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Former Houston Texans player arrested on suspicion of DWI in Pearland

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

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Inside C2

Chinese exports accelerate even as Trump escalates trade war

BEIJING (Reuters) - China's exports surged more than expected in July despite U.S. duties and its closely watched surplus with the United States remained near record highs, as the world's two major economic powers ramp up a bitter dispute that some fear could derail global growth.

In the latest move by President Donald Trump to put pressure on Beijing to negotiate trade concessions, Washington is set to begin collecting 25 percent tariffs on another \$16 billion in Chinese goods on Aug. 23.

In a statement on its official website late on Wednesday, China's commerce ministry criticized the U.S. move as being "unreasonable", saying it had no choice but to adopt the same measure on an equal amount of American goods ranging from fuel and steel products to autos and medical equipment.

Wednesday's Chinese data provide the first readings of the overall trade picture for the world's second-largest economy since U.S. duties on \$34 billion of Chinese imports came into effect on July 6.

All the same, China's exports for July rose a bigger than expected 12.2 percent year-on-year, showing little tariff impact for now and beating June's 11.2 percent rise and analysts' expectations in a Reuters poll for 10 percent growth.

Of more direct consequence in the Sino-U.S. trade war, China's surplus with the United States shrank only marginally to \$28.09 billion last month from a record \$28.97 billion in June. Washington has long criticized China's trade surplus with the United States and has demanded Beijing cut it.

Those demands could get even more strident if the yuan's sharp drop in recent months raises the ire of the United States, which has in the past repeatedly criticized Beijing for manipulating its currency to gain an unfair trade advantage.

Economists say China appears to be taking a more hands-off approach to the yuan, which marked its worst 4-month fall on record between April and July and has provided some reprieve for exporters in the face of the rising trade tensions.

ANZ senior China economist Betty Wang said Beijing will likely resist using its closely managed currency as a tool in the trade war.

"Currency devaluation, which may have helped exports to



Cars to be exported sit at a port in Lianyungang, Jiangsu province, China August 8, 2018. REUTERS/Stringer

some extent, has been largely market-driven in our view and is not a preferred policy tool by Chinese policy makers as part of the retaliation measures," Wang said.

China's trade with the U.S. also continued to rise in July despite the tariffs, with exports up 11.2 percent year-on-year, and imports increasing 11.1 percent.

Analysts still expect a less favorable overall trade balance for China in coming months given it's early days in the tariff brawl.

After a strong start to the year, growth in the world's second-largest economy cooled slightly in the second quarter, partly hit by the government's years-

long efforts to tackle debt risks. China's imports rose 27.3 percent year-on-year in July, in a sign domestic demand remains solid, but the worry is that the escalating Sino-U.S. trade war, rising corporate bankruptcies, and a steep decline in the yuan could put a significant dent on the economy.

China to slap additional tariffs on \$16 billion worth of U.S. goods

BEIJING (Reuters) - China is slapping additional tariffs of 25 percent on \$16 billion worth of U.S. imports from fuel and steel products to autos and medical equipment, the Chinese commerce ministry said, as the world's largest economies escalated their trade dispute.

The tariffs will be activated on Aug. 23, the ministry said, the same day that the United States plans to begin collecting 25 percent extra in tariffs on \$16 billion in Chinese goods.

The United States published its final list of goods subject to the new tariffs on Tuesday. China's final list announced on Wednesday differs from an earlier draft it published in June, which included crude oil. The number of categories of goods subject to tariffs rose to 333 from 114 in the June draft, although

the total value is unchanged.

The U.S. action that prompted the Chinese retaliation was the latest by President Donald Trump to put pressure on China to negotiate trade concessions, after Washington imposed tariffs on \$34 billion in goods last month. China has vowed to retaliate with equivalent tariffs against any U.S. action.

"This is a very unreasonable practice," the Chinese commerce ministry said of the U.S. action on Wednesday as it rolled out China's counter-tariffs.

Representatives for the White House, the U.S. Trade Representative and the U.S. Department of Commerce did not immediately reply to requests for comment.



LNG trucks are seen at Sinopec's Beihai LNG terminal in Guangxi

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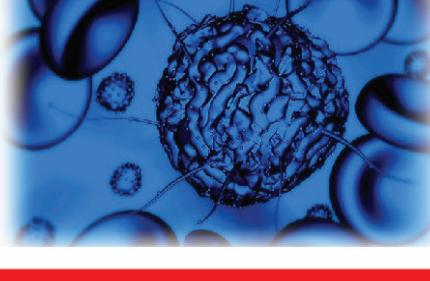
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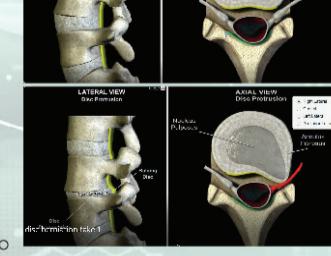


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Former Houston Texans player arrested on suspicion of DWI in Pearland

By Katherine Blunt

Former Houston Texans offensive lineman Fred Weary was arrested twice in Pearland in July, most recently for allegedly driving while intoxicated, according to police reports.

About 3 a.m. July 31, a patrol officer came upon a vehicle parked at a Pearland park and observed Weary, 40, asleep at the wheel of the vehicle, Pearland Police Officer Jason Wells said Tuesday. The officer woke Weary and observed signs of intoxication, Wells said. After an investigation, Weary was arrested on suspicion of DWI. He was released from jail the same day on \$2,000 bond, Brazoria County Jail records show.

Weary is also free on bond for a previous arrest on July 3. That arrest stems from a car accident that was linked to Weary following an investigation, Wells said.

On June 30 at about 3:30 a.m., a patrol officer saw an unoccupied black Cadillac Escalade that had struck a power pole on Kirby Drive in west Pearland.

The pole was significantly damaged, and Centerpoint responded to the scene that night for repairs, Wells said. The vehicle also had damage to the front end on the driver's side, and a spiderweb-like crack in the windshield that was believed to be caused by the driver striking the windshield.

Investigators later connected Weary to the vehicle and the crash, Wells said. He was arrested and charged with duty on striking fixture, a misdemeanor. His bond in that case was set at \$1,500.

That case is still pending in Brazoria County court. Weary played for the Texans from 2002 to 2007. He was released in 2008 while still recovering from broken leg he sustained in a December 2007 game.

