



# Southern DAILY Make Today Different

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## 'Turbulence' in ties threatens U.S.-China security meeting

BEIJING (Reuters) - A key diplomatic and security meeting between China and the United States next month may not take place due to tensions in relations, sources briefed on the matter said, potentially the latest casualty of worsening ties. China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi and the Chinese delegation listen to U.S. President Donald Trump address the U.N. Security Council meeting at the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters in New York, U.S., September 26, 2018. REUTERS/Carlos Barria Beijing and Washington are locked in a spiraling trade war that has seen them level increasingly severe rounds of tariffs on each other's imports. Friction between the world's top two economies is now moving beyond trade, with U.S. President Donald Trump accusing Beijing this week of seeking to interfere in congressional elections, marking what U.S. officials told Reuters was a new phase in an escalating campaign by Washington to put pressure on China. On the military front, China has been infuriated by the United States putting sanctions on the People's Liberation Army (PLA) for buying weapons from Russia, and by what Beijing sees as stepped up U.S. support for self-ruled Taiwan, claimed by China as its sacred territory. Two Beijing-based diplomatic sources familiar with the plans said U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis were both due in Beijing next month for the U.S.-China Diplomatic and Security

Dialogue, which first took place last year in Washington, a reboot of earlier high-level talks under previous administrations. However, both sources said that this meeting was now in doubt. "There is a lot of uncertainty because of the turbulence in the relationship," said one of the sources.

The second source said that the People's Liberation Army was especially unhappy with the United States at the moment because of the U.S. sanctions on the Chinese military and U.S. support for Taiwan, including approving a new round of arms sales this week. "The PLA is fed up over the Taiwan issue. They're increasingly hardline on this," the source said.



China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi and delegation listen to President Trump address Security Council meeting at U.N. headquarters in New York

## Trump administration looks to speed 5G networks, ease hurdles

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Trump administration said on Friday it is seeking to remove hurdles to faster deployment of the next generation of wireless communications, known as 5G, which it touted as revolutionary for a host of industries. Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai said at a White House summit that "U.S. leadership in 5G technology is a national imperative for economic growth and competitiveness." Pai said 5G networks could effectively remove speed and capacity as meaningful constraints on wireless innovation and could be 100 times faster than current networks. "The lag time between a device's request for data and the network's response will be less than one-tenth of what it is today," he said. "Wireless networks that today support 1,000 connected devices per square kilometer could instead support 1 million" and could eventually lead to capabilities such as remote surgical procedures, he said. Administration officials said they have high hopes for the technology that has the potential to help create 3 million new jobs, \$275 billion in private investment, and \$500 billion in new economic growth. Networks, now in the final testing stage, will rely on denser arrays of small antennas and the cloud to offer data speeds up to 50 or 100 times faster than current 4G networks and serve as critical infrastructure for a range of industries.

Congress and regulators are also working to free up more wireless spectrum for use by 5G networks and improve other regulations to make it easier to deploy fiber lines,



FILE PHOTO: A 5G sign is seen during the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona

which are critical for 5G traffic from small cells. In addition to providing vastly greater speed, 5G will allow transportation networks to link connected and self-driving cars, while new wireless sensors will provide

real-time health monitoring and other advanced applications. White House National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow said on Friday the 5G race will be won "principally through the free enterprise, free market economy." CTIA, a wireless industry trade group representing Sprint Corp, AT&T Inc, Samsung Electronics Co Ltd and Intel Corp, said in a statement after the summit, "We completely agree with the administration, the FCC ... and congressional leaders that free market American leadership in 5G is vital for our economy, private investment and future innovation." The FCC on Wednesday voted to eliminate regulatory barriers to 5G deployment. Pai said the measure would cap fees that cities could charge to install small cells and requires local governments to promptly review applications. Pai said 5G networks will need 800,000 cell sites, mostly small cells no bigger than a backpack, or about four times the existing number of sites. Kudlow said federal law allows the FCC to override localities on this issue. "We're not here to be completely heavy-handed but sometimes you have to do what you got to do," he said at the summit. But FCC Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel, a Democrat, sounded a note of caution on Friday. "As a result of our escalating trade war with China, by the end of this year we will have a 25 percent duty on antennas, switches, and routers - the essential network facilities needed for 5G deployment," she said.

