



NEW BIDDING SYSTEM FOR WET MARKET STALL RENTAL DRAWS CONTROVERSY AS VENDORS SAY IT WILL BE SKEWED TOWARDS HIGHEST-PRICE BIDDERS P4

LONG ROAD TO MICE RECOVERY WHILE TOURISM REMAINS AT A STANDSTILL P3

WYNN MACAU EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN OBTAINING A NEW GAMING CONCESSION IN 2022, PLEDGING IT WILL FOLLOW GOV'T GUIDELINES P5



Japanese Emperor Naruhito's younger brother, Crown Prince Fumihito, was formally sworn in as first in line to the Chrysanthemum Throne in a traditional palace ritual yesterday that has been postponed for seven months and scaled down due to the coronavirus pandemic.



Japan held a one-day exhibition gymnastics meet yesterday in front of several thousand fans with 22 athletes participating from Russia, China, and the United States. They were joined by eight from Japan. The non-Japanese entered after a 14-day quarantine at home and were largely kept penned up in their Tokyo hotel in strict isolation.



Thai pro-democracy protesters were confronted by riot police and sprayed by water cannons yesterday as they tried to approach Bangkok's Grand Palace to deliver letters about their political grievances addressed to the country's king. The protesters had pushed aside a bus that was serving as a barrier to try to approach the palace, which houses the royal offices.

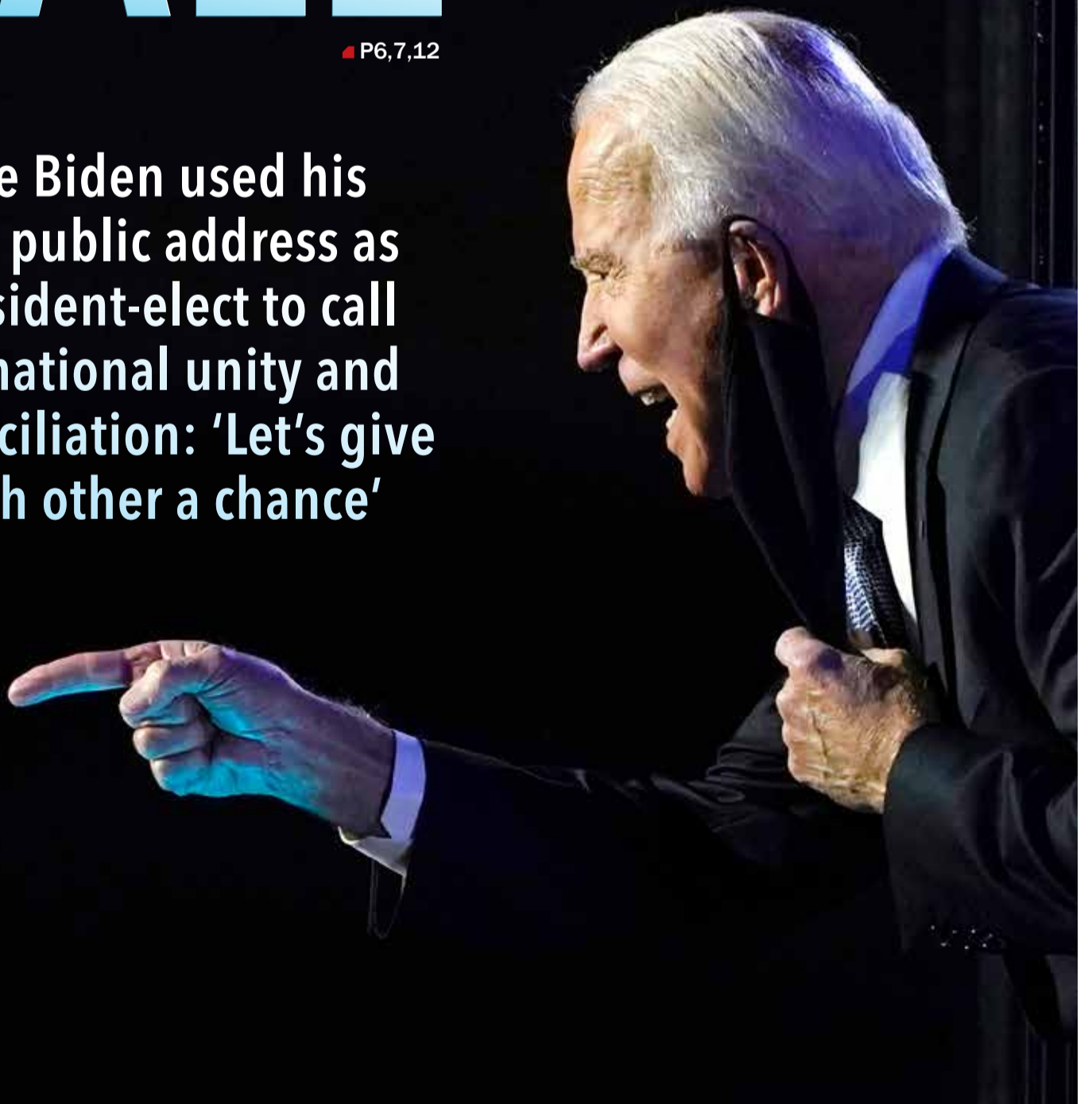
Malaysia Another 1,168 new coronavirus cases were reported this weekend, bringing Malaysia's total tally to 39,357 — compared to just 13,993 a month ago. Senior Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob said all of peninsula Malaysia except for three states will be placed under a conditional movement control order from today until December 6. He said the move will help curb the virus spread and allow targeted screening to be done.

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BIDEN'S CALL

P6,7,12

Joe Biden used his first public address as president-elect to call for national unity and reconciliation: 'Let's give each other a chance'



2021 BUDGET DEEMED 'OVER OPTIMISTIC'

JULIE ZHU

THE Legislative Assembly (AL) has approved the 2021 budget, which will allocate 26.6 billion patacas from the financial reserve to address the public administration deficit.

However, lawmakers raised several concerns during the recent AL plenary meeting.

Lawmaker Ip Sio Ka has dubbed the SAR government's 2021 budget "over-optimistic," in remarks made by the lawmaker during the meeting on Friday.

During the session, the Secretary for Economy and Finance Lei Wai Nong presented to the lawmakers the Macau SAR government's 2021 budget, according to which the gross gaming revenue for next year is expected to be 130 billion patacas, an amount equivalent to 44.45% of that of 2019. Last year's GGR stood at 292.46 billion patacas.

After deeming the budget over-optimistic, Ip questioned, according to the current situation of gambling customers and the uncertainty of immigration policies, how many visitors Macau needs in order to reach the government's expected GGR of 130 billion patacas.



Ip also commented that he has not seen any emerging industry promising to increase government revenue.

Unlike Ip, lawmaker and gaming expert Fong Ka Chio thinks the government's GGR forecast is appropriate.

Fong estimated that Macau will record a total of over 60 billion patacas in GGR in 2020. For the government to expect next year's GGR to be double that of this year, Fong believes it is "absolutely not pessimistic." He continued by observing that 130 billion pata-

cas only represents approximately 40% of that of 2019, which is appropriate.

Fong's analysis was that casinos' mass market is gradually growing and SMEs' recovery is also stronger.

Responding to the lawmakers' comments, Lei reiterated that the government is "very prudent" in estimating next year's gross gaming revenue.

Starting from September 23, residents from mainland China have been able to obtain travel permits for Macau. After the past

National Day Holiday, Macau has been recording 220 million patacas' gaming revenue on a daily basis.

The government expects this number to rise to 350 million patacas on a daily basis in 2021, which would in turn make the GGR for the entire 2021 stand at 130 billion patacas.

The Secretary commented that to cover public expenditure for both the 2020 and 2021, the SAR government plans to allocate one fifth of the excess reserves towards the deficit.

According to Lei, combining the money used for the previous two rounds of Covid-19 pandemic relief with 26.5 billion patacas of the expected deficit of next year, the amount tallies up to 78.6 billion patacas, which is 18% of the 440 billion excess reserve.

Lei remarked that the development of the pandemic is beyond the government's evaluation and that the SAR government must be prepared for the worst. He stated that the excess reserves must be ready for a long road in the future.

