

GAMING INDUSTRY IS UNDERGOING A TECHNOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION, WITH A SURGE IN SMART TABLES ACROSS ITS GAMING FLOORS, CITI REPORTS

UNION HOSPITAL TO LAUNCH INTERNATIONAL SERVICES NEXT WEEK

CHINESE-LANGUAGE BOOKSELLERS ARE FLOURISHING OVERSEAS



SWIFT REBOUND

GDP up 11.5% year-on-year, surpassing pre-pandemic levels

AP PHOTO



Sri Lanka President Anura Kumara Dissanayake appointed a 22-member Cabinet yesterday after securing a two-thirds parliamentary majority.

AP PHOTO



India New Delhi implemented emergency measures yesterday as air pollution soared to hazardous levels.

AP PHOTO



New Zealand Thousands protested a controversial treaty redefinition bill in Wellington.

NADIA SHAW



MDT REPORT POST OFFICE DELIVERY MONITORED, BUT RESIDENTS STILL COMPLAIN



AUTO RACING ANDRÉ COUTO CROWNED ASIA CHAMPION IN JEREZ

MACAU ENGAGES IN BLUE ECONOMY AT WORLD CONFERENCE

The Permanent Secretariat of Forum Macao for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (Macao) recently participated in the World Maritime Equipment Conference, led by Deputy Secretary-General Dr. Xie Ying. Themed "Taking Human Dreams to New Horizons," the conference focused on advancing cooperation in the blue economy between China and Portuguese-speaking countries. The event featured activities to promote sustainable development in the marine equipment industry. Delegates engaged with local enterprises to explore collaboration opportunities, bridging relations between China and Lusophone countries.

PJ WARNS OF CONCERT TICKET AND ONLINE SHOPPING SCAMS

The Judiciary Police has seen a surge in reports of concert ticket and online shopping fraud, with victims losing hundreds to thousands of patacas. Authorities have warned the public to be cautious when purchasing through unofficial channels. In the past week, seven concert ticket fraud cases saw losses of MOP600 to MOP6,400. Victims, mostly young people, bought tickets from social media sellers claiming to be selling tickets for Hong Kong and Korean concerts. Additionally, 10 people lost hundreds to a thousand patacas on scam seafood and meal orders through social media.

GAMING

CITI: OPERATORS ACCELERATE ROLLOUT OF SMART GAMING TABLES

VICTORIA CHAN

MACAU'S gaming industry is undergoing a technological transformation, with a surge in the deployment of smart gaming tables across its gaming floors.

Several operators have now modernized all mass baccarat tables in key areas, signaling a rapid adoption of this advanced technology, according to analysts at Citi-group.

Citi's analysts George Choi and Timothy Chau highlighted yesterday six prominent mass and premium mass gaming zones across the city now fully equipped with smart gaming tables.

These areas include the primary gaming floors at The Venetian Macao, Crowne Plaza and Studio City, as well as Galaxy Macau's Horizon Room, Wynn Palace's Diamond Club, and Wynn Encore.

Additionally, they noted a substantial increase in the number of smart tables in the grind mass areas of Wynn Macau, Wynn Palace and Galaxy Macau.

The surge in smart table deployment aligns with statements from industry operators during recent earnings calls.



Both Galaxy Entertainment Group and Wynn have expressed their intentions to finalize the full rollout of smart tables across their properties by the Chinese New Year.

During Wynn's earnings call earlier this month, Wynn Resorts CEO Craig Billings said about a quarter of the company's Macau table inventory is now equipped with smart technology, with plans for a complete rollout by late January.

Billings emphasized the advantages of smart tables, particularly in leveraging precise bet-by-bet data for innovative marketing strategies.

The insights from Citi's monthly Macau table survey also point to a robust demand for premium gaming, with high-stakes players increasingly active.

Market data revealed a 29% year-on-year increase in total wagers, reaching HKD12.2 million, along with a 21% rise in the number of premium mass players to 514.

In its November survey of casino table play, Citi reported the presence of "the largest whale ever" during what analysts deemed a "slow month."

The term "whales" refers to players who wager HKD100,000 or more. This player accounted for about 18% of the total value of bets recorded in the latest survey, with an outlay of HKD12.2 million, which included a wager of HKD200,000 on the side bet option "Lucky 7."

Overall, the aggregate market-wide wagers observed in the November survey rose 29% year-on-year to HKD12.2 million, driven by improvements in both the quality and quantity of players.

Melco Resorts emerged as a key player, exhibiting significant market share gains in this dynamic landscape.

Choi and Chau said the strategic deployment of smart gaming tables and the introduction of new side bets by casino operators are indicative of a broader industry trend aimed at boosting gross gaming revenue (GGR) through enhanced game velocity and improved hold rates.

HEALTH

Union Hospital to launch international services next week

NADIA SHAW

THE medical center of Peking Union Medical College Hospital (Macao Union Hospital) will expand its services with the opening of its International Medical Center next week, offering a range of medical cosmetology and vaccination services.

This announcement was made during a media tour attended by representatives from Guangdong, Hong Kong and local media.

According to Wu Wenming, director of the Macao

Union Hospital, the center will provide vaccinations for pneumonia and herpes zoster, catering to local residents as well as visitors from the mainland and abroad.

Notably, some of the new medications available at the hospital have not yet been registered in mainland China but have been used successfully in Europe and the United States.

"Macao's regulatory advantages will attract tourists seeking these treatments," Wu told local media.

In addition to vaccina-



tions, the hospital plans to roll out physical examination services by the end of this year.

The media were assured

all medical equipment will meet European and American standards, ensuring high-quality care in a comfortable environment.

The hospital aims to develop into a comprehensive facility that integrates medical care, education, research and talent training.

Currently, the Macao Union Hospital provides 25 free specialist services for residents referred by the Health Bureau (SSM).

Wu said low-risk surgeries and inpatient services will also be introduced before the year ends.

The hospital employs 260 staff members and aims to increase this number to 700 by the end of 2025, prioritizing local recruitment.

Additionally, a delegation led by Lei Wai Seng from the Macao Union Hospital visited the University of Macau (UM), where it discussed potential research collaborations in medicine.

According to UM, Vice Rector Ge Wei has announced plans for a joint research center aimed at enhancing healthcare in the Greater Bay Area.

The meeting also focused on developing joint programs and internships for students.

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 Torrao, 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

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

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO



ECONOMY

GDP up 11.5%, surpasses pre-pandemic levels

VICTORIA CHAN

MACAU'S economic recovery has reached a significant milestone, with gross domestic product (GDP) expanding 11.5% year-on-year in real terms during the first three quarters of this year.

The city's overall economic output has now surpassed the pre-pandemic level of MOP300 billion, indicating a resilient path forward despite global economic challenges.

GDP reached 86.3% of the level recorded in the same period of 2019, showcasing the city's strong rebound, according to data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Exports of services, a crucial driver of Macau's economy, grew 11.4% year-on-year, fueled by a surge in visitor arrivals during the peak summer season.

Gaming services led the way, soaring 28.4%, while

other tourism-related services saw a 6.1% drop due to a high comparison base from the previous year, but still managed to grow by nearly 15% compared to the same period in 2019.

Domestic demand also demonstrated resilience, with private consumption expenditure swelling 5.8% year-on-year.

This growth was driven by a rise in residents' incomes and an improving job market, offsetting the 10.1% year-on-year decline in government final consumption expenditure following the cessation of the livelihood subsidy scheme.

Gross fixed capital forma-

tion saw a 9.2% year-on-year increase, as enterprises continued to invest in Macau amid the improving local business environment, particularly in private equipment and construction.

In the third quarter, GDP expanded 4.7% year-on-year in real terms, reflecting an economic output equivalent to 87.3% of its 2019 levels.

Exports of services and domestic demand increased 1.3% and 4.6%, respectively, during this period.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) previously economic growth projections for Macau, estimated for 2024 at 10.6% from the previous 13.9% forecast.

The IMF expected the city's GDP to return to pre-pandemic levels in 2025, projecting a GDP growth range between 8% and 11% for the full year.

Recently, the Macau Economic Association (MEA) has also adjusted its projections for the local economic outlook, revising the GDP growth forecast for this year to 12.1%, or 89.7% of the 2019 level.

The association cited cooling demand from mainland China as a factor, with visitor arrivals now expected to reach only 85% of the record-breaking 2019 levels in the second half of the year.

