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Southern News Group

Abbott drops shotgun giveaway after Santa Fe school shooting



Inside C2

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

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U.S. slaps heavy duties on Chinese steel shipped from Vietnam

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The U.S. Commerce Department on Monday slapped steep import duties on steel products from Vietnam that originated in China after a final finding they evaded U.S. anti-dumping and anti-subsidy orders.

The decision marked a victory for U.S. steelmakers, who won anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties against Chinese steel in 2015 and 2016 only to see shipments flood in from elsewhere. The industry has argued that Chinese products are being diverted to other countries to circumvent the duties.

U.S. customs authorities will collect anti-dumping duties of 199.76 percent and countervailing duties of 256.44 percent on imports of cold-rolled steel produced in Vietnam using Chinese-origin substrate, the Commerce Department said in a statement.

Corrosion-resistant steel from Vietnam faces anti-dumping duties of 199.43 percent and anti-subsidy duties of 39.05 percent, it said.

The department has said it would apply the same Chinese anti-dumping and anti-subsidy rates on corrosion-resistant and cold-rolled steel from Vietnam that starts out as Chinese-made hot-rolled steel.

The duties will come in addition to a 25 percent tariff on most steel imported into the United States that resulted from the Trump administration's "Section 232" national security investigation into steel and aluminum imports.

Although the steel subject to the latest anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties was processed in Vietnam to be made corrosion resistant or cold-rolled for use in autos or appliances, the Commerce Department agreed with the claims of American producers that as much as 90 percent of the product's value originated from China.

The global steel industry is struggling with a glut of excess production capacity, much of it located in China, that has



Workers pack cold rolled steel coil at a steel company in Zhangjia-

pushed down prices.

The decision followed a European Union finding in November that steel shipments from Vietnam into the EU also circumvented tariffs.

The Commerce Department said that after anti-dumping duties were imposed on Chinese steel products in 2015, shipments of cold-rolled steel from Vietnam into the United States shot up to \$215 million annually from \$9 million, while corrosion-resistant steel imports rose to \$80 million from \$2 million.

The case stems from a petition filed by U.S. producers Arce-

lorMittal USA (MT.AS), Nucor Corp (NUE.N), AK Steel Holdings Corp (AKS.N) and United States Steel Corp (X.N) alleging that Chinese producers began diverting their steel shipments to Vietnam "immediately" after the duties were imposed.

Special Counsel Robert Mueller is also investigating. The June 2016 Trump Tower meeting has been central to those

Reporting by Patricia Zengerle, Karen Freifeld, Jonathan Landay and Susan Heavey; Editing by Steve Orlofsky

Wall St. rises on trade war truce; industrials lead

NEW YORK (Reuters) - U.S. stocks rose on Monday and gains in industrials helped propel the Dow to a more than two-month closing high, after a truce between the United States and China calmed fears that a trade war might be imminent.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin's comments over the weekend that the two countries had put the prospect of a trade war "on hold" and agreed to hold more talks to boost U.S. exports to China boosted stocks at the opening, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average .DJI leading the charge

Mnuchin said on Sunday the United States and China had agreed to drop their tariff threats, and China on Monday praised a significant dialing back of tensions.

"The big news over the weekend was that a trade war was averted, and so we had an adjustment, covering bets that there would be negative news coming out of the discussion," said Bucky Hellwig, senior vice president at BB&T Wealth Management in Birmingham, Alabama. "We're seeing companies that do more of their business on an international basis do well."

The S&P industrial sector .SPLRCI advanced 1.5 percent. Boeing Co (BA.N), which sells about a fourth of its commercial aircraft to Chinese customers, jumped 3.6 percent. It was the biggest percentage gainer on the Dow and lifted the blue-chip index.

(To make a reservation)

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The Russell 2000 rose 0.7 percent to hit a record closing high for a fourth straight session, though the index of small-cap companies underperformed large caps.



Huya Inc. chairman Xueling Li and CEO Rongjie Dong pose with Huva execs during the company's IPO at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in New York

The Dow Jones Industrial Average .DJI rose 298.2 points, or 1.21 percent, to 25,013.29, the S&P 500 .SPX gained 20.04 points, or 0.74 percent, to 2,733.01, and the Nasdaq Composite .IXIC added 39.70 points, or 0.54 percent, to 7,394.04.

General Electric (GE.N) advanced 1.9 percent. It confirmed on Monday it will merge its transportation business with rail equipment maker Wabtec (WAB.N), which jumped about 3.5

Not all U.S. business leaders welcomed the trade war truce, with some cautioning that Washington would find it tough to rebuild momentum to address what they see as troubling Chinese policies.

Shares of AK Steel (AKS.N) fell 5.1 percent and U.S. Steel (X.N) was down 3.8 percent following the weekend trade announcement.

The easing of the trade dispute also boosted chipmakers, whose major clients include Chinese firms, with the Philadelphia chip index .SOX gaining 1.1 percent. The technology sector .SPLRCT rose 0.8 percent.

Tesla (TSLA.O) jumped 2.8 percent on pricing of the Model 3's fully loaded version and after brokerage Berenberg raised its already bullish price target.

Regional lender MB Financial (MBFI.O) jumped 12.9 percent after agreeing to be bought for \$4.87 billion by Fifth Third Bancorp (FITB.O), which fell 7.9 percent.

