





**TUESDAY** 08 Jun 2021



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN"

ANIMA IS SUFFERING FROM SIGNIFICANT DEFICIT AS THEIR **EXPENSES CONTINUE TO GROW AMID DECREASING FINANCIAL SUPPORT** 

LAWMAKER AGNES LAM **SUBMITS NOMINATIONS FOR** UPCOMING AL ELECTIONS

IN JUST OVER A WEEK, POLICE **AUTHORITIES HAVE RECEIVED FOUR COMPLAINTS RELATED TO ILLEGAL USE OF CREDIT CARD DATA** 



#### **Thailand** Health authorities began their much-anticipated mass rollout of locally produced AstraZeneca vaccines this week, but it appeared that supplies were falling short of demand from patients who had scheduled vaccinations for this week. Hospitals in various parts of the country have been posting notices for several days that some scheduled appointments would be delayed, adding to existing public skepticism about how many doses Siam Bioscience would be able to produce each month.



Pakistan An express train barreled into another that had derailed in Pakistan before dawn vesterday. killing at least 40 people, authorities said. More than 100 were injured, and rescuers and villagers worked throughout the day to pull survivors and the dead from the crumpled cars. Cries for help pierced the night as passengers climbed out of overturned or crushed rail cars, and local people rushed to the scene in the district of Ghotki, in the southern province of Sindh.



India Businesses in two of India's largest cities were reopening yesterday as part of a phased easing of lockdown measures in several states now that the number of new coronavirus infections in the country is on a steady decline. India's capital allowed businesses and shops to reopen with limited hours and the Delhi Metro, which serves New Delhi and adjoining areas, also resumed operations at 50% capacity. Last week, authorities in the capital allowed some manufacturing and construction activity to resume. More on p10

More on backpage









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## PLASTIC STRAW BAN A STEP FORWARD BUT WILL NOT SUFFICE IN REDUCING WASTE: ENVIRONMENTALISTS

LYNZY VALLES

THE government's goal to L ban the import of single-use drinking straws and stirrers next year is considered a good call by environmentalists; however, the main message that they want to reinforce is the need to encourage the use of reusable items.

Over the weekend, the Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) director, Raymond Tam Vai Man, revealed that the bureau is currently reviewing the ban and consulting the city's restaurant sector and other government entities.

The government implemented a ban on the importation of styrofoam food containers from January

"Single use food containers, single use bowls and cups, single use plates, all made with styrofoam are the target of this ban," the decree

Now, the aim of banning single--use drinking straws and stirrers is a step towards realizing the various calls made by local environmentalists, including Joe Chan and Annie

However, this new ban does not meet the ultimate aim of environmentalists when it will only lead to use of other disposables items – such as paper straws, which Lao does not consider the most eco--friendly solution.

"[These] can't be recycled and it's still creating waste," Lao told the

For Lao, straws and stirrers con-





Joe Chan (left) and Annie Lao

tribute small amounts compared to plastic bottles and take away containers. Hence, she has called for the government to implement a more aggressive approach to banning single use plastics, otherwise the impact of current bans will be insignificant.

"The government needs to move forward with more aggressive bans on other single use plastic items such as take away containers and plastic bottles which account for the majority of plastic disposables in Macau, especially in the takeaway businesses. How can the government make sure those materials are collecting for recycling?" the environmental advocate asked.

Lao also lamented that several government press conferences or meetings provide water in plastic bottles, suggesting that the government could ask attendees to bring their own reusable tumblers or wa-

"The government needs to set a good example for this," she explai-

On the other hand, Chan noted that any effort that helps with building the city to become more sustainable will definitely be apprecia-

"Stopping the import and use of single use plastic straws may seem like just a small step in terms of the amount of waste prevented, but the meaning behind such policies marks a significant milestone in Macau's plastic reduction efforts," argued Chan, who is also president of the Macau Green Students

In November 2019, the call for the government to reduce plastic waste entered into force, with single-use plastic bags in retail locations now costing one pataca.

For Chan, imposing taxes on plastic bags is only a symbolic action to emphasise a "polluter pay principle" without really cutting down on the usage of plastic.

Lao has previously stressed that this was not enough to reduce the use of single-use plastics. Back in 2018, Lao was also a key organizer of a campaign against the use of single-use plastics, which attracted thousands of petitioners to sign the online form.

Later, government banned the import of styrofoam food containers, but in fact, "that was just a proper response to the declining market in mainland China (as the mainland government banned the manufacturing of styrofoam products in China)," Chan shared.

Currently, the DSPA had released no further details on the plan.

However, Chan believed that there are two reasons why the government chose straws as the beginning.

Firstly, to see how citizens respond to such change (i.e. determining whether switching from plastic straws to straws made of a different material is relatively easy for companies and citizens).

Secondly, to motivate more citizens to start bringing their own eating or drinking utensils (straws also being the easiest item to car-

"By successfully banning the plastic straw, we can further reduce the other kinds of single use plastics in the near future," the environmentalist added.

Meanwhile, Ieong Weng Seng, president of the Macau Food & Beverage Industry Development Association said that industry and citizens have been raising environmental awareness.

He added that the cost of plastic drinking straws and paper drinking straws – the two primary types of disposable straw – are similar.

However, the issue is that drinking straws made out of alternative materials, such as stainless steel, must be cleaned, which creates extra work for stores, while some find it unhygienic at this time of the pandemic.

Recent data shows that between January and November 2020, the DSPA recycled 293,000 kgs of paper, 63,000 kgs of plastic, and 40,000 kgs of metal. The recycled items were mostly transported to mainland China and other countries in Southeast Asia.

# IAM dispatch staff for emergency repairs on Coloane road

THE Municipal Affairs fall of last week. ge to Concordia Industrial Bureau (IAM) has de- This is not the first time Park in the surroundings of emergency repair works on a road section of Rua de Entrecampos in Coloane Island.

According to a statement from IAM that cites a preliminary inspection, the road surface collapsed due to soil erosion caused by the heavy rain-

ployed staff to perform that road works have been Lai Chi Vun. performed on this road section. Just a few months ago, IAM finished similar repair works only a few meters away from this new location.

As on previous occasions, the traffic lane affected was travelling in the direction from Coloane village to Concordia Industrial

Currently, to proceed with filling the pothole and resurfacing the road section, the IAM has installed temporary traffic lights at the location, and traffic will proceed alternately on only one side of the road.

To avoid constant repetition of the works on the location, the IAM has decided this time to perform a larger scale job, replacing the rainwater piping system under the road surface. This work is expected to start around mid-June.

The bureau calls on citizens to exercise caution while travelling in the area and pay special attention to the temporary traffic arrangements. RM



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COVID-19

# Singapore to operate transits for returning Macau residents

**ANTHONY LAM** 

FTER negotiations with Singapore Airlines Group, the government announced yesterday that deals have been made with the airline company and its subsidiary, Scoot Airlines, to help with transiting Macau residents returning home.

As summer holiday is around the corner, the local government is expecting a significant number of residents currently abroad to come home.

Previously, most returning Macau residents would opt for Taipei as a transit point. With Taiwan tightening its preventive measures, among which being the suspension of transit at the Taoyuan International Airport, it has become more difficult for Macau residents to get home.

Yesterday, it was announced by Lao Fong Chi, head of the Department of Communications and External Relations, the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO), that a deal has been made between the Civil Aviation Authority of Macao and the airline group.

The core part of the deal is that Singapore Airlines will update its website to facilitate purchases of flight tickets from overseas origins to Macau with a final stopover in Singapore.

It means that residents hoping to return to Macau taking this route can buy tickets directly on the website of Singapore Airlines.

