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Indigenous Pemon on Vene-

zuela's border with Brazil vow

Inside C2

U.S.-backed Syrian force launches 'final battle' against Islamic State

Monday, February 11, 2019 | www.today-america.com

QAMISHLI, Syria (Reuters) - The U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) began an assault against the final Islamic State enclave in eastern Syria on Saturday, aiming to wipe out the last vestige of the jihadist group's "caliphate" in the SDF's area of operations.

President Donald Trump, who is planning to pull U.S. forces out of Syria, said on Wednesday he expected an announcement as early as next week that the U.S.-led coalition operating in support of the SDF had reclaimed all the territory previously held by the jihadist group.

The enclave is close to the Iraqi border and comprises two villages, though Islamic State (IS) also still has territory in the part of Syria that is mostly under the control of the Russian- and Iranian-backed Syrian government.

SDF official Mustafa Bali, speaking to Reuters, described the assault as "the last battle". He later wrote on Twitter that the attack had started and the enclave would "be cleared soon". The SDF had handled the last 10 days "patiently" as more than

20,000 civilians were evacuated from the besieged IS enclave, Senior SDF official Redur Xelil told Reuters the force hoped to

capture the area by the end of February, but cautioned that IS would continue to pose "great and serious" security threats even

Islamic State redrew the map of the Middle East in 2014 when it declared a caliphate across large areas of Syria and Iraq. But the group steadily lost ground and its two main prizes - the Syrian city of Raqqa and Iraq's Mosul - fell in 2017.

SDF ADVANCE

Two U.S. security sources said the U.S. government's top experts strongly believe IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi is still alive and possibly hiding in Iraq

Spearheaded by the Kurdish YPG militia, the SDF has been the main U.S. partner in Syria and has driven Islamic State out of a swathe of the north and east over the last four years The remaining Islamic State territory in Syria is west of the

Trump said in December he was pulling all 2,000 U.S. troops

out of Syria, saying the battle against Islamic State there was But a top U.S. general said on Tuesday the group would pose

an enduring threat following the U.S. withdrawal, as it retained leaders, fighters, facilitators and resources that would fuel a menacing insurgency.

'Death to America' really 'Death to Trump': Iran The Wall Street Journal reported on Friday that the U.S. military was preparing to withdraw from Syria by the end of April. A U.S. official confirmed that target date to Reuters, saying the withdrawal included a pull-out from the U.S. military base at Tanf, near the Syrian border with Iraq and Jordan

The U.S.-led coalition has said it is not discussing the timeline of the U.S. withdrawal from Syria.



FILE PHOTO: Fighters from Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) are seen after arresting a wounded man during their fighting with Islamic State in the northern area of Deir al-Zor, Syria September 24,2017. REUTERS/ Rodi

Venezuela shifts oil ventures' accounts to Russian bank - document, sources

CARACAS (Reuters) - Venezuela's state-run oil company PDVSA is telling customers of its oil joint ventures to deposit sales proceeds at an account it recently opened at Russia's Gazprombank AO, according to sources and an internal document seen by Reuters on Saturday.

PDVSA's move follows tough, new U.S. financial sanctions imposed on Jan. 28 and aimed at blocking leftist President Nicolas Maduro's access to the country's oil revenue. The United States and dozens of other nations have refused to recognize Maduro, characterizing his election last year to another six-

year term as fraudulent.
Since then, PDVSA has been pressing its foreign partners at joint ventures in its Orinoco Belt producing area to formally decide whether they will continue in the projects, according to two sources with knowledge of the talks. The joint ventures' partners include Norway's Equinor ASA, U.S.-based Chevron Corp and France's Total SA.

PDVSA also ordered its Petrocedeno joint venture with Equinor and Total to halt extra-heavy oil output and upgrading due to a lack of naphtha needed to dilute production, as sanctions prohibited U.S. suppliers of the fuel from exporting it to Venezuela.

We would like to make formal your knowledge of new banking instructions to make payments in U.S. dollars or euros," said PDVSA's finance vice president, Fernando De Quintal, in a letter dated Feb. 8 to the PDVSA unit that supervises its joint

Even after a first round of financial sanctions in 2017, PDVSA's joint ventures managed to keep bank accounts in the United States and Europe to receive oil-sales proceeds. They also used correspondent banks in the United States and some European nations to move money to PDVSA's own collecting accounts in China.