Advancing issues outnumbered declining ones on the NYSE by a 2.43-to-1 ratio; on Nasdaq, a 1.59-to-1 ratio favored advanc-

The S&P 500 posted 33 new 52-week highs and three new lows; the Nasdaq Composite recorded 171 new highs and 33

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LOCAL NEWS

Abbott drops shotgun giveaway after Santa Fe school shooting

By Fernando Alfonso III

AUSTIN -- Gov. Greg Abbott on Monday cancelled a shotgun giveaway contest in his re-election campaign amid controversy after a gunman killed 10 people and injured 10 others at a high school south of Houston. Campaign officials said the giveaway has been changed to a \$250 gift card redeemable for any kind of merchandise, not the \$250 gift certificate redeemable for a Texas-made shotgun at a licensed gun dealer in Central Texas. The gunman used a Remington 870 shotgun and a .38-caliber pistol in the attack Friday at Santa Fe High School, authorities said. Abbott's giveaway -- many Texas politicians annually auction and giveaway shotguns and hunting rifles as part of their campaigns -had drawn controversy over the weekend after door hangers advertising the giveaway were distributed in western Travis County as part of door-to-door campaigning, quickly touching off complaints on social media. Texas Governor Greg Abbott speaks about the shooting at Santa Fe High School, during a press conference at the Santa Fe ISD Agricultural Center Friday, May 18, 2018, in Santa Fe. The Austin chapter of March for Our Lives -- the gun control initiative started by students in Parkland, Fla., after a school shooting there -- blasted Abbott on Twitter. "To put it bluntly, we find this a disgusting display of the disregard of the toll gun violence and an absolute failure to respect your constituents in the wake of the #SantaFe shootings," the group said in a tweet.





Texas Governor Greg Abbott, from left, holds the arms of a worshipper who arrived at the Arcadia First Baptist Church to gather for a service two days after Sunday, May 20, 2018, in Santa Fe.

Westlake Chemical debuts on Fortune 500 list

Westlake Chemical Corp. made the Fortune 500 list for the first time Monday about a year and a half after its acquisition of rival Axiall. The Houston-based chemical maker now ranks 352 on the list of the nation's highest-earning companies, jumping 155 spots from 507 last year. The company reported \$8.04 billion in revenue in last year, up from nearly \$ 5.08 billion in 2016. In 2016, Westlake completed its \$3.8 billion acquisition of Axiall, a move that substantially expanded its

vinyls business. Westlake is now the second-largest U.S. producer of polyvinyl chloride, used to make pipes and other building materials.

The company is also working to expand its production of ethylene, a building block of most plastics. Last year, it expanded production capacity at its Kentucky plant by about 100 million pounds a year.



Albert Chao, CEO and president of Westlake Chemical, has overseen the company's rapid expansion in recent years. The company debuted on the Fortune 500 list Monday.



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Tuesday, May 22, 2018



Editor's Choice



Colombian former president Alvaro Uribe and right-wing presidential candidate Ivan Duque pose during a closing campaign rally in Bogota



Soccer Football - FA Cup Final - Chelsea vs Manchester United - Wembley Stadium, London, Britain - May 19, 2018 Chelsea celebrate winning the final with the trophy REUTERS/David Klein TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



A Venezuelan citizen living in Colombia cries during a protest against the presidential elections in Venezuela, in Bogota



New CIA Director Gina Haspel speaks as President Donald Trump looks on after Haspel was sworn-in during ceremony at the headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency in Langley,



Pro-Palestinian protesters participate in a protest organized by Al Adl wal Ihsane in Casablanca



People carry a portable shrine, a Mikoshi, at the Senso-ji Temple during the Sanja festival in Asakusa district in Tokyo



A performer takes part in the Carnival of Cultures in Berlin



UEFA European Under-17 Championship Final - Italy vs Netherlands



A worker adjusts chrysanthemums on a display as he prepares for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in London, Britain May 20



COMMUNITY

Houston Community College Recognized For Excellence In Financial Reporting



HOUSTON [May 18, 2018] -The Government Finance Officers Association has awarded Houston Community College a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the college's 2017 comprehensive annual financial report. This is the 11th year HCC has qualified for the award.

The notification from the GFOA reads. "The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment. Congratulations for having satisfied the high standards of the program. We hope that your example will encourage others in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting."



HCC Chancellor Cesar Maldonado

"The Certificate of Excellence from the GFOA indicates HCC is meeting the highest standards of financial disNews From HCC



HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

closure," said HCC Chancellor Cesar Maldonado. "Not only are we a leader in preparing students for careers in the 21st Century, we are doing so with the utmost attention to safeguarding the taxpayer dollars entrusted to us."

The Certificate of Excellence specifically recognizes the HCC finance and accounting team led by HCC Interim Senior Vice Chancellor Finance and Administration Carin Hutchins. "We are committed to communicating HCC's financial story with transparency and accuracy," says Hutchins. "I am proud of my team for its work in achieving this award."

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 19,000 government finance professionals in the U.S. and Canada.

U.S. News And World Reports Ranks HCC Early College High Schools Among Best In The Nation



HOUSTON [May 18, 2018] - Five North Houston Early College High area high schools that participate in the Houston Community College dual credit program are listed on the U.S. News and World Reports 2018 edition of Best High Schools. (https://www.usnews. com/education/best-high-schools)

The rankings evaluate more than 20,500 U.S. public high schools to identify schools that best serve all of their students, including historically underserved populations. The list is determined by looking at results from state assessments, as well as the degree to which students at each school are prepared for college-level work. Graduation rates were also included as a factor in the rankings.

