



THE PRINTING BUREAU HAS APOLOGIZED FOR A MISTAKE THEY MADE ON THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE ON THEIR WEBSITE

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GREATER BAY AREA EXPECTED TO REACH CARBON EMISSION PEAK VALUE BY 2035: BOAO FORUM

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HONG KONG AND SINGAPORE WILL START AN AIR TRAVEL BUBBLE THAT WILL REPLACE QUARANTINE WITH COVID-19 TESTING FROM NOV. 22: OFFICIALS

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Philippines A typhoon blew closer yesterday to a northeastern Philippine region still struggling to recover from a powerful storm that left a trail of death and destruction just over a week ago, officials said, adding that thousands of villagers were being evacuated again to safety. Typhoon Vamco gained strength with sustained winds of 135 kilometers per hour before it was forecast to slam ashore into the Polillo islands in Quezon province.



Iran For over half a century, a massive graveyard on the edge of Iran's capital has provided a final resting place for the country's dead. But Behesht-e-Zahra is now struggling to keep up with the coronavirus pandemic ravaging Iran, with double the usual number of bodies arriving each day and grave diggers excavating thousands of new plots. With 1.6 million people buried on its grounds, which stretch across more than 5 square kilometers, Behesht-e-Zahra is one of the world's largest cemeteries.

Emirates Bahrain's Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, one of the world's longest-serving prime ministers who led his island nation's government for decades and survived the 2011 Arab Spring protests that demanded his ouster over corruption allegations, died yesterday. He was 84.

Saudi Arabia French officials say multiple people were wounded yesterday when an explosive device hit a ceremony commemorating the end of World War I at a cemetery in the Saudi Arabian city of Jiddah. The officials from the French Foreign Ministry said that several countries had representatives at the ceremony, held at a cemetery for non-Muslim dead. The identities of the victims were unclear and no one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

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IL RIBENA RECALLED OVER CONCERNS OF QUALITY CHANGE

Blackcurrant-flavored concentrated drink Ribena's 1-liter bottle size has been recalled due to "changes in appearance and taste prior to expiry dates," the drink's agent for Hong Kong and Macau announced in a statement. The issues had been reported by consumers. The relevant drinks bear expiry dates ranging from August 17 to October 16, 2021. On the packaging, the expiry date is printed on the top of the cap in the sequence of date-month-year. The agent noted that despite not all bottles being affected, it recommends customers stop consuming this particular batch of products. It is still awaiting the results of an investigation into the cause of the incident.

BNU EARNS ONE-THIRD LESS IN FIRST THREE QUARTERS

Banco Nacional Ultramarino, a local note-issuing commercial bank, reported that it has earned 36% less in the last three quarters than in the same period last year. Its profit was MOP363 million. In revenue, the bank has obtained about MOP307 million. In contrast, it has spent MOP198 million. This equates to a profit of MOP116 million. Like many other businesses, the bank did not anticipate good performance this year, but remains confident in the development of Macau, the Greater Bay Area and the Belt and Road, as its CEO, Carlos Cid Álvares, recently disclosed at a public event.

DROPPED PLANT POT INJURES ONE

An incident in which a planting pot fell from the air and hit a woman took place yesterday at around rush hour immediately in front of the HSBC Macau Branch. The accident caused disruption on the sidewalk. The local victim, aged 56 years, had her right shoulder injured in the incident. She was taken to the hospital for treatment in the company of members of her family. Although the incident is still being investigated, the result of preliminary investigations pointed to construction workers moving planting pots on high levels of the Si Toi Commercial Center and negligently dropping the pot to ground level.

MACAU TO SHOWCASE DEBUT OF TABLE TENNIS 'CHAMPIONS LEAGUE'

RENATO MARQUES

MACAU will be the stage for the world debut of a brand-new international table tennis competition, the World Table Tennis (WTT).

The event was presented yesterday at a press conference that counted the presence of organizers, partners, and sponsors.

Taking place at the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion from November 25 to 29, the event aims to be a showcase preview of this new international competition that will run events worldwide from 2021, Stephen Duckitt, Event Strategy Director of WTT, explained during the press conference.

"Two weeks from now, we will be making history together when we usher in a new era of professional table tennis here in Macau," Duckitt said, while expressing gratitude for the support of Sports Bureau (ID) in helping "bring the WTT vision to life for the first time."

"We look forward to showcasing, for players, fans, sponsors, and media alike, many exciting innovations, never seen before in professional table tennis. Macau is where our journey begins," he concluded.

On behalf of ID, president Pun Weng Kun also highlighted the fact that this would be the first-ever event to take place under the new organization scheme of WTT since its inception by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) earlier this year, adding that the new format of the competition, with a "fast-paced and innovative competition and scoring methods," will be interesting to watch for table tennis fans worldwide.



EXEMPTED FROM QUARANTINE

Speaking to the media on the sidelines of the press conference event, Pun added that all the participating athletes (32, divided into two categories with 16 males and 16 females) will be exempted from undergoing quarantine upon arrival in Macau.

"Besides the National Team [of China], there are other athletes from different countries who have already been in the mainland for about 20 days, where they have already undergone medical observation," Pun said, adding, "A few days ago, they already had two competitors in the mainland. Since they had already undergone a medical observation in the mainland and they have already been there for more than 14 days, they are already eligible to come to Macau [without quarantine] so that when they arrive, they will participate directly in the event."

For the president of ID, hosting this event is also recognition of the capacity of Macau in controlling

the pandemic.

"This is a recognition of the capacity of Macau [in controlling the Covid-19 pandemic]. During the training stage that the Chinese National Team undertook in Macau [in March this year] they already understood and realized that Macau is a very safe place for both training and competitions, and so

they received [the invitation to] this event very well," he said.

The list of the participating athletes includes, besides some highlighted Chinese athletes, the participation of several players from different countries and regions, including the South Koreans Jeon Ji-hee and Jeoung Young-sik, the Taiwanese Lin Yun-ju, the Singaporean Feng Tianwei, the Puerto Rican Adriana Díaz, the Romanian Bernadette Szocs, and the Egyptian Ahmed Saleh.

The event will be sponsored by the Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG), which during yesterday's press conference was announced as the presenting partner. A presenting partner agreement was signed between the ID and GEG, followed by a cheque presentation ceremony that confirmed the sponsorship from GEG to be the amount of 16 million patacas.

According to the organizers, WTT Macao has a total prize-money of USD 800,000 (MOP 6.4 million), equally divided between the male and female categories.

GRAND PRIX TO RUN WITH 123 DRIVERS, 99% PREPARATION COMPLETE

SPEAKING to the media on the sidelines of the WTT Macao presentation, the president of Sports Bureau, Pun Weng Kun noted that the preparatory work for the Macau Grand Prix event is running according to the plan and that all preparations are mostly concluded. "99% percent of the work has been done, now missing only small details that come with the kick-off of the event," Pun said in response to a media question.

Pun also said that the entry lists are now closed and that the event this year will have the presence of a total of 123 drivers divided into five different categories, as announced last week. The event this year will run over three days, one day fewer than in previous years due to the lack of participation from international racers due to the restrictions imposed on the entry in Macau of foreign nationals due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

GEG: Int'l sports events able to attract more visitors

THE hosting of international sports events in Macau will help attract people living abroad to Macau as visitors, Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) deputy chairman, Philip Cheng believes.

Cheng expressed such an opinion during yesterday's press conference held to present the World Table Tennis (WTT) event, which will take place in Macau later this month.

"We believe that this competition, as well as other international sports events organized by the Macau SAR government, will help attract more visitors to Macau for sports tourism," Cheng said,

adding that the competition will "[consequently] facilitate the diversified development of Macau's tourism industry and catalyze Macau's economy."

Cheng also noted that GEG believes the "sports atmosphere and sporting culture in the community will also be further elevated and promoted," which is why he said GEG has supported the hosting of several sports

events in Macau over the years.

Remarking on the WTT Macao event of table tennis in particular, which he noted is regarded as a National sport in China, Cheng added that it will also provide an opportunity for the region to promote itself as a "safe and healthy tourism destination for visitors from all over the world." **RM**

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BOAO FORUM

GBA expected to reach peak carbon emissions by 2035

JULIE ZHU

SPEAKERS at yesterday's International Science and Technology and Innovation Forum (ISTIF) of Boao Forum for Asia estimated that carbon emissions in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area would peak by 2035.

Earlier this year, China announced a set of long-range objectives to achieve socialist modernization by 2035, including the steady decline of carbon emissions after reaching a peak. China also aims to achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.

Speaking at yesterday's ISTIF session 10, Impetus for Innovation- Green and Low-Carbon Transformation Oriented by Carbon Neutrality, Zhang Daiqing, researcher of Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion, Chinese Academy of Sciences, said he expects the Greater Bay Area will reach the aforementioned goals.



"The state hopes that the Greater Bay Area can reach the peak value first. [...] It is possible that we reach the carbon emission peak value in 2025 and the total energy peak in 2035," said Zhao, who suggested that, in order to achieve these tasks, cities of the Greater Bay Area must make some technological breakthroughs and integrate with one other's

infrastructure. Some of the strategies include strictly controlled coal consumption, increasing the importance of electricity use, largely exploring renewable and new energies, and wind power.

