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**THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE HELIPORT AT THE TAIPA FERRY TERMINAL HAS BEGUN, WITH A BUDGET OF MOP17.9 MILLION**

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**SURGE IN PASSENGER TRAFFIC AS HOLIDAY COMMENCES**

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**TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REVIEWS MACAU BRIDGE TRAFFIC PLAN**

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AP PHOTO



**South Korea** Three police officers were sentenced to prison for negligence leading to a deadly 2022 Halloween crush in Seoul's Itaewon district, which killed nearly 160 people. The court ruled their failure to manage the crowd contributed to the disaster.

AP PHOTO



**Japan** Shigeru Ishiba, the country's next likely prime minister, plans to hold a parliamentary election on October 27 after assuming office. He intends to form a Cabinet, appointing defense experts and continuing policies to address national security, economic growth, and Japan-U.S. relations.

AP PHOTO



**India** Ahead of Kashmir's local elections, detained leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq criticized India's political crackdown and said the vote won't resolve the Kashmir conflict. He argued that India has silenced dissent in the region since stripping its semi-autonomy in 2019, deepening local discontent.

AP PHOTO



**Nepal** Floods and landslides have killed 193 people, with recovery efforts intensifying. Kathmandu was heavily impacted, and rescue operations continue despite widespread damage. Many roads remain blocked, and the government has provided aid and temporary shelters for affected communities.

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**BINGO!**

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IMMIGRATION

# CHINA WELCOMES PORTUGUESE TRAVELERS WITH NEW VISA-FREE POLICY

NADIA SHAW

**STARTING** October 15, 2024, citizens of Portugal will be able to travel to China without a visa, a significant move aimed at strengthening ties and boosting tourism. This new policy, announced by the Chinese Foreign Ministry, also applies to nationals from Greece, Cyprus, and Slovenia, allowing them visa-free access until December 31, 2025.

The announcement came during a press conference held by Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian.

He stated that travelers from these four nations can stay in China for up to 15 days for purposes including business, tourism, family visits, or transit. This decision marks a notable expansion of China's visa-free measures as the country seeks to revitali-



ze its long-haul tourism sector, which has experienced periods of struggle since the pandemic.

Portugal's inclusion in this visa-waiver

scheme has been met with relief in Lisbon.

Earlier this year, concerns arose when Portugal was omitted from previous lists of countries eligible for visa exemptions. The

Portuguese ambassador to Beijing expressed confusion over this oversight, hinting that it might have been influenced by Portugal's ban on Huawei's 5G technology.

China has gradually broadened its visa-free policies since late 2022, initially granting access to several European nations including France and Germany. The latest additions reflect China's ongoing efforts to enhance international relations and promote economic recovery through increased travel.

As part of the new policy framework, Lin urged other nations to reciprocate by easing visa requirements for Chinese citizens, fostering a more interconnected global community.

With this development, Portugal joins a growing list of countries benefiting from China's expanded travel initiatives.

ART

# Sands China exhibition celebrates cultural heritage

LYNZY VALLES

**SANDS** China Ltd. yesterday inaugurated its latest art exhibition, "Echoes of a Golden Age: Macro Events through the Micro Visions of Macao's Legendary Contemporary Artists," at Sands Gallery.

The exhibition features 121 pieces across various mediums, including Chinese ink painting, oil painting, watercolor, acrylic, sketching, digital illustration and photography.

These works depict themes about Macau's development and cultural identity, reflecting public sentiments before and after reunification.

Echoes of a Golden Age showcases a selection of works from nine local artists: Lai Ieng, Lok Hei, Ng Wai Kin, Ung Vai Meng, Lio Man Cheong, Lei Tak Seng, Chan Hin Io, Ao Kuan Kin, and Lam Chi Ian.

The artists have made significant contributions to the local art scene, including designing postage stamps that celebrate both historical landmarks and modern infrastructure, such as the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge.

Lok Hei, exhibition artist and president of the Macau Artist Society, said, "These representative pieces, including philatelic works, paintings and photography, reveal to us the



local artists' love for Macau as they portray the traces of local buildings in bygone days and the new landscapes of the city in a new era."

"The exhibition of the nine artists' works not only stands as our tribute for the dual celebrations, but is also a reflection of Macau's historical heritage due to the integration of Chinese and Western cultures and the city's rapid development since

its reunification," he added.

Meanwhile, Wilfred Wong, executive vice chairman of Sands China Ltd., said, "As this year marks the dual celebrations, this exhibition aims to take visitors on a journey by revisiting the glorious moments in Macau's development and its local conditions and customs through the artists' extraordinary perspectives."



## WORKER DIES IN COTAI CONSTRUCTION SITE FALL

**A** male foreign worker tragically fell to his death while working at a hotel renovation site in Cotai Monday, according to authorities.

Emergency responders were called to the scene around 10:05 a.m. after the worker fell in the first-floor construction area. He was transported to Hospital San Januario, where he was later pronounced dead.

Investigators are working to determine the exact cause of the incident, but reported that the victim was wearing a safety harness at the time of the fall, with no obvious signs of foul play.

According to the person in charge of the worker's engineering company, the injured worker was discovered by a colleague, who promptly reported the incident to the authorities.

The Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) has since expressed concern over the apparent workplace accident. The bureau extended condolences to the worker's family and stated it would assist with compensation matters if the incident is confirmed as an on-the-job injury.

Additional personnel have been dispatched to investigate the circumstances surrounding the fall. The construction company told authorities the man entered an enclosed machine area before the incident. Further inquiries will aim to uncover any potential safety violations.

The bureau emphasized the importance of proper training and education on height safety and urges contractors ensure compliance with safety guidelines. VC

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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, 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  
DESIGNER 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

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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

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75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the People's Republic of China

75

永利  
Wynn





## ILHA VERDE LIBRARY OPENS

The new library in the Ilha Verde neighborhood was inaugurated yesterday, offering approximately 28,000 books. Spanning over 1,000 square meters, the facility also features around 2,000 audiovisual materials and includes various multifunctional rooms, such as a children's reading area, a multimedia space and a study zone. During her speech, Cultural Affairs Bureau Deland Leong Wai Man said the new library meets the growing demand among local residents, as previous facilities were no longer sufficient to accommodate rising interest.

## MACAU AND DILI FORGE SISTER CITY TIES

Macau and Dili, the capital of East Timor, have officially signed a twinning agreement to strengthen bilateral relations. The memorandum was signed by Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng and Timor-Leste Minister of State Administration Tomas do Rosario Cabral during a ceremony at the MSAR Government Headquarters. Notable attendees included Chinese Foreign Affairs Commissioner Liu Xianfa and Dili Mayor Gregorio da Cunha Saldanha. Ho described the cities as "vital nodes" on the Maritime Silk Road, while Cabral hailed the agreement as a "true song of peace." This agreement builds on longstanding ties and recent cooperation initiatives between the two regions.

## DISABLED WORKERS INCOME SUBSIDY APPLICATIONS END OCT. 31

The Labor Affairs Bureau (DSAL) is currently accepting applications for the quarterly Supplementary Income Subsidy Scheme for Employees with Disabilities. Eligible residents with disabilities have until Oct. 31 to apply for financial assistance to support their work income for the past three months. Since its launch in 2020, the program has provided subsidies to 290 of the 304 applicants. To qualify, applicants must be covered under a valid disability assessment and earn less than the minimum wage threshold. Application forms are available from the DSAL or Social Welfare Bureau (IAS), and submissions must include documents signed by both the applicant and their employer.

