



iPhone 15 Pro. Capture more than ever before.

iPhone 15 Pro

CTM5G: Fast · Entertaining · Unlimited
\$468 / 3-Destination Unlimited Data Usage
Handset Bundle Price \$2,070 up

Note: Customers of the above providers are bound by the respective service agreement.

CTM

MACAU NEW NEIGHBORHOOD IN HENGQIN TO ALLOW FOREIGN DOMESTIC WORKERS AND UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO THE INTERNET, NO VPN NEEDED

P3

GOV'T CONFIRMS: NO EMERGENCY ROOM AT COTAI HOSPITAL DURING FIRST PHASE

P4

ASIA MUST RAMP UP WIND AND SOLAR POWER TO KEEP GLOBAL WARMING UNDER 1.5 DEGREES

P8



AP PHOTO



Indonesia More than 200 conservative Muslims marched in Jakarta yesterday, calling for the cancellation of a Coldplay concert that night over the British band's support for the LGBTQ+ community. The protesters, marching about 1 kilometer away from the concert venue in Jakarta where the band was set to perform, held a large banner that read: "Reject, cancel and disband Coldplay concerts."

AP PHOTO



China and the U.S. have pledged to accelerate their efforts to address climate change ahead of a major U.N. meeting on the issue, making a commitment to take steps to reduce emissions of methane and other greenhouse gases besides carbon dioxide. The joint announcement came on the eve of a summit between Presidents Joe Biden and Xi Jinping.

AP PHOTO



European Union negotiators reached a deal yesterday to reduce highly polluting methane gas emissions from the energy sector across the 27-nation bloc. According to experts, one of the biggest causes of climate change is methane gas emissions — second only to carbon dioxide. The gas also causes serious health problems. Most emissions come from the energy, agriculture and waste sectors.

More on backpage

ROCK 'N' ROLL

CE to young unemployed: 'try everything'

P3

XINHUA



GAMING
STUDIO CITY TO BRING BACK TOP BASKETBALL LEAGUE

P4

XINHUA



GROWTH
CHINA'S ECONOMY SHOWS SPARKS OF LIFE

P5

RESIDENTIAL RENTS RISE

The average rent per square meter of usable area for residential units in Macau was MOP130 in the third quarter of 2023, up 0.8% quarter-on-quarter, according to data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). Among the districts with a relatively high number of lease declarations, the average rent for residential units in NATAP (MOP153), Barca (MOP116) and NAPE & Aterros da Baía da Praia Grande (MOP131) increased 4.8%, 2.7% and 1.6% respectively. The average rent per square meter of usable area for office units fell 1.0% quarter-on-quarter to MOP302, while that for industrial units climbed 1.6% to MOP124.

TWO LOCAL EXHIBITORS AT CIIE SIGN AGREEMENTS WITH PSC FIRMS

The 6th China International Import Expo (CIIE) has seen more than 1,000 business matching sessions; among them, two Macau exhibitors have signed co-operation agreements with enterprises from Portuguese-speaking countries (PSCs). The Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), set up a "Food and Agricultural Products Exhibition Area – Pavilion of Food and Beverage from Macao and Portuguese-speaking Countries" and the "Trade in Services Exhibition Area – Macao and Portuguese-speaking Countries" Professional Service Pavilion," which featured 41 Macau enterprises to showcase made-in-Macau products, Macau brands, food and beverages from PSC.

UM PRESENTS HENRIQUE DE SENNA FERNANDES ACADEMIC PRIZE

On the centenary of the birth of the outstanding Macanese writer and lawyer Henrique de Senna Fernandes, the University of Macau (UM) presented the "Henrique de Senna Fernandes Academic Prize for the Best Portuguese Thesis." The prize recognizes postgraduate students who have demonstrated excellent academic performance in Portuguese-related fields. The university hopes the prize will encourage doctoral and master's students at the university to improve the quality of their theses and strengthen their research capacity in Portuguese-related fields.

POLICY ADDRESS 2024

HO IAT SENG BOASTS E-GOVERNANCE AS HIS ACHIEVEMENT IN OFFICE

ANTHONY LAM

CHANGES in e-governance have made public services more convenient and accessible during his past years in office, Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng has said in response to questions about the completion of his own electoral promises.

At Tuesday's Policy Address Press Conference, the official was asked if he sees areas that require further effort to meet his electoral promises.

He was also asked for comments about the fulfilment of his electoral pledges to improve public governance, progressing economic diversification, and enhancing the construction of livelihood factors, as well as cultivating talented people.

Ho said the current situation is very different from when he took office. He discussed the Macao One Account app, comparing the number of registered users then and now.

"How many people still need to obtain or submit documents at government counters now?" Ho asked. "There are over 300 types of service on the app now, much more than on similar apps in the mainland."

He said interdepartmental cooperation was responsible for the achievement, adding that it is difficult to get all bureaus to share their data, and that he had never ordered that data be shared.

Moreover, the official said Macau is overtaking its mainland counterparts by providing virtual services targeting business users.

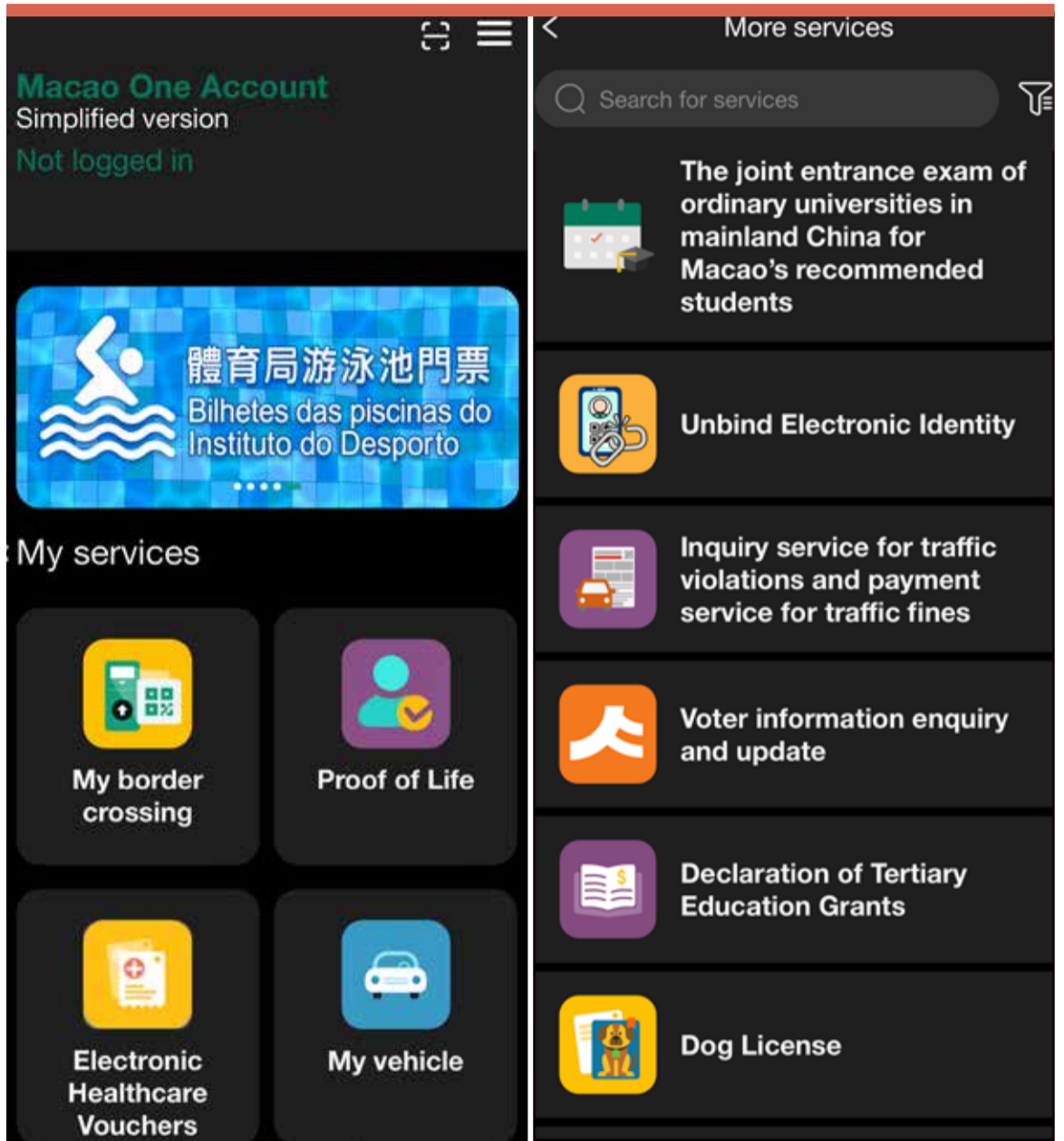
"We will be launching these services next year," he said.

He said the work of departmental integration or mergers was not easy either.

"When it comes to mergers, there will be personnel difficulties," he said. "We need to take into account [our workers'] willingness to be relocated and concerns over the continuation of existing welfare and interests."

He said society should understand that Rome was not built in a day but should give time for things to happen.