Despite these revisions, the MEA remains optimistic about Macau's economic prospects, noting that eight of the 13 indicators it evaluates have performed strongly.

MDT REPORT

CTT: Post delivery monitored, but residents complain

RENATO MARQUES

THE Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT) has told the Times that quality of mail delivery services is subject to ongoing monitoring for quality assurance.

"To continuously improve our quality of services, we have established an internal monitoring system that includes regular internal and external inspections, which are conducted by our supervisory staff to identify and resolve potential problems," CTT said.

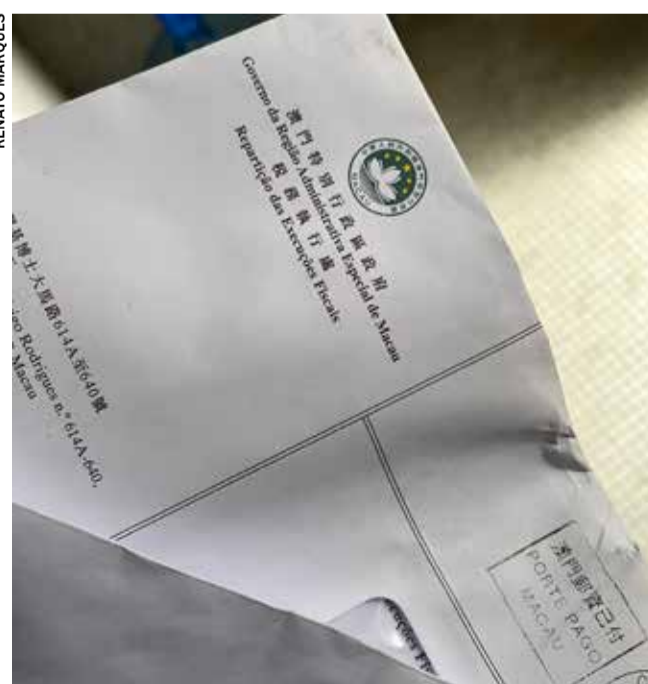
"Our postmen diligently deliver mail according to the addresses provided to ensure

accurate delivery to the intended recipients."

Nonetheless, CTT said there might be cases in which issues occur due to "unclear or outdated sender address information." CTT has called on people to update their mail addresses to ensure they receive their mail as intended.

Residents have told the Times there are several issues with CTT's mail delivery services, which they suggested may be due to several buildings bearing the same name.

Residents have also shown the Times evidence that letters intended for delivery to other addresses have been



mistakenly delivered to their homes.

They also claimed

that they often also miss mail deliveries for commodities, bills, and go-

vernment notifications.

At least one resident reported experiencing such problems, with several notification letters from the Financial Services Bureau (DSF) never being delivered to his address.

He eventually received a notification, by which stage, he owed late-payment interest fees and a fine from DSF.

In a different case, the same resident noted several government letters containing important documents were not received, which forced him to request that a check be reissued from the government's annual wealth partaking scheme.

Building residents have had to exchange mail on their own initiative when they receive letters for other people.

"We have had cases in which people from other buildings find our letters in their mai-

lboxes and come here to deliver them at our building. We do this on occasion, but it is not a practical way to solve the issue."

"One of my neighbors also talked to the postman on more than one occasion, informing him of this problem, but he did not seem to care," said the resident, who wished to remain anonymous. They added, "We even tried to hand him the letters from the other address, but he refused to take them and asked us to deliver them to the Central Post Office."

One resident said addresses written in Romanized characters rather than Chinese characters might be contributing to the problem, noting there are usually no problems when the addresses are written fully in the Chinese language.

TYPHOON T3 LIKELY TO HIT TODAY

Residents should prepare for the possibility of a Typhoon Signal No.3 today, according to the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG). The bureau issued a Typhoon Signal No. 1 yesterday and a blue storm surge warning, indicating a medium to high likelihood of the severe weather system affecting the region with risks such as potential flooding. A Typhoon Signal No. 3 is expected to be raised from early today. While a yellow storm surge warning is already in effect, indicating a low risk, the public is advised to closely monitor the situation and take necessary precautions.

IC URGES HERITAGE PROTECTION AMID STORM WARNINGS

The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) is urging owners of heritage buildings to implement protective measures as the local weather bureau is expecting for a Typhoon Signal No. 3 today, alongside a blue storm surge warning. The bureau emphasizes the need for timely action, particularly for structures in low-lying areas, to safeguard against potential wind and flood damage. Authorities recommend caretakers stay updated with the latest weather reports from the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau to ensure the safety and preservation of important cultural sites during adverse weather conditions.

GUIA TUNNEL CLOSED NOV. 20-21

The Guia tunnel will be temporarily closed for maintenance Nov. 20-21, according to the Transport Bureau. The closure will occur from 2:00 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. on the 20th and from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on the 21st, as part of routine cleaning and monitoring of the tunnel. Motorists heading to ZAPE or Avenida de Horta e Costa area should use Est. Do Reservatório or alternative routes. Additionally, several bus routes will be diverted during these times, with some stops temporarily unavailable. For detailed bus diversion information, visit the OMB and Transmac websites.



LAMBORGHINI SUPER TROFEO ASIA

ANDRÉ COUTO CROWNED ASIA CHAMPION IN JEREZ

RENATO MARQUES

Local racer André Couto won the Lamborghini Super Trofeo Asia (LSTA) in the Pro-Am category over the weekend.

Couto joined Chinese racer Jason Chen for the championship at the wheel of a Lamborghini Huracán Super Trofeo Evo2 from Madness Racing Team.

The championship was only decided Friday in Race 2 with Couto and Chen crowned class champions despite finishing second and third in the races at the Spanish Jerez de la Frontera circuit.

The duo ended the championship with 140 points, six more than duo Thomas Yu and

Nikolas Pirttilahti.

Third in the category was Selim Rafique and Jazeman Jaafar who won Race 1 and finished second in Race 2.

After the race, Couto said, "Great way to end the season! 2024 Asian Champions in Pro/Am. What an amazing year for our team. Special thanks to my team, my teammate Jason Chen, and all the staff, mechanics, and engineers who did an amazing job."

LEONG FINISHED SECOND IN PRO CLASS

Racing in the LSTA Pro Class was local racer Charles Leong, who teamed with Japanese racer Miki Koyama in the SJM Iron Lynx Theodore Racing Lamborghini and finished se-

cond, beaten by Hong Kong racer Dan Wells by 11 points.

As in the Pro-Am category, the Pro class 2024 champion only won the crown in the very last race, with Wells taking the win in Race 2 while Leong and Koyama were second.

Third in the Pro Class category were Gavin Huang and Jonathan Cecotto.

After the race, Wells said, "This is only my third title in cars. I'm mega happy for the DW Evans GT team for their third championship in two years. What a nailbiter of a finale here in Jerez. It was a tricky race, but to be able to stand here as champions is amazing. The hard work that the team and my teammate Emilien did all week has been

incredible, and I couldn't have done it without him. He's done a super job all season."

Commenting on the championship results, Leong said, "What a year it has been. I am extremely grateful for the opportunities provided by SJM Iron Lynx Theodore Racing. We finished second in the Lamborghini Super Trofeo Asian Championship and secured the 8th place out of 47 cars on the grid at the World Finals."

"There have been many ups and downs this year, but we have demonstrated our abilities. I'm looking forward to even more next year. Huge thanks to our sponsor, team, and supporters for their continued support this year," he said.

MICE

Events surge 30% y-o-y as revenue hits MOP4.48b

THE number of MICE events in the city surged by 29.8% year-on-year, reaching 1,011 in the first three quarters of 2024.

According to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the figure represents 94% of the total from the same period in 2019.

MICE-driven revenue for non-gaming industries was estimated at approximately MOP4.48 billion, reflecting a 5.4% increase from 2023.

In total, 943 meetings and conferences were

held, marking a 30.2% rise with participant numbers growing by 12.7% to 136,000. However, exhibitions saw a decline, totaling 40 with attendance dropping by 21.7% to 856,000. Notably, non-local exhibitors and professional visitors accounted for over half of the attendees.

The third quarter alone recorded 300 MICE events, up by 16.7%, but overall attendance decreased by 4.8%. Revenue for this quarter was about MOP2.02 billion, down

17.3% from the previous year but up significantly from the second quarter.