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## Heights house welcomes buyers, especially gluten-free ones

By Nancy Sarnoff

Real estate agents will often attach an extra message to their for-sale signs in hopes of grabbing the attention of home shoppers passing by. "Just listed," "Coming Soon" and "I'm Gorgeous Inside" are some of the most common. But "Gluten Free?" A house in the Heights is boasting its apparent lack of wheat, barley and rye through one of the more unique sign riders in town. The online listing doesn't include details as to how long the house -- or its owner -- has been free from the celiac-disease-causing substance, and the agent couldn't be reached immediately.



A home for sale on Evans Road just east of Bulverde Road on Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012.

## Houston car sales up 63% over last year's Harvey-swamped August

New car sales in the Houston area last month jumped 63.4 percent from the previous year, a remarkable increase that bucked the national trend of stagnant sales. However, Houstonians weren't out buying more cars, trucks and SUVs than usual in August. Blame Hurricane Harvey, whose devastating flooding dampened car sales last August. Local dealers sold 22,828 new vehicles in August, compared to 13,970 sold in August 2017, according to the TexAuto Facts Report published this week by Sugar Land-based InfoNation. "Sales were way down last August," InfoNation president Dan McDowell said. "This increase is all tied to Harvey." Despite the banner month, new car sales locally and nationally have fallen stagnant as consumers flock to used cars amid escalating new car prices and chang-

ing consumer attitudes toward car ownership, especially among younger buyers. "It looks like the second half of the year is going to be a decline from the first half of the year," McDowell said. "People are decidedly buying slightly used cars at a slightly reduced price instead of buying brand-new cars at retail price. Used cars have become more popular among cost-conscious consumers as the quality of modern vehicles and the rise of longer-term financing have allowed Houstonians to drive their cars longer. Houstonians purchased 70,779 used vehicles in August, according to InfoNation. The average age of a car in the Houston area last year was 9 years, up from 7.3 years in 2000, according to InfoNation. On average, Americans drive their cars for 11 years. Millennial buyers, in particular, are considering buying used as student loan debt and stagnant wages pushed new cars out of reach. The average price of a new vehicle sold in Houston last month was \$36,204.



Gullo Toyota of Conroe is pictured on Friday, Oct. 13, 2017.

# HOUSTON 2019

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# Editor's Choice



FILE PHOTO: A branded sign is displayed on a Vodafone store in London



Mexico's President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador speaks during a rally as part of a tour to thank supporters for his victory in the July 1 election, in Mexico City



Woman holds a sign during demonstrations against presidential candidate Bolsonaro in Brasilia



Sep 29, 2018; Tuscaloosa, AL, USA; Alabama Crimson Tide quarterback Mac Jones (10) calls a play at the line against the Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin Cajuns at Bryant-Denny Stadium. The Crimson Tide defeated the Ragin Cajuns 56-14. Mandatory Credit: Marvin Gentry-USA TODAY Sports



People demonstrate against presidential candidate Bolsonaro in Brasilia



Men's World Championship Italy-Bulgaria 2018 - Semi Final - Poland v USA



After clearing the ocean area of surfers and swimmers, lifeguards watch over the waters, off Beacon's Beach, after authorities said a young boy was attacked by a shark in Encinitas, California



Sep 29, 2018; Boston, MA, USA; New York Yankees pinch runner Tyler Wade (12) high fives his teammates after scoring a run during the fifth inning against the Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park. Mandatory Credit: Bob DeChiara-USA TODAY Sports



On October 1, nearly thirty years after he shuffled off this mortal coil, Roy Orbison will take the stage at the Fox Theater in Oakland, California. It's the first of 28 dates across North America—including stops in Grand Prairie and Houston—for the deceased Vernon native, who will be joined by a full, live orchestra for In Dreams: Roy Orbison in Concert—The Hologram Tour.