PDVSA several weeks ago informed customers of the new bank directions and has begun moving the accounts of its joint ventures, which can export crude separately. The decision was made amid tension with some of its partners, which have withdrawn staff from Caracas since sanctions were imposed

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WORLD NEWS

Indigenous Pemon on Venezuela's border with Brazil vow to let aid in

PUERTO ORDAZ, Venezuela (Reuters) - Venezuela's Pemon, an indigenous people living along the border with Brazil, are determined to allow into the embattled country any foreign aid that may arrive, even if that means a showdown with Venezuelan security forces and the government of President Nicolas Maduro.

Amid a hyperinflationary economic collapse that has caused malnutrition and the exodus of millions of people, humanitarian aid has become a flashpoint in an intensifying political crisis.

Opposition leader Juan Guaido said last week a global coalition that includes the United States was sending food and medicine to collection points in Colombia, Brazil and an undisclosed Caribbean island before delivering the aid into Venezuela.

Brazil has joined the United states as well as most countries in Latin America and Europe in recognizing Guaido as Venezuela's legitimate interim leader, arguing that Maduro was re-elected in a fraudulent May 2018 vote.

But Maduro denies there is even a crisis, saying it is part of a U.S.-directed plot to undermine and overthrow his government.

Six leaders of the Pemon community residing in the "Gran Sabana" (or "Great Savannah") municipality bordering Brazil told Reuters that the population's pressing needs should trump any politicization of humanitarian aid. The Gran Sabana, a grassy plain dotted with immense tabletop mountains in the southern state of Bolivar, is home to the only paved border crossing between Venezuela and Brazil

"We are physically prepared - without weapons - and willing to open the border to receive the humanitarian aid," Gran Sabana Mayor Emilio Gonzalez told Reuters. "Neither the National Guard not the government can stop this."

Indigenous communities boast a greater degree of autonomy than others in Venezuela.

The Bolivar governor and military chief for the region of Guayana, which comprises the states of Bolivar and Amazonas, were not immediately available for comment.

OUTSIDERS EYED WARILY

"We are the natives of Gran Sabana and we will not allow some generals from outside to decide for us," said Jorge Perez, the region's councilman for indigenous communities. "We are the legitimate authorities."

Perez said he conducts daily visits to the local hospital where patients and doctors alike despaired over the lack of medicine.

Slideshow (3 Images)

"For any emergency, they are taking us to Brazil - it's embarrassing; the hospital of Boa Vista is full of Venezuelan patients," he said.

Boa Vista, the capital of the Brazilian border state of Roraima, has received tens of thousands of Venezuelans fleeing turmoil in recent years.

Mount Roraima, standing at over 2,800-meters (9,200-feet) high and straddling the border, is sacred ground for the Pemons and a spiritual symbol for many Venezuelans.

Mayor Gonzalez said authorities in Brazil had not yet informed him of a precise date for the arrival of aid at the border.

A Brazilian government spokeswoman declined to comment on the issue of aid, but confirmed ground transportation into Gran Sabana was possible.

France's "yellow vest" protests rage for 13th week

Venezuela's opposition has so far



FILE PHOTO: A Pemon indigenous porter walks on the road to Mount Roraima, near Venezuela's border with Brazil

only publicly announced the arrival of aid in the Colombian border town of Cucuta, where it is now being stockpiled as Venezuelan authorities have made it clear they will not allow it to enter the country. Pemon leaders said they had already demonstrated their willingness to confront the Venezuelan military over aid after troops with metal barriers blocked the road between the town of Santa Elena de Uairen and the Brazilian border.

The Pemon community, which numbers more than 10,000 in Venezuela, has a history of skirmishes with the military over issues ranging from gasoline cuts to informal mining.

The military was trying to capture a colonel, they said, who had disavowed Maduro and was trying to help coordinate the arrival of aid, adding that he managed to cross the border into Brazil.

The Pemon removed the barriers and

had a standoff with the military until the troops agreed to withdraw, they said. "If humanitarian aid arrives and is prevented from entering, we will suspend the entry of government trucks too," said Angel Paez, a Pemon leader from the Akurimo territory of Gran Sabana.

"If there aren't for the people, then there won't be for the government."