Most events focused on "Commerce & Management," comprising 40.5% of the total, while sectors like "Information Technology" and "Tourism" each represented 10.7%.

The Macau government aimed to host approximately 1,500 MICE events in 2024, representing a 50% increase from the previous year. This target translates to an average of 125 events per month. LV



PJ arrests four in university case involving fake qualifications

NADIA SHAW

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) has apprehended four suspects linked to a scandal involving counterfeit academic qualifications at the University of Science and Technology (MUST).

In total, 24 mainland students were found to have been admitted using fraudulent credentials, with 20 fleeing before authorities could act.

The police said in a press conference yesterday that it has successfully intercepted the four students, who confessed to employing agencies in mainland China to forge results from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE).

This deception allowed them to bypass the universi-



ty's qualification review process, ultimately leading to their enrollment in various first-year programs at MUST.

The case came to light at the end of October when the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

(HKEAA) received a tip-off regarding the use of false qualifications for university applications.

Following this report, universities conducted verification checks, prompting the police investigation that be-

gan Oct. 29.

Among the 24 implicated students were 13 men and 11 women, all enrolled in diverse fields of study.

The arrested students hail from Hebei, Zhejiang, Shenzhen, and Jiangxi provinces.

They have now admitted to never having taken the necessary diploma examinations and revealed that their families had arranged for the forgery through a mainland agency.

Before their enrollment in August, a criminal group had even coached them on how to respond to inquiries from university staff.

So far, Christine Choi Yuk-lin, Hong Kong's Secretary for Education, condemned the recent fraudulent applications for university admission as "outrageous" during a radio interview Saturday.

She stressed the seriousness of the offense, stating that using fake documents is a crime that could result in a maximum penalty of 14 years in prison.

Following an investigation by the HKEAA, it was confirmed that all submitted DSE certificates were counterfeit.

The PJ said forging academic documents is a serious offense, punishable by up to three years in prison.

Authorities urge young people to uphold the law and maintain personal integrity when applying for educational opportunities or jobs.

A criminal record can severely hinder future career prospects, and individuals are cautioned against risking legal repercussions.

This incident is one of the first known cases in recent years involving attempts to use fraudulent HKDSE qualifications for admission to universities outside Hong Kong.

Notably, other universities in Macau have reported no additional cases after enhancing their verification processes.

EVENTS

Tito Paris performs with Macao Chinese Orchestra

RENOWNED Cape Verdean musician Tito Paris took the stage at the Macao Cultural Centre's Grand Auditorium over the weekend. This concert was part of the sixth "Encounter in Macao: Arts and Cultural Festival between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries."

The performance featured a fusion of Sino-Portuguese musical traditions,

showcasing the harmonious blending of diverse cultural influences through expertly arranged compositions led by Zhang Lie, the orchestra's music director.

The event not only highlighted Paris's artistic versatility but also represented a significant cultural exchange between Cape Verde and Macau.

Paris, who began

playing guitar at the age of seven, has captivated audiences worldwide for over 40 years with his distinctive blend of Cape Verdean genres infused with elements of jazz, rock, salsa, and flamenco. He showcased three traditional styles from Cape Verde: the morna, characterized by its slow tempo; funaná, an energetic accordion-based genre; and coladeira,

which features a variable rhythm.

His albums have reached audiences globally, from New York to Paris, earning him accolades and a medal from the President of Portugal for his contributions to music. Zhang Lie conducted the concert and led the orchestra in reinterpreting Paris's compositions using traditional Chinese instruments. **NS**



CORPORATE BITS

The Londoner Macao celebrates Hins Cheung's record-breaking concert series



Hong Kong singer-songwriter Hins Cheung has achieved a milestone in Macau, performing 31 shows at The Londoner Arena within

a year.

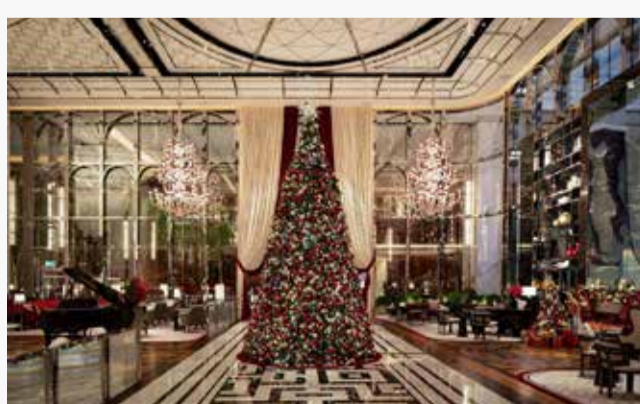
The concerts attracted 171,350 attendees from various places, including Macau and Hong Kong.

Cheung is a Cantopop figure with over 20 years of experience.

To celebrate this achievement, four additional concerts have been scheduled for January.

David Baxley, Regional Vice President of Entertainment at Sands China Ltd., expressed excitement about hosting Cheung's concerts, remarking, "We look forward to continuing our role as a key player in Macau's development into Asia's top entertainment destination and supporting more extraordinary talent like Hins Cheung as they break records and make history."

Galaxy Macau unveils 'Symphony of Joy' this festive season



This winter, Galaxy Macau will transform into a European-inspired holiday wonderland with its inaugural "Joy Village," launching the festive celebra-

tion titled "Symphony of Joy" on Nov. 28.

The kick-off ceremony will introduce unique photo spots reminiscent of a charming European

Christmas, inviting guests to enjoy fine dining, entertainment and shopping all in one location.

The crafted "Joy Village" will transform the Pearl Lobby into a vibrant Christmas manor, featuring interactive photo opportunities such as the "Crystal House," "Perfumery," "House of Fun," and "Post Office."

The atmosphere will be enhanced by dazzling lights and festive installations throughout the resort, including unique Christmas trees at various hotels.

Guests can participate in a luxury instant lucky draw with prizes totaling MOP8 million by spending MOP1,000 or more.

AP PHOTO

Yu Miao, owner of JF Books, speaks to The Associated Press in his bookstore in Washington, last month



PUBLISHING

Chinese-language booksellers are flourishing overseas

FU TING, WASHINGTON

Yu Miao smiles as he stands among the 10,000 books crowded on rows of bamboo shelves in his newly reopened bookstore. It's in Washington's vibrant Dupont Circle neighborhood, far from its last location in Shanghai, where the Chinese government forced him out of business six years ago.

"There is no pressure from the authorities here," said Yu, the owner of JF Books, Washington's only Chinese bookseller. "I want to live without fear."

Independent bookstores have become a new battleground in China, swept up in the ruling Communist party crackdown on dissent. The Associated Press found that at least a dozen bookstores in the world's second-largest economy have been shuttered or targeted for closure in the last few months alone, squeezing the already tight space for press freedom. One bookstore owner was arrested over four months ago.

The crackdown has had a chilling effect on China's publishing industry. Bookstores are common in China, but many are state-owned. Independent bookstores are governed by an intricate set of rules with strict controls now being more aggressively policed, according to bookstore owners. Printing shops and street vendors are also facing more rigorous government inspections by the National Office Against Pornography and Illegal Publication.

The office did not respond to

interview requests from The Associated Press. China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a statement to AP, said it was not aware of a crackdown on bookstores.

Yu isn't alone in taking his business out of the country. Chinese bookstores have popped up in Japan, France, Netherlands and elsewhere in the U.S. in recent years, as a result of both stricter controls in China and growing Chinese communities abroad.

It's not just the books' contents that are making Chinese authorities wary. In many communities, bookstores are cultural centers where critical thinking is encouraged, and conversations can veer into politics and other topics not welcomed by the authorities.

The bookstore owner who was arrested was Yuan Di, also called Yanyou, the founder of Jiazazhi, an artistic bookstore in Shanghai and Ningbo on China's eastern coast. He was taken away by police in June, according to Zhou Youlieguo, who closed his own bookstore in Shanghai in September. Yuan's arrest was also confirmed by two other people who declined to be named for fear of retribution. The charge against Yuan is unclear.

An official in Ningbo's Bureau of Culture, Radio Television and Tourism, which oversees bookstores, declined comment, noting the case is under investigation. The Ningbo police didn't respond to an interview request.