The In Dreams tour kicked off this April in the UK, where Orbison enjoyed his greatest commercial success. It was an immediate hit. The laser-projected image of Orbison was beamed in front of mostly sold-out crowds during the sixteen-show run.

"The audience was dancing in the aisles. They were singing along with the songs, and most importantly, at the end of each song, they applauded," recalls a slightly incredulous Marty Tudor, the CEO of productions for Base Hologram, which produced the show. "They were applauding a projection who can't appreciate it. I've seen this hundreds of times now. I know every inch of how it's done, and still my mind accepts it as real."

At the conclusion of the North American tour, in mid-November, Base Hologram—the company Tudor founded with Brian Becker in 2017, which has offices in Houston, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and New York—will take the operation to Branson, Missouri, the kitsch capital of the Midwest, which is home to oddball shows like a Jerry Springer-hosted live version of The Price Is Right and a Dolly Parton-themed dinner-theater horse show, for an extended run.

The tour and residency are an experiment. By the time hologram Roy leaves Branson, Becker and Tudor hope they will have gleaned sufficient information about who and where their audience is and what people like (or don't) about hologram performances. With that market research, they hope to implement a five-year plan that includes adding at least two acts a year to their roster of spectral artists.

"I don't want to be morbid," Tudor says, "but we all are passing away every day." Base Hologram was born after Tudor saw a hologram Tupac Shakur rapping at Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in 2012, al-

most sixteen years after the performer's death. Watching Tupac's lifelike figure share the stage with real-life Snoop Dogg, Tudor—who lives in Los Angeles and has worked in talent management and production since 1980—immediately began to envision other possibilities.

He and the Houston- and L.A.-based Becker—whose company, Base Entertainment, is the second-largest promoter of live shows in Las Vegas, behind Cirque du Soleil—began researching ways to take holograms on tour. The technology had improved since its invention in the twentieth century, but Tudor says it would take two days to set up the required on-stage projector and angled glass at every stop. That wouldn't work if Base wanted to be in a different city each night. So Tudor started scoping out solutions on the internet. "The internet is an amazing thing, because everybody puts their stuff up on YouTube," he says. "Believe it or not, that's how I found this technology. I just started picking the phone up and dialing."

The exact technology that Base now uses is a trade secret—Tudor and Becker decline to go into details about how it works—but they can confirm that it involves an Epson laser projector. "That's a military-grade laser in there," Tudor says. "If you were to crank it up, you'd probably burn a hole through the wall." Another company, Hologram USA, originally held the rights to create an Orbison hologram. But the late singer's estate, frustrated with the company's slow progress, terminated the deal in 2016 and announced the switch to Base the following year. Getting the call from Roy's Boys LLC—the company that manages Orbison's rights, which is overseen by his sons Alex, Wesley, and Roy Jr.—gave Becker and Tudor a chance to realize their concept with a major figure in pop music.

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Michael Jackson has been immortalized as a hologram. Talking to Becker and Tudor, it's easy to get swept up in the thrill of the technology and the creative possibilities they see. They both discuss a dream show featuring all-time jazz greats jamming together onstage: John Coltrane, Charlie Parker, and a still-breathing Wynton Marsalis, in his corporeal form, playing together at the Kennedy Center (Tudor allows that they would need to make a special mash-up that featured all of the artists' music). They can imagine reuniting the Highwaymen, giving Willie Nelson and Kris Kristofferson one more chance to saddle up next to Waylon Jennings and Johnny Cash, bringing new meaning to "Ghost Riders in the Sky." And it doesn't have to stop with the recently departed. The company is already in the process of creating a show with subjects a couple hundred million years old, teaming up with paleontologist Jack Horner (who consulted with Steven Spielberg on the Jurassic Park movies) to bring life-size dinosaurs to museums. Tudor thinks we're about five years away from a Blade Runner future in which hologram technology will be in people's homes, even if

it's just to make things like FaceTime more lifelike. He sees no reason the live experience should stop at concerts, either. "I'd love to do a play," he says.