"HCC is the institution of choice for students seeking to earn college credit and high school credit while still in high school," said HCC Chancellor Cesar Maldonado. "These national rankings are a testament to the quality of our program and the success of our early college students."

Award Designations

Gold Medal Designations

Challenge Early College High School (U.S. rank: 91; Texas: 15; Magnet: 25; Charter: 30)

School (U.S. rank: 311; Texas: 52; Magnet: 63; Charter: 95)

East Early College High School (U.S. rank: 315; Texas: 53; Magnet: 64; Charter: 97)

Silver Medal Designations

South Early College High School (U.S. rank: 2,515; Texas: 216; Magnet: 292)

Bronze Medal Designations

Long Academy (U.S. rank: Recognized; Texas: Recognized)



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HCC Chancellor Cesar Maldonado

The HCC dual credit program allows students demonstrating college readiness through a state of Texas approved college placement test to earn dual credit by taking an approved college class offered at a high school, HCC campus, or online. Dual credit classes are taught by educators who are expected to mirror the credentials and course requirements of a traditional college instructor.

About HCC

Houston Community College (HCC) is composed of 15 Centers of Excellence and numerous satellite centers that serve the diverse communities in the Greater Houston area by preparing individuals to live and work in an increasingly international and technological society. HCC is one of the country's largest singly-accredited, open-admission, community colleges offering associate degrees, certificates, workforce training, and lifelong learning opportunities. To learn more, visit www.hccs.edu.



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BUSINESS



worker trims cannabis at the growing facility of the Tikun Olam company near the northern city of Safed, Israel. (Photo/ Getty Images)

(Reuters) - A handful of drugmakers are taking their first steps toward developing marijuana-based painkillers, alternatives to opioids that have led to widespread abuse and caused the U.S. health regulator to ask for a withdrawal of a popular drug this month.

The cannabis plant has been used for decades to manage pain and there are increasingly sophisticated marijuana products available across 29 U.S. states, as well as in the District of Columbia, where medical marijuana is legal.

There are no U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved painkillers derived from marijuana, but companies such as Axim Biotechnologies Inc, Nemus Bioscience Inc and Intec Pharma Ltd have drugs in various stages of development.

The companies are targeting the more than 100 million Americans who suffer from chronic pain, and are dependent on opioid painkillers such as Vicodin, or addicted to street opiates including heroin.



Opioid overdose, which claimed celebrities including Prince and Heath Ledger as victims, contributed to more than 33,000 deaths in 2015, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Earlier this month, the FDA asked Endo International Plc to withdraw its Opana ER painkiller from the market, the first time the agency has called for the removal of an opioid painkiller for public health reasons. The FDA concluded that the drug's benefits no longer outweighed its risks.

FIGHTING THE EPIDEMIC

Multiple studies have shown that pro-med-

High Hopes Ride On Marijuana To Also Manage Chronic Pain

Could Medical Marijuana Be The Answer To Halting The Opioid Crisis?

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

ical marijuana states have reported fewer opiate deaths and there are no deaths related to marijuana overdose on record.(http://reut. rs/2r74Sbe)

But marijuana-derived drugs could take longer than usual to hit the market as the federal government considers marijuana a "schedule 1" substance - a dangerous drug with no medicinal value - making added approvals necessary. Any drug typically takes at least a decade from discovery to approval.

It could be worth the wait.

An FDA-approved marijuana-based painkiller would ensure consistent dosing and potency, and availability across the country, analysts and experts said.

"Doctors like to be able to write a prescription and know that whatever they wrote is pure and from a blinded, placebo-controlled trial," California-based Nemus's CEO Brian Murphy told Reuters.



Nemus is testing its product - a synthetic version of the non-psychoactive CBD compound found in cannabis - on rats with chronic pain and expects to report data later this year.

Rival Axim, whose North American headquarters is in New York, is conducting preclinical studies on a chewing gum containing synthetic CBD and THC, a psychoactive compound found in marijuana. The company expects to submit an FDA application to start a trial on opioid-dependent patients this year. Leading the pack is Israel-based Intec, which recently announced the start of an early-stage study testing its painkiller made of natural CBD and THC extracts.

OTHER OPTIONS

Independent scientists are also looking to find natural, non-pharmaceutical alternatives to opioids, but many have said it is difficult to access government-approved marijuana to

conduct research due to supply restrictions.

"It's taken me seven years to get the DEA license," said Dr Sue Sisley, who is planning to conduct an FDA-regulated study evaluating whether marijuana can help opioid-dependent



There could soon be other alternatives as well Pfizer Inc and Biogen Inc are among a clutch of drugmakers developing non-opioid painkillers that are in advanced clinical studies. Still, opioid painkillers are here to stay and will continue to be widely prescribed, especially for patients with acute and post-surgical pain.

The Republican healthcare bill unveiled on Thursday has proposed a drastic cut to the Medicaid budget and could gut, what advocates say, is essential coverage for drug addiction treatment, potentially hampering the fight against opioid abuse. (Courtesy https://www. scientificamerican.com/)

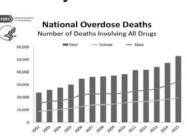
Related

Two New Studies Show That Medical Marijuana Could Help Stop The Ongoing Opioid Epidemic

Opioid prescriptions tend to decrease in U.S. states that adopt medical marijuana laws or legalize recreational use of pot, two different research teams have concluded.