"It's not like what some peo-



ple think that nothing has changed," the official said. "What other changes do they want? Do they want an anarchy?"

EXTERNAL PROMOTIONS TO BE CORE TO LURING FOREIGN VISITORS

Macau's tactics to attract foreign visitors will differ from Hong Kong's, Ho said, and will focus on reaching out to source market.

Ho said the MOP236 million allotted for tourism promotion next year will not be used to provide buy-one-get-one air tickets or similar campaigns. On the contrary, "we will join hands with a significant number of travel agencies from our source markets to promote Macau," Ho said.

MICE will also be a way to attract visitors, he said. Details will

only be disclosed when the local tourism authority is ready, he added.

He said the government has "suggested" local flag-carrier Air Macau acquire wide-body aircraft to reach more destinations. Air Macau has accepted the "suggestion," he said.

The government directly or indirectly holds a 21.5% stake in the airline company, according to the Public Assets Supervision and Planning Office.

When asked about the local airport's capacity, Ho said it was designed to serve 9.6 million passengers per year. Currently, only 60% of its designed capacity has been reached.

He reiterated that both Northeast and Southeast Asia are key markets to Macau.

The official has also pledged to

transform Macau into a "City of Shows and Sports" in his Policy Address. Ho said the concept of a city of sports arose because Macau would have a role in the organization of the National Games in 2025.

He said shows held this year in Macau garnered worldwide applause. Although Macau has no venues to accommodate audiences reaching 50,000 or more, it is the hardware and software that count.

The title of City of Shows will be accredited by the Chinese Ministry of Culture and Tourism, which will scrutinize both hardware and software before confirming any accreditations.

He also said that even UNESCO was satisfied with Macau's efforts in hosting artistic or classical concerts at world heritage sites.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo
REACHING OUT!
+25,000
Like us on facebook.com/mdtimes

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times
DIRECTOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR_Lynzy Valles
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Leanda Lee, Severo Portela, Sheyla Zandonai
NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS_Alex Torrão, Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Anthony Lam, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Jorge Costa Oliveira, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Linda Kennedy, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Sérgio de Almeida Correia, Viviana Seguí DESIGNERS_Miguel Bandeira, Rebeca Almeida | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, MacauHub, MacaoNews, Xinhua SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION
ADMINISTRATOR & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com
OFFICE MANAGER Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com
ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84
Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com
For subscription and general issues: general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

RENATO MARQUES

POLICY ADDRESS 2024

LEGISLATIVE Assembly (AL) lawmakers heard yesterday from the Chief Executive (CE), Ho Iat Seng, there will be no added support measures for the population or companies next year, besides the ones presented earlier, as the “budget is too tight.”

Several lawmakers including Chui Sai Peng, Ella Lei, Lei Chan U, Song Pek Kei, and Che Sai Wang, asked about potential new measures to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to be launched next year.

The CE said “there is no margin in next year’s budget to even think of implementing any more measures besides the ones already presented.”

Ho said Macau’s economic recovery has reached about 71% compared to pre-pandemic levels but that next year’s budget, although presenting a small surplus, had a very slim margin that did not allow the government to consider any more support measures.

“We hope that next year will be even better [income wise],” Ho said, adding, “Even with the

small margin [on income in comparison with expenditure] on the budget, the focus was to keep the social benefits.”

“This budget was a very complex one to put together and was revised many times. Only on its last revision was it possible to resume the 7,000 patacas [of the provident fund],” he said, noting the year will still be one of cost and expenditure containment.

Ho said the government can help support SMEs by continuing some programs started during the pandemic and continuing revitalization of the old neighborhoods to attract more tourists to improve business.

“SMEs are living under pressure, this is undeniable. But what we can do to help is keep the measures we have launched before and that continue next year.”

CE: Budget ‘too tight’ for additional support measures



NATIONAL GAMES: SPORTS VENUES TO UNDERGO REVAMP NEXT YEAR

RESPONDING to lawmaker Ma Chi Seng, the Chief Executive, Ho Iat Seng, has said the renovation and improvement of sports venues for the National Games of China 2025, in which Macau

is a co-organizer with Guangdong Province and Hong Kong region, started this year but most of the work will happen in 2024. Ho reaffirmed Macau will not host

more than 10 categories or events from the Games and that the preparatory works, including the recruitment of volunteers, has already been done, with 9,100 people volunteering.

CE to young unemployed: ‘try everything’

RENATO MARQUES

CONFRONTED with questions from lawmakers about the unemployment rate of Macau youth, the Chief Executive (CE), Ho Iat Seng, urged the younger generation to “try [for] any of the job offers available in the market instead of staying home waiting for the ideal job.”

Noting that there are currently some 7,000 job vacancies posted on Macao One Account, Ho said, “Maybe it is not hard to find a job but there are some difficulties [in finding] the ideal job. The ‘Ideal’ is the important part here,” he said, adding that filling those 7,000 job vacancies would lower the unemployment rate about 1%.

“Maybe these jobs are not ideal but if they [the young unemployed] don’t take the first step and try something instead of staying home this won’t favor their development. They need to take the first step and engage [with] the jobs [currently] available,”



the CE remarked.

Responding to lawmaker Che Sai Wang about the drop in the unemployment rate being achieved through precarious employment in part-time jobs offered by the gaming concessionaires, the CE added that such cases “should not be generalized and should be just happening randomly.” He said the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau can monitor this issue if it is really occurring.

Che claimed a significant portion of the recent drop in the unemployment

rate is “not real” or at least not accurate.

Che said the names of those who had found jobs were removed from the list though they had only found part-time jobs that provided only a low income and no security. Che added the gaming concessionaires used the “volume” of locals employed to get quotas to hire non-resident workers from abroad.

The CE said he would forward the matter to Secretary Lei Wai Nong for further investigation, calling on the lawmakers to provide concrete information on the matter.

MACAU NEW NEIGHBORHOOD TO ALLOW ‘VPN FREE’ INTERNET AND FOREIGN DOMESTIC WORKERS

RENATO MARQUES

THE Macau New Neighborhood in Hengqin will allow unrestricted access to the Internet without the need for a Virtual Private Network (VPN).

It will also allow local residents to keep or recruit new domestic workers irrespective of their nationality, the Chief Executive (CE), Ho Iat Seng, said yesterday at the Legislative Assembly (AL) where he was attending a Q&A session with the lawmakers on the Policy Address for next year (LAG24).

Replying to lawmaker Chan Chak Mou who was calling on the government to improve the living environment in Hengqin to encourage more residents to live there, the CE said the government has been working constantly to improve the new Macau neighborhood and to make it more attractive for locals.

The work includes unrestricted access to the Internet and the possibility of hiring domestic workers in the same way



they are hired in Macau, Ho said.

Ho noted additional improvements on border crossings and accessibility are also planned to improve the life of the Macau residents who live across the border.

He said the idea is that residents feel that they have the same, or better, conditions than those they experience in Macau while having a “less stressed life” across the border, adding that these measures add to the existing ac-

cess to health care, education, and elderly care.

According to figures cited by the CE, around 1,000 local residents are residing in Hengqin, and most are working in business incubator programs.

Lawmaker Chan, among others, had called for an increase in arborization and green spaces so residents have an added interest in moving to the area, fulfilling the central government’s goal of favoring a more intense regional integration.

OUTER HARBOUR FERRY TERMINAL HALTS SERVICES NOV.21

Ferries at the Outer Harbour Ferry Terminal will be suspended all day next Tuesday, Nov. 21, the Marine and Water Bureau (DSAMA) has advised. The suspension of all departures or arrivals at the terminal is due to work related to the assembly of a section of the bridge structure, which will obstruct the circulation of all vessels in the Outer Harbour Canal. In response, Taipa Ferry Terminal will operate additional temporary services.

COVID VACCINE AGAINST XBB VARIANT STARTS

High-risk individuals aged 12 or above can receive the monovalent mRNA vaccine against the XBB variant of Covid, including those aged 60 or above, those aged 12 to 59 with chronic diseases and auto-immune conditions. The second phase of the vaccination plan is expected to be launched early next month, and all residents aged 12 or above can be vaccinated. Vaccinations are free for Macau residents, foreign employees and students studying in the city.

PIDDA

GOV'T INVESTMENT DOWN 20%, MORE CIVIL SERVANTS NEXT YEAR

THE government plans to shrink public investment by 20% and achieve a net growth of 808 civil servants next year, a parliamentary committee has disclosed.

The parliament's First Standing Committee is studying next year's budget.

Committee president Ella Lei told a post-meeting press conference next year's Investment and Development Expenditure Plan (PIDDA) has been set at MOP17.42 billion, down MOP4.89 billion year-over-year.

The government has budgeted for revenue and expenditure next year of MOP107.11 billion and MOP105.94 billion respectively, leading to a surplus budget.

Income from concessions will play a major role, with an estimate of over MOP83.4 billion from gambling.

MOP11.27 billion and



MOP3.49 billion are expected from direct and indirect tax incomes.

In terms of PIDDA, the government has bigger budgets for the Housing, the Public Works and the Health bureaus, reaching MOP5.53 billion, MOP4.95 billion and MOP1.3 billion respectively. Funds will be allotted to the construction of government housing and the Cotai hospital.