Although a deal is made, it



is not a government-led operation. Ticketing affairs must be handled by the travelers themselves.

Lao added that the airline has agreed to operate two flights weekly between Macau and Singapore, which will be handled by Scoot, the group's low-cost carrier brand.

The special arrangement will not be one-way, according to Lao. "Singapore Airlines has updated its booking website to allow flights in and out of Macau with transit in Singapore," she said.

She stressed that interested travelers should approach the airline company directly should they have any enquiries.

#### SSM: CITYWIDE PCR TEST POSSIBLE

The SSM hinted that if the case continues to deteriorate, a citywide polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test initiative may be possible. "Such pos-

## PCR requirements on entrants from Guangdong tightened

At the same press conference, the Health Bureau (SSM) recapped, following an earlier press announcement yesterday, that entrants from Guangdong Province of China will be required to bear negative SARS-CoV-2 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test results issued within two days.

The bureau clarified that the actual validity of the PCR test result is counted from the next day of the sample collection date, regardless of the time at which the sample was collected. For example, if the sample is collected today, the test result will be valid for border crossings between Macau and Guangdong on June 8 and 9.

Before this change, each test was valid for seven days for border crossings between Macau and Mainland China. Actually, the test validity for travels between Macau and other provinces, which normally takes air routes, remains unchanged.

There is also a huge gap between the test fee in Macau is MOP90 and that in mainland China 20 Chinese yuan.

Certain members of the public raised concerns that it may cause extra burden on non-resident workers, local teachers and students who live on the mainland.

The Education and Youth Development Bureau (DSEDJ) issued a press release last night, stressing that

sibility cannot be ruled out," Alvis Lo, director of the SSM said.

Should the citywide test be needed, according to Lo, it can be done within four days with about 30 sample collection stations. The official clarified that he was speaking about finishing the test at the promptest pace.

When it comes to citywide PCR test, in order to avoid crowd gathering, the test may not be run at the promptest pace.

During this imagined situation, the SSM director said that vaccination will be halted in order to facilitate the citywide PCR test.

The SSM director also noted yesterday, following an earlier statement, that in the future vaccination may become a mandatory element to facilitate border crossing between Macau and mainland China.

Again, the medical doctor said it was too early to confirm any details, but the possibility cannot be ruled out.

PCR tests for cross border students and teachers – a total of 3,100 individuals – have been free-of-charge since April last year.

The DSEDJ added that with the validity of PCR test for use between Guangdong and Macau shortened, the DSEDJ will continue to bear the costs for PCR test for this group of teachers and students.

This group of individuals will be tested every two weekdays in Macau, while on Saturdays they will take the test in Zhuhai.

Moreover, the DSEDJ encourages these teachers and students to, at their best ability, remain in Macau. Kong Chi Meng, vice director of the DSEDJ, said yesterday that should the need for temporary accommodations arise, the bureau will have the ability to arrange youth hostels.

#### DSEDJ: POSSIBILITY OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION

The DSEDJ yesterday has also hinted on the possibility of school suspension, but Kong stressed that if it happens, schools, teachers, parents and students will have lessons learned from last year. Contingencies have also been prepared in case another round of school suspension is needed. **AL** 

#### COVID-19

# SAFP warns all public services to reinforce prevention measures

#### RENATO MARQUES

THE Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP) has issued a notice calling on all public services and government departments to place increased attention on epide-

mic prevention measures.

This call comes following the latest developments in the Covid-19 pandemic, namely the recent outbreak occurring in the neighboring cities of Shenzhen, Guangzhou, and Foshan.

In a press statement is-

sued yesterday, the SAFP informed that an official letter was sent to all public departments, requesting them to strictly abide by the bureau's guidelines for the prevention of Covid-19 transmission among public services, as well as the bu-

reau's procedures on Yellow and Red Health Codes.

In particular, the letter addresses the need to ensure that all people, including public services staff members, present a valid green health code.

In instances where an in-

dividual presents a red health code, they should be denied access to the premises, while the presentation of a yellow health code will trigger the requirement to comply with special conditions, including the minimum possible contact with other people to be observed, as well as additional cleaning and disinfection to be undertaken.

All personnel entering the premises must additionally have their temperature taken and wear masks.

The public services shou-

ld also reduce the gathering of people at service points as much as possible, and also take measures to reduce the chances of contact between staff members and citizens.

The Bureau also calls on the strict enforcement of measures that prevent staff members with yellow health codes from having contact with the public.

Staff presenting with a Yellow Health Code should stay in "self-health management" and only provide support work instead of frontline tasks.



CRIME

## STOLEN CREDIT CARD DATA CASES CONTINUE TO RISE

#### **RENATO MARQUES**

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) has received another four complaints related to illegal use of credit card data for the acquisition of goods or services on the internet, a PJ spokesperson informed yesterday during the joint police forces' regular press conference.

Between May 30 and June 5, the PJ received four reports from local residents who claimed to have been the targets of such a crime.

The cases involve four residents ranging from 24 to 54 years of age, who hold credit cards from different service providers, and registered with different banking institutions in Macau.

According to the police report, they were all alerted by SMS messages notifying them about the use of their credit cards for the acquisition of goods or services on the internet, which they did not authorize.

The sums range between 1,600 patacas and 1,499 euros (around 14,560 patacas).

For the time being, none of the residents have reported any loss, as they all immediately called their banking institutions and canceled the cards, reporting the unlawful transactions at the same time.

In a separate case, the same police force reported that a lo-

cal 24-year-old woman has been targeted in an online fraud scheme involving investments in cryptocurrency.

The woman told the PJ she was a staff member at a hotel unit, and that on May 13, she met an individual claiming to be a man through a mobile com-

munication application.

Around one week later, the man asked her if she had any interest in making investments based on cryptocurrency.

She replied in the affirmative and he subsequently sent her a link to a webpage where she created an account and started to undertake what she believed to be investments.

Initially, she invested 1,300 Chinese yuan from which she said she yielded profits. After that, she decided to invest again, this time investing 3,000 Chinese yuan. She later decided to quit and wanted to withdraw the money.

Contacting the website, she was asked to invest more to be able to reach a ceiling that would allow her to withdraw the investment.

She then suspected that she had been involved in a scam and reported the case to the police.

## 20-YEAR-OLD STUDENT CAUGHT SHOPLIFTING

A20-year-old university student, a non-permanent resident of Macau, has been caught shoplifting at a store located in a mall in Cotai, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) spokesperson informed yesterday during the joint police forces' regular press conference.

According to the police report, the case occurred last Thursday on June 3 around 1 p.m. when two staff members of the store were alerted by the door alarm and chased the suspect, who had just bought an item of clothing from the store.

After being intercepted, the staff members checked his shoulder bag and found a shirt inside,

which had not been paid for.

Since the shirt did not pass through the cashier, the alarm embedded on the clothing tag had not been deactivated.

Questioned by the PSP, the youngster admitted to having taken two items from the store shelves, but only paying for only one of them.

The shirt he admitted to stealing cost 149 patacas.

The case has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office on June 4, where the suspect is being accused of the crime of theft. According to Macau's Penal Code provisions, he may face a penalty of up to three years' imprisonment. **RM** 

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

#### LYNZY VALLES

**EAVY** expenses remain a significant issue for the animal rights association Anima, after it recorded a deficit of MOP1.2 million with depreciation, according to its recently issued report.

In the recent report, Anima said that in 2020, the total expenses increased due to the growth of activities, reaching MOP10,380,628.22 against MOP9,675,658.68 (including depreciation) in 2019, of which the expenses with animals reached around MOP3,373,013.04, against MOP3,206,706.97 patacas in 2019.