Aside from the Greater Bay Area's overall goal, the Macau SAR government has also set up its own objectives when it comes to

reducing pollutants, such as carbon emissions.

The emissions of vehicles are one of the main sources of air pollution in Macau. According to Macau government's 2010-2020 Macau environmental protection plan, by the end of this year, the overall emissions of carbon monoxide (CO), hydrocarbon (HC), nitrogen oxides (NOX) and fine suspended particles (PM 2.5) can be reduced by at least about 1,600 tonnes, 280 tonnes, 105 tonnes and seven tonnes, respectively.

MACAU ABLE TO ACHIEVE CHINA'S STATE GOAL OF COAL NEUTRALITY

The Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPB) also analyzed the air quality improvement in the ten years between 2009 and 2018. According to the bureau, the average annual SO₂, PM_{2.5}, CO and PM₁₀ decreased by 60%, 50%, 15%, and 10%, respectively.

While official statistics suggest a downward trend of various

pollutants, professor Zhou Jian, from Tsinghua University, believes that even though it may seem that Macau's carbon emissions have reached peak level, carbon emissions are likely to show a growing trend due to external factors.

"Under the current conditions and current policies, if [Macau] does not take any measures to interfere [with carbon emission], by 2040, carbon emissions will double that of 2020," said Zhou Jian. He believes that, by taking measures, Macau can effectively spend 15 years reaching the goal of coal neutrality. The energy expert anticipates that Macau will achieve China's state goals earlier than the estimated deadline.

"If we only consider local emissions, by 2050, which is ten years ahead of the state's goal [of 2060], Macau can achieve carbon neutrality," said the scholar.

Voicing his opinions in terms of Macau's energy alternatives, the professor said that Macau should choose a road to zero-carbon emissions by increasing its electricity supply as well as its energy production through a waste-to-energy strategy.

While participating in the ISTIF, Director of the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau, Leong Weng Kun encouraged members of the public to choose a low-carbon lifestyle.

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GOV'T TO OPEN NEW CENTER FOR PARENTING

ANTHONY LAM

A new Parenting Education Center will be the engine of assistance for working youth as “many of them are young parents, having the need for knowledge on parenting,” Kong Chi Meng, vice director of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ), said yesterday.

The Center has been established to help polish the parenting skills of young parents, as well as sharing educational ideas and methods for getting along with their spouses and children. The Center will also provide resources to young parents to furnish them with the skills they need when supporting children with mental stress.

Previously, an Executive Regulation was issued on the establishment of the Education and Youth Development Bureau, a merger of the DSEJ and the Higher Education Bureau. In the Regulation, it is stipulated that the new center will

replace the existing Taipa Educational Activity Center.

The vice director declined to identify the location of the new Center, and stressed that an announcement would be made when the location is confirmed by an Executive Order, meaning that the new Center may not replace the old Taipa facility in terms of location.

The press conference was held to announce the commencement of the public consultation period of the framework of youth policy in Macau for the next decade spanning from 2021 to 2030. The consultation period starts today and will end on December 11.

At the press conference, the vice director said that the major change in this coming decade's youth policies is the eligibility requirements for age. In the previous decade, the applicable ages ranged from 13 to 29. In this, it will be between 13 and 35.

As the coverage will expand, more people from the working

population will be included. Therefore, the vice director was asked to elaborate on what specific policies the bureau will propose to serve this group of people.

Besides the new education center, the official said that the bureau will establish more frequent communications with youth organizations to provide greater assistance to working youth, especially those having just graduated from school and started their career.

On the other hand, the proposed decade-long youth policy framework also includes collaborations with other public entities, such as the Macao Economic Bureau. “As we all know, we're striving for a diversified economy and integrating into the Greater Bay Area,” Kong said. “That's why we will work with the bureau to provide a roadmap and training [sessions] in those areas.”

As the vice director mentioned family building and parenting, the Times asked whether



the bureau is educating younger generations on such topics to prepare them for the future, as students are prepared for their future careers.

Referring to their sex education materials in the moral and civic education curriculum, the education official said they will be used in foundational education. “In the future, they will be developed to be accessible by parents,” Kong explained. “Although it is also available now for parents' use at home.”

The materials aim to teach students skills applicable to getting along with the opposite sex and on how to protect themselves sexually.

Kong also disclosed that the bureau discovered young people are undergoing issues of pressure and stress. The official did not give details as to why young people are found to be so, but said that the bureau will work with, for example, the Social Welfare Bureau, to offer education on measures to relieve stress.

When responding to a question about the relatively short consultation period, the vice director disclosed that the bureau has held more than 50 consultation sessions, receiving more than 1,400 opinions from more than 4,000 people representing more than 110 organizations.

AD



Open Tender Notice

1. Company:	CAM – Macau International Airport Co. Ltd.
2. Scope of Services:	Provision of landscaping maintenance for grass areas managed by CAM – Macau International Airport Co. Ltd.
3. Request for Tender Document:	<p>i) Written request addressed to the details as follows. On company letterhead stating the company name and respective contact details. Deadline for request is <u>at 01:00 PM on 16 Nov 2020</u>.</p> <p>ii) In person at the location identified as follows.</p> <p>CAM – Macau International Airport Co. Ltd. Macau International Airport Supply Service E&M Building 1st Floor, Office 41044 Taipa, Macau Attention: Head of Supply Service</p> <p>For any enquiry regarding the Tender Procedure, please reach our Airport Operations Department – Supply Service at (853) 88982358.</p>
4. Location for Submission of Proposals:	<p>CAM – Macau International Airport Co. Ltd. Av. de Wai Long CAM Office Building, 4th Floor Reception Taipa, Macau</p> <p>Attention: Mr. Chu Tan Neng – Executive Director</p>
5. Tender closing time and date:	At 12:00 PM on 30 Nov 2020 (Macau Local Time)
CAM reserves the right to reject any Proposal in whole or in part without stating any reason.	



Open Tender Notice

1. Company:	CAM – Macau International Airport Co. Ltd.
2. Scope of Services:	Provision of Maintenance Services of Escalators and Elevators in Macau International Airport
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4. Location for Submission of Proposals:	<p>CAM – Macau International Airport Co. Ltd. Av. De Wai Long CAM Office Building, 4th Floor Reception Taipa, Macau</p> <p>Attention: Mr. Chu Tan Neng – Executive Director</p>
5. Tender closing time and date:	At 12:00 p.m. on 27 Nov 2020 (Macau Local Time)
CAM reserves the right to reject any Proposal in whole or in part without stating any reason.	

HK returnees from GD province, Macau to be granted quarantine exemption

STAFF REPORTER

HONG Kong residents will soon be permitted to return to their hometown from Guangdong (GD) province and Macau without having to complete a 14-day quarantine period, starting from November 23.

Initially, the quota will be capped at 5,000 every day — 2,000 quota allotments allocated to those returning via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and 3,000 for those coming via Shenzhen Bay Port.

The quota mechanism has been devised to ensure Hong Kong citizens return in “an orderly manner” and avoid “unnecessary crowding” at border points, Tommy Yuen, Director for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (Special Duties), said in a briefing.

The scheme, dubbed “Return2hk”, intends to simplify and facilitate the journey for returnees to the city.

Yet the scheme is unilateral, meaning Hong Kong visitors



to Macau and GD province still have to undergo mandatory quarantine in destination cities.

Hong Kong residents will be able to make reservations for quota allotments via an online booking platform from November 18 onwards.

Those who meet certain requirements can make applica-

tions online from Wednesday to Friday every week to reserve a place to return next week. Quotas will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Successful applicants are required to conduct a Covid-19 nucleic acid test in one of the medical institutions recognized by the governments of Hong Kong, Guangdong

and Macau within three days of their departure.

Returnees are also asked to upload the negative test result to the electronic health declaration system of the Department of Health through “Yuekang Code” or Macau health code to acquire a QR code for entry into Hong Kong.

MAN JUMPED TO DEATH, PJ SAY

The Judiciary Police (PJ) reported the discovery of a dead body following a suspected suicide yesterday. At 12:08 p.m. yesterday, the Fire Services Bureau notified the PJ regarding a possible suicide that took place at R. de Nam Keng in Taipa. According to the PJ, at 11.48 a.m., a pedestrian spotted a man lying on the ground at said address and reported the case to the police authority. The paramedics arrived at the scene and immediately confirmed the man's death. No note was found with the late man, a local resident in his 30s. The cause of the death is still to be determined after a forensic examination.

ELDERLY CARE HOMES RESUME VISIT SERVICE

Starting from yesterday, members of the public can make appointments to visit residents of the city's residential care facilities for the elderly. The policies concern residents at 22 seniors' care service centers. Residents at these centers who are largely bedbound and who are physically unable to move may be visited. Their relatives must make a request for such visits. Once a visit request is approved, each resident can have a maximum of two visitors at one time, and the visit is not to last for more than one hour.

DSAL LAUNCHES COURSE IN ENGLISH

The Labour Affairs Bureau is launching a training program named “Western Restaurant Service Course,” which will be conducted in English. According to a statement released yesterday, the unveiling of the course is a response to “the market needs.” The Subsidized Training Program is open for application from today until November 18. Trainees who complete the course and follow the arrangements for job referral can receive a training subsidy of up to MOP6,656.