## TRANSPORT

# TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REVIEWS MACAU BRIDGE TRAFFIC PLAN

NADIA SHAW

**T**HE Traffic Advisory Committee is preparing for significant changes in traffic management as it reviews the road network surrounding the newly opened Macau Bridge. The committee convened yesterday to discuss crucial traffic arrangements, including public bus routes and pedestrian access.

During the meeting, members analyzed anticipated traffic flow for the upcoming Golden Week, a period notorious for heavy congestion. They expressed optimism that the Macau Bridge would alleviate some of the traffic burden currently experienced at the Amizade Bridge. The group urged the government to expedite the construction of the A2 connecting flyover and surrounding roads to further ease congestion between Areia Preta and Zone A.

The highly anticipated Macau Bridge will officially open today, with a scheduled inauguration at 11 a.m. on China's National Day. Vehicles will be permitted to cross starting at 2 p.m., according to multiple local media reports.

The Transport Department (DSAT) has confirmed that the bridge features multiple entrances and exits, facilitating smoother travel between



key areas, including Urban Zone A and the Macau Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge. The bridge boasts eight lanes in each direction, with two central lanes designated for motorcycles. It connects the Macau New Urban Zone, the artificial island of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, and Taipa's Pac On area through multiple access points.

The committee noted that new route from Cotai to the artificial island is expected to reduce travel distance by approximately three kilome-

ters, cutting driving time by three to six minutes and potentially diverting 30% of traffic from the Amizade Bridge during peak hours.

To enhance traffic flow post-opening, adjustments have been made to surrounding roads.

A U-turn on Estrada de Pac On will now be restricted to vehicles coming from the overpass, while those from Pac On Roundabout must use a newly added U-turn under the Avenida Wai Long flyover.

Concerns were raised about motorcyclists unfamiliar with

these changes and the risk of entering car lanes by mistake. In response, the Bureau has installed 200 video monitoring systems on the bridge and large signboards to guide drivers.

With the Golden Week, committee members are advocating for proactive traffic management strategies to ensure smooth transit for both vehicles and pedestrians amid several large events planned in Macau. The DSAT said remains committed to continuously assessing traffic conditions and refining arrangements at both ends of the bridge.

## TRANSPORT

# Technical glitch disrupts LRT's first day of free rides

STAFF REPORTER

**S**ECRETARY for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, has reassured the public regarding the recent malfunction of the Light Rapid Transit (LRT) system, attributing the issue to a technical glitch.

His comments came after the system experienced a breakdown on the first day of a three-day free ride promotion created to welcome Golden Week travelers.

Rosário stated that the LRT was running



50% more trips than usual during this busy period. "In the case of any incident, the system will immediately halt

operations to ensure passenger safety. Even minor signal issues can cause a complete shutdown," he explained.

With the free light rail service coinciding with Golden Week and upcoming anniversary celebrations in October

and December, the Secretary announced plans to increase train capacity. This initiative aims to better manage peak passenger flow and enhance overall traffic efficiency across the city's infrastructure.

He also highlighted the safety mechanisms in place that trigger an immediate stop if there are signal reception difficulties. Investigations into the recent technical issues remain a top priority for his team.

As Macau anticipates an influx of over 100,000 tourists daily, Rosário urged the public to remain patient with the LRT system.

He emphasized the importance of expanding the existing network to ensure long-term operational efficiency.



CONGRATULATIONS ON  
THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA





GAMING

# NEW BACCARAT SIDE BETS COMING FOR GOLDEN WEEK

VICTORIA CHAN

MACAU'S casino regulator has approved the launch of two new baccarat side bets, "Lucky 7" and "Super Lucky 7," which are expected to debut on gaming floors in time for the upcoming Chinese mainland's October Golden Week holiday period, industry sources have revealed.

According to multiple industry sources, the new side bets have already received the necessary approvals from Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau. The "Lucky 7" side bet offers payouts of 6-to-1 for a winning "player" hand with a face value of seven made up of two cards, and 15-to-1 for a three-card hand of seven points.

The "Super Lucky 7" variant is more complex, featuring three different payout tracks. The highest payout of 100-to-1 applies when a winning "player"



hand of seven points beats a "banker" hand of six points, with each hand consisting of three cards. Other payouts under "Super Lucky 7" include 40-to-1 and 30-to-1, depending on the card compositions.

These new side bets are expected to be available on both traditional live table games and the "smart" live-dealer table format in Macau. The game rules are similar to the "Dragon Tiger" baccarat variant found at

Singapore's Marina Bay Sands resort.

The introduction of the new side bets follows the widespread adoption of the "Small 6/Big 6" baccarat side bet across Macau's six casino operators earlier this year, coinciding with the May Golden Week holiday. The "Small 6/Big 6" side bet, which resembles the "Tiger Baccarat" game in Singapore, pays 22-to-1 and 50-to-1 for certain "banker" hand outcomes.

PUBLIC WORKS

# Refurbishment begins on Taipa Ferry Terminal heliport

VICTORIA CHAN

THE refurbishment of the heliport at the Taipa Ferry Terminal began last week, with a budget of MOP17.9 million.

The project, awarded to Companhia de Construção Urbana J & T Limitada, spans around 3,350 square meters and is expected to be completed by April 2025. The work involves renovating parts of the ground floor to the fourth floor of the ferry terminal building, as well as the helicopter landing pads.

Once finished, the refurbished heliport will meet operational needs and provide services such as ticketing, check-in, security screening, and boarding for helicopter passengers, according to the Public Works Bureau.

The upgrades are expected

to further increase local maritime and air transport capacity while attracting customer sources from diversified markets. The Taipa Ferry Terminal, which opened on June 1, 2017, has had five helicopter pads, but no flight operations have taken place there.

The renovations come amid comments from the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo Arrais do Rosário, who previously suggested that helicopter services may need to relocate from the Outer Harbour terminal to allow for high-rise development in Zone A. However, the Civil Aviation Authority (AACM) has confirmed that operations at the Outer Harbour heliport will continue until the government finalizes new facility arrangements.



# PLAZA PREMIUM GROUP LAUNCHES NEW LOUNGE AT LOCAL AIRPORT

STAFF REPORTER

PLAZA Premium Group (PPG) has officially opened its Plaza Premium First lounge at Macau International Airport—a move the group believes is a "favorable time" for the SAR and the Greater Bay Area.

This year also commemorates the 10th anniversary of PPG's operations in Macau, following the launch of the original Plaza Premium Lounge.

Situated near Departure Gate 10/10A, the Plaza Premium First lounge spans 5,000 square feet and is the fourth of its kind, joining similar luxurious lounges in Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, and Jakarta.

"10 years ago, we opened our first lounge at Macau International Airport. Over the

past decade, we have witnessed the growth and evolution of the tourism industry in the city," said Song Hoi-See, founder and CEO of PPG.

"Through the new lounge, we aim to enhance the journeys for travellers who value curated experiences. With the airport expansion plan and the opportunities presented by the Greater Bay Area and China, we believe this is a favourable time for PPG to expand in Macau," he added.

The new lounge emphasizes local culture, featuring iconic Macanese dishes such as Portuguese Chicken and Pork Chop Bun, under the theme "Proudly Local."

Macau International Airport has welcomed 5.2 million passengers as of August 2024, nearing 80% of pre-pandemic levels.

SPORTS

# HONG KONG, CHINA VICTORIOUS IN BADMINTON COMPETITION

THE Sands China Ltd. Macau Open Badminton 2024 competition concluded, showcasing six days of competition and crowning champions in five events: Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles.

In the Men's Singles, Hong Kong's Angus Ng Ka Long emerged victorious, while the Women's Singles title went to China's Gao Fang Jie.

The Men's Doubles champions, Chen Xu Jun and Liu Yi, from China, demonstrated teamwork and strategy, while the Women's Doubles champions, Li Wen Mei and Zhang Shu Xian, proved equally formidable, securing their place at the top.