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Editor's Choice



A giant plastic bottle is seen on a beach, during a performance by Greenpeace to warn of the presence of plastics on the coasts of Vina del Mar



Fans with white roses outside of the club's headquarters to honor fire victims at Flamengo's training centre



A man holds a cardboard painted as the Venezuelan flag as people cross the Colombian-Venezuelan border over the Simon Bolivar international bridge in Cucuta



A Colombian police officer talks with a woman at the Colombian-Venezuelan border over the Simon Bolivar international bridge in Cucuta



U.S demonstrators hold U.S flags at the open border to make a human wall in support of the construction of the new border wall between U.S and Mexico in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico February 9, 2019. REUTERS/Jose Luis Gonzalez



U.S demostrators gather at the open border to make a human wall



A man holds a cardboard painted as the Venezuelan flag at the Colombian-Venezuelan border over the Simon Bolivar international bridge in Cucuta



U.S. demonstrators holding U.S. flags gather at the open border to make a human wall in support of the construction of the new border wall between U.S. and Mexico, in Ciudad Juarez



COMMUNITY

The cannabis drug arrived at the Lindeen household in a UPS shipping box marked "critical."

Piper and Brian Lindeen had been monitoring news of Epidiolex for months. The drug meant another chance at treating their 10-year-old son Zach's ongoing seizures, and a possibility for broader medical cannabis access in Texas.

The cannabidiol, or CBD, made by the British company GW Pharmaceuticals, aims to treat epileptic seizures of patients with Dravet syndrome and Lennox-Gastaut syndrome.

Successful clinical trials, including some with Texas patients, helped Epidiolex become the first CBD medication to gain approval earlier this year from both the Food and Drug Administration as well as the Drug Enforcement Administration. Prescriptions for the drug became available in the United States last month.

Currently the only two legal options to get medical cannabis in Texas are through the limited state registry, known as the Compassionate Use Program, and from prescription Epidiolex.

Marijuana advocates, including the Lindeens in Sugar Land, hope Epidiolex's federal approval could sway any state legislators wary of expanding legal access to medical cannabis. Several marijuana-related bills were filed for the next legislative session.



State Sen. Jose Menendez, D-San Antonio, authored Senate Bill 90 for expanding the state medical cannabis program, which formally kicked off this year.

He believes the research that went into the development of Epidiolex, and which helped the drug gain federal approval, could be key to pushing his bill and similar ones next year.

"I'm going to use any and every tool pos-

Federally Approved Cannabis Drug Offers Hope For Patients And Marijuana Advocates

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



Brian and Piper Lindeen aid their son, Zach, as he experiences an epilepsy seizure Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018, in Sugar Land. The first FDA approved cannabis-based medication is available to U.S. patients through a prescription, but its high cost, \$32,500 a year, puts it out of reach of several patients.

sible," Menendez said.

Yet advocates are also concerned that so much pressure on Epidiolex may backfire if the drug ultimately fails to generate enough positive results.

As the Lindeens have learned through years of treating Zach, what may work for one patient doesn't work for all.

"[Epidiolex] is something that's standardized and reproducible and some people do well with that," Piper Lindeen said, "but some people need variability."

A Sense Of Hope

Zach has been prescribed at least eight different pharmaceuticals for the seizures that began when he was about 3 and half years old. They've each worked in varying degrees, but have also left concerning side effects including the risk of losing speech and noticeable aggression.

"He punched the end of his bed one time,"

Brian Lindeen said of his son. "I had never seen him so angry."



.It wasn't until Zach began taking medical cannabis this year from a dispensary in Austin that the Lindeens began to feel a sense of hope.

Zach managed to go seizure free for about six months —the longest stretch the Lindeens had ever recorded.

Yet in the last few weeks, the seizures returned, about twice a day.

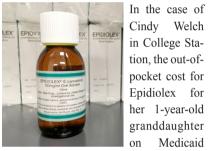
By then their neurologist, Dr. Michael

Newmark at Kelsey-Seybold Clinic, who is registered to prescribe medical cannabis through the state registry, suggested the Lindeens consider Epidiolex as a treatment for Zach's Lennox-Gastaut syn-

There was some initial research required, not just of the drug's clinical test results, but also of its cost.