He was later signed by the Cleveland Browns in 2009, but quickly released.

Weary sued the City of Houston and two Houston police officers in 2007, alleging he was unlawfully stopped, shocked with a Taser and arrested by HPD in 2006. He dropped the lawsuit in 2009.

Weary is now a Pearland resident, court records show.



Kinder's Pacific Coast pipeline project's cost jumps 26 percent

Kinder Morgan Canada Ltd. said the Trans Mountain oil pipeline expansion will cost 26 percent more than estimated and take a year longer to complete.

The project is now expected to cost C\$9.3 billion (\$7.1 billion), Kinder said in a filing on Tuesday. The company had hinted that a revision was coming late last month, based on the uncertainty the investment had encountered.

The revised cost estimate may mean the Canadian government will have to shell out more money to get the controversial expansion finished after it moved to buy the pipeline for C\$4.5 billion in May.

When that deal was announced, Finance Minister Bill Morneau said there'd be no fiscal impact of the plan -- suggesting he

didn't expect to make or lose money on the deal. At the time, he declined to say what construction costs would be for the expansion and downplayed concerns about finding a new buyer.

The Trans Mountain development has been beset by legal woes, environmental protests and provincial opposition. As of April 9, Kinder had invested C\$1.1 billion, including funds spent upgrading the Westridge Marine Terminal in Burnaby, British Columbia.



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Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



President of Swiss workers union UNIA Alleva addresses a news conference as president of Swiss SEV transport workers union Tuti and president of Swiss Federation of Trade Unions Rechsteiner sit beside, in Bern



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un visits a factory in this undated photo released by North Korea's Korean Central News Agency



August 8, 2018; St. Louis, MO, USA; Jon Rahm hits out of the bunker on the sixth hole during the Wednesday practice round of the PGA Championship golf tournament at Bellerive Country Club. Mandatory Credit: Kyle Terada-USA TODAY Sports



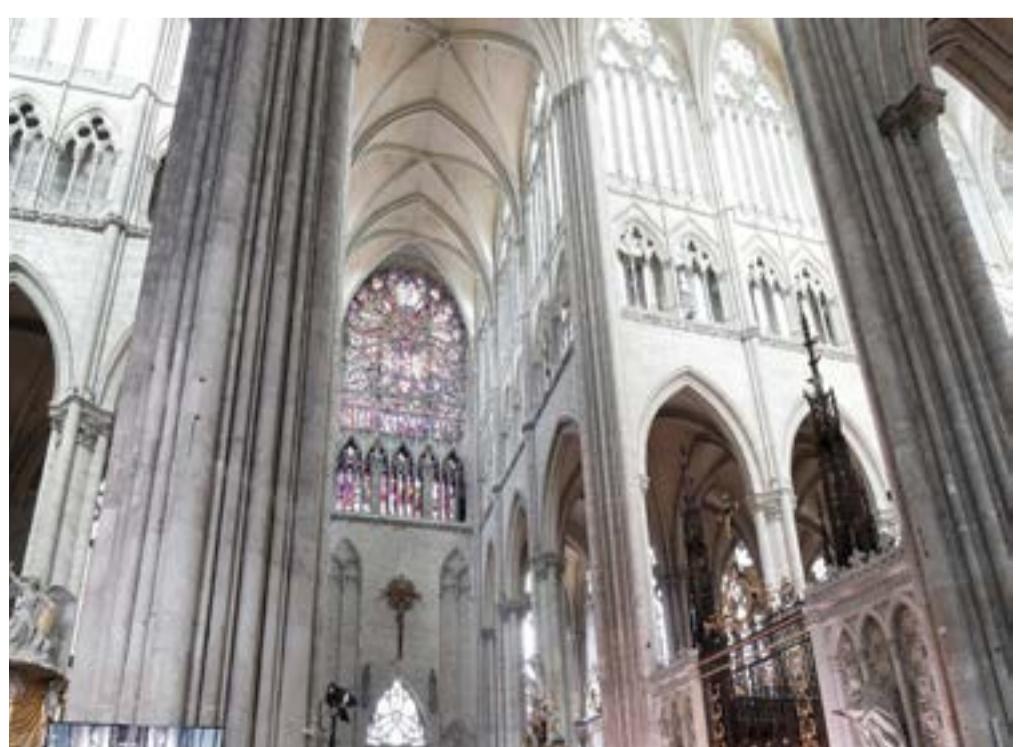
A Huawei shop is pictured in Singapore



A chain store of Chinese low-cost lifestyle and consumer product retailer "Miniso" is pictured in Singapore



A man passes by an Oppo shop in Singapore August 8, 2018. REUTERS/Edgar Su



Britain's Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge, delivers a speech at a religious ceremony to mark the 100th anniversary of the World War I (WW1) Battle of Amiens, at the Cathedral in Amiens



2018 European Championships - Diving, Mixed Synchronised 3m Springboard, Final - Royal Commonwealth Pool, Edinburgh, Britain - August 8, 2018 - Nadezhda Bazhina and Nikita Shleikher of Russia in action. REUTERS/Russell Cheyne

HOUSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Asia Cargo News named Port Houston the Best Seaport in North America, after tallying results from thousands of shippers and industry experts around the globe, Port Houston Executive Director Roger Guenther told the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority during its May meeting.

Asia Cargo News announced the results at an awards ceremony held in Shanghai, China, Guenther said, adding that 10,000 shippers and industry experts participated in the survey, according to the publication. The honor is particularly significant because the "nomination and voting results were determined by industry service users, rather than judges," noted Guenther. In other business news, Guenther announced that Port Houston had been added to MSC's existing Indus service. That container service, which employs nine 8,400 TEU vessels, already calls the U.S. East Coast, India, and the Middle East via the Suez Canal, and will begin calling the Bayport Container Terminal in early June. Guenther also reported that Port Houston's Barbour's Cut Terminal is the first U.S. port of call for a new all-water service between the U.S. and Latin America. The new Gulf Ocean Express service is operated jointly by SeaLand and MSC.

"...nomination and voting results were determined by industry service users, rather than judges"

Reporting on business results, the executive director stated that April was "another strong month:" steel imports increased by 17 percent and container activity grew by 3 percent over 2017. Guenther added that container import growth continues to be driven by business from the east Asia trade lanes, and a year-to-date total of 13 million tons of cargo has passed through Port Houston terminals, reflecting a 2 percent annual growth.