"Life-time savings are designated for protecting employment, protecting livelihoods and for protecting the economy," Lei commented.

According to Lei, domestic demand currently accounts for 66% of Macau's GDP. In October, the number of visitors to Macau was about 603,000. In Lei's opinion, although the number did not meet the expectations, the government is still seeing a turnaround in Macau's tourism industry and the city's service exports have been gradually restored.

Lei hopes that travel between Hong Kong and Macau will be able to resume in the second or third quarter of next year if the pandemic is under control.

Lawmakers reject trade union law for 12th time

THE Legislative Assembly (AL) has rejected, for the 12th time, a trade union law proposed by lawmakers José Pereira Coutinho and Sulu Sou.

During Friday's AL plenary meeting, lawmaker Coutinho and Sou put a trade union law to the body of legislators, hoping to gain approval.

However, the lawmakers still did not approve the law, despite the fact that this is the 12th time that a trade union law has been discussed.

Lawmaker Iau Teng Pio, who voted against the law, said that the



establishment of a trade union law must be based on a consensus among members of the public.

Recently, the govern-

ment announced that it has completed drafting a consultation text regarding a trade union law.

Iau believes that

the lawmakers should wait for the government's trade union law. Lawmaker Mak Soi Kun then voiced his disapproval of Coutinho and Sou's approach.

"I have been a lawmaker for many years and the trade union law is proposed every year. We also question the government as to why the government does not consult with lawmakers when it establishes a law," said Mak.

"We are so close, and yet you don't communicate with us. Macau is a liberal society, so after a democratic discussion, we [have] disapproved this unreasonable law," Mak said.

This time, seven lawmakers voted in favor of establishing the law, 23 voted against, and two abstained. JZ

TAX BENEFIT FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION BUSINESS APPROVED

THE Legislative Assembly (AL) has approved a regime that proposes to grant tax benefits to the science, technology and innovation industry.

Secretary for Economy and Finance Lei Wai Nong presented the regime of tax benefits for science, technology and innovation business to lawmakers.

Overall, the tax benefits include waiving various types of taxes on immovable properties, waiving the tax on dividends to shareholders, waiving employment tax for relevant employees, among others.

Addressing the lawmakers, Lei remarked that if the government reduces or waives the tax

on property and employment, the benefit may attract parties to invest in the science, technology and innovation sector because these companies spent lot of money in factories and on paying salaries.

The bill proposes to grant a three-year income supplementary tax exemption starting from the time when the relevant enterprises obtain taxable profits.

As to the definition of science, technology and innovation industry, the law proposes to establish a science and innovation business review committee to assess whether a company's business belongs to the industry. JZ

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MICE INDUSTRY

Long road to recovery while tourism remains at a standstill

LYNZY VALLES

THE meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE) industry has been one of the industries that has been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The industry was previously considered by the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) to be one of the city's fastest-growing emerging sectors in recent years.

Official data shows that in 2019, a total of 1,536 MICE events were held, an increase of 109 year-on-year, with 1,459 meetings & conferences (+117), 58 exhibitions (-2) and 19 incentives (-6). The number of participants and attendees totaled 2,003,000, a decline of 5.4%

compared to the year prior. However, these numbers are far different to this year's figures.

Several MICE events have been cancelled since the pandemic outbreak was felt in Macau in late January, which was later on felt worldwide.

Due to the strict travel regulations put in place by the SAR government to deter the spread of Covid-19, foreigners, as well as blue card holders who were outside of Macau, have been barred from the region since March, while those coming in from mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan were required to undergo a 14-day quarantine.

Bruno Simões, president of the Macau Meetings, Incentives, Special Events Association (MISE),

as well as the executive director of event management firm DOC & PCO, said that although large gatherings have been recently allowed by the government, this does not suffice when it comes to what the MICE industry was previously facing.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - The 8th Macao International Travel (Industry) Expo was still held amid entry bans from different regions except for the mainland and Hong Kong. What is your take on this initiative?

Bruno Simões (BS) - It was a good initiative for the government to keep pushing for events to happen. Obviously, this expo is very direct to consumers, this time the Macau market. Of course, there

are more people coming in from Hong Kong, for instance, but not this year. The recently held event was a tourism consumer show.

MDT - How did the MICE adapt to the ongoing pandemic, given that there were, for sure, many cancellations that had happened?

BS - The MICE business in Macau is essential. People are used to coming to Macau to do MICE, but all [of that] is gone. So, I think the MICE industry – like everywhere around the world – is in a deep standstill. Until the world starts traveling again and they have confidence to travel, as well as borders start to open, part of the MICE industry is [enduring] a bad moment, I would say.

MDT - Any expectations on when you think the industry would slowly recover?

BS - Most of our businesses come from abroad, but we are redirecting our target to the local market as well, also to support the government and to promote ourselves within the industry. We work with lots of hotels and agencies and so on. It's also important to promote our company internally.

MDT - The sector has somehow adapted through hosting MICE events online. Did you see that as a big shift for Macau?

BS - Macau is not very much into that because, actually, we have a lot of freedom here. The companies and the public didn't have to do [many of their MICE events] online. Of course, those in partnership with other countries, they conducted it online. But for Macau, it is not a big trend. For instance, our company operates in Hong Kong and Macau. In Hong Kong, we were much more virtual, as companies recommended employees to stay at home. These virtual meetings made sense but in Macau, we have had parties, exhibitions, and conferences with thousands of people.

MDT - We're now in the fourth quarter of the year and still recording an economic downturn. As an SME, what is business like?

BS - For us, it's been a very extreme and drastic year. We're more or less inclined towards the hotels and casinos and they depend upon the tourists. These [last few] months, we have been at our 5% or 10% of our usual revenue and you can't imagine the loss we had and the cost cutting we had to do. Fortunately, the last two weeks, we have seen a little bit of rebound – just a little bit. [There is] a little bit more confidence for companies to do things and spend some money. We are starting to see a very tiny light at the end of the tunnel.

MITE seeks to boost cooperation within GBA

STAFF REPORTER

THE 8th Macao International Travel (Industry) Expo (MITE), which concluded yesterday at Cotai Expo of The Venetian Macao, focused on advancing cooperation and production development in the Greater Bay Area.

With the Covid-19 pandemic situation relatively under control in Macau, Ao Ieong U, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture of the Macao SAR Govern-

ment, stressed earlier in the opening ceremony that the "important mission" for the SAR now is to accelerate the economic rebound of the region.

"Despite the immense challenge brought by the global Covid-19 pandemic upon Macau's tourism industry, [...] we embrace unwavering faith in stepping up to the challenges with our industry partners, jointly steering the tourism industry towards more diverse, innovative and sustainable develop-

ment," said Ao Ieong.

To this end, there will be ongoing efforts to diversify visitor source markets in the mainland and promote Macau as a safe destination in times of health crisis, she added.

The Greater Bay Area will unlock ample opportunities for Macau in terms of tourism and the ensuing economic revival, said Zhang Xu, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China.

To capitalize on this opportunity, as mentioned, the expo this year had a specific focus on advancing the cooperation and production development in the Greater Bay Area.

During the opening ceremony, it was revealed that the "Cultural and Tourism Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area" is set to be launched in a bid for cultural and tourism exchange and cooperation between the mainland and Macau.

Under the new normal era, for the first time, the three-day expo featured a blend of both physical and virtual experiences. Online platforms and sessions were arranged to enable business discussions between international prospective buyers and on-site exhibitors.

In addition, the Expo also saw the debut of the Pavilion of Macau's "Distinctive Shops" and other highlights, such as local and mainland tour products for sale — with a

view to bringing unity and confidence to local travel trade, which has been in the doldrums for a long stretch due to the pandemic.

MITE, organized by Macao Government Tourism Office, and coordinated by Macau Travel Agency Association, was designed to foster innovative cooperation and inject energy to prop up Macau's travel trade.

Over 130 local exhibitors participated in the expo, a tally 1.2 times that of last year — with all their registration fees exempted this year to lessen financial pressure.

ANTHONY LAM

51ST BAZAAR

CARITAS EXTENDS CHANNELING OF FUNDS TO MIGRANTS

AMID the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions to date, this year's Caritas Macau Charity Bazaar will be the major source of donations for the charity organization, said Paul Pun, Secretary-General of Caritas Macau.