The studies couldn't prove cause and effect. But one study found that opioids dispensed through Medicare's prescription drug plan decreased significantly if people had access to medical pot dispensaries or were allowed to grow marijuana for their own use.

"We had about a 14.5 percent reduction in opiate use when states turned on dispensaries. and about a 7 percent reduction in opiate use when states turned on home cultivation-based cannabis laws," said researcher David Bradford, chairman of public policy at the University of Georgia School of Public and International Affairs.



The other study, led by researcher Hefei Wen, from the University of Kentucky College of Public Health, found a decrease in opioid prescriptions covered by Medicaid in states that legalized either medicinal or recreational pot. Both types of laws were linked to about a 6 percent decline in opioid prescribing, researchers reported.

"We do think there's good reason to be hopeful that cannabis might be one tool out of many we could use to address the opioid epidemic." Bradford said.

Drug overdoses killed nearly 64,000 Americans in 2016, with two-thirds of deaths involving a prescription or illicit opioid, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported last week. Overdose deaths rose 21.5 percent in 2016, a much sharper spike than the 11.4 percent increase seen the pre-

At this point, 30 states and the District of Columbia have laws legalizing some form of marijuana use, including eight states that have legalized recreational use.



in treating chronic pain, Bradford said. In 2017, the prestigious National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine issued a report concluding that pot can significantly reduce pain symptoms.

Both research teams suspected that if this were true, then medical marijuana might ease opioid use in people with chronic pain.

To investigate this theory, the investigators turned to recent data from the federal insurance programs Medicare and Medicaid. They compared opioid prescribing patterns between states with medical or recreational pot and those that have taken a hard line against weed.

An average state filled 23 million daily doses of opioids through Medicare's prescription drug plan between 2010 and 2015, Bradford's

But states with medical pot dispensaries filled 3.7 million fewer daily doses, and states with home cultivation filled 1.8 million fewer doses, they said.

Results did vary based on the type of opioid, however. Medical pot was linked to reductions in hydrocodone, morphine and fentanyl prescriptions, but not to prescriptions for oxycodone, Bradford said.



The second study found a similar effect among people covered by Medicaid.

The two studies were published online April 2 in JAMA Internal Medicine.

"I think at this point, with patients dying every day as a result of opioid use disorder, we need to consider all possible solutions to the crisis," said Dr. Kevin Hill, director of addiction psychiatry at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston and an assistant professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. "Papers like these two suggest that cannabis may play a role."

He said these studies and others offer strong support for anecdotal evidence from patients who report they need fewer opioids for chronic pain when they are put on medical cannabis. Hill wrote an editorial that accompanied the two articles.

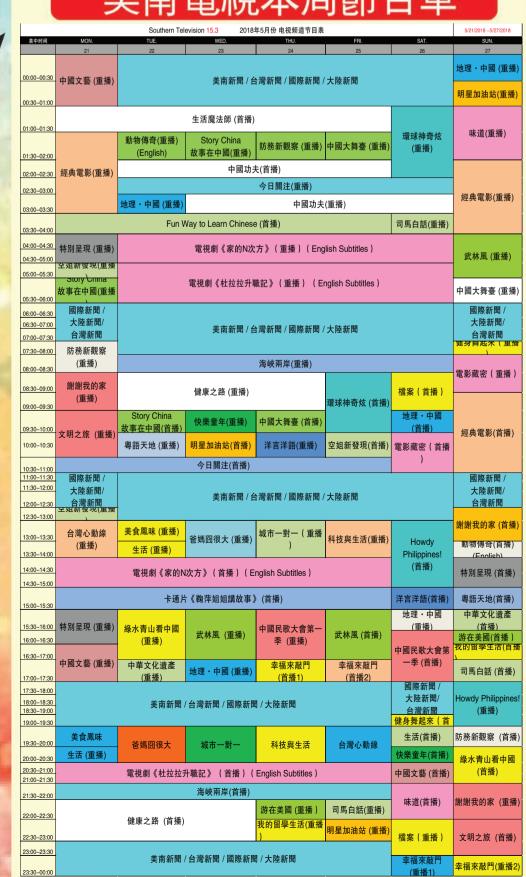
At the same time, Hill says medical marijuana should not be given a lead role in treating chronic pain. Instead, it should be a backup option for patients who are struggling to manage pain and who could be in danger of addiction.



"I think it's hard to deny that there is a growing body of evidence that suggests a role for cannabis in treating chronic pain, but it's not the level where it would be a first-line or even second-line treatment," Hill said. (Courtesy https://www.cbsnews.com)



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Tuesday, May 22, 2018





香港文匯報訊(記者梁 靜儀)張寶兒的男友袁偉豪 爸爸上星期因病逝世,受訪 時她強忍着淚水,問到男友 心情如何?她説:"一定傷 心,幸好要工作,分散點注 意力,容易一點。"她又感 嘆生命好無常: "當日陪男 友見袁爸爸最後一面,晚餐 時還一齊吃,下一秒就已經 沒了血色,雖然之前講過都 有心理準備,但到真的發生 時感覺好不同。"她說本身 對生命是好有感覺的人,以 前都看過好多癌症的書籍及 病人,但今次目睹一切就覺 得好震撼。

張寶兒傷心地表示雖然 跟男友爸爸不是太認識,但 她好喜歡這個Uncle,好欣賞 他,因他到最後一刻都堅持 沒有入醫院,沒吃藥,靠自 己意志生活。問到會否幫手 處理身後事,她表示始終是 男友家事,其實日子都定 了,還是留待他公佈。