Earlier this year GW Pharmaceuticals listed the drug's weighted average price at \$32,500 for the first year of use. For some patients Medicare and Medicaid may cover the cost, but Stephen Schultz, the company's vice president of investor relations, noted that most patients will rely on a number of private insurance options to make the drug more affordable.

In the case of the Lindeens, a recent switch to a new insurance plan brought their first prescription co-pay to about \$160, which was ultimately covered by co-pay assistance. They've been paying about \$500 a month out-of-pocket for medical cannabis from the state-licensed dispensary, Compassionate Cultivation.



in College Station, the out-ofpocket cost for Epidiolex for her 1-year-old granddaughter Medicaid

comes to about \$1,500 a month. They currently pay about \$380 a month to Compassionate Cultivation.

If it hadn't been for the dispensary, Welch said, her family would have had to move to Colorado to get medical access.

Morris Denton, the dispensary CEO, said he's already lost patients like the Lindeens whose insurance makes Epidiolex a more

affordable medical cannabis option than his product, which cannot be covered by any insurance. Yet there are several more who must still check to see if their insurers cover Epidiolex.

Time will tell whether the new federally approved drug negatively impacts business at the state's three existing dispensaries, Denton added. Epidiolex doesn't contain the THC chemical compound allowed at the state dispensaries which can better help some patients than CBD alone. "It's ultimately a good thing to have choice," Denton said.

More options needed

Choice has been a main driver behind Piper Lindeen's advocacy for marijuana legalization. Treating epilepsy can at times feel like a guessing game, switching medications and doses in and out to find the best fit, she said.



Pharmaceutical options are known to carry harsh side effects and patients can experience physical withdrawals when transitioning between brands.

Anecdotally, no such withdrawals have been reported among patients in legal states switching between cannabis options, Lindeen added.

But she remains frustrated at only having two medical cannabis options in Texas.

"We really need a wide variety of therapeutics," Lindeen said.

Newmark said in an email that he hopes Epidiolex will reduce the number of Zach's seizures substantially. The neurologist's only concern is a bit of sedation the boy may experience.

"I firmly believe that as more knowledge is obtained about the use of these compounds that there will be much greater acceptance in the future," Newmark added. "Texas will be unlikely to go against the trend." (Courtesy the Houston Chronicle)

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Dr. Jeanie Ling completed her medical degree at Baylor College of Medicine and her residency in Ophthalmology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville. She also completed her Fellowship in glaucoma at The University of Texas Houston Health Science Center at Houston. Her special clinic interests include diagnosing glaucoma, glaucoma surgery, eyelid and laser surgery.

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BUSINESS

HONG KONG -- China's economy will grow at the slowest pace in 29 years in 2019, as the true impact of the trade war with the U.S. sets in, a new survey of economists projects.

The world's No. 2 economy is expected to expand 6.2% in real terms, based on the average forecasts of 32 economists polled by Nikkei and its group company, Nikkei Ouick News. China's outlook is becoming murkier, with many of the economists saying the effects of fiscal stimulus and other measures are unlikely to show up until the second half of 2019 or thereafter.

While economists' individual forecasts range widely, from as low as 6% to up to 6.6%, most project a slowdown from

For the October-December period of this year, the economy is expected to grow 6.4%, down by 0.1 of a point from the previous quarter. For all of 2018, the growth rate is forecast to reach 6.6%, clearing the government's target of around 6.5% but falling short of the 6.7% logged in 2016. Chinese growth has not been this slow since 1990, when the economy was thrown into confusion after the Tiananmen Square crackdown the year before. And the economists foresee an even poorer performance in 2019.



The trade war will shave 0.6 to 0.8 of a point off China's gross domestic product growth, Kenny Wen of Everbright Sun Hung Kai said, adding that a slowdown will be unavoidable even if the government takes countermeasures like boosting infrastructure investment and cutting taxes.

The trade war is already taking a toll. In November, retail sales grew at the slowest clip in 15 and a half years.