Finally, in the Mixed Doubles, the duo of Guo Xin Wa and Chen Fang Hui claimed victory.

The tournament awarded a total prize pool of USD210,000 (about MOP1.68 million), making it the first world-class badminton event in Macau since the Olympics earlier this year.

A record-breaking 375 athletes from 30 nations participated, with 259 qualifying for the main draw.

In addition to competitive matches, Sands China hosted a community event where elite players shared their experiences



Gao Fang Jie

Guo Xin Wa and Chen Fang Hui

with local students, emphasizing resilience and hard work.

This initiative aligns with Macau's vision of becoming a "City of Sports," fostering local engagement in athletics.

Co-organized by Sands China Ltd. and the Badminton Federa-

tion of Macau (BFM), the tournament was held at the Macau East Asian Games Dome from Sept. 24 to Sept. 29.

This prestigious event is part of the HSBC BWF World Tour Super 300 and has been an annual highlight since 2006. NS



# CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA





# IC confirms Rua de Felicidade pedestrian area optimization

NADIA SHAW

**T**HE Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has announced that new measures for the Rua de Felicidade pedestrianization will be implemented in October.

The Rua de Felicidade pedestrianization plan has been on trial since Sept. 29, 2023, aimed at "improving business and residents' lives in the area," bureau president De-land Leong said, speaking to the press on the sidelines of the Ilha Verde library opening yesterday.

During this period, various activities, including markets and performances, have yielded positive results.

Leong said she has received feedback from merchants and residents alike.

After considering these opinions, she believes now is the appropriate time to review and further optimize the area's pedestrian zone measures.

The latest scope of traffic optimization measures for this area are expected to be announced after the holiday, some-



me in October.

Following the National Day celebrations, authorities will also repair facades, signboards and canopies for 10 cultural heritage buildings in the area.

Authorities will also further consider and evaluate other measures to attract tourists and encourage short-term spending.

The IC announced that numerous venues will host performances, while markets and casual dining experiences will be featured at the ongoing National Day Golden Week.

Leong further revealed that

Inner Harbor Piers 23 and 25 will undergo reinforcement work to facilitate Melco Resort's Inner Harbor project. By the first quarter of 2025, Melco is expected to be in a position to commence its terminal revitalization project, aiming to enhance visitor flow and support surrounding areas.

The government is also developing a rental plan for outdoor performance venues, with the first event scheduled to launch by the end of this year or early next year. Specific rental regulations are expected to be announced soon.



STATS

## Significant increases in cross-border traffic, flights

STAFF REPORTER

**C**CROSS-BORDER vehicular traffic in Macau saw a significant 22.5% increase, totaling 797,954 trips in August, according to data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Macau single-plate vehicle trips to and from Hengqin totaled 134,000, a 34.3% increase. Trips made under the "Northbound Travel for Macao Vehicles" policy grew by 7.3% to 130,000, while trips to and from Hong Kong surged by 53.8% to 26,000.

At the Macau International Airport, commercial flights totaled 5,218 in August, marking a 28.5% increase compared to the previous year. The gross weight of air cargo also saw impressive growth,

jumping 78% to 9,542 tonnes.

In the first eight months of 2024, the number of flights increased by 63.3%, while air cargo weight rose by 97.8% to 67,328 tonnes.

Passenger ferry trips also experienced growth, rising by 3.3% year-on-year to 6,753 in August. Over the first eight months, the total number of ferry trips reached 53,566, a 24.7% increase.

Also, data shows that internet subscribers totalled 768,000 as at end-August, an increase of 7.5% year-on-year. The duration of internet usage in August grew by 6.7% year-on-year to 151 million hours, whereas the total duration of internet usage in the first eight months of 2024 went up by 2.3% to 1.17 billion hours.

### GOLDEN WEEK

## Surge in passenger traffic as holiday commences

**T**HE Macau SAR saw a total of 93,456 tourist arrivals yesterday, with entries and exits across its various ports—a figure that aligns closely with expectations set by local authorities. Traditionally, the initial days of the Golden Week see a slower influx of visitors. Many tours from Mainland China typically start in neighboring Hong Kong, leading to a gradual arrival of tourists in Macau.

Yesterday's data from the Public Security Police (PSP) indicates that the Border Gate remains the busiest entry point, accounting for 34,344 arrivals, followed closely by the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HKZMB), which wel-

comed 18,783 passengers. Notably, Hengqin Port facilitated 16,002 entries.

On Sunday, the city welcomed 96,671 tourists. The government remains optimistic that visitor numbers will not only meet but could potentially exceed targets as the week progresses.

Earlier this week, the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) reported that 70% of hotel accommodations have already been reserved for the holiday period, with expectations of further increases in bookings throughout this week.

The MGTO expressed optimism that if weather conditions are favorable during the National Day holiday, average daily visitor arrivals could



surpass the predicted 100,000.

Golden Week in main-

land China will last for seven days, from Oct. 1 to 7. After the Spring

Festival Golden Week and the May Day Golden Week, National Day Gol-

den Week is considered the third most important period for tourism in the annual calendar.

During last year's National Day Golden Week, which lasted for eight days from Sept. 29 to Oct. 6, Macau recorded a total of 931,000 visitor arrivals, averaging around 116,000 visitors per day. The travel industry anticipates that this year's figure could surpass that, suggesting the government's forecast may be conservative.

Meanwhile, outbound statistics also reveal robust movement, with 86,280 passengers and 17,276 tourists departing from the HZMB Port. The Border Gate led this category, recording 32,173 exits. NS/LV



# Congratulations on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the People's Republic of China



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# EXPLORE EVENTS DURING OCTOBER AND ITS GOLDEN WEEK

STAFF REPORTER

**T**HE National Day Golden Week brings a variety of new and ongoing events and exhibitions, from entertainment to culture, for the public to enjoy.

Today, the Macau SAR will host a series of events to celebrate National Day, including a flag-raising ceremony and reception.

The flag-raising ceremony will take place this morning at Golden Lotus Square.

In the evening, a fireworks show will be staged by Chinese and Italian companies as part of the 32nd Macao International Fireworks Display Contest.

With only two dates remaining – Oct. 1 and Oct. 6 – the contest will feature spectacular firework displays from 10 competing countries.

Visitors can enjoy performances from teams representing China and Italy on National Day, and teams from Japan and Portugal the following weekend.

The Macao Government Tourism Office encourages public participation in the photo contest and student drawing contest, contributing to the festive atmosphere.

Adding to the celebrations, the '36th Macao International Music Festival' will open with Giacomo Puccini's Opera in Three Acts on Oct. 4 and close with Mariza and the Macao Chinese Orchestra on Nov. 4.

Celebrated musicians and orchestras worldwide will be invited to perform at the Macao Cultural Centre.

Local artist Jay Lei skillfully uses light as a medium to showcase various elements of Catholicism in Macao's Catholic Culture



Heritage exhibition, running until Oct. 6 at the Macao Catholic Culture Association.

Lei's craft and detailed animated imagery promises an immersive light journey through the city's unique history.

More immersive experiences can be found in the ongoing "Eggspression - An Immersive Art Experience" exhibition, running until Oct. 7 at the Galaxy Prom-

nade at Galaxy Macau. Visitors can capture Instagram-worthy moments with artwork by Dutch public-installation artist Henk Hofstra, who combines interactive exhibits and playful aesthetics for a unique experience.

For those seeking additional photo opportunities, teamLab SuperNature at the Venetian Macao offers a daily immersive experience centered on enormous

8-meter-tall art installations that explore the connection between humans and nature. Visitors can engage with the art physically, redefining their perception of the boundaries between self and the world.