FADED OUTLINES

Michael Berry, director of UCLA's Center for Chinese Studies,

said a sluggish Chinese economy may be driving the government to exert greater control.

"The government might be feeling that this is a time to be more cautious and control this kind of discourse in terms of what people are consuming and reading to try to put a damper on any potential unrest and kind of nip it in the bud," Berry said.

These bookstore owners face dual pressures, Berry added. One is the political clampdown; the other is the global movement, especially among young people, toward digital media and away from print publications.

Wang Yingxing sold secondhand books in Ningbo for almost two decades before being ordered to close in August. Local officials informed Wang he lacked a publication business license even though he wasn't eligible to obtain one as a second-hand seller.

Faded outlines marked the spot where a sign for Fatty Wang's Bookstore once hung. Spray-painted black letters on the bookstore's window read: "Temporarily closed".

"We're promoting culture, I'm not doing anything wrong, right? I'm just selling some books and promoting culture," Wang said, tying a bundle of books together with brown wrapper and white nylon string.

"Then why won't you leave me alone?" Wang added.

Half a dozen other people heaved boxes of books into the back of a van. The books, Wang said, were being sold to cafe and bar owners

who wanted to burnish little libraries for their patrons. Some would be sent to a warehouse in Anhui. The rest, he said, were to be sent to a recycling station to be pulped and destroyed.

Bookstores are not the only target. Central authorities have also cracked down on other places such as printing shops, internet bars, gaming rooms and street vendors. Strict inspections have taken place all over the country, according to Chinese authorities.

Authorities in Shanghai inspected printing places and bookstores, looking for "printing, copying or selling illegal publications," according to a government document. This shows the authorities are not just barring the sale of some publications, but tracing them back to the printing process. They found some printing stores did not "register the copy content as required" and demanded they fix the problem quickly.

In Shaoyang, a city in China's south, authorities said they will be "cracking down on harmful publications in accordance with the law."

The Communist Party has various powers to control which books are available. Any publication without a China Standard Book Number is considered illegal, including self-published books and those imported without special licenses. Books can be banned even after they are published if restrictions are later tightened — often for unclear reasons — or if the writers say something upsetting to the Chinese authorities.

Yet despite these restrictions and the crackdown on existing booksellers, more bookstores are opening. Recent figures are unavailable, but a survey by Bookdao, a media company that focuses on the book industry, shows more than twice as many bookstores opened than closed in China in 2020.

IDEALISTS IN THE INDUSTRY

Liu Suli, who has been running All Sages Books in Beijing for over three decades, says there are many idealists in the industry.

"Everyone who reads has a dream of having a bookstore," Liu says, despite the challenges.

In many cases, those dreams are being fulfilled outside China. Yu and other Chinese booksellers around the world stock their shelves with books from Hong Kong, Taiwan and mainland China, as well as books published locally.

Zhang Jieping, founder of Nowhere, a bookstore in Taiwan and Thailand, said there's a growing demand for books from migrants who left China after the COVID-19 pandemic.

"They don't just want to speak fluent English or Japanese to fit in, they want cultural autonomy," Zhang said. "They want more community spaces. Not necessarily a bookstore, but in any format — a gallery, or a restaurant."

Li Yijia is a 22-year-old student who arrived in Washington from Beijing in August. One Sunday morning, she wandered through JF Books where she found titles in Chinese and English. She said a Chinese bookstore feels like "another world in a bubble" which helps her critical thinking by allowing her to read books in both languages.

"It also relieves homesickness, like a Chinese restaurant," Li added.

The closure of the bookstores leads the owners to different paths. Some ended up in jail, some went looking for jobs to feed their families. Some started a journey to leave censorship behind.

Since he closed his Shanghai bookstore, Zhou, 39, has moved to Los Angeles, but hasn't decided what his next step will be.

He said his fully licensed independent bookstore, which sold art books and self-published works by artists and translators, was fined thousands of dollars and he was interrogated over a dozen times during the past four years. He's seen colleagues jailed for selling "illegal publications." All the self-published book artists and editors he worked with asked him to take down their work after warnings by local authorities.

Zhou said he could not handle further harassment He said it was as if he were "smuggling drugs instead of selling books."

The existence of his bookstore, Zhou said, was "a rebellion and a resistance," which is not there anymore. **MDT/AP**

PHILIPPINES

Manila and Washington sign a pact to secure shared military intelligence and weapons technology

JIM GOMEZ, MANILA

THE United States and the Philippines signed an agreement yesterday to secure the exchange of highly confidential military intelligence and technology in key weapons the U.S. would provide to Manila.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and his Philippine counterpart, Gilberto Teodoro, signed the legally binding General Security of Military Information Agreement in Manila at a time when the long-time treaty allies have boosted their defense and military engagements, including large-scale joint combat drills, largely in response to China's increasingly aggressive actions in Asia.

The outgoing Biden administration has taken steps to strengthen an arc of military alliances across the Indo-Pacific region to better counter China, including in any future confrontation over Taiwan or in the disputed South China Sea, which Beijing has claimed almost in its entirety.

That has dovetailed with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s thrust to strengthen his country's external defenses given an alarming escalation of territorial confrontations between Chinese and Filipinos forces in the



Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin (right) at the Malacanang Palace in Manila, yesterday

South China Sea.

The Department of National Defense in Manila said the agreement aims to ensure the security of classified military information that would be exchanged between the U.S. and the Philippines.

It will "allow the Philippines access to higher capabilities and big-ticket items from the United States," the Philippine defense department said.

Neither side provided more details or released a copy of the agreement.

Two Philippine security officials, however, have told The Associated Press that such an agreement, similar to ones Washington has signed with other allied countries, would allow the U.S. to provide the Philippines with higher-level intelligence and more sophisticated weapons, including missile systems.

It would also provide the Philippine military access to U.S. satellite and drone surveillance systems with an assurance that such intelligence and details about

sophisticated weapons would be kept highly secure to prevent possible leaks, the two Philippine officials said on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the sensitive issue publicly.

Philippine efforts to obtain sophisticated weapons from the U.S. military in the past have been hampered by a lack of such an intelligence deal, including when Filipino forces were scrambling to fight a 2017 siege by Filipino and foreign militants aligned with the

Islamic State group in southern Marawi city. Philippine forces, backed by U.S. and Australian spy planes, quelled the uprising after five months.

Austin and Teodoro also attended a groundbreaking ceremony for a center where the U.S. and Philippine militaries would coordinate future joint operations, including the exchange of information. Austin said the center "will be a place where our forces can work side-by-side to respond to regional challenges."

Austin renewed the U.S. commitment to the Philippines as an ally and told Teodoro that "we are more than allies. We are family."

The coordinating center, Teodoro said, would provide "a unified picture of the shared areas of responsibility and common approaches to threats against both our securities."

"I'm sure it will benefit future generations of both our peoples to come because although we may change people, the values don't change," Teodoro said.

The Philippine defense chief reiterated the crucial need for the U.S. security presence in the region, citing Marcos's repeated statements that such a presence "is essential for maintaining peace and stability in this region."

MDT/AP

NORTH KOREA

Kim calls for expanding his nuclear forces in the face of alleged US threats

NORTH Korean leader Kim Jong Un renewed his call for a "limitless" expansion of his military nuclear program to counter U.S.-led threats in comments reported yesterday that were his first direct criticism toward Washington since Donald Trump's win in the U.S. presidential election.

At a conference with army officials on Friday, Kim condemned the United States for updating its nuclear deterrence strategies with South Korea and solidifying three-way military cooperation involving Japan, which he portrayed

as an "Asian NATO" that was escalating tensions and instability in the region.

Kim also criticized the United States over its support of Ukraine against a prolonged Russian invasion. He insisted that Washington and its Western allies were using Ukraine as their "shock troops" to wage a war against Moscow and expand the scope of U.S. military influence, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said.

Kim has prioritized his country's ties to Russia in recent months, embracing



the idea of a "new Cold War" and displaying a united front in Russian President Vladimir Putin's broad

der conflicts with the West. He has used Russia's war on Ukraine as a distraction to accelerate the develop-

ment of his nuclear-armed military, which now has various nuclear-capable systems targeting South Korea and intercontinental ballistic missiles that can potentially reach the U.S. mainland.

Kim has yet to directly acknowledge that he has been providing military equipment and troops to Russia to support its war against Ukraine and the KCNA's report didn't mention whether Kim made any comments toward Trump, whose election win has yet to be reported in the North's state media.

