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Inside C2

Southern DAILY

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Russians pound access routes to Ukraine’s besieged Bakhmut

CHASIV YAR, Ukraine, March 3 (Reuters) - Russian troops and mercenaries rained artillery on the last access routes to the besieged Ukrainian city of Bakhmut on Friday, bringing Moscow closer to its first major victory in half a year after the bloodiest fighting of the war.

The head of Russia’s Wagner private army, speaking in a video recorded some 7 km (4 miles) north of Bakhmut, said the city, which has been blasted to ruins, was almost completely surrounded with only one road still open for Ukraine’s troops. Reuters observed intense Russian shelling of routes leading west out of Bakhmut, an apparent attempt to block Ukrainian forces’ access in and out of the city. A bridge in the adjacent town of Khromove was damaged by Russian tank shelling.

Ukrainian soldiers were working to repair damaged roads and more troops were heading towards the frontline in a sign that Ukraine was not yet ready to give up the city. To the west, Ukrainians were digging new trenches for defensive positions.

Greece train crash: families of victims grieve as protests grow 70 years after death, Stalin’s polarising legacy looms large
War of the worms: Polish politicians give each other a mouthful over edible insects
Russia’s RIA state news agency released a video clip showing what it said were Wagner fighters walking by a damaged industrial facility. One fighter is heard saying Ukraine’s army is destroying infrastructure in settlements near Bakhmut to prevent the Russian encirclement.

The commander of Ukraine’s ground forces, Oleksandr Syrskiy, visited Bakhmut on Friday for briefings with local commanders on how to boost the defence capacity of frontline forces.
A Russian victory in Bakhmut,



with a pre-war population of about 70,000, would give it the first major prize of a costly winter offensive, after it called up hundreds of thousands of reservists last year. Russia says it would be a stepping stone to capturing the surrounding Donbas industrial region, an important war aim.

Before the war Bakhmut was known for salt and gypsum mines and Ukraine says the city has little strategic value but that huge losses of troops there could shape the course of the conflict.

‘PINCERS ARE CLOSING’
“Units of the private military company Wagner have practically surrounded Bakhmut,” Wagner boss Yevgeny Prigozhin said in a video that Reuters determined was filmed on a rooftop in a village to the north of the city centre.

“Only one route (out) is left,” he said. “The pincers are closing.”

He called on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to order a retreat from Bakhmut to save his soldiers’ lives. The camera panned to show three captured Ukrainians - a grey-bearded older

man and two boys - asking to be allowed to go home.

The commander of a Ukrainian drone unit active in Bakhmut, Robert Brovdi who goes by the name “Madyar”, said in a video posted on social media that his unit had been ordered by the military to withdraw immediately. He said he had been fighting there for 110 days.

Volodymyr Nazarenko, a deputy commander in the National Guard of Ukraine, told Ukrainian NV Radio the situation was “critical”, with fighting going on “round the clock”.

“They take no account of their losses in trying to take the city by assault. The task of our forces in Bakhmut is to inflict as many losses on the enemy as possible. Every metre of Ukrainian land costs hundreds of lives to the enemy,” he said.

“There are many more Russians here than we have ammunition to destroy them.”

MORE U.S. ARMS
The past few days have seen alarm in Russia at its own potential vulnerabilities after Moscow

reported a number of drone attacks on targets deep within Russia, followed by what it said was an armed cross-border raid on Thursday.

President Vladimir Putin told his Security Council on Friday to step up “anti-terrorism measures”.

Zelenskiy, for his part, visited wounded soldiers at a military hospital in Lviv. One, shaking the president’s hand from bed, apologised that he could not stand up. “That’s OK,” Zelenskiy said. “The time will come and you will rise.”

Zelenskiy gave no details of the fighting in Bakhmut during an evening video address in which he thanked troops for “firmly and bravely” defending the city.

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced another round of military aid for Ukraine, a package of ammunition and other support valued at \$400 million.

The United States has provided nearly \$32 billion in aid to Ukraine since Russia’s invasion on Feb. 24, 2022.

At the White House, U.S. President Joe Biden thanked visiting German Chancellor Olaf Scholz for “profound” support on Ukraine and Scholz said it was important to send the message that backing Ukraine will continue “as long as it takes and as long as is necessary.”

Germany makes the Leopard tanks promised in January and expected to be the core of a new Ukrainian armoured force.

Scholz has been criticised by some Western allies for taking a cautious public stance towards arming Ukraine, although he has overseen a big shift in policy from a country that was Russia’s biggest energy customer on the eve of the war.

Kyiv’s ambassador in Berlin, Oleksii Makeiev, said Germany was now taking more of a leadership role in arming Ukraine. Moscow, which says it has annexed nearly a fifth of Ukraine, accuses pro-Western Kyiv of posing a security threat. Ukraine and its allies say the invasion was an unprovoked war of conquest.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov pointing to U.S. military

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WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

03/02/2023

Former Lieutenant Governor Visits Southern News Group Headquarters



Recently, David Dewhurst, former Lieutenant Governor of Texas, visited the headquarters of Southern News Group. We were very honored and excited about the visit of this distinguished guest.

Mr. Dewhurst held the office from 2003 until 2015. Previously, he also served as Texas Land Commissioner.

During his visit, we showed him our printing shop, TV studio and our newly formed Global One Bank's office and our International Trade Center. Mr. Dewhurst had high praise for our creation of media, bank and trade center services in the same location. This compressed platform of diverse activities will serve our

community very efficiently in the coming years

During his tenure as Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Dewhurst promoted international trade between Texas and the world and strengthened many relationships with many countries around the globe.

We also were very happy to invite Mr. Dewhurst to serve as the Honorary Chairman of our International Trade Center to help guide our future plans.

At the present time, we are preparing to organize a trade mission to Mexico at the end of April and meet with Mexican officials to discuss future investment opportunities and create an industrial zone in Mexico.



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Editor's Choice



An Afghan girl carries washed clothes on her head in Bamiyan, Afghanistan. REUTERS/Ali Khara



Ice covers communication towers as massive amounts of snow trap residents of mountain towns in San Bernadino County, Crestline, California. REUTERS/David Swanson



Ukrainian prisoners of war (POWs) pose for a picture after a swap, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in an unknown location, Ukraine. Courtesy: Head of Ukraine's Presidential Office Andriy Yermak via Telegram



A view shows a bridge and sandbanks of the Loire River in Montjean-sur-Loire, as France faces records winter dry spell raising fears of another summer of droughts and water restrictions. REUTERS/Stephane Mahe



Jared Leto poses during a photocall before Givenchy Fall-Winter 2023/2024 Women's ready-to-wear collection show at Paris Fashion Week. REUTERS/Benoit Tessier



Hindu devotees take part in the religious festival of Holi inside a temple in Nandgaon village, in the state of Uttar Pradesh, India. REUTERS/Shashi Shekhar

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BUSINESS

What We Know About The Deadliest
U.S. Bird Flu Outbreak In History

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



Key Point
The bird flu outbreak is the deadliest in U.S. history. Here's what we know. The U.S. is enduring its worst poultry health disaster, with some 52.7 million birds dead. Unlike another recent outbreak, this one has lasted through the summer — and it's still going strong.

The U.S. is enduring an unprecedented poultry health disaster, with a highly contagious bird flu virus triggering the deaths of some 52.7 million animals. The ongoing bird flu outbreak in the U.S. is now the longest and deadliest on record. More than 57 million birds have been killed by the virus or culled since a year ago, and the deadly disruption has helped propel skyrocketing egg prices and a spike in egg smuggling. The culprit is highly pathogenic avian influenza, or HPAI. It has ravaged farm flocks and chicken yards in 46 states since February, when the first cases were reported in commercial flocks. It's the worst toll on the poultry industry since 2014-2015, when more than 50 million birds died. That earlier outbreak also started in the winter — but while that ordeal was over by the following June, the current outbreak lasted through the summer and has surged anew.



Since highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H5N1) was first detected in US birds in January 2022, the price of a carton of a dozen eggs has shot up from an average of about \$1.79 in December 2021 to \$4.25 in December 2022, a 137 percent increase, according to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Although inflation and supply chain issues partly explain the rise, eggs saw the largest percentage increase of any specific food, according to the consumer price index. And the steep pricing is leading some at the US-Mexico border to try to smuggle in illegal cartons, which is prohibited. A US Customs and Border Protection spokesperson told NPR this week that people in El Paso, Texas, are buying eggs in Juárez, Mexico, because they are "significantly less expensive." Meanwhile, a customs official in San Diego tweeted a reminder amid a rise in egg interceptions that failure to declare such agriculture items at a port of entry can result in penalties up to \$10,000.

Foul effects
Still, America's pain in grocery store dairy aisles likely pales compared to some of the devastation on poultry farms. HPAI A(H5N1) has been detected in wild birds in all 50 states, and 47 have reported outbreaks on poultry farms. So far, there have been 731 outbreaks across 371 counties. At the end of last month, two outbreaks in Weakley County, Tennessee, affected 62,600 chickens.



Some birds have died from the disease itself, but the vast majority are being culled through flock "depopulation," to try to stop the virus from spreading. That includes millions of chickens and turkeys in barns and backyards that had been raised to provide eggs or meat.

With the outbreak at the one-year mark, it is the longest bird flu outbreak on US record. And with 57 million birds dead across 47 states, it's also the deadliest, surpassing the previous record set in 2015 of 50.5 million birds in 21 states. Although the virus is highly contagious to birds — and often fatal — the risk to humans is low. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that the avian influenza Type A viruses (aka bird flu viruses) generally don't infect humans, though they occasionally can when people have close or lengthy unprotected contact with infected birds. Once in a human, it's even rarer for the virus to jump from human to human.