Artwork spaces such as Floating Flower Garden: Flowers and I Are of the Same Root, The Garden and I Are One, Massless Clouds Between Sculpture and

Life, and EN TEA HOUSE are slated to provide greater surprises and enhance the visitor experience.

The local sports scene is also thriving, with the 'Happy Elephant MMA Champions League - Macau Cup' set to take place on Oct. 12 at Galaxy Arena.

It will feature Chinese fighters against international opponents, promoting the development of mixed martial arts.

Film enthusiasts can visit Cinematheque Passion at Travessa da Paixão for the "Wandering in the Scenes" exhibition, running until Oct. 20. The exhibition offers an opportunity to rediscover various Macau locations through selected clips from films shot in these areas, supplemented by contemporary images in the same vicinity.

One Central has also collaborated with internationally renowned artist Jason Naylor for the 'Fly Me to the Moon' exhibition.

Open until Oct. 31, this marks the first exhibition in Macau combining Chinese traditions with artificial intelligence and graffiti art. Featuring four interactive installations, Naylor's AI-enhanced work with light and color creates a multisensory experience for visitors.

The Macao Museum of Art also has an exhibition to offer until Nov. 10, where over 150 bronze artifacts from the National Museum of China are on display. The artifacts span a significant period of history and represent a variety of categories and forms. The public can take this unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the development of early Chinese civilization.

## CORPORATE BITS

### Four Seasons spa wins best TCM treatment award



The Spa at Four Seasons Hotel Macao has won the 'Best TCM (Traditional Chinese Medicine) Treatment of the Year' award at the 2024 SpaChina Wellness & Spa Awards.

SpaChina, a leading wellness and luxury publication, cele-

brated industry innovation during its 15th Wellness & Spa Awards and 17th Wellness Summit in Nanjing, China, from Sept. 23 to 26.

At the heart of traditional Chinese medicine are the three treasures: Shen (mind

and spirit), qi (energy), and jing (core essence).

The spa's exclusive 'Medic Brushcup & Gua Sha Tension Release' treatment uses techniques like dry brushing and cupping to alleviate physical and mental tension while enhancing mobility and blood circulation.

Daphne Ng, hotel manager, expressed pride in the award, highlighting their commitment to offering exceptional care and transformative experiences to guests.

"This recognition inspires us to continue delivering exceptional hospitality and wellness experiences, ensuring that each visit to our hotel is memorable and transformative," said Ng.

### Wynn Macau's 'Drunken Fish' officially opens



Wynn Macau officially unveiled Drunken Fish, a brand-new immersive seafood restaurant that features a modern design with multiple hand-bent curved aquariums and a

trendy turquoise Moutai bar. The restaurant is Macau's first to offer live auctions, where guests can bid on the freshest catches every Friday and Saturday evening.

In addition to enjoying Moutai – China's national liquor – at the bar, executive chef Henry Zhang Zhicheng infuses Moutai into seafood dishes, marrying the liquor's unique flavor with the freshness of the seafood in dishes such as the red-spotted grouper with pickled tomato, chili, bean sprouts and Moutai. The dish takes inspiration from a traditional Chinese fish in sour soup dish, while the aroma of the liquor brings out the ultimate freshness. Drunken Fish is also the only restaurant in Macau to specialize in freshly made seafood dim sum, prepared daily by Chef Zhang and his team.



CONGRATULATIONS ON  
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CAIXIN PMS

# Factory surveys show economy weakening, as Beijing steps up support

ELAINE KURTENBACH

**C**HINA'S economy weakened further in recent weeks, according to surveys released yesterday, signaling the need for more support as the government ratchets up stimulus.

The Caixin purchasing managers survey (PMS) showed new manufacturing orders fell at the fastest pace in two years in September.

"Operating conditions in China's manufacturing sector deteriorated in September after improving during August," the report said. "Furthermore, firms lowered their hiring and purchasing activity."

An official survey released by the National Bureau of Statistics showed a less drastic decline but it marked a fifth straight month of contraction. The purchasing managers index was at 49.8 in September, up from a six-month low of 49.1 in August. The index is on a scale where figures above 50 indicate expansion.

The survey showed that factory output rose while new orders fell.

Chinese stock markets surged yesterday, reflecting enthusiasm over a barrage of policy measures announced last week, including lower interest rates and smaller down payment re-



quirements for mortgages and a cut in required bank reserves.

"There is no doubt that the coordinated and emphatic policy stimulus measures announced by Beijing have justifiably invoked optimism," Tan Boon Heng of Mizuho Bank in Singapore said in a commentary.

The main market index in Shenzhen soared 8.2% while the Shanghai Composite index jumped 5.7%

"The stimulus package an-

nounced last week should help shore activity over the coming months," Gabriel Ng of Capital Economics said in a report. But he noted that imbalances between excess supply of many products versus weak demand

tariffs on electric vehicles and other goods, also will weigh on the economy.

"In this environment, a meaningful cyclical recovery would require sizeable fiscal stimulus," he said. "There has yet to be any official announcement on fiscal support, though some media reports suggest that one could come soon."

Over the weekend, Beijing moved forward with the measures

announced last week to support the property industry

**"There is no doubt that the coordinated and emphatic [Beijing's] policy stimulus measures have justifiably invoked optimism.**

TAN BOON HENG  
MIZUHO BANK

persist. And trade measures against China, such as higher

and revive languishing financial markets. The central bank announced on Sunday that it would direct banks to cut mortgage rates for existing home loans by Oct. 31. Meanwhile, the major southern city of Guangzhou lifted all home purchase restrictions over the weekend, while both Shanghai and Shenzhen revealed plans to ease key buying curbs.

Property developers have struggled after the government cracked down on excessive borrowing for projects several years ago. Housing prices have continued to fall and the government has moved to ensure that developers deliver apartments that were paid for but not yet built.

The downturn in the property sector has rippled throughout the world's second-largest economy, hitting many other industries that depended on booming housing construction, such as appliance makers and manufacturers of building materials.

It has slowed China's recovery from the massive disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, adding to pressures on Chinese consumers worried over pay cuts, job losses and weaker asset prices.

The economy expanded at a 4.7% pace in the last quarter, slightly below the government's target for about 5%. **MDT/AP**

SOUTH CHINA SEA

# Crew of Vietnamese fishing boat injured in an attack, state media say

**A**Vietnamese fishing boat was attacked in the South China Sea near the Paracel Islands, claimed by both China and Vietnam, and 10 crew members were injured, Vietnamese state media said yesterday.

The Vietnamese boat radioed Sunday to report the attack, saying three fishermen suffered broken limbs and seven others received other injuries, the Tien Phong newspaper quoted a local official at Binh Chau commune in Quang Ngai province as saying.

It was not clear what country's boat attacked the Vietnamese vessel, and commune officials told The Associated Press they had nothing to add to the newspaper report.

Vietnam's border guard is investigating the case but has not yet made any information available.

The Paracel Islands are about 400 kilometers off Vietnam's eastern coast and about the same distance southeast from the Chinese province of Hainan.

Both countries claim them, as does Taiwan.



The newspaper report said the attack on the boat occurred in Vietnamese waters but did not specify exactly where it was.

China claims almost all of the strategically vital South China Sea as its own territory, which has caused disputes with the Philippines, Vietnam,

Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan.

The United States has no claims in the South China Sea itself, but has deployed Navy and Air Force assets to patrol the waterway, through which around \$5 trillion in global trade transits each year.

China threatened "serious consequences" last year after the U.S. Navy sailed a destroyer around the Paracel Islands in a "freedom of navigation operation" challenging what it called "excessive maritime claims."