Kim met Trump three times in 2018 and 2019 in Trump's first presidency, but their diplomacy quickly collapsed over disagreements in exchanging the release of U.S.-led sanctions and North Korean steps to wind down

its nuclear and missile program. North Korea has since suspended any meaningful talks with Washington and Seoul as Kim ramped up his testing activity and military demonstrations in the face of what he portrayed as "gangster-like U.S. threats." There's concern in Seoul that Kim in exchange for his military support of Russia would receive Russian technology in return to further develop his arsenal.

Trump's election win has touched off speculation about a resumption of a summit-driven diplomacy with Kim, which was described by critics as a "bro-mance." But some experts say a quick return to 2018 is highly unlikely, as too much has changed about the regional security situation and broader geopolitics since then. MDT/AP

AP PHOTO



AZERBAIJAN

At climate summit in Baku, negotiators are urged to get down to business as talks enter second week

SIBI ARASU,
MELINA WALLING &
SETH BORENSTEIN, BAKU

UNITED Nations climate talks resumed yesterday with negotiators urged to make progress on a deal that could see developing countries get more money to spend on clean energy and adapting to climate-charged weather extremes.

Yesterday, U.N. Climate Change executive secretary Simon Stiell called for countries to "cut the theatrics and get down to real business."

"We will only get the job done if Parties are prepared to step forward in parallel, bringing us closer to common ground," Stiell said to a room of delegates in Baku, Azerbaijan. "I know we can get this done."

Climate and environment ministers from around the world have arrived at the summit to help push the talks forward.

Talks in Baku are focused on getting more climate cash for developing countries to transition away from fossil fuels, adapt to climate change and pay for damages caused by extreme weather. But countries are far apart on how much money that will require. Several experts put the sum needed at

around \$1 trillion.

Some rich countries say that developing countries that are able to — such as China and Gulf states — should also be contributors to the climate cash pot.

But Teresa Anderson, the Global Lead on Climate Justice at ActionAid International, was skeptical about rich countries' intentions.

"The concern is that the pressure to add developing countries to the list of contributors is not, in fact, about raising more money for frontline countries," Anderson said. "Rich countries are just trying to point the finger and have an excuse to provide less finance. That's not the way to address runaway climate breakdown, and is a distraction from the real issues at stake."

Rachel Cleetus from the Union of Concerned Scientists said \$1 trillion in global climate funds "is going to look like a bargain five, 10 years from now."

"We're going to wonder why we didn't take that and run with it," she said, citing a multitude of costly recent extreme

weather events from flooding in Spain to hurricanes Helene and Milton in the United States.

Climate watchers keep an eye on Rio and Paris

Meanwhile, the world's biggest decision makers are halfway around the world as another major summit convenes. Brazil is hosting the Group of 20 summit, which runs Nov. 18-19, bringing together many of the world's largest economies. Climate change —

he said.

Also yesterday, the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has been mulling a proposal to cut public spending for foreign fossil fuel projects. The OECD — made up of 38 member countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, South Korea, Japan and Germany — are discussing a deal that could prevent up to \$40 billion worth of carbon-polluting projects.

At COP29, activists are protesting the U.S., South Korea, Japan, and Turkey who they say are the key holdouts preventing the agreement in Paris from being finalized.

"It's of critical importance that President Biden comes out in support. We know it's really important that he lands a deal that Trump cannot undo. This can be really important for Biden's legacy," said Lauri van der Burg, Global Public Finance Lead at Oil Change International. "If he comes around, this will help mount pressure on other laggards including Korea, Turkey and Japan." MDT/AP

"We will only get the job done if Parties are prepared to step forward in parallel."

SIMON STIELL
UN CLIMATE CHANGE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

among other major topics like rising global tensions and poverty — will be on the agenda.

Harjeet Singh, global engagement director for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, said G20 nations "cannot turn their backs on the reality of their historical emissions and the responsibility that comes with it."

"They must commit to trillions in public finance,"

this day in history

1985 SUPERPOWER SUMMIT 'OFF TO GOOD START'



The first meeting in six years between the world's superpowers - the United States and the Soviet Union - has begun in Switzerland.

Early reports indicate the meeting between President Ronald Reagan and the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva has got off to a good start.

Their first get together this morning - at the Villa Water Lily owned by the Aga Khan - lasted four times the scheduled 15 minutes.

The two men were alone apart from their interpreters.

And in the afternoon they unexpectedly went off entirely by themselves for an hour.

However, a key stumbling block to any agreement is expected to be America's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) - popularly known as "Star Wars".

Mr Reagan believes a defensive shield of laser gun ships in space would guarantee peace.

But Mr Gorbachev believes SDI could upset the nuclear balance and allow a state with the technology to launch an attack untroubled by the threat of retaliation.

There is a complete news blackout on details until the end of the summit on Thursday.

But the general atmosphere was upbeat at the end of the first day with Mr Gorbachev announcing the two men had got down to "serious business".

"We must achieve decisions together," the Soviet leader said.

The presidents and their wives later dined together.

The summit continues tomorrow when the leaders are expected to discuss arms control, regional conflicts and human rights.

In the absence of hard news regarding the summit, much interest has been focused on the activities of the leaders' wives.

On Tuesday Raisa Gorbachev and Nancy Reagan carried out separate public programmes but met for tea in the afternoon.

Reporters have dubbed the women's alleged desire to be the best-dressed - "Style Wars".

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Both sides painted a positive picture of the summit but the lack of specific details in the subsequent agreement reflected areas of major differences.

The document signed by the two presidents committed them to work towards a 50% cut in their nuclear arsenals and explore the possibility of an agreement on medium range missiles.

It also said they should try and resolve "humanitarian cases" - believed to refer to the USSR granting exit visas to Soviet Jews. In October 1986 the two men held another summit in Reykjavik in Iceland.

However, after a positive start the meeting ending without agreement when the US insisted it would not give up the "Star Wars" programme.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
 Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Clean messes at home for workability and beauty. Resist impulsive purchases or actions. Conserve resources and treasures. Cook up something tasty. Enjoy domestic pleasures.

TAURUS
 Apr. 20-May. 20
 Communication breakdowns cause delays. Keep moderation as a rule. Guard against oversharing, overeating or overspending. There's no need to tell everything. Maintain some mystery.

GEMINI
 May. 21-Jun. 21
 Get advice, but make your own financial decisions. Abandon preconceived notions and suppositions. Keep an open mind. A dream lies within reach. Disciplined action wins.

CANCER
 Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 Use your natural advantage. Keep objectives in mind. Defend your position with good humor. Push, but gently. Action gets farther than words. Advance personal dreams.

LEO
 Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 Complete one job to make space for the next. Archive and file documents. Consider where you've been and what's ahead. Process recent changes. Rest.

VIRGO
 Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 Harmony requires effort. Show your philosophical side in public. The opposition holds out and it could get tense. Speak the truth or keep your peace.

LIBRA
 Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 Don't get intimidated. A professional opportunity is worth pursuing. You're strong enough. Do the homework. Get support from someone you love and trust.

SCORPIO
 Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 Get outside and explore. Cook up an interesting investigation. Despite misunderstandings or delays, dreamy destinations beckon. Simplify to essential elements. Study options and possibilities.

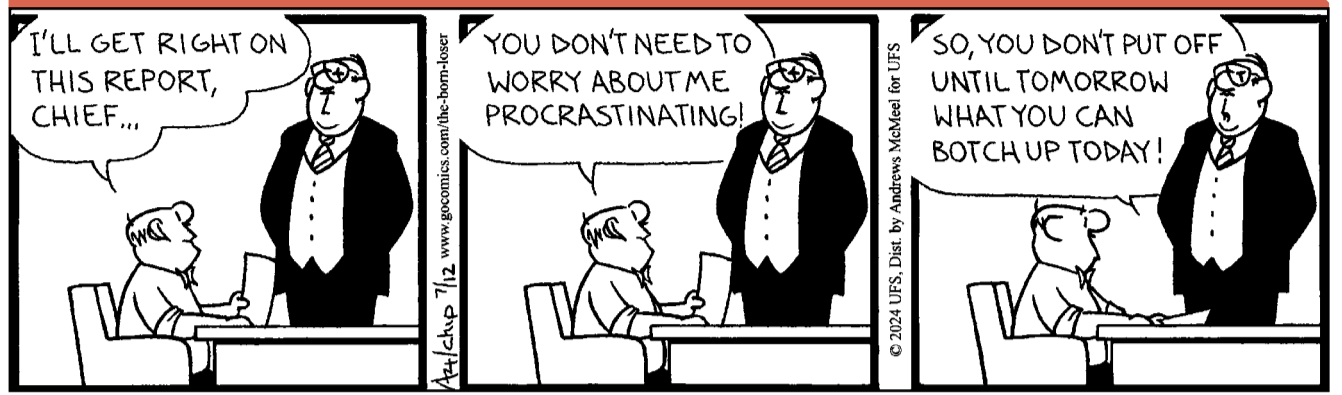
SAGITTARIUS
 Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Costs may be higher than expected. Heed recommendations and warnings. Avoid financial arguments by maintaining positive cash flow. Action gets results. Share support.