Flu fears
Although the current data is comforting, virologists and epidemiologists still fear the potential for flu viruses, such as bird flu, to mutate and recombine into a human-infecting virus with pandemic potential. A report published in the journal Eurosurveillance on January 19 highlighted the concern. Researchers in Spain documented an outbreak of avian flu among farmed mink on the northwestern coast during October of last year. The mink were likely infected via wild seabirds, which had a coinciding wave of infection with H5N1 viruses at the time.



Experimental and field evidence have demonstrated that minks are susceptible and permissive to both avian and human influenza A viruses, leading to the theory that this

species could serve as a potential mixing vessel for the interspecies transmission among birds, mammals and humans.

As such, the authors say it is necessary to "strengthen the culture of biosafety and biosecurity in this farming system and promote the implementation of ad hoc surveillance programs for influenza A viruses and other zoonotic pathogens at a global level." None of the workers on the mink farm became infected with the H5N1 virus, the authors report. However, they note that using face masks was compulsory for all mink farm workers in Spain following concerns over the spread of SARS-CoV-2. (Courtesy arstechnica.com)



Here's what you need to know about the 2022 outbreak in the U.S.: 52,695,450 million birds have been wiped out

The losses stretch across the U.S., and they're deepest in the country's middle: More than 1 million birds have been killed in each of 11 states that stretch from Utah to the Midwest and on to Delaware, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In Iowa, two massive egg-laying operations had to cull more than 5 million birds in single incidents earlier this year. Unlike the 2014-15 outbreak, this one is being driven by wild birds, not by farm-to-farm transmission. For commercial and backyard flocks, many early infections centered along the intersection of the Central and Mississippi flyways of migratory wild birds. As those birds traveled, so did the virus.

"We don't know exactly what it is about it, but it does seem just to be able to grow and transmit better in wild



birds," Webby, who is also a member of the infectious diseases department at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, tells NPR.

"Wild birds are the perfect mechanism to spread a virus because they, of course, fly everywhere," he adds. A highly pathogenic avian influenza virus "can cause disease that affects multiple internal organs with mortality up to 90% to 100% in chickens, often within 48 hours," the CDC notes. "However, ducks can be infected without any signs of illness."

It's very rare for a human to be infected with the avian virus. The first U.S. case of a person infected with avian influenza A (H5N1) virus was reported in April in Colorado. The patient recovered after experiencing a few days of fatigue. The virus does not pose a special risk in the nation's food supply, given proper handling. The CDC states that like any poultry or eggs, heating food to an internal temperature of 165°F kills any bacteria and viruses present, including HPAI viruses.



The virus is like a kid in a candy store

"The bird populations haven't seen viruses like this before," Webby says, "so in terms of their immune response, they're all immunologically naïve to this" influenza virus. "Right now, it's like a kid in a candy store racing around," infecting bird populations, he says.

U.S. experts had been bracing for an outbreak, watching successful strains of the H5N1 influenza virus proliferate in Europe and elsewhere. Now that the virus is here, it shows no sign of going away. A key part of the challenge, Webby says, is that like the SARS-CoV-2 virus, the avian flu virus has spun off several variants of concern. And right now, a specific version of the virus — known as clade 2.3.4.4b — is ruling the roost.

"You can think of that like an omicron variant" because of its wide prevalence, Webby says.

Viruses are notoriously quick to mutate. And since its arrival in North America, the avian influenza virus has continued to change.



Comparing the current U.S. virus to the one in Europe, Webby says, "From the outside looking in, they look very similar. But when you actually go on the inside and take a look, the viruses we have here are quite different now from what was in Europe." It's possible that wild bird populations will build up an immunity to the virus — but Webby warns that it will take months to understand whether that is happening at a meaningful level.

The outbreak hasn't raised all poultry costs

If you like to eat chicken, you're in luck. This version of the influenza virus doesn't affect "broilers" — chickens raised for meat — as badly it does "layers" — table-egg laying hens — and turkeys.



"For whatever reason, turkeys and layer birds tend to be more susceptible" to the virus, says Amy Hageman, an assistant professor at Oklahoma State University who specializes in agricultural economics.

"The chicken that most people think of, their chicken tenders, their chicken sandwiches, all of those things haven't tended to have the same kinds of impact," she adds.

Hageman warns that in a time of inflationary pressure

and supply-chain snags, it can be hard to directly link a price hike to the virus. But she notes that U.S. egg prices can be affected if just a few farms have to dispose of their flocks.

"Generally speaking, these complexes are over a million birds, easily," Hageman says. "It takes fewer egg-laying operations being affected by HPAI to drive up the price of eggs and egg products," she adds, especially since the majority of U.S. production goes to the domestic market. The virus has hit many turkey farms — but because those operations tend to be smaller and the cases have been spread out over time and space, producers have mostly been able to absorb the losses, building up stocks of frozen turkey ahead of the end-of-year holidays.



Egg prices have risen this year, as aggressive measures against avian influenza disrupted the U.S. industry. Here, eggs sit on a supermarket shelf in San Mateo County, Calif.

Liu Guanguan/China News Service via Getty Images

"So, yes, we certainly saw an increase in turkey prices in this holiday season," Hageman says, "but not as much as we might have anticipated given the extent of this outbreak."

What about vaccines?

The presence of the virus in the commercial food chain raises a number of possible trade headaches — but so would using a vaccine to fight it.

"A lot of countries don't use vaccines for this virus in their poultry," Webby says.

"One of the big complications is timing on a vaccine," Hageman says. "Generally you need two doses of a vaccine and then a length of time to achieve full effectiveness."

"If you have a bird that has a very short feeding window before it's ready for harvest, that can be a lot more challenging because you also need to allow the withdrawal period after the vaccine before the bird is harvested," she adds.



Another central issue is the difficulty of surveillance — of knowing whether a bird is infected with a deadly influenza virus but isn't showing symptoms because they've been vaccinated. But the calculations might change if the virus is determined to be endemic in wild birds or in a geographic area.

That "certainly seems to be the case in Europe and Africa," Webby says, adding, "my gut feeling is we're headed that way in the Americas as well."

"These are actually discussions that are going on now," Webby says, describing ideas such as what kind of post-vaccination surveillance would be needed to "make sure your trading partners are happy that the virus is not circulating silently."

(Article Continues Below)

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(Article Continues From Above)

What We Know About The Deadliest
U.S. Bird Flu Outbreak In History

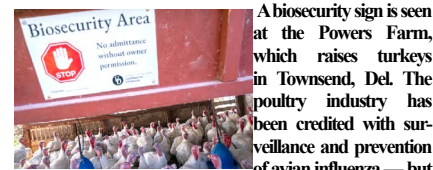
Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



The last outbreak didn't survive the summer: This one did.

Experts say poultry farms should be credited with limiting the virus as much as they have, hailing the success of surveillance and biosecurity programs. But nearly 11 months after the first known wild case in the current outbreak, the deadly influenza virus is still here.

"Generally, when the weather gets hot, influenza goes away for the most part," Hageman says.



A biosecurity sign is seen at the Powers Farm, which raises turkeys in Townsend, Del. The poultry industry has been credited with surveillance and prevention of avian influenza — but the virus remains a threat. (Photo/Nathan Howard/Getty Images)

That was the case in the 2014-2015 outbreak — which came when Hageman worked at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, or APHIS. "Bright sunshine and heat kills the virus in the environment," Hageman says, describing how summer weather helped end the earlier outbreak.

"This time we didn't see that virus circulation going down to zero in our wild bird population" over the summer, Hageman says. Instead, the virus sort of simmered through the summer months, she adds, "and then we got into the cooler, wetter months of the fall and we see a resurgence."

The long outbreak is discouraging, Hageman says: "If we look at Europe, we can see that they are on two years of HPAI outbreaks." (Courtesy <https://www.npr.org>)

Related
Avian flu is infecting U.S. poultry flocks. It could affect the price of chicken, too.

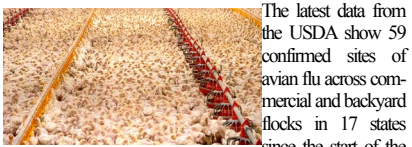


A truck drives out of a Wisconsin farm on Thursday where avian flu was detected, forcing the commercial egg producer to destroy more than 2.7 million chickens.

Scott Olson/Getty Images
Ready for more bad infectious diseases news? There's an out-

break of bird flu making its way into U.S. poultry flocks. If the virus continues to spread, it could affect poultry prices — already higher amid widespread inflation. The price of chicken breasts this week averaged \$3.63 per pound at U.S. supermarkets — up from \$3.01 a week earlier and \$2.42 at this time last year, the Agriculture Department says.

This week an outbreak was confirmed at a commercial flock in Nebraska, causing 570,000 broiler chickens to be destroyed. In Delaware and Maryland, more than two million birds at commercial poultry flocks have been affected. In South Dakota, an outbreak last week led to the killing of 85,000 birds. An outbreak confirmed March 14 at a commercial operation in Wisconsin meant more than 2.7 million egg-laying chickens were killed.



The latest data from the USDA show 59 confirmed sites of avian flu across commercial and backyard flocks in 17 states since the start of the year. That figure includes chickens, turkey and other poultry. The USDA identified a case of avian flu in a wild bird in mid-January, the first detection of the virus in wild birds in the U.S. since 2016. Wild birds can spread the virus to commercial and backyard flocks. By Feb. 9, the virus had been identified in a commercial flock in Indiana. There have since been hundreds of confirmed cases of wild birds infected with avian flu. The last major avian flu outbreak in the U.S. was from December 2014 to June 2015, when more than 50 million chickens and turkeys either died from highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) or were destroyed to stop its spread. During that outbreak, chicken breast prices increased 17%, according to agriculture data company Gro Intelligence. But at the same time, prices for cuts of chicken geared toward the export market actually dropped due to bans on importing U.S. poultry in countries including China, South Korea, Cuba and Mexico. So the cost of leg quarters, for instance, dropped 18%, according to the data. Poultry prices — especially for eggs and turkey — were affected for years, the company reports.