Genting HK to sell 50% stake in Macau hotel project for HKD750 million

THE cruise and resort operator Genting Hong Kong Ltd has agreed to offload a 50% stake in a hotel project in Macau under its subsidiary Genting Macau Holdings Ltd for a total of HKD750 million (USD96.7 million).

According to the group's filing yesterday, the vendor is Star Cruises Asia Holding Ltd, a direct subsidiary of Genting Hong Kong, and the buyer is White Supreme Corp., an entity incorporated in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The principal shareholder of White Supreme is Ao Mio Leong, a known investor in Macau. The company will offer HKD50 million for the 50%



cut of Genting Macau, and HKD700 million to cover a shareholder's loan and interest owing by Genting Macau to the vendor, Star Cruises Asia.

The sales agreement

also covers call and put options, which allow White Supreme to purchase the remaining 50% stake in Genting Macau in the future if desired.

The relevant hotel

project, operated by Genting Macau through a unit called Treasure Island Entertainment Complex Ltd, is located on reclaimed land in the Nam Van area of the Macau peninsula.

In August, Genting Hong Kong posted a net loss of almost \$742.6 million for the first half of 2020, a stark contrast compared to a net loss of \$56.5 million in the same reported period last year.

Genting Hong Kong is one of the cruise operators who have been reeling from Covid-19.

The sale was intended to take the edge off the group's financial burden in meeting future funding requirements concerning Genting Macau's business.

PRINTING BUREAU APOLOGIZES FOR PUBLICATION MISTAKE

THE Printing Bureau (IO) has apologized for a mistake made in the Chinese version of a Government Head Office Auxiliary Bureau's announcement published yesterday in the Official Gazette.

“IO made a mistake on the website version of the second series of the 46th Macau SAR Official Gazette; [the publication] contradicts the content provided by the supporting department of the government headquarters,” the statement reads.

“[When they were] found, the mistakes committed in the handling of the content of the website by IO staff were immediately rectified. The IO apologizes and will seriously review the respective works, in order to avoid the occurrence of similar mistakes again. The IO will not rule out the pursuing of legal accountability of the concerned staff.”

The wrongly-published dis-

patch was a Chief Executive decree related to personnel appointment.

At the end of the dispatch, the mistaken version signed “Fong Seng Hong Kei Office Hoi Lai Fong” (there is a restaurant in Macau called Fong Seng Hong Kei). Hoi Lai Fong is Chief of the Office for the Chief Executive.

The mistake was quickly spotted by members of the public and was uploaded and shared on social media. The incident triggered provocative comments from netizens.

“Fong Seng Hong Kei turned out to be a government secret service [agent],” one netizen commented, according to a report by All About Macau.

Others named the dispatch as the “craziest dispatch of the year.”

Another netizen commented that the concerned staff “just called for food delivery for the boss.” JZ

IFFAM 2020

The 5th International Film Festival & Awards • Macao will run from December 3 through December 8.

COMPETITION – An international competition comprising 11 feature films, which is a showcase for first- and second-time filmmakers. A jury of five film personalities will appraise and award the best film works. Chinese film director, producer and screenwriter Ning Hao (Mainland China) will be Jury President together with Jury members Mattie Do (Laos), Nina Hoss (Germany), Eric Khoo (Singapore) and Albert Lee (Hong Kong SAR)

- Back To The Wharf, by Xiaofeng Li (Mainland China)
- Black Light, by Bae Jongdae (Korea)
- The Cloud in Her Room, by Xinyuan Zheng Lu (Mainland China)
- Falling, by Viggo Mortensen (US/Canada/Denmark) (see p10)
- Love Poem, by Xiaozhen Wang (Mainland China)
- Servants, by Ivan Ostrochovský (Czech Republic)
- Shorta, by Frederik Louis Hviid and Anders Ølholm (Denmark)
- Spring Blossom, by Suzanne Lindon (France)
- Sweat, by Magnus von Horn (Poland)
- Tragic Jungle, by Yulene Olaizola (Mexico)
- Limbo, by Ben Sharrock (UK)

SHORTS COMPETITION – An international competition comprising 10 short films, the jurors that will appraise, and award for Best Film are Jury President Jia Fu (Mainland China), Mathilde Henrot (France) and Johnny Ma (China/Canada).

- The Cup, by Mark Chua and Li Shuen Lam (Singapore)
- Elephant in The Car, by Ikram Nurmehmet (Mainland China)
- Empty Sky, by Kun leong Chiang (Macao SAR)
- Endless Chain of Lies, by Liknifena, Hoi Yan Lee (Hong Kong SAR)
- Fencing Distance, by Hei Long Tse (Hong Kong SAR)
- Fragile Moon, by Phyllis Tam (USA)
- Mama, by Lou Ian Io (Macao SAR)
- Rose, by Derrick Lui (Singapore, Thailand)
- The Smoke That Blinds Us, by Yu Man Lai (Hong Kong SAR, Japan)
- Under, by Yue Jiao (Mainland China)

FLYING DAGGERS – A selection of films representing the latest style of genre cinema, including:

- Meander, by Mathieu Turi (France)
- The Paper Tigers, by Quoc Bao Tran (USA)
- Relic, by Natalie Erika James (Australia)

WORLD PANORAMA – Celebrated directors and award-winning films from major international film festivals.

- Another Round, by Thomas Vinterberg (Denmark)
- A Balance, by Yujiro Harumoto (Japan)
- First Cow, by Kelly Reichardt (USA)
- Here We Are, by Nir Bergman (Israel)
- My Little Sister, by Stéphanie Chuat and Véronique Raymond (Switzerland)
- Never Gonna Snow Again, by Malgorzata Szumowska and Michal Englert (Poland)
- Nowhere Special, by Uberto Pasolini (UK)
- Quo Vadis, Aida? by Jasmila Zbanic (Bosnia)
- Summer Of 85, by François Ozon (France)
- Sun Children, by Majid Majidi (Iran)
- Under The Open Sky, by Miwa Nishikawa (Japan)

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- 76 Days, by Weixi Chen, Hao Wu (Mainland China/USA)
- Calamity, by Rémi Chayé (France)
- A Dream Of A Lifetime, by Ricky Hayashi & Yoshi Hon (Hong Kong SAR)
- My People, My Homeland (Mainland China) comprising five segments:
 - A Mystery of UFO, by Chen Sicheng
 - The Way Back to Hometown, by Chao Deng, Baimei Yu
 - A Beijing Good Person, by Ning Hao
 - The Magical Touches, by Da-Mo Peng, Fei Yan
 - The Last Class, by Xu Zheng
 - Narcissus Off Duty, by Ricardo Calil and Renato Terra (Brazil)
 - Tonkatsu DJ Age-taro, by Ken Ninomiya (Japan)

IN CONVERSATIONS will take place with internationally renowned filmmakers and actors, available free online.

- Ning Hao – Director, Producer, Writer (Mainland China)
- Nina Hoss – Actress (Germany)
- Hur Jin-ho – Director, Writer (South Korea)
- Hirokazu Koreeda – Director (Japan)
- Viggo Mortensen – Actor, Director (USA)

IFFAM 2020

FILM FESTIVAL TO GO DIGITAL FOR THE FIRST TIME

STAFF REPORTER

The annual International Film Festival & Awards - Macao (IFFAM) is preparing to roll out the red carpet — virtually for the very first time — from December 3 to 8 this year.

As part of the 'new normal' era, the festival, in its fifth edition this year, will screen a total of 31 flicks worldwide on a dedicated video streaming platform.

In an exclusive interview with the Times, IFFAM Artistic Director Mike Goodridge said, "This year is a very complicated year due to Covid-19. It is heartbreaking for us to go online. Nonetheless, we're still proud to present a diverse selection of wonderful movies to audiences in Macau through a digital platform."

The awards ceremony will also take place online on December 8, where Japanese filmmaker Hirokazu Koreeda will receive the festival's 'Spirit of Cinema' award.

Other digital endeavors include the pre-recorded talk series "In Conversations" with five renowned directors, which will go online for free. Goodridge discloses that the talks with Hirokazu Koreeda will revolve around his early career and his life journey, which has had a significant impact on who he is today.

In addition, there will also be a virtual "IFFAM Project Market" (IPM) held between December 3 to 5. It will involve 14 projects – both presentations and meetings – conducted virtually with members of the global industry. The handpicked projects will compete for four cash awards and secure a chance to meet potential international collaborators.

Competing this year's International Competition will be 11 feature movies produced by first and second-time filmmakers, as the organizer aspires to "nurture and support the young voices in the industry," Goodridge said.

A competition jury of five high-profile movie personalities, such as Chinese film director Ning



From top: Scenes from the movies 'The Cloud in Her Room', 'Tragic Jungle' and 'Limbo'

Hao, will be responsible for appraising and awarding the Best Feature — which will receive a cash prize of USD60,000.

The Artistic Director said that the selected 11 features cover a wide selection of genres and are all "phenomenal," adding that, "it will be a tough task for the juries to pick the best among the best."

The Shorts Film Competition will consist of 10 short films. Three jurors for handpicking the Best Short Film will be Chinese Producer Fu Jia, French Producer Mathilde Henrot and Chinese and Canadian Writer Johnny Ma.

Other highlights will be the "Flying Daggers", which showcases films of the latest style of genre cinema, and the "World Panorama" strand of films, which honor directors.