CAPRICORN
 Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Collaborate for practical objectives. Sparks could fly between you and a partner, kindling romance or ire. Stoke your shared passion. Prioritize action over words.

AQUARIUS
 Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 Don't go hard on yourself. Keep a positive attitude and show up for practice. Provide steady, dependable service. Strengthen your heart with regular moves.

PISCES
 Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 Romance and passion could spark if you keep your sense of humor. Find creative solutions. Relax with someone fun. Reduce stress with a walk outside.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

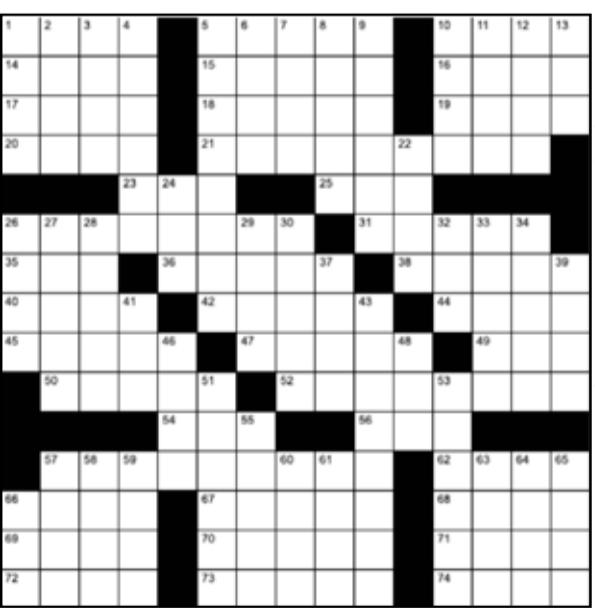
	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	-1	8	cloudy
Changchun	-9	3	fine
Chengdu	9	13	rain
Chongqing	12	14	rain
Fuzhou	16	20	rain
Guangzhou	17	23	rain
Guiyang	7	10	rain
Haikou	22	26	cloudy
Hangzhou	10	16	cloudy
Harbin	-10	1	fine
Hefei	7	13	cloudy
Nanjing	10	14	cloudy
Shanghai	11	15	overcast
Taipei	19	21	rain
Wuhan	9	12	cloudy
Hong Kong	21	22	showers
WORLD			
Moscow	1	3	snow
Frankfurt	2	9	showers
Paris	4	12	rain
London	1	7	showers
New York	9	14	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Bric-a-___; 5- Funny Anne; 10- Friends; 14- Dynamic introduction?; 15- Less healthy; 16- What ___ mind reader?; 17- Slay; 18- One on slopes; 19- Air pollution; 20- Hydroxyl compound; 21- 3rd president of the U.S.; 23- Debtor's note; 25- Animal pouch; 26- Climbed; 31- Charged toward; 35- "Fancy that!"; 36- Marsh bird; 38- Four-door; 40- Coffee servers; 42- Wipe away; 44- Tubular pasta; 45- Room at the top; 47- Bond servant; 49- Electric fish; 50- Take ___ at (try); 52- Cherish; 54- Rock's ___ Speedwagon; 56- Road with a no.; 57- Fencing; 62- Rub the wrong way; 66- Low-___ diet; 67- Release; 68- Q.E.D. part; 69- Butter alternative; 70- Shakespearean forest; 71- Wine valley; 72- Hamlet, for one; 73- Pool stroke; 74- Type of D.A.;

DOWN 1- Harden by heat; 2- Bit attachment; 3- He sang about Alice; 4- Lassie, for one; 5- Overestimate; 6- Sommer of "A Shot in the Dark"; 7- First Arabic letter; 8- Coral colonies; 9- Debt that remains unpaid; 10- Make the grade; 11- Rifle adjunct; 12- Large cat; 13- Droop; 22- Some DVD players; 24- Washington bill; 26- Water; Sp.; 27- Simmons rival; 28- Pennies; 29- Messes up; 30- Distributed cards; 32- Pinch-___; 33- French farewell; 34- Spud; 37- Russian ruler; 39- Egypt's river; 41- Obedience school command; 43- Each person; 46- Singer Vikki; 48- Use, consume; 51- Mad confusion; 53- Sister of Venus; 55- Musical drama, usually sung in Italian; 57- Room in a casa; 58- Small songbird; 59- Slender woodwind; 60- Old Fords; 61- Matures, as wine; 63- 401(k) cousins; 64- Drinks (as a cat); 65- French state; 66- Atlantic food fish;

Yesterday's solution



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

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
 置業 物業 買賣 租賃

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

f jmlmacau @jmlproperty

Hoi Wan Retail (Taipa)
 HKD 12,980,000

Tou Un (Taipa)
 HKD 2,750,000 1 bed 1 bath

Jade Garden (Taipa)
 HKD 11,880,000 4 bed 3 bath

BOXING

JAKE PAUL BELIEVES HE CAN FIGHT FOR A TITLE, BUT TYSON MIGHT BE DONE IN THE RING AT 58

SCHUYLER DIXON,
ARLINGTON

JAKE Paul believes he can fight for a championship belt within two years.

Mike Tyson might be finished in the ring after the 58-year-old former heavyweight champion's first sanctioned pro bout since 2005.

An event hyped like a prize fight turned into a glorified sparring session, the eight-round bout won by Paul in a lopsided unanimous decision at the home of the NFL's Dallas Cowboys on Friday night (Saturday, Macau time).

There will continue to be questions for Paul over when he will fight a contender in his prime, as opposed to aging former champs, mixed martial artists or journeymen boxers.

The 27-year-old YouTuber-turned-boxer's answers have been consistent, and now he has a timeline.

"I think it could happen in the next 24 months," Paul said.



"I truly, truly believe in my skills and my ability and my power. And the cruiserweight division is seemingly open for the taking on that timeline."

A shorter fight (instead of 10 or 12 rounds) with shorter rounds (two minutes instead of three) and heavier gloves fell far short of entertaining.

The International Boxing

Hall of Famer came at Paul hard in the opening seconds, and briefly again to start the second round. Otherwise, he mostly let Paul come to him, and Paul said he thought Tyson was too fatigued to be a threat beyond the third round.

Still, Tyson wouldn't say immediately afterward it was his last fight after the officially

recorded loss dropped his record to 50-7 with 44 knockouts.

"It depends on the situation," Tyson said before suggesting a fight with Paul's older brother, Logan Paul, who was standing near him in the ring.

"I'll kill you, Mike," Logan Paul shot back, using an expletive for emphasis.

But Tyson said he had gone in the ring "one last time" in a social media post Saturday that provided details about the health scare he faced that forced the postponement from the fight's original date this summer.

"I almost died in June," Tyson wrote on X. "Had 8 blood transfusions. Lost half my blood and 25lbs in hospital and had to fight to get healthy to fight so I won."

There's no question the younger Paul will be back in the ring. The former social media influencer started boxing about 4 1/2 years ago and

has always said he wants to be a championship fighter.

"He's a very good fighter," said Tyson, the undisputed heavyweight champ from 1987-90, after Paul won 80-72 on one judge's scorecard and 79-73 on the other two.

Paul still has plenty to prove, though. He is 11-1 with seven knockouts, the only loss to Tommy Fury, the less-accomplished brother of former heavyweight champion Tyson Fury. The former Disney Channel star has proven he can create hype for just about any fight.

The first live sports event on Netflix was viewed in 60 million households, the streaming company said Saturday.