International trade buoyed Houston economy during energy slump



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COMMUNITY

Port Houston Named Best Seaport in North America

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



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DNV GL representatives congratulated Port Houston for its continued achievements in environmental stewardship and presented a plaque, recognizing its recertification to the Environmental Management System ISO 14001 standard. In 2002, Port Houston became the first U.S. port authority to achieve the EMS ISO 14001 standard. From left: Kelli Gallagher, Ilana Harris, Ryan Dixon, DNV GL representatives, Trae Camble, Chairman Janiece Longoria and Chief Infrastructure Officer Rich Byrnes. (Photo: Business Wire)

International investments and trade, primarily exports, buoyed the Houston economy during recent downturns in the energy sector, a new report from the Greater Houston Partnership shows.

"Trade is becoming as important as oil and gas in Houston," partnership senior vice president of research Patrick Jankowski said of the findings released on Friday. The 2018 Global Houston report outlines the ways in which Houston has increasingly tied itself to the global economy, while also addressing impending threats to the future of trade agreements such as NAFTA.



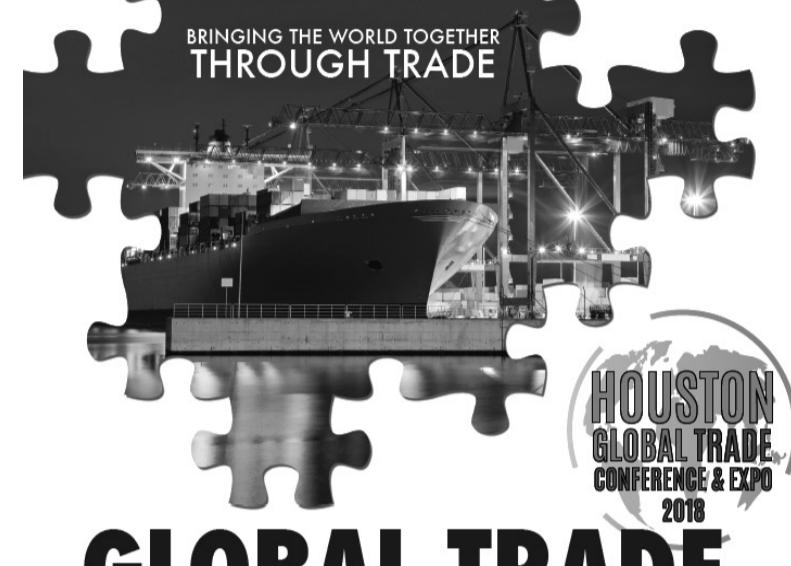
The Port of Houston and the Houston Ship Channel expect a surge in exports as new plastics and petrochemical plants come online over the next several years. The MSC Oriane container ship is shown at the Barbour's Cut Container Terminal last summer.

"Ours is the most diverse city in the na-

spoken," partnership president and CEO Bob Harvey said. "But there are risks that come with being such a high-profile international hub and this report gives us some insight into what to look out for in Houston's near future."

The report noted among its key findings that the rate of growth in exports from Houston is nearly three times the growth rate of the region's GDP.

Houston's exports last year were valued at \$109 billion, up 19 percent from the year



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BUSINESS

Republican Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky met with Russian politicians during a trip to Moscow on Monday and invited members of the country's upper house of parliament to visit Washington, D.C., this year.

Paul has become one of the few defenders of President Donald Trump's controversial summit meeting with Russia's president Vladimir Putin in Finland last month. He said he traveled to Moscow with the goal of fostering dialogue between Russia and the United States.

Paul led a small delegation of Americans in meetings with officials from Russia's parliament and the Federation Council, the equivalent of the U.S. Senate, where he met with members of its international relations committee.

Paul's visit comes following a historic summit between President Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Senator Paul recently defended the president's meeting, citing overlapping interests for both countries.

The head of the Russian Foreign Affairs Committee praised the Republican, saying other politicians would refer to talks with Russia as "toxic."

"I am one who believes in more engagement, that we need to have more cultural exchange, more exchange between our legislative bodies, more open lines of communication, and the world is a complicated place, we are in close proximity to Russia in Syria and in other places and I think it would be a very big mistake not to have open lines of communication," stated Paul. "And so part of my trip here and my purpose to come to Russia is to say that we need to have dialogue."

The Kentucky senator also announced that members of Russia's Foreign Relations Committee have agreed to visit Washington, D.C. where meetings are expected to continue.

Sen. Rand Paul Meets Russian Senators In Moscow, Invites Them To The U.S.



Sen. Rand Paul speaks during his meeting with Russian lawmakers in Moscow, Aug. 6, 2018.

Speaking after the meeting with

Sen. Rand Paul Leads U.S. Delegation In Talks With Russian Officials In Moscow

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



Top from left: a member of the Senate of the legislative Assembly of the state of Texas Peter Hettler, Texas Sen. Don Huffines, Sen. Rand Paul and his communications director Sergio Gor attend a meeting with Russian lawmakers in Moscow, Russia, Monday, Aug. 6, 2018. (Photo/AP Photo)

the senators that lasted about an hour, Paul said it had been "wonderful" and announced he had invited members of the Russian committee to meet with their counterparts in the U.S. from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on which he sits.

"My goal in coming to Russia is to say that we want to have open lines of communication," Paul said at a press conference after the meeting. "I'm pleased to announce that we will be furthering this conversation. We have invited members of the foreign relations committee of Russia to come to the United States and meet with us in Washington."

In addition to the invitation to the U.S., Paul said he'd like to organize a larger, future meeting.

"We've also agreed, if it can be arranged, to meet as well in a neutral country with all of our committees," Paul said.

The chairman of the Russian international relations committee, Konstantin Kosachev, thanked Paul and said he hoped the meetings could happen before the end of the year. Kosachev said a preliminary agenda had already been agreed upon,

which would focus on arms control, improving economic ties and establishing

better contacts on terrorism and cyber-security.

"We know you as an authoritative, independent American politician," Kosachev told Paul as they began their meeting, saying his visit was "especially valuable given the attitudes of other American politicians," who he said presented any contact with Russian officials as "toxic."