An income of MOP28.11

billion is estimated for entities such as the Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau and the Social Security Fund.

In terms of civil service expansion, the Health, the Security Forces Affairs, the Correctional Services, the Cultural Affairs and the Gaming Inspection and Coordination bureaus, as well as the Macau Polytechnic University will hire over 50 people respectively. **AL**

GOV'T CONFIRMS NO A&E AT COTAI HOSPITAL DURING FIRST PHASE

ANTHONY LAM

THE new Cotai hospital, set to soft-open on Handover Anniversary, will provide no accident and emergency (A&E) services, at least during its early phase of operations, Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng has confirmed.

At Tuesday's Policy Address Press Conference, the Times asked the official if the future medical facility will have an A&E department. Ho said no hospital would offer A&E services during its trial operations.

"This is common sense," he said.

Information on the topic has been either scattered or unclear.

However, at an earlier occasion, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Elsie Ao Ieong, had said the public hospital A&E department at the Macau University of Science and Technology Hospital in Taipa, would be moved to the new hospital, and such services would be provided during the first phase of operations, local media Cheng Pou has reported.

The Times also contacted the Health Bureau (SSM) on Oct. 17, but there was no reply before Tuesday's press conference.

During the new hospital's cons-



truction, some clinicians had expressed to the Times their hope for the new medical facility.

They said patients suffering medical emergencies, such as severe accidents, strokes or heart attacks, which require high-standard medical attention quickly to

improve their odds of survival and recovery, will benefit from the new facility.

For example, Taipa and Coloane residents would reach a critical medical facility sooner than now because they would not need to be transported all the way to the

Macau side, they said.

The current two A&E departments in Taipa can only accommodate a limited number of emergencies, according to some readers, who had been diverted to the Macau side when they approached those facilities.

SPORTS

STUDIO CITY TO BRING BACK EAST ASIA SUPER LEAGUE IN DECEMBER

STAFF REPORTER

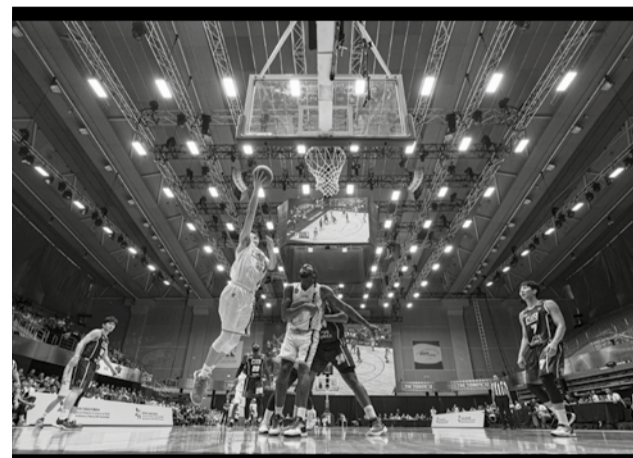
STUDIO City will host East Asia Super League's 13th game of the 2023-24 season on December 13 at Studio City Event Center.

Titled "Melco Style Presents: Clash of the Champions," the match will present the best of East Asian basketball and sports entertainment through a face-off between two of the region's biggest teams.

The Philippine Basketball Association (PBA) team, the Meralco Bolts, will play the Japan B.League's Ryukyu Golden Kings, according to a statement issued by East Asia Super League.

"EASL is excited to be working with Melco Resorts & Entertainment to bring elite East Asian basketball back to the vibrant city of Macau," said EASL CEO Matt Beyer.

"We look forward to



showing audiences the amazing venue at Studio City and the world-class skills and sportsmanship of these teams."

"Melco is committed to delivering diversified world-class entertainment options to our guests," said Mr. Kevin Benning, Senior Vice President, and Property General Manager of Studio City.

"We are thrilled to be working with EASL to entertain sports fans with premier Asian basketball

at Studio City as we strive to help enhance the competitiveness of Macau's tourism industry through 'tourism + sports' integration."

The EASL 2023-24 season tipped off Oct. 11.

The season features 24 home and away group stage games through to February 2024. The EASL Final Four in March 2024 will see the top four teams in the group stage compete over four games for the title of East Asian champion.

ECONOMY

China shows sparks of life, despite persisting weakness in troubled real estate sector

CHINA'S economy showed more signs of reviving in October as retail sales and manufacturing picked up though the property sector remained sluggish, the government said yesterday.

Factory output rose 4.6% from a year earlier in October, while retail sales jumped 7.6%, helped by robust spending during the weeklong National Day holidays.

But real estate investment sank 9.3%, and officials acknowledged that the industry was still in the "midst of adjustment," after a crackdown on excessive borrowing by developers two years ago, coupled with the pandemic, plunged the industry into crisis.

Disruptions to manufacturing, transport, travel and virtually every other aspect of life during the pandemic ended nearly a year ago when China's leaders abandoned their "zero-COVID" policies aimed at preventing infections.

So improved economic data from October also reflect lower rates of growth a year earlier. Overall, China's recovery from the pandemic has been fitful, though recently activity has revived, leading many economists to upgrade their estimates for growth this year to above the government's target of about 5%.

China's economy slowed in the summer as global demand for its exports faltered and the property sector deteriorated further. The economy expanded at a 4.9% annual pace in July-September, beating analysts' forecasts of

about 4.5%, official data show. But that was much slower than the 6.3% annual growth rate of the previous quarter.

The recent evidence that the world's No. 2 economy is again gaining steam comes just as President Xi Jinping is due to meet today with U.S. President Joe Biden on the sidelines of a Pacific Rim summit in California.

Briefing reporters in Beijing, Liu Aihua, a spokesman for the National Bureau of Statistics, repeatedly emphasized China's transition to new models of growth, part of a decades-long shift from rapid industrialization and heavy investments in factories, ports and other infrastructure to a more sustainable pace of growth led by consumer spending.

The economy was continuing to improve under "effective" policies, though its recovery was experiencing "wave-like development and tortuous progress," he said. "At present, the external pressure is still great, the constraints of insufficient domestic demand are still prominent, enterprises have many difficulties in production and operation, and hidden risks in some fields require much attention," Liu said.

The report showed consumer spending is playing an increasingly important role in driving growth, with consumption contributing 83.2% to economic growth in January-October, up 6% from the same period a year earlier. Given the wide gap between the incomes of city dwellers and people living in rural areas, there is ample room for

AP PHOTO



growth, Liu said.

The auto industry stands out. Sales of passenger cars rose 10.2% in October over a year earlier as makers ramped up promotions and customers opted for electric and hybrid vehicles. Exports of passenger cars jumped nearly 50% to 391,000 units in October and have risen 66% this

year, to just over 3 million units, the China Passenger Car Association reported last week.

But he acknowledged that Chinese families have limited leeway to spend and that employment remains an issue.

Overall unemployment remained at 5% in October. The government stopped announcing the

rate of unemployment for young workers months ago, once it topped 20%.

Liu said the statistics bureau and other relevant departments were researching the issue and working to improve collection of statistics and that updates on the situation would be released "at an appropriate time." **MDT/AP**

CORPORATE BITS

Galaxy organizes Grand Prix-related activities



The Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) organized a series of Grand Prix related activities for the community apart from extending its support to the major sports event.

These community activities included GEG's invitation for

members from various local organizations to visit the Macao Grand Prix Museum, participate in an exclusive session at the Pit Stop Challenge at Galaxy Macau, and to watch the races.

Through these activities, GEG hoped to promote the

Grand Prix's excitement, and engage the different sectors through sports, the gaming operator said in a statement.

Supporting the Youth Volunteer Association of Macao's "One Day Volunteer" event for the 10th year, GEG invited nearly 20 older adults to visit the Macao Grand Prix Museum and learn about the event's 70 years of history in Macau.

Accompanied by members of the GEG Volunteer Team and the museum's guide, the visitors were given a tour where they could appreciate the racing exhibits, experience interactive games, and gain insights into Macau's motorsports culture.

MGM holds SME business matching session



MGM collaborated with the Macao Chamber of Commerce (MCC) and the Industrial Association of Macau to organize the "MGM SME Business Matching Session" which was attended by nearly 70 SMEs.

The event marked the 11th business matching session hosted by MGM.

This year's session featured SMEs associated with "M-Mark," Macau brands and Made-in-Macau, as well as

the industries of "Big Health", high and new technology, conferences and exhibitions, culture and sports, under the four nascent industries.

MGM also signed two cooperation agreements with local SMEs on the same day.

Kenneth Feng, president and executive director of MGM, said, "Our SME-related purchases in 2023 have reached a historical high ratio of 33.5% of our overall procurement amount, where purchases associated with small and micro enterprises, Made-in-Macau and young enterprises ha[ve] also taken up 25% of our overall procurement amount, the highest of all time."

DIPLOMACY

China's state media take a new tone toward the US ahead of meeting

HUIZHONG WU

AHEAD of the highly anticipated meeting today [Macau time] between U.S. President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping, Chinese state media have taken a new tone toward the U.S. with less negative coverage, calls for a return to warmer ties and stories of Americans with positive connections to the country.