"If we take out depreciation, it's over MOP700,000. Debts of two board members were MOP1.4 million," said Albano Martins, founder and honorary president of Anima Macau.

"Myself and another board member had no choice other than to inject this amount in Anima in the last quarter of 2020, otherwise Anima could not survive to pay salaries and several bills, mainly food for animals and clinics. This happened because the casinos reduced substantially their support," he told the Times.

In January this year, as a result of the economic fallout of Covid-19, the non-profit animal rights association was given a to-

## **Anima continues to** record significant deficit



tal of MOP360,000 by four local casino operators, a significant plunge from the average of MOP2 million it received pre-pandemic. Adding to its predicament is uncertainty regarding how much the

annual government financial support granted by the Macao Foundation (FM) would amount to and when it would be paid. This has put Anima, its animals and its 32 staff under "great pressure.

Last year, Anima received MOP5 million from the FM.

In order to provide food for the animals, Martins and another member of Anima lent a total of MOP1.4 million to prevent the association from going under.

The growth of Anima (established in December 11, 2003) can be seen in the number of animals rescued up to 2020, which totals around 5,308 animals. By the end of 2020. Anima's members totalled 755 and the estimated number of animals under Anima's supervision included 1,031 dogs (of which 386 were in its shelters), 2,441 cats (of which 295 were in its shelters) and 56 other animals (of which 53 were in its shelters).

In 2020, the number of adoptions reached 180, against 161 in 2019. The number of rescues reached 458, against 391 in 2019, and this increase contributed to the over-crowding in the shelter.

"We could not do better as we are completely full," the report

In 2020, Anima registered 458 rescues against 180 adoptions. A total of 124 animals were neutered, including animals in the shelters and trap-neuter-return (TNR) animals.

The rate of animals out (adopted, foster, or deceased) against animals in (rescued or returned) was 0.97, 0.98 and 0.90 (dogs, cats, and other animals, respectively) which is far below the organization's goal of 2. However, there was an improvement in the ratio of cats due to the larger number of adoptions.

#### **ELECTIONS 2021**

### Incumbent Lawmaker Agnes LAM SUBMITS NOMINATIONS

YESTERDAY, Agnes Lam, an incumbent lawmaker and leader of local association Macao Civic Power, submitted nominations for this year's Legislative Assembly Election, which will take place on September 12.

As in previous elections, the lawmaker, alongside her list, will run under the name of Civic Watch. Lam revealed that the team will consist mostly of professionals from various industries, such as education, culture, engineering, medicine and law.

At least two individuals who have previously run alongside Lam were present at yesterday's nomination submission, among them Portuguese architect Rui Leão and team building specialist Brian Tang.

The incumbent lawmaker did not disclose who will be included in the list, but said that the actual listing will be announced at a later date. For the time being, the group will focus on collecting opinions from the general public as the foundation of the list's election platform.

Currently, Lam expressed that she is encountering



challenges with acquiring information about the public's actual needs. She explained that circumstances were ever--changing under the pandemic, meaning that the public's requirements from candidates fluctuated.

As such, she hopes her election platform will be able to include voices from all walks of life.

When questioned about the Electoral Affairs Committee's decision to restrict nominations from the civil servant sector, she admitted that, prior to the relatively late announcement of the decision, the group had received nominations from some civil servants.

"We had to withdraw these nominations from our collection, so that the actual time taken to collect nominations was longer than our original expectation," Lam explained.

As to how many seats the lawmaker aims to get, she said her team would save no effort in getting as many seats as possible. Although she has confidence, she will be cautious at the same time.

Lam was elected to the parliament in 2017 with 9,590 votes. AL

### ART MACAO TO FEATURE SEVERAL THEMED EXHIBITIONS

THE cultural and ar-1 tistic event, Art Macao, is slated to be held from July to October this year. Themed "To create for well-being," it aims to promote the SAR as a world heritage city and reshape the "humanistic spirit in the post-epidemic era."

The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) announced in a statement that the Art Macao: Macao International Art Biennale 2021 will be divided into several sections.

These include the main exhibition, special exhibition of resorts and hotels, public art exhibition, creative city pavilion, selected works by local artists, and collateral exhibition. Themed "Advance and Retreat of Globalization," the main exhibition is divided into three parts: "The Dream of Mazu," "Matteo Ricci's Labyrinth of Memory," and "Advance and Retreat of Globalization."

The main exhibition echoes the geographical and cultural identities of Macau, and "triggers



an in-depth dialogue (wife)" and "Lou Kong between local and global artistic concepts," IC stated in a press release.

The event will have the participation of prestigious cities such as Nanjing, the City of Literature; Wuhan, the City of Design; and Linz, the City of Media Arts.

In order to allow more people to participate in Art Macao, the creative city pavilion section "Macao - City of Gastronomy: Bon Appétit!" will host a composition contest under the theme of Macau's representative souvenirs, being "Lou Po pastry

pastry (husband)" from today until June 30, creating an atmosphere of "Love in Food. Love in Poems."

Participants are required to write a short letter or poem to their lovers in Chinese or Portuguese. All Macau residents aged above 18 are welcome to participate. Winners will have the opportunity to receive a prize of up to MOP3,000 and certificates, and their works will be exhibited in the creative city pavilion "Macao - City of Gastronomy: Bon Appétit!" LV

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## CHINA DEFENDS HUNGARY UNIVERSITY PLAN FOLLOWING PROTEST

THINA defended a plan to p **し**build a university in Hun- 욽 gary, saying critics who protes- 4 ted against it in Budapest over the weekend shouldn't politicize and stigmatize normal exchanges between the two countries.

Several thousand people rallied in Hungary's capital on Saturday against an agreement with Shanghai-based Fudan University to open a branch in the city, citing the cost and links with China's authoritarian ruling Communist Party.

The plan, backed by Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, calls for the Budapest campus to be completed by 2024. It would enroll international students and be the school's only foreign outpost, as well as the first Chinese university campus in the 27-nation European Union.

The plan is an important platform for people-to-people exchanges and is "in line with the current trend of the times and the interests of all parties," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said at a daily briefing.

"We hope the relevant people in Hungary will take an objecti-



Mayor of Budapest Gergely Karacsony greets protesters in Budapest

ve, rational and scientific attitude, avoid politicizing and stigmatizing the normal personnel exchanges between China and Hungary, and maintain the overall situation of friendship and cooperation between the two countries," Wang said.

Orban, a right-wing populist, has fostered closer ties with Russia and China as he faces European Union criticism of his authoritarian ways and staunch anti-immigration stance.

### We are not in the least protesting against Chinese people who live together with us peacefully in this marvelous city.

MAYOR OF BUDAPEST

Budapest city authorities have opposed the university branch idea, saying the \$1.9 billion project would place a huge burden on taxpayers and send the wrong political message because of China's record on human rights.

"Let's make it clear whom we are not protesting against," Budapest Mayor Gergely Karácsony told the protesters. "We have our problem with dictators. [...] And we are not in the least protesting against Chinese people who live together with us peacefully in this marvelous city."

He said in a statement yesterday that it was understandable that China is attempting to broaden its political and economic influence.

"What is unacceptable is when the Hungarian government serves the broadening of Chinese political-economic influence instead of Hungarian interests," he said.

Minister of the Prime Minister's Office Gergely Gulyás said on Sunday that the people of Budapest would be able to decide in a referendum whether to proceed with the Fudan project once costs and other conditions had been finalized.

Hungarian officials have insisted that Fudan, ranked among the top 100 universities in the world, will help raise higher education standards in Hungary.