The impact on prices this time depends on how widespread the flu becomes

Whether the 2022 avian flu will affect the price of eggs and poultry depends on how widespread it becomes, says Ron Kean, a poultry science expert at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences.

"In 2015, we did see quite an increase in egg prices," Kean told Wisconsin Public Radio. "The chicken meat wasn't severely affected at that time. We did see quite a loss in turkeys, so turkey prices went up. So, we'll see. If a lot of farms contract this, then we could see some real increases in price."

What's the risk to humans from this bird flu? Not much so far, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. According to the CDC's most recent update on March 7, the H5N1 bird flu poses a low risk to the public, and is currently "primarily an animal health issue." The CDC notes that some people may have job-related or recreational exposures to birds that put them at higher risk of infection.

You can't get avian flu from eating poultry or eating eggs that are properly prepared and cooked, the USDA explains. The chance of infected poultry entering the food chain is extremely low, the agency says, because of its food inspection program and avian flu response plan.



"All poultry products for public consumption are inspected for signs of disease both before and after slaughter," the USDA notes, and avian flu causes a rapid onset of symptoms in poultry.

For producers who suspect their flock may be affected by avian flu, the USDA has a guide to the warning signs, including a sudden increase in bird deaths, lack of energy and appetite, and a decrease in egg production. If a flock is found to be infected by bird flu, the USDA moves quickly — within 24 hours — to assist producers to destroy the flock and prevent the virus from spreading. (Courtesy npr.org)

Related
Zoos across North America are moving birds indoors to protect them from avian flu



Magellan penguins stand in their enclosure at the Blank Park Zoo on Tuesday in Des Moines, Iowa. Zoos across North America are moving their birds indoors and away from people and wildlife as they try to protect them from the highly contagious and potentially deadly avian influenza. (Charlie Neibergall/AP)

OMAHA, Neb. — Zoos across North America are moving their birds indoors and away from people and wildlife as they try to protect them from the highly contagious and potentially deadly avian influenza. Penguins may be the only birds visitors to many zoos can see right now, because they already are kept inside and usually protected behind glass in their exhibits, making it harder for the bird flu to reach them. Nearly 23 million chickens and turkeys have already been killed across the United States to limit the spread of the virus, and zoos are working hard to prevent any of their birds from meeting the same fate. It would be especially upsetting for zoos to have to kill any of the endangered or threatened species in their care.

"It would be extremely devastating," said Maria Franke, who is the manager of welfare science at Toronto Zoo, which has less than two dozen Loggerhead Shrike songbirds that it's breeding with the hope of reintroducing them into the wild. "We take amazing care and the welfare and well being of our animals is the utmost importance. There's a lot of staff that has close connections with the animals that they care for here at

the zoo."



Toronto Zoo workers are adding roofs to some outdoor bird exhibits and double-checking the mesh surrounding enclosures to ensure it will keep wild birds out. Birds shed the virus through their droppings and nasal discharge. Experts say it can be spread through contaminated equipment, clothing, boots and vehicles carrying supplies. Research has shown that small birds that squeeze into zoo exhibits or buildings can also spread the flu, and that mice can even track it inside. So far, no outbreaks have been reported at zoos, but there have been wild birds found dead that had the flu. For example, a wild duck that died in a behind-the-scenes area of the Blank Park Zoo in Des Moines, Iowa, after tomados last month tested positive, zoo spokesman Ryan Bickel said.

Most of the steps zoos are taking are designed to prevent contact between wild birds and zoo animals. In some places, officials are requiring employees to change into clean boots and don protective gear before entering bird areas.



When bird flu cases are found in poultry, officials order the entire flock to be killed because the virus is so contagious. However, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has indicated that zoos might be able to avoid that by isolating infected birds and possibly euthanizing a small number of them. Sarah Woodhouse, director of animal health at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, said she is optimistic after talking with state and federal regulators.

"They all agree that ordering us to depopulate a large part of our collection would be the absolute last-ditch effort. So they're really interested in working with us to see what we can do to make sure that we're not going to spread the disease while also being able to take care of our birds and not have to euthanize," Woodhouse said.

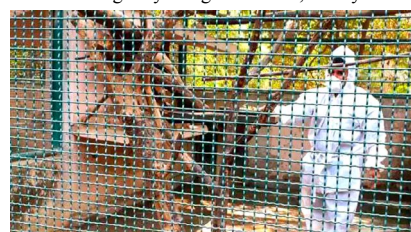
Among the precautions zoos are taking is to keep birds in smaller groups so that if a case is found, only a few would be affected. The USDA and state veterinarians would make the final decision about which birds had to be killed.



"Euthanasia is really the only way to keep it from spreading," said Luis Padilla, who is vice president of animal collections at the Saint Louis Zoo. "That's why we have so many of these very proactive measures in place."

The National Aviary in Pittsburgh — the nation's largest — is providing individual health checks for each of its roughly 500

birds. Many already live in large glass enclosures or outdoor habitats where they don't have direct exposure to wildlife, said Dr. Pilar Fish, the aviary's senior director of veterinary medicine and zoological advancement. Kansas City Zoo CEO Sean Putney said he's heard a few complaints from visitors, but most people seem OK with not getting to see some birds. "I think our guests understand that we have what's in the best interests of the animals in mind when we make these decisions even though they can't get to see them," Putney said.



Officials emphasize that bird flu doesn't jeopardize the safety of meat or eggs or represent a significant risk to human health. No infected birds are allowed into the food supply, and properly cooking poultry and eggs kills bacteria and viruses. No human cases have been found in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (Courtesy npr.org and AP)

Related
Bald eagles around the U.S. are contracting the bird flu



This Jan. 5, 2020, photo shows a bald eagle in Philadelphia. (Photo/Chris Szagola/AP)

As the avian flu rips through the United States, birds across the country are contracting the fatal disease, including bald eagles. At least three bald eagles that contracted bird flu are dead, Georgia's Department of Natural Resources said Thursday. The highly pathogenic avian influenza has been detected in more than 25 states, according to the U.S. Agriculture Department.

In Georgia, 11 wild birds have tested positive for bird flu, including the bald eagles. Meanwhile, bald eagles in other states have also contracted the flu.



Last week, avian flu was detected in bald eagles in Maine and Vermont. Bald eagles in Ohio and South Dakota — among other states — have also contracted the flu. More than 20 million birds have been wiped out in the worst outbreak since 2015, which left more than 50 million birds dead. Some of the birds have died from the disease, but the vast majority are being culled to stop the spread of the deadly disease. More than 13 million birds have been culled in Iowa alone. (Courtesy <https://www.npr.org>)

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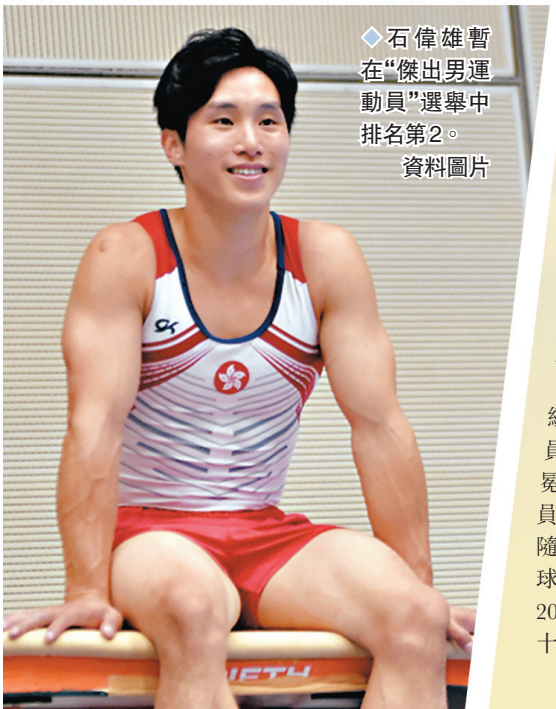
CATHAY 2022 HONG KONG SPORTS STARS AWARDS

有“香港體壇奧斯卡”美譽的“國泰2022年度香港傑出運動員選舉”公眾投票尚餘十天！經過兩個多星期的公眾投票，“香港傑出男運動員”暫時由“花劍男神”張家朗高踞榜首，有望衛冕“星中之星”殊榮；女運動員方面，去年“星中之星”得主何詩蓓（游泳）則獨佔鰲頭。

◆香港文匯報記者 陳曉莉



◆張家朗暫在“傑出男運動員”選舉位居榜首。
資料圖片



◆石偉雄暫在“傑出男運動員”選舉中排名第2。
資料圖片



◆何詩蓓在“傑出女運動員”選舉暫排第1。
資料圖片



◆江旻憓暫在“傑出女運動員”選舉中位居榜眼。
資料圖片

本次傑出運動員選舉共設有四個組別獎項，包括：“香港傑出男運動員”、“香港傑出女運動員”、“香港最佳運動組合”及“香港最佳運動隊伍”；其中“香港傑出男運動員”及“香港傑出女運動員”，每個獎項將會誕生最多五位傑出男/女運動員，而他們之中得票最高的男/女運動員，則會獲得“星中之星香港傑出男/女運動員”殊榮。至於“香港最佳運動組合”獎項的得獎組合共三組，“香港最佳運動隊伍”則會有一隊獲獎。

而本次選舉已於2月11日起接受公眾投票，經過兩個多星期的公眾投票，“香港傑出男運動員”暫時由“花劍男神”張家朗高踞榜首，有望衛冕“星中之星香港傑出男運動員”殊榮；傑出運動員“常客”、“跳馬王子”石偉雄暫排名第2，緊隨其後是朱文佳（傷殘人士羽毛球）、黃澤林（網球），以及黃鎮廷（乒乓球），其中黃澤林有望繼2018年當選“香港最具潛質運動員”後，一躍成為十傑得獎者。