The messaging follows several years of unprecedented tensions between the two countries over issues including trade and technology, the status of Taiwan and Hong Kong and the origins of COVID-19.

Chinese media have focused on a recent visit by members of the Philadelphia Orchestra marking the 50th anniversary of its history-making trip to China that helped build then-fledgling U.S.-China ties, and on another visit by members of the Flying Tigers, a group of American military pilots who helped China fight Japan in World War II.

"The Chinese people will never forget an old friend, and that's an important message we want to send to the American people," the official Communist Party newspaper People's Daily said in its overseas edition yesterday.

In recent days the official Xinhua news agency carried a five-part series on U.S.-China relations which called for the coun-



People wave Chinese flags to welcome Chinese President Xi Jinping in San Francisco

tries to "meet each other halfway" and "work together to return to the path of healthy and stable development."

But it also urged the U.S. to follow through on agreements made by Biden and Xi when they met in Bali last November.

"Only if we return to Bali, can we look forward to San Francisco," it said.

The two leaders agreed in Bali on areas of cooperation including tackling climate change and maintaining global financial, health and food stability. China says the U.S. has deviated from pledges to "not seek out a new Cold War," to "respect China's system" and "not oppose China through strengthening its relationships with allies."

"Only by handling well U.S.-China relations can the well-being of the two peoples increase, the progress of human society be promoted, and can there be a contribution to the peaceful development of the world," the People's Daily said in an op-ed.

Even the nationalistic and confrontational Global Times newspaper called for the two countries to cooperate in an op-ed yesterday.

Chinese state media have often focused heavily on negative coverage of the United States in recent years. During the Black Lives Matter protests in the United States in the summer of 2020, Chinese me-

dia provided extensive coverage of violence at protests and clashes with police.

The critical coverage of the U.S. and other Western countries aims to show how well China is doing in comparison, said David Bandurski, executive director of the independent China Media Project. "Everything is negative in the U.S. (according to Chinese media) ... and this is the flip side of the bigger picture of the constructing of legitimacy by Xi Jinping in his third term," he said.

During the coverage of the Black Lives Matter protests, relations between the countries were at a low point, with China defensive over U.S. accusations about the

origin of COVID-19.

Ahead of the Biden-Xi talks at a country estate near San Francisco, state media have not played up the city's homelessness problem, although some social media users have posted photos of homeless people urinating and sleeping in the streets along with commentary on how dangerous the city can be.

In one video on Douyin, the Chinese version of TikTok, a young Chinese man living in San Francisco showed how he kept two bank cards in separate locations, one in his bag and one in his pocket. The point? "If I was robbed, I'd still have one bank card left," he said.

He also showed his sneakers, saying if he ran into trouble, "I can run a bit faster."

The new language of cooperation with the U.S. in state media mirrors what China has said in recent months as it has worked to mend strained relations with Australia and some European countries, Bandurski said.

Despite the change in tone, few expect substantial changes to the overall direction of relations between the two countries.

"There's no fundamental change, they have marked you as a competitor," said Sima Nan, an international affairs commentator with more than 3 million followers on Weibo, a popular social media app. **MDT/AP**

TAIWAN

Opposition parties team up for January election

TAIWAN'S two main opposition parties, both of which have vowed to restart talks with China, announced a joint ticket for January's leadership election in a deal that could bring a major political upset in the self-ruled island democracy.

The agreement would bring together Hou Yu-ih, the candidate for the Kuomintang, one of Taiwan's two major political parties, and Ko Wen-je, of the independent Taiwan People's Party.

Up until now, both Hou and Ko have trailed in polls behind frontrunner William Lai, the Democratic Progressive Party's candidate who currently serves



Former leader Ma Ying-jeou (second right) is pictured outside his foundation with Taiwan People's Party Chairman Ko Wen-je (right), Kuomintang Chairman Eric Chu (left) and New Taipei Mayor Hou Yu-ih

as deputy.

Lai and incumbent government leader Tsai Ing-wen have both been criti-

cized by Beijing as separatists who should be blamed in the event a war erupts across the Taiwan Strait.

Taiwan is part of China's territory and Beijing has not renounced the use of force to take control over it.

The Kuomintang, also known as KMT, has had a friendlier relationship with Beijing during former leader Ma Ying-jeou's two terms, between 2008 and 2016.

The KMT maintains better communication with China is necessary to avoid a conflict. Meanwhile, the DPP's line of argument is that Taiwan does not seek to separate itself from China because it is already an independent country.

Ma on yesterday hosted a meeting with Hou and Ko at which the two candidates agreed to use opinion polls conducted between Nov. 7-17 to determine the makeup of their ticket, with the result

to be announced on Saturday.

Hou said he and Ko's teams have "put aside their personal interests and moved forward" for a "common ideal, for the security of the country, and the well-being of the people."

Ko, meanwhile, called on the two parties to work together so "we can move forward."

Some polls have shown that if Hou and Ko were to team up, regardless of who would be the candidate and the running mate, they could beat Lai, who is expected to run alongside Hsiao Bi-khim, Taiwan's representative to the United States. The DPP has yet to confirm Hsiao as Lai's running mate.

A fourth candidate, Terry Gou, the billionaire founder of tech giant Foxconn, is also running for the top job. **MDT/AP**

MYANMAR

An ethnic northern resistance group says an entire army battalion surrendered to it

GRANT PECK, BANGKOK

AN entire Myanmar army battalion based near the Chinese border surrendered to an alliance of ethnic armed groups that launched a surprise offensive last month against the military, a spokesperson for one of the armed groups said yesterday.

The surrender of 261 people — 127 soldiers and 134 of their family members — from the infantry battalion in northeastern Shan state appears to be the biggest by regular army forces since widespread armed conflict in Myanmar broke out in 2021 after the military seized power from the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi in February that year.

The alliance expects to soon capture Laukkaing, the area's major city, the spokesperson said.

The surrender — which has not been announced by the military government and could not be independently confirmed by The Associated Press — came two weeks after the Arakan Army, the Myanmar



Resistance against the military junta is growing stronger in Myanmar

National Democratic Alliance Army and the Ta'ang National Liberation Army, calling themselves the Three Brotherhood Alliance, launched a coordinated offensive against the military government on Oct. 27.

The alliance has claimed widespread victories and the military government made a rare acknowledgement on Nov. 2 that it had lost control of three towns, one of which is a major border crossing for trade with China.

The offensive in the northern part of Shan state was seen as a significant challenge for the army, which has struggled to contain a nationwide uprising by members of the Peoples' Defense Force, a pro-democracy armed group estab-

lished after the 2021 army takeover. The various PDF groups that operate around the country have joined forces with well-organized, battle-hardened ethnic armed groups — including those in the Three Brotherhood Alliance — that have been fighting Myanmar's central government for greater autonomy for decades.

The military government faced another challenge on Monday when the Arakan Army launched surprise attacks on military targets in five townships in Myanmar's western Rakhine state. A yearlong cease fire had previously been declared in the state between the military government and the Arakan Army.

Le Kyar Wai, a spokesperson for the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army, told the AP on Wednesday that each of the soldiers who surrendered in Shan state, including the commander, was awarded 1 million kyat (about \$480) and their family members were each given 100,000 kyat (\$48).

"We give medical treatment to the injured. We delivered them safely to their desired destination," Le Kyar Wai said, adding that the alliance groups planned to launch an operation soon to seize Laukkaing after they surrounded the city.

Laukkaing is known for hosting major organized criminal enterprises including cyberscam operations controlled by Chinese investors in cooperation with local Myanmar warlords.

The Chinese government in recent weeks has pushed a crackdown on these operations, and thousands of people involved have been repatriated to China. Many employed in the scams were tricked into working for them and then held against their will.

The Three Brotherhood Alliance had announced that one of the goals of its Oct. 27 offensive was to crack down on the scam operations. Le Kyar Wai said the alliance would rescue those held by the scam centers, arrest the people behind the operations and transfer them to relevant authorities, whom he did not specify but probably means Chinese law enforcement officials.

The soldiers who surrendered were not the first to lay down their weapons to the alliance groups in Shan state. On Oct. 30, 41 soldiers from another infantry battalion based in nearby Kunlong township surrendered to them. In total, more than 200 soldiers and police have surrendered to the alliance groups since Oct. 31, the groups said in a statement on Tuesday.

Since the offensive began last month, soldiers and police have also surrendered in Karen, Kayah, Rakhine and Chin states and Sa-gaing region, according to ethnic armed groups and independent local media. **MDT/AP**

AUSTRALIA

STATE-SPONSORED ONLINE SPIES LIKELY TO TARGET SUBMARINE PROGRAM, SPY AGENCY SAYS

AUSTRALIA'S cooperation with the United States and Britain to develop an Australian fleet of submarines powered by U.S. nuclear technology is a likely target of state-sponsored cyberespionage, the nation's digital spy agency said yesterday.

The Australian Signals Directorate reported a 23% increase in cybercrimes in the country and a 14% increase in the average cost of each crime in its latest annual online threat assessment for the fiscal year that ended on June 30.