The delegation with Paul included Phillip Huffines, a Texas Republican who ran unsuccessfully in a primary race this spring, and Peter Goettler, president and CEO of the Cato Institute, the conservative Washington-based think tank.

Sen. Rand Paul, center, and his communications director Sergio Gor, right, enter a hall during their meeting with Russian lawmakers in Moscow, Russia, Monday, Aug. 6, 2018. Paul said he invited Russian lawmakers to visit the United States to help foster inter-parliamentary contacts. (Photo/AP)

Among the Russian senators sitting across from Paul was Moscow's former ambassador to the U.S., Sergey Kislyak, whose

meetings with members of the Trump campaign provoked uproar in 2016.

Paul's was the second unusual diplomatic overture to Russia by Senate Republicans in a month, following the visit of a larger delegation led by Sen. Richard Shelby of Alabama that traveled to Moscow around July 4.

Shelby's delegation said it had come with the similar goal of reviving communications with Russia, but had also delivered a warning to the Russians not to interfere in the U.S. mid-terms this November.

Paul, known for some of his unorthodox positions in the Senate, has recently emerged as a champion of Trump's outreach to Russia. He was one of the very few on Capitol Hill to defend Trump after the Helsinki summit. Trump was heavily criticized by both Republicans and Democrats for being too deferential to Putin in his remarks and appearing to side with him over U.S. intelligence agencies' assessment of Russian interference in the 2016 election.

In the days after the summit, Paul called the criticism partisan and overblown, saying it was too dangerous not to seek dialogue when relations were so tense.

"The hatred of the president is so intense that partisans would rather risk war than give diplomacy a chance," Paul said in a long defense of Trump on the Senate floor, days after the summit. "It's crazy."

In Moscow, he made a similar case for engagement.



Sen. Rand Paul, left, speaks with Chairman of the Russian Federation Council Committee on International Affairs Konstantin Kosachev during their meeting in Moscow, Russia, Monday, Aug. 6, 2018. Paul said he invited Russian lawmakers to visit the United States to help foster inter-parliamentary contacts. (Photo AP)

"Those that believe, in either country, that we should not have diplomacy are greatly

mistaken," Paul said. "It does not mean we don't have differences. But discussions are incredibly important."

In Russia, Paul was received warmly by officials who have eagerly called for the U.S. to embrace the detente proposed by Trump in Helsinki, condemning the criticism of Trump had faced over Helsinki as politically motivated. Leonid Slutsky, a Russian MP, urged Paul to call for the release of Maria Butina, a 29-year-old Russian woman arrested in the U.S. on charges that she was acting as an undeclared agent of the Kremlin to infiltrate the NRA and Republican establishment circles.

"If you, Senator Paul, are able to raise your voice in defense of Maria Butina, to help at least change her pretrial detention...you would show yourself to be a man with a capital 'M,'" Slutsky said, the news agency Interfax reported.

Paul's trip comes amid fresh anxiety in Congress over warnings from U.S. intelligence that Russia is seeking to influence the midterm elections using similar tactics, such as social media campaigns, as in 2016.

This week, both Democratic and Republican senators introduced a bill that would impose the harshest sanctions yet on Moscow as punishment for its U.S. election interference, as well as its activities in Ukraine and Syria. The bill would place restrictions on Russia's sovereign debt transactions, as well as oil and energy projects. Republican Senator Lindsey Graham told reporters earlier in the week that he wanted "a sanctions bill from hell." Paul suggested he did not believe raising the issue of election interference would have been productive in his meetings with Russian officials.

"We had general discussions about a lot of issues and basically we've decided that, right now, what we're trying to do is have dialogue," he said. "The biggest issue right now is no dialogue. So we're not going to get into any of the differences other than we are trying to agree to have dialogue."

Kosachev was less reserved, telling reporters that Russia's position was simple -- there had been no Russian interference in the 2016 election "and consequently, there won't be any in this year either." (Courtesy abcnews.go.com)



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美H-1B签证申请变难影响市场生态 外籍员工市场缩水

特朗普签署“买美国货、雇美国人”行政令已经过去15个月，也使得过去一年多时间里H-1B签证申请变得越来越困难。

信息产业外包公司成为最大的遭打击对象，大型科技公司则有所获益。在打击签证漏洞的同时，随之逐渐改变的还有美国国际学生、高科技人才市场的整体生态。

H-1B申请补件、拒签率急增

在特朗普去年4月签署的“买美国货、雇美国人”行政令中，明确要求国安部(DHS)确保H-1B签证被授予拥有最高技能或收入最高的外国劳工。而近期的多份报告也都体现出，对于H-1B签证申请的审查正变得非常严格。

美国国家政策基金会日前发布的报告指出，H-1B签证申请的要求补件(RFE)的情况，在2017财年第四季度(2017年7月-10月)出现大幅度上升，将近7成申请者都被要求补充材料，而在2017财年的前三季度，被要求补件的比例在13.8%至22.5%之间。这也使得在第四季度审核的申请数量只占全年的17%的情况下，该季度的补件申请总量却和

前三季度的总和相当，审核变严的趋势非常明显。

另一份由路透社披露的报告同样指出，在去年1月至8月期间，移民局在审核H-1B签证时发出的补件要求比前一年同期增长了45%。

虽然在奥巴马时期也曾在2009年出现对大量H-1B签证申请者要求补件的情况，但许多律师认为，特朗普政府对于H-1B签证的审查存在更多新的趋势。他们指出，入门级别的岗位被有针对性地更严审查。

入门级别的岗位往往要求更低，雇佣外国技术劳工或许被认为有违特朗普倡导的“雇美国人”政策。律师们认为，这可能是特朗普政府绕过国会在暗中拿H-1B签证项目开刀的措施。不过，移民局官员否认存在这一趋势，称机构仍是在按照现有政策要求审核申请。

外包公司获批签证数量减少

去年H-1B签证审核变严也对各大外包公司的业务带来影响。长期以来，几家最大的外包公司一直被诟病占据了大量H-1B签证的抽签名额。在2017财年，一些主要外包公司仍然是获批H-1B签