Fudan officials did not immediately respond to an emailed request for comment on Monday. MDT/AP

AD 🖹

#### 合態人 PARTNERS: 官操怕 (Nut José da Cunta\* 山夏士 Alvara Rodrigues\* 馬天龍 None Serdinha da Mata 題集 Zhao Lu \*\* 馬傑安 Juier Negurier Merchaes 大律師 ASSOCIATES: 高文計 Adolino Carreia" 羅書齡 Zelina Bodrigues \* 白秀蘭 Susana Bataha 馬潔冰 Maria Josep Marepare 開展機 António Isóo de Azeredo. 白颗的 Idla Gerenguel 建跨國 Mariania Alcanea Externas 酶 靶层 Maria Antonia Greatas 最複單 Carlos dos Santos Ferreira® 杜力信 Nelson de Assertido 果哲言: João Gonçalves Assunção 要求號 Rui Velez de Moura 安東尼 António Marquel dos Santos. 巴惹雅 Vera Bastos 歐文傑 Miguel Evarieto 群在海 Josep Chan 震聴 響 Teress Xisorong Yan 透馬斯 Maria Noras 康靜修 Vivisos Hong 探測道 Ara Leon 實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS: 萬瀬賢 Frederico Young 强悍鴻 Cheong Wailllong 辣椒等 Forest Chan

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#### **COOPERATION**

# China hosts Southeast Asian ministers as it competes with US

HINA is hosting foreign ministers from 10 Southeast Asian nations this week amid heightened competition between Beijing and Washington for influence in the region.

Chinese state media said the meeting today in the southwestern megacity of Chongqing will cover issues from restoring tourism and other economic exchanges battered by COVID-19, to more coordinated efforts in fighting the pandemic and the feasibility of creating a "vaccine passport" to allow freer travel among them.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi is also expected to meet separately with each of his counterparts on the sidelines of the conference.

Beijing has been building influence with the 10 countries that make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, despite frictions with some of them over competing territorial claims in the South China Sea. The Philippines has complained repeatedly over the presence of Chinese boats moored at a reef that it claims and Malaysia last week protested over an alleged intrusion by 16 Chinese military aircraft into its airspace, calling the incident a "serious threat to national sovereignty and flight safety."

China's economic and diplomatic heft has helped override such concerns, however, while the bloc has been unable to form a unified stand in the face of opposition from Chinese allies within



it, primarily Cambodia.

"Over the past three decades, China-ASEAN cooperation has grown in leaps and bounds, becoming the most successful and dynamic example of cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said Sunday in announcing the meeting.

"The fact that the two sides agreed to hold a face-to-face special foreign ministers' meeting despite the ongoing grim COVID-19 situation reflects how countries attach great importance to and hold high expectations of China-ASEAN relations under the new circumstances," Wang said.

The U.S., which maintains an active naval presence in the South China Sea and strong relations with the region, has expressed concerns over China's growing

presence, particularly its impact on security and Beijing's political influence over fragile democra-

In a meeting with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen last Tuesday, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman focused on China's construction of new facilities at Ream Naval Base and urged Cambodia's leadership to maintain an independent and balanced foreign policy, "in the best interests of the Cambodian people."

It wasn't clear whether the issue of Myanmar, an ASEAN member where the military seized power in a coup on Feb. 1, would come up at the meeting with ASEAN foreign ministers.

"We support ASEAN in upholding the principle of non-interference in internal affairs and the tradition of consensus," Wang

said at a briefing on Monday. "We support ASEAN, as a mature regional organization, in encouraging and constructively participating in Myanmar's domestic reconciliation process in the ASEAN way, and working out effective approaches to alleviate the situation and solve the problem within the ASEAN framework."

"China will continue to maintain close communication with ASEAN, support ASEAN's mediation efforts, and work with all parties in Myanmar in its own way to promote an early soft landing of the situation in Myanmar," Wang said. "Regarding the discussion over the Myanmar issue during this ASEAN foreign ministerial meeting, please stay tuned."

Myanmar security forces have brutally suppressed widespread popular protests against the military takeover, firing live ammunition into crowds and carrying out waves of arrests. As of Friday, 845 people have been killed in the crackdown, according to the independent Assistance Association of Political Prisoners.

China calls the U.S. naval presence in Southeast Asia the biggest threat to security in the region, particularly its insistence on sailing close to Chinese-held territories in what is termed freedom of navigation operations.

Beijing also strongly objects to strengthened relations between the U.S. and Taiwan, the self-governing island claimed by China, which threatens to use military force to bring it under its control.

Washington sent a strong message of support for Taiwan on Sunday when three U.S. senators flew to Taipei on an Air Force transport plane to announce the U.S. will give Taiwan 750,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine after the island complained that China is hindering its efforts to secure vaccines as it battles an outbreak.

Democratic Sen. Tammy Duckworth of Illinois, who made a three-hour stop in Taiwan with fellow Democrat Christopher Coons of Delaware and Republican Dan Sullivan of Alaska, said their visit underscores bipartisan U.S. backing for the democratic island.

China "firmly rejects" the senators' visit and has made "solemn complaints with the U.S.," Wang said at Monday's briefing.

"We urge the U.S. side to [...] immediately cease any forms of official contacts with Taiwan, handle the Taiwan issue with caution, and refrain from sending any wrong signals to the separatist forces of Taiwan independence so as to avoid causing further serious damage to China-U.S. relations and peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait," Wang said. MDT/AP

## Chinese foreign trade sustains upward momentum in Jan-May

CHINA'S foreign trade maintained its upward momentum in the first five months of the year amid steady economic operation and external demand.

The country's total imports and exports expanded by 28.2% year on year to reach 14.76 trillion yuan (about 2.31 trillion U.S. dollars) during the period, the General Administration of Customs (GAC) said this week.

It marks an increase of 21.6% from the same period in 2019, data from the GAC said.

Exports jumped by 30.1% from a year earlier, while imports climbed by



25.9% in yuan terms.

Exports and imports increased by 23.6% and 19.2%, respectively, compa-

red with the data registered in the first five months of 2019.

From Jan.-May, the trade

surplus increased by 56.2% year on year to reach 1.32 trillion yuan.

Foreign trade of private enterprises expanded by 38.1% to 7.02 trillion yuan in the January-May period, accounting for 47.6% of China's total imports and exports.

Imports of major commodities, including iron ore, crude oil, and soybean, increased during the same period.

In the first five months, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations remained China's largest trading partner, followed by the European Union and the United States, the GAC data showed

During the period, the growth rates of China's trade value with the three trading partners stood at 29.2%, 28.7%, and 41.3%, respectively.

China's trade with countries along the Belt and Road rose by 27.4%, year on year, to reach 4.36 trillion yuan.

In May alone, exports rose by 18.1% from a year earlier to 1.72 trillion yuan, the GAC data said.

China continued to see robust external demand in May, said Sun Binbin, an analyst with TF Securities.

Xie Yaxuan, an analyst with China Merchants Se-

curities, said exports of toys, textiles, and garments, which were slow to recover earlier, will speed up.

Last month, the country's imports surged by 39.5% to reach 1.42 trillion yuan. It represented a 22.3-percent increase compared with the same period in 2019.

Imports will maintain a high growth rate as China's economy sustains steady operations while major economies globally will see production recovery, said Xie.

The trade surplus last month narrowed by 32.1% from a year earlier to 296 billion yuan. MDT/XINHUA

■ MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®



# Thais debut locally made AstraZeneca but supplies are tight

**EALTH** authorities in Thailand began their much-anticipated mass rollout of locally produced AstraZeneca vaccines this week, but it appeared that supplies were falling short of demand from patients who had scheduled vaccinations for this week.