There will also be a "Special Presentations", comprising Chinese blockbuster "My People My Homeland", French animated film "Calamity" and Japanese comedy "Tonkatsu DJ Agetaro" and more — which are all recommended by Goodridge.

The global movie industry has suffered huge losses caused by the pandemic. Yet, the artistic director remains optimistic about its prospects, confirming the industry is still "alive and kicking."

Mike is enthusiastic about showcasing the 31 world-class titles produced in Asia and the West to people in Macau through this year's digital film festival.

"Hopefully, the festival will return to normal next year," Goodridge said, ad-

ding that there is nothing quite like an experience sitting in the cinema, enjoying a movie, sitting elbow-to-elbow with others.

He also said that he is working closely with IT technicians to ensure the digital streaming would run as smoothly as possible during the festival.

He said the experience of hosting the virtual film festival for the first time was a "steep learning curve", but is confident that the event will pan out and looking forward to introducing the wonderful movies to the world.

The film festival, which enters its fifth edition this year, is co-hosted by the Macao Government Tourism Office and the Macau Films & Television Productions and Culture Association.

HONG KONG

Pro-democracy lawmakers resign en masse

ZEN SOO, HONG KONG

HONG Kong's pro-democracy lawmakers said that they were resigning en masse following a move by the semi-autonomous Chinese territory's government to disqualify four of their fellow pro-democracy legislators.

The 15 lawmakers announced the move in a news conference yesterday, hours after the Hong Kong government said it was disqualifying the four legislators — Alvin Yeung, Dennis Kwok, Kwok Ka-ki and Kenneth Leung.

The disqualifications came after China's National People's Congress Standing Committee, which held meetings over the past two days, passed a resolution stating that those who support Hong Kong's independence or refuse to acknowledge China's sovereignty over the city, or threaten national security or ask external forces to interfere in the city's affairs, should be disqualified.

"Today we will resign from our positions, because our partners, our colleagues have been disqualified by the central government's ruthless move," Wu Chi-wai, convener of the pro-democracy camp, said at the news conference.

"Although we are facing a lot of difficulties in the coming future for the fight of democracy, but we will never, ever give up," he said.

Wu said that the pro-democracy legislators would hand in their resignation letters on Thursday. During the news conference, pro-democracy lawmakers chanted "Hong Kong add oil, together we stand" while holding hands.



Hong Kong's pro-democracy legislators pose for a photo before a press conference at the LegCo yesterday

"This is an actual act by Beijing ... to sound the death knell of Hong Kong's democracy fight, because they would think that from now on anyone they found to be politically incorrect or unpatriotic or are simply not likable to look at, they could just oust you using any means," said pro-democracy lawmaker Claudia Mo.

Beijing has in recent months moved to clamp down on opposition voices in Hong Kong with the imposition of a national security law, after months of anti-government protests last year rocked the city.

"In terms of legality and constitutionality, obviously from our point of view this is clearly in breach of the Basic Law and our rights to participate in public affairs, and a failure to observe due process," said Kwok, one of the disqualified lawmakers, referring to Hong Kong's mini-constitution.

Hong Kong's leader, Carrie Lam, said in a news conference yesterday that lawmakers must act properly, and that the city needs a legislature comprised of patriots.

"We cannot allow members of the Legislative Council who have been judged in accordance with the law to be unable to fulfill the requirements and prerequisites for serving on the Legislative Council to continue to operate in the Legislative Council," Lam said.

A mass resignation by the pro-democracy camp would leave Hong Kong's legislature with only pro-Beijing lawmakers. The pro-Beijing camp already makes up a majority of the city's legislature, but the resignations could allow lawmakers to pass bills favored by Beijing without opposition.

Still, Lam said that the legislature would not become a rubber-

-stamp body, and that diverse opinion is welcomed.

"I clearly will say that it is unfair to the pro-establishment members that once the 19 members left the Legislative Council, then they will become a rubber stamp of the Hong Kong SAR government," she said. "That certainly would not happen."

Earlier in the year, the four now-disqualified pro-democracy lawmakers were barred from running for legislative elections originally scheduled for September, prior to the government stating that it would postpone the elections by a year due to the coronavirus. They were disqualified over their calls for foreign governments to impose sanctions on Hong Kong and Beijing.

The four lawmakers later remained in their posts following the postponement of the elections.

The postponement was criticized by the pro-democracy camp as an attempt to block them from taking a majority of seats in the legislature, after they had held an unofficial pro-democracy primary participated in by over 600,000 voters to decide which candidates to field.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said that the move to disqualify the lawmakers was necessary to maintain rule of law and constitutional order in Hong Kong.

"We firmly support the (Hong Kong) government in performing its duties in accordance with the Standing Committee's decision," Wang said at a regular news conference.

Beijing's imposition of the national security law on Hong Kong in June and the ensuing crackdown on opposition voices have brought condemnation from Washington and other Western democracies. Several countries have suspended their extradition treaties with Hong Kong, and Washington has barred Lam and other leading figures from visiting the U.S. and ordered a block on any U.S. assets in their possession.

Beijing has rejected all such criticism and lashed out at what it calls gross foreign interference in Chinese politics.

"I want to emphasize that Hong Kong is a special administrative region of China," Wang said, reiterating Beijing's position. "The issue of qualification of Hong Kong Legislative Council members is purely China's internal affairs. No countries have the right to make irresponsible remarks or intervene." AP

HEBEI

Chinese farmer who praised lawyers amid crackdown arrested

A prominent Chinese pig farmer who has publicly praised the work of lawyers who help the public amid a crackdown on legal activists by President Xi Jinping's government was subjected this week to unspecified "coercive measures," according to police, a term that usually means detention.

Sun Dawu, chairman of Hebei Dawu Agriculture Group, is among suspects accused of "provoking quarrels and disrupting production," the police department of Baoding, southwest of Beijing, said on its social media account. It

gave no details.

A Baoding police employee who would give only her surname, Du, declined to give more information. "Coercive measures" can include detention, house arrest or release on bail with restrictions on movement.

In August, police clashed with Dawu Group personnel who were trying to stop employees of a state-owned farm from demolishing one of the company's buildings.

More than 20 people were injured, Sun said on his social media account. A photo there showed police with helmets and riot

shields pushing a crowd. Others showed what they said were bruises and scrapes suffered by members of the public.

On Tuesday night, about 300 police officers went to Dawu Group's headquarters and took away Sun Dawu and other employees, according to a woman who answered the phone at the company and refused to give her name.

"They said it was because of their making trouble and disrupting production, but we have no idea what the cause was," the woman said. "Some police officers left, but some still stay in

the company."

Sun became nationally known in 2003 when he was charged with "illegal fundraising" after he solicited investment for his business from friends and neighbors.

That case triggered an outpouring of public support for Sun at a time when entrepreneurs who generate most of China's new jobs and wealth were shut out of the state-run financial system. He was convicted but given a suspended sentence. His lawyer said the public outcry probably was the reason for the light penalty.

Since then, Sun has praised the work of lawyers who help the public at a time when prominent legal figures have been imprisoned and harassed by Xi's government. Sun's lawyer in the 2003 case, Xu Zhiyong, disappeared in February and fellow activists say he was arrested and charged with subversion.

"Lawyers can let victims see a little light, maintain a bit of faith in the law and kindle hope for living," Sun said on his social media account in May.

In a commentary published following the 2015 arrest of lawyers, Sun wro-

te, "What problem does this reflect? I think this is a contradiction between 'maintenance of stability' and 'maintenance of rights.'"

During an outbreak of African swine fever last year, Sun embarrassed Chinese authorities when he posted photos of dead pigs from his herds online. He complained regulators failed to report the disease had reached Hebei, which surrounds Beijing, the capital.

Two days later, the Agriculture Ministry confirmed the disease had been found in Hebei. AP

MARIA CHENG, GENEVA

AS the coronavirus exploded around the globe, scientists at the World Health Organization were sometimes privately frustrated by the mistakes made by some of their top donor countries but reluctant to say so publicly, leaked recordings of internal meetings show.

After sharp criticism for not taking a stronger role in curbing the pandemic, the U.N. health agency holds its annual meeting this week under intense pressure to reform. WHO is also hoping that U.S. President-elect Joe Biden will reverse a decision by Washington to leave the organization made by the Trump administration in June.

One of WHO's central dilemmas is that it has no enforcement powers or authority to independently investigate epidemics. Instead, the agency relies on behind-the-scenes talks and countries' cooperation.

As the pandemic gained pace, WHO often shied away from calling out some of its biggest donors, including Japan, France and Britain. WHO scientists labeled some of their approaches as "macabre" and "an unfortunate laboratory to study the virus," according to dozens of leaked recordings of internal WHO meetings and documents from January to April obtained by The Associated Press.

"By not speaking up when countries are doing questionable things, WHO is undermining its own authority while the planet burns," said Sophie Harman, a professor of international politics at Queen Mary University in London.

Others said it would be politically unwise for WHO to be too outspoken unless countries give the agency more power.

"If Tedros was to take a very aggressive stance toward member countries, there would be repercussions," said Suerie Moon, co-director of the Global Health Institute of Geneva, referring to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

WHO spokeswoman Farah Dakhllallah said that since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, "WHO officials have had and continue to have, frank and open discussions with government counterparts... We are proud of an organizational

Recordings reveal WHO's analysis of pandemic in private



Tedros (center) with other WHO officials in Geneva, the ides of March

culture that fosters candid discussions."