证申请数量最多的公司，但去年大部分都出现了签证获批数量下滑的情况。

这一方面反映出数字科技行业本身的发展趋势，导致其对于外国高技术人才依赖程度降低。另一方面，也一定程度反映出特朗普政府打击H-1B签证申请漏洞的努力正在显出效果。

与外包公司获得签证数量形成对比的是，亚马逊、微软、英特尔等大型科技企业都在去年获批了更多的H-1B签证，其中亚马逊获批数量增加1100多，达到2515人，甚至超过了大部分外包公司的获批数量。两党议员都曾因为这些向信息技术行业输送大量员工的公司，让美国技术员工的工作机会面临威胁。

从这个角度看，特朗普政府加强审查H-1B签证申请的做法，可以被视作是在解决签证项目长期存在的被滥用、误用问题的一个尝试。或许能够让那些更应该获得H-1B签证的申请者，有更大的机会抽中签证。

外籍员工市场缩水

然而，同样需要警惕的是，对于

H-1B签证申请的更严审查可能会长期对美国雇佣国外高技术人才的前景带来伤害。

从人才市场看，国家大学和雇主协会(National Association of Colleges and Employers)的年度就业报告指出，美国雇主愿意聘请外籍员工的比例在今年创下新低，仅为23.4%，这个数字在去年和前年分别是27.5%和32.8%。

美国就业市场对于外籍员工的开放度越来越小，从侧面反映出特朗普“美国优先”政策的起效。但在美国当前就業率处于低位、就业市场接近饱和的局面下，外籍劳工、特别是技术性劳工的流失，可能会对美国产业发展带来负面影响。

在H-1B签证申请者中，有很大比例是赴美留学的国际学生。在特朗普当选总统前，美国国际学生数量就开始出现下滑趋势。国家科学委员会的数据显示，在2012年秋季至2016年秋季连续增长后，国际学生本科生的录取人数在2016年秋季至2017年秋季下滑了2%，同一时期，国际学生研究生在科学、工程学科的录取率下滑6%，在其余学科也出现5%的下滑。

中国一直是美国国际学生的重
要来源地。美国驻华大使馆发布的
数据显示，中国赴美留学人数在国
际2016至2017学年占到国际生总数的
32.5%，连续8年位居各国之首。
在H-1B签证方面，中国申请者(9.4%)
虽然远不如印度申请者(76%)数量来
得，但中国高技术人才对于美国科
技产业发展的作用依然是不容忽
视的。

但在近期，特朗普政府施行新规，
缩短了中国赴美就读高科技领域行业的
留学生签证年限，在一定程度上影响了
中国学生赴美留学的热情，也可能削弱
美国对中国人才的吸引力。

如果说，特朗普政府想要堵住签证
申请漏洞的态度是正确的，那么，其背
后的保护主义理念可能会产生意想不到
的后果。

想要让美国保持强大，如何保持对
于中国在内的各国人才的吸引力甚为关
键，开放和包容的环境是美国在学术界、
科技行业长期处于领先地位的重要因
素。但倘若这一生态环境因为特朗普的
政策而开始转向，对于美国长远发展就
未必会是个好消息。

H-1B签证到手后想跳槽？ 门槛更高审核更严



H-1B工作签证是留学生留在美国就
业的必要条件，拿到签证已不容易，若
是申请者拿到签证后想跳槽，可申请
H-1B Transfer。移民律师指出，特朗
普上任后不仅H-1B签证审查严谨，申请
签证转换也像是高门槛的全新案件。

据政府法律，持有H-1B工作签证的
申请者，在递交H-1B Transfer后，在等
待过程可直接到新公司上班。但自特朗
普上任后，任何移民签证政策都遭受到
严厉监控。

移民律师陈律师表示，H-1B Transfer
以往比较简单，移民局以往认为，在申请
工作签证时已仔细详查过教育与个人背景
，申请转换时的审查相对地较不严苛。

不过“现在移民局做了微调”，不
管是申请 H-1B 工作签证还是 H-1B
Transfer，移民局均视为全新案件审查
，且门槛几乎一样高。

陈律师也指出，依照现在审核程序的
难度与周期，万一申请者申请 H-1B
Transfer 不过，等于是失去了在美工作的
资格。

他建议申请者，如需转换公司，先
等新公司的转换案件批准后，再跳槽比
较保险。有民众认为等待转换案件时间
长，大多公司可能不愿意。但他认为，
现在申请失败率高，大多公司希望申请

者确认得到签证后，再进而栽培较有利
于公司。

据悉，申请H-1B的数量，前年猛增
到236000件。去年受特朗普政府严苛审
核H-1B的氛围影响，申请递件才回落至
199000件。虽然2019年的H-1B工作签证
还不到一周，85000个名额便告罄，但不
少留学生对于申请签证已知难而退。

陈律师认为，愈来愈少雇主想要雇
用H-1B申请者为员工，这可能造成未来
送件减少。虽然申请者抽中率可能变高
，但审核过程也将愈来愈难。目前频繁
出现的H-1B补件状况，许多人面临补件
，可能是申请前未全面考虑到移民局的
要求。现在移民局比以往更注重申请者的
薪水、申请者的工作岗位是否需要申请
者所拥有的学位。

他举例，假如A留学生念完大学商
科，希望在美从事营销分析师，“从劳
工局的角度，成为营销分析师的最低资
格是高中生。移民局则可认为该岗位不
需由外国国籍大学学位持有者担任”。
陈律师建议，如是这种状况，申请者用
任何学位申请，均有可能被要求补件，
以证明该领域的该岗位需要该项学位者
。他建议，“每人的个案不同，在申请
前最好全面考虑，给予相关证明，较容
易一次审核成功”。

自上任以来，特朗普一直奉行强
硬的移民政策，不遗余力地推进美墨
边境墙建设，并强推导致骨肉分离的
“零容忍”政策，这导致了美国各界
和国际社会的强烈不满。不过，这并
未影响特朗普对其移民政策的决心。
当地时间29日，美国总统特朗普发推
威胁民主党称，如果不投票支持包括
边境墙在内的边境安全(政策)，那我不
介意让政府关门。

特朗普在推文中说，如果民主党
不为我们包括边境墙在内的边境安全
投票，那就愿意关闭政府。我们必须
取消彩票(签证抽奖)、抓捕和释放等，
并最终使移民系统取决于功绩。我们
需要伟大的人来到我们国家！