Maria Callas is another classic entertainer brought to life as a hologram. In addition to asking just how far this tech can go, there's another question that's hard to avoid: doesn't it feel icky? Tudor has heard it before, and he's poised to flip it right back at you. "When you watch a movie starring somebody who's dead, you're still watching the movie," he says. "Why isn't that creepy? Tell me."

Well, there's one very good reason it isn't creepy. Watching the late Carrie Fisher in Star Wars: The Last Jedi might be sad, but you know that she agreed to give that performance. If Paul McCartney were to approach Becker and Tudor and ask them to create a hologram of himself for fans to enjoy after his death, that viewing experience likely wouldn't feel as unnerving as watching the unsuspecting ghost of Roy Orbison tour North America. The Orbison show feels more analogous to seeing Fisher digitally re-created for next year's Star Wars movie. "Which they just announced that they're going to do," Tudor notes. It's actually unused 2014 footage of Fisher, but it will be used outside of its original context. So maybe that's fair enough.

The technology to digitally re-create dead people exists. And, at least for Orbison fans in the UK, there is a demand for it. But as the technology hastens, so, too, does the urgency to discuss the ethical questions that it raises. What happens if an estate that's facing money troubles comes calling with an opportunity that the artist might not have approved of?

"That's where this could really go down the wrong path," Tudor acknowledges. "They need money, so they're going to exploit it however they're going to exploit it. I haven't been in a position yet where I'm torn between the commercial or the ethical, but I always lean toward the ethical. There's always another way to make money. But if you make a mistake ethically, you could be out of the business."

There is even a Frank Zappa hologram now. While alive, artists have the right to control the commercial use of their image, often referred to as the right of publicity. But whether this right continues into death, governed by the artist's estate, depends on a hodgepodge of state laws. There's no federal law dictating the post-mortem right of publicity. For Texas residents, that right remains with the estate for 50 years; for New Yorkers, there's no such protection. Robin Williams, who died in 2014, had a provision in his will restricting the use of his image for 25 years—which will be honored because he died in California, which has laws that are similar to those in Texas. For those types of restrictions to apply nationally, it'll take new laws. "There has been considerable discussion about the need for a federal right of publicity law to create uniformity," says Linda Wank, a New York attorney with experience in estate law as it relates to intellectual property and the right of publicity. The Orbisons are confident that their dad, a technophile who launched his own career by partnering with a Midland-area furniture store to get himself a show on the local television station KMID at a time when only 64 percent of households in the U.S. had televisions, would have loved the idea of performing as a hologram. "He liked to stay relevant and new," Alex says. "This was the same kind of opportunity as what he was doing in 1954."

Other estates are less interested in, and sometimes adamantly against, the technology. Tudor says that Base was in early talks with Prince's estate, which was uninterested. After Justin Timberlake hastily scrapped plans to perform alongside a hologram version of the pop star at the Super Bowl in February, an interview conducted two decades earlier resurfaced in which Prince, a devout Jehovah's Witness, called such performances "demonic."

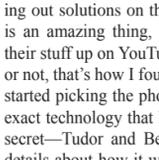
"We're not out to exploit people," Tudor says. "I'm in this business because of artists like Roy." Even though Tudor is in the illusion business, getting it right is important to him. "I'd never want to do something that's not authentic." (Courtesy https://www.texasmonthly.com)

Roy Orbison is back on tour this fall as a hologram. The Vernon, Texas, native has returned to the stage nearly three decades after his death. The Legendary Roy Orbison Is Back On Tour As A Hologram

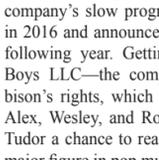
Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



ROY ORBISON IN CONCERT THE HOLOGRAM WORLD TOUR LIVE ON STAGE



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**OVERVIEW**

American and Chinese officials have made headlines in recent months for their confident predictions of trade war victory, but many longtime China watchers say the most important drivers and trends affecting Asia's largest economy go well beyond tariffs.

As the trade war escalates, it will not be easy for the Chinese government to use public spending to boost investments due to its mounting debt.