Previously, two local doctors donated their clinic to Caritas Macau. Pun assured that the organization will continue operating the clinic in order to safeguard the healthcare rights of the underprivileged and non-resident workers.

According to Pun, the organization is now running more than 60 service entities, covering areas of elderly support, family, teenager and child care, rehabilitation, community, mental and food support, and so on.

The cost for all services last year amounted to 466 million patacas. Donations received last year by the organization fell far short of covering the cost. The donations only amounted to about 13.7 million patacas.

The 51st edition of the Caritas Macau's annual charity bazaar commenced over the weekend with participation from schools as well as public and private entities helping to raise funds for the charity organization.

Held along the coast of Nam Van, the event concluded last night with the exact amount of donations received still being calculated.

As part of the pandemic con-



tainment, the host had to shrink the number of stalls at the venue. This year, the event saw only 85 stalls. They were assigned to public and private entities, foundational and higher education institutions, non-governmental organizations, volunteer entities, as well as Caritas Macau service entities.

At the opening ceremony, Pun stressed his organization's concern

regarding problems faced by non-resident workers in Macau amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The organization, meanwhile, has also raised funds for places hit by natural disasters or the pandemic.

He added that the organization has opened online channels for the convenience of its donors and that it is working on the inauguration of a travel agency to operate

accessible tourism services. The agency is estimated to start operating next year.

As for the small-scale elderly home project on Avenida de Colonel Mesquita, Pun said a draft has been issued by the government and that work is now in progress. He hopes the elderly home can be opened as soon as possible.

Taking part in the global eco-

-friendly effort, the host, under the support of the Environmental Protection Bureau, has set up 10 water dispensing stations at the venue so that visitors could drink from their own reusable bottles rather than buying disposable drinking water.

The opening ceremony was officiated by government officials and representatives from all six casino-resort operators.

New bidding system for wet market stall rental draws controversy

STAFF REPORTER

LOCAL wet market vendors may face tougher competition to secure the lease of stalls, as a proposed bill ushers in a new bidding system in place of the previous lottery system.

The Executive Council has completed discussion on the draft bill related to the public market management system last Friday, November 6.

Since its announcement, the bill has drawn diverse opinions from the community. Some market vendors have expressed opposition to the new regulation, saying the bidding system is unfair, as it will be skewed towards highest-price bidders and price out current owners – most of whom are small individual vendors who have been reeling from



the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The lottery system – the traditional practice which draws the owners by chance – is rather a more impartial method, the vendors argued.

However, the public largely backs the proposed legislation, believing

that the latest adjustments can help breathe new life into the current wet market scene. The joining in of new operators is expected to be conducive to lowering the price of commodities.

Currently, the prices of goods in wet markets is often found to be hi-

gher than those found in supermarkets or other stores. The new bidding system, the grassroots believe, may bring about a healthy competition among operators in wet markets.

Besides, it is reported that some stalls have been sublet, leading to a long-term problem of misuse of public resources.

In accordance with the proposed bill, each successful bidder can only lease one stall, and they have to run the stalls in person for at least 240 days each year. It is said the regulations will come in due course to ensure the fair use of public assets and safeguard consumer rights.

The draft bill will be submitted to the Legislative Assembly for further deliberation.

BUS CRASHES INTO A TAIPA RESTAURANT, INJURING 7

A public bus running on Route No. 33 crashed into a Chinese restaurant Saturday around noon. The restaurant was situated on the intersection of Rua Correia da Silva and Rua do Regedor in Taipa. Among the seven injured, one non-resident worker from the mainland who was working at the restaurant sustained rib fractures.

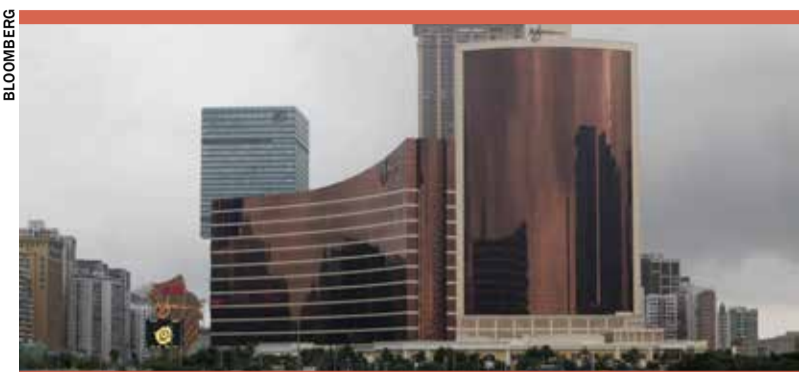
He was trapped between the bus and a static installation of the restaurant. The other six sustained minor

injuries. The shop sustained major damage in the crash. However, government engineers found no immediate hazard to the public. The driver is 58 years old and has 21 years' experience as bus driver. His alcohol test result was negative.

The interim cause of incident was technical abnormality. The owner of the bus, Transmac, said that the bus was last serviced on October 31 this year. All 14 buses of the same model will be suspended for inspection. AL



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



Wynn Macau confident in obtaining new concession

ANTHONY LAM

WYNN Macau Ltd. is confident and positive on being granted a new gaming concession in 2022, pledging that it would follow the government's guidelines once the government issues further information on the concessions.

Linda Chen, Vice Chairman, CEO and Executive Director of the casino and resort operator, expressed her hope that the government will soon disseminate criteria and procedures for the renewal process to the industry. According to the Wynn Macau executive, the company will completely follow the guidelines and arrangements from the government as well as abide by all tourism policies.

As all walks of life were affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the travel restrictions it brought with it, Macau has seen a quietened tourism industry for more than half a year. As a result, gambling concessionaires have not been gaining much income since the start of the outbreak.

Wynn Resorts has recorded a loss amounting to USD216 million at its Macau operations in the third

quarter of this year. Revenue from July to September fell 93.7% to \$67.1 million year-on-year with an Adjusted EBITDA loss of US\$112.1 million, a slight improvement from its revenue of \$20.6 million in the second quarter.

Despite the challenging situation, the executive remains confident in the future prospects, saying that the company's performance has been smoothing since the start of October.

Chen disclosed that, currently, hotels operated by Wynn Macau are recording an average daily occupancy of 50%. On some weekends, the rate is increasing to 60%.

Similar to the comments of the Chief Executive, Chen said that it is important to assure mainland Chinese tourists about the safety of Macau. A stable source of customers not only helps the casino industry, she said, but will also help local small to medium-sized enterprises.

Meanwhile, she added that the Greater Bay Area is a strong development platform for Macau in the future, with Wynn Macau planning to invest in the Area.

LUI CROWNED CHAMPION IN ASIAN GAMING POWER 50 FOR 2020

STAFF REPORTER

IN this year's Asian Gaming Power 50, also known as the "Big 50," Francis Lui, Vice Chairman of Galaxy Entertainment Group, who also topped the list last year, was named the champion. The accolade crowns him as the most influential individual in Asia's gaming industry for his measured fiscal strategies in helping Galaxy ride out the Covid-19 storm.

The much-anticipated list of the 13th Asian Gaming Power 50 was unveiled at a gala dinner held at the Parisian Macao last Friday, November 6.

Second place, once again, went to Sheldon Adelson, Chairman & CEO of Las Vegas Sands

and Sands China.

Pansy Ho, Co-chairperson and Managing Director of MGM China Holding Ltd, Group Executive Chairman and Managing Director of Shun Tak Holdings, and Director of STDM, was awarded third place.

Meanwhile, fourth place winner was Lawrence Ho, Chairman & CEO of Melco Resorts and Entertainment; while Wilfred Wong, President & Executive Director of Sands China was awarded 10th place.

Since its debut in 2008, the Asian Gaming Power 50, annually ranked as one of the 50 most influential leaders in Asia's gaming industry by Inside Asia Gaming (IAG), has been a revered event honoring the industry moguls.

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MGM Enriches the Lives of Fuhong Members

MGM persistently promotes social inclusion and continued to collaborate with Fuhong Society of Macau to rally around people with mental disabilities and mental health rehabilitants, assisting them to acquire vocational skills and publicize their creativity. In a similar vein, MGM fully supported a charity run organized by Fuhong Society of Macau to show love and care for people coping with mental illness.