据悉，今年年初，美国政府就曾

因移民政策的分歧而被迫暂时关闭。
当时，美国国会众议院通过一项为期
四周的临时拨款法案，但由于参议院
多数民主党人的反对，使得临时拨款
法案未能最终通过。民主党与共和党
的分歧在于，多数民主党参议员希望
将保护“童年抵美者暂缓遣返(DACA)
”计划的立法与政府拨款法案绑定到
一起投票通过，而共和党领导层认为
这两项议题应分开进行谈判。

“童年抵美者暂缓遣返”计划由
美国前总统奥巴马2012年签署实施，
该计划使得年幼时被父母带入美国的
青少年非法移民可免于被遣返并合法
获得工作。但被美国现任总统特朗普
于去年9月下令废止。

自4月初，美国政府为打击非法移

民而强推“零容忍”政策，导致大批
儿童与父母被强制分离，此举让特朗
普遭到多方批评与抗议。有数据显示
，自特朗普的“骨肉分离”移民政策
实施至今，已有2300多名来自移民家
庭的儿童被美政府强行与父母分离，
有些安置在收容所，有些则寄养在其
他家庭中。

除“零容忍”政策外，修建边境
墙是特朗普应对非法移民的另一重要
对策。特朗普曾在竞选中许诺，一旦
当选总统，将在美墨边界修建隔离墙
，以阻挡毒枭和非法移民。特朗普称
，修建边境墙对于控制非法移民进入
美国至关重要。上台后，特朗普一直
强推美墨边境墙建设，不惜以政府停
摆相威胁，让国会为其拨款。

特朗普威胁民主党： 不支持移民政策 就让政府关门

据澳洲新闻网报道，上千名富翁
富翁通过投资签证就可以跳过超长的
移民队伍，直接买到澳大利亚的路
。

数据显示，投资签证已经成为澳大
利亚经济注入了110亿元。

但澳大利亚生产力委员会最近发
现，投资签证可能诱发诈骗的发生，
而且对澳大利亚没有什么益处，特恩
布尔政府正在审查这一签证类别，可
能会彻底取消。

据悉，上百名申请者的投资签证
申请被拒绝，因为他们无法提供资金
来源的证明。

有些申请者在将钱转到海外的过
程中遇到了困难，而其他有些人则被
发现提供伪造文件，也有报道称，这
些人卷入了包括行贿、内部交易或许
骗等不能被接受的犯罪活动中。

申请者需要500万元就可以申请重
大投资签证，该签证是从2012年开始

实施的。那以后，共有近2000名富翁
通过这种最快速移民方式之一成功申
请移民澳大利亚。

到目前为止，这些富豪通过重大
投资签证为澳大利亚经济注入了98.7亿
元。按照该签证的规定，申请者需要
先投资澳大利亚股票、企业项目获债
券，4年后才可以申请永居。

在这段时间期间，他们每年只要
在澳大利亚待40天，但是还要受到州
政府或领地政府的担保才可以申请。

中国投资者在申请者中占有很大
比例。

另一种投资者签证的审核程序
相对较慢一些，在5年内的时间内，
705名投资者为经济注入了10.57亿
元。按照该签证的规定，申请者需要
投资150万元，2年后可以申请永居。

内政部数据显示，过去5年，两种

签证初始申请人的逾6530名家人也已
经来到了澳大利亚。

根据澳大利亚内政部去年提供给
议会的数据，还有2025名申请者被拒
绝，绝大部分是因为他们无法提供明
确的资金来源证明。

内政部目前正在审查商业投资
签证类别。生产力委员会早在2016
年就提出政府应废除重大投资签证
，另外要求申请者投资150万元的
高端投资者签证也应该被废除。到
目前为止，政府还没有签发出高端
投资者签证。

Austrac也对重大投资者签证表示
担忧，称确定申请者的钱是否是合法
所得是非常困难的。

但澳大利亚华裔企业家俱乐部主
席袁理查(Richard Yuan, 音译)则表示
，这些投资者为澳大利亚经济做出了
很大贡献。

澳大利亚投资者签证或被取消 政府已经展开审查

据澳洲新闻网报道，上千名富翁
通过投资签证就可以跳过超长的
移民队伍，直接买到澳大利亚的路
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夏季避暑冬季看雪 媲美瑞士的风景都在中国这座年轻的城市

如果，你想在这个夏天，过一段舒心的日子，看看草原，湖泊和森林，不妨就去阿尔山看看。

这里有辽阔的草原，湖泊、森林、蓝天白云，奔跑的骏马，成群的牛羊，特色的蒙古包……来到这里，就仿佛置身天然氧吧，让人神清气爽。

位于内蒙古自治区兴安盟西北部的阿尔山，全称为“哈伦阿尔山”，蒙古语意为“热的圣水”，世界最大的温泉群已经静静地在这里流淌了几个世纪。这里曾是历史上的军事要塞，新中国成立后，因沿线煤矿矿业资源丰富发展，上世纪90年代初期发展建市，既是中国最年轻的城市之一，也是全国最高纬度的城市之一。小城拥有森林公园和山林草原的美景，又因天然温泉成了疗养胜地。

阿尔山国家森林公园位于大兴安岭西南麓，内有大兴安岭第一峰特尔美山（海拔1378米）和大兴安岭第一湖达尔滨湖。整个公园包括了石塘林、天池（驼峰岭天池和天池山天池）、三潭峡、龟背熔岩、乌苏浪子湖等多个景区。

阿尔山温泉群由丰富的热泉、冷泉和温泉组成，市北约2.5公里处五里泉的冷泉常年保持在2-3度，水质极好。中蒙界河哈拉哈河有20余公里流淌过阿尔山，三潭峡到金江沟林场段因地热终年不冻，冬季阿尔山气温低至零下三四十度时，哈拉哈河是世界上唯一可以进行冬季漂流的地方。

1、天池：大自然是最好的艺术家，火山喷发物落在火山口周围，中间形成了圆形凹坑，历经多年积水，就形成了天池。天池山天池位于阿尔山东北部74公里的天池岭上，海拔约1332米，是仅次于新疆天山博格达峰天池和吉林省白头山天池，海拔高度位居全国第三。天池东西长约450米，南北宽约300米，从空中俯瞰，形状似水滴，更像一块晶莹的碧玉，镶嵌在雄伟瑰丽、林木苍翠的高山之巅，四周被茂密的森林簇拥。