傑出女運動員方面，去年“星中之星”得主

何詩蓓（游泳）獨佔鰲頭；香港女子重劍“一姐”江旻憓暫排名第2，上屆十傑得獎者吳安儀（桌球）、劉慕裳（空手道）及杜凱榮（乒乓球）排在第3至第5位，值得一提的是，首次獲提名的何宛淇（傷殘硬地滾球）徘徊在前10位置，有望後來居上。

投票有機會贏取16萬元獎品

至於“香港最佳運動組合”，香港女子重劍代表隊在公眾投票一環暫得票最多，香港女子乒乓球雙打組合及香港羽毛球混合雙打組合分別排第2及第3。而過去五屆4次獲獎的香港男子七人欖球代表隊，有望再奪“香港最佳運動隊伍”殊榮。

公眾投票將於3月12日截止。為鼓勵公眾參與，每位成功投票人士均會自動參加幸運大抽獎，有機會贏取總值超過港幣16萬元的豐富獎品。選舉結果將於4月18日在香港會議展覽中心舉行的頒獎典禮中揭曉。投票網址：<https://sport-star2022.hkolympic.org/zh/公眾投票>。

新帥上任 國足亞運隊熱身賽戰和



◆國足亞運隊以1:1賽和
阿布扎比半島U23隊。
微博圖片



◆中國國家男子足球亞運隊。
微博圖片

香港文匯報訊（記者 陳曉莉）正在阿聯酋迪拜拉練集訓的中國國家男子足球亞運隊（國足亞運隊），日前與當地球隊阿布扎比半島U23隊進行了一場熱身賽，結果以1:1握手言和。這是新任主教練久爾傑維奇接任亞運隊後的首場比賽。

據中新網報道，當日比賽，上半場第48分鐘，中國隊何宇鵬送出助攻，張威突入罰球區推射破門。易邊再戰，中國隊換上第二套陣容，對手通過12碼扳平比分。第68分鐘，方昊連續突破後大

力抽射，皮球擊中立柱。最終，國足亞運隊以1:1戰平對手。

國足亞運隊於2月14日由時任主教練揚科維奇率隊前往迪拜拉練，但在中國足協委任揚科維奇掌管中國國家男足（國足）帥印後，揚科維奇已於當地時間2月27日與兩名助教及翻譯返回中國，亞運隊則由久爾傑維奇及其兩名新助手接管，並於2月28日率隊出席對阿布扎比半島U23隊的熱身賽。

根據安排，國足亞運隊計劃在迪拜

進行8場熱身賽。頭兩場比賽，亞運隊分別以2:0及4:1戰勝阿聯酋阿爾艾因俱樂部預備隊與TFA FC Dubai隊，3月6日，中國隊將進行第4場熱身賽。

據內地傳媒報道，揚科維奇將於3月下旬率國足前往新西蘭，參加於3月23日、26日對新西蘭隊的兩場國際A級熱身賽，而國足亞運隊屆時也將同期前往當地與新西蘭U23隊進行兩場熱身賽，為10月的杭州亞運會做最重要的一次集訓。

香港文匯報訊（記者 陳曉莉）在阿聯酋迪拜舉行的2023世界殘疾人田徑格蘭披治賽北京時間1日結束全部賽事。港隊憑李振輝、鮑維耀及任國芬攜手添銅，最終以5銅結束今次旅程。

其中，視障跑手李振輝與領跑員何永昌在北京時間1日晨進行的男子T11/12級5000

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米決賽中，跑出18分39秒71的個人最佳成績，為港隊取得是次比賽的第3面銅牌，同時達到杭州2022亞洲殘疾人運動會最低入圍標準。

而在稍後進行的女子T36級100米決賽中，任國芬再下一城，以16秒43奪銅。及後，鮑維耀於男子T35級100米決賽也跑出15秒08的個人最佳成績，為港隊再添1銅。二人成績皆達杭州2022亞洲殘疾人運動會最低入圍標準。

這樣，連同日前朱澤生及任國芬分別於男子T36級400米及女子T36級200米取下的2銅，港隊共以5銅完成賽事。



◆任國芬個人收穫兩銅。
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由鄧超、俞白眉導演，鄧超、孫儷、許魏洲、段博文、蔡宜達、丁冠森、孫希倫、阿如那等領銜主演的電影《中國乒乓之絕地反擊》發布正片片段，演技派小生代表阿如那壹改往日剛硬熱烈的形象，通過飽滿的情緒展現角色內心的柔軟，催人淚下。片中代表著中國體育所有陪練和替補運動員的陳文——主角團中唯壹的虛構人物，賺取了觀眾最多的眼淚。

冠軍背後的人同樣值得銘記 阿如那演技“虛構人物”傳奇

《中國乒乓之絕地反擊》講述在男乒被“歐洲列強”碾壓的90年代初，留洋教練戴敏佳請纓回國，帶領新兵老將在天津向“列強”發起反擊，拯救男乒的故事。影片故事主線集中在戴敏佳教練和最終決賽場上的“男乒五虎”身上，影片熱血高燃的情節與“五虎”青春朝氣的演繹獲得了觀眾的壹致好評。

今日發布“我也贏了！”正片片段中，95年天津世乒賽決賽引發舉國關注，遠在廣東的球迷也在“陳文燒烤”大排檔關注著比賽的進程，老板陳文的註意力似乎比其他人更集中在比賽的實況轉播上，壹時竟忘了自己手頭的工作。電視機裏龔楓以壹記完美的“削轉攻”將對手斬於馬下，觀眾席紅旗招展擊掌相慶，電視機外燒烤店老板陳文卻已經淚如雨下。陳文妻子默默將陳文攬入懷中，陳文泣不成聲：“老婆，我也贏了”。熟識的食客知道“陳文以前也是打乒乓的”，但他們不知道的是，作為曾經“中國弧圈球打得最好”的球員之壹，正是陳文在役時期放棄自己摘金奪銀的機會，默默作為陪練球員助力龔楓練成攻削結合，才有了今天龔楓的出奇制勝。作為《中國乒乓之絕地反擊》主角團唯壹的虛構人物，阿如那演活了以陳文為代表的萬萬千千的陪練球員，他們也許未曾站上領獎臺，但卻是世界冠軍

成功之路上不能忽視的存在。

幕後默默奉獻成就臺前輝煌 “辛酸”片段致敬中國體育幕後英雄

1995年天津世乒賽，“出奇制勝”的壹局關鍵球：被“雪藏四年”沒有參加任何國際大賽的削球手在比賽中打出壹手“攻削結合”的絕活，讓自以為將其技術特點與打法已經研究透徹的對手手足無措。球員的神奇表現離不開教練的用兵如神，更離不開四年間模仿對手打法、陪主力球員磨煉球技的所有陪練隊員們，觀眾和球迷或許不知道他們的名字，但他們卻是乒乓榮耀最紮實的根基。

對於為什麼選擇較大篇幅展現陳文這個“虛構人物”，《中國乒乓之絕地反擊》導演俞白眉在採訪中說道：“這個虛構人物代表的是所有的陪練，或者所有省隊的人——中國乒乓這個巨大的基座。這個基座除了今天還寫在乒乓歷史史冊裏的五虎、教練之外，還有其他人。陳文代表的是他們，他們默默的做了犧牲和奉獻，我們可能不太知道他們的故事，我們就用陳文來講剩下所有人的故事，來向他們致敬。”而對於為什麼選擇阿如那飾演陳文這個角色，導演鄧超補充到是被阿如那的演技打動：“阿如那試戲的時候，我們根本就沒有任何的意見或遲疑，就壹遍就決定是他。他當時的演技讓人特別感動。”影片主創也通過影片中評論員的解說向所有陳文代表的幕後英雄們致敬：“龔楓的成功，離不開我們龐大的金字塔形人才培養結構，更離不開他身後所有默默奉獻的無名英雄！”

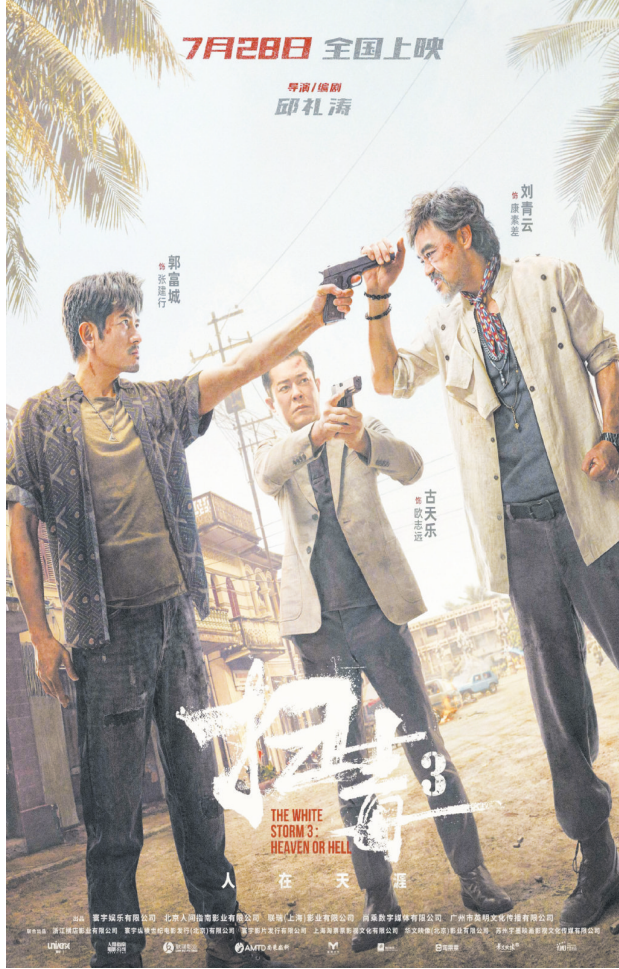
電影《中國乒乓之絕地反擊》由鄧超、俞白眉導演，鄧超、孫儷、許魏洲、段博文、蔡宜達、丁冠森、孫希倫、阿如那等領銜主演，廈門恒業