Average forecasts by China economists polled by Nikkei and NQN (in pe

GDP growth		CPI growth		Yuan per dollar exchange rate*	
OctDec. 2018	6.4	Dec. 2018	2.2	End of 2018	6.92 (-6.0)
′18	6.6	′18	2.2	End of '19	6.95 (-0.4)
′19	6.2	′19	2.3	End of '20	6.94 (0.1)
′20	6.1	′20	2.3		ual changes

Economists Predict 6.2% Slump Despite Prospect Of Aggressive Stimulus

Trade War-Hit China Faces Slowest **Growth In Three Decades This Year**

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



A containership docks at a port in Qingdao, in China's Shandong Province. Economists see the trade war as the primary risk to the country's economy in 2019. (Photo/Reuters)

Shen Jianguang of JD Finance said that consumer spending and investment have fallen into the doldrums, and that the property market will enter a downtrend in two

Xia Le of BBVA said, "The downward adjustment of the housing market as well as high local government and corporate debt also weigh on growth."

Yao Wei of Societe Generale Corporate and Investment Banking warned: "Trade tensions look unlikely to be resolved quickly and will soon cause material drags on exports. The economy will face greater challenges in 2019."

Asked to pick from multiple factors that could cause an economic downturn, 12 of 17 economists selected for an extended survey said a more intense trade war is the No. 1 risk. "The theme [of the conflict] will extend from trade friction to technological hegemony, and consumer and investor sentiments may become worse while the confrontation prolongs," said Mihoko Hosokawa of Mizuho Bank

Cheng Shi of ICBCI said that although

there may be a lull, the U.S.-China confrontation will drag on, and that the trade friction will fuel market volatility.



The 17 economists were divided over what to expect from the 90-day talks between Beijing and Washington on trade and structural problems. While five said the U.S. would agree to defer additional tariffs, four said new levies would be imposed. Five others said the negotiations would continue beyond the 90 days.

"The structural changes required by the U.S. are too difficult for China to deliver," said Kevin Lai of Daiwa Capital Markets, one of the four economists who are skeptical about the possibility of a deal. "To reach an agreement means that China will

have to abandon the China Model and run the risk of political destabilization."

Sean Taylor of DWS Group said the recent arrest of Huawei Technologies' CFO and "further scrutiny of Chinese tech companies could complicate the negotiation pro-

"The timing of a potential U.S.-Chinese agreement is difficult to predict," Taylor said. "Our base scenario is by the end of

Many see the "forced transfer" of technology to Chinese companies as a major sticking point in the talks.

Although China may come to terms with the U.S. on the bilateral trade imbalance and intellectual property rights, it may be unable to compromise if the U.S. takes issue with its high technology and other industrial policies, cautioned Tetsuji Sano of Sumitomo Mitsui Asset Management. Sano noted that China has already become reliant on high value-added industries and cannot halt its policy of promoting more sophisticated lines of business.

A builder carries a sack of cement in



central Beijing on December 19. (Photo/Reuters)

While Arjen van Dijkhuizen of ABN AMRO Bank said China is "unlikely" to give up its state capitalist model, he said that "it is possible that some compromise could be found in the areas of intellectual property protection." Either way, he said, "Strategic competition between the [countries] will stay in the coming years."

In their assessments of the trade war for the coming year, the economists were also split. Seven said it would cool off gradually, while four predicted few changes and the same number said it would worsen.

"Taxing the remaining half of Chinese exports to the U.S. would start to severely hurt the U.S. consumer [and U.S. President Donald] Trump's voter base," said Susan Joho of Julius Baer. "So [Trump] may be more careful to risk that quickly. Raising the existing tariff rate from 10% to 25%, however, is still likely in 2019." Despite all this, China's economic mea-

sures are expected to keep growth above 6%. The Central Economic Work Conference, held recently to determine the country's economic management policy for 2019, made it clear that President Xi Jinping's administration plans to shore up the economy with aggressive fiscal and monetary maneuvers.

Stimulus measures introduced after July 2018 are starting to pay off and steady growth of over 6% is likely to continue, said Fan Xiaochen of MUFG Bank. Xie Yaxuan of China Merchants Securities predicted that growth will bottom out in the second half of 2019 thanks to the mea-

Many of the economists said the govern-



ment will mainly rely on fiscal moves like tax cuts and infrastructure investments. "We expect fiscal policy to do more heavy lifting to support the economy than monetary policy," said Aidan Yao of AXA Investment Managers.

If the Chinese economy grows 6.6% in 2018 and nearly 6.2% in the following two years, China can theoretically clear a long-term target of doubling its GDP in 2020 from 2010.