It's not unprecedented for WHO to publicly question its member states. It threatened to close its China office when the country was hiding cases during the SARS outbreak and loudly called for Nigeria to reverse its boycott of the polio vaccine in 2003.

WHO's reticence to call out countries started with China, as the AP earlier reported. Despite a January meeting between Tedros and Chinese President Xi Jinping, information from Beijing was still sparse throughout February. Maria Van Kerkhove, WHO's technical lead for COVID-19, noted that the agency lacked "enough detail to say what has worked and what hasn't."

WHO scientists soon grew concerned about Japan. On Feb. 1, a passenger who disembarked the Diamond Princess cruise ship in Hong Kong tested positive for the coronavirus. At the ship's next stop in Yokohama, authorities put all 3,711 people aboard under lockdown.

WHO emergencies chief Michael Ryan told reporters at the time: "Let's be careful here not to overreact." But on Feb. 10, the case count nearly doubled overnight.

"(That's) not surprising given the nature of the response of the investigation," Ryan said at an internal meeting, noting Japan had only assigned a small number of epidemiologists to investigate.

Dr. Thomas Grein, WHO's chief of acute events man-

agement team, said they had failed to glean much information from their Japanese counterparts, calling it a "very, very sensitive issue."

Although WHO was keenly aware the situation was deteriorating, scientists said the outbreak could help in understanding COVID-19 transmission.

"(It's) unfortunate, but a useful opportunity to study the natural history of the virus," Ryan said.

In late February, the virus also gained a foothold in Italy, turning Europe into the epicenter of the pandemic.

At WHO, Grein told his colleagues that WHO's efforts to get more detail about the spiraling outbreaks in Italy and elsewhere had "spectacularly failed" as officials worried about the lack of action taken across Europe.

Yet on March 8, Tedros tweeted that "the government & the people of Italy are taking bold, courageous steps aimed at slowing the spread of the #coronavirus."

Lawrence Gostin, director of the WHO Collaborating Center on Public Health Law and Human Rights at Georgetown University, said WHO should be obligated to report when countries are not sharing data, saying it was dangerous for the agency to be "flying blind."

WHO also complained in private about Western countries hoarding scarce pandemic supplies.

"We had the terrible situation yesterday with (pro-

ductive personal equipment) where all the supplies were requisitioned in France and we lost access," Ryan told his colleagues.

As countries across Europe adopted social distancing measures and cancelled mass gatherings in early March, Ryan noticed one country did not: Britain.

"There isn't a single sports event in Europe and yet all of the Premier League matches in the U.K. are to go ahead," he said. Ryan described Britain's pandemic strategy as "problematic" after hearing the U.K.'s chief scientific officer say the country was aiming for herd immunity.

"For that to happen, hundreds of thousands and millions of older people are going to become infected and there is just going to be so much death," Ryan said. Still, he said the different approaches to tackling COVID-19 globally could prove to be "a massive ecological study" that would allow WHO to document what worked.

"It's macabre in some ways, but it's reality," he said.

Going forward, WHO's role trying to stop the pandemic will depend in part on the independent panel review. Harman, the expert from Queen Mary University, sympathized that WHO had enormous responsibility in the early months of COVID-19, but said even greater challenges loom now.

"With the next wave of the pandemic, I think the time for quiet diplomacy has passed," she said. AP

this day in history

1980 SATURN'S RINGS CAUGHT ON FILM

The Voyager 1 space probe has reached the ringed planet, Saturn and sent back the first vivid photographs of the planet.

Scientists have been delighted and overwhelmed by the stream of data that has flooded back from the planet 950 million miles (1530 million km) away from Earth.

Voyager 1, launched in 1977, passed within 77,000 miles (124,000 km) of the clouds which surround Saturn. It was just 12 miles (19 km) off course after its epic journey.

The photographs show bands of yellow and orange clouds circling the planet at several hundred miles an hour.

The probe took a close look at the spectacular rings which surround Saturn, and discovered them to be more complex than Earth-based telescopes had suggested.

Scientists have counted more than 100 separate rings, instead of the six broad bands visible from Earth.

Dr Bradford Smith, leader of the Voyager photo-interpretation team, said: "The mystery of the rings, the structure and the mechanism that governs the structure, keeps getting deeper and deeper."

Voyager has already sent back data leading to some ground-breaking discoveries, including a 15th moon and a scan of Titan, the largest of Saturn's moons.

It is the only moon in the Solar System big enough to hold on to an atmosphere, mainly because of its size - it is bigger than the planet Mercury.

Scientists say Titan bears a close chemical resemblance to the Earth when life began on our planet about 4,000 million years ago.

Tomorrow Voyager will continue past Saturn, visiting several of the smaller moons on the way.

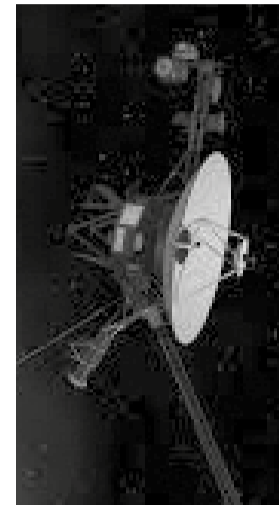
Voyager 1, along with its sister craft, Voyager 2, have already sent back revolutionary new images of Saturn's sister planet, Jupiter.

The missions were only possible because of an event which occurs about every 175 years - when the outer planets of the Solar System came into an alignment which allowed a spacecraft to travel to each in turn.

The two probes are each carrying a time capsule containing images, natural sounds and music from Earth in case they should encounter extra-terrestrials during their journey into outer space.

Voyager 2, is due to reach Saturn in August next year.

Courtesy BBC News



IN CONTEXT

Voyager 2 flew by Saturn in August 1981. Nasa scientists extended the Voyager missions, sending Voyager 2 to the next planets in the Solar System - Uranus and Neptune.

The probe passed Uranus in January 1986, and Neptune in August 1989.

Voyager 1 continued towards deep space. In 1998 it became the most distant man-made object in the universe, and in 2003 reached the edge of the Solar System.

It is expected to reach the heliopause - where the sun's influence ends - in 2013.

The probes' power sources will run out in 2020, but they will carry on travelling into interstellar space. Voyager 2 is expected to pass four light years from Sirius, the brightest star in the sky, about 290,000 years from now.

It is expected that both probes will outlive the Earth itself. The Cassini-Huygens spacecraft, a joint project between Nasa, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency, arrived at Saturn in July 2004.

It will spend four years in orbit around the planet. In January 2005, the Huygens probe landed on Titan. It sent back scientific data and extraordinary pictures of the surface.

The moon was revealed to be locked in a deep freeze, with temperatures as low as -179 degrees C, and crisscrossed by rivers of liquid methane.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS



ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

First off, don't give yourself an unrealistic deadline for getting them to be your friend. You can't expect one short conversation to guarantee that they always have a smile for you whenever they see you.



TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

One person is probably sacrificing too much for the sake of keeping things peaceful. But the resentment is there, and it is growing. It's time to get it all out in the open. Work out a compromise.



GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

There is a new, fresh, and light kind of energy coming into your life. It will be just what you need to get through a few heavy days. Sunshine outside won't be any match for the sunshine in your heart.



CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Don't let their swollen pride be an excuse for you not to recognize just how well they've done. Be sure to let them know that you're proud of them. It won't cost you anything, and it will mean a lot to them.



LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You've been working hard and you deserve some time off. You might not be able to take a full-blown vacation, or even leave town, but that doesn't mean you can't give your brain a break.



VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

You are feeling more flexible than ever in your mind and your body! This is a great day to explore a new physical exercise, like Pilates or tae kwon do or even salsa dancing!



LIBRA

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

This unsolicited help comes with good intentions, so try to keep from rolling your eyes when you receive it. Be polite and keep an open mind. There could be one or two gems in there.



SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

Deal with the people, places, and things that are in your present today, and get your head out of the future. You don't know what it will look like, so why waste your time thinking about it?



SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Your mood might surprise you today, but you should follow it wherever it takes you. It could lead you to some very interesting situations that hold a lot of promise for your future.



CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Be on the lookout for people who are on the edge, emotionally speaking. You need to identify them and understand that whatever they say or do right now is controlled by irrational thinking, not kindness.



AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Don't be contrary just for its own sake, though. Picking a fight isn't your style. Just voice your opinions and desires diplomatically. People are sure to help you take things exactly where you want them to go.