言曾想過退休後移民。阿嬌説: "真是有想過,已 經問過很多意見,樓呀,生活是怎麼樣呀……"阿 Sa就叫阿嬌選溫哥華,因為她自己有很多親朋,及 同學在溫哥華,如阿嬌移民當地,就方便她日後 可以探望,不過阿嬌就說未想好主意。據傳23日 唱完第23場多倫多之後,LOL這個秀就圓滿終 結,阿嬌會飛去LA籌備婚禮,阿Sa也會一同 飛去參加party。但歌迷對這個秀還是依依不 捨,不停要求她們返回香港或澳門再演出最 後終極一場,是否成事仍是未知數。

Twins 成 軍 17 年,連伯 伯都是她 們 Fans。



中國電影首季破200億超越北美

中國國家電影局日前發佈消息指, 今年第一季度,中國電影票房達 202.18 億元 (人民幣,下同),超 越北美成為全球第一大電影市場。 這也是多年來,全球電影市場冠軍 國電影票房創歷史同期新高,除夕 150億元,同比增長93%,國產電 第一次由北美以外地區的國家摘 今年1到3月,中國全國電影票房達 202.18億元,同比增長39.8%;北美 同期票房28.5億美元,約合人民幣 181.7億元,與往年同期基本持平。

元,同比增長26.74%。 報道指,自產業化啟動以 來,中國電影產業規模持續擴 大,與北美電影市場的差距

逐漸縮小。2003年中國電

僅為10億元。經過15年發展,一個 分居於榜首,《唐人街探案2》和 季度的票房已經是當時全年票房的 20倍有餘。

其中,今年春節長假期間,全 至正月初六,全國總票房達57.2億 元,同比增長66.9%。央視報道,在 春節檔的帶動下,中國電影票房先 後刷新了全球單一電影市場單日、 單周、單月和單季度票房紀錄。

此外,由中國電影資料館進行 最新數據顯示,截至5月19日,的中國電影觀眾滿意度調查數據顯

香港文匯報訊 據中通社消息 影產業化啟動之初,全年票房總和 高分。其中,《紅海行動》以86.9 《熊出沒・變形記》分別以84.1 分、83分居於二、三位。

> 一季度中國國產電影票房達 影票房佔全國總票房的74.2%。其 中,紀錄片《厲害了,我的國》是 一季度電影市場的亮點,3月2日上 映當天,便刷新了中國紀錄電影上 映首日票房紀錄,影片上座率達

> 截至目前,該片票房已接近4.8 很大潛力。





Twins 與歌迷大合照。

迪瑪希演繹獨特魅力

香港文匯報訊(記者 李望賢 深圳報 道)2018深圳"一帶一路"音樂季季後演 出,迪瑪希D-Dynasty世界巡迴演唱會日 前在深圳大運中心開唱。作為迪瑪希 2018 年開年首場演唱會,演出曲目的選擇明顯 與去年有所不同,不僅增加了中文歌的比 重,更有不少全新單曲的首唱。迪瑪希以 獨有的"靈魂"海豚音演繹了《最難忘的 一天》《秋意濃》等經典曲目,除了中英 文的演唱,令人驚喜的是,在中國登台以 來極少跳舞的迪瑪希,與來自六個國家的 海外頂尖舞者配合演出,精心編排了2018 主打英文單曲《Screaming 吶喊》,多首 勁歌金曲連唱,唱跳功力均令人讚嘆,引 現場歌迷連連稱讚。

人稱"寵粉狂"的他幾度與歌迷隔空 飛吻互動。更讓人暖心的是, 迪瑪希的不 少粉絲都是從外地特意趕來深圳為他應 援,演唱會前LED屏幕滾動播放了歌迷們 "愛的告白",現場歌迷也一度齊聲表白 "迪瑪希我愛你",氣氛十分溫馨。

因演唱會與"5•20"告白日相近,又 臨折油瑪希的生日,主辦方佳兆業文體集 團前期就通過"愛的告白"等系列宣傳, 為此次演唱會打下了充滿幸福氣息的鋪

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"太陽之女"伊娃於頌:女性總是被輕視

2018年5月22日

法國導演伊娃·於頌的《太陽之女》入 圍本屆戛納電影節主競賽單元,而候選人當 中僅有三位女性

兩性平等是本屆電影節最重要的主題之 壹,《太陽之女》這部電影講述的是壹支 "庫爾德娘子軍"試圖從 ISIS 組織手下奪回

在電影首映之前,許多明星列隊走上紅 毯,在會場前舉行了壹次爲女性電影人爭取 權益的小型遊行。

參加這次遊行的共有82位女性影人-包括領銜的評審團主席凱特·布蘭切特,還 有評審團成員蕾雅·賽杜、克裏斯汀·斯圖爾 特和阿娃·杜威內等——她們代表了戛納電 影節71年歷史上入圍過主競賽單元的82位女 性導演,而相對應的男性導演數量則多達

壹同走上紅毯的還有阿涅斯: 瓦爾達, 她是戛納電影節歷史上獲得過金棕櫚獎的兩 位女導演之壹,另壹位是簡. 坎皮恩

《太陽之女》改編自真實故事,講述了 壹群女人被ISIS俘虜後設法逃脫並反抗極端

歌什菲: 法拉哈尼飾演巴哈爾, 她是 "太陽之女"這只隊伍的首領,極端分子殺 害了她的父親和丈夫,並且抓住了她的兒子 ,她要帶領隊伍從極端分子手中解放自己的 家鄉。壹個名叫瑪蒂爾德的法國記者(艾瑪 紐爾. 貝克特 飾) 在追蹤報導這件事,並與 這些女戰士們產生了深厚感情。

於頌之前還有壹部作品是《性愛幫派》 在戛納電影節上,記者對於頌進行了采訪

記者:在妳的作品進行首映式之前,紅 毯上舉行了壹場呼籲電影界兩性平等的遊行 活動,對此妳有什麽看法?