《中國乒乓之絕地反擊》發布“最辛酸”片段 主角團唯壹虛構人物賺取最多眼淚



影業有限公司、愛奇藝影業（北京）有限公司、天津橙子映像傳媒有限公司、中國電影股份有限公司等出品。影片正在熱映中。

邱禮濤執導《掃毒3：人在天涯》定檔7月28日上映 古天樂郭富城劉青雲首次合作



電影《掃毒》系列續作，《掃毒3：人在天涯》今日（3月1日）曝光定檔海報，正式公布將於暑期檔7月28日全國上映。該片由邱禮濤執導，首次將古天樂、郭富

城、劉青雲三位影帝集結同臺編戲，並從制作、場面、故事等全方位升級。

電影《掃毒3：人在天涯》在劇情和人物上與前兩部並無直接聯系，但題材故事依然圍繞著緝毒警察與毒梟及其團夥的生死對決展開：毒梟康素差（劉青雲 飾）壹直帶著手下張建行（郭富城 飾）從事毒品交易，新加入的成員歐誌遠（古天樂 飾）也因壹次意外與兩人有了過命交情，三人情同手足。康素差在香港的販毒生意被警方查處後帶團隊逃到金三角發展，卻意外發現身邊藏有臥底。此刻，是敵是友，壹片茫然……此次故事主要發生地設置在泰國、緬甸、老撾交接處的著名“金三角”地帶，也將進壹步關注困境中的人性掙紮，探討善惡正邪的邊界。在曝光的定檔海報中，三人在危機四伏的金三角街頭，郭富城神色兇狠持槍直抵劉青雲額心，但劉青雲面無懼色並與其怒目相視，直接用手緊握槍管。

而古天樂站在兩人之間，神色凝重舉槍瞄準劉青雲，劍拔弩張的焦灼氛圍壹觸即發。

由寰宇娛樂出品的《掃毒》系列電影作為香港電影最經典的IP之壹，具有強大的市場號召力與優質的口碑，《掃毒1》共獲各大電影頒獎禮19項獎項及提名，《掃毒2》更拿下13.12億票房，壹舉打破當年中國影史港片票房紀錄。時隔4年後，邱禮濤導演繼《掃毒2》《拆彈專家2》後，攜《掃毒3：人在天涯》回歸，從制作、場面、陣容、故事等全方位升級。據悉，該片投資近3億，在西雙版納、汕尾、香港等多地取景，並斥巨資搭建近5萬平米的金三角毒寨進行拍攝，還有楊采鈺、羅嘉良、謝君豪、方中信等實力演員加盟。

電影《掃毒3：人在天涯》由寰宇娛樂有限公司、北京人間指南影業有限公司、聯瑞（上海）影業有限公司、尚乘數字媒體有限公司、廣州市英明文化傳播有限公司出品，浙江橫店影業有限公司、寰宇縱橫世紀電影發行（北京）有限公司、寰宇影片發行有限公司、上海淘票票影視文化有限公司、華文映像（北京）影業有限公司、蘇州宇墨映畫影視文化傳媒有限公司聯合出品。影片由邱禮濤執導，劉青雲、古天樂、郭富城、楊采鈺領銜主演，羅嘉良特別出演，謝君豪、方中信、陳國邦、洪天明、劉浩龍、蘇宸禴（灰熊）、丘占輝、林雪等主演，將於7月28日上映。返回搜狐，查看更多

備受期待的親子動畫電影《搖滾藏獒3：乘風破浪》定檔3月11日。這是《搖滾藏獒》系列的第三部電影，講述了波弟為了重振搖滾教父的名聲，參加時下熱門的音樂節目，並試圖說服選手們放棄流行音樂，選擇搖滾音樂。但隨著節目的進行，波弟的想法漸漸改變。在大家的幫助下，波弟終於學會了欣賞和接納不同的音樂類型。

電影強調了音樂的普遍性以及不同音樂類型之間的融合和包容。在波弟的成長歷程中，我們看到了波弟在不斷地開闊自己的眼界和思維，從狹隘到包容，從排斥到接納，這也是電影傳達的核心精神。電影中的音樂元素是推動故事發展的關鍵，它們讓觀眾在欣賞電影的同時，也能感受到音樂的美妙。

《搖滾藏獒3：乘風破浪》不僅有精彩的音樂表演，還有溫馨感人的情節。電影告訴我們，每個人都應該有開放的心態，不斷接受新事物，不斷提升自己，才能在這個多元化的世界裏不斷成長。相信觀眾們壹定會被這部電影所感動。如果你是壹個熱愛音樂和電影的人，那麼這部電影絕對不容錯過！它不僅是壹部充滿音樂和情感的电影，更是壹部充滿啟發和鼓舞的电影。它告訴我們，只要我們保持開放的心態，並且願意去接納和欣賞不同的事物，我們就可以不斷地成長和發展。

期待3月11日，走進電影院，和波弟壹起開啟音樂之旅吧！

親子動畫電影《搖滾藏獒3：乘風破浪》由華誼兄弟電影有限公司、華誼兄弟點睛動畫影業有限公司出品。

電影《搖滾藏獒3：乘風破浪》定檔3月11日
波弟重拾夢想破浪前行！



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香港文匯報訊（記者 達里）劇集《廉政狙擊》和《隱形戰隊》的演員黃宗澤、吳卓羲、王浩信、胡定欣、蔡思貝、黃智雯、馬國明、陳山聰、劉佩玥及劉穎璇等1日參與《獎門人Ladies First 感謝祭》節目，節目在取消口罩令首日舉行，現場觀眾都不用再戴口罩，展露笑容，歡笑聲也比以往錄影時更響亮。

首戰《獎門人》“群星拱照” 頑童吳卓羲 最怕吸紫菜

首次上《獎門人》節目的吳卓羲被取笑成“群星拱照吳卓羲”，他獲獎門人安排與“美女”樊亦敏一組，二人玩“吸乒乓”時也相當投入。而其他女藝人也不顧形象，務求吸到乒乓球，男藝人就以陳山聰最狠，與黃智雯對壘時毫不避忌，他笑稱在好友前會當自己是女人。而獎門人曾志偉原安排胡定欣與馬國明對戰，定欣即耍手扭頭要求換人，避免與舊愛有尷尬場面出現。

已慰問緋聞女友菊梓喬

黃宗澤對於吳卓羲入行多年才首次上獎門人節目感到難以置信，笑言1日是“群星拱照吳卓羲”，卓羲解釋稱當年因為工作撞期沒得玩。問到黃宗澤有沒有秘技教好友，他笑指對方是頑童不用教，而吳卓羲就稱最怕玩吸紫菜的遊戲。黃宗澤是參與次數最多有五六次，他說：“最記得第一次玩是和張家輝一齊。”吳卓羲即揶揄好友說：“有影帝，怪不得你去啦。”另問到吳卓羲知否緋聞女友菊梓喬在澳門演出時被音響轟傷耳膜，他表示有慰問過對方，但不清楚她的傷勢。

黃智雯被嘲“佢衰家”

至於全隊是否靠黃宗澤去贏獎品，他們笑稱最擔心是被黃智雯拖累，但認為玩遊戲最重要是開心，輸贏是其次。黃智雯被隊友取笑是“拖累”，她不甘反擊道：

“他們太小看我，之前上節目都贏了幾個遊戲，雖然我轉戲慢，但玩遊戲不差，加上有胡定欣、蔡思貝兩個跑手就不怕。”胡定欣聞言笑稱上節目是玩遊戲，不是鬥跑步，但也維護拍檔說：“智雯雖看似豬隊友，但我都想看看她近年有沒有蛻變，吳卓羲竟然是第一次上獎門人，我都想看他表現，到時誰是豬隊友。”至於蔡思貝上次玩獎門人時不慎走光，她不介意道：“都不算是走光，我有打底的，最重要玩得開心。”

胡定欣與野狗搏鬥

《隱形戰隊》代表之一的馬國明，表示新劇是他近年動作戲最多的一部，有槍戰亦有拳腳動作，上一次拍動作戲已經要數到古裝劇《深宮計》。稍後與余詩曼拍新劇《新聞女王》的馬國明，透露剛與李施嬅及何依婷等進行圍讀，飾演主播的他劇中與阿余對立，代表新聞部內部的權鬥。”問到馬國明會否到公司新聞部實地感受一下，他解釋權鬥只是劇情需要，知道公司的新聞部沒有權鬥，盡力做好每天的新聞報道。難得阿余回來拍劇，問到是否很多演員自薦參演，馬國明笑道：“有無自薦就不知了，因為我本身有份，但阿余是有她的吸引力，好多演員都期待跟她合作，而且新劇有不少個案，所以需要很多演員。”

胡定欣在《廉政狙擊》劇集中堪稱



◆胡定欣玩得投入。

◆吳卓羲樊亦敏毫不避忌。

是solo演出，劇情講到她遭方力申飾演的忤逆繼子綁架，身陷困境的她仍冷靜地想盡方法逃亡，混亂間碌落山一度暈倒，之後再遭野狗襲擊。

定欣與野狗搏鬥的場面雖然只有約1分鐘，但原來拍攝時劇組與定欣均花了不少心思及力氣；事緣定欣拍攝該幕時全程是與空氣對戲，為了將與野狗搏鬥的肢體動作呈現得更真實，定欣需要與穿了綠色特效服裝的武指進行搏鬥，單是對位已花了不少時間。