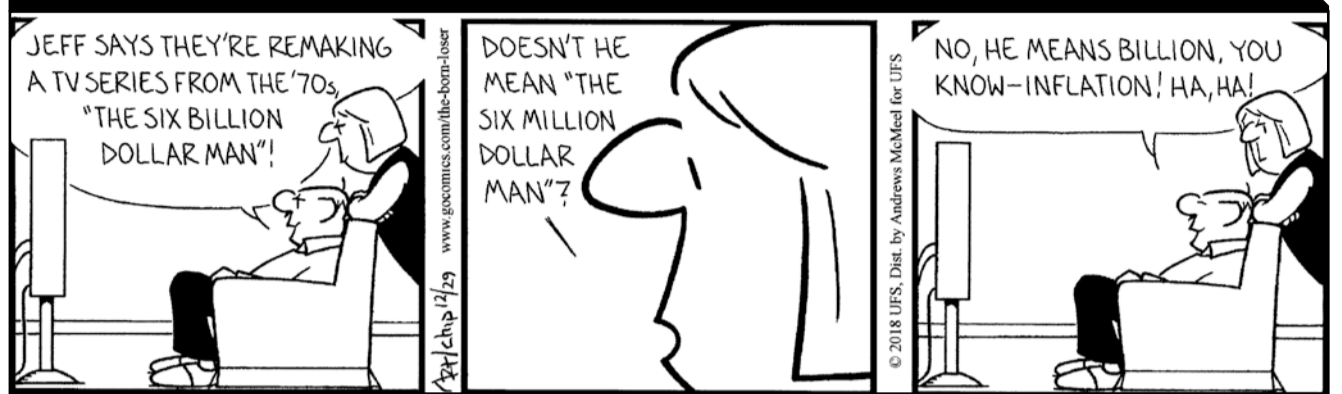


PISCES

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

If you're currently watching what you eat, you can expect some rewarding news to come your way today. Your progress has been a bit more significant than you thought!

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

EASY

			1	3				
6			2		4	1		
	3	6		8	5			
1	4	8	2					
9			4				7	
				5	1	8	4	
	8	2			6	7		
3	7			8				5
		9	3					

EASY+

	6			1				
	2					7	1	
5			7	9				
	5			9				
2	9				4		3	
			8		6			
	7	1					9	
9	4				1			
			7				8	

MEDIUM

	4				6			
			9	6		1		
9	5						4	
8			2			1		
	3			5				
7		5					3	
4					7	5		
	8	2	1					
		9				4		

HARD

1	9	3						
						5	8	
				2				
4							1	3
				8				
3								
	8	5		9		2		
	6							
			4					

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	16	23	cloudy
Harbin	8	21	clear
Tianjin	16	23	overcast
Urumqi	11	26	clear
Xi'an	13	27	cloudy
Lhasa	10	22	cloudy
Chengdu	18	20	shower
Chongqing	18	26	cloudy
Kunming	15	23	shower
Nanjing	17	26	cloudy
Shanghai	20	26	cloudy
Wuhan	15	26	clear
Hangzhou	19	25	cloudy
Taipei	23	27	drizzle
Guangzhou	25	30	cloudy
Hong Kong	25	30	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	10	22	cloudy
Frankfurt	14	27	drizzle
Paris	11	23	drizzle
London	9	18	drizzle
New York	17	28	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- One of the Baldwins; 5- Securely confined; 9- PC linkup; 12- Boxer Oscar ___ Hoya; 13- Chew the scenery; 15- "___ Rider" starred Clint Eastwood; 16- River to the Baltic; 17- Eats to a plan; 18- Tel ___; 19- Money put aside for the future; 21- See-through material; 23- Apians; 24- Where ___?; 25- Beyond; 28- Adversary; 33- Sanctimonious; 34- Fencing sword; 35- Baseball family name; 36- Female gametes; 37- Rival of Helena; 38- German article; 39- Kingly address; 41- Deplatory brand; 42- Have a feeling about; 44- Glad all over; 46- Squirts; 47- Horseless carriage; 48- Plaintiff; 49- Jewish dietary laws; 53- Modernised; 57- Fashion mag; 58- Cursed; 60- "Chicken of the sea"; 61- 365 days; 62- Get to the point?; 63- Need a scratch; 64- Religious sch.; 65- Balkan native; 66- Select;

DOWN: 1- Flurries; 2- Moon of Jupiter; 3- Hgt.; 4- Reindeer of North America; 5- Marsh plants; 6- Wrong; 7- Opponent; 8- Bluesy James; 9- Hot rock; 10- Came down to earth; 11- Campbell of "Scream"; 14- One on the run; 15- Film on copper; 20- Scottish loch, home to a monster; 22- Comedian Philips; 25- Strike ___; 26- Honda model; 27- Lion sounds; 28- Sight-related; 29- Noble; 30- Actress Verdugo; 31- Like a subway; 32- Melodies; 34- Morales of "NYPD Blue"; 37- Confide; 40- One engraving; 42- Floored it; 43- Unpredictable; 45- Swiss river; 46- Majestic; 48- Less doubtful; 49- Lock openers; 50- "Hard ___!" (sailor's yell); 51- Close with force; 52- "___ the night before Christmas ..."; 54- Ballerina's skirt; 55- Business letter abbr.; 56- Writer Roald; 59- Reveal, in verse;

Yesterday's solution

S	E	A	M	S	A	S	T	A	R	S	H	A
I	N	L	A	W	A	L	I	C	E	H	A	L
D	E	I	C	E	R	E	S	E	T	A	N	T
		D	H	O	W	I	G	L	O	O		
S	E	C	T	I	O	N		C	H	A	L	L
P	R	A	I	S	E							
L	A	T	C	H		E	A	R	L	I		B
I	S	E		T	L	I	A	D		R	A	I
T	E	S	T	A	M	E	N	T		M	E	A
X	E	R	O	S	A	G	E			F	E	S
A	C	A	D	E	M			L	O	T	T	E
X	E	R	O	X		L	O	G	E			
O	R	B		U	N	B	A	R		R	E	S
N	E	O		A	E	R	I	E		S	T	E
S	S	R		L	E	A	R	N		D	O	Y

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- 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
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



FOR SALE

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

FOR RENT

Houston Court, Coloane Village
\$10,500/mth 980 ft² 1 1 1

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

Renovated Duplex, Macau with Amazing View
HK\$4,200,000 817 ft² 2 2 2

CARPARK FOR SALE

- Nova City Carpark, Taipa \$1,490,000 1
- Greenville Carpark, Taipa \$1,300,000 1
- Ocean Gardens, Taipa Cattleys & Poplar Court \$1,138,000 1

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DRIVE IN

LANCE HENRIKSEN GIVES PERFORMANCE OF HIS CAREER IN 'FALLING'

PETER DEBRUGE, VARIETY

VIGGO Mortensen may have three Oscar nominations to his name, but I get the feeling most folks still don't take the guy seriously enough. Maybe they don't realize that, in addition to his acting work, Mortensen is also a painter, a poet, a photographer and a musician. When "The Lord of the Rings" made him rich, he used some of that money to launch an indie publishing label, Perceval Press. And between high-profile projects, he went out of his way to collaborate with international auteurs such as Lisandro Alonso ("Jauja") and David Oelhoffen ("Far From Men"), comfortably acting in languages other than English (he speaks seven).

So what kind of directorial touch should we expect from such a Renaissance man? Will his first feature turn out to be basic and broad, like the meatball chauffeur he played in "Green Book," or more poetic, informed by his work with relatively esoteric-minded art-house helmers? The answer, you may not be surprised to learn, is a little of both. More deeply felt than your typical American debut, "Falling" is unpretentious and perfectly accessible to mainstream audiences. Mortensen's patience, his way with actors and his trust in our intelligence are not unlike late-career Eastwood, which isn't a bad place to be so early in one's directing career.

Drawing on his own upbringing while touching on universal themes of family and loss, Mortensen reimagines the relationship with his parents — dotting mother, difficult father — through the protective filter of fiction. In the process,



COURTESY VARIETY

the actor reminds that his best work comes from a place of emotional vulnerability. Dad was clearly a piece of work, portrayed here as a scorpion-tempered patriarch who dominated his family for decades (roughly half the movie takes place in flashback, featuring Sverrir Gudnason as Willis, the tough-love father), growing even more difficult with the onset of dementia (as seen in the present, where Lance Henriksen brings the hellfire).

The film takes place over roughly a week, as Willis leaves his Midwestern farm to seek lodging closer to his son in California — which is like escaping the viper's nest, only to invite the snake back into one's home. A consistent challenge whom some may find unbearable, Willis isn't a villain, at least not in Mortensen's eyes. His script manages to be tough yet tender while remaining objective enough not to do a "Mommie Dearest"-style hit job on his dad. Selected for the closing-night slot of the 2020 Sundance Film Festival, "Falling" feels like a cross between two other Park City premieres of recent vintage:

Shia LaBeouf's transparently therapeutic "Honey Boy" and Paul Dano's 1960s-set "Wildlife," in which a bitter divorce serves as the crucible from which an artistic teenager forges his independence.

The movie packs two big surprises: First, Mortensen plays gay, which isn't the case in real life. The choice serves to heighten the conflict between his character, John, and his immigrant father. Second, it gives erstwhile action star Henriksen (Bishop in "Aliens") an unprecedented opportunity to actually act.

Now pushing 80, Henriksen already looked grizzled by the time he hit 40, and that quality — a raw Marlboro Man toughness written on his face and carved into his cheeks — serves the character well, extending to Willis' stubborn cigarette habit. He's similarly unfiltered in his remarks, taunting others with off-color quips about "Negros" and "fairies" and "whores" the way a mean-streak teen tosses cherry bombs, determined to provoke a reaction. "I promised myself I was not going to rise to

the bait and engage in another big blowout," John says at one point.