The Paracel Islands have been under de facto Chinese control since 1974, when Beijing seized them from Vietnam in a brief naval conflict.

Last year, satellite photos showed China appear-

red to be building an airstrip on Triton Island in the Paracel group. As it was laid out at the time, it appeared it would be big enough to accommodate turboprop aircraft and drones but not fighter jets or bombers.

China has also had a small harbor and buildings on the island for years, along with a helipad and radar arrays.

China has refused to provide details of its island construction work other than to say it is aimed at promoting global navigation safety.


It has rejected accusations that it is militarizing the waterway, a key global and security route which is also believed to be sitting atop vast undersea deposits of gas and oil. **MDT/AP**





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AP PHOTO

Rescuers help residents as they negotiate floods caused by powerful Typhoon Krathon locally called "Typhoon Julian" at Bacarra, Ilocos Norte province, yesterday



Babuyan islands and Cagayan province and said fierce winds could rip off roofs, topple trees, damage farmlands and whip up high waves.

"The situation is potentially very destructive to the community," it said.

Hundreds of villagers were evacuated away from the coast and flood-prone communities in Cagayan province, where power outages were reported. Classes in all levels were suspended yesterday in several northern provinces as a precaution, officials said.

Sea voyages were also halted in northern towns and provinces being battered or threatened by the typhoon, locally called Julian, officials said.

About 20 storms and typhoons batter the Philippines each year. The archipelago also lies in the "Pacific Ring of Fire," a region along most of the Pacific Ocean rim where many volcanic eruptions and earthquakes occur, making the Southeast Asian nation one of the world's most disaster-prone.

In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest recorded tropical cyclones in the world, left more than 7,300 people dead or missing, flattened entire villages, swept ships inland and displaced more than 5 million in the central Philippines. **MDT/AP**

PHILIPPINES

# A POWERFUL TYPHOON IS LASHING NORTHERN ISLANDS

A powerful typhoon was lashing the northernmost islands of the Philippines yesterday, prompting officials to evacuate villagers, shut down schools and inter-island ferries and warn of "potentially very destructive" damage to coastal villages.

Typhoon Krathon was last tracked over the coastal waters of Balintang island off the provinces of Cagayan and Batanes

with sustained winds of up to 175 kph (109 mph) and gusts of up to 215 kph (133 mph), according to government forecasters.

The slow-moving Krathon was blowing westward and could strengthen into a super typhoon when it veers northeastward Tuesday toward Taiwan, they said.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage. Guilmar Cabejo, a police offi-

cer on the island of Sabtang in typhoon-prone Batanes, said the streets were deserted in the town of more than 1,800 people as the ferocious wind rattled roofs, walls and trees.

"There's nobody outside, zero, because the wind is so strong," Cabejo told The Associated Press by cellphone. "Nobody could stand normally outside in this wind, it will force anybody down to the ground."

Residents, locally renowned for their resilience against seasonal storms, strengthened their roofs with ropes, covered windows with wooden boards and secured their fishing boats away from the sea two days before the typhoon hit, he said.

The weather agency warned of "moderate to high risk of life-threatening storm surge" in the next 48 hours in the coastal villages of Batanes, the nearby

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THAILAND

# Court orders extradition of Vietnam activist who 'will be at risk if returned'

JINTAMAS SAKSORNCHAI & DAVID RISING, BANGKOK

AP PHOTO



The Bangkok Criminal Court in Thailand's capital

**A** Thai court yesterday ordered the extradition of a 32-year-old Vietnamese activist detained in Bangkok, despite fears among rights groups he could be at risk if sent home.

The Bangkok Criminal Court granted Vietnam's request for the extradition of Y Quynh Bdap, who was detained in the Thai capital in June.

The co-founder of the Montagnards Stand for Justice group was convicted in absentia in Vietnam in January of terrorism and sentenced to 10 years in prison on allegations that he was involved in organizing anti-government riots in Vietnam's central highland province of Dak Lak last June.

Bdap's attorney, Nadthasiri Bergman, said she was already working on an appeal, which has to be filed within the next 30 days. Regardless of the outcome, the Thai government could also decide diplomatically not to en-

force the extradition order as well.

"The prime minister has the right, if they want to protect human rights, they can do it," she told reporters outside the court. "If he goes back to his country there will be a threat to his life, so the government should respect that evidence."

Bdap has been seeking asylum in Canada and had a meeting with Canadian Embassy officials

in Bangkok the day before he was taken into custody. Canadian officials have refused to comment on the case.

Bdap was in Thailand at the time of the Dak Lak riots at two district government offices in which nine people were killed, including four police officers and two government officials.

Overall, about 100 people have been tried for alleged involvement in the riots, and 53 have been con-

victed on terrorism charges.

Days after the verdicts, Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Pham Thu Hang rejected criticism that Vietnam had used the trial as an opportunity to crack down on ethnic minorities.

Vietnam has long been criticized by rights groups and others for its treatment of the country's Montagnard minority, a term loosely used to refer to many predominantly Christian ethnic groups

that live in the central highlands and neighboring Cambodia.

Human Rights Watch has said many have been driven to seek asylum in Cambodia and Thailand as Vietnamese authorities have subjected their communities to intimidation, arbitrary arrests and mistreatment in custody.

"Y Quynh Bdap would be at real risk if returned to Vietnam," said Bryony Lau, deputy Asia director for Human Rights Watch, at the time the activist was apprehended.

"Thai authorities should immediately release this prominent religious freedom advocate and refugee. Returning him to Vietnam would be a violation of Thailand's obligations under Thai and international law," Lau said.

Human Rights Watch has criticized Thailand for sending home dissidents to uncertain fates, in what it said in a recent report was a quid-pro-quo form of transnational repression, in which those countries sent home dissidents wanted by Thailand. **MDT/AP**

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AP PHOTO



Policemen and civil defense workers inspect a damaged car near a building that was hit in an Israeli airstrike, in Beirut, yesterday

LEBANON

# Hezbollah's acting leader vows to fight on after Nasrallah's death

ABBY SEWELL & NATALIE MELZER, BEIRUT

**H**EBZOLLAH'S acting leader vowed yesterday to keep battling Israel and said the Lebanese militant group was prepared for a long fight even after much of its top command was wiped out, including its leader, Hassan Nasrallah.

Israeli strikes have killed Nasrallah and six of his top commanders and officials in the last 10 days, and have hit what the military says are thousands of militant targets across large parts of Lebanon. Over 1,000 people have been killed in the country in the past two weeks, nearly a quarter of them women and children, according to the Health Ministry.

Early yesterday, an airstrike hit a residential building in central Beirut, wiping out one apartment, damaging others, and killing three Palestinian militants, as Israel appeared to send a clear message that no part of Lebanon is out of bounds.

Despite the heavy blow Hezbollah has suffered in recent weeks, acting leader Naim Kasseem said in a televised statement that if Israel decides to launch a ground offensive, the group's fighters are ready. He said the commanders killed have already been replaced.

"Israel was not able to affect our (military) capabilities,"

Kasseem said in a televised statement, the first time any senior Hezbollah figure has been seen since Nasrallah was killed. "There are deputy commanders and there are replacements in case a commander is wounded in any post."

He added that Hezbollah, which fought Israel to a stalemate in their monthlong war in 2006, anticipated "the battle could be long."

A founding member of the militant group who had been Nasrallah's longtime deputy, Kasseem will remain in his acting position until the group's leadership elects a replacement. The man widely expected to take over the top post is Hashem Safieddine, a cousin of Nasrallah who oversees Hezbollah's political affairs.

Hezbollah's capabilities are unclear after a series of major blows

Hezbollah has significantly increased its rocket attacks in the past week to several hundred daily, but most have been intercepted or fallen in open areas. Several people have been wounded in Israel. There have been no fatalities since two soldiers were killed near the border on Sept. 19.