搞笑的是，定欣拍攝時最擔心的竟然是蛇蟲鼠蟻：“我好記得拍這場戲的前一兩日下大雨，我不是怕了拍動作戲，因為那裏有山坡同草叢，我反而是怕蛇蟲鼠蟻會爬到我身上多點！因為真是要在地下搏鬥。”定欣受訪時更深情剖白角色人物屠敏的心路歷程：“這場戲是會同屠敏兒時在淫窟入面俾人欺凌形成一個對比，屠敏經歷過小時候那些不幸，到現在這一刻對住野狗，同樣俾人身體攻擊，就算沒了腳，他今日都有能力去克服。這個就是經歷了這麼多事的屠敏，會堅持到底，不會認輸。”



◆蔡思貝小露蠻腰與馬國明激烈對戰。



◆黃智雯被嘲是豬隊友。

眾星獻聲合唱 向消防英雄致敬

香港文匯報訊（記者 達里）為數59人的“香港特區救援隊”上月前往土耳其地震災區協助救援，成功拯救4名生還者。為了向一班為拯救生命的消防員致敬，TVB早前召集35位旗下藝人及歌手，灌錄由消防處心理服務組及消防流行樂隊作曲、填詞的《活出信念》，由張家誠編曲及監製，希望帶出歌詞中“希望祝福充滿心裏”的信息，以及為一班願意“盡我心發熱，熱血每一分一秒”的消防員打氣。

參與灌錄歌曲的35名藝人及歌手包括3位視帝陳展鵬、譚俊彥、王浩信，“最受歡迎電視男角色”周嘉洛，“最受歡迎電視女角色”樊亦敏、戴祖儀、朱晨麗、黃智賢、《香港小姐再競選》冠軍何沛珈，《聲夢》成員炎明熹、張馳豪、潘靜文、文凱婷和《聲夢2》成員黃洛妍、趙頌宜等，而《中年好聲音》代表李佳、李迦森、曹敏敏、梁

浩銓、羅啟豪、周吉佩等亦有參與，歌曲MV已於1日在黃金時段內播出。

陳展鵬的父親是消防員，他透露自小已體會到消防員的無私付出，當錄音看到歌詞時已相當感動，說：“香港是一個大都會，世界發生的事都會關注到，歌曲《活出信念》對我來講好親切，因為我爸爸是消防

員，消防員工作是冒着生命危險，尤其是山泥傾瀉時，所以我看到份詞都覺得好感動。”至於姑丈是退休消防員的炎明熹，一直希望能夠為消防員打氣，她說：“其實我未收到錄歌消息前，已經很想有機會可以鼓勵大家，剛好有這首歌出現，我非常之開心，一定要參與其中。”



◆眾星獻聲為消防員打氣。

王丹妮新戲開工爆男主角比她要高

香港文匯報訊（記者 阿祖）王丹妮、李幸倪（Gin Lee）、湛琪清與楊張新悅2日出席護膚品牌活動，王丹妮表示自己的護膚心得是主要把面上毛孔清潔乾淨，護膚品才更吸收，她笑言自己已不年輕，更要勤力護膚保養，尤其拍戲已用高清鏡頭，她都會帶足私家護膚品去片場護理才上妝。

王丹妮近日已為新戲開工，今次演出爽朗角色，希望給予觀眾新鮮感，但男主

角方面她表示電影公司要保密，不過對方比她要高，她指圈中比她高的男演員其實也不少，過去合作過的男拍檔，對她的高度亦沒太大怨言。

王丹妮擁178cm高度，她說：“我早起身度是這高度，但下午度會矮2cm，因為地心吸力影響，好多人會矮0.5cm，我就矮多一點，試過造型師試身時幫我用同一把尺度過，真的是矮了2cm，我都提出過

下午或拍夜班會好一點！”

Gin Lee向來對護膚方面甚為嚴謹，早晚都花最少半小時護膚及做面部按摩，更會做拉筋去水腫，所以也算貪靚一族，不過女士天生都愛美，就算之前疫情要戴口罩，她都沒偷懶有定時護膚，到現在不用戴口罩，她笑言要再勤力一點，從前可能一個月去一次美容院，現要兩星期去一次。

方中信無替身高空跳天橋

由英皇電影出品，吳家偉執導，方中信、呂良偉、安志杰、錢嘉樂、張繼聰、陳家樂、陳國邦、沈震軒、張文傑、馬思惠等一眾實力演員主演的動作警匪犯罪猛片《衝鋒》，3日發布“永不言退”製作特輯及一系列現場圖片，正式宣布影片殺青，並向觀眾揭秘了電影拍攝過程中不為人知的幕後故事。

電影別具匠心地將故事的焦點匯聚於香港衝鋒隊，久違的題材、激烈的動作，一場蓄謀已久的連環暴力劫案背後的正邪巔峰對決，一觸即發！

電影《衝鋒》講述了一個張力十足的故事。衝鋒隊組長鄭志斌（方中信 飾）帶領組員全力偵查轟動全城的珠寶店連環械劫案，赫然發現悍匪頭目阮卓龍（張繼聰 飾）與阮卓武（安志杰 飾）竟然是多年前另一單重型劫案的在逃要犯！悍匪兄弟幫不斷向警方作出挑釁，步步逼進令衝鋒隊隊員張家樂（陳家樂 飾）逐漸失控，宿命般的四人在不斷交鋒中，揭開了背後塵封已久的秘密……

為了最逼真地展現電影中悍匪蓄意挑釁警方的連環劫案，以及正邪雙方宿命糾葛、勢不兩立的極致對決，導演吳家偉敢想敢為，大膽選擇在尖沙咀實景拍攝場面震撼的大型槍戰爆破戲份。在狹長的街巷中，《衝鋒》劇組高效高質完成了20多個動作鏡頭，並實景突破了多達20部車輛，場面令人驚嘆！

而方中信、安志杰、張繼聰等主角在拍攝過程中更是親身上陣，拳拳到肉的激烈打鬥僅通過短短的花絮，便令人大呼酣暢過癮，引發無盡想像！為呈現出動作電影最可貴的真實感，方中信堅持無替身完成高空跳天橋的極難動作，呂良偉、安志杰、陳家樂等主角亦始終在高強度、高密度的持續拍攝中拚盡全力。《衝鋒》全台前幕後的敬業和不遺餘力的拚勁，保證了影片將以最佳質量和最佳效果出現在廣大影迷們的面前。

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《本日公休》雙男神加盟 陳柏霖演天菜農夫 林柏宏展嘴甜撩妹力

剪的是人情，留的是思念！今年最溫柔暖心的親情電影《本日公休》，將在3月3日全台盛大上映。今（1）日舉辦首映，監製吳明憲、導演傅天余攜主演員陸小芬、傅孟柏、陳庭妮、施名帥、方志友、陳柏霖、林柏宏、阿翰、千千、胡智強齊聚亮相，一同點亮「本日公休」招牌與理髮廳三色旋轉燈，預祝全台戲院開張大吉、票房熱賣！上映前電影公司舉辦多場試片，不僅獲得許多媒體與名人的一致好評肯定，電影也將「出國比賽」前往大阪電影節競賽單元爭取最高榮譽，國內外都創下未演先轟動的高人氣！

《本日公休》今晚首映眾星雲集，全明星卡司首次公開合體，導演傅天余以自身家庭為靈感創作，將理髮阿姨故事搬上大銀幕，邀請息影20多年的金馬影后陸小芬，細膩詮釋台灣歐巴桑「阿蕊」的堅強、勇敢，以一技之長傳遞溫暖動人的老牌人情，陸小芬直呼這是她繼《桂花巷》之後，親臨如此盛況的首映會，彷彿看到國片的曙光，「不管老少，來看這部電影可以讓自己看到自己，讓自己能夠很堅強勇敢，走出自己的一片天。」與無緣的女婿傅孟柏、三位兒女施名帥、陳庭妮、方志友的真摯台味日常，更是逼哭現場許多觀眾。

首映現場不僅傅孟柏與方志友帶著媽媽來觀影，陸小芬的角色原型「本蕊（阿蕊本人）」、真實在台中經營男子理髮廳的導演媽媽，更特別「本日公休」北上來看女兒的電影，感動表示：「能夠找到這麼漂亮的小芬，真的很高興！請大家多多支持電影！」現場也歡迎大家來理髮店看看。影后陸小芬更是真情哽咽「本蕊」是她生命中的貴人，「很感謝她（導演媽媽）把導演生下來，我才能演這部好作品。」導演則是談起要將自身的成長故事拍成電影，是她寫過最難的劇本，並提及這次是她「一生只有一次」非常珍貴且美好的拍攝的經驗，期望電影帶給大家滿滿共鳴，「家庭理髮是很多台灣人共同的成長記憶，我相信這個故事也是很多人的共通記憶。」

除了真摯的家庭情感賺人熱淚，電影也邀請雙男神陳柏霖、林柏宏特別演出，為電影增添驚喜。陳柏霖不同以往帥氣形象，飾演造型邋邋的年輕農夫，與一個人開車旅行的影后陸小芬意外相遇，陳柏霖分享當初看到劇本就非常喜歡，與影后陸小芬對戲很溫暖，陸小芬也大讚陳柏霖：「帥氣迷人！看不出來他有演出的痕跡，很棒很優質的演員」，並提及在拍片現場看到是陳柏霖就安心了，開心直呼：「唉唷！我們怎麼來了一