The film doesn't give in to such grudges either, preferring a more oblique approach to revealing the source of the scars left by such parenting. If you don't count Willis' words to his infant son — "I'm sorry I brought you into this world so you could die" — the first sign that he's not the great father young John (Grady McKenzie) idealized comes when slightly older John (Etienne Kellici) overhears his mom (Hannah Gross) on the couch sobbing while listening to a recording of Chopin's Waltz in C Sharp Minor. (Mortensen composed and performed the gentle piano score.)

"Falling" isn't just about father-son dynamics; it's also reflective of Mortensen's relationship with his mother, who died relatively young. While it's a bit simplistic to imply that John, a "momma's boy," should grow up to be gay, it's clear Mortensen appreciates how difficult coming out would be for someone raised by such an authoritarian (pursuing an artistic career may have been similar for

him, whereas John went off and joined the Air Force). The way Mortensen signifies John's homosexuality, by unabashedly kissing his Asian American partner (Terry Chen) in front of his disapproving and racist dad, makes no big deal of that identity but speaks volumes about the many off-screen arguments that have brought them to this detente.

Meanwhile, Henriksen portrays Willis as someone who, bitter in his old age, rejects John's help at every turn. It won't take a mental-health professional to recognize that Willis has control issues, which lends an added dimension of tragedy to his dementia. Mortensen elegantly, intuitively weaves past and present throughout the film, inviting just enough ambiguity for us to wonder whose point of view we're getting: Do these flashbacks belong to John, or are they windows into Willis' subjectivity — an attempt by the son to better understand his father?

"Falling" ends with a lovely scene that ought not to be spoiled here. Suffice to say, it pays off a question asked by Willis' adoptive granddaughter (Gabby Velis), revealing another character's final words and what was going through that person's head at the time. Mortensen also carves out a small but impactful role for Laura Linney as John's adult sister, who does her own version of walking on eggshells around the combustible Willis. It took long enough for someone to entrust a part as tricky as this to Henriksen, whose plunge pays off in Mortensen's sensitive hands.

Editor's Note: This film will be shown in IFFAM 2020's top competition.

CORPORATE BITS

Ambiente Properties to open new office, expand team



Local realtor Ambiente Properties has announced that it will open a new office while expanding its team amid Covid-19. "We are firmly committed to Macau's future and considered the

dip in real estate activity in 2020 and quieter summer months to be the perfect opportunity to engage additional talent for our team," said Suzanne Watkinson, Founder and Managing Di-

rector of the realtor firm. Disclosed in an official statement, the new team members of the firm are currently undergoing rigorous training under the direction of the firm's Associate Director, Ryan Choi. "They will be fully prepared for what we anticipate will be a busy year in 2021," Watkinson added. Aware of the importance of Hengqin Island to Macau and the Pearl River Delta, Ambiente established a sister company Ambiente Properties Hengqin in early 2017 and has been actively promoting the real estate opportunities and business diversity that the island presents.

Grand Lapa, Grand Coloane unveil November offerings



Grand Lapa Macau's Grand Prix view deck featuring an unlimited barbecue buffet returns this November. Admission tickets and tables are now available for sale,

starting at MOP1,288+ for November 21 and 22. To enjoy the race to the fullest, guests may add MOP224 to upgrade their experience to a deluxe room packa-

ge. The hotel is also running Weekend Hairy Crab Buffet with free-flowing crabs and a buy three get one free offer. Grand Coloane Resort is also launching its MOP11 dim sum menu and MOP11 beer and wine promotions as part of its "Winter is Coming" campaign. The former highlights black truffle scallop dumplings and wrapped glutinous rice with conpoy. The latter features unlimited hot pot with over 60 ingredients and unique flavors. Six soup bases are available, including papaya with fresh fish soup, young coconut with chicken soup and Chongqing spicy soup, according to a statement released by the group.

Doctor: Maradona needs time, family support to recover

DEBORA REY, BUENOS AIRES

DIEGO Maradona's psychologist Diego Díaz says the Argentine soccer hero is in a stable condition in a private health clinic where he is recovering from surgery.

Maradona last week had an operation for a subdural hematoma, which is an accumulation of blood between a membrane and his brain.

His personal doctor, neurologist Leopoldo Luque, said the problem likely was caused by an accident, but the 60-year-old Maradona said he didn't remember the event.

Díaz, who is taking care of Maradona during his time at the Olivos private clinic, on Tuesday said the 1986 World Cup champion needs doctors, therapy and "fundamentally family support."

He said Maradona's status as a national sporting hero in Argentina didn't preclude him from experien-

cing the same health issues as other people.

"Diego Maradona, in certain issues, is just like everyone else ... with the same limitations, difficulties and advantages that any human being has," Díaz told The Associated Press in an interview. "The important thing today is that he is stabilized, that he is controlled in terms of pharmacological management, the levels of food and rest."

"And then he will be able to continue with a system according to a patient like Diego Maradona. This has to do with the presence of the therapeutic companions, nurses, an interdisciplinary team and, fundamentally, his family."

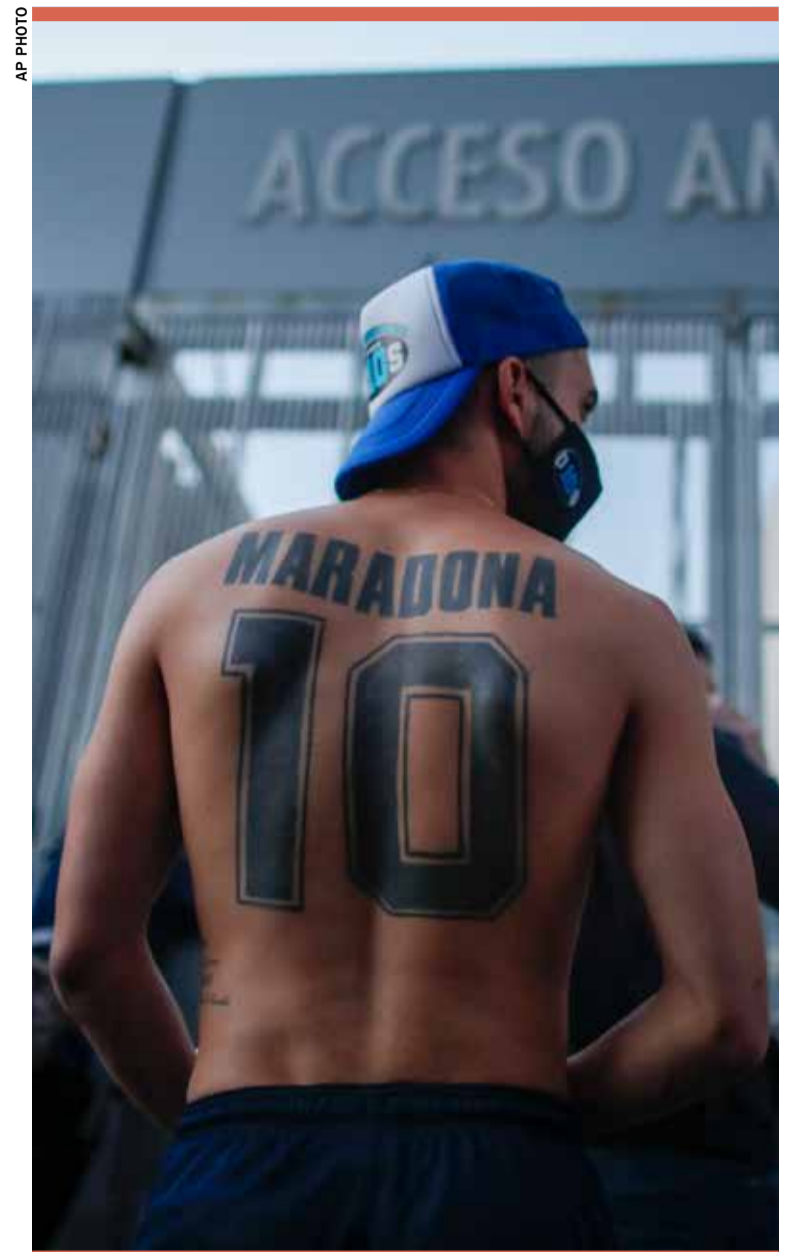
Dr. Luque told radio La Red earlier Tuesday that Maradona will be transferred to a house in the north of Buenos Aires, close to his older daughters Dalma and Giannina. That means he will not be able to coach first-division team Gimnasia y Esgrima for now.

"He is a patient that lives in extremes," Luque said, adding that Maradona could put an end to stresses that were potentially harmful to his health, but the former Boca Juniors, Barcelona and Napoli star is convinced he needs to keep working.

Luque said Maradona, who has had addiction problems in the past, has lowered his alcohol intake but even small amounts could have negative affects in combination with the medication he needs for his recovery.

Maradona turned 60 on Oct. 30 and showed up that night for Gimnasia's national championship match against Patronato, which his team won 3-0. He left before the end of the first half, which raised questions about his health.

He was initially admitted to another clinic in La Plata with signs of depression, anemia and dehydration, before being moved when the subdural hematoma was discovered. AP



HOLIDAY RENTAL HOUSES

Lugar das Letras Casa de Gouvães

The houses are set in the heart of the World Heritage Site of the Douro Valley and its famous winery landscape where the worlds Ports are produced.

