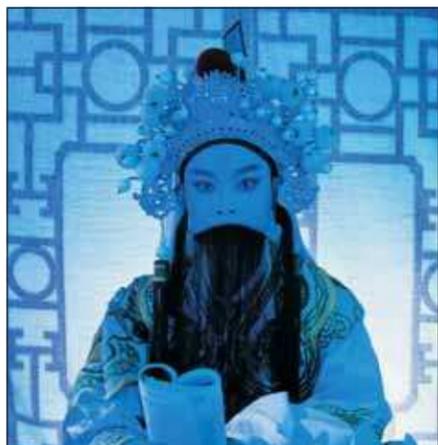


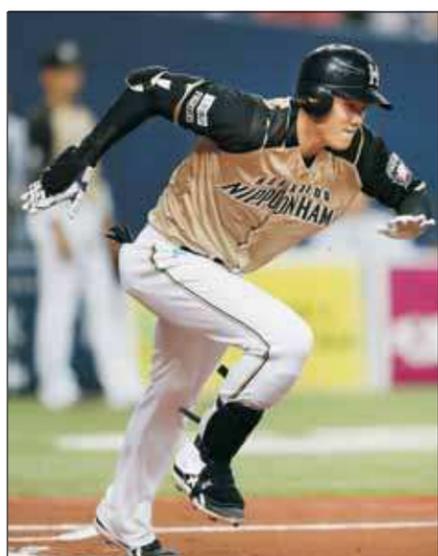
The Asian Reporter

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Hong Kong's Hungry Ghost Festival

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Otani likely to sign with MLB in costly move

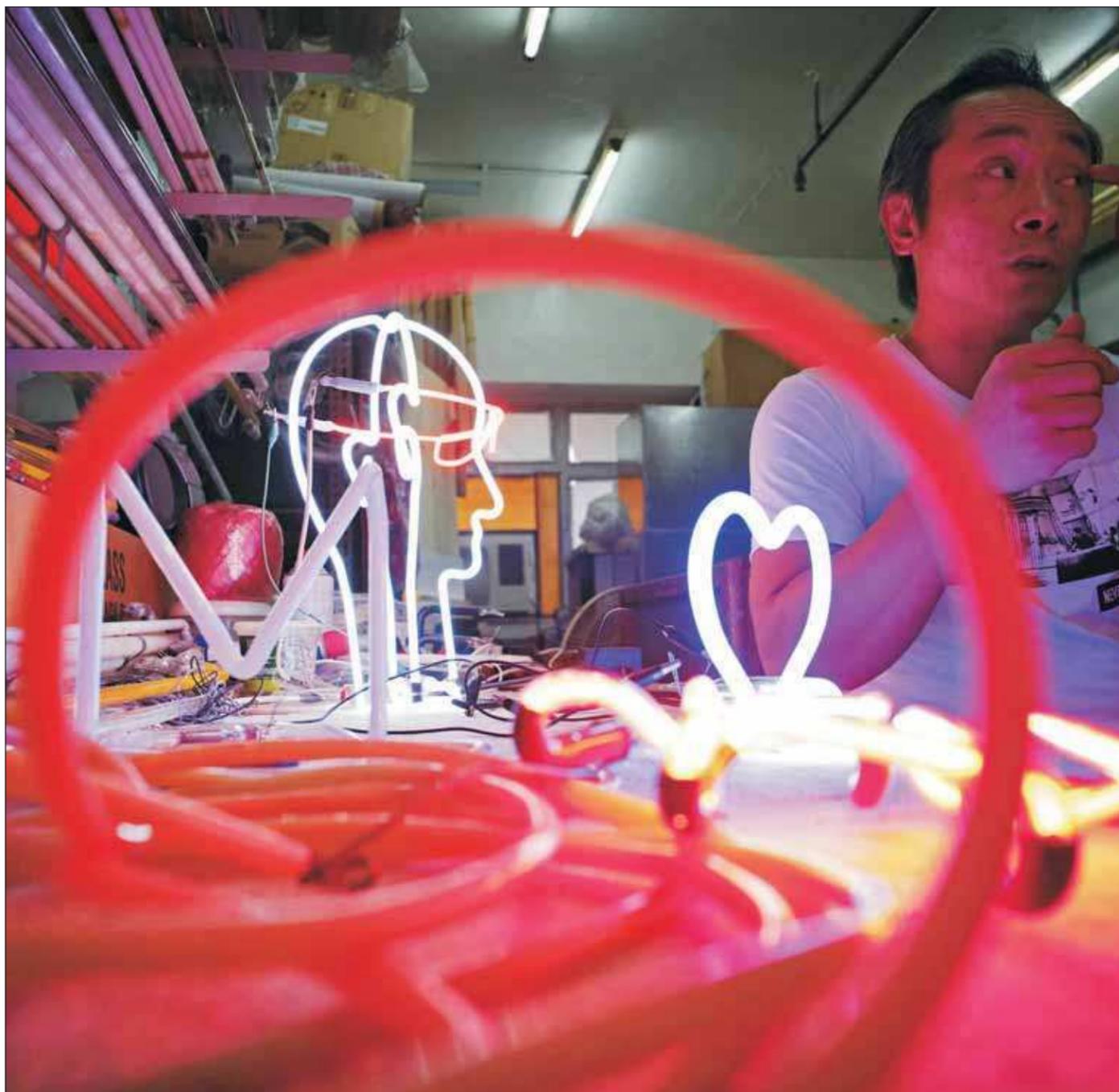
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Chris Uehara sworn in as interim police chief

Page 11

New rules, tech are dimming Hong Kong's signature neon glow



ILLUMINATING CHANGE. Wu Chi-kai, one of about half a dozen active neon-sign masters left in Hong Kong, looks at his work during an interview in Hong Kong. For Hong Kong's famed neon lights, the future looks dim. Neon-lit signs were once ubiquitous in the city, illuminating city streets with their soft, warm glow and giving the dynamic Asian city a signature look to match its postwar economic boom. (AP Photo/Vincent Yu)

By Kelvin Chan
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — For Hong Kong's famed neon lights, the future looks dim.

Neon-lit signs were once ubiquitous in the city, illuminating city streets with

their soft, warm glow and giving the dynamic Asian city a signature look to match its postwar economic boom.

Tens of thousands of signs on countless tower blocks advertise restaurants, nightclubs, saunas, camera shops, and jewelry boutiques in a rainbow of garish hues. Many are cantilevered far out over

the street, competing for the attention of visitors.

Few symbols have come to represent Hong Kong as much as its skyline of flashing and blinking neon billboards.

That visual heritage is now under threat. Over the past two decades, Hong

Continued on page 4

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