Hospitals in various parts of the country have been posting notices for several days that some scheduled appointments would be delayed, adding to existing public skepticism about how many doses Siam Bioscience would be able to produce each month.

The government has said it will produce 6 million doses in June, then 10 million doses each month from July to November, and 5 million doses in December.

"The vaccines will be de-

livered as planned," Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha told reporters as he paid a visit to a vaccination station at an indoor stadium in the capital, Bangkok.

Prayuth's government has come under fierce criticism for failure to secure timely and sufficient vaccine supplies. It also face criticism for its reliance on Siam Bioscience, which is owned by the country's king and had no previous experience in vaccine production.

Prayuth said the Health Ministry had confirmed that vaccinations could begin Monday in every province, and vaccines would be allocated according to the infection rate in each area.

Opas Karnkawinpong, director-general of the Department of Disease Control, reported that 143,116 people nationwide had received vaccinations Monday by midday, about half of them 60 years of age or older.

The stadium vaccination station Prayuth visited can provide 1,500 jabs a day, said Mongkon Wanitphakdeedecha, director of Vichaivej International Hospital, who was supervising the operation. He said they have three days' supply on hand, but he did not know if other sites had enough for more than one day.

One of the people getting vaccinated there was Kanokarn Chueboonchart, who said afterward that she felt no side effects.

"I am working at a bank and I must meet with customers," she said. "So now that I have received the shot, I feel a bit better, knowing that the vaccine will give me some protection."

Thailand last year had

been considered a success story in containing the spread of the virus and limiting the number of related deaths. It had originally planned to obtain supplies to cover just 20% of the country's 69 million people, with most available only in the second half of this year.

However, a surge of the coronavirus beginning in April has been devastating and underlined the need for a more ambitious vaccination campaign. The surge has accounted for 84% of the 179,886 total confirmed cases in Thailand since January 2020, and 92.5% of the total of 1,269 related deaths.

The government has now targeted vaccinating 70% of the population this year, a figure believed to confer herd immunity against the disea-

As of Monday, Thailand had reported giving a total of 4.22 million vaccinations. with just over 4% of the country's 70 million people receiving at least one jab.

The government has been scrambling to obtain additional supplies to supplement the Chinese-made Sinovac it has been using so far and the AstraZeneca now coming onstream. It has said it has been in negotiations with Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson.

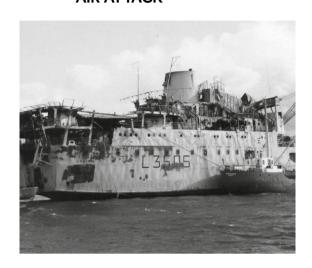
China has supplied 6.5 million doses of Sinovac to Thailand, including 500,000 doses that arrived Saturday.

Siam Bioscience was reported to have delivered its first 1.8 million doses to AstraZeneca's local office last Wednesday, which were then turned over to the Health Ministry on Friday. Up-to-date data on how much had been delivered to the various provinces was not available. MDT/AP

## this day in history



#### 1982 FIFTY DIE IN ARGENTINE **AIR ATTACK**



Up to 50 British servicemen have died in an Argentine air attack on two supply ships in the Falklands.

Sir Galahad and Sir Tristram were anchored off Fitzroy in Port Pleasant, near Bluff Cove, when they were bombed in a surprise raid by five Argentine Skyhawks. Sir Galahad burst into flames instantly. The exact number of injured is still unknown.

The ships had almost completed an operation to move support troops of the Fifth infantry brigade from San Carlos to join forces advancing on the capital Port Stanley when the attack occurred.

The decision to make the dangerous journey was taken after the discovery that the settlements of Fitzroy and Bluff Cove had apparently been deserted by Argentine troops.

Moving the soldiers round by sea in landing ships was intended to save a lengthy trek across the bogs and mountains, which would have delayed support reaching other troops.

The attack came before adequate air defences could be installed, and the men on board, many from the Welsh guards, were helpless as Argentine air planes pounded them.

Helicopters which had been moving equipment rushed to rescue survivors, some of whom had jumped overboard to escape the rapidly-spreading fla-

Black smoke poured out as the guards' ammunition started to ignite. On the cliff tops, medical staff waited for helicopters to bring the injured to shore.

Many of the injured had suffered burns, as the speed of the attack meant the crew had no time to put on protective masks.

In a week of raids at San Carlos, not a single ship has been sunk. Now, two have been lost in a single attack.

**Courtesy BBC News** 

#### COVID-19

## Slovakia becomes second EU nation to use Sputnik V



**Stovakia** has become the second European Union country to administer the Russian-made Sputnik V

Slovakia has 200,000 doses of Sputnik V vaccine available and approved its use on May 26. But so far, only about 5,000 people have registered to receive the two-shot vaccine in the nation of 5.4 million.

Hungary was the first EU nation to use Sputnik V, which has not been authorized by the European Medicines

A secret deal for Slovakia to purchase 2 million Sputnik V shots orchestrated by then--Prime Minister Igor Matovic triggered a political crisis in March that resulted in the Slovak government's collap-

Slovakia has been administering the Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca jabs, and will also use Johnson & Johnson. All of those vaccines have been authorized by

Sputnik V is administered to people 18 to 60 and is available in eight vaccination centers. MDT/AP

#### In context

The battle of Bluff Cove, as it came to be known, claimed 48 lives, one fifth of all British fatalities during the Falklands

A memorial service was held at the Fitzrov settlement on the Falklands for the men who died aboard the two ships, and Sir Galahad was towed out to sea and sunk as a war

The captain of Sir Galahad, Phil Roberts, later gave his ac-

He said: "It all happened very suddenly. The planes came out of nowhere and they bombed us and the ship was set on fire very rapidly. We had to abandon ship fairly quickly. The scene was horrific".

The Argentines surrendered on 14 June.



#### **YOUR STARS**



#### ARIES

#### Mar. 21-Apr. 19

The universe knows you're in need of a break, Aries. Let Monday's skies help you smooth things over and untangle any remaining knots. The moon glides through easygoing Taurus...



#### **GEMINI**

#### May. 21-Jun. 21

The easygoing Taurus moon spends the first part of the day linked up with Mars, helping you quietly work behind the scenes to hone in your talents outside the public eye.



#### **LEO**

#### Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Luna slides into social-butterfly Gemini. This transition directs your attention towards your current friend groups and helps you devote energy towards reconnecting with your community.



#### LIBRA

#### Sep.23-Oct. 22

When it comes to making new friends, you're going to be absolutely unstoppable today. Everyone wants to be on your team, and they won't be shy about letting you know it!



#### Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Use today's energizing skies to get things out the door, Sagittarius. The moon plows through the tail end of realistic Taurus, forming a harmonious connection with assertive Mars.



#### **AQUARIUS**

#### Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Working from the comfort of your home is ideal, as the grounded Taurus moon's alignment with motivated Mars makes it easy to kick work projects into high gear.



#### **TAURUS**

#### Apr. 20-May. 20

Luna's presence here helps you hone in on your current health story, making it an ideal day to focus on reconnecting with your body through supportive meals and an exercise routine.



#### **CANCER**

#### Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Devote some energy to sorting out your current goals today, Cancer. The moon plows through the tail-end of capable Taurus, forming a stimulating link with self-motivated Mars.