相比较起驼峰岭天池，它更适合游客徒步到达。沿着998级木栈道爬到山



顶，一汪碧绿的池水出现在眼前。它是虽然是既无出水口也无入水口的一潭死水，却美的纯净、自然。

初见天池，我也曾质疑这么一潭死水为何非要气喘吁吁地爬上来，听了当地人的介绍才知道，阿尔山天池有4个神奇之处：（1）久旱不涸，久雨不溢，水位终年不升不降。（2）没有河道出入水，却洁净无比。（3）“水至清则无鱼”，几里之外的姊妹湖丰产鲜鱼，天池却没有鱼，甚至渔民放入鱼苗也不见鱼的踪影。（4）深不可测，有人曾将绳子一头系上重锤，放到300多米都没有放到底。

2、石塘林 我曾经自驾过夏威夷大岛的火山公园，众所周知，夏威夷的火山就像个不安分的孩子，喷发出的岩浆凝固后，形成了壮观的地质景观。而阿尔山森林公园中的石塘林，作为第四纪火山喷发的地质遗迹。是亚洲第一大，世界第二大的熔岩遗址。这段长约20公里，宽约10公里的石塘林展现了各种火山地貌，如熔岩隧道、熔岩陷谷、翻花石、熔岩丘等，地质构造，土壤，植被，生物都保持着原始的状态。

石塘林中怪石嶙峋，姿态各异。石缝中生长出各种植物，从参天大树到蕨类苔藓，不禁感叹生命力的顽强，景区修建了长达4.8公里的栈道，漫步其中，呼吸来自大兴安岭的新鲜空气，感受大地脉动。

石塘林地下还有一段约10公里长的哈拉哈河暗河，只闻流水声，不见水流何处。两岸古树参天，郁郁葱葱，上游

的自然景观。

3、乌苏浪子湖：三面环山的乌苏浪子湖同样也是因火山喷发而形成的堰塞湖，平均水深2.5米，有“大兴安岭小江南”的美誉。湖北侧有暖泉，冬季也不结冰。但这里可和天池不同，湖内盛产鲤鱼、白鱼、鲫鱼等，肉质鲜美。令人称奇的是，湖中的鱼全都是雌鱼，一年四季产卵，也有“湖中女儿国”之称。

4、阿尔山市区：作为中国最年轻的城市之一，小城不大，中心区域大多步行即可到达。夕阳西下时分，帅气的女骑警们也是街头一道动人的风景。

5、整个大兴安岭林区都是禁烟的，切记不要在室外或林区内吸烟。

6、如果选择在阿尔山地区自驾，不建议独自一人开车。出发前务必做好各种保养，加满油，并且途中见到加油站就及时补充。

7、冬季路况恶劣，没有足够冰雪驾驶技术的人不建议冬季在此自驾。

的铁轨，让这里散发着一种异域风情。

火车站常年运行到乌兰浩特和白城两班的火车，旺季会增设开往海拉尔、沈阳和长春的列车。

[旅行季节]

一年四季都适合旅行，四季风景迥异，但最佳旅行季节是每年的6-9月。

[参考游玩]

1-2天 处于高原大陆气候区的阿尔山矿泉，属于高原大陆气候区，冬季寒冷漫长，夏季短促凉爽，是天然的旅游、猎奇、避暑、休闲的好去处。温泉群集饮用、洗浴、治疗于一体，被称为“天下奇泉”。这也是阿尔山“热的圣水”名称的由来，温泉中含有铜、锰、锶、锂、钛、钼、铝、铍、铯、钡等多种微量元素及放射性元素镭、铀，对人体的运动器官、消化器官、心血管系统、神经系统、呼吸系统等疾病均有较高的疗效。

如今37个泉眼都被收藏于市区的中国温泉博物馆内，不同温度的泉水有不同的功效。旅行之余，来此泡个温泉放松一下也是一种休闲。

[旅行Tips]

