American cuts second U.S.-China flight; cites fuel cost, competition

DENVER, CO (Reuters) - American Airlines (AAL.O) is cutting a route from Chicago to Shanghai, canceling the second direct flight from the U.S. city to China in four months, the carrier said on Tuesday, citing higher fuel costs and a "competitive environment."

American said in a statement it will seek a U.S. Department of Transportation waiver to allow "a return to the market once conditions improve."

"Our Chicago-Shanghai service is unprofitable and simply not sustainable in this high fuel cost environment and when we have opportunities to be successful in other markets," Vasu Raja, American’s vice president of network and schedule planning, said in the statement.

American, the largest U.S. carrier by passengers, cut a flight from Chicago to Beijing in May. Certain routes present the three main U.S. carriers with problems earning a profit as they try to grab a larger share of the growing market of passenger traffic from the world’s fastest-growing aviation market.

American rivals United Airlines (UAL.N) and Delta Air Lines (DAL.N) have both previously dropped routes to China.

Chinese passengers arriving at U.S. airports are expected ten-tacle triple from 4.3 million in 2018 to an estimated 12.8 million in 2024, and the profile is shifting from groups to independent travelers, according to a Ibsen Group market forecast.

But the Chinese market remains a challenge for U.S. carriers with fare yields under pressure, and most China-to-U.S. traffic now carried by Chinese carriers, said Boyd Group president Scott Kirby.

American’s vice president of network and schedule planning, said in the statement. American, the largest U.S. carrier by passengers, cut a flight from Chicago to Beijing in May.

American, which took a stake in China Southern Airlines Co Ltd (600029.SS) in 2015, said it would continue to serve the route between Hangzhou and San Francisco in 2017. Delta has seven daily flights to China, supported by its codeshare and equity partnership with China Eastern Airlines (000115.SZ).

FILE PHOTO: An American Airlines Boeing 737 plane takes off from Los Angeles International Airport.

Air China has priority on routes out of Beijing, but the eased policy will allow China Eastern and China Southern Airlines to grow market share from their bases at Beijing’s new Daxing Airport, which is set to open in 2019.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Trump administration on Tuesday proposed replacing the Clean Power Plan, the centerpiece of former President Barack Obama’s regulatory efforts to combat climate change, in a move critics said would have dire environmental and health consequences.

The proposal released by the Environmental Protection Agency would grant states the ability to write their own weaker regulations for the plants and give them the ability to seek permission to opt out of regulations on power plant emissions.

The effort to re-write the plan is the latest move by the EPA under President Donald Trump, a Republican, to roll back environmental protections put in place by Obama, Trump’s Democratic predecessor.

Trump, who is scheduled to hold a rally on Tuesday in West Virginia, a top coal-producing state, has vowed to end what he has called “the war on coal” and boost domestic fossil fuel production.

“Today’s proposal provides the states and regulated community the certainty they need to continue environmental progress while fulfilling President Trump’s goal of energy dominance,” EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler said in a statement announcing the proposal.

The Clean Power Plan (CPP), which was finalized by the EPA under Obama in 2015, sought to reduce emissions from power plants to 32 percent below 2005 levels by 2030 but never took effect. The Supreme Court put the brakes on it in 2016, after energy-producing states sued the EPA, saying it had exceeded its legal reach.

Democrats and environmental organizations slammed the Trump administration’s proposal as a handout to the U.S. fossil fuel industry at the expense of America’s well-being, the environment and other energy savings.

“It will have serious consequences for the health of the public and our planet,” Democratic U.S. Senator Tom Carper said in a statement.

The move to let states opt out of emissions regulations will likely face staunch opposition from electricity industry associations because in many states the CPP’s limits on emissions have already been met.

In addition, green groups are likely to mount a court fight against the provision that would allow states to opt out.

FILE PHOTO: An empty podium awaits the arrival of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler to address staff at an EPA headquarters in Washington, U.S., July 11, 2018. REUTERS/Ting Shen/File Photo
VIENNA (Reuters) - The U.N. nuclear watchdog said on Thursday it did not find any indication that North Korea had stopped its nuclear activities, adding to doubts about the country’s willingness to abandon its arsenal.

“The continuation and further development of the DPRK’s nuclear program and related statements by the DPRK are a cause for grave concern,” the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said in a report published late on Monday.

The report, which refers to the country’s official name Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, is to be submitted to the IAEA’s board meeting next month.