#### VIRGO

#### Aug. 23-Sep. 22

Lean into the subtle opportunities that present themselves for self-expansion today, as the moon glides through grounded Taurus and links up with motivated



#### **SCORPIO**

#### Oct. 23-Nov. 21

The moon marches through grounded Taurus and forms a stimulating connection with your planet, self-motivated Mars. This aspect provides you with ample energy.



#### **CAPRICORN**

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Don't discount time spent doing something you love. It's important you direct your energy towards your personal passions today, as the steady Taurus moon aligns with highly motivated Mars.

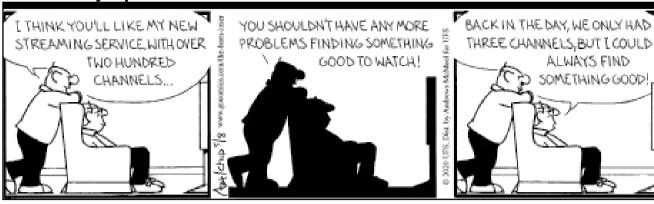


#### **PISCES**

Feb.19-Mar. 20

The moon marches through the tail end of steady Taurus and forms an energizing alignment with hyper-active Mars. This aspect makes it easy to push ahead with your agenda.

#### The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



#### **SUDOKU**

#### **EASY**

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#### **WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
Beijing	20	27	cloudy
Harbin	12	25	fine
Tianjin	19	35	fine
Urumqi	21	27	showers
Xi'an	22	31	overcast
Lhasa	16	21	thunderstorms
Chengdu	18	29	cloudy
Chongqing	24	33	thunderstorms
Kunming	21	36	fine
Nanjing	16	29	fine
Shanghai	26	34	thunderstorms
Wuhan	19	32	fine
Hangzhou	12	24	cloudy
Taipei	22	33	cloudy
Guangzhou	17	32	fine
Hong Kong	26	33	cloudy
WORLD -			
Moscow	17	31	clear
Frankfurt	8	14	rain
Paris	8	15	rain

16

24

#### **CROSSWORDS**

ACROSS 1- Discharged a debt; 5- It's a moray; 8- Opaque gemstone; 12- Woe \_\_; 13- \_\_\_ vincit amor; 15- Pudding ingredient; 16- Actor McGregor; 17- Seizes with teeth; 18- Nae sayer?; 19- Rebuild; 22- Nav. officer; 23- \_\_ kwon do; 24- Intentions; 26- Frost's field; 29- Kitchen utensil; 31- Acceptable score for a professional golfer; 32- Hot spots; 34- Copter part; 36- Gas burner or Sicilian volcano; 38- Perform or portray; 40- School orgs.; 41- Novelist Calvino; 43- Melts; 45- Med. specialty; 46- Chevy model; 48- Hardships; 50- Ferrara family; 51- Skid row woe; 52- Junior; 54- Clairvoyance; 61- \_\_\_\_ take arms against...; 63- "Bolero" composer; 64- Large jug or pitcher; 65- Toronto paper; 66- Club alternative; 67- San \_\_\_\_, Italy; 68- Kon-Tiki Museum site; 69- Golfer Ernie; 70- Agitated state;

DOWN: 1- Pillar; 2- ...\_\_\_ forgive our debtors; 3- Apple variety; 4- Signify; 5-Radiate; 6- \_\_\_'acte (intermission); 7- Stead; 8- CIA forerunner; 9- Leader;

10- Stravinsky ballet; 11- A great deal; 13- Notice; 14- Songwriters' org.; 20-Defense grp. since 1949; 21- Wedding cake feature; 25- Queue before Q; 26- Singer LaBelle; 27- Decorative; 28-Gossipmonger; 29- Academy award; 30- Some horses; 31- Architect I.M.; 33- Slangy denial; 35- Queue after Q; 37- Swiss peaks; 39- Twirl; 42- Cereal grain; 44- Cpls.' superiors; 47- Ogles; 49- Willows; 52- Just okay; 53- Scraps; 55- Headland; 56- Track; 57- Beatty and Rorem; 58- Singer Stefani; 59- Half: Pref.; 60- Horse's gait; 62- Guadalajara gold;



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#### **USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

14

Emergency calls 999

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993

London

New York

**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

cloudy

cloudy

AD

Telephone - Report 1000 Electricity - Report 28 339 922

Macau Daily Times 28 716 081

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



## India Cautiously Starts to Open up as virus cases decline

Businesses in two of India's largest cities were reopening yesterday [Macau time] as part of a phased easing of lockdown measures in several states now that the number of new coronavirus infections in the country is on a steady decline.

India's capital allowed businesses and shops to reopen with limited hours and the Delhi Metro, which serves New Delhi and adjoining areas, also resumed operations at 50% capacity. Last week, authorities in the capital allowed some manufacturing and construction activity to resume.

"Now the corona situation is under control. The economy must be brought back on track," New Delhi's chief minister, Arvind Kejriwal, told reporters on Sunday.

The strict lockdown measures had been in place since April at the start of a devastating surge in infections that lasted well into May and overwhelmed health care facilities in many parts of the country.

Some health experts fear the restrictions are being eased too soon and there are concerns that the virus is still spreading unchecked through India's villages where testing and medical care are limited.

Kejriwal warned that any new surge in infections could be more severe and said the administration will build new oxygen-production facilities and expand the capacity of intensive-care units.

In the coastal state of Maharashtra, home to the financial hub of Mumbai, and one of the worse hit states, malls, movie theaters, restaurants and offices reopened in districts where the positivity rate has fallen below 5%. The state's huge rail network will, however, remain closed for the public.

Other Indian cities also started to gradually lift the lockdown rules. After registering a peak of more than 400,000 new cases a day in May, new infections and deaths have declined and the government hopes the reopening could resuscitate an economy that grew at only a 1.6% annual rate in the January-March quarter

On Monday, new infections fell to their lowest point in two months.

The 100,636 cases added in the past 24 hours pushed India's total to nearly 29 million, second only behind the United States. The Health Ministry said 2,427 more people died in the past 24 hours, driving the overall toll to 349,186. Both figures are believed to be vast undercounts.

Meanwhile, pressure is mounting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government to speed up vaccinations. India has administered just over 222 million jabs so far and less than 5% of the country has been fully vaccinated. MDT/AP

#### FROM AMAZON TO THE MOON

### Bezos plans to go to space aboard Blue Origin flight in July

**JEFF** Bezos will be aboard for Blue Origin's first human space flight next month.

In an Instagram post yesterday [Macau time], Bezos said he, his brother, and the winner of an ongoing auction, will be aboard Blue Origin's New Shepard spacecraft during it's scheduled launch on July 20.

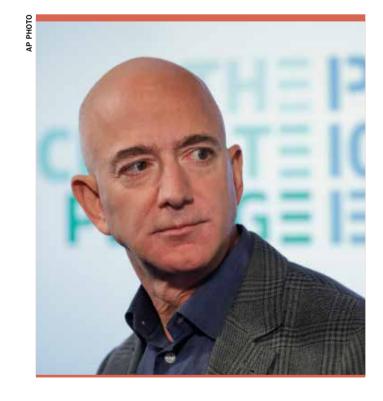
July 20 is the anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. The trip will be a brief hop to space from Texas.

Bezos said in early February that he was stepping down as CEO of Amazon to spend more time, among other things, focused on Blue Origin.

"To see the Earth from

space, it changes you, changes your relationship with this planet. It's one Earth," Bezos said in the Instagram post. "I want to go on this flight because it's a thing I've wanted to do all my life. It's an adventure. It's a big deal for me."