Vocational F&B Training for Portuguese Corner



Recognizing the importance of guiding mental health rehabilitants to reintegrate into society, MGM provided comprehensive food and beverage vocational training to the Fuhong members working at the Portuguese Corner restaurant, a new Portuguese-Macanese style eatery at Fuhong Society of Macau Pou Choi Centre. MGM assigned team members to coach them in core-service procedures and customer service etiquette. Trainees from the kitchen of Portuguese Corner gained an opportunity to enrich themselves at the commissary kitchen of MGM COTAI, where they learned to prepare special Portuguese desserts. MGM hoped that the program would enhance the rehabilitants' professionalism, allowing them to embark on a rewarding career.

Support Creativity with "Socks for the Day"

MGM is also committed to supporting platforms that allow people with mental or intellectual disabilities to demonstrate their creativity. The Charity Sale Roadshow – "Socks for the Day" by Fuhong Society of Macau was held at back-of-house areas of MGM MACAU and MGM COTAI, where team members could buy socks designed with the artworks of Fuhong Society members, including people suffering from intellectual disabilities or autism and rehabilitants of mental illness. Featuring patterns that represent the changes of mood in a week, the socks can remind their owners to embrace a positive attitude towards life. Proceeds from the event are used to support charitable causes, including the development of artists with disabilities.



Calling Attention to Mental Health with "Run for All"



MGM lent full support to the "Run for All" campaign organized by Fuhong Society of Macau in tandem with the World Mental Health Day 2020. Together with members of Yee Lok Center of Fuhong Society of Macau, Richmond Fellowship of Macau, Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service of Macau and Macao Populace Mental Health Promotion Association, the MGM Runner Club joined the campaign to jog on the Guia Hill Fitness Trail. In addition to encouraging people to take exercise regularly, the campaign aimed to raise public awareness of mental health and drive a community-wide effort to eliminate stigma associated with mental illness.

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THE SEVEN LABOURS OF BIDEN

PRESIDENT-ELECT LOOKS TO RESTORE, EXPAND OBAMA ADMINISTRATION POLICIES

STOP and reverse. Restore and expand.

Joe Biden is promising to take the country on a very different path from what it has seen over the past four years under President Donald Trump, on issues ranging from the coronavirus and health care to the environment, education and more.

The Democratic president-elect is promising to reverse Trump policy on things such as withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris climate agreement and weakening protections against environmental pollution.

While Trump wants to kill the Affordable Care Act, Biden is proposing to expand "Obamacare" by adding a public option to cover more Americans.

Here's what we know about what a Biden presidency will look like.

TRADE

Like Trump, Biden accuses China of violating international trade rules, subsidizing its companies and stealing U.S. intellectual property. But he doesn't think Trump's tariffs have worked and wants to join with U.S. allies to form a bulwark against Beijing.

Biden has joined a growing bipartisan embrace of "fair trade" abroad — a twist on decades of "free trade" talk as Republican and Democratic administrations alike expanded international trade. Biden wants to juice U.S. manufacturing by directing \$400 billion of federal government purchases to domestic companies (part of that for buying pandemic supplies) over a four-year term.

He wants \$300 billion in new support for U.S. technology firms' research and development. Biden says the new domestic spending must come before he enters into any new international trade deals.

He pledges tough negotiations with China, the world's other economic superpower, on trade and intellectual property matters. China, like the U.S., is not yet a member of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the multilateral trade agreement that Biden advocated for when he was vice president. As a senator, Biden voted for the North American Free Trade Agreement that the Trump administration renegotiated. The replacement went into effect on July 1.

ECONOMY, TAXES AND THE DEBT

Biden argues that the economy cannot fully recover until COVID-19 is contained.

For the long-term recovery, the former vice president is pitching sweeping federal action to avoid an extended recession and to address long-standing wealth inequality that disproportionately affects nonwhite Americans.



Handover: Obama to Biden

He would cover the cost of some of his big ticket environmental and health insurance proposals by rolling back much of the 2017 GOP tax overhaul. He wants a corporate income tax rate of 28% — lower than before but higher than now — and broad income and payroll tax increases for individuals with more than \$400,000 of annual taxable income. All that would generate an estimated \$4 trillion or more over 10 years.

Biden also frames immigration as an economic matter. He wants to expand legal immigration slots and offer a citizenship path for about 11 million people who are in the country illegally but who, Biden notes, are already economic contributors as workers and consumers.

An analysis from the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates that Biden's campaign proposals would increase the national debt by about \$5.6 trillion over 10 years.

The national debt now stands at more than \$20 trillion.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Biden draws some of his sharpest contrasts with Trump on the pandemic, arguing that the presidency and federal government exist for such crises. Unlike Trump, he doesn't believe the leading role in the virus response should belong to state governors, with the federal government in support.

Biden endorses generous federal spending to help businesses and individuals, along with state and local governments, deal with the financial cliffs of the pandemic slowdown. He's promised aggressive use of the Defense Production Act, the wartime law a president can use to direct manufacture of critical supplies. Trump has used that law on such things as ventilator production.

Biden promises to elevate the government's scientists and physicians to communicate a consistent message to the public, and he would have the United States rejoin the World Health Organization.

HEALTH CARE

The health care law known as "Obamacare" was a hallmark of the Obama administration, and Biden wants to build on that to provide coverage for all. He would create a "Medicare-like public option" to compete alongside private insurance markets for working-age Americans, while increasing premium subsidies that many people already use. Solid middle-class households would have access to subsidized health insurance.

Biden estimates his plan would cost about \$750 billion over 10 years. That positions Biden between Trump, who wants to scrap the 2010 health law, and progressives who want a government-run system to replace private insurance altogether. Biden sees his approach as the next step toward universal coverage and one he could get through Congress.

On prescription drugs, Biden supports legislation allowing Medicare to negotiate prices for government programs as well as private payers. He would prohibit drug companies from raising prices faster than inflation for people covered by Medicare and other federal programs.

FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY

Biden supports a strategy of fighting extremist militants abroad with U.S. special forces and airstrikes instead of planeloads of U.S. troops. He wants to see the U.S. close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay. He has backed some U.S. military interventions, including the 2003 invasion of Iraq, which he now says was a mistake, but he leans toward diplomacy and trying to achieve solutions through alliances and global institutions.

He is a strong supporter of NATO. He warns that Moscow is chipping away at the foundation of Western democracy by trying to weaken NATO, divide the European Union and undermine the

U.S. electoral system. He also alleges that Russia is using Western financial institutions to launder billions of dollars to use to influence politicians.

Biden calls for increasing the Navy's presence in the Asia-Pacific and strengthening alliances with Japan, South Korea, Australia and Indonesia. He joins Trump in wanting to end the wars in the Middle East and Afghanistan, but thinks the U.S. should keep a small force in place to counter terrorism.

He says Trump's decisions to exit bilateral and international treaties such as the Iran nuclear deal and the Paris climate accord have led other nations to doubt Washington's word. Biden wants to invite all democratic nations to a summit to discuss how to fight corruption, thwart authoritarianism and support human rights.

Biden, who claims "ironclad" support for Israel, wants to curb annexation and has backed a two-state solution in the long conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. He says he will keep the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem after Trump moved it from Tel Aviv.

Biden criticizes Trump's diplomacy with Kim Jong Un, saying Trump's one-on-one diplomacy

gave legitimacy to the North Korea leader and has not convinced Kim that he should give up his nuclear weapons.

ENVIRONMENT

Biden is proposing a \$2 trillion push to slow global warming by throttling back the burning of fossil fuels, aiming to make the nation's power plants, vehicles, mass transport systems and buildings more fuel efficient and less dependent on oil, gas and coal.

Biden says his administration will ban new permits for oil and gas production on federal lands, although he says he does not support a fracking ban.

Biden's public health and environment platform also calls for reversing the Trump administration's slowdown of enforcement against polluters, which in several categories has fallen to the lowest point in decades. That includes establishing a climate and environmental justice division within the Justice Department.

IMMIGRATION

Biden has called Trump's actions on immigration an "unrelenting assault" on American values and says he will "undo the damage" while continuing to maintain border enforcement.