U.S. President Donald Trump said in an interview with Reuters on Monday he believed North Korea had taken specific steps toward denuclearization and that he would “most likely” meet again with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Trump held a landmark summit with Kim on June 12, at which the North Korean leader agreed in broad terms to work toward denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

However, the country has given no indication it is willing to give up its weapons unilaterally as the Trump administration has demanded.

“As the agency remains unable to carry out verification activities in the DPRK, its knowledge of the DPRK’s nuclear program is limited and, as further nuclear activities take place in the country, this knowledge is declining,” the IAEA said.

Between late April and early May there were indications of the operation of the steam plant that serves a radiochemical laboratory, the report said. However, the duration of the steam plant’s operation was not sufficient to have supported the reprocessing of a complete core from the experimental nuclear power plant reactor.

Morning Briefing

President Trump worries that any statements he provides to Mueller could be a ‘perjury trap’, Microsoft says Russian hackers targeted U.S. conservative think-tanks and Iraq plans to ask U.S. for exemptions on some Iran sanctions.

Exclusive: Trump said he was “not thrilled” with the Federal Reserve under his own appointee, Chairman Jerome Powell, for raising interest rates and said the U.S. central bank should do more to help him to boost the economy. In an interview with Reuters, Trump also said he was worried that any statements under oath he provides to Special Counsel Robert Mueller could be used to bring perjury charges against him as part of the probe into Russia’s electoral interference.

It is “very dangerous” for social media companies like Twitter and Facebook to silence voices on their services, Trump said in an interview with Reuters as the social media industry faces mounting scrutiny from Congress to police foreign propaganda.

As new U.S. tariffs on $16 billion of Chinese goods take effect at 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, along with retaliatory tariffs from Beijing on an equal amount of U.S. goods, Trump said he does not expect much progress from trade talks with China this week in Washington. Adding that he had “no time frame” for ending the trade dispute with China in an interview with Reuters.

A plan to close most polling places in a predominantly black Georgia county ahead of November’s elections is drawing opposition from the state’s gubernatorial candidates and voting rights activists, who deem it blatant voter suppression.

Hackers linked to Russia’s government tried to target the websites of two right-wing U.S. think-tanks, suggesting they were broadening their attacks in the build-up to November elections, Microsoft said.

More than 2 million Muslims gathered at Mount Arafat on Monday for a vigil to atone for their sins, and then descended to Muzdalifa to prepare for the final stages of the annual haj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia.
Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in New York, U.S., August 21, 2018. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid

A street sign is seen in Ahlen where Jakiw Palij, a 95-year old New York City man believed to be a former guard at a labor camp in Nazi-occupied Poland, has been taken to a home for the elderly.

A Microsoft store is pictured in New York City.

A street sign is seen in Ahlen where Jakiw Palij, a 95-year old New York City man believed to be a former guard at a labor camp in Nazi-occupied Poland, has been taken to a home for the elderly.

A trainer and elephants from a local circus bathe in the waters of the Black Sea in Yevpatoria.

A Microsoft store is pictured in New York City.

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A trainer and elephants from a local circus bathe in the waters of the Black Sea in Yevpatoria.
HOUSTON (July 30, 2018) – Houston Community College is pioneering a program to ensure students earn a level one certificate in one of seven programs, but also for general UHD programs, “Take One & Done,” says Melissa Gonzalez, president of Southeast College. “We looked specifically at these programs, where there are jobs and there is a demand for workers.” “Take One and Done” includes level one certificates in the following programs:

1. Welding Technology-Basic
2. Construction Management Technology
3. Industrial Electricity Electrical Helper
4. Business Management-Insurance Specialist/Associate
5. Logistics & Supply Chain Management - Maritime Logistics & Specialist
6. HVAC
7. Refrigeration

While taking courses at the Eastside Campus, HCC will help students prepare for job search. “They will be getting a professional resume done through our career center and we are going to provide interview for every single student,” Gonzalez says. “We are working with our industry partners to make sure they are available to interview on site before the students are finished for the semester.” Gonzalez emphasizes that students also have the option to pursue an associate degree and prepare for a transfer to a four-year university. “Texas Southern University and the University of Houston have a presence on our campus.”