The report highlights "China's role in backing a group of hackers, known as Volt Typhoon," that targeted U.S. critical infrastructure including military facilities on Guam. It warns that the same techniques could be used against Australian infrastructure as part of information-gathering or disruptive activities.

Potential targets include the AUKUS agreement — an

acronym for Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States — under which the U.S. will share its nuclear submarine technology secrets.

"The AUKUS partnership, with its focus on nuclear submarines and other advanced military capabilities, is likely a target for state actors looking to steal intellectual property for their own military programs," the report said.

"Cyber operations are increasingly the preferred vector for state actors to conduct espionage and foreign interference," it added.

Defense Minister Richard Marles said state online actors' increased interest in Australian infrastructure, including the submarine program, demonstrated the need for greater investment in the nation's cyberdefense capabilities.

Marles said the government would double the Australian Signals Directorate's online capacity, investing 10 billion Australian dollars (\$6.5

billion) over a decade.

Security analysts say "China is the biggest state actor in cybercrime in Australia, followed by Russia and then Iran." An accusation Beijing denies.

The new report on Australia's growing online threats comes as Australia improves relations with China. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese this month became the first Australian leader in seven years to visit China.

Marles described Australia's relationship with China as "complex."

"We've never pretended that this relationship is easy. We value, clearly, a productive relationship with China. They're our largest trading partner, so it's right to be investing in that relationship," Marles told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

"But China has been a source of security anxiety for our country and we prepare for that as well," Marles added. **MDT/AP**

AD

BUSINESS LUNCH

Bridging the Gaps: Challenges and Opportunities in Regional Integration within the GBA

Date : 22nd November 2023 Venue : Grand Hyatt Salon III
Time : 12:00 – 14:00 Price : Members \$450 non members \$550
(Vegetarian/Vegan by request)
Non-refundable within 3 business days prior to event

Advance booking is required.
Booking: ivone@britchammacao.org or call 6331 1124
mecc@eurocham.org.mo 2878 2947

Under China's national and strategic plan of promoting the regional integration of Macao and Hong Kong into the Greater Bay Area, tremendous opportunities for business, investment, trade, cultural tourism, technological innovation and higher education have emerged. However, the regional rivalries of cities, the lack of intergovernmental and sectoral coordination, the competing priorities of urban development, and the comparative disinterest of the youth in Macao and Hong Kong have become the challenges that will likely hinder the speed and scope of regional integration in the years to come.

Join us on this talk with Professor Sonny Lo who is an internationally recognized expert in the politics of Macao and Hong Kong. Reserve your spot now for an in-depth discussion on the future of regional integration.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Asia must ramp up wind and solar power to keep global warming under 1.5 degrees

ANIRUDDHA GHOSAL,
HANOI

TO meet the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit), nine major Asian economies must increase the share of electricity they get from renewable energy from the current 6% to at least 50% by 2030, according to a report by a German thinktank released yesterday.

Nearly a third of that renewable energy should come from wind and solar power, said the report by researchers of Berlin-based Agora Energiewende. A fifth would be hydropower and other clean sources and the remainder, fossil fuels.

The study analyzed energy plans of both developing nations like Indonesia and Vietnam, where demand for energy is growing rapidly, and wealthier places like Japan and South Korea, which have among the highest burdens of per capita greenhouse gas emissions. It did not include China, the world's biggest emitter of carbon, or India, another major contributor.

A global temperature increase of 1.5C (2.7F) since pre-industrial times is considered a critical climate threshold beyond which risks of catastrophes rise. The world will likely lose most of its coral reefs, a key ice sheet could kick into irreversible melt, and water shortages, heat waves and death from extreme weather may surge, according to an earlier United Nations scientific report.

Agora Energiewende researchers found that Asian nations are united in their heavy reliance on fossil fuels and national plans are not aligned with ambitious climate pledges announced by their governments.

By using proven technologies like wind and solar power, countries can avoid exceeding limits they have set and also limit investment in fossil fuel infrastructure they won't need, said Mathis Rogner, the Southeast Asia project lead for Agora Energiewende and a co-author of the report.

AP PHOTO



A solar farm is seen next to Donggou village near Shijiazhuang city in the northern China's Hebei province

To conform with 1.5C (2.7F) limit, the nine countries included in the study need to add 45 to 55 gigawatts of solar energy and 20 gigawatts of wind energy every year. In 2021, they had installed a total of just 11.9 gigawatts of solar energy and 1.5 gigawatts of wind energy.

The study reviewed energy plans of Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Taiwan.

As of the end of 2022, the U.S. had installed capacity of more than 144 GW of wind power and 110 GW of solar photovoltaic power.

The need for urgent action was echoed by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who called for a "climate ambition supernova" after a U.N. analysis released Tuesday found that countries' climate plans still lagged far behind what was needed.

Much of the clean energy capacity the world has added since 2016 has been concentrated in the U.S., China and India. Even though wind and solar technologies have been getting cheaper every year, among other Asian nations, only Japan and Vietnam derive more than a tenth of their capacity from the wind and the sun.

The vast increases in Chinese

and Indian renewable energy capacity are an example for other Asian countries that lag behind. They also show how such transitions can create jobs and improve energy security, said Kanika Chawla, chief of staff at Sustainable Energy for All, the United Nations' sustainable energy unit, who was not involved in the report.

Many countries still rely heavily on large hydropower dams, which can involve hefty social and environmental costs and are vulnerable to drought.

The report estimates that South Korea, Thailand, and Indonesia each should add between 8 and 14 gigawatts of solar power annually. Indonesia now gets less than 1% of its power from wind and solar energy, according to a study by the U.K.-based thinktank Ember. South Korea and Thailand also still mostly depend on fossil fuel.

Japan needs to add an average of 9 gigawatts of solar power a year and Vietnam, around 10 gigawatts, to meet end-of-the-decade targets. But the report says the goals are achievable since both countries have managed similar increases in the past.

The report says Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Philippines need to add between 1 and 3 gigawatts of energy from the

sun each year to their grid.

South Korea needs the biggest spurt in wind power — an average increase of 8 gigawatts each year — while Japan needs to add about 3 gigawatts. Vietnam should be deploying around 4 gigawatts in new wind power capacity, the report said.

Lower potential for wind power in other countries means they should target between one and 2 gigawatts each year.

The report calls for a "paradigm shift" to speed up the transition to wind and solar power. That would include removing subsidies for oil and gas that make renewables less competitive, simplifying bureaucratic hurdles such as permits and facilitating investments.

At the same time, power grids need to be upgraded to allow for the variability and unpredictability of wind and solar power, it said.

Despite a common misconception that wind and solar are more expensive and less stable than fossil fuel-powered generation, "Our analysis shows that often much higher shares of wind and solar can be reliably integrated into the power system than the operators expect," Rogner of Agora said. **MDT/AP**

this day in history

1983 ENGLAND FANS RAMPAGE IN LUXEMBOURG



More than 20 English football supporters have been arrested in Luxembourg after a night of violence.

The fans are being held for drunkenness, fighting and stealing after England was knocked out of the European Championship in spite of beating Luxembourg.

Denmark's victory over Greece earlier on Wednesday meant England finished second in their group and do not qualify for the finals next year.

The fans were not placated by a 4-0 win over Luxembourg and trouble started inside the stadium during which two police officers were badly hurt.

Afterwards England supporters raced through the city centre overturning cars and smashing shop windows.

About 500 police officers and 150 soldiers were on duty in an attempt to head off trouble.

They were hoping to prevent a repeat of violent disturbances in 1977 when England fans also ran riot.

But the omens had not been good with trouble flaring before many of the 2,000 fans even reached their destination.

On Tuesday about 20 English men beat up a railway employee in Belgium and four police officers needed hospital treatment after fighting broke out among drunken fans who got off a ferry in Ostend.

At the height of Wednesday night's violence riot police from neighbouring West Germany had to be drafted in to help the over-stretched Luxembourg forces.

Weapons seized included axes and aerosol cans filled with tear gas.

Many England supporters spent the night on the streets because local hotels refused to take them in.

Finally they were herded to the railway station by the security forces where a train, brought forward by five hours, was waiting to take them to the ferry port in Ostend, Belgium.

Those arrested are being kept in custody overnight and are expected to appear in court tomorrow.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

A total of 50 fans were arrested - 13 received prison sentences of up to four months and fines of up to €250.

Luxembourg's minister of sport said the country would never again host a match involving England. The trouble further sullied the reputation of England football supporters infamous for rioting across Europe.

In England, courts imposed tougher sentences and football clubs also started to clamp down on violent supporters, sometimes banning them from their grounds.

But numerous attempts by clubs and successive governments have failed to totally eradicate the problem.

However, the good behaviour of England's fans during the World Cup in South Korea and Japan in 2002 went some way to repairing their reputation abroad.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS



ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You can offer your help to others but back off if they appear to be offended by your persistence. Try to concentrate on research and acquiring information that will be of value in your chosen field.



TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

Don't overreact if your partner has a poor attitude. Your ideas are good and career moves can be realized. Be prepared to have relatives or close friends introduce you to new and exciting individuals.



GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

Call siblings or old friends to catch up on recent news. Do things because you want to, not because someone else thinks you should. In-laws or relatives may oppose your personal intentions.



CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You will be full of good ideas, and your choice of activities may bring you enrichment far beyond your expectations. Look into alternate means of supporting your financial burdens.



LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Organize your house and be sure to include the whole family in the projects you have set out to do. Your self-esteem will benefit. Friends will be loyal and caring.



VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

Don't let peers distract you or push their work your way. Hard work will not go unnoticed. Look into alternate means of supporting your financial burdens.



LIBRA

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

Check your personal papers and make sure everything is in order. Be sure to spend time helping children with projects that are too difficult for them to accomplish alone.



SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

You will upset your partner if you have spent money on things that aren't necessary. Travel and communications will not run as smoothly as you had hoped.



SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Stop telling others about your problems. Reevaluate your motives. You will be popular with acquaintances; however, loved ones could feel left out and insecure.



CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Be tolerant, but don't let any one take you for granted. Opportunities to meet new lovers will evolve through your interaction with groups or fundraising functions.



AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Join a choir or a drama club. You may be considering moving to larger quarters. Focus on your domestic scene. Get together with friends or relatives.



PISCES

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

You will impress new friends and acquaintances with your intellectual wit. Your ability to deal with others will help you in getting the support you need.

The Born Loser by Chip Sanson



SUDOKU

EASY

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

EASY+

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| | 3 | 1 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 4 | 5 | | | |
| | | | 8 | | | | | |
| 4 | | | 6 | 2 | | | | |
| 5 | 3 | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | 4 | 2 | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | | 8 |
| | | 1 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

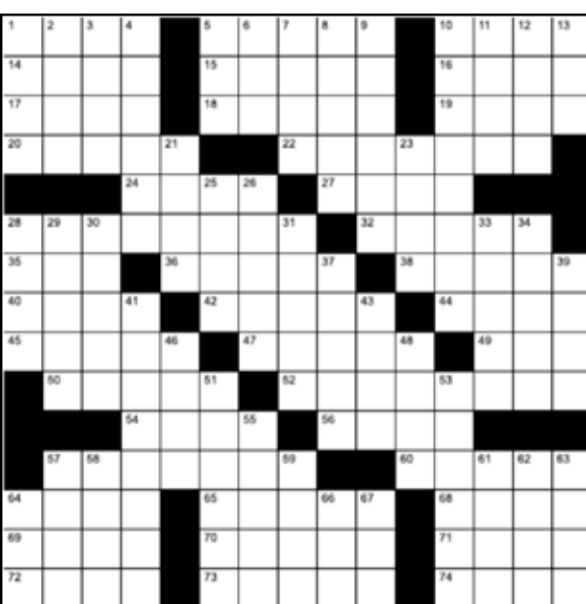
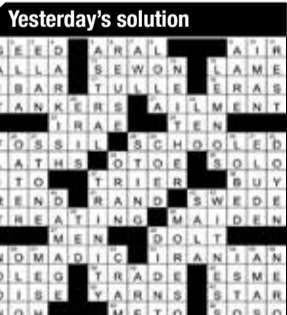
WEATHER

| | MIN | MAX | CONDITION |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| CHINA | | | |
| Beijing | 2 | 11 | fine |
| Changchun | -7 | 0 | snow |
| Chengdu | 6 | 18 | cloudy |
| Chongqing | 12 | 16 | cloudy |
| Fuzhou | 16 | 21 | cloudy |
| Guangzhou | 14 | 20 | cloudy |
| Guiyang | 4 | 12 | cloudy |
| Haikou | 21 | 24 | cloudy |
| Hangzhou | 9 | 16 | cloudy |
| Harbin | -8 | 1 | rain |
| Hefei | 6 | 15 | fine |
| Nanjing | 7 | 13 | cloudy |
| Shanghai | 10 | 15 | overcast |
| Taipei | 19 | 22 | rain |
| Wuhan | 6 | 14 | fine |
| Hong Kong | 16 | 23 | cloudy |
| WORLD | | | |
| Moscow | -4 | 1 | cloudy |
| Frankfurt | 4 | 9 | rain |
| Paris | 8 | 14 | rain |
| London | 4 | 8 | rain |
| New York | 8 | 17 | fine |

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Gone by; 5- Prince Valiant's wife; 10- Detest; 14- Earthen pot; 15- Bit of wisdom; 16- Spillane's "___ Jury"; 17- Scent; 18- Lets up; 19- An earth sci.; 20- Rate; 22- Instructor; 24- Flute; 27- Scrutinize; 28- Altruistic; 32- Chosen; 35- Palm Pilot, e.g.; 36- The devil; 38- Son of Abraham; 40- Malaria symptom; 42- Continue a subscription; 44- Structure for storing grain; 45- Safecrackers; 47- Trapshooting; 49- Figs.; 50- Loincloth worn by Hindu men; 52- Drawing toward; 54- Created; 56- Nick and Nora's pooch; 57- Like grandpa's hair?; 60- Render weaponless; 64- Drops from the sky; 65- Siouan speakers; 68- Olive genus; 69- Wrinkly fruit; 70- Trunk; 71- Land map; 72- Big bash; 73- Stone splinter; 74- Edible roots;

DOWN 1- Wanting; 2- Pierce portrayer; 3- Token taker; 4- Import or export duty; 5- Copy; 6- Salonga of "Miss Saigon"; 7- 3:00; 8- Woody inhabitants of forests; 9- French wine region; 10- Excellency; 11- To ___ (perfectly); 12- Red-bearded god; 13- Hosp. readout; 21- Lubricates; 23- Colombian city; 25- Extreme reverence; 26- Adlai's running mate; 28- Neuter; 29- Barely beat; 30- Express mirth; 31- Decaf brand; 33- Queeg's command; 34- Claw; 37- I ___ vacation!; 39- Damage, so to speak; 41- Narcissism amok; 43- Unites; 46- Hang around; 48- Ballerina's skirt; 51- Foolish persons; 53- Awning; 55- Bar, legally; 57- Infatuated; 58- Small rivulet; 59- Israeli round dance; 61- ___ breve; 62- Enlarge, as a hole; 63- Floor coverings; 64- Floor covering; 66- Alien's subj.; 67- Impresario Hurok;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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



It's prime time to **BUY & RENT!**

有關樓宇廣告法例查詢詳情請向職員查詢
For more information on advertising laws, please speak to one of our representatives.

jml property
CONTACT US & SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY!
hello@jmlproperty.com
www.jmlproperty.com
jmlmacau jmlproperty

Va Fat
HKD 3,980,000 2 bed 1 bath

Nam Long (Old Taipa)
HKD 10,200/mth 1 2 beds 1 bath

Coloane Village
HKD 9,950/mth 1 bed 1 bath

AD

A NOISY ROCK 'N' ROLL

HOW GROWING INTEREST IN FORMULA ONE IS FELT ACROSS THE MUSIC WORLD

MARIA SHERMAN,
LOS ANGELES

BYOND the engineering, the athleticism, the speed, the luxury — fans love the sound of Formula One.

The fierce rhythms of a V6 turbocharged hybrid engine; the sticky staccato of a rushed downshift; sexy, loud zooms. There's a real musical appreciation for the elite motorsport. Engines are described using RPMs, the same way vinyl records are.

It is no wonder that F1 has long been an enthusiasm of musicians and music fans for decades — the Beatles' George Harrison wrote "Faster" about the series, what he called "a noisy rock 'n' roll"; the same spirit that inspired a Mario Andretti namecheck in A Tribe Called Quest's "Award Tour." But in the last few years, an accelerating interest in F1, particularly among young Americans, has made its influence on the music world — and vice versa — impossible to ignore.

There's Bad Bunny's "Monaco" and Carín León's "Por La Familia," both of which feature Red Bull driver Sergio "Checo" Perez in their videos. The up-and-coming indie twang band Wednesday released a track called "Formula One" on their 2023 album. Musicians loving F1 is limited to no genre and no country — its appeal is as global as the sport itself.

A prime example is this week's inaugural Las Vegas Grand Prix, which will see F1 drivers zipping down the strip, bathed in the electric glow of its opulent casinos. Music will mix with the motorsport at countless events beginning Wednesday, including an opening ceremony with will.i.am, J Balvin, Tiësto, John Legend, Keith Urban, Kylie Minogue, Thirty Seconds to Mars and more.

Concerts have become an expected addition to the F1 experience, and the trend has made its way stateside over the last decade.

Since 2012, Circuit of The Americas in Austin, Texas, had been home to the sole U.S. F1 race — until the inclusion of Miami last year and Vegas in 2023. Glynn Wedgewood, COTA's senior vice president of music and entertainment, says the track first introduced live music performances with Elton John in 2015. Since then, Taylor Swift, Imagine Dragons and Pink have performed. By 2019, COTA was boasting three days of performances. 2023's lineup alone included The Killers, Queen with Adam Lambert and Tiësto.

AP PHOTO



Red Bull driver Sergio Perez, of Mexico, left, walks with Puerto Rican reggaeton musician Bad Bunny before a Formula One Miami Grand Prix

That lineup — which leans more rock-oriented for the COTA audience, compared to the Latin lineups of Miami, is "a testament to what we've seen over the past several years," Wedgewood says. "It's a young rock audience."