個這樣子的農夫，增加票房！畫龍點睛！」

林柏宏則是化身花言巧語的髮型師 Andy，戴起無鏡片眼鏡詮釋「俗帥」風，與同髮廊的方志友搶客人「變敵人」，戲外兩人是從2007年星光大道就熟識的青梅竹馬，分享一起美髮受訓時，方志友還親自幫林柏宏洗頭按摩、吹頭髮，首次合作拍電影默契十足。拍片現場林柏宏渾然天成呈現「服務派」髮型師，不僅即興發揮撩妹台詞，安撫客人情緒，更為角色設想粉專名字「Andy Fashion Hair」，方志友笑說自己會是「頭號粉絲」，剪頭髮時也喜歡被哄，「如果遇到 Andy 的話，我回家心情會蠻好！」林柏宏首映會也在現場上演嘴甜髮型師，幫陳庭妮、阿翰撥起頭髮，感性提起第一部電影作品就是傅天余執導，《本日公休》是兩人第二次合作，表示十分期待電影：「導演在劇本創作時就有分享一些小故事，不誇張，當時聽到就想直接流眼淚。」

擁有百萬粉絲的影片創作者阿翰、千千也盛裝出席首映會，從網路影片躍上大銀幕，一出場就趣味十足，笑聲不斷，阿翰更即興模仿起「九天玄女」算命阿姨：「九天玄女也喜歡看《14569》！」直呼林柏宏很香，「林柏宏是我的！」。阿翰在電影裡飾演刁難造型師陳庭妮的大明星，陳庭妮在現場也為自己打抱不平：「拍攝當下覺得整組都在霸凌我耶！」千千則上演邊吃邊賣馬桶的絕招，與傅孟柏有相親戲，千千坦言拍戲當下太緊張，只敢看傅孟柏耳朵，才能順利拍完戲。此外，去年榮獲金馬獎最佳新演員胡智強，在片中飾演陸小芬有偶包的高中生客人，為戲直接剃真髮，「像河童」一樣的造型，讓陸小芬比自己還捨不得，並表示十分榮幸被影后親自剪髮，陸小芬也開心回應：「跟年輕演員演戲，也跟著青春起來了！」電影《本日公休》將於3月3日起，暖心、感動全台上映。

3月3日 剪的是人情，留的是思念！

阿蕊（陸小芬飾演）開男士家庭理髮。小小的家庭理髮店收藏了各種人間的生死病死、聚散離合。面對生活的煩擾，阿蕊總是以她台灣歐巴桑的精神，毫不認輸的面對人生。時間一天天過去，她的客人老了。有天阿蕊接到一通電話，搬到遠方的老客人生病無法出門剪頭髮，拜託阿蕊到府服務。面對各種反對，阿蕊想起師傅教她「這一行要服務客人到底。」掛上「本日公休」的牌子，她要出發上路，去做一件所有人都認為不值得的事……。電影將在2023年3月3日全台暖心上映，更多資訊請上官方粉絲團查詢：<https://www.facebook.com/dayoff0303>

《角頭》擾鄰！ 居民抗議反被劇組噓



電影《角頭》召集原班人馬推出影集版本，由蔡振南、高捷、王識賢、王陽明、鄭人碩、孫鵬等人主演，近日劇組在迪化街大稻埕一帶開拍，卻爆出凌晨4點擾鄰，遭到警方關切一事；然而劇組昨（27）日又被居民爆料，在新生北路一段跟松江路上吵鬧不已，從晚間6點持續到隔日清晨6點，長達12小時製造噪音令居民難以入睡。還有居民被劇組回話：「他們也想在家當被吵的人！」點出道歉毫無誠意。

附近居民在臉書社團「爆怨公社」發文：「拍這種黑道打打殺殺的選在凌晨吵住戶睡覺，新生北路一段跟松江路居民真的有夠可憐，社區裡面都聽得到，真不敢想海景第一排的公寓住戶該有多委屈，氣密窗沒用，耳塞沒用，也想不通為何核准這種的路權申請。」居民還補充，《角頭》劇組從晚間6點持續到隔日清晨6點，影響附近居民出入、製造噪音，連續3天「真擾民！」

《角頭》劇組擾民一事，還有居民抱怨：「有一天還吵到早上4、5點超扯的，劇組道歉也非常沒有誠意，說『他們也想在家當被吵的人』，想在家被吵就不要凌晨拍片。」對此，「角頭文創」今日在臉書回應：「《角頭影集》的百人街頭聚集場景已在昨晚順利拍攝完成！謝謝所有工作人員頂著寒風合力完成每個畫面，謝謝演員們在鏡頭前精彩賣力的演出，謝謝中山分局、中山分局長春所、中山分局警備隊以及各相關單位的協助與支援，謝謝當地居民的包容和體諒。」

隱身於好萊塢電影幕後的重要推手

新生代製片人來自 台灣的 ASHLEY 趙紫雅



一部大獲成功的電影背後，除了導演與演員之外，沒有製片，是不會有這一切完美的可能發生，來自台灣的趙紫雅，甘於成為一位隱身於幕後的重要推手勇闖好萊塢實踐夢想，年紀輕輕早已在製作《哥吉拉》的傳奇影業以及打造席捲全球票房《魔戒》的華納兄弟製片公司中累積實戰經驗，近期還參與了製作曾入圍奧斯卡最佳男主角獎《即刻救援》連恩尼遜(Liam Neeson)以及今年奧斯卡最佳女配角提名凱莉荷頓 Kerry Condon 所主演的下一部電影《In the Land of Saints and Sinners》，於競爭激烈的美國好萊塢影業中，這位繼李安、朱浩偉之後，台灣再出備受矚目的電影人才，被圈內人奉為最有實力的新生代製片人趙紫雅，即將參與多次入選坎城、柏林、威尼斯影展且獲獎無數的英國電影大師彼得·格林納威 Peter Greenaway 在義大利的下一部大製作。

出生於台灣台北，從9歲時開始就愛上戲劇表演和寫作，在東西方文化的雙重教育背景下，擴展了趙紫雅看事物的視野，18歲時進入美國南加州大學並順利取得電影藝術系以及新聞與傳播學雙學位，畢業後任職於傳奇影業 Legendary Entertainment 和華納兄弟 Warner Brothers 兩大好萊塢擁有巨大影響力的電影產業中累積製片經驗，也讓趙紫雅更確立自己想從事製片的夢想道路，這是趙紫雅成為一位優秀製片人，能將童年時天馬行空的想像，以及與家人一起觀看電影時的感動，藉由做電影「說故事」將內心創意與感觸實現，並深入瞭解世界不同文化和新觀點的表達方式。

「獨到的眼光、寬廣的觀點、項目管理能力、人脈資源到營銷宣傳等等，這些都是成為一位優秀製片人所需要具備的條件」勇闖好萊塢永遠不是件簡單的事，趙紫雅學會了將不確定性視為將「願景變為現實」的機會，她喜歡製作人不典型也不規律的生活，但卻多變且極具挑戰，「在與連恩尼遜於愛爾蘭拍攝《In the Land of Saints and Sinners》時，需要面對多變的惡劣天氣與上萬隻飛蟲的侵襲，但越辛苦的場景越讓人回味無窮，演員與劇組大家都來自不同的地方和背景，工作方式也不盡相同，但都為了同一個目標和熱情努力，這種感覺棒極了。」

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东莞，莞香之城

东莞，取名自“在广州之东，海傍多产莞草”之意，极具湿漉漉的南方文艺气息。莞草，看似毫不起眼，却编织出东莞最早的贸易文明。自东晋设县以来，东莞就如同莞草般自强不息、蓬勃生长。

说东莞是“文化沙漠”，这是毫无道理的。从南方县城到世界工厂，东莞并不是中空，而是有着5000多年的文化底蕴作为连接。

没错，东莞本就是岭南文明的重要发源地。早在新石器时代，就已经有原始人类在东江沿岸居住，由此诞生了“珠三角第一村”——南城蚝岗村。

东莞的岭南底蕴，缱绻又缠绵。点燃莞香，眼前的岭南文明便向我们徐徐铺开：清光绪年间，投笔从戎的张敬修根据《孙子兵法》修建了可园。

作为广东四大名园之一，你很快发现这座岭南园林的最大特色是——四通八达。一楼、六阁、五亭、六台、五池、三桥、十九厅、十五房，左回右折，互相沟通，通过130余道大小门、游廊及走道连成一体，稍不留神，还真像走进了诸葛亮布置的八卦阵。

而散落着250多间古民居、30座祠堂的南社古村无疑是“东莞第一古村”。据《南社谢氏族谱》记载，其始祖东晋谢尚仁（谢安的后人）从韶关南雄珠玑古巷迁徙至此，便繁衍生息至今。

绵密的岭南底蕴又酝酿出东莞丰富的民俗。东莞人小时候的集体记忆，莫过于去湊龙舟

的热闹。《广东新语》载：“广中龙船，惟东莞最盛，自五月朔至晦，乡乡有之。”东莞的龙舟，分为“趁景”（友谊赛）和“斗标”（即龙舟竞渡）两种，当龙舟月来临之时，“莞邑各流，处处飞舟，村村竞渡，人山人海”。划龙舟培养了东莞人敢为人先、谁与争锋的精神，也为后来的经济发展夯实了基础。

除了划龙舟，东莞还有麒麟舞、千角灯、木鱼歌等民俗。以广府文化、客家文化和水乡文化勾兑而成的莞城文化，又滋养了无数东莞人的舌尖：艾糍、糖不甩、道滘裹蒸粽、眉豆糕、三禾宴、白沙油鸭、厚街腊肠、塘厦碌鹅等。正所谓“十月朝，糍粑碌碌烧”，每逢农忙过后，东莞客家人便会制作糍粑，犒赏一年的辛劳。