• Full 2016 Registration Begins May 7
• 16-Week Classes begin Aug. 27
• Morning and Evening Classes
• 16-Week Classes begin Aug. 27
• Financial Aid and Childcare (For those who qualify)

HCC offers free tuition and waiving mandatory fees for up to six credit hours per semester for students in that age group. In addition, students between 55 and 65 can receive a 50 percent discount on the tuition. The discounts apply to academic and workforce courses that have not already been filled by students paying full price. If you are in the first group, those 65 and older, the following requirements apply:

• Texas resident or non-resident who is 65 or older, the following requirements apply:
• Texas resident or non-resident who is 65 or older, the following requirements apply:
• To receive continuation of the discount, student must receive a grade point average of 2.0

HCC is offering free tuition for Seniors

HOUSTON (August 17, 2018) - If you are 65 or older, Houston Community College has an education deal for you. HCC is offering free tuition and waiving mandatory fees for up to six credit hours per semester for students in that age group. In addition, students between 55 and 65 can receive a 50 percent discount on the tuition. The discounts apply to academic and workforce courses that have not already been filled by students paying full price. If you are in the first group, those 65 and older, the following requirements apply:

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Youth Unemployment Hits A 50-Year Low – With A Catch

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

There’s a good news/bad news situation with youth unemployment.

More young Americans — defined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as people between the ages of 16 to 24 — are working this summer, pushing the unemployment rate for the group to a 52-year low. But there’s a catch: the labor force participation rate for young Americans remains below its 1989 peak.

The latest government data suggests that young Americans who want to find work are having an easier time of it. Yet the lagging labor force participation rate points to a long-term trend of teens and college-age students opting for summer school, volunteer work or other unpaid activities. That’s because some teens and their parents believe there may give them a better shot at getting into a competitive college or landing a lucrative job when they’re out of college.

Yet summer jobs can help students perform better in the classroom when they return to school, according to research from Stanford’s Jacob Leos-Urbel. Students are also learning important skills while on the job, such as teamwork and dealing with customers. The unemployment rate for young Americans actively looking for work this summer was 9.2 percent in July compared with 9.6 percent a year earlier, marking the lowest rate since 1966, the BLS said on Thursday. Since the wake of the recession a decade ago, the unemployment rate for young workers has halved.

The lower unemployment rate for young Americans was hailed by President Donald Trump, who tweeted about the data on Friday morning.

"Just announced, youth unemployment is at a 52 year low! @foxandfriends 7:29 AM - Aug 17, 2018 86.5K Retweets
29.7K people are talking about this. But the labor-force participation rate stands at 60.6 percent, far below its peak of 77.5 percent in July 1989, the BLS added. This rate illustrates the share of 16 to 24 year olds who are working or looking and available for work.

For teens 16-19 years old in particular, participation is at a record low. Just 35 percent of that age group is looking for work or working—the lowest figure since record-keeping started in 1948. Some teens and young adults may feel discouraged by the job market, especially given the shifts in the retail and fast-food industries, where teens traditionally found their first jobs.

Thousands of brick-and-mortar stores have closed in recent years as Americans shift their spending to Amazon and other online retailers. And some teens are less likely to find employment than others, according to research from JPMorgan Chase. Young black men are far less likely to be employed than their white counterparts, the bank found in an August study.

That was echoed in the BLS data, which found that young black Americans have an unemployment rate of 16.5 percent in July, more than double the 7.6 percent rate for young white workers. (Courtesy https://www.cbsnews.com)
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**新恐怖片"陰風陣陣"發角色海報 "將靈魂交予舞蹈" 謎語揭示本周發新預告片**

目前新電影版《億萬少年俱樂部》正在亞馬遜上熱播，該片改編自Joe Hunt和Dean Karny的真實故事，他們在20世紀80年代初聯手創造了壹個龐氏騙局，並最終導致了大騙子Ron Levin的死亡。凱文·史派西在片中飾演“比佛利巨富Ron Levin”一角，《億萬少年俱樂部》本周五在美國10家影院上映，首日票房慘撲街，僅有可憐的126美元，這無疑是凱文·史派西電影作品的最差開畫成績。

影片的兩位主角安塞爾·埃爾格特（《極盜車神》男主）和塔倫·埃格頓（《王牌特工2:黃金圈》男主）演繹非常精彩，幾位配角艾瑪·羅伯茨（《冒牌家庭》），加利·艾爾維斯（《公主新娘》），博基姆·伍德拜因（《蜘蛛俠:英雄歸來》）和賈德·尼爾森（《早餐俱樂部》）也表現不錯。遺憾的是，強大的表演陣容也挽救不了糟糕的劇本。最後在整個電影中，觀眾沒法確定應該支持哪個角色，結局也無法讓人滿意。

《億萬少年俱樂部》是基於真實故事改編的電影，在1987年就曾拍過同名電視電影，事件的主角是壹對高中好友，Joe Hunt（安塞爾·埃爾格特飾）和Dean Karny（塔倫·埃格頓飾）。他們因為嫉妒壹起上高中的富家子弟弟，而創設了壹個龐氏騙局，征集他們以前的同學，以及他們有錢的父母，作為所謂“快速發財計劃”的投資者。