As the trade war between Washington and Beijing ramps up, analysts are divided over just how tariffs will impact China's economy.

Some economists say the tariff battle between the world's two largest economies — which advanced with a new round of tit-for-tat taxes on Monday — could land a significant hit on the East Asian giant, while others contend that China will manage around the White House's offensive. That argument may, however, miss the point about the future of the communist country.

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**Slowing investment, mounting debt**

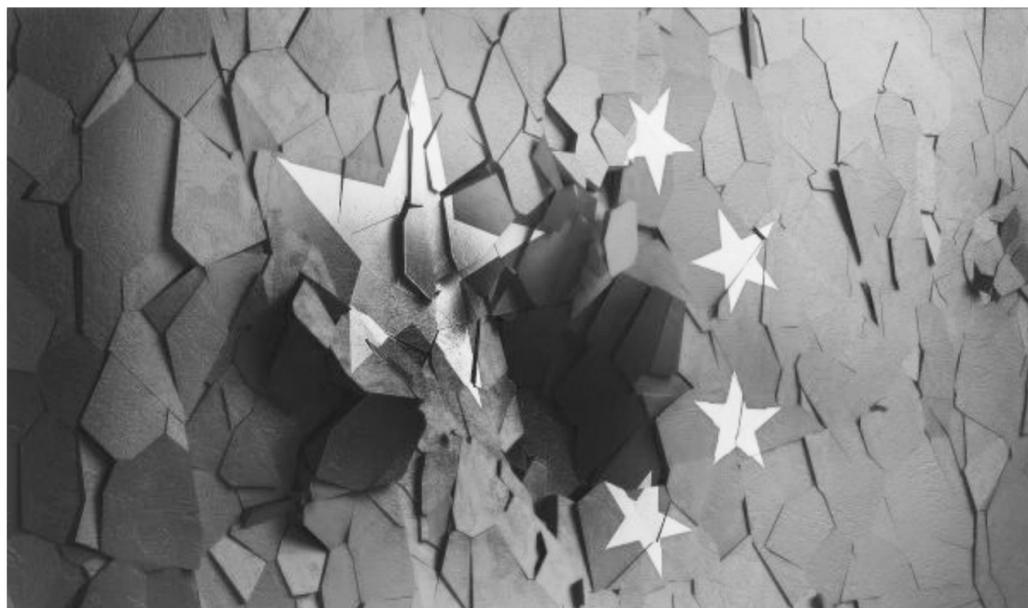
China has long relied on infrastructure investments to drive its economic growth. Investments contributed to 44 percent of China's nominal GDP in December 2017, compared to about 20 to 25 percent for countries like the United States, Japan and Germany, according to figures compiled by economic data provider CEIC.

China's fixed asset investment is slowing, however, with investment growth falling to a record low in August. Economists including Nicholas Lardy from the Peterson Institute for International Economics, however, warn against paying too much attention to the historically low figure as China is currently revising the way it measures fixed asset investment.

Still, as the trade war escalates, it will not be easy for the Chinese government to use

**Opinion**  
**Trump's Tariffs Already Making Cracks In China's Economy**

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



public spending to boost investments due to its mounting debt.



**Workers walk outside a construction site in Beijing's central business district.**

The world's second-largest economy had a relatively stable level of debt until the financial crisis in 2008 when it spent a whopping 12.5 percent of its GDP to stimulate the economy.

The country had encouraged loans to boost economic growth, with Chinese banks extending a record 12.65 trillion yuan (\$1.88

trillion) in loans in 2016. That credit explosion stoked worries about financial risks, so authorities in 2017 pledged to contain the rapid build up in debt.

Since then, Chinese debt-to-GDP has steadily grown to about 250 percent — or about \$28 trillion, according to DBS and CEIC.

However, the Institute of International Finance has put China's debt at more than 300 percent of its GDP.

The International Monetary Fund issued a strong warning about the country's economy in 2017, warning that debt-fueled growth is an unsustainable long-term solution.