伊娃·於頌:能有這麽多女性走上紅毯 非常令人感動,同時這樣的行動也是非常重 要的。我覺得實際上我們還有很多努力要做 。從講故事的角度來看,前景還是很令人期 待的,因爲有很多故事都需要由女性來講述 ,而且我會鼓勵年輕的女電影人勇敢探索這 些故事, 並爲之努力。

我認爲整個社會都應該明白,壹個不能 正確表達自己的社會——也就是說現實中性 別比例是對半開的,但銀幕上的女性角色卻 少得可憐,這是不合理的,是病態的。

我們的社會是不正常的。我們大家都在 碰壁,所以,如果越來越多的人能夠壹起努 力,更多有能力的人去支持女性和少數人群 , 計會就會變得越好。

例如,妳可以看看法國電影市場,出現 的基本都是白種人,但社會中其實並不是這 樣的。我們應該按照真實的樣子去講述故事 ,不要再用舊時代的方式了

記者:妳爲什麽會拍這樣壹個故事? 伊娃·於頌:作爲西班牙共和軍的孫女

,我壹直都對失落的理想這個概念很感興趣 2006年的時候我就開始籌備壹個項目, 是關於壹座曾在西班牙內戰時期關押過西班 牙難民的法國集中營的。我祖父就曾被關在

其中壹座裏,所以我對這些被關押的人們受 到的集體或個人創傷很感興趣 而當我聽說庫爾德女兵們的故事並且對 其進行深入研究之後,我在她們身上以及她 們爲祖國,爲反抗法西斯而進行的戰鬥中看 到了馬克思主義理想。這讓我聯想到我們家 族的歷史,我可以借助當下的這場悲劇來講

想而戰還是爲找尋人生的意義。這就是我拍 這部電影的想法。 當然還有些其他原因, 更有力的原因 -我想講述這些女人的故事,她們被極端 分子抓走,又設法從那種恐怖之地逃脫出來 ,最終投身於反抗那些恐怖分子的戰鬥中。 我感受到這個故事中的強大力量, 我覺得它

述我自己壹直想表達的內容——不論是爲理

立馬就同意了。 記者:妳爲電影做了哪些準備?

需要被講述出來。我跟我的制作人壹說,她

伊娃·於頌:我去了庫爾德斯坦,嘗試 去跟盡可能多的庫爾德人聯系。但我沒有去 見任何極端分子,因爲我覺得這不是我的目 的。另壹方面,我還到前線的難民營去跟那 些逃脫出來並投身於戰鬥中的女人對話,聽 她們講述自己的經歷

由歌什菲·法拉哈尼飾演的角色就是她 們的集合體。我對她們的遭遇深有感觸,而 且我們之間的聯系很緊密,然後才有了這個 角色。我對這個人物進行了調整潤色

記者:以什麽樣的方式?

伊娃·於頌:當賣個女人給妳講述她被 買賣14次的經歷,並且以壹種堅定的語氣娓 娓道來的時候,妳自然而然地會質疑自己以 前的想法,以及妳對苦難創傷的認知。它瓦 解了典型的戰爭印象。我希望劇本裏的故事 ,既能讓電影更真實,又能找到合適的方法 讓大家有共感,並且還要體現我自己的主觀

記者:電影裏的記者代表了妳自己嗎? 伊娃·於頌:我做了很多關於戰地記者 的研究,我覺得她更多的是代表西方世界。 很顯然,她以前就經歷過戰爭,是個老手了 ,她很有經驗,很老練,但我希望她能有同 情心,因爲我見過的很多記者都是富有同情 心的。我唯壹覺得自己能代入的部分就是結 尾處的畫外音,這裏記者說的都是我會說的 -事實上我也的確說過這些話

記者:如果她代表的是西方國家,那也 就是說西方國家只是目擊者?

伊娃·於頌:這就是問題所在。對於現 在在那片土地上發生的壹切,我感到很羞恥 ,我覺得我們應該爲很多由我們造成或推動 事情負責。我覺得庫爾德人民是我們抵抗極 端勢力和法西斯主義的唯壹壁壘。他們的所 作所爲值得贊頌,是和平進程必不可少的部 分。但是妳知道嗎?最大的困難是資金問題 。他們沒有錢,在外交談判中也沒什麽力量 ,這就是唯壹的問題

記者:通常戰爭都是通過男性視角展現 的,妳覺得妳的電影會帶來改變嗎?我們會 看到更多從女性視角講述的戰爭故事嗎?

伊娃·於頌:歷史上銀幕裏展現的女性 並不像男性那麽多——男性視角已經占據主 導地位壹百多年了。這就導致這個世界很大

壹部分得不到展現,觀眾看不見。我在報道 中看到了很多對這部電影的強烈反響,我覺 得這也是問題的壹部分,但同時也是壹個比 較好的現象。我認爲我們應該持續進行這樣 的對話,並且讓大家明白正因爲缺少代表性 作品,所以大家的反應才會這麽強烈

壹直以來,女性總是被輕視-的時候,俄羅斯前線有壹百多萬名女兵,但 除了歷史學家之外沒人知道這個事實,而電 影作品中也鮮少表現這壹點。情況有可能是 在壹點點好轉的,雖然還沒有什麽明顯變化 ,總是在反反復復,但如果我們堅持不懈 總有壹天會改變現狀的。

記者:妳是怎樣拍攝戰爭戲的?