Both restored relics overlooking the Rio Douro, these eight rooms houses have been blessed with gorgeous wooden floors, plush queen beds and marble baths; the best have dazzling river views.

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- Financial Management 財務管理
- Human Resources Management 人力資源管理
- Seminar in Retail and Marketing Management 零售及市場學管理專題研究
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- Please refer to the details and submit ALL application materials mentioned on IFTM website.

Application closes on 23 November 2020 (Macao Time)

- Please note that ALL application materials must be received by the closing date (Macao time).
- Personal data provided will be kept confidential and used for recruitment purpose only.
- Applicants who do not hear from us within 4 weeks may consider their applications unsuccessful.
- For enquiries, please contact jan@iftm.edu.mo or 8598-1520.

OPINION

World Views

Tim Culpan, Bloomberg



BEIJING JUST TORE UP CHINA'S GIANT INTERNET PLAYBOOK

All the things that allowed China's internet innovators to become big, powerful and hugely profitable are under threat. The implications are chilling for established players.

Draft rules detailed by China's antitrust watchdog Tuesday are aimed at rooting out monopolistic practices among internet companies, Bloomberg News reported. That could be invigorating for potential challengers to industry leaders such as Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., Tencent Holdings Ltd., Meituan and Baidu Inc.

Take Alibaba. The Hangzhou-based company has a side gig selling cloud computing services, which has posted chronic operating losses as the company chases customers and market share. The huge profits of Alibaba's legacy e-commerce business have helped to buffer these losses, which widened 23% last year to \$1 billion. The new rules could conceivably put an end to that kind of subsidization, forcing the company to raise prices and churn a profit, or even divest the business altogether.

Delivery and booking service giant Meituan could also be in regulators' sights. Within a year of its Hong Kong listing, Meituan managed to turn profitable thanks to its deep knowledge of consumer habits, which it could then leverage to sell ads to vendors who use its platform. That, too, could be in jeopardy under the antitrust rules, which would restrict the use of such data to target specific customers.

Games and social-networking company Tencent, e-retailer JD.Com Inc. and search provider Baidu may also face scrutiny, given the size and dominance they have in their respective niches.

Beijing's goal may be to clear the decks for fresh companies to enter.

A challenger in the cloud business would struggle to compete if Alibaba, with \$60 billion in cash and equivalents, can just keep undercutting it until the new entrant runs out of money. In a market without competition rules, predatory pricing is just regular business.

With data being almost as valuable as cash, companies like Meituan and Tencent have a distinct advantage because they know more about the market and consumers than any newbie that wants to hang out its shingle and start offering services. Throttling that data flow could help even the playing field.

It's possible this intervention will add fresh energy to an internet market that has passed its growth heyday, exacerbated by a slowing of the Chinese domestic consumer sector and the pandemic-hit global economy. It may also let Beijing shepherd in a new crop of companies that better align with its economic and political goals, which include tighter control over information and money flows.

The nixing last week of Ant Group Co.'s much-anticipated listing is evidence that not even the world's biggest IPO is immune to regulatory change. In Ant's case, the concern was over the fintech giant's risk management and market dominance.

Hints as to Beijing's goal can be seen in plans to require variable interest entities to get operating approval. For more than a decade, VIEs have existed in a legal gray area that lets Chinese companies skirt restriction on foreign ownership. A clampdown may accelerate moves to delist from U.S. markets and return home, a trend spurred by President Donald Trump's aggressive policies toward China. Doing so would allow regulators to keep a tighter grip on the money that flows into and out of these giants, and redirect funds to projects that better align with Beijing's China-first policies.

Regulation may well achieve the goal of limiting monopolies and opening up the market. But companies are quick to adapt, with every chance that new behemoths will appear. Witness the considerable efforts to crack down on Microsoft Corp. in the late 1990s, aimed at separating its internet browser from its operating system. In the subsequent decade, Alphabet Inc.'s Google and Facebook Inc. rose to dominate new domains. The world is now engaged in efforts to limit the market power of the new titans. Meanwhile, Microsoft still holds a commanding share of the OS market.

Beijing may be successful in stymieing China's current Big Tech cohort. Just don't expect the era of internet levathans to end.

US HITS RECORD COVID-19 HOSPITALIZATIONS AMID VIRUS SURGE

THE BUZZ

The U.S. hit a record number of coronavirus hospitalizations yesterday [Macau time] and surpassed 1 million new confirmed cases in just the first 10 days of November amid a nationwide surge of infections that shows no signs of slowing.

The new wave appears bigger and more widespread than the surges that happened in the spring and summer — and threatens to be worse. But experts say there are also reasons to think the nation is better able to deal with the virus this time around.

"We're definitely in a better place" when it comes to improved

medical tools and knowledge, said William Hanage, a Harvard University infectious-disease researcher.

Newly confirmed infections in the U.S. were running at all-time highs of well over 100,000 per day, pushing the total to more than 10 million and eclipsing 1 million since Halloween. There are now 61,964 people hospitalized, according to the COVID Tracking Project.

Several states posted records yesterday, including over 12,600 new cases in Illinois, 10,800 in Texas and 7,000 in Wisconsin.

SINGAPORE TO START 'WORLD FIRST' AIR TRAVEL BUBBLE WITH HONG KONG

AP PHOTO



HONG Kong and Singapore will start an air travel bubble that will replace quarantine with Covid-19 testing from Nov. 22, officials said in separate media briefings yesterday.

There will be several flights a week on Singapore Airlines Ltd. and Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. from that date, rising to daily from Dec. 7. A maximum of 200 people will be permitted on each flight and details of the arrangement, released nearly a month after the two Asian hubs first announced they'd reopen their borders to one another, will be reviewed after one month.

Singapore Minister for Transport Ong Ye Kung said at a news briefing that this was the first travel bubble of its type and may be used as a template for other countries, if successful. The travel bubble will help ensure a brighter future for the city-state's Changi Airport and Singapore Airlines, he said.

Travel bubbles are seen as key to reopening borders ahead of the rollout of an effective and internationally recognized vaccine. But they've been hard to put into practice as the coronavirus continues to spread or flare again in much of the world. Cases globally have surpassed 51 million while deaths are nearing 1.3 million.

Even the Singapore-Hong Kong arrangement comes

with a long list of requirements and some restrictions. Ong said the waiting time for a Covid test would likely be about four hours and fares would be a commercial decision for the two airlines.

"I suspect travelers might well be quite careful in the beginning before they gradually become more confident," Ong said. "I suspect that many Singaporeans and Hong Kongers will take a wait-and-see attitude until after awhile you can do one test less perhaps."

Travel bubbles are seen as key to reopening borders ahead of the rollout of a recognized vaccine

Flying on the travel bubble between the two cities will also require a degree of paperwork. Tests should be taken within 72 hours prior to departure and applications for travel approval should be done online at least seven days ahead of time. Should travelers become Covid positive in either city, they would need to bear the full cost of any medical treatment provided to them.

Shares in Singapore Airlines closed up 0.3% while Cathay rose 1.4%. Both carriers jumped sharply on Tuesday after a study showing a vaccine developed by Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE pro-

tests most people from the coronavirus.

Having brought their Covid-19 outbreaks largely under control, Hong Kong and Singapore are eager to prize open their borders and get their economies ticking back to life again. Hong Kong's total reported infections stand at 5,389, while Singapore's tally is just over 58,000. That contrasts with many nations in Europe, as well as the U.S., which is now reporting over 100,000 cases a day.

"Both Singapore and Hong Kong rely a lot on the success of the airlines and airports for their economies," said Shukor Yusof, founder of aviation consulting firm Endau Analytics.

Officials from Hong Kong and Singapore said on Oct. 15 that quarantine would be replaced by coronavirus testing and that the two cities were hoping to start it in November. Travelers must have been in Hong Kong or Singapore for 14 days before departure and need to take and pass mutually recognized virus tests.

On Nov. 3, Hong Kong announced new rules stating that arrivals from anywhere other than mainland China would have to quarantine in a hotel for 14 days. But visitors from Singapore will be exempted from this under the travel bubble agreement. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

Turkey A fishing boat capsized yesterday after colliding with a Greek-flagged tanker off Turkey's Mediterranean coast, officials said. Four people on board the boat were killed while one other person is reported missing.

AP PHOTO



Vatican Pope Francis pledged yesterday to rid the Catholic Church of sexual abuse and offered prayers to victims of ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, a day after the Vatican released a detailed report into the decades-long church cover-up of his sexual misconduct. Francis concluded his weekly general audience by recalling that the report into the "painful case" of the former high-ranking American cardinal had been released the previous day.

Italian financial police on yesterday issued arrest warrants against six current and former managers of Italy's main private highway operator as part of investigations stemming from the Genoa bridge collapse that killed 43 people in August 2018. Former CEO Giovanni Castellucci, maintenance director Michele Donferri Mitelli and operations manager Paolo Berti were placed under house arrest, while three managers still working for the company face restrictive measures. All are investigated for safety lapses and public contract fraud.

AP PHOTO



UK The government plans to increase its power to block or modify foreign investment in the U.K. on national security grounds under legislation that was to be introduced yesterday. The National Security and Investment Bill would require businesses to notify the government about deals in sensitive industries, including defense, transportation, communications and artificial intelligence. The government will then have 30 days to review the transactions and impose conditions on those deemed to pose a risk to national security.