Biden says he will immediately reinstate the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, which allowed people brought to the U.S. illegally as children to remain as legal residents, and end the restrictions on asylum imposed by Trump.

He also said he will end the Trump administration's "public charge rule," which would deny visas or permanent residency to people who use public services such as Medicaid, food stamps or housing vouchers. Biden will support a 100-day freeze on all deportations while his administration studies ways to roll back Trump policies. **MDT/AP**

TRUMP, GOP SUE IN ARIZONA OVER BALLOT HANDLING

THE Trump campaign and Republican National Committee filed a lawsuit in Arizona that seeks the manual inspection of potentially thousands of in-person Election Day ballots in metro Phoenix that they allege were mishandled by poll workers and resulted in some ballot selections to be disregarded. The legal challenge against Democratic Secretary of State Katie Hobbs centers on instances in which people are believed to have voted for more candidates than permitted.

When tabulators detect such an "overvote," poll workers should give voters a choice to fix the problem, but the workers instead either pressed or told voters to press a button on the machine to override the error, leaving the devices to disregard the problematic ballot selections, according to the lawsuit. The lawsuit was filed hours after the dismissal of another Arizona election lawsuit that contested the use of Sharpie markers in completing Election Day ballots in Maricopa County.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Fight for Senate control awaits in Georgia

CONTROL of the Senate likely won't be decided until a January runoff in Georgia, even after Democrat Joe Biden won the White House yesterday [Macau time].

That post-election cliff-hanger will determine the balance of power in Washington, as neither party appears to have a lock on a Senate majority right now.

So far, the tally for the next Senate is 48 Republicans and 48 Democrats after Tuesday's election. Two seats in Georgia are headed to runoffs on Jan. 5. And seats in North Carolina and Alaska are still too early to call.

The stakes are high for a momentous political struggle in Georgia during President Donald Trump's final lame-duck days in office. The state is closely divided, with Democrats making gains on Republicans, fueled by a surge of new voters. But no Democrat has been elected senator in some 20 years. As much as \$500 million could be spent on the two races, one strategist said.

"Now we take Georgia, and then we change America," Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer told a crowd celebrating Bi-



Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer

den's victory over the weekend on the streets of Brooklyn.

With a Democratic majority in the Senate, the party that also controls the House would have a firm grasp on power in Washington. Biden would have latitude over nominees, including for his Cabinet, and a chance to push major portions of his legislative agenda through Congress. If Democrats fall short, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Kentucky Republican, could wield the power to check Biden's ambitions.

"The Senate is the last line of defense," tweeted the National Republican Senatorial Committee as soon as the presidential race was called for Biden. It was a fundraising appeal.

Republicans have been working to retain their majority, but even if they secure the final two races where ballots are still being counted in North Carolina and Alaska, they would still fall short of the 51 seats needed.

In North Carolina, Sen. Thom Tillis is trying to fend off Demo-

cratic challenger Cal Cunningham in a tight race that is too early to call. Alaska GOP Sen. Dan Sullivan is favored for another term against Al Gross, an independent running as a Democrat.

The political math problem for Republicans is that the vice president of the party holding the White House casts the tie-breaking vote in the Senate. Next year that would be Vice President-elect Kamala Harris. That means 50 seats for Democrats would result in control over the chamber. But

Republicans would need 51 seats to cement their hold on power.

That would put Georgia center stage, as many expect is about to happen.

Both Senate seats in the state are now held by Republican incumbents. They were forced into the January runoff contests after no candidate reached the 50% threshold needed to win outright in multi-candidate races.

GOP Sen. Kelly Loeffler will face Rafael Warnock, a Black pastor from the church where Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached. And Republican Sen. David Perdue, a top Trump ally, will face Democratic challenger Jon Ossoff.

"Now more than ever, we NEED to keep the Senate in Republican hands," tweeted Loeffler. She said that she and Perdue are "the last line of defense against the radical left."

Ossoff's campaign aired a new ad, detailing a "path to recovery" from the coronavirus pandemic and its economic fallout. He calls for following the advice of medical experts to deal with the virus and a massive infrastructure plan to create jobs. AP

AD

2020 盛世之友 CESL Asia and Friends
運動同樂日 Sport Fun Day



THANK YOU!

We are Proud to Grow our City with Inspiring Partners

CESL Asia and Friends Sport Fun Day 2020 was once more a great and impactful event! We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all our Partners, Sponsors and Volunteers who have joined us to help promote values of equality and inclusion in our community and to raise MOP120,000 in donations to support the athletes of Macao Special Olympics ("MSO") and its talent development programs. Together we demonstrated the social impact that companies and individuals can have on our society growing a better future with more opportunities for all.



(Listed in no particular order)



關懷社區 · 齊創共融 Community care and harmonious development of our society

China's October exports accelerate, boosted by US demand

JOE McDONALD, BEIJING

CHINA'S export growth accelerated in October, boosting the total so far this year back above pre-coronavirus levels for the first time.

Exports in October rose 11.4% over a year earlier to \$237.2 billion, up from September's 9.9% gain, customs data showed this weekend. Imports rose 4.7% by value to \$178.7 billion, decelerating from the previous month's 13.2% surge, though volumes of some goods increased.

China's exporters have benefited from the relatively early reopening of the second-largest global economy and demand for masks and other medical supplies. That has allowed them to take market share from foreign competitors that are hampered by anti-disease controls.

Exports for the first 10 months of 2020 rose 0.5% over the same period a year earlier to \$2 trillion, the first positive year-to-date figure. Exports have been bigger than the same month a year earlier since April, but after the first quarter's 13.3% contraction, total growth for 2020 was in negative territory until now.

In October, exports to the United States in October



gained 22.5% over a year ago to \$43.8 billion, up from the previous month's 20.5% growth. Imports of American goods jumped 33.4% to \$12.5 billion, an increase from September's 24.5% growth.

China's monthly global trade surplus swelled 35.8% over a year earlier to \$58.4 billion, one of its biggest on record.

The politically sensitive trade gap with the United States expanded 18.5% to \$31.4 billion.

China is on track to become the only major economy to grow this year while activity in the United States, Europe and Japan shrinks.

China's economy shrank by 6.8% from a year earlier in the first three months of 2020 after factories, shops and offices were shut down to fight the virus. Growth rebounded to 3.2% in the second quarter and accelerated to 4.9% in the three months ending in September.

Automakers and other large manufacturers are back to normal activity, helping to drive demand for imported iron ore, copper and other industrial materials. Retail sales have rebounded to above pre-virus levels, rising 0.5% over a year earlier in the quarter ending in September.

Imports have fallen by

value after weak demand caused prices of oil and other commodities to plunge. But volumes of foreign food and other goods bought by Chinese factories and consumers have risen.

Imports of crude oil rose 10.6% by volume over a year earlier in the first nine months of 2020 but fell 24.5% by value, according to customs data. Grain imports rose 28.5% by volume but only 21% by value.

Exports to the 27-nation European Union fell 21% in October to \$22.7 billion. Imports of European goods sank 20.4% to \$33.6 billion. China's surplus with the EU widened by 149% over a year ago to \$33.3 billion. AP

this day in history

1960 NARROW VICTORY FOR JOHN F KENNEDY

Senator John Fitzgerald Kennedy has emerged as the new president of the United States beating Vice-President Richard Nixon by a slim margin.

Senator Kennedy, aged 43, is a Harvard graduate and war hero. He will be the youngest elected president in US history and the first Roman Catholic.

In his victory speech at Hyannis, Massachusetts, he urged all Americans to help him "move this country safely through the 1960s".

He added: "I can assure you that every degree of mind and spirit that I possess will be devoted to the long-range interests of the United States and to the cause of freedom around the world."

Then turning to his wife, Jacqueline, who is due to give birth to their second child in three weeks' time, he said they would now prepare for "a new administration and a new baby".

Also standing next to Senator Kennedy during his speech was his father Joseph, once US Ambassador to London. And close by was his brother and campaign manager Robert Kennedy.

After a whole night of doubt as to who was the victor of the great American prize of president, Mr Nixon hinted at defeat at 0315 local time at Republican headquarters in Los Angeles.