伊娃·於頌:我看動作片已經看膩了。 (大笑)有時候妳會看到二十多分鐘的動作 戲場面,我就會覺得"什麽時候才結束啊? 所以我自己不能再去拍那種無聊的東西

我看了兩部我喜歡的戰爭片, 壹部是 《現代啓示錄》,另壹部是《細細的紅線》 。其中壹些場景的敘事角度讓我覺得貼近角 色的拍攝方式是最好的——如果妳壹直緊貼 某壹個或者兩個主要角色的視角,那就足夠 了。我以前從來沒用過這樣的拍攝手法,然 後我想"管他呢,我們壹定要拍出來。"我 覺得我們做到了。



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休士頓僑教中心主任莊雅淑(坐者中)、副主任李美姿(站者右7)與休士頓地區榮譽職人員及各社團 僑領代表於僑務委員會107年臺灣青年海外搭僑計畫研商會議合影

僑委會爲結合海外僑社培植台灣青年國際視 野及力量,將於本年7至8月暑假期間舉辦「臺灣 青年海外搭僑計畫」,遴選200位台灣大專青年至 美國、加拿大及澳洲等25城市向僑社見習。休士 頓僑教中心於5月19日下午在該中心203會議室召 開「僑務委員會107年臺灣青年海外搭僑計畫研商 會議 | , 廣激休十頓地區各計團僑領共同來支持

休士頓僑教中心主任莊雅淑表示,「臺灣青 年海外搭僑計畫 | 休士頓場次將於7月25日至31

日舉辦,屆時將有來自台灣大專院校研究生及大 學生12人至休士頓見習,除將帶領台灣靑年認識 政府駐外工作、參與僑社活動,體驗僑團多元活 動,並將安排前往並將前往Exxon石油公司認識休 士頓能源之都,前往休士頓太空中心(NASA)與休 士頓台裔科學家座談,前往休士頓台北市姐妹會 敦睦亭瞭解城市文化,拜會台灣商會組織以及僑 營企業,瞭解台灣企業海外奮鬥歷程,拜會華美 中醫學院暨客家會交流,瞭解僑團運作情形,拜 會台裔 Harris Country 民選法官 Teresa Chang 體驗



休士頓僑教中心莊雅淑(手持麥克風者)說明僑委會107 年臺灣青年海外搭僑計畫內容

台灣移民積極參與主流社會的貢獻以及影響力, 同時安排與休士頓第二代專業青年座談,增進海 內外青年文化交流,拓展台灣青年國際視野,並 將安排參訪德州醫學中心、拜會休士頓市政府市 議員等

出席該研商會議美南大專校聯會謝家鳳會長 表示,該會已邀集會員擔任寄宿家庭,期待讓台 灣青年更深入瞭解僑胞生活,休士頓臺灣商會、 美南臺灣旅館公會、明湖臺灣同鄉會、休士頓臺 灣同鄉會、休士頓客家會、107年雙十國慶籌備會 會、世華工商婦女企管協會美南分會、休士頓臺 大校友會及休士頓師大附中校友會等僑團代表亦 對渠等青年來休參訪僑社見習表達歡迎, 僑務諮 詢委員王敦正、葉宏志、劉秀美、梁愼平及僑務 顧問李雄等人均表示肯定該活動的意義,李雄並 表示已協助安排拜會休士頓市政府,相信會讓台 灣青年認識僑界參與主流社區情形,會議當中各 僑團集思廣益滿心的期待台灣青年來訪休士頓見 習, 莊雅淑亦特別代表僑委會感謝休士頓僑界協 助與支持,讓見習活動精采多元



僑務委員會爲推動台灣美食國際化及行銷 台灣美食品牌形象,每年都會遠計世界各地辦 理台灣美食廚藝巡迴講座,2018年美南地區台 灣美食廚藝巡迴講座即將於今年8月中旬展開, 第一站德州奧斯汀。活動主題, 台灣美食不同凡 饗,將以 Taste of Taiwan 佳年華的方式向主流 社會大力推出,日期是8月18日在奧斯汀的亞 裔資源中心舉行。此項活動是由中華民國僑務 委員會指導,駐休士頓辦事處,休士頓華僑文 教服務中心協導, 奥斯汀台中姐妹市協會帶領 僑社主辦

這是奧斯汀台中姊妹市協會第三次主辦台 灣美食巡迴講座,上二次是在2011年及2010 年,奥斯汀僑胞很期待台灣美食巡迴講座,再 次來到奧斯汀,預計在僑胞的推廣之下,將會 有千人以上的僑胞及主流人士來參加,觀賞台 灣名廚黃寶元老師的手藝,及品嚐最棒的台灣美 食。 為了能成功順利地舉辦這類大型活動,奧 斯汀台中姊妹市協會已於4月27日召開第一次 籌備會議,討論如何成功舉辦台灣美食巡迴講 座的各項細節,工作團隊已在組成中,並將號 召熱心服務的人才,共同爲辦好這項活動爲社 區服務來努力。會議由會長姚東權主持,參加 的有副會長 Catherine Farris,副會長高莉莉,總 幹事蔣凱娜,還有理事廖玉華,盧昭君,陳明 珠, 傅愛卿, 黃兆標, 張苓雯,和 Rachel Liao. 會中定下了工作方針,籌備工作已經展開,下 次會議,將會有來自奧斯汀國際姐妹市的團隊來 參與,都是有辦過大型活動經驗的人士。奧斯 汀台中姐妹市協會的團隊有信心,透過我們的 努力,8月18日在亞裔資源中心舉辦的這場活 動,將會帶給社區一個不同凡響的美食饗宴,及台 灣文化展示的台灣美食佳年華