"We expect China to use fiscal and monetary stimulus in order to maintain an acceptable rate of growth, which probably means anything above 6%," said Richard Jerram of Bank of Singapore. A number of other economists suggested Beijing would pull out all the stops to achieve its goal. (Courtesy https://asia.nikkei.com/Economy/Trade-war)

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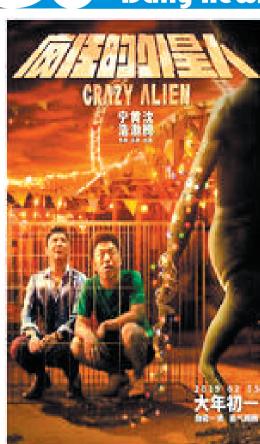
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戰局初定!2019春節檔預測誰最強? "瘋狂的外星人"預售領跑 "流浪地球"或成黑馬

壹年壹度最火爆的檔期──春節檔,目前已有八部電影宣布在2019年大年初壹上映,包括《瘋狂的外星人》、《飛馳人生》、《新喜劇之王》、《流浪地球 》、《神探蒲松齡》、《廉政風雲》、《熊出沒原始時代》還有《小豬佩奇過大年》。在這個競爭激烈得就像"神仙打架"的檔期裏,誰會突出重圍創造新紀錄? 誰會成為票房炮灰?

春節檔火熱:第壹梯隊四部大 片戰況膠著

三部喜劇片領跑預售 《流浪 地球》或成口碑黑馬

春節檔歷來都是兵家必爭之地, 要怎樣描述春節檔的重要程度呢? 2017年春節檔票房爲33.8億,占全年 票房收入的6%,2018年春節檔票房 爲56.5億,占全年票房收入的9.3%。 想想去年春節七天的票房收入,就接 近全年的十分之壹,有野心的電影人 對這個檔期全都虎視眈眈

從預售成績以及業內人士的預測 來分析:2019春節檔國產片 "第壹梯 目前戰局初定:以《瘋狂的外星 、《飛馳人生》、《新喜劇之王 《流浪地球》爲代表的"四大天 王"實力不俗,排在預售榜前四位, 截止1月31日預售票房都在3500萬以 上。血暫列第二梯隊的《神探蒲松齡 》、《廉政風雲》等四部新片,預售 票房都在2000萬以下,目前預售成 績最低是《熊出沒·原始時代》,票 房1334萬。

《瘋狂的外星人》春節檔預售 票房暫列第壹

由寧浩執導,黃渤、沈騰主演的 《瘋狂的外星人》目前預售票房最高 ,累計票房達8109萬,韓寒執導的 《飛馳人生》和周星馳執導的《新喜 劇之王》票房分別為7371萬和7128 萬,差距不到300萬,咬得很緊。在 預售票房上,三部類型相似的喜劇片 ,呈現出"三足鼎立"的膠著局面, 而在排片方面《飛馳人生》以22.6% 的排片暫列第壹。

目前春節檔中最大的"變數" ,最有可能成爲票房黑馬的電影當

屬科幻片《流浪地球》。從預售票 房來看,該片以3540萬預售票房暫 列第四位,雖然和前三位7000萬+的 票房有些差距,但仍然領先第五名 《神探蒲松齡》不少,在檔期後半 段,該片有彎道超車,奮起直追的

除了第壹梯隊的四部大片之外, 由成龍主演的《神探蒲松齡》和劉青 雲、張家輝主演的《廉政風雲》,雖 然在預售票房上暫時落後壹個身位, 但同樣擁有反超的可能性,成龍大哥 的電影在春節檔也曾有過輝煌戰績。 的黄金檔期,即使別人吃肉妳喝湯, 只要有排片,同樣會有不錯的票房收 入,因爲觀眾基數太大了。

春節檔變數大 笑到最後才是

連續兩年春節檔票房冠軍 都 不是大年初壹票房最高的電影

截止1月31日,大年初壹這天的 單日預售總票房已突破3.3億,這個 激動人心的數字正預示著新的市場奇 跡,多部大片將有望刷新創造春節檔 新的票房紀錄。

最近兩年,春節檔票房擁有平 均超過30%的增長趨勢,2018年春 節檔內地電影市場共報收票房 56.5 億,大幅刷新17年春節檔創造的 33.8 億的票房紀錄,增幅達67%。 2018年2月16日(大年初壹)綜合 票房高達12.77億,刷新單日電影票 房的世界紀錄。這樣來看,今年大 年初壹單日票房突破15億變得很有