剛開始很成功，Joe和Dean靠著這項計劃迅速過上了紙醉金迷的生活，Joe很快就愛上了壹位名為 Sydney（艾瑪·羅伯茨飾）的年輕藝術家。但是兩位年輕人結識了前華爾街話題人物Ron Levin，其同意投資他們的公司後，事情就開始變得復雜了，因為他們隨即發現他其實是壹個真正的騙子，已經被FBI和國稅局同時盯上了。

隨著他們的公司四分五裂，投資者紛紛開始懷疑，Joe和Dean求助於有錢的波斯黑幫，但是這只能讓事情變得更糟。現在，兩個人已經走到了失去壹切的邊緣，在Joe和Dean各自做了壹個致命的決定之後，兩個人的友誼也面臨巨大的考驗，並將改變他們的整個人生道路。

《億萬少年俱樂部》最大的問題之壹是，無論 Joe還是 Dean看起來都那種無可救藥的人物，編劇兼導演James Cox似乎還不確定想讓觀眾支持誰。電影開始的時候，妳會同情Joe，懷疑Dean，但是很快就翻轉了，然後再翻轉，最後再翻轉回來。這可能是導演James Cox故意想讓故事“跌宕起伏”的壹種設計，但是劇情過於復雜讓人不知道該站在哪個角色的立場上，從而導致對電影的結局缺乏興趣。

說到它的結局，結論令人非常不滿意，事實上它根本沒有真正的結局，只是事情某種程度的告壹段落。James Cox在最近的采訪中稱，他的這個劇本是受到了《華爾街》和《領頭狗》的啟發，但是最終呈現的結果像是《華爾街之狼》和《美國精神病人》缺乏靈魂的結合體，根本沒有抓住以上任何壹部電影的精髓。

《億萬少年俱樂部》唯壹的看點應該是強大的配角陣容。影片的最佳配角之壹當屬1980年代男星賈德·尼爾森，事實上他本人正是原版電視電影中Joe Hunt的扮演者。在新版電影裏，尼爾森扮演的是Joe的父親Ryan，他的表演細膩而真誠。同樣小角色表現可圈可點的是加利·艾爾維斯，以滑稽的方式演繹了另類藝術大師安迪·沃霍爾。《冰血暴》主演之壹博基姆·伍德拜因在其中也是壹位出色的配角，但筆者更希望看到他的角色在片中有更重要的表現。但是在所有的配角陣容中，艾瑪·羅伯茨成熟且富有層次感的表演依然能脫穎而出，非常耀眼。她扮演的 Sydney作為主角的夢中情人，本來很容易就會成為壹個花瓶角色，但是羅伯茨的表演賦予了這個角色立體感，讓觀眾真正關心她，在這壹點上甚至超過了主角本身。

雖然電影本身乏善可陳，安塞爾·埃爾格特和塔倫·埃格頓還是做出了相當精彩的表演，盡管兩位主角的人設本身存在很多缺點。電影留給妳的感覺是，如果有更好的劇本，主角人設能夠真正獲得妳的同情和認同，兩位主演男星應該會讓這部電影變得與眾不同。
宏村的月沼湖是牛胃

每年的雨后初晴，都有賞荷的遊客來到這池旁，池水如鏡，荷風送爽。時而有鸚鵡在池邊叫著，時而有魚兒在池中嬉戲。

這個時期，荷塘的荷花正盛開，它們的粉紅色在綠荷的映襯下，更加豔麗。

杭州宋城，是一個以宋朝文化為主題的旅遊景點。它們的建築風格與生活情境都非常接近宋朝。

杭州宋城的門票價格為180元，但遊客可以購買套票，套票包含門票及一些表演的門票。

在宋城中，遊客可以觀賞到許多以宋朝為主題的表演，這些表演非常具有創意和歷史意義。

除了表演之外，遊客還可以在宋城裡品嚐到各種傳統小吃，這裡的小吃非常美味。

宋城的景點包括了主體區、市井街、南街、石板街、書院街等。遊客可以在這些景點中漫步，感受到宋朝的生活氣氛。

宋城是一個綜合性的旅遊景點，遊客可以觀賞到宋朝的建築物、表演和小吃，這些都讓遊客了解到宋朝的生活方式和文化。

宋城的門票在不同的時間段會有所不同，遊客可以在官網上查詢到最新門票價格。