Chinese authorities had been trying to rein in the country's rising debt, with China's state-owned banks told in April to stop lending to local governments. But as the

trade war drags on, China appears to be using investments to boost the economy again.

The National Development and Reform Commission, a top Chinese economic regulator, announced earlier this month that it aimed to promote infrastructure investment.



**Aging population, betting on consumption**

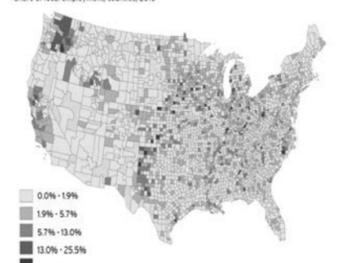
While China is trying to improve productivity through automation and robotics, the effects of its aging population are taking a toll on the economy.

"Demographic trends could subtract 0.5 to 1 percentage point from annual GDP growth over the next three decades in post-dividend countries such as China and Japan," the IMF said in a 2017 report. China's one-child policy ended in 2016. Couples are now limited to two children, but there has been speculation that officials are mulling scrapping birth restrictions altogether.

But decades of limiting couples to having only a single child have led to plunging birthrates. That, along with a corresponding aging population and shrinking labor force, has implications for the country's consumption trends.

China has been trying to move toward economic growth that's led by consumers, but data on consumption has been mixed. Monthly retail sales have been slowing, but quarterly spending, which includes education and travel, is on the rise.

**MAP 1**  
A broad swath of rural and Midwestern counties contain workers that could be exposed to disruption from Chinese retaliatory tariffs on agriculture and manufactured goods.  
Share of local employment, counties, 2016



Note: Small employment estimates for agricultural industries are aggregated at the county level, such that aggregated county employment undercounts national totals. Suppressors' impact on per county estimates, however, is negligible. Counties with zero employment are not displayed.  
Source: Developments analysis of US Census and BLS data

**B** Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings

China's online retail giants, meanwhile, reflect a nuanced picture of consumption. In the second quarter of 2018, Alibaba saw sales rise by more than 60 percent from last year, even though rival JD.com faced slower sales. (Courtesy <https://www.cnbc.com>)

**全球晨間直播上線**

**早安，休士頓**

**最專業最即時多元的新聞報導**  
國際時事、社區動態、生活藝文資訊、氣象和路況報導

**美南國際電視15.3日前「電視廣播合一」全球直播上線，手機掃描二維碼就可24小時觀看該頻道，獲得廣大迴響；為服務早晨上班通勤觀眾，讓新聞播報更即時，美南國際電視STV15.3即將在6月18日全球直播晨間新聞「早安，休士頓」，新聞播報時間為上午7點至9點讓觀眾行車間也可以方便收聽，掌握國際和社區重大新聞資訊。美南國際電視15.3創下華人媒體創舉，將電視與廣播融為一體，帶給觀眾不同體驗。全球晨間新聞「早安，休士頓」將採用全新主播陣容，用專業新聞態度為社區觀眾帶來最即時多元的新聞報導。「早安，休士頓」囊括國際時事、社區動態、生活藝文資訊三大版塊，播報新聞同時也會穿插氣象和路況報導，觀眾可利用網站搜尋、微信連結或下載Apps方式，行車間連接到車載音響設備(數據機/藍芽設備)，可收看及收聽該頻道。**

**主播高白**

畢業於浙江傳媒學院新聞系播音與主持專業，中國國家級普通話測評員、中國國家級主任播音員。  
1986年至2009年任浙江衛視首席新聞主播，2010年至2015年任浙江衛視駐美國首席記者兼新華社駐休士頓記者(2016年卸任)。

**主播高航**

休士頓Anya Tish Gallery和舊金山The Secondbedroom Gallery 代理畫家，休士頓大學(美國)繪畫系碩士，首都師範大學(中國)油畫、影視技術雙學士。曾任教休士頓大學繪畫基礎部，Art League Houston美術中心。作品曾多次展覽於美國休士頓、達拉斯、洛杉磯等城市，中國北京、江蘇、上海、廣州等城市以及韓國。