But Hezbollah's capabilities remain unclear.

As recently as two weeks ago, a strike like yesterday's in central Beirut — outside of the main areas where Hezbollah operates and next to a busy transportation hub normally

crowded with buses, taxis and vans — would have been seen as a major escalation and likely followed by a long-range Hezbollah strike into Israel.

But the unspoken rules of the long-running conflict no longer seem to be in effect.

It's possible that Hezbollah is holding back to save resources for a bigger battle, including a threatened Israeli ground invasion. But the militant group might also be in disarray after Israeli intelligence apparently penetrated its highest levels.

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, meeting with Israeli troops, said Israel would "use all the capabilities we have," hinting at a ground operation. "You are part of this effort," he added.

In the past week, Israel has frequently targeted Beirut's southern suburbs, where Hezbollah has a strong presence — including the massive strike on Friday that killed Nasrallah — but had not hit locations closer to the city center.

The strike killed three members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a small, leftist faction that has not been meaningfully involved in months of fighting between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon. Israel has not claimed the strike but is widely assumed to have carried it out.

Also yesterday, Hamas announced that its top commander in Lebanon, Fatah Sharif, was killed with his family in an

airstrike on the Al-Buss refugee camp in the southern port city of Tyre. The Israeli military confirmed that it had targeted him.

The U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees said Sharif was an employee, and was put on administrative leave without pay in March as it investigated allegations about his political activities. Israel has accused the agency, known as UNRWA, of links to Palestinian militant groups, while the agency says it is committed to neutrality and works to prevent any such infiltration.

Hezbollah began firing rockets, drones and missiles into northern Israel after Hamas' Oct. 7 attack from Gaza into Israel sparked the war in the Palestinian territory. Hezbollah and Hamas are allies and both supported by Iran, and Hezbollah said it would continue the attacks in solidarity with the Palestinians until there was a cease-fire in Gaza.

Israel responded to the rockets with airstrikes in Lebanon, where Hezbollah is based, and the fighting has steadily escalated over the past year. The Lebanese government says the fighting may have displaced up to a million people, although the U.N. estimate is around 200,000.

Tens of thousands of Israelis have also been displaced. Israel has vowed to keep fighting until the attacks stop and its citizens can return to their homes. **MDT/AP**

## this day in history

### 1975 MUHAMMAD ALI WINS 'THRILLA IN MANILA'

US boxer Muhammad Ali has retained the world heavyweight boxing championship after defeating his arch-rival, Joe Frazier, in their third and arguably greatest fight.



The so-called "Thrilla in Manila" lasted 14 rounds before Frazier's trainer, Eddie Futch, finally persuaded him to call it a day.

Ali said the fight was "the closest thing to dying".

From the first bell the action was furious. Ringside experts classed it among the finest heavyweight title bouts - if not the finest of them all.

The 25,000 fans crammed into Manila's Philippine Coliseum rose to their feet, cheering on Ali the champion, as he looked set for the kill.

But each time "Smokin'" Joe fought back, dipping under the champion's longer reach.

By the 14th round, the challenger, tired and battered about the head, walked into a series of lefts and rights to the face and jaw and was knocked almost unconscious on his feet by 15 block-busting blows inside 45 seconds.

He made it back to his own corner, still on his feet, but looking badly bruised about the head, with swellings to the left side of his forehead and under his right eye.

His trainer called time but Frazier tried to protest.

There was a moment of indecision in the stadium as the crowd waited to see whether he would return to the ring.

Then came the announcement and there was total uproar as Ali's team leaped into the ring to congratulate their man.

But Ali - who was staggering with exhaustion - fell to the canvas and had to be helped to his feet.

He told a news conference afterwards: "I'm so tired I want to rest for a week. My hips are sore, my arms are sore, my side is sore, my hands are sore."

He paid tribute to his challenger as "the toughest man in the world".

"I couldn't have taken the punches he took. I would have given in long before.

"I didn't realise he was so great. He's a real, real fighter."

Both men are said to be contemplating retirement. Ali was guaranteed \$4.5m for his fourth defence since regaining the title against George Foreman in Zaire last year.

Frazier, two years his junior, got \$2m.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Ali and Frazier met three times in the early 1970s, including their Manila contest.

There was intense rivalry between them. Ali constantly assaulted his rival with verbal taunts and always outwitted him in public. Ali resented the fact that Frazier was almost his equal in the boxing ring.

The two met for the first time in March 1971 in front of an all-celebrity audience including Barbra Streisand, Bill Cosby and Hugh Hefner, who were all ringside for the Madison Square Garden fight.

Frank Sinatra took photos for Life Magazine to ensure his prime position along the ring apron.

Smokin' Joe won on points - but their next meeting in 1974 went Ali's way. Their third and greatest match was the thrilla in Manila.

Frazier retired from boxing in 1976. Ali continued to fight until 1981.



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

**YOUR STARS**

**ARIES**  
 Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
 Guard your energy. Push too hard and risk accident or injury. Moderate the pace and focus on practical goals and deadlines. Postpone what you can.

**TAURUS**  
 Apr. 20-May. 20  
 Relax and have fun without overdoing it. Keep your agreements. Enjoy friends and family. Go for a walk or ride. Savor a romantic moment.

**GEMINI**  
 May. 21-Jun. 21  
 Consider long-term plans before launching into a remodel. Budget to reduce cost overruns. Find what you need locally. Invest in lasting quality. Keep it simple.

**CANCER**  
 Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
 Follow guidelines and instructions. Gather and analyze data to discover hidden secrets. Learn voraciously. Write your findings and refine for simplicity and impact.

**LEO**  
 Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
 Profitable opportunities present themselves. Generate and develop lucrative potential in conversation. Review, research and prioritize.

**VIRGO**  
 Aug. 23-Sep. 22  
 You're attracting attention. Dress for the part you want. Assumptions may get challenged. Keep an open mind. Follow rules and avoid authority clashes.

**LIBRA**  
 Sep. 23-Oct. 22  
 Hide out when necessary. Find a quiet place to rest and recharge. Meditate on what you really want for yourself, others and the world. Stay respectful.

**SCORPIO**  
 Oct. 23-Nov. 21  
 Enjoy parties and social gatherings. Participate on teams. Schedule upcoming tasks and actions. Cooperate and collaborate for greater ease.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
 Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
 Work projects take priority. Advance to meet a deadline. Avoid expensive delays or mistakes. Schedule extra time and keep your patience. Action gets results.

**CAPRICORN**  
 Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
 Traffic or structural breakdowns could delay your journey. Proceed with caution. Slow to appreciate the view. Coordinate efforts to save time and expense.

**AQUARIUS**  
 Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
 Review financial accounts and strategize for growth. Collaborate and contribute for common gain. Organize, complete and file applications.

**PISCES**  
 Feb. 19-Mar. 20  
 Your partner's opinion is important. Be careful not to break agreements. Resolve breakdowns as they arise. Stay focused. A mentor has a plan.