DRIVE TO SURVIVE

Wedgewood references the effects of Netflix's "Drive to Survive," the popular docuseries that successfully altered the demographics traditionally associated with the world's most luxurious motorsport (older, wealthy, male) and opened it up to a younger generation — particularly Americans. In 2018, 265,000 people attended the COTA race. In 2023, that number jumped to 432,000. That translates to television viewership as well. According to ESPN, F1 viewership in 2022 jumped significantly among teenagers, women and the key 18-34-year-old demographic.

The connection between music and Formula One, for Wedgewood, is innate.

"The majority of people listen to music in their car," he says. "It's almost subconsciously ingrained in our DNA — that racing goes hand-in-hand with music."

This year, will.i.am became Formula One's first Global Artist in Residence, which he pitched to

Formula One Group CEO Stefano Domenicali as a series of musical collaborations celebrating the sport as well as an opportunity to bring the concert aspect of F1 to a global audience — not just the ticket holders lucky enough to see it live. The role led the Black Eyed Peas' member to release his first solo single in over a decade: "The Formula," featuring Lil Wayne. That was followed by "Let's Go," another F1-inspired track, which features J Balvin.

will.i.am has been a huge F1 fan since the Peas performed at the first Singapore Grand Prix held at the Marina Bay Circuit in 2008. Since then, he's noticed a disconnect between the live music and entertainment experiences at F1 races and what's broadcast on TV — as well as missed opportunity for artists.

"Why aren't people releasing music around the time they're playing their F1 event?" he asks, comparing it to the Super Bowl — for which artists frequently release new music in advance of their (televised) halftime performances. "Artists in Residence can really help bridge that gap."

Tiësto, a lifelong F1 fan, released the album "Drive" in April, featuring an F1 racing helmet on the cover.

"It's not just the car and racing,

it's about the environment around it, the excitement around it," he says of a race weekend. "There's an organic connection there."

He believes the evolving experience of going to a Grand Prix mirrors growing interest in the sport, particularly in the U.S. and with young people.

"They want to see the race, you know, but they want to party. They want to have a drink. It is the perfect moment to create a festival," he says.

NEWLY-MARRIED

Formula One drivers, too, have been getting into music. Ferrari F1 driver Charles LeClerc signed with music management company Verdigris earlier this year and has been releasing instrumental compositions; Lewis Hamilton, the seven-time world champion, is no stranger to music making, having been featured on Christina Aguilera's 2018 track "Pipe" under the pseudonym XNDA. Chloe Stroll, the sister of Aston Martin driver Lance Stroll, has built a nascent singer-songwriter career celebrated by the sport's fans.

"What made me like the sport was music. I went to the sport playing music," says will.i.am. "I've always loved cars, but why do I like F1 and not (IndyCar)? What is it about F1 that makes me like

the sport? That is their tiptoe into this cultural hug," he says, referencing F1's embrace of fashion, music, and art.

"They see the value of different disciplines coming in, celebrating their sport," he added.

The modern marriage of F1 and music hasn't been without bumps. Despite the influx of new fans, watching races live remains an elite experience. The Vegas race is the most expensive event on this year's calendar — and it hasn't yet sold out. Last year's performance-laden pre-race show in Miami was met with distaste from the F1 drivers themselves who criticized the pomp and circumstance of the driver introductions — namely that they stood too long in the Florida sun in their uniforms during prep time.

In Vegas, the opening ceremony is being held today. Driver introductions will take place on Saturday in advance of the race.

On Thursday night, producer Mark Ronson will perform at the T-Mobile Zone at the Sphere between two racing practice sessions. The mastermind behind the "Barbie" soundtrack already knows there's a big crossover between music fans and F1 fans.

Now "we'll find out the cross-section of F1 and 'Barbie' fans," he jokes. **MDT/AP**

FOOTBALL

Son called in for South Korea as Asia's leading teams enter qualifying for the 2026 World Cup

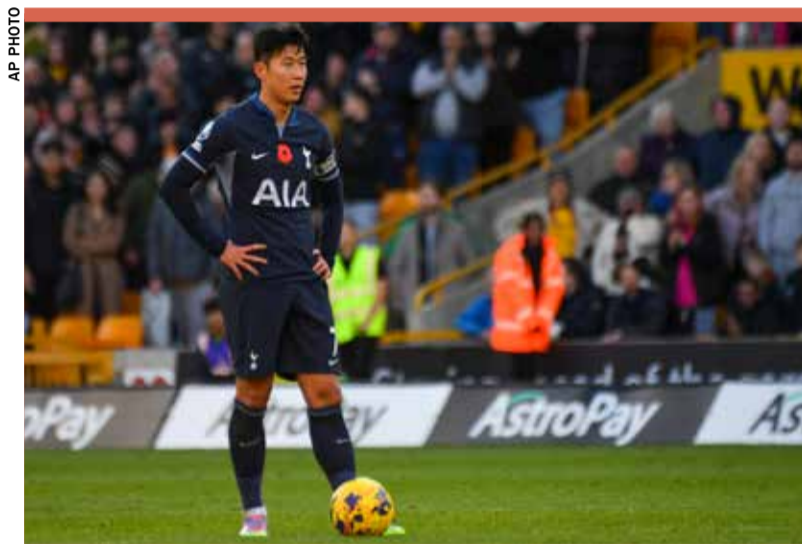
JOHN DUERDEN, SEOUL

SON Heung-min will join South Korea for its opening game in World Cup qualifying, with head coach Jurgen Klinsmann aiming to start the second stage of Asian competition with a statement win.

The Koreans and Asia's five other 2022 World Cup participants start their qualification campaigns to appear at the 2026 tournament today.

None of the continental heavyweights are taking this stage lightly, with European-based stars such as Son, Kaoru Mitoma and Mehdi Taremi picked for their national teams to take on some of the continent's lower-ranked rivals.

South Korea kicks off against Singapore in Seoul with Tottenham star Son and Wolves forward Hwang Hee-chan leading the attack. Both have been in excellent



AP PHOTO

form in the Premier League.

Klinsmann is ready to play his strongest team, despite the fact Singapore is ranked No. 155, as he begins a bid for South Korea to qualify for an 11th successive World Cup.

"You have to take them very

seriously," Klinsmann, who was appointed in February, told a news conference in Seoul. "Your mind has to be in the right place. We have to be very sharp from the first moment."

That's an approach that the likes of Japan, Australia, Iran, Sau-

di Arabia and Qatar are also taking.

The top two from each of the nine four-team groups will progress to the next stage of Asian qualifying, where they'll compete for one of the eight automatic spots at the World Cup - double the continental quota available in 2022.

Klinsmann dismissed the idea that this makes the road to the 2026 World Cup in the U.S., Mexico and Canada any easier.

"All the teams that fight for a spot in the World Cup will fight even harder now," the former U.S. coach said. "It will still be very difficult."

Japan has appeared at every World Cup since 1998 and, now ranked No. 18, is Asia's form team with six wins from its last six games, a run that includes a 4-1 win in Germany and a 4-2 win over Turkey.

Head coach Hajime Moriyasu

wants to use that momentum to get off to a perfect start in Osaka against Myanmar, ranked 140 places below at 158th, and then against Syria five days later on neutral turf in Jeddah.

"We want to take six points from these two games," Moriyasu, voted Asia's men's coach of the year, said. "We want to win and we want to give a performance that will allow us to build for the future."

Australia also reached the knockout stage at the 2022 World Cup, pushing eventual champion Argentina all the way in the second round. In the last two months, the Socceroos drew 2-2 with Mexico, lost 1-0 to England in London and beat New Zealand 2-0.

"We've had the opportunity to test ourselves against some of world football's best in the last six months, and our performances have shown just how effective we can be, learning a lot along the way," coach Graham Arnold said.

Arnold will lead the Socceroos for a record 59th time as coach against Bangladesh in Melbourne. "It'll be a fantastic honor," he said, "but three points is all I care about."

Qatar is still recovering from losing all three games as World Cup host in 2022, and takes on Afghanistan in its first game. Carlos Queiroz, who led Portugal, Iran and South Africa successfully through World Cup qualification, was appointed in February. **MDT/AP**

AD



BENFICAMACAU
ACADEMY
澳門賓菲加體育學校



FOOTBALL | BASKETBALL | DAILY TRAININGS



Enjoy the Good Life Boa Vida Starts Here

Discover
Now



T +853 2856 7888
Terms & conditions apply



OPINION

China Daily
 Editorial, China Daily

APEC SET FOR LEADING ROLE IN GLOBALIZED ECONOMY

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Economic Leaders' Week in San Francisco from Nov 11-17 has caught worldwide attention. Not only are the APEC members some of the fastest growing and most dynamic economies in the world, but also the Asia-Pacific region is at the center of the global economy, driving both growth and innovation.

A regional economic forum established in 1989 to leverage the growing interdependence of the Asia-Pacific economies, APEC, with 21 members today, has become a leading proponent of economic globalization, free trade and multilateral governance.

It has effectively strengthened macro coordination among economies in the region, accelerating regional economic integration and advancing balanced, inclusive, sustainable, innovative and secure growth.