According to reports, Paul's payday was \$40 million, compared with \$20 million for Tyson. Paul mentioned his number during a promotional event over the summer.

Organizers estimated the AT&T Stadium crowd at 72,000, and it appeared to be a legitimate number. **MDT/AP**

AD

律師事務所



C&C
LAWYERS
& NOTARIES
SINCE 1996



合夥人 PARTNERS:

官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha ° 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues ° 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata ° 趙魯 Zhao Lu °* 馬傑安 João Nogueira Marques

大律師 ASSOCIATES:

高文軒 Adelino Correia °
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues
馬潔冰 Maria João Marques
陶義德 António Isóo de Azeredo
白穎怡 Icília Berenguel
冼玲鳳 Mariana Afonso Esteves
馬秀文 Sofia Mendes Martins
飛嘉華 Carlos dos Santos Ferreira °
莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura
安東尼 António Manuel dos Santos
巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
陳芷喬 Joana Chan

大律師 ASSOCIATES:

顏曉蓉 Teresa Xiaorong Yan
諾瑪莉 Maria Noras
康靜雅 Viviana Hong
梁淑嵐 Ana Leon
黃瀚賢 Frederico Vong
斐彥德 Gonçalo Figueiredo
吳靈鋒 Ng Teng Fong

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

陳健雄 Eurico Chan
戴博晴 Tai Pok Cheng
吳佩愉 Ng Pui U
陳子健 Kimi Chan

法律專家及外地註冊律師

JURISTS AND LAWYERS
QUALIFIED IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS:
林思潔 Jessie Lin
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
楊詩婷 Si Teng leong

法律專家 JURISTS:

張偉鴻 Cheong Wai Hong
伍福賢 Domingos Ng
許栢桓 Rui Fernandes Brás

WWW.CCADVOG.COM
TEL: (853) 2837 2642/ 2837 2623

° 私人公證員 Notary Public * 中國委託公證人 China Appointed Attesting Officer



C&C RECEIVED THE 1ST SILVER
"DEIGNAN AWARD"
FOR RESPONSIBLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP
IN MACAU (2023)



RUGBY

Record Wallabies win in Cardiff plunges Wales to worst losing run in history

WALES 20, AUSTRALIA 52

AUSTRALIA condemned Wales to the worst losing run in its 143-year rugby history after a record 52-20 win under the Principality Stadium roof yesterday [Macau time].

Wales lost an unprecedented 11th consecutive test, dating to the Rugby World Cup quarterfinals 13 months ago.

The Wallabies are responsible for three of those defeats after July wins in Sydney and Melbourne. Yesterday, they scored their most points against Wales in Cardiff — they'd never passed 39 — and their most against Wales in 28 years.

Coming off the stunner against England, the Wallabies also are perfect halfway through their 40th anniversary grand slam tour, with Scotland and Ireland to come.

The victory by eight tries to two saw Australia zoom to 19-0, a Wales fightback by halftime, then Australia retake control while its center Samu Kerevi was off the

field for a 20-minute red card in his 50th test.

Matt Faessler became the first Australia hooker to score a hat trick of tries, and man-of-the-match fullback Tom Wright matched his three in the final minute. Noah Lolesio converted six.

"That was an awesome 80-minute performance," Wright told broadcaster TNT Sports. "Those are games you like to be a part of."

Kerevi red card

The Wallabies were too clever and confident for a younger, rebuilding Wales. Bigger too. The Wallabies constantly got over the gain-line and were clinical.

After Kerevi's illegal head contact on Jac Morgan reduced Australia to 14 men, Wales, trailing 19-13, thought it had a sniff. But the Wallabies pack moved them out of sight on the scoreboard by engineering two converted tries in 10 minutes for Faessler. His hat trick was all maul tries.

Wales tried to regain the initiative by changing the front row,



Australia's Len Ikitau scores a try during a match between Wales and Australia in Cardiff

but it also replaced its best player, wing Tom Rogers.

And before Australia returned to 15 when Kerevi was replaced by rookie sensation Joseph Su'uali'i, Wright scored a 70-meter intercept try after teammate Rob Valetini stopped Christ Tshiunza dead.

"That performance hurts," Wales coach Warren Gatland said. "We started off not great. We conceded some points. We got back into it. (Conceding) 21 points with a man advantage, it's not often that happens.

"You can get beaten by a better

team, but we've probably let ourselves down when we needed to keep a cool head. It's using that experience to review as honestly as we can so we learn from it."

Gatland keen to fight on

Asked about his future, Wales' most successful coach said he wanted to carry on.

"There's so much negativity around the game. Whatever the best decision is, I would support. If that means (firing) me, I'm comfortable with that," Gatland said. "I'm only human so I ask myself if it's the right thing to do. But I'm happy doing it."

The game petered out with more tries to Wright and Len Ikitau, interrupted by a score for Wales' Ben Thomas.

It doesn't get any easier for Wales. World champion South Africa comes to town next weekend.

Even knowing there was more unwanted history at stake, Wales couldn't have started much worse. **MDT/AP**

AD

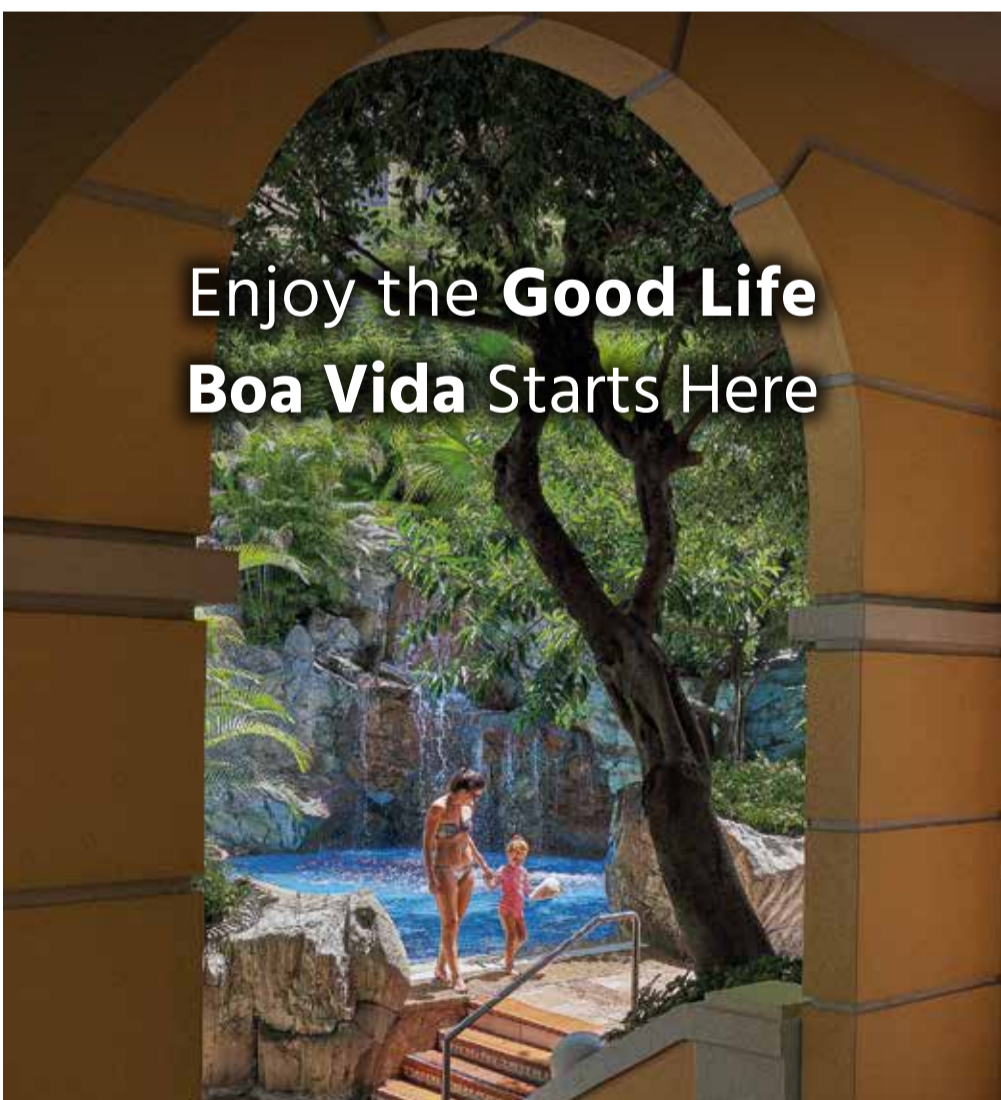


BENFICAMACAU
ACADEMY
澳門賓菲加體育學校



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

SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM TO UPHOLD RIGHT WAY FOR CHINA AND US TO GET ALONG WELL

In his meeting with US President Joe Biden in Lima, Peru, on Saturday, Chinese President Xi Jinping talked at length about the current state of China-US relations, which serves as both a succinct summary of their ties over the past four years and an important guidance for the future trajectory of bilateral interaction.