1、山区气温变化较大，即便是夏天，气温也可能降至10度以下。无论任何季节来阿尔山都需要带一件厚衣服以备不时之需。

2、夏季游玩，务必做好防晒，由于兴安盟地区纬度较高，日照时间长，空气好紫外线也很强，建议使用50+防晒品。

3、摄影爱好者务必做好相机等数码器材的防雨、防晒措施。

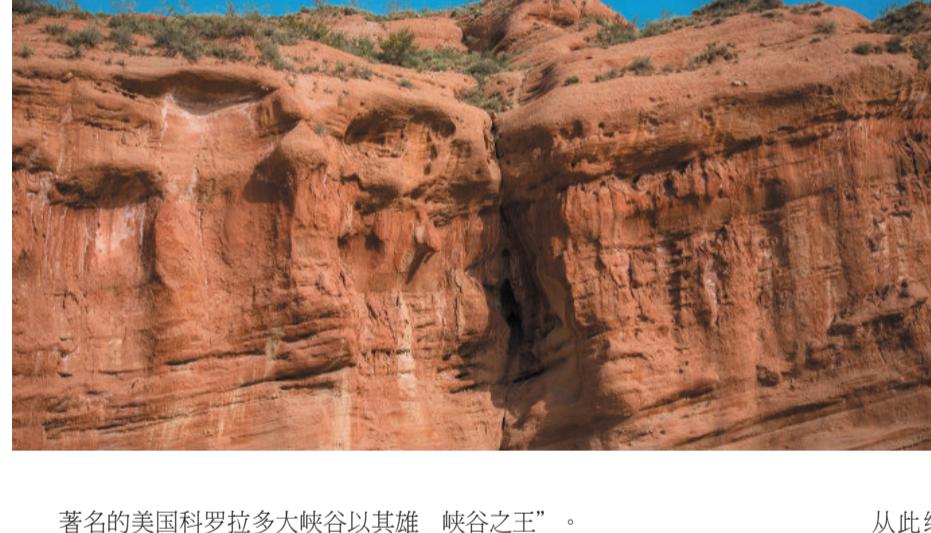
4、夏季森林、草原上蚊虫较多，提前带驱蚊药，最好穿长衣长裤和舒适的徒步鞋。

5、整个大兴安岭林区都是禁烟的，切记不要在室外或林区内吸烟。

6、如果选择在阿尔山地区自驾，不建议独自一人开车。出发前务必做好各种保养，加满油，并且途中见到加油站就及时补充。

7、冬季路况恶劣，没有足够冰雪驾驶技术的人不建议冬季在此自驾。

“中国峡谷之王” 镇谷之宝，游客看了很尴尬



如同是一顶顶帽子。这样奇异的景象连见多识广的专家们也无法解释。

这里被称为“星空异石”。它的奇特之处在于，这是由两种不同的材质组成的擎天石柱。很明显上面的岩石看着更硬实，它与周围岩石材完全不同，据说这是一块天外飞石。

不过温宿大峡谷中最神奇的景观位于情人谷，看图片你马上就能明白这

是什么。这根在一

片低谷中，擎天一柱的石柱被称：生命之根。这是属于景区的精华之一，是必

到景点，只是很多女孩子看了这根柱子都会害羞。

更为神奇的是离生命之根10多米远的石壁上，还有一个“生命之源”，这都是属于自然形成。面对如此奇妙景色你不得不感叹大自然的神奇和中国人的发现能力。生命之根和生命之源被誉为温宿大峡谷的“镇谷之宝”。

著名的美国科罗拉多大峡谷以其雄壮的自然风光享誉全球，被誉为世界七大自然奇观之一。不过，中国新疆阿克苏地区温宿县境内的天山山脉中段南麓山区。当地人称其为“库都鲁克大峡谷”，在维吾尔语中的意思为“惊险，神秘”。大峡谷是由距今一亿多年前中生代的白垩纪，经过亿万年的洪水、雨水冲刷及强风侵蚀而形成的。

在古代这里曾是通往南北天山的必经之地，据说唐朝和尚玄奘去西天取经

从此经过。温宿大峡谷是由三条“川”字型的主谷和12条支谷、上百条小支谷组成，是天山规模最大、美学价值最高的红层峡谷。

从阿克苏市区驱车80公里，到达景区门口，再换乘景区特别改装的汽车。飞驰在这狂野的戈壁荒漠中，车虽有些颠簸，但一路变幻的景色让人大饱眼福。

坐车大约15分钟左右，就来到了大峡谷的入口。从这里开始没有任何的交通工具，只能徒步前行，全程走完约两

个小时左右。大峡谷总面积为200多平方公里，目前已开放的路段沟长约10公里，最狭窄处仅能一人通过。

进入峡谷后，仿佛进入了一片自然画廊。在这里你能看到各种不同的地貌景色，峡谷两侧因风吹日晒，雨水冲刷而形成了许多令人叹为观止的神奇景色。

这里被称为“石帽峡谷”，经过亿万年的风雨侵蚀，自然形成了这奇特的景观。在一大片山体上，耸立着一根根石柱，在每个柱子的顶端盖有一块平板

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本报记者秦鸿钧摄影



著名美容专家Sara Lee (左) 与该中心投资人周洁 (中) 、Stella Zhu (右) 合影。



(左起) 总领馆商务组参赞周振成，该中心负责人L. Lee Wong, 与「Johnson Development Services.」 Michael Cox 合影。



出席说仪式的贵宾Sara Lee (左), Peggy (右) 与业主Larry Wong (中) 合影。



(左起) 「Garden Capital Partners」主要合夥人Stella Zhu, 周洁、L. Lee Wong 与总领馆商务组组长周振成 (左二) 合影。



出席开幕式的来宾，来自休市各行业的中外精英。



本报系董事长李蔚华先生 (左二) 与业主Larry Wong (右二)，赖清阳大律师 (左一)，Rudy (右一) 等人合影。



该中心负责人L. Lee Wong (中) 捐款一千元给「Westchase District Community Fund」，由Michael Cox (右一) 代表接受。



经过评委们的专业选拔后，9号吴越、6号梁祺梦、10号何莉三佳丽获得在洛杉矶举行的美洲区总决赛资格。主办单位凤凰卫视美洲台曾世平副台长，协办单位阳光传媒董事长James Luo，美南赛区主席陈灼刚，总策划王翊帆，共同主席徐宁波等嘉宾和评委们一起为入围三佳丽颁奖。

由凤凰卫视精心打造，阳光传媒协办的高端选美赛事2018凤凰卫视中华小姐环球大赛美洲美南赛区决赛于日前在Stafford Centre盛大举行。来自美南地区的共12位佳丽通过泳装、问答、晚礼服和才艺表演胜负揭晓。凤凰卫视美洲台副台长曾世平女士任美南赛区决赛的裁判长；凤凰卫视美洲台节目总监梁英志先生，前休斯顿地区哈里斯郡民事大法官张文华女士，休斯敦著名选美大赛评审Alan Lee医生，休斯顿著名舞台剧导演朱安平先生，笑琳模特表演艺术学校校长笑琳，中国女演员、模特房鹿女士等七位导师任美南赛区决赛的评委。决赛由莫少康、刘金璐、姜晗主持。阳光传媒董事长James罗先生致欢迎辞，向远道而来的凤凰卫视美洲台副台长曾世平女士一行人表示了衷心的感谢。2018凤凰卫视中华小姐环球小姐大赛美洲美南大赛旨在为美南地区华人打造华裔女性的美丽盛事。



佳丽才艺表演环节



著名侨领2017凤凰卫视中华小姐环球大赛美洲美南赛区大赛发起人之一陈灼刚致辞一起共同见证华裔女性最佳魅力的表现



本次大赛协办单位阳光传媒总裁James罗与获奖的三位佳丽合影并感谢所有到场的嘉宾和媒体的大力支持他表示，对于本次大赛加强化的阵容感到无比信心。今年阳光传媒是第二年作为协办单位将继续全力配合中华小姐的各项活动为美南赛区争取更大的光荣



凤凰卫视美洲台副台长曾世平女士介绍美洲赛区的基本情况表示中华小姐环球大赛 (Miss Chinese Cosmos Pageant) 是香港凤凰卫视举办的全球性选美盛事，于2005年举办首届，今年是第十四届，华裔女性朋友们热烈参与和勇敢挑战自我，打造出美丽形象拉近了全球华人距离、建立华人新生代美丽标准的选美大赛推崇美丽与智慧并重，及内在与外在兼修的华人新女性形象，各个分赛区共选出16强于8月初参加在洛杉矶举行的美洲区总决赛，并在总决赛选出前三名直接参加10月底在中国举行的中华小姐环球大赛总决赛，评选出全球冠军



机智问答环节



泳装走秀环节