**The Born Loser by Chip Sansom**



**SUDOKU**

EASY					EASY+				
		3	6	1					
	7	8	2		5	2	4		6
5	1		3	2			8	5	1
	9	3	7			4			2
3	2			4		7		1	2
7		5	6	9	6	5	9	8	
	8		6	4	4	2		6	
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MEDIUM					HARD				
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	2			1		2			
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			9	3	8	4			
				6					

**WEATHER**

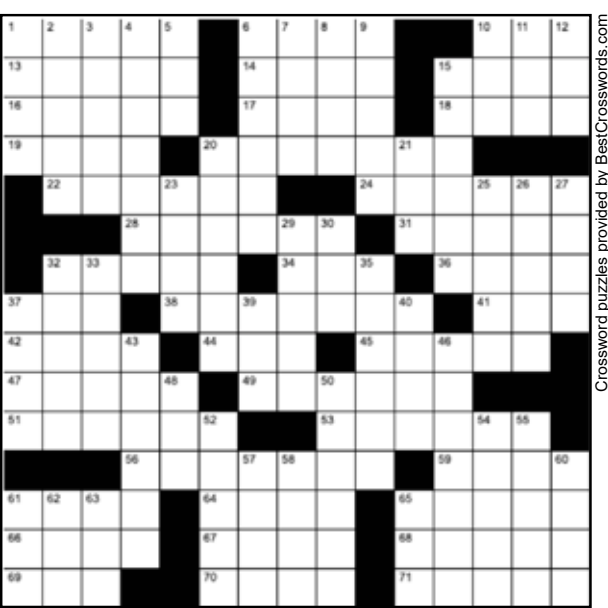
	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	12	19	cloudy
Changchun	6	14	fine
Chengdu	16	23	cloudy
Chongqing	16	21	rain
Fuzhou	26	31	rain
Guangzhou	23	31	cloudy
Guiyang	13	15	showers
Haikou	25	31	cloudy
Hangzhou	22	23	rain
Harbin	4	15	fine
Hefei	15	23	cloudy
Nanjing	20	22	cloudy
Shanghai	22	25	rain
Taipei	25	29	overcast
Wuhan	17	25	fine
Hong Kong	24	34	overcast
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	8	19	fine
Frankfurt	11	18	overcast
Paris	12	18	overcast
London	12	14	overcast
New York	16	21	cloudy

**CROSSWORDS**

ACROSS 1- Stopwatch-holder; 6- Timbuktu's land; 10- Sheep talk; 13- Old French expression meaning "goodbye"; 14- Take \_\_\_ view of; 15- Cookbook amts.; 16- Stare angrily; 17- Granny; 18- Wild ones are sown; 19- Big rig; 20- Pilot, co-pilot, attendants; 22- Midday nap; 24- Momentarily; 28- Half-hour funny show; 31- Hang with cloth; 32- Singer LaBelle; 34- Where the truck driver rides; 36- Conked out; 37- Cockpit abbr.; 38- Put up; 41- Miss-named?; 42- Pub projectile; 44- Big bird; 45- Some bridge players; 47- \_\_\_ a million; 49- Award; 51- Shorthand pros; 53- Wrestling hold; 56- Tornado; 59- Nicholas II was the last Russian one; 61- Top-flight; 64- Not of the cloth; 65- Davis or Midler; 66- Stated; 67- Razor name; 68- That is to say...; 69- Charlemagne's realm; Abbr.; 70- Fortune teller; 71- \_\_\_ Mio;

DOWN 1- Places for prices; 2- Runs without moving; 3- Orange Bowl site; 4- Most strange; 5- Bemoan; 6- Lunatic; 7- Hebrew month; 8- "The Mod Squad" role; 9- Japanese porcelain; 10- Youth org.; 11- Quick on the uptake; 12- Pompous fool; 15- In the direction of; 20- Clothes; 21- Terminus; 23- Word that can succeed building, web or burial; 25- Person of exceptional holiness; 26- Fencing swords; 27- Relinquish; 29- Happen; 30- Floor covering where the cat sat; 32- Factory; 33- Up \_\_\_ (trapped); 35- Pager; 37- Hullabaloo; 39- Rescue squad VIP; 40- "James and the Giant Peach" author; 43- Colored; 46- Methods; 48- Immediately; 50- Like a small garage; 52- Eliot's Marner; 54- Bony prefix; 55- Birth-related; 57- Fill to the gills; 58- Air-filled rubber hoop, become fatigued; 60- Russo of "Get Shorty"; 61- Blonde shade; 62- Dinghy need; 63- Never, to Nietzsche; 65- Life story;

**Yesterday's solution**



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<b>Customs</b> 28 559 944	
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OF CHINA





FOOTBALL

# Man United fans leave early, boo players after humbling at home to the Spurs

JAMES ROBSON,  
MANCHESTER

MAN UNITED 0, TOTTENHAM 3

**B**Y the time Dominic Solanke slid in Tottenham's third goal, some Manchester United fans had seen enough.

Trailing 3-0 after 77 chastening minutes at Old Trafford, they vacated their seats and headed out into the Manchester rain. In the background were the mocking sounds of the visiting Spurs supporters.

"Is there a fire drill?" came a joyous chorus from the away end.

There have been many occasions like this under Erik ten Hag. When his team has looked bereft of ideas and confidence. When a stadium known as the Theatre of Dreams has become the stuff of nightmares.

"First we have to deal with this and show resilience. This is not good enough," Ten Hag



Tottenham's Dejan Kulusevski, second right, scores his side's second goal

admitted afterward. "We have to accept this and get better."

Goals by Brennan Johnson, Dejan Kulusevski and Dominic Solanke consigned United to a third loss in the league already this season. The record 20-time champion, which was reduced to 10 men after Bruno Fernandes' red card, is 12th in the standings after just one win in its last five games in the league.

United has also failed to win any of its last three games in all competitions and there were boos inside the stadium from some of the fans that remained at the final whistle.

Spurs supporters were even more brutal during the game — directing chants of "You're getting sacked (fired) in the morning" toward Ten Hag.

The United manager, who only held onto his job after

winning the FA Cup last season and being subjected to an end of year review, said such thoughts weren't on his mind — even in the face of such a troubled start to the campaign and a slew of changes made under new minority owner Jim Ratcliffe.

"No, I'm not thinking about this. We all made, in togetherness, this decision to stay together," he said, adding that all parties "knew it would take some time".

As bad as this latest setback for Ten Hag was, it could have been worse, with goalkeeper Andre Onana twice denying Timo Werner in one-on-one situations. He also stopped Solanke from scoring his second when through on goal late on.

While Onana prevented a rout, this was another humbling day for United, which began with Johnson's opener in the third minute.

The forward was left with an open net to aim at after de-

fender Micky van de Ven was allowed to run from his own half and cross from inside the box.

Johnson might have added another when firing against the post as Spurs dominated from the start.

In response Alejandro Garnacho volleyed against the post with a rare chance for United.

But any chance of a comeback was dealt a major blow after Fernandes was shown a straight red for a studs-up challenge on James Maddison shortly before the break.

Spurs didn't have to wait long to double the lead, with Kulusevski adding a second two minutes into the second half by flicking a shot past Onana from Johnson's cross before Solanke added a third.

"We were real good. Obviously it is a great victory," Spurs manager Ange Postecoglou said. "That is everything we want to be." **MDT/AP**

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**OPINION**

**China Daily**

Editors, Xinhua

**ANTI-CHINA HYSTERIA  
 COULD PROVE SELF-  
 DEFEATING FOR US**

The U.S. Congress recently held “China Week,” passing 25 bills aimed at curbing China’s advancements in biotechnology, drones, electric vehicles (EVs), and more. This surge in anti-China legislation reflects a growing anxiety about China’s rapid progress in areas where it rivals or surpasses the United States. Instead of focusing on making America stronger, U.S. lawmakers are prioritizing efforts to hinder China’s development.

The number of China-related bills introduced has skyrocketed in recent years, doubling from the 115th to the 116th and 117th Congresses. These bills span a wide range of areas, from economics and technology to security. However, the effectiveness of these legislative moves is questionable. History has shown that such measures are unlikely to achieve their intended goals and may even backfire on the U.S. economy.