擔任本次台灣美食廚藝巡迴講座的名厨是 黄寶元老師及梁語宸助理,黃老師現任醒吾技 術學院餐旅管理系副教授及系主任,曾任凱悅 飯店, 麗景四季飯店等10多家台灣知名飯店行 政主廚,並榮獲多項國際級世界廚藝獎項如國 際食神爭霸賽西餐廚藝競賽金牌亞洲廚藝邀請 賽,西餐廚藝競賽金牌馬來西亞世界金廚爭霸 賽金牌等,曾在多項電視美食節目擔任料理示 範主廚及評審。亦出版多項美食及專屬著作如 養生膳食,餐飲管理,菜單設計西餐烹調等。梁 語宸助理老師曾榮獲北京國際食神爭霸賽西式 麵點銀牌獎及華夏銀行杯杭州國際西餐邀請賽 團體金牌獎

黃寶元老師曾經說過「一盤菜,一個故事 | 涌過對食材成長的了解,對食材的熟悉, 會對食材更有一份情感,會把食材特點淋漓盡 致的發揮出來,充分詮釋食材的精神,讓食材 更有靈魂,讓美食進入另一層面的意義。通過 美食的傳承,來傳遞廚師的熱情,詮釋美食文

喜愛美食的老饕們,絕對不能錯過。精通 中西餐及台灣特色廚藝的黃寶元老師表示,廚 藝展示會將本着本地食材本地享用的原則,所 以他會利用當地素材來製作出有台灣風味的美 食。除了推廣台灣美食之外,也傳遞台灣精神 和美食故事。,黄老師將現場展示自己拿手獅 子頭及官財板,同時還以中菜西吃的布菜法請 來賓品嘗台灣牛肉麵、筒仔米糕、鷄卷、鳳梨 酥、雪花糕等台灣特色小吃。據聞黃老師有準 備超過100 道他的拿手菜單,奧斯汀團隊會用 心的去點選絕對不能錯過的幾道名菜,準備好 食材,8月18日在亞裔資源中心的台灣美食佳 年華,讓黃老師盡情瀟洒的去發揮,請大家拭 目以待

E老人之冢盛大動十!



(記者韋霓休斯頓報導) 全美第一個 由華人獨資策劃、以服務老人生活爲宗 旨的永春莊老人之家在5月18日上午10 點舉行動土典禮了!當日風和日麗,嘉 賓雲集,包括台北經文處處長長陳家彥 、副處長林映佐、僑敎中心主任莊雅淑 、美南報業董事長李蔚華、德州州衆議 員吳元之(Gene Wu)的代表 Mr. Jake Breault、休士頓市議員 Steve Le 的代表 Mr. Torrence Atkinson、休斯頓老年服務 部的兩位主任 Ms. Deborah Moore 與 Ms. Paula Johnson、金城銀行 CEO 黃國樑博 士、西南區管委會主席李雄、TDCK設 計公司負責人葉龍、建築公司負責人陳 思達、以及一百多位銀髮長者,共同見 證歷史性的一刻。

永春莊的負責人鄭眞表示,從陽光 活動中心開始到永春莊,路途遙遠,費 了20年才走到,這份服務老人的事業從 8號公路走到6號公路,一路上雖然辛苦 ,但是永不放棄,今日的動土是夢想成 真,非常感謝大家的鼓勵與支持,她將 持續堅持,不斷爲長者們提供服務。

台北經文處處長陳家彥表示,永春 莊老人之家的創立是經濟往上提升的象 徵,也是未來能讓許多長者安心安身的 地方,不僅是經濟的代表,也是對社會 貢獻的體現。

僑教中心主任莊雅淑對永春 莊致上祝福,希望這個爲僑社長 者提供服務的地方,工程能夠圓 滿成功,並祝福所有長者們都能 有愉快的退休生活

永春莊老人之家(Everspring Assisted Living) 第一棟大 樓將有76個單位,包括12間雙

人房,其他爲單人房,採用鋼筋水泥建 築,安全穩固,預計2019年秋季可以入

由於是全美第一個由華人規畫的銀 髮族社區,對於華裔長者的需求遠比其 他退休社區更了解,也更周到,不少長 者得知永春莊的消息,非常雀躍。詳情 可洽鄭小姐 713-988-2843。網站 https:// everspring-living.com/ o





永春莊負責人鄭眞女士(右)及接班人鄭正 榮博士(左)



台北經文處處長陳家彥(左六)、副處長林映佐(左五)、僑敎中心主任 莊雅淑(左四)、西南區管委會主席李雄(左三)、美南報業董事長李蔚 華(右三)





美南報業董事長李蔚華(右一)向永春莊鄭眞女 佐閩總管,左一爲周宏



動土典禮主持人王煒蘭



百餘位休斯頓政要、社區賢達、及銀髮長者,共同見證永春莊動土



僑教中心主任莊雅淑