As supporters chanted: "We want Nixon!" he told the nation to back their new leader.

"I want Senator Kennedy to know - I want you all to know - that if this trend continues and he does become president, he will have my whole-hearted support," he said.

He did not officially concede victory until some six hours later in a congratulatory telegram to the president-elect.

It has been a heated and exciting election campaign in which television has played an important role for the first time in US election history. Last month millions of viewers watched the pair battle it out in a series of television debates.

With two states still to file a final verdict and Mississippi "unpledged" due to disapproval of both parties' commitments to civil rights, the results so far are:

- Kennedy - 33,029,203 popular votes and 337 electoral votes

- Nixon - 32,725,435 popular votes and 185 electoral votes
President Eisenhower is reported to be unhappy with the Democrat victory.

But he sent his congratulations to the president-elect and called a cabinet meeting to arrange the transition of government ahead of Senator Kennedy's inauguration in January.



Courtesy BBC News

Beijing inks first term deal for US LNG since trade war erupted

CHINA inked its first term deal to buy liquefied natural gas from an American exporter since the trade war disrupted deliveries, a sign of confidence that relations with the U.S. could be normalizing.

Foran Energy Group said it signed a framework agreement with U.S. producer Cheniere Energy Inc. to purchase 26 cargoes between 2021 and 2025. The deal was made during the annual trade fair in Shanghai, a signa-

ture project of President Xi Jinping designed to showcase China's openness to the world. Prices will be linked to the U.S. Henry Hub benchmark.

Chinese firms had stopped signing longer-term supply contracts with U.S. exporters after Beijing slapped tariffs on shipments in retaliation to U.S. levies on Chinese goods in 2018. A long-negotiated supply deal between Cheniere and Sinopec, China's refining

and petrochemicals giant, never materialized due in part to the trade spat.

American LNG sales to China stopped completely between May 2019 and March this year. Imports have since resumed as Beijing looks to honor its commitments to the phase-one trade deal signed with Washington in January, even as broader political relations between the world's two largest economies have been stretched almost to

breaking point.

Earlier this year, China introduced a tariff waiver program that included LNG in a bid to increase imports. But China's largest buyers have been uneasy about making long-term pledges in case relations with Washington were to suddenly sour.

Cheniere sent nine LNG cargoes to China between March and August of this year, U.S. Department of Energy figures show. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

IN CONTEXT

The final result showed JFK won with an even narrower margin than first announced - 34,227,096 popular votes to Richard Nixon's 34,107,646.

His term ran for just two years before he was assassinated in Dallas on 22 November 1963, an event that left the nation totally stunned.

This short time was marked by major events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961, the Cuban missile crisis a year later and the first - limited - nuclear test ban treaty with the Soviet Union in August 1963.

As part of a general anti-communist policy, he increased US military support for South Vietnam and pledged to defend West Berlin and access to it.

At home, while federal troops were sent to quell anti-black riots in the south, his proposals for civil rights reforms in Congress foundered.

His opponent in the 1960 election, Richard Nixon, won the presidential vote in 1968.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

<p>ARIES Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Opportunities to make financial gains through investments look promising. Stick to your work and avoid emotional confrontations. Social events should be the highlight of your day.</p>	<p>TAURUS Apr. 20-May. 20 Compromise if you have to, to avoid verbal battles. Your ideas will be well received. Renovations to your domestic scene will pay high rewards.</p>
<p>GEMINI May. 21-Jun. 21 You will have the discipline and fortitude to accomplish what you want today. You will have to help family members sort out unfortunate difficulties.</p>	<p>CANCER Jun. 22-Jul. 22 If you put your mind to it, you could entertain or host a multitude of social events. You should consider getting into self improvement endeavors. Get involved in sports groups or hobbies that attract you.</p>
<p>LEO Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Get back into a routine that promises a better looking, more aware individual. Spend time by yourself to avoid any conflicts with family members. Try not to be too harsh with loved ones;</p>	<p>VIRGO Aug. 23-Sep. 22 Plan your day carefully. Jealous attitudes may lead you astray. Don't expect the whole family to be overjoyed. There will always be two sides to an Issue.</p>
<p>LIBRA Sep. 23-Oct. 22 You will be drawn to individuals who can provide you with both intellectual conversation and physical passion. Your lover may feel rejected. You may need to make a choice.</p>	<p>SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21 You must not allow them to force you to rush. You'll have problems with authority figures if you don't play by the rules. Unexpected events may be upsetting.</p>
<p>SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Don't avoid situations that may deteriorate; try to mend them. Don't point your finger unjustly at others. Self-improvement could bring amazing results.</p>	<p>CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Try not to lend or borrow money today. You will have to make changes in order to eliminate the tension. Changes in your home will be positive. Property investments should payoff.</p>
<p>AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Opportunities for travel and communication are evident. Don't do something silly just to get back at your mate. You can enjoy entertainment if you join in and follow the crowd for a change.</p>	<p>PISCES Feb. 19-Mar. 20 Social events may lead to a romantic interlude. Avoid friction with your mate. Make plans to meet again in the near future and call once in a while to show you care.</p>

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	13	26	clear
Harbin	12	16	drizzle
Tianjin	16	27	clear
Urumqi	12	22	cloudy
Xi'an	15	29	clear
Lhasa	9	24	cloudy
Chengdu	15	24	cloudy
Chongqing	18	26	cloudy
Kunming	16	22	cloudy
Nanjing	18	26	cloudy
Shanghai	18	21	drizzle
Wuhan	16	26	cloudy
Hangzhou	19	20	drizzle to moderate rain
Taipei	26	31	cloudy
Guangzhou	26	31	moderate rain
Hong Kong	25	29	heavy rain
WORLD			
Moscow	8	12	drizzle
Frankfurt	4	20	clear
Paris	14	29	cloudy
London	12	21	clear
New York	10	20	cloudy

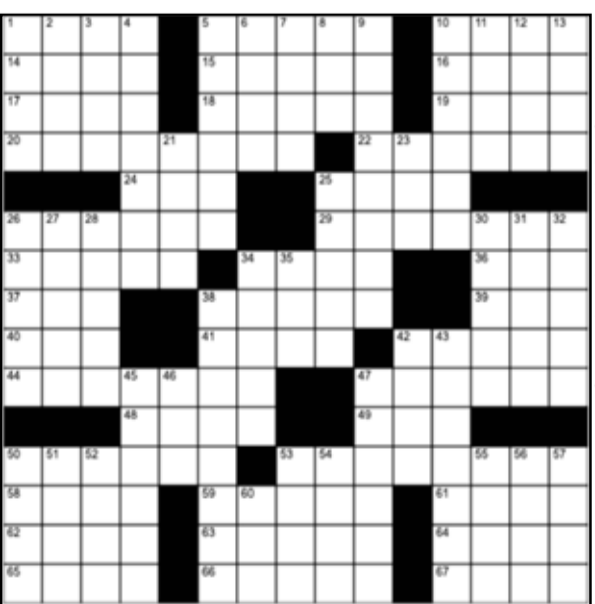
CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Blueprint detail, for short; 5- Trash; 10- Demonstrate; 14- The last Mrs. Chaplin; 15- Actress Barkin; 16- Hourly rate; 17- Plaintiff; 18- Considers; 19- Of course!; 20- Put in order; 22- Occur; 24- Flight formation; 25- "Rule Britannia" composer; 26- Hinder; 29- Gives slack; 33- Continuously; 34- Rights org.; 36- Acquire; 37- Richards of Texas; 38- Swung around; 39- College sr.'s test; 40- The Righteous Brothers, e.g.; 41- Kitchen addition; 42- Jostle; 44- Genuine; 47- Kitchen utensil; 48- Say for sure; 49- Thrive, in prescriptions; 50- Sterile; 53- Have more pounds; 58- Quod ___ demonstrandum; 59- ___ of Two Cities; 61- Family portrait?; 62- ___ dancing is popular with cowboys!; 63- Inhibit; 64- Model married to David Bowie; 65- Den; 66- Relaxes; 67- Mercury and Saturn, e.g.;