东莞还是中国近代史的开篇地。在史册上，我们又怎会忘却中国人向列强“挺起腰杆”的一幕——184年前，林则徐下令在东莞虎门销烟，在两个面积不到2500平方米的池子里共销毁了237.6万斤鸦片，沉重打击了英国在中国的鸦片贸易，也由此开启了一个新时代，写下中国近代史笔墨浓重的第一页。

其实，东莞早就是“英雄之地，忠义之乡”，爱国英雄人物层出不穷：宋末抗元将领熊飞、明代杰出边帅袁崇焕、黄花岗七十二烈士之一李文甫、抗日名将蒋光鼐……一个个都值得名垂千史，为后人所称颂铭记。

不奇怪，东莞早有“文川武乡”的称号，能出这么多英雄人物，自然有兴学重教传统和爱国情怀的滋养。

东莞自古很重视教育。仅在明代，东莞的书院就达31所，有举人550名（文举）、进士

在广东，有这样一座城市——

明明经济实力很强，却总是被吐槽“文化沙漠”；明明精神滋养很足，却还是被调侃为“毫无感情的流水线机器”。

没错，这里说的就是东莞。

有着“世界工厂”的声名在外，东莞常常被外人误解为是冷冰冰、毫无人情味的城市。但事实恰恰相反，东莞是绵延了1600多年的岭南古邑，除了“制造之城”，它还是非著名的“图书馆之城”“博物馆之城”“便利店之城”“潮玩之城”和“篮球之城”。比起制造业，东莞的精神文化内核太值得被人看见了。



81名（文进士），在广东名列前茅，明代著名理学家丘濬曾把东莞誉为“岭南人才最盛之处”。一代文人墨客诸如翟杰、陈建、伦明等，他们或是硕学鸿儒，或是思想先哲，又或是国学大师，为东莞长时间积累了宝贵而深厚的文学财富。

东莞，文艺之城

时至今日，东莞人仍不忘先辈传承下来的好学问。纵观大湾区城市，也只有东莞随处可见书、触手可及。

在东莞，图书馆不仅在市区，更分布在镇街、社区甚至是工厂内，广泛的分布让每个人以较小的出行成本就容易找得到图书馆，东莞也诞生了全国第一家无人值守的24小时自助图书馆。截至2022年3月底，东莞共建成853个图书馆，其中有53个城市阅读驿站、26家绘本馆和129家“我+书房”，书籍实现全市通借通还，无论是晨跑的早上还是无人的深夜，市民皆有书可读。

还记得2020年给东莞图书馆留言的湖北籍农民工吴春生么？在临别前，他这样写道：“我来东莞十七年，其中来图书馆看书有十二年，书能明理，对人百益无一害的唯书也……”

由此可见，东莞并不是一座工业味大于文化味的城市。东莞对人的精神文明滋养，也绝对不只有图书馆，这座城市还遍布着数不清的电影院、博物馆、演出场馆，按总数来算，这几项数据在全国均名列前茅，分别排第10、第18、第23的位置——

每天，平均有8节公益培训课在东莞市文化馆举办；15年间，共有2300多场国内外高端演出在玉兰大剧院上演；建筑面积达3.4万平方米的市民艺术中心，平均两天半有一场文艺演出。

东莞人的精神食粮就从这里出发，飞向各个街镇的不同人群。

东莞又被誉为“打工人的天堂”。据《21世纪经济报道》的调查显示，2020年东莞15-59岁人口占比高达81.41%，全省第一。这也说明，东莞很“年轻”，这股年轻人的神秘力量又翻搅起东莞的“潮文化”。

在《中国潮经济 2021网红城市百强榜单》中，东莞的潮生活指数排在全国内地城市第25位，省内第4位。只盯着东莞制造业的人可能还没留意到，东莞的饮品店、酒吧及咖啡厅的数量超级多，拿到全国来看，也是排得上号的，上述三者分别高居全国第5、第10和第12位。“找个地方喝点东西”，怕是会成为新一

代东莞人的口头禅。

除此之外，年轻人爱的还有便利店。东莞的便利店多，已不是什么新闻了。1242人/店的便利店密度，把东莞拱上了“中国便利店之都”的位置，密度高居全国第一，而且61.38%都是24小时便利店。美宜佳、天福、罗森，这座城市总会为晚下班的人留一盏灯。

还有一样，是东莞留给年轻人们的惊喜：中国潮玩之都。以制造业发家的东莞，坐拥雄厚的玩具制造基础，又面向广大的年轻人市场，成为“潮玩大哥”也并不是什么意外的事。

中国社会科学院《2021中国潮流玩具市场发展报告》的数据显示，2021年潮玩市场规模预估在366亿元，而东莞涉及潮玩生产的规模以上企业工业总产值就达到了128.31亿元。也就是说，全国至少有1/3的潮玩都由东莞生产制造。

你手上花钱购买的盲盒、动漫IP，说不定就来自东莞。而潮玩圈知名的Laura（劳拉）、Angelboy（天使男孩）、Cassy（锦鲤猫）、Fuzoo（芙竺）等都是东莞潮玩的原创IP。

除了“潮玩”和精神建设，东莞也朝着“硬核科技”的方向奔去。

都说“东莞塞车，全球缺货”，东莞的制造能力从不让世界失望：造全球1/4的智能手机、1/5的电脑、1/10的运动鞋……拥有强大的工业基础，从“制造”跨向“智造”，东莞显得毫不费力。

从“制造”跨向“智造”

目前，东莞高新技术企业数量达6385家，数量位居全国第九、全省第三，产值超过1.2万亿元。松山湖是东莞发展的“排头兵”，东莞“最牛企业榜单”总能在这里找到踪影：华为、生益科技、玖龙（纸业）、新能源科技……在小小的一个松山湖，聚集着1家千亿企业、3家百亿企业和8家十亿企业，东莞88%的新型研发机构和70%的高新人才都扎堆在松山湖。

高科技也已满足不了东莞，它往更“硬核”的国际级科技奔去——中国散裂中子源。坐落在东莞松山湖科学城的中国散裂中子源装置，是世界第四大脉冲中子源装置，其相当于一台“超级显微镜”，通往DNA、结晶材料、聚合物等物质的微观世界，代表着大湾区最尖端前沿的科技水平。

在东莞，“世界工厂”远不只是流水线。它古老、创新，中间有着1600多年的精神文化作为连接。当你看到东莞的过去、人文温度和不断向前的追求时，这座城市才真正有了跳动的生命。

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小琴童之路

上週，來自休斯頓 Katy 的 Michelle Li 剛剛獲得 2022/2023 HIMC (Houston Internationale Music Competition) 弦樂兒童組第一名，和 2023 Music Singapore International Piano & Violin Competition 小提琴兒童組第二名。在 2022 年曾榮獲第十三屆香港國際小提琴大賽兒童組的一等獎，和 Romantic Music Competition, Charleston International Music Competition 第二名。在獲獎感言中她說：“我喜歡音樂，因為可以通過它來表達我的各種心情和感受...”

在 Michelle 4 歲的時候，她的媽媽出於自己對古典音樂的熱愛，為她買了一把最小尺寸的小提琴，同時讓她在休斯敦知名的 VIVACE 國際音樂學校開啓了她的音樂馬拉松。在開始學琴的一段時間，每日重複的練習對於幾歲的孩子來說枯燥又乏味，不免削減了對音樂的興趣，也想過放棄，幸運的是，Michelle 遇到了她音樂人生的恩師 - 青年小提琴教育家馬曉鷗女士（上圖左），馬老師非常了解兒童心理，善於把握孩子的特點，很快就帶領 Michelle 重新走上享受音樂的旅程。當第一次登台表演時，家人著實都為她捏了一把汗，反而 Michelle 自己異常興奮，絲毫不緊張！

馬曉鷗老師畢業於中國中央音樂學院，之後在 Ball State University 獲得藝術博士學位，並擁有李斯特音樂學院證書。在本次 HIMC 決賽期間，當馬老師聽完 Michelle 演奏後一度落淚，“太不容易了！老師知道，每一份成績單都是你不斷努力，付出和積累換來的...” 從去年到今年，Michelle 忙碌於各種比賽和表演，有時還佔用了學校學習的時間，當媽媽問到累不累時，Michelle 高興地說：“不累，我覺得很好玩！”

琴童之路很艱辛，但又不乏快樂，如馬老師所言，帶著體育精神般的毅力，享受音樂的這場馬拉松！有音樂相伴的孩子是幸福的，祝願每一位小琴童在五彩斑斕的音樂世界裡成為更好的自己！



如何高通膨時代獲利及資產配置

蕭雲祥、顏琦3月18日舉行投資理財座談會

(本報記者秦鴻鈞) 財富是累積出來的！休士頓著名投資顧問蕭雲祥、顏琦將於3月18日在他們中國城的辦公室（6901 Corporate Dr. #128, Houston Tx 77036）舉行投資理財座談會。主題：1. 如何高通膨時代獲利及資產配置，2. 社會安全金領取條款及注意事項。因座位有限，敬請事先預約：713-988-3888, 832-434-7770

兩位專家表示：自從 COVID 19 以來，市場經歷了兩場深度的轉變和下挫，第一次下跌了 35%，但是很快的轉回來了，第二次面臨高通膨及利息急速上升，市場在 2022 年來開始了一次深度的轉折，

NASDAQ 下挫了 35%，SPY 也跌了 25%，平均下跌了 30%。面對高通膨，高利率，美國的債務上限又達到歷史高點，約為 \$31. 兆，

投資市場面臨高風險及許多不確定因素：通膨？利率上升？國債？中美貿易戰？俄烏戰爭？能源價格上升？貨幣交換率大幅起伏？

如何在高風險又是高通膨的時代，如何投資獲利？如何保住基金的安全性？流通性？又能抗通膨確保購買力，確實是一個難題，因此蕭雲祥、顏琦舉辦了此次座談會，歡迎參加！



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