than question.

I am not talking about religious beliefs here, but political beliefs and ideologies, as well as one's adherence to a political entity.

The situation is the most prominent in the United States, where, from my observations, a lot of people tend to describe their political orientation through stating which (major) party they support.

A similar situation seems to take place in Hong Kong, where many say that they support the pan-democratic camp or the pro-establishment camp.

When you put your trust in a political entity, it is inevitable that you will trust the people who represent the group too. It is like when you claim to be a democrat in the US, it is more likely that you trust or support Barack Obama. Or when you say you support the pan-democratic camp in Hong Kong, you are likely to support the members of the HK Legislative Council who are in that camp as well.

It all seems like a religion. When you put your trust in a church, you put your trust in the representative of the church and believe whatever they say. Comfortable as it is, this approach is in fact extremely lazy and can bring people a lot of trouble.

For example, when the political group or representative you are associated with has made some seriously questionable decisions or is involved in some sort of scandal, it is inevitable that the opposition will seize the charge and attack both the group and the ideology it holds. You, as a follower of the group and a believer of the ideology, will then be forced to defend the two, even though sometimes it is impossible to defend the former.

When I was younger, I was one of those lazy people who would identify themselves as a member of some political entities or groups. Sometimes I would even think that what the group did was (almost) always correct and was out of some selfless intention.

This changed when I started finding evidence that went against the groups or their representatives that I trusted, thanks to the smear campaign cooked up by the opposition and the almighty Internet.

It was shocking for me at first to find out "the truth" behind the scenes, just like when a child finds out that Santa Claus doesn't exist. But when I got over it, I felt liberated because I no longer needed to defend the group while trying to defend some of the thoughts and ideas that they held.

Looking at the current situation in Hong Kong, some may blame members of the pan-democratic camp and the three leaders of the Occupy Central movement for igniting the mass scale protests. But the truth is, if you really ask the people on the streets, many of them would probably tell you that they are not gathering there because of those leaders or the pan-democratic politicians. They are there because they have a demand and they want the government to hear it.

This has led to the result that despite the government and some pro-establishment media trying to discredit the prominent figures in the pan-democracy camp, it does not discourage people from protesting because they are there for their own beliefs.

If you are still holding on to some ideology because of the group you are associated with, I urge you to use your critical thinking to scrutinize it and decide if you want to adhere to the ideology or the group anymore. Don't be lazy and believe everything others feed you. Be a political atheist and believe in things that you find credible.

THE BUZZ US: PENNSYLVANIA PRIEST ORDERED DETAINED UNTIL TRIAL

A Roman Catholic priest was ordered to remain jailed until his trial on charges that he possessed child pornography and traveled to Honduras for sex with children during missionary trips.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Keith Pesto ordered the Rev. Joseph Maurizio Jr., 69, detained after prosecution evidence contrasted sharply with character witnesses who on yesterday described the defendant as "priestly, faithful and committed to helping."

"What you're describing is Jekyll and Hyde, Father Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," Pesto said, before noting he can't let "Jekyll go free and detain Mr. Hyde."

Maurizio has been jailed since Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents arrested him yesterday. A criminal complaint alleges Maurizio gave boys candy and money so he could molest them — including performing a sex act on a 14-year-old in a chapel — or watch the boys have sex.



Om Yun Chol of North Korea reacts after making a good lift during the men's 56kg weightlifting competition at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon

At Asian Games, doping tests catch only small fry

Eric Talmadge, Incheon

DOPE testing at this year's Asian Games has been more stringent than ever — and so far only two of the more than 9,500 athletes taking part in the regional Olympic-style event have tested positive.

No big names, no gold medals taken away, no world records stricken from the books.

But is that a good thing?

Officials administering the anti-doping regime at the games acknowledge that as hard-core dopers grow more sophisticated and better versed in how to avoid detection, in-competition doping tests at events like the Asian Games are often catching only the smallest of the small fry — athletes who may well have not even known they were breaking any rules.