值得壹提的是,春節檔也是變數 極大的檔期,17年和18年的春節檔 票房冠軍,都不是大年初壹票房最高 的電影,只有笑到最後的才是贏家。

春節檔不少影院經理都會緊緊盯住上 座率,第壹天的放映還沒結束,第二 天的排片就會做出相應調整。壹般不 出三天,春節檔的排片和票房順序便

2018年春節檔,《捉妖記2》起 勢最猛,大年初壹票房高達5.46億, 但由於口碑較差,僅當了兩天票房冠 軍就被觀眾拋棄。而《紅海行動》在 大年初壹僅排在單日票房第四位,隨 年初七才登頂單日票房冠軍,隨後足 足占據了單日票房冠軍15天之久, 最終以33億票房拿下2018全年票房

2017年的春節檔同樣如此,票 房冠軍《功夫瑜伽》在大年初壹上 映時僅排在第三位,直到四天後才 躍居冠軍。韓寒的《乘風破浪》更 在上映第9天後,從單日票房第四升 至單日第二名,最終票房突破10億

再看看今年的春節檔戰況,喜劇 片壹直都是最有賣相的類型片,今年 更有三部喜劇片紮堆出現,而且每部 都可以說是"頂級陣容"。目前票房 暫時位居冠軍的《瘋狂的外星人》, 該片早在去年7月就獲得樂開花影業 28億元的保底發行,它的票房目標壹 定是30億+的。

《飛馳人生》和《瘋狂的外星人 》都由沈騰擔任主演,博納影業集團 董事長於冬作爲出品方代表曾大膽預 測: "春節檔的冠軍應該是《飛馳人 生》,看好它第壹個突破40億票房 。"於冬的預測有時準有時不準,但 上個春節檔,他曾立下豪言稱《紅海 行動》壹定破30億,當時觀眾都覺 得他是癡人說夢,沒想到最後夢想成

業界對於《新喜劇之王》普遍的 態度是"謹慎樂觀",樂觀當然因爲 有周星馳的金字招牌在,從《西遊降 魔篇》再到《美人魚》,從前星爺拿 下春節檔票房冠軍算是家常便飯的事 質疑也從未停止,"停影城密鑰"事 件又給發行蒙上了壹層陰影,這部新 片的口碑能否穩定發揮,是目前最大

科幻片《流浪地球》是春節檔 唯壹壹部提前開放大規模看片的真 人電影,這也說明了主創團隊對口 碑相當自信。由於該片時長為125 分鐘在春節檔新片中最長,而且大 部分中國觀眾對科幻片壹直保有懷 優勢。但從已曝光的媒體評價來看 ,眾多大咖都給予這部電影很高的 評價,稱這是國產科幻片的裏程碑 式電影,劉慈欣看完都盛贊"中國 科幻終於啓航了"

《流浪地球》擁有枓幻設定+視 覺奇觀+中國式情感+吳京主演,應該 是今年春節檔的"潛力股",很容易 觸動普通觀眾的燃點。該片能否在春 節檔後期憑借口碑強勢發力,像去年 的《紅海行動》 壹樣逆襲而上,讓我 們拭目以待。

《新喜劇之王》停密鑰事件激 起千層浪

今年春節檔還有壹件事意義重大 :1月29日,周星馳執導的影片《新 喜劇之王》發行商聯瑞影業,正在向 中影申請停止527個影廳(涉及70余 家電影院)的密鑰。壹旦申請成功, 這些影院將從大年初壹開始不得放映 電影《新喜劇之王》。

此次事件是因影城和發行方在電 影《新喜劇之王》的排片數量上未能 夠達成統壹意見所導致,目前聯瑞影 業尚未對這場風波的原因進行官方說

電影還未上映,發行方和影院就 如此"撕破臉"實屬罕見,電影放映 難道不是多多益善嗎?發行方停密鑰

據影院人士透露,春節檔的另 外兩部喜劇片《瘋狂的外星人》和 《飛馳人生》都會給到影院大量票 補,以此提高電影的排片占比, 《新喜劇之王》不僅發行啓動時間 晚,大年初壹的排片已基本確定, 又拒絕票補,自然在排片上略遜壹 籌,於是發行方憤怒以"停密鑰