The meeting, held on the sidelines of the 31st APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, is the third between the two presidents and follows their telephone call on April 2, 2024. With China-US ties at a pivotal moment and the world mired in conflicts and challenges, it is only natural that their exchange should draw international attention.

Summarizing the lessons of the past four years, Xi condensed them into seven pillars of wisdom to support healthy bilateral relations, namely the importance of having the correct strategic perception of the folly of a new Cold War; of matching words with deeds; of engaging with each other on an equal footing; of not challenging redlines and paramount principles; of increasing dialogue and cooperation; of building bridges to bring the two peoples closer together; and of the two countries shouldering their international responsibilities by carrying out constructive interactions.

Xi stressed that the overall trajectory of China-US relations over the past 45 years proved the validity of these experiences and inspirations, pointing out that although China-US relations have gone through ups and downs over the past four years, the relationship has remained stable on the whole and the two sides have engaged in dialogue and cooperation via more than 20 communication mechanisms that under head-of-state diplomacy's guidance have made positive achievements in such areas as technology, security, economy, trade, fiscal affairs, finance, military, counternarcotics, law enforcement, agriculture, climate change and people-to-people exchanges.

He also made it unequivocally clear that China desires amicable and cooperative relations, rather than a confrontationally competitive relationship.

Leaving no room for misinterpretation, Xi said that China's goal of a stable, healthy and sustainable China-US relationship remains unchanged; its commitment to mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation as principles for handling China-US relations remains unchanged; its position of resolutely safeguarding its sovereignty, security and development interests remains unchanged; and its desire to carry forward the traditional friendship between the Chinese and American peoples remains unchanged.

Washington should know what are the most important guardrails and safety nets for bilateral ties as Beijing will remain firm and resolute in safeguarding China's territorial integrity and development interests and it will not sit idly by should its strategic security and core interests be under threat.

It is normal for countries to have some differences, and even disputes between them. To properly handle the differences and disputes between the US and China requires the leaders of the two countries to demonstrate skillful stewardship, recognizing that when the two countries treat each other as partners and seek common ground, their relationship makes considerable progress, producing dividends for both countries and the world at large. But on the contrary, if they regard each other as rivals and pursue vicious competition, they will roil the relationship or even set it back to the detriment of both countries and the world.

Beijing and Washington should therefore keep exploring the right way for the two countries to get along well with each other, for the good of themselves and the world at large. [Abridged]

45 PRO-DEMOCRACY ACTIVISTS FACE SENTENCING IN HONG KONG

Dozens of prominent Hong Kong pro-democracy activists are scheduled to be sentenced today in the largest case under a national security law that critics say crushed political activism in the semi-autonomous Chinese city.

The convictions of the 45 activists under the law are widely seen as part of a crackdown by China that destroyed hopes for a more democratic Hong Kong. They face sentences of up to life imprisonment.

The activists were among 47 people charged with conspiracy to commit subversion in 2021 for their involvement in an unofficial primary election to pick opposition candidates. They were accused of agreeing to veto government-proposed budgets indiscriminately

after securing a legislative majority to force a dissolution of the legislature and then the ouster of the city's leader.

Three government-approved judges ruled that the plan to achieve political change through the unofficial primary in 2020 would have undermined the government's authority and created a constitutional crisis.

Thirty-one of the activists pleaded guilty and 14 others were found guilty in May following a trial. Two were acquitted. Those who entered guilty pleas have a better chance of shorter prison terms.

Some of the convicted activists have sought lesser sentences by expressing remorse and apologizing. Others have remained defiant.

THE BUZZ



Motorists ride past a part of a roof suspended on electric wires blown by strong winds caused by Typhoon Man-yi along a street in the municipality of Baler, Aurora province

PHILIPPINES

TYPHOON MAN-YI LEAVES SEVEN DEAD, WORSENS CRISIS FROM BACK-TO-BACK STORMS

JIM GOMEZ, MANILA

TYPHOON Man-yi left at least seven people dead in a landslide, destroyed houses and displaced large numbers of villagers before blowing away from the northern Philippines, worsening the crisis wreaked by multiple back-to-back storms, officials said yesterday.

Man-yi was one of the strongest of the six major storms to hit the northern Philippines in less than a month and had sustained winds of up to 195 kilometers (125 miles) per hour when it slammed into the eastern island province of Catanduanes on Saturday night.

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin met President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. in Manila and offered his prayers, announcing an additional \$1 million in humanitarian aid for typhoon victims. He told Marcos he has authorized U.S. troops to help Filipino forces provide life-saving aid.

Torrential rains and fierce wind unleashed by Man-yi set off a landslide early yesterday in the northern town of Ambaguio in Nueva Vizcaya province that buried a house and killed seven people, including children, and injured three others inside, regional police chief Brig. Gen. Antonio

P. Marallag Jr. said.

Army troops, police and villagers were scrambling to search for three other people who were believed to have been entombed in the avalanche of mud, boulders and uprooted trees, Marallag said.

Disaster response officials said they were checking if the deaths of two villagers in a motorcycle accident and an electrocution were directly related to Man-yi's onslaught so they could be added to the overall death toll. They said a separate search was underway for a couple and their child after their shanty was swept away in rampaging rivers in northern Nueva Ecija province.

More than a million people were affected by the typhoon and two previous storms, including nearly 700,000 who fled their homes and moved to emergency shelters or relatives' homes, according to the Office of Civil Defense.

Nearly 8,000 houses were damaged or destroyed and more than 100 cities and towns were hit by power outages due to toppled electric posts, it said.

In the worst-hit province of Camarines, officials pleaded for additional help after fierce winds and rain damaged more houses and cut off electricity and water

supplies in the entire province, along with cellphone connections in many areas, provincial information officer Camille Gianan said.

Welfare officials transported food aid, drinking water and other help but more is needed over the coming months, Gianan said. Many villagers will need construction materials to rebuild their houses, she said.

The rare number of back-to-back storms and typhoons that lashed Luzon — the country's largest and most populous island — in just three weeks left more than 160 people dead, affected 9 million people and caused such extensive damage to communities, infrastructure and farmlands that the Philippines may have to import more rice, a staple food.

In an emergency meeting as Man-yi approached, Marcos asked his Cabinet and provincial officials to brace for "the worst-case scenario."

At least 26 domestic airports and two international airports were briefly shut and inter-island ferry and cargo services were suspended due to rough seas, stranding thousands of passengers and commuters. Most transport services have now resumed.

MDT/AP



Australia Former Sydney broadcaster and rugby coach Alan Jones was charged yesterday with 24 sex crimes involving eight male victims from 2001-2019. Police allege assaults occurred in professional and personal contexts. Jones, 83, will appear in court December 18, facing charges including indecent assault and sexual touching.



United States President Joe Biden approved Ukrainian use of U.S.-supplied long-range missiles to strike Russia. The decision follows Russia's deployment of North Korean troops. Kyiv argues such strikes are crucial for defense. Biden previously resisted escalation, prioritizing NATO unity, but intensified missile use may shift the war's dynamics.



Brazil In Manaus, President Joe Biden highlighted irreversible U.S. progress on clean energy initiatives despite incoming policy shifts under Donald Trump. Touring the Amazon, Biden committed \$50 million for rainforest preservation and emphasized the Amazon's global importance amidst severe drought, deforestation, and biodiversity threats.



Slovakia Thousands protested Sunday in Bratislava against Prime Minister Robert Fico's government on the 35th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution. Critics accuse Fico of undermining democracy, ending Ukraine military aid, and aligning with Russia. Opposition leaders vowed to safeguard Slovakia's pro-Western and democratic principles.