"Today, more and more, we are getting athletes in the ignorant category," said Manikasavagam Jegathesan, the chairman of the Medical Committee and Anti-Doping Commission of the Olympic Council of Asia.

He added that the two cases of banned stimulant use that have surfaced in the Asian Games are typical.

"I don't think there was ever any intention to use these to cheat," he said. "But we cannot make an exception to the rule simply because we are sympathetic. We have a job to do, to

protect the clean athlete."

Jegathesan said there are three kinds of athletes who fail doping tests. First are the hard-core cheats, who dope deliberately and methodically because they think it will help them to win. Next are competitors who are pushed into doping by their coaches or trainers.

Then there are athletes like Yi Sophany, an 18-year-old soft tennis player from Cambodia.

In the parlance of doping experts, she is an "innocent."

Sophany was found to have taken sibutramine, a stimulant listed on the World Anti-Doping Association's prohibited list. According to her team, she had no idea it would get her in trouble.

"She was just surprised. She really didn't know," said Nhan Sokvisal, the head of the 20-member Cambodian team at the games. "She took it as a beauty thing, to keep her weight down. It wasn't about winning or anything. Sometimes what we eat, what we drink, we don't know that it can cause a problem with the doping test."

It is unlikely that the substance would have significantly benefited her on the court.

Even so, the punishment was swift.

She was disqualified, sent home in disgrace and her case kicked up to the highest levels of her sport and her national Olympic committee for deli-

beration and possible further action. Because the Asian Games are a high-profile international event, her positive test was reported around the world.

Jegathesan warned against judging athletes like Sophany too harshly.

"If you look at the sport, you look at the nature of the athlete and you look at the substance, I think you can make your own call and you can then give an appropriate label," he said.

He acknowledged that finding the intentional cheats, meanwhile, is as difficult as ever.

To catch the hard-core group, doping officials at the Asian Games are deploying a test distribution system that focuses the 1,900 tests they will conduct on athletes in what are considered high risk sports or who come from countries where there are higher suspicions of doping activity.

Jegathesan said the system involves intelligence gleaned from international sports organizations and is kept highly confidential so that suspected cheaters will not know they are being scrutinized.

"There are certain sports where still believe in the axiom that if you don't take it, you don't make it. That's the game," he said.

But he added the OCA only has the authority to check for doping during the games. **AP**

Station	Air quality
Roadside	55-75 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	55-75 Moderate
Ambient	55-75 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

AFGHANISTAN Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai is sworn in as Afghanistan's new president, replacing Hamid Karzai in the country's first democratic transfer of power since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion toppled the Taliban. **More on p13**

UK Britain's governing Conservatives were struggling to focus attention on their economic policies yesterday after a government minister sent an explicit photo to a tabloid journalist posing on Twitter as a young party supporter. Brooks Newmark resigned as minister for civil society after learning that the recipient of a suggestive snapshot of himself wearing paisley pajamas was a male reporter for the Sunday Mirror tabloid, rather than a young woman named Sophie.



ISRAEL It used to be that if you wanted to join one of the world's most secretive espionage organizations you had to sneak into a foreign embassy, answer a cryptic newspaper ad or show up in a nondescript building in Tel Aviv to meet a shadowy recruiter. Now all it takes to apply for a job at Israel's Mossad spy agency is a click of the mouse. The typically shadowy Mossad revamped its website last week to include a snazzy recruiting video and an online application option for those seeking employment.

USA Gov. Jerry Brown announces that he signed a bill that makes California the first in the nation to define when "yes means yes" and adopt requirements for colleges to follow when investigating sexual assault reports.

SPAIN The Spanish intend to challenge the decision of the powerful northeastern region of Catalonia to call an independence referendum.

UKRAINE East Ukraine suffers the worst violence in more than a week, as fighting between pro-Russian rebels and government troops in the region kills at least 12 people and wounds 32.