The auction for an open seat on New Shepard ends Saturday. The winning bid right now stands at \$2.8 million, with almost 6,000 participants from 143 countries. The winning bid amount will be donated to Blue Origin's foundation, Club for the Future, whose mission is to inspire future generations to pursue careers in STEM and to help invent the future of life in space. MDT/AP



### **CORPORATE BITS**

#### Wynn participates in 'Macao Week in Shanghai'



In partnership with the SAR Government, Wynn participated in the "Macao Week in Shanghai" roadshow from June 3 – 7. The mega road-

show, located along the waterfront of The Bund at Yuanmingyuan Pedestrian Street in Huangpu District, hosted a number of activities for travel trade professionals, Shanghai residents and visitors.

For the first time, Wynn promoted Macau's tourism offerings on board a brand new Wynn Show Bus as it traveled through the city of Shanghai, giving visitors an opportunity to experience the resort "up close." Wynn also held live streaming sessions on Yizhibo and Ctrip, as well as WeChat lucky draws.

For three consecutive days from June 3 to 5, the Wynn Show Bus made appearances in several of the city's most popular locations such as Xintiandi, The Bund and other hot spots.

#### Sands Resorts Macao presents dining offers for Father's Day



Sands Resorts Macao is offering an array of dining promotions this upcoming Father's Day at The Londoner Macao's Churchill's Table, The Parisian Macao's Brasserie, and Sands Macao's Golden Court and Copa

Steakhouse.

Located at Crystal Palace, The Londoner Macao's British-themed Churchill's Table offers a wide range of British and Mediterranean-inspired cuisine.

The restaurant will offer

Churchill's smoked US prime beef tartare and oysters, followed by classics such as bacon and Guinness beer cheese soup with garlic bread, fish and chips basket and roasted whole lamb rack, among others.

French bistro Brasserie is presenting a lunch set menu that offers three courses ranging from prawns flambé with Pernod to slow-roasted French chicken breast, pan-fried prime beef hanging tender and grilled octopus.

Golden Court, meanwhile, is offering two Father's Day set menus from June 12-20, while Copa Steakhouse will offer similar promotions from June 10-20.



#### **EURO 2020**

# England team again booed by fans before slim win over Romania

GRAHAM DUNBAR, GENEVA

**ENGLAND 1, ROMANIA 0** 

APTAINING England for the first time yesterday [Macau time], Marcus Rashford heard boos from home fans when leading his team in taking a knee before a warm-up game against Romania ahead of the European Championship.

In contrast, Rashford was cheered around the stadium in Middlesbrough when he scored the 68th-minute penalty that settled a 1-0 victory.

The insistence of some England fans to boo their players for making the anti-racism gesture has been as strong a feature of the team's Euro 2020 preparations in the northeast town this week as the pair of 1-0 wins.

The scattered disapproval was quickly countered by other fans applauding the England team, which had six Black players yesterday, including Rashford. The same scene played out Wednesday befo-



England's Marcus Rashford scores his side's sole goal from the penalty spot

re England played Austria.

"It's something that we can't control," Rashford told British broadcaster ITV. "For us, we believe it's the right thing to do so we're going to continue."

England coach Gareth Southgate has called the booing a "very strange response" and repeated that he supports his players to continue taking a knee at Euro

"I think I sadly sort of expected what happened to happen," Southgate said. "That's it, we are going to have to live with that." Each of England's three group-stage games is at Wembley Stadium in London where fans have not been able to watch the national team since 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic.

England opens Group D on June 13 against Croatia, which lost its final warm-up game 1-0 away to top-ranked Belgium.

Romelu Lukaku's 60th international goal decided the game in the 38th minute, showing agility to stretch for a bouncing ball in the Croatian goalmouth. Lukaku was denied a second late in the game by back-to-back saves from close range by goalkeeper Dominik Livakovi.

Scotland is also in Group D and prepared for facing the Czech Republic in Glasgow on June 14 by beating Luxembourg 1-0. Che Adams scored midway through though the first half, minutes before Luxembourg's Vahid Selimovic was sent off.

England's two games in Middlesbrough were the first chances fans had to attend national team games since taking a knee became routine ahead of Premier League games one year ago. Players have supported calls to eradicate racial injustice in society following the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Rashford was given the captaincy as the most experienced international player aged just 23 in an experimental starting lineup, with Southgate describing it as "a good opportunity for him to show some leadership."

The Manchester United forward calmly outwitted Romania goalkeeper Florin Ni with a slow run-up to score with a spotkick awarded for a foul on Jack Grealish.

Three minutes after Rashford was substituted, a second penalty was given and taken by the player now wearing the captain's armband. Jordan Henderson's kick was saved by Ni diving to his right.

England twice struck the woodwork in the first half, from Dominic Calvert-Lewin's header and Jadon Sancho's shot.

Among other routine wins for Euro 2020 teams, the Netherlands beat Georgia 3-0 with Wout Weghorst and Ryan Gravenberch, a teenage midfielder from Ajax, getting their first international goals.

Denmark won 2-0 against Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Austria and Slovakia drew 0-0 in one of two matches between teams both playing in Euro 2020, which kicks off Friday. MDT/AP

#### **FOOTBALL**

# Nmecha scores against Portugal as Germany wins under-21 Euro

#### GERMANY 1, PORTUGAL 0

GERMANY won the first men's European Championship soccer title of this summer, with a former England youth international scoring the goal that beat Portugal 1-0 in the under-21 final.

Lukas Nmecha neatly rounded Portugal goalkeeper Diogo Costa to score in the 49th minute after running on to an angled pass into the goalmouth by Wolfsburg midfielder Ridle Baku.

Germany-born Nmecha played only a handful of games at his parent club Manchester City before impressing this season on loan at Anderlecht. The Belgian club is coached by former City great Vincent Kompany.

Germany's third under-21 Euros title followed wins in 2009 and 2017, and left Portugal a beaten finalist for a

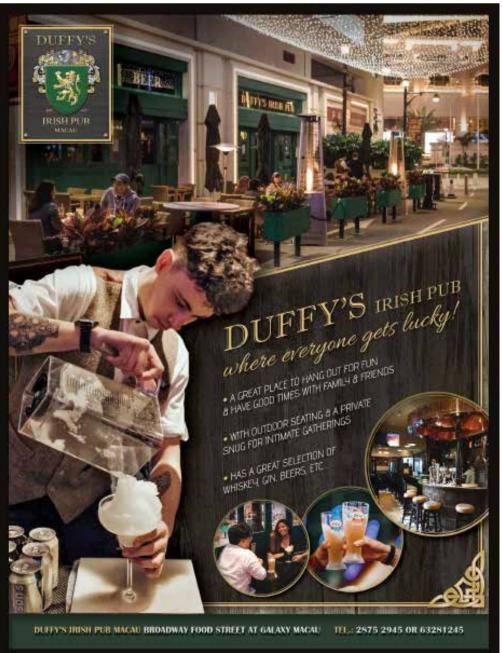


third time, after 1994 and 2015.

Portugal's team in 2015 included three players who were in the senior national team that won the 2016 European Championship

fina

Portugal defends its title in the postponed Euro 2020 tournament that starts Friday, and will play Germany in a Group F match in Munich on June 19. MDT/AP



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### **OPINION**

## China Daily Editorial, China Daily

#### **NATIONAL COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION'S BIG TEST FOR** PREVENTION AND **CONTROL WORK**

Starting from Monday, more than 10 million people will sit the annual national college entrance examinations across China. Given the significance of the exams to those taking them, as well as to our society and country, every effort must be made to make sure the exams proceed safely and smoothly.