DOWN: 1- Cubs slugger Sammy; 2- Come down in buckets; 3- Cabinet dept.; 4- House trailer; 5- Chock-shaped; 6- Sheltered, nautically; 7- Dog-powered snow vehicle; 8- President pro ___; 9- Conceal; 10- Spoiled beer; 11- Briefcase closer; 12- Double curve; 13- "Pure Guava" band; 21- Square; 23- Year abroad; 25- Tree-lined walk; 26- Ways to go; 27- Affectation of sophisticates; 28- Mortise insert; 30- Goad; 31- Pluck; 32- Point in the desired direction; 34- Change; 35- Director's cry; 38- Sing for; 42- Gush; 43- Miscreant; 45- 39th president of the U.S.; 46- Holiday start; 47- Furry swimmers; 50- Ringing instrument; 51- La Scala solo; 52- Royal Indian; 53- Cereal grain; 54- Peter Fonda title role; 55- "The Joy of Cooking" author Rombauer; 56- Stuff; 57- Female lobsters; 60- Green or black, e.g.;

Friday's solution

S	P	A	T	E	R	S	S	E	I	P	A	S			
A	B	C	O	T	C	O	M	N	A	P	E	S			
C	A	M	P	C	R	A	F	T	S	P	A	N	S		
S	T	E	I	R	A	S	T	A	C	O	S				
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T	A	O	G	H	T	K	E	E	P						
E	S	P	I	E	S	I	E	S	I	R	K	S	O	M	E
C	O	O	L	E	N	E	R	K	O	I	L				
K	N	E	E	P	A	D	C	A	B	A	N	A			
L	A	S	C	A	L	A	S	O	L	O					
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I	N	B	A	D	C	O	M	M	O	T	I	O	N		
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E	S	T	E	R											



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999	Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222	Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993	Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775	Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333	Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944	
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731	
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333	
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300	
IAM 28 387 333	
Tourism 28 333 000	
Airport 59 888 88	



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Property of the Week



Unique Ground Floor Loft Central Macau
HK\$9,990,000 2,200 ft² 2 2



A unique opportunity to live in this sleek, modern property. The large open space area on the ground floor houses the open plan living and dining areas with fabulous designer kitchen located at back of the property.

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Rain Dance Property "We dance until it's SOLD!"



2 bedrooms amazing view Duplex apartment

\$4,200,000

817 ft² 2 2



Property Hotlist



Nova City Carpark, Taipa

\$1,490,000 1

Greenville Carpark, Taipa

\$1,300,000 1

Ocean Gardens, Taipa

\$1,138,000 1



Houston Court, Coloane Village

\$10,500/mth

980 ft²

1 1



Traditional Apartment
Old Taipa Village

\$9,900/mth

600 ft²

2 1



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- [Taipa] *Unique Studio* 1 1 650 ft² **\$3,780,000** (ref: 20076001)
- [Taipa] *Hoi Wan Garden* 2 1 900 ft² **\$4,900,000** (ref: 19106003)
- [Coloane] *One Oasis modern studio* 1 691 ft² **\$6,357,000** (ref: n/a)
- [Taipa] *Chun Fok apartment* 2 2 834 ft² **\$8,998,000** (ref: 20036002)
- [Macau] *Lakeview Tower* 3 2 1,344 ft² **\$11,000,000** (ref: 19126001)

For Rent

- [Taipa] *Taipa Village Apartment* 2 1 600 ft² **\$9,900/mth** (ref: n/a)
- [Coloane] *Grand Coloane Resort* 1 1 710 ft² **\$16,500/mth** (ref: 20021002)
- [Taipa] *Manhattan Luxury* 3 2 1,720 ft² **\$19,800/mth** (ref: 19091006)
- [Macau] *One Central* 2 2 1,269 ft² **\$25,000/mth** (ref: n/a)
- [Taipa] *Ocean Garden* 4 4 3,700 ft² **\$35,000/mth** (ref: 18040674)

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Rented

Car park space, Manhattan, Taipa

Rented

Houston Court, Coloane Village,
1 bed, 1 bath

SOLD



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FOOTBALL | LA LIGA

Super sub Messi scores two as Barça routs Betis; Atlético unbeaten

JOSEPH WILSON,
BARCELONA

BARCELONA 5, BETIS 2

AFTER Ansu Fati went down injured and Antoine Griezmann sunk deeper into his scoring rut, Barcelona called on Lionel Messi to save it from another setback.

Messi was up to the task.

He came off the bench at halftime and scored two goals as Barcelona beat 10-man Real Betis 5-2 yesterday [Macau time] to end its four-game winless streak in the Spanish league.

The much-needed win came at a high cost, though, with Barcelona's rising star Fati leaving the field at halftime with a torn meniscus in his left knee.

Barcelona coach Ronald Koeman said that he gave Messi some rare rest during the first half after his star player felt he needed more time to recover from Wednesday's 2-1 win over Dynamo Kyiv in the Champions League. It was Messi's first league game as a substitute in more than a year.

"If he had been completely fine, he would have played (from the start)," Koeman said. "We decided to leave him on the bench in case we needed him. ... In the second half he was very important."

While Messi got Barcelona back on track, João Félix's latest double helped Atlético Madrid rise to the top of the league with a convincing 4-0 rout of Cádiz.

Barcelona is in eighth place, six points behind Diego Simeone's side, with a game in hand.

Fati appeared to be hurt after a challenge from Aissa Mandi in the penalty area. Griezmann took the resulting spot kick, only for Claudio Bravo to save it.

Koeman sent on Messi for Fati at halftime after the 18-year-old forward



had complained about pain in his knee. The club later released a brief medical report on Fati, who has set several precocious scoring records since earning a place on the senior team last season. He became Spain's youngest scorer in September.

The club said that the "treatment to be followed will be determined in the coming days."

Ousmane Dembele blasted a shot past Bravo to give the hosts the lead in the 22nd minute.

Betis forward Antonio Sanabria equalized in the final seconds of the first half that featured four clear misses by Griezmann.

Messi spent the first half tucked in a winter coat and wearing a face mask like other substitutes in the otherwise empty Camp Nou. That all changed when Messi went on at the start of the second half.

Messi only needed four minutes to impact the match when he smartly skipped over a pass to let it run though for Griezmann to tap home.

Messi continued to show his playmaking skills. Deep inside Betis' area, Messi turned and fed a pass to Dembele, whose shot was goal-bound when Mandi blocked it with his arm. A vi-

deo review led to Mandi being shown a red card for impeding a clear goal.

Messi stepped up and causally blasted his spot kick into the top right corner to make it 3-1 in the 61st.

Betis coach Manuel Pellegrini complained about the use of VAR, which advised the referee that he had not seen the handball by Mandi.

"I don't know if the referee or VAR is refereeing. We can't have two referees," Pellegrini said.

Lorenzo Morón got one back for Betis in the 73rd. But Messi put the result beyond doubt when Sergi Roberto set him up with a fine back-heeled pass for the Argentina forward to get his sixth goal in all competitions this season.

Roberto also assisted Pedro "Pedri" González in the 90th as the 17-year-old midfielder claimed his first league goal.

ATLÉTICO M 4, CÁDIZ 0

Marcos Llorente, who could make his debut for Spain after being called up for the first time, set up Félix for the opener before making it 2-0 with a goal of his own in the 22nd.

It was then Félix's turn to pass for Luis Suárez to add to the lead over Cádiz.

Félix headed in a final goal in the 90th.

Félix has scored a brace in three of his last four matches. The 20-year-old Portugal forward

has seven goals in the season.

"We are on a good run," Llorente said. "We have taken a step forward and we have shown on

the field we are a good team and the results are going our way."

Atlético is the only team yet to lose in the league. AP

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OPINION

World Views

Clara Ferreira Marques, Bloomberg



HOLD THE SCHADENFREUDE FOR AMERICA

An election that takes days to conclude? An incumbent who says he's been cheated, and threatens not to leave? Armed vigilantes outside counting centers? The 2020 U.S. presidential election has been watched with bemusement in the rest of the world, and none have enjoyed the show more than the autocrats long criticized and preached to by Washington. They are wrong to cheer.

There are clearly grave problems with an unusually complex electoral system that has shown itself to be outdated, and with a system that has allowed the falsehoods, abuses of power and traducing of democratic norms emanating from the White House over the past four years. After Joe Biden's victory, American society remains deeply divided. Yet for all the dysfunction, angry rhetoric and court cases, votes were counted. That makes all the difference.