During the week, delegates will take part in high-level meetings and side events with key stakeholders covering a wide range of topics, including: supply chain resilience; science, research, and innovation; critical and emerging technology; clean energy; high-standard infrastructure; women's economic empowerment; and inclusivity.

The meeting takes place against the backdrop of some developed countries turning to protectionism and unilateralism to help boost their economies, along with the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic and escalating geopolitical tensions. In this context, this week's discussions under the overarching theme of "creating a resilient and sustainable future for all" are pertinent not only for the region, but for the world as a whole.

Over the past decades, China has closely integrated its own development with regional development, and it is a staunch supporter and active promoter of economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. Through its continual opening-up, the Chinese economy has become closely linked with the other economies in the region and an Asia-Pacific community with a shared future is gradually being formed. In 2022, China's trade with the Asia-Pacific region reached \$3.1 trillion, accounting for 36.8 percent of its total foreign trade that year.

At this week's meeting, participants should oppose all forms of protectionism and reaffirm the region's commitment to uphold a free, open and nondiscriminatory multilateral trading system and a regional cooperation framework that fosters interconnected growth and converging interests in the Asia-Pacific.

It is a common wish of people in the region that the leaders of the 21 APEC economies, including the three largest in the world, can take full advantage of the multilateral platform to explore ways to work together to boost the region's post-pandemic recovery. The Asia-Pacific should not be viewed as a theater for zero-sum political games, but rather as a stage that is set for mutual achievement and win-win development.

ESPN Bet, a sports-gambling service rebranded with the name of the Disney-owned sports channel, launched in 17 U.S. states.

Penn Entertainment, which owns the service, signed a \$1.5 billion deal with ESPN for rights to the sports media giant's name in August. Under the agreement, Penn will operate ESPN Bet while ESPN promotes the app across its online and broadcast platforms.

A Penn spokesperson said the ESPN Bet app was also scheduled to launch, but did not provide a specific time.

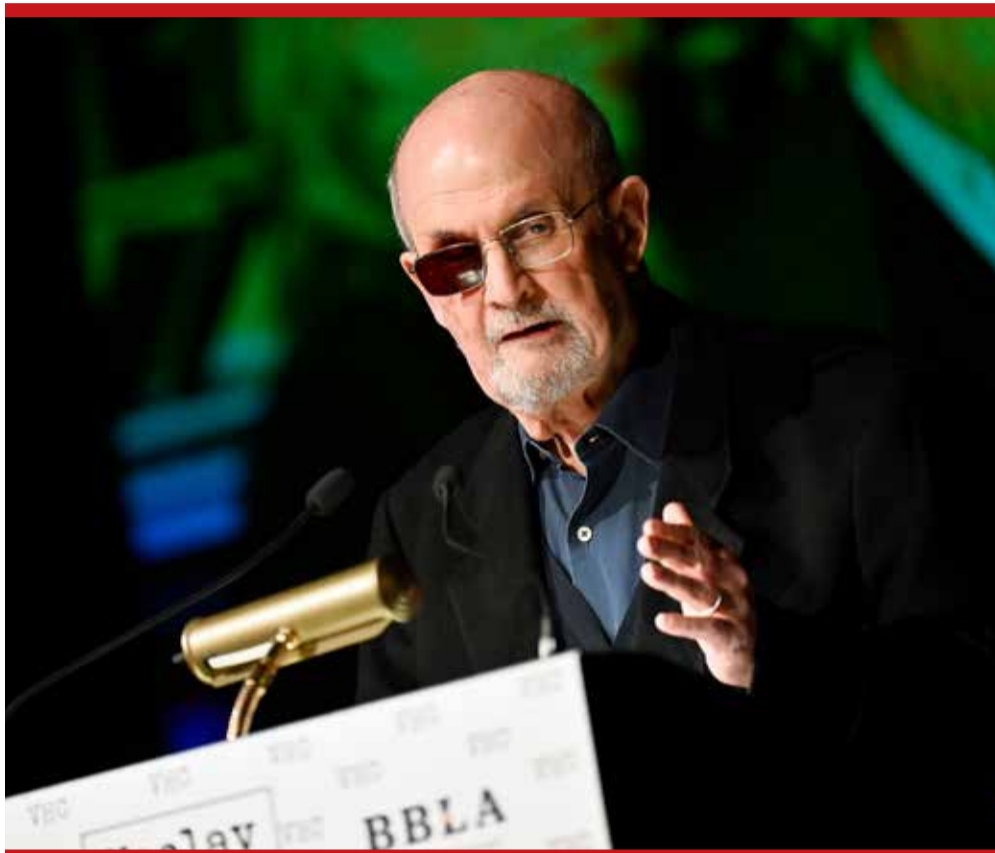
Under August's agreement, Penn's rights to the ESPN brand will

initially run for a decade with the option of extension for another 10 years. In addition to the \$1.5 billion licensing deal, Penn also said it would grant ESPN rights worth about \$500 million to purchase shares in Penn.

ESPN Bet is a rebranding of an existing sports-betting app, Barstool Sportsbook.

The upcoming launch of ESPN Bet could take Walt Disney Co. into uncharted waters. Disney is fiercely protective of its family-friendly image, not typically associated with the world of sports gambling.

AP PHOTO



SALMAN RUSHDIE RECEIVES FIRST-EVER LIFETIME DISTURBING THE PEACE AWARD

HILLEL ITALIE, NEW YORK

The latest honor for Salman Rushdie was a prize kept secret until minutes before he rose from his seat to accept it.

On Tuesday night [yesterday, Macau time], the author received the first-ever Lifetime Disturbing the Peace Award, presented by the Vaclav Havel Center on Manhattan's Upper East Side. Only a handful of the more than 100 attendees had advance notice about Rushdie, whose whereabouts have largely been withheld from the general public since he was stabbed repeatedly in August of 2022 during a literary festival in Western New York.

"I apologize for being a mystery guest," Rushdie said after being introduced by "Reading Lolita in Tehran" author Azar Nafisi. "I don't feel at all mysterious. But it made life a little simpler."

The Havel center, founded in 2012 as the Vaclav Havel Library Foundation, is named for the Czech playwright and dissident

who became the last president of Czechoslovakia after the fall of the Communist regime in the late 1980s. The center has a mission to advance the legacy of Havel, who died in 2011 and was known for championing human rights and free expression. Numerous writers and diplomats attended Tuesday's ceremony, hosted by longtime CBS journalist Lesley Stahl.

Alaa Abdel-Fattah, the imprisoned Egyptian activist, was given the Disturbing the Peace Award to a Courageous Writer at Risk. His aunt, the acclaimed author and translator Adhaf Soueif, accepted on his behalf and said he was aware of the prize.

"He's very grateful," she said. "He was particularly pleased by the name of the award, 'Disturbing the Peace.' This really tickled him."

Abdel-Fattah, who turns 42 later this week, became known internationally during the 2011 pro-democracy uprisings in the Middle East that drove out Egypt's longtime President Hosni Mubarak. He has sin-

ce been imprisoned several times under the presidency of Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, making him a symbol for many of the country's continued autocratic rule.

Rushdie, 76, noted that last month he had received the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade, and now was getting a prize for disturbing the peace, leaving him wondering which side of "the fence" he was on.

He spent much of his speech praising Havel, a close friend whom he remembered as being among the first government leaders to defend him after the novelist was driven into hiding by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's 1989 decree calling for his death over the alleged blasphemy of "The Satanic Verses."

Rushdie said Havel was "kind of a hero of mine" who was "able to be an artist at the same time as being an activist."

"He was inspirational to me as for many, many writers, and to receive an award in his name is a great honor," Rushdie added. **MDT/AP**

AP PHOTO



UK Climate activist Greta Thunberg yesterday denied a public order offense after she was arrested last month at a demonstration against a major oil and gas industry conference in London. The 20-year-old Swedish environmental campaigner was among more than two dozen people charged after protesters sought to block access to the luxury InterContinental Hotel in central London during last month's Energy Intelligence Forum, attended by some of the industry's top executives.

AP PHOTO



UK Inflation dropped sharply in October to its lowest level in two years, largely because last year's steep rise in domestic energy bills following Russia's invasion of Ukraine dropped out of the annual comparison, official figures showed yesterday. Official statistics said consumer prices in the year to October were 4.6% higher than the year before, much lower than the 6.7% recorded in the previous month.

Belgium A woman killed 31 years ago in Belgium has been identified after a family member recognized details of her tattoo, Interpol said. The police organization said the cold case was known as "the woman with the flower tattoo" because of the distinctive art on her left arm. Her body was found in a river in Antwerp in June 1992.

USA The famous fountains at the Bellagio won't be very visible this week amid the roar of Formula One racing on the Las Vegas Strip, and gondoliers won't be serenading tourists at the Venetian resort. "Fountains have been shut off, canals drained, streets closed or harder to navigate," Michael Green, a University of Nevada, Las Vegas history professor, said after six months of road work and temporary grandstand construction for some of the most monied spectators in sports. "What are they calling it? Stripmageddon? It is clearly causing a lot of uproar."