For instance, one recent bill tightens restrictions on Chinese content in vehicles qualifying for U.S. EV tax credits, aiming to cut China out of America’s EV supply chain. However, China’s leadership in EV batteries and other technologies is so substantial that experts warn trying to build a China-free supply chain could significantly slow America’s auto industry and hinder its green transformation. Despite political pressure, companies like Ford are still seeking partnerships with China’s leading battery maker, CATL, for production in the U.S.

These legislative actions not only threaten U.S. industries but also risk isolating the country from international collaboration. The Biosecure Act, for example, seeks to ban contracts with Chinese biotech firms. U.S. researchers argue that such moves could harm scientific progress and isolate America from global advancements in biotechnology. These policies, rooted in protectionism and isolationism, do more harm than good, especially in industries like steel, automobiles, and new energy, where the U.S. faces serious challenges.

Rather than simply pointing fingers at China, U.S. lawmakers would do well to study the reasons behind China’s success. China’s growth is driven by high-quality development, a competitive domestic market, and a government focused on reform, innovation, and openness to global partnerships. These factors have allowed China to thrive, and the U.S. could learn valuable lessons from its approach. Unfortunately, there is little evidence that U.S. politicians have the motivation or vision to adopt these strategies, especially in a political climate where China is consistently portrayed as a threat.

China has repeatedly stated that its modernization and innovation efforts are not aimed at defeating the U.S. and that it will not succumb to external pressures. Attempts like “China Week” are ultimately little more than political stunts that stoke fear without addressing the real issues facing the U.S. economy.

Ernest Hemingway once said, “True nobility is being superior to your former self.” This advice is particularly relevant for U.S. politicians today. Instead of blaming external forces for America’s challenges, they should focus on solving domestic problems and improving the country’s global competitiveness. Only by doing so can the U.S. truly become a better version of itself, rather than resorting to counterproductive measures that could harm its own future. [Abridged]

**KRIS KRISTOFFERSON, SINGER-SONGWRITER  
 AND ACTOR, DIES AT 88**



**THE BUZZ**

Kris Kristofferson, a Rhodes scholar with a deft writing style and rough charisma who became a country music superstar and an A-list Hollywood actor, has died.

Kristofferson died at his home on Maui, Hawaii, on Saturday, family spokeswoman Ebie McFarland said in an email. He was 88.

McFarland said Kristofferson died peacefully, surrounded by his family. No cause was given.

Starting in the late 1960s, the Brownsville, Texas native wrote such country and rock ‘n’ roll standards as “Sunday Mornin’ Comin’ Down,” “Help Me Make it Through the Night,” “For the Good Times” and “Me and Bobby McGee.” Kristofferson was a singer himself, but many of his songs were best known as performed by others, whether Ray Price crooning “For the Good Times” or Janis Joplin belting out “Me and Bobby McGee.”

A RECIPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**SAVORY-SWEET SOY  
 BASTING SAUCE  
 TRANSFORMS GROUND  
 CHICKEN INTO IZAKAYA-  
 STYLE MEATBALLS**

CHRISTOPHER KIMBALL

**J**APANESE chicken meatballs, called tsukune, are a standard offering in pub-like izakayas and restaurants specializing in yakitori. Sometimes shaped into cigars rather than orbs, the meatballs are grilled on skewers and finished with tare, a savory-sweet soy-based seasoning sauce.

Unlike tender meatloaf or burgers, these meatballs have a pleasing bounciness, so don’t feel the need to be gentle when combining ingredients to make the meat mixture. In this recipe from “Milk Street 365: The All-Purpose Cookbook for Every Day of the Year,” we vigorously mix dark meat chicken with grated garlic and ginger, fresh scallions, panko bread-crumbs and an extra savory combination of sesame oil and white pepper. This gives the meatballs their characteristic structure and chew.

Instead of skewering and grilling the tsukune, we shape the mixture into small, thick meatballs, then do all the cooking in a nonstick skillet on the stovetop. Take care not to brown the meatballs aggressively or they’ll cook unevenly from edge to center. Heat the oil for browning them over medium-high, then reduce the burner to medium as soon as the meatballs are in the pan.

Once lightly browned on the bottom, flip each meatball and add a mixture of sake, soy sauce and mirin that has been simmered with smashed garlic and bruised ginger. Cook, occasionally turning the meatballs and basting them with the sauce, until the exteriors are glazed. To add a little spice to the tsukune, offer shichimi togarashi (Japanese seven spice blend) or yuzu kosho (Japanese chili and



Japanese chicken meatballs

citrus paste) at the table.

**DIRECTIONS**

Line a rimmed baking sheet with kitchen parchment and mist with cooking spray; set aside. In a 12-inch nonstick skillet over medium-high, combine the sake, mirin, soy sauce, smashed garlic and bruised ginger. Bring to a boil and cook, stirring often, until reduced to ½ cup, 6 to 8 minutes. Remove and discard the garlic and ginger; transfer the mixture to a small bowl. Rinse out and dry the skillet.

In a large bowl, combine the chicken, grated garlic, grated ginger, ¼ cup of the scallions, panko, egg white, sesame oil and ¼ teaspoon pepper. Using your hands or a silicone spatula, vigorously stir and knead the mixture until well combined and sticky. Using lightly oiled hands, divide the mixture into 16 portions (about 2 tablespoons each), form each into a ball and place on the prepared baking sheet. Lightly press each ball to slightly flatten it into a 1- to 1¼-inch round.

In the same skillet over medium-high, heat the neutral oil until shimmering. Place the meatballs in the skillet, reduce to medium and cook until lightly browned on the bottoms, about 4 minutes. Flip each meatball and add the sake-soy mix-

ture; continue to cook, occasionally turning the meatballs and basting them with the sauce, until the centers reach 160°F and the exteriors are glazed, 5 to 7 minutes; reduce the heat if the soy mixture is reducing too quickly. **MDT/AP**

**JAPANESE-  
 STYLE CHICKEN  
 MEATBALLS START  
 TO FINISH: 50  
 MINUTES**

- Servings: 4  
 Ingredients:  
 ½ cup sake  
 ½ cup mirin  
 ¼ cup soy sauce  
 2 medium garlic cloves, 1 smashed and peeled, 1 finely grated  
 2-inch piece fresh ginger, 2 teaspoons finely grated, the remainder thinly sliced and bruised  
 1 pound ground chicken, preferably dark meat  
 4 scallions, minced, divided  
 ½ cup panko bread-crumbs  
 1 large egg white  
 1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil  
 Ground black or white pepper  
 2 tablespoons grapeseed or other neutral oil, plus more for oiling your hands



**Indonesia** Shrimp farmers report worsening labor conditions due to falling prices driven by supermarket demands for cheaper products. A new investigation reveals growing exploitation in the industry, including wage insecurity and poor working conditions, as global shrimp demand pressures local farmers.



**United States** Vice President Kamala Harris mocked Donald Trump over crowd sizes during a Las Vegas rally, drawing a large audience. She emphasized the importance of debates and discussed key election issues, continuing her West Coast campaign to rally support for her 2024 re-election bid.



**German** women’s soccer star Alexandra Popp will retire from the national team after a friendly match on October 28. Popp, who earned Olympic gold in 2016 and led Germany to a 2022 European Championship runner-up finish, will continue playing for Wolfsburg.



**The UK** is closing its last coal-fired power plant, Ratcliffe-on-Soar, ending 142 years of coal-based electricity. This milestone marks the country’s shift to renewable energy, as coal once powered 80% of its electricity but now accounts for only 1%.

**HOLIDAY TIMES**

Macau Daily Times will not be published during the holiday. The Times will be back on the stands on Friday October 4. However the MDT website will be updated with breaking news during the recess period. We wish our readers, advertisers and friends the best of times.