Even before ballots were cast, state media in China and Russia were talking up the chaos.

"Americans used to believe that only developing countries would witness serious disputes over their election process... with the losing side refusing to accept the outcome," China's state-backed tabloid Global Times said in an editorial. Its Editor-in-Chief Hu Xijin wrote Thursday that there was no longer a "collective feeling of envy" among Chinese citizens, while watching their U.S. counterparts vote.

RT, Russia's state-funded international broadcasting arm, has long been a cheerful chronicler of America's problems, depicting crime, racial violence and the shortcomings of democracy. It has reported on the 2020 poll with glee. "You gotta be kidding me," Editor-in-Chief Margarita Simonyan wrote, in mock Cyrillic English, in reaction to the description of the U.S. presidential election as competitive and well-managed by the Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe, or OSCE.

Officials haven't been far behind. One Russian deputy compared America to Kyrgyzstan, where a disputed parliamentary vote last month ended in turmoil, with opposition supporters storming buildings. Iran's Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said it was all evidence of "severe civil, political and moral decline."

It's the schadenfreude that stands out among those often lectured on democratic values. Belarus leader Alexander Lukashenko, who has faced mass protests since a disputed presidential election in August, and Russia's President Vladimir Putin had a telephone call last week that included a discussion of U.S. election results. It's not hard to imagine the conversation.

The truth isn't simple, though. As Sam Greene, director of the Russia Institute at King's College London, put it, the U.S. election has been something of a Rorschach inkblot test, where autocrats and democrats alike see what they want to see.

Clearly, U.S. credibility has taken a hit. When Trump said after his election-night speech that the whole event was embarrassing, he wasn't wrong.

Trump's rhetoric, which included declaring victory from the White House while battleground states were still counting votes, has raised understandable alarm. The politicization of the judiciary during his term has been more than uncomfortable. But Trump isn't a despot, in large part because institutions have reined him in. For all the sound and fury, he has had to contend with checks and balances. Most importantly, he hasn't been able to do what any self-respecting authoritarian would have done: take control of the administration of elections. The decentralized U.S. process, left to local governments, never allowed it.

Instead, the world has seen wall-to-wall footage of people in precincts across the United States proceeding with the most fundamental of democratic exercises, and tallying votes. Turnout was higher than it has been in more than a century — no small feat in a country where in 2016 more people didn't vote than backed either Trump or his opponent, Hillary Clinton. When the president made outrageous claims on television, he was cut off, and viewers were told the statements were false.

"I woke up and went to Twitter to find out who won. It's still not clear," Russian opposition politician Alexey Navalny tweeted on Nov. 4. "That's a real election."

[Abridged]

FIRECRACKERS AND PRAYERS AS INDIANS CELEBRATE HARRIS' WIN

THE BUZZ

Waking up to the news of Kamala Harris' election as U.S. vice president, overjoyed people in her Indian grandfather's hometown set off firecrackers and offered prayers yesterday.

Groups gathered at street corners in Thulasendrapuram, a tiny village of 350 people, reading newspapers and chatting about Joe Biden and Harris' victory before moving to a temple.

A woman wrote in color powder outside her home: "Congratulations Kamala Harris. Pride of our village. Vanakkam (Greetings) America."

Most of them had gone to sleep by the time Biden clinched the winning threshold of 270 Electoral College votes, making Harris the first woman and the first person of South Asian descent to be elected vice president.

Tamil Nadu state Food Minister R. Kamraj led about 100 people at the Dharma Sastha temple for a 20-minute prayer during which the idol of Hindu deity Ayyanar, a form of Lord Shiva, was washed with milk and decked with flowers by the priest. He chanted hymns after lighting oil lamps, and the villagers bowed their heads in respect.

FIRST WOMAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE

HARRIS PAYS TRIBUTE TO BLACK WOMEN IN FIRST SPEECH AS VP-ELECT

VICE president-elect Kamala Harris on Saturday paid tribute to the women, particularly Black women, whose shoulders she stands on as she shatters barriers that have kept mostly white men entrenched at the highest levels of American politics for more than two centuries.

"Tonight I reflect on their struggle, their determination and the strength of their vision to see what can be unburdened by what has been," Harris said, wearing a white suit in tribute to women's suffrage. She called it a testament to President-elect Joe Biden's character that "he had the audacity to break one of the most substantial barriers that exists in our country, and select a woman and his vice president."

"While I may be the first woman in this office, I will not be the last," Harris said in her first post-election address to the nation.

The 56-year-old California senator, also the first person of South Asian descent elected to the vice presidency, represents the multiculturalism that defines America but is largely absent from Washington's power centers. Her Black identity has allowed her to speak in personal terms in a year of reckoning over police brutality and systemic racism. As the highest-ranking woman ever elected in American government, her victory gives hope to women who were devastated by Hillary Clinton's defeat four years ago.

Harris told little children to "dream with ambition, lead with conviction, and see yourselves in a way that others may not simply because they're never seen it before." After Biden's speech, she was joined on stage by her family, including her two grandnieces who wore white dresses.

A rising star in Democratic politics for much of the last two decades, Harris served as San Francisco's district attorney and Califor-



nia's attorney general before becoming a U.S. senator. After she ended her own 2020 Democratic presidential campaign, Joe Biden tapped her as his running mate. They will be sworn in as president and vice president on Jan. 20.

Biden's running mate selection carried added significance because he will be the oldest president ever inaugurated, at 78, and hasn't committed to seeking a second term in 2024.

Harris often framed her candidacy as part of the legacy of pioneering Black women who came before her, including educator Mary McLeod Bethune, civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer and Rep. Shirley Chisholm, the first Black candidate to seek a major party's presidential nomination, in 1972.

She paid tribute to Black women "who are too often overlooked but so often prove they are the backbone of our democracy."

Despite the excitement surrounding Harris, she and Biden face steep challenges, including a pandemic that has taken a disproportionate toll on people of color, and a series of police killings of Black Americans that have deepened racial tensions. Harris' past work as a prosecutor has prompted skepticism among progressives and young voters.

Jessica Byrd, who leads the Movement for Black Lives' Electoral Justice Project and The Frontline, a multi-racial coalition effort to galvanize voters, said she plans to engage in the rigorous organizing work needed to push Harris and Biden toward more progressive policies.

"I deeply believe in the power of Black women's leadership, even when all of our politics don't align," Byrd said. "I want us to be committed to the idea that representation is exciting and it's worthy of celebration and also that we have millions of Black women who deserve a fair shot."

Harris is the second Black woman elected to the Senate. Her colleague, Sen. Cory Booker, who is also Black, said her very presence makes the institution "more accessible to more people" and suggested she would accomplish the same with the vice presidency.

Harris was born in 1964 to two parents active in the civil rights movement. Shyamala Gopalan, from India, and Donald Harris, from Jamaica, met at the University of California, Berkeley, then a hotbed of 1960s activism. They divorced when Harris and her sister were girls, and Harris was raised by her late mother, whom she considers the most important influence in her life. AP



Indonesian authorities began evacuating people living on the volatile Mount Merapi volcano's fertile slopes last week following an increase in volcanic activity. The head of Yogyakarta's Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation Center, Hanik Humaida, warned that Merapi, Indonesia's most active volcano, could erupt at any time, possibly sending hot gas clouds down its slopes up to 5 kilometers.

Iran's president called on President-elect Joe Biden to "compensate for past mistakes" and return the U.S. to Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, a state-run news agency reported yesterday. Hassan Rouhani's comments mark the highest-level response from Iran to Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris clinching the Nov. 3 election.



Azerbaijani forces have taken control of the strategically key city of Shushi in Nagorno-Karabakh where fighting with Armenia has raged for more than a month, the country's president said yesterday. In a televised address to the nation, President Ilham Aliyev said "Shusha is ours — Karabakh is ours," using the Azerbaijani version of the city's name.



Belarus Police detained dozens of demonstrators this weekend as medical workers and women held separate marches to denounce violence against anti-government protesters and to call on the country's authoritarian president to step down. Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko reiterated that he would not give in to the three-month-long wave of daily protests spurred by his disputed election to a sixth term. AP