The gaokao is no doubt one of the most important talent screening mechanisms in the national education system. As the country places greater weight on cultivating indigenous talents and technologies, the exams bear a crucial role in ensuring the brightest and the best from all backgrounds can acquire a college

This year, like last year, there is an additional challenge for those organizing the exams in the form of the novel coronavirus. Out of the need for pandemic containment, the exams were postponed to July last year. That the exams are being held as usual this year testifies to the general success of the country's initial efforts in bringing the virus under control.

The latest emergence of locally transmitted infections in Anhui and Guangdong provinces, however, is a stark warning that the pandemic situation brooks no relaxation, especially as some neighboring countries are experiencing a second, more difficult wave of the virus.

Remarkably, given the situation, the number of registered gaokao-takers will set a historical high this year. With 10.78 million students sitting the exams nationwide, the largest number since the exams were restored in 1977, the burden of pandemic prevention and control work is an onerous task.

Vice-Premier Sun Chunlan, who is charged with leading the work, urged local authorities to organize and implement the pandemic control and all gaokao--related work with "the highest criteria, the strictest requirements" while on an inspection tour in Beijing.

If that is relatively easy in most parts of the country, it is more difficult in areas struggling to contain a resurgence in local infections, especially in Guangdong.

Many places have put in place precautions such as blanket pre-exam health monitoring. In Guangdong, however, things are much more complex owing to the need for different preventive measures tailored to students from regions of different risk levels and of different health conditions.

It is easier said than done to guarantee that the pandemic doesn't disrupt the exams, and the exams don't lead to the spreading of the virus. But what the authorities have done in preparation for the exam-takers, including arranging for one student who has been diagnosed as an asymptomatic carrier of the novel coronavirus to take the exams in an independent hospital ward, has shown heartwarming considerateness.

Good luck to all the exam-takers, and thank you to all those who have done their best to ensure this year's gaokao goes smoothly.

#### 'GET USED TO ME': POSTMASTER **EVOKES TRUMP STYLE IN BIDEN ERA**

Louis DeJoy is uninterested in the niceties of Washington. The wealthy longtime businessman with an outer borough New York accent prides himself as a problem solver ready to disrupt an unwieldy bureaucracy. And he's facing potential legal troubles.

In other words, the postmaster general may be the closest thing to former President Donald Trump left in the nation's capital. But there's little President Joe Biden can do about it.

"Get used to me," DeJoy told critics in Congress during a hearing earlier this year.

As he approaches his first anniversary at the U.S. Postal Servi-

ce's helm, DeJoy is under mounting pressure to resign. He's been criticized by lawmakers from both parties for chan-

ges to the agency that have resulted in service slowdowns. Democrats are particularly worried that he's purposefully undermining the post office, which is critical to the conduct of elections and is one of the few federal agencies a vast majority

of Americans like.

The scrutiny of DeJoy, 63, has intensified as the Justice Department investigates him over political fundraising at the North Carolina-based company he ran prior to his work at the post office.



Ray Cordeiro, Hong Kong's oldest DJ shows the copies of his Beatles' autographs as the originals are kept with the lawyer, at his home in Hong Kong

## FROM THE BEATLES TO ELTON JOHN: OLDEST DJ'S STORIED CAREER

ALICE FUNG, HONG **KONG** 

 $R^{ ext{AY}}$  Cordeiro considers himself the luckiest radio DJ in the world.

In a storied career spanning over 70 years in Hong Kong, Cordeiro has interviewed superstars including the Beatles and Elton John, and even received an MBE — an order of the British empire for outstanding achievement or service to the community — from Queen Elizabeth.

Cordeiro, who holds the Guinness world record for the world's longest-working DJ, retired last month at the age of 96.

"I've been talking all my life about music and all, and I'd never thought that I would retire. I never thought that I was getting older," he said.

Cordeiro was born in 1924 in Hong Kong and is of Portuguese descent. His musical tastes as a child were influenced by his brother who was 10 years older and collected records from groups like the Mills Brothers and the Andrews Sisters.

Back then records were breakable, Cordeiro said.

"When he's not home and I played his records, I had to be very, very careful, because if I broke it he would get awfully angry," Cordeiro said. "I grew up with his music."

In his youth, Cordeiro worked as a warden at a local prison and a clerk at an HSBC bank. His love for

music eventually led him to pursue a career in radio, where he joined public broadcaster Radio Hong Kong, now known as Radio Television Hong Kong.

It was during a three--month study course in London with the BBC in 1964 that Cordeiro landed the interview that kickstarted his career — with the Beatles, the biggest band in the world at the time.

He had some free time after the end of the course before he had to return to Hong Kong and didn't want to "sit around for two weeks doing nothing."

"So I said, why don't I grab the chance of finding some peeps, some pop groups or singers that I can interview and bring back (tapes) to Hong Kong," he

During those two weeks, Cordeiro traveled to venues where groups were performing and interviewed them afterward.

The Beatles had become wildly popular and Cordeiro wanted to interview them the most. Armed with a notebook and a pen, he went to the offices of the band's record label, EMI, to ask for an interview with the group.

By a stroke of luck, he was told to return the next day for an interview, with EMI loaning him a tape recorder for it. He bought a magazine with a picture of the Beatles on the cover and took it with him to the interview, and got all the members to autograph it.

"Altogether I have some

26 signatures of all the Beatles, and it's probably worth a fortune," he said.

The interview was short because he didn't have a lot of tape in the tape recorder, but Cordeiro managed to spend time with each member of the Beatles. He said John Lennon recounted the Beatles' early days in Hamburg, Germany, where they lived in relative poverty and played in clubs.

He later interviewed the Beatles again when they visited Hong Kong. The interviews shot him to fame, and he quickly became Hong Kong's top DJ, armed with interviews he had conducted in London with the popular music groups at the

"I had a career before that, because I was interviewing local pop stars, but when you compare them to the Beatles it is something quite different," he said.

As the city's most recognizable DJ, he also got to know other stars such as Elton John and Tony Bennett.

Known for his deep, calm voice, flat cap and easy listening repertoire, Cordeiro garnered a loyal following of listeners who would tune in to his weekday radio show "All the Way with Ray," which ran from 1970 until last month.

Asked if he were to do it all over again if he would pick being a DJ as a career, Cordeiro doesn't hesitate.

"I don't think I have to actually think about it, the answer is yes," he said. MDT/AP

Russian President Vladimir Putin yesterday signed a bill to withdraw from an international treaty allowing surveillance flights over military facilities, following the U.S. exit from the pact. The bill was endorsed by Russian lawmakers after U.S. officials told Moscow last month that President Joe Biden's administration had decided not to reenter the Open Skies Treaty that the U.S. left under President Donald Trump.



Russia A well-known opposition politician who was held in police custody for two days last week in a criminal investigation said that he has left the country for Ukraine. Dmitry Gudkov said in a Facebook post that sources in Kremlin circles had told him "that if I do not leave the country, the fake criminal case will continue until my arrest." Gudkov said he believes the investigation was aimed at preventing him from running for the national parliament this year.



France's anti-competition watchdog decided yesterday to fine Google 220 million euros for abusing its "dominant position" in the online advertising business, an unprecedented move, the body said. Practices used by Google "are particularly serious because they penalize Google's competitors" in certain markets and publishers of mobile sites and applications, the statement by the Competition Authority said.



Peru The daughter of an imprisoned former president was leading the race for Peru's presidency this weekend, hours after polls closed in a runoff election held as the coronavirus pandemic continues to batter the Andean country. With 42% of votes tallied, conservative Keiko Fujimori had 52.9% of the vote, while rural teacher-turned-political novice Pedro Castillo had 47%, according to official results. This is Fujimori's third run for president, a role her father held in the 1990s.