但發行方人士給出了不同的解 釋,《新喜劇之王》停密鑰,更多 是因爲影院經理"坐地起價" 要高額排片費用,如果不能滿足就 直接給很低的排片,發行方只好做 出"停密鑰"的無奈之舉。今年春 節檔競爭激烈,影片眾多,各家發 行万爲∫搶排片也是無所个用其極 ,聯瑞影業此舉或許也是希望抗爭

盡管聯瑞影業已經向中影提出 申請,但目前中影方面尚未通過審 批,所以事情仍有緩和的余地,已 上榜的部分影院也仍有《新喜劇之 王》的排片。

至於"停密鑰"對影院還有發行 方,哪邊損失更大呢?

從短期來看,發行方肯定會損 失壹部分票房,影院的春節檔收入 倒未必會有太大影響,因爲春節檔 有八部新片,放其他電影照樣會讓 影院人氣爆滿。但如果《新喜劇之 王》口碑不錯,春節之後依然持續 熱映很久,影院就會損失較大。考 慮到未來由聯瑞影業發行的電影還 有很多,如果這些影院持續和該發 行方交惡,其他新片也被"停密鑰 ,就會比較棘手。



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2019年2月11日



Daily News

《美南新聞聯播》

美南新聞聯播是一檔美南國際電視台 今年最新推出的晚間直播新聞類節目。







▲ 節目截圖

節目介紹:

由特約主播高白,向觀眾朋友們介紹全球,美國,加拿大,中國,以及臺灣地區最新發生的新聞。不僅如此,美南新聞聯播還會在節目中連線加州以及加拿大華人電視臺,給您帶來北美最全面的新聞資訊。

播出時間:

節目播出時間為周一至周五每天晚間6:30,次日早間7:00重播。 敬請關註。



▲主播高白

美南廣播電視台 ⋒ 看電視聽廣播

美南國際電視STV15.3為方便觀眾收看「電視廣播合為一體」

不需任何付費,

觀眾可24小時直接收看及收聽該頻道, 行車間也可方便收聽,輕鬆獲取美南電視節目 以及各類國際、社區重大資訊。

操作指南如下,讓觀眾24小時收看收聽:

1. 掃二維碼(QR code): 📑

觀眾只要掃描報上的二維碼, 就可連結到<mark>美南國際電視</mark>, 直接在手機上觀看STV15.3。



2. Google搜尋: 觀眾只要在Go 網站搜尋「Southern TV- STV15.3 Houston」

STV15.3 Houston

或輸入該平台網址

「http://media.maqtv.com/?1497381&proc=1」 就可直接連結美南國際電視直播平台。

http://media.magtv.com/?1497381&proc=1

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如黑陽車時收聽廣播。請鏈接到車載音響設備(數據線/整況設備)。 效果更佳。

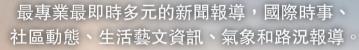
《文華時間》



《新聞面對面》



2/11/2018 - 2/17/2019



美南新聞聯播,每週一到週五晚6點30 全球直播,掌握世界新聞脈動

美教術的聯播



上線,手機掃瞄二維碼就可24小時觀看該頻道,獲得廣大迴響;為廣大觀眾,讓新聞播報更即時,美南國際電視STV15.3 即將在6月18日全球直播新聞「美南新聞聯播」,新聞播報時間為週一至週五傍晚6:30-7:30,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。全球新聞「美南新聞聯播」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。 這事、社區動態、生活藝文資訊三大版塊,播報新聞同時也會穿

「美南新聞聯播」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,觀衆可利用網站搜尋、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。





今日美國



今日美南





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美南電視本周節目單



2019年2月11日

Monday, February 11, 2019





出席恆丰银行迎春纳福龙狮献瑞的贵宾(左起)「台北经文 「教育组 | 周慧宜组长、恆丰银行董事长吴文龙夫妇、 「台北经文处」处长陈家彦夫妇。



恆丰银行董事长吴文龙(左三)接获「采青」至宝,喜气洋洋。



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祥狮表演高空「采青」绝技。



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恆丰银行副总裁、公关经理 Jennifer 周 (右)市场部助理副总裁刘 妍(左)与祥狮合影。









\$2⁵⁰ Break Menu

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