

SM SUPERMALLS



LUCK IN LOVE

LUCK IN LOVE FEAST
FEB 1 TO 29

LUCK IN LOVE FAIR
FEB 1 TO 29

SPOT LOVE
AT THE LUCKY DRAGON
FEB 1 TO 18

LOVE THRILLS
FEB 3 TO 14

PETS IN LOVE
FEB 10 TO 18



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STOCK MARKET	ASIAN MARKETS	WORLD MARKETS	PESO-DOLLAR RATES	ASIAN MONIES-US\$ RATE	WORLD CURRENCIES	DUBAI CRUDE OIL																																																																				
PSEI OPEN: 6,680.68 HIGH: 6,689.18 LOW: 6,630.68 CLOSE: 6,630.68 VOL.: 0.303 B VAL(P): 4.223 B 55.41 PTS. 0.82% 30 DAYS TO JANUARY 29, 2024	JANUARY 29, 2024 <table border="1"> <tr><th>CLOSE</th><th>NET</th><th>%</th></tr> <tr><td>JAPAN (Nikkei 225)</td><td>36,026.94</td><td>▲ 275.87 0.77</td></tr> <tr><td>HONG KONG (HANG SENG)</td><td>16,077.24</td><td>▲ 125.01 0.78</td></tr> <tr><td>TAIWAN (WEIGHTED)</td><td>18,119.63</td><td>▲ 124.60 0.69</td></tr> <tr><td>THAILAND (SET INDEX)</td><td>1,376.24</td><td>▲ 8.09 0.59</td></tr> <tr><td>S. KOREA (KOSPI COMPOSITE)</td><td>2,500.65</td><td>▲ 22.09 0.89</td></tr> <tr><td>SINGAPORE (STRAITS TIMES)</td><td>3,139.28</td><td>▲ 20.27 0.64</td></tr> <tr><td>SYDNEY (ALL ORDINARIES)</td><td>7,578.40</td><td>▲ 23.00 0.30</td></tr> <tr><td>MALAYSIA (KLSE COMPOSITE)</td><td>1,515.39</td><td>▲ 9.11 0.60</td></tr> </table>	CLOSE	NET	%	JAPAN (Nikkei 225)	36,026.94	▲ 275.87 0.77	HONG KONG (HANG SENG)	16,077.24	▲ 125.01 0.78	TAIWAN (WEIGHTED)	18,119.63	▲ 124.60 0.69	THAILAND (SET INDEX)	1,376.24	▲ 8.09 0.59	S. KOREA (KOSPI COMPOSITE)	2,500.65	▲ 22.09 0.89	SINGAPORE (STRAITS TIMES)	3,139.28	▲ 20.27 0.64	SYDNEY (ALL ORDINARIES)	7,578.40	▲ 23.00 0.30	MALAYSIA (KLSE COMPOSITE)	1,515.39	▲ 9.11 0.60	JANUARY 26, 2024 <table border="1"> <tr><th>CLOSE</th><th>NET</th></tr> <tr><td>Dow Jones</td><td>38,109.430 ▲ 60.300</td></tr> <tr><td>NASDAQ</td><td>15,455.363 ▼ -55.133</td></tr> <tr><td>S&P 500</td><td>4,890.970 ▼ -3.190</td></tr> <tr><td>FTSE 100</td><td>7,635.090 ▲ 105.360</td></tr> <tr><td>Euro Stoxx50</td><td>4,193.320 ▲ 59.040</td></tr> </table>	CLOSE	NET	Dow Jones	38,109.430 ▲ 60.300	NASDAQ	15,455.363 ▼ -55.133	S&P 500	4,890.970 ▼ -3.190	FTSE 100	7,635.090 ▲ 105.360	Euro Stoxx50	4,193.320 ▲ 59.040	FX OPEN P56.400 HIGH P56.260 LOW P56.540 CLOSE P56.270 W.AVE. P56.414 VOL. \$1,167.85 M 2.00 ctyvs 30 DAYS TO JANUARY 29, 2024 SOURCE: BAP	JANUARY 29, 2024 LATEST BID (0900GMT) <table border="1"> <tr><th>PREVIOUS</th></tr> <tr><td>JAPAN (YEN)</td><td>147.760 ▲ 148.160</td></tr> <tr><td>HONG KONG (HK DOLLAR)</td><td>7.814 — 7.814</td></tr> <tr><td>TAIWAN (NT DOLLAR)</td><td>31.206 ▲ 31.242</td></tr> <tr><td>THAILAND (BAHT)</td><td>35.550 ▲ 35.640</td></tr> <tr><td>S. KOREA (WON)</td><td>1,336.720 ▲ 1,336.750</td></tr> <tr><td>SINGAPORE (DOLLAR)</td><td>1.341 — 1.341</td></tr> <tr><td>INDONESIA (RUPIAH)</td><td>15,805 ▲ 15,815</td></tr> <tr><td>MALAYSIA (RINGGIT)</td><td>4.733 ▼ 4.725</td></tr> </table>	PREVIOUS	JAPAN (YEN)	147.760 ▲ 148.160	HONG KONG (HK DOLLAR)	7.814 — 7.814	TAIWAN (NT DOLLAR)	31.206 ▲ 31.242	THAILAND (BAHT)	35.550 ▲ 35.640	S. KOREA (WON)	1,336.720 ▲ 1,336.750	SINGAPORE (DOLLAR)	1.341 — 1.341	INDONESIA (RUPIAH)	15,805 ▲ 15,815	MALAYSIA (RINGGIT)	4.733 ▼ 4.725	JANUARY 29, 2024 <table border="1"> <tr><th>CLOSE</th><th>PREVIOUS</th></tr> <tr><td>US\$/UK POUND</td><td>1.2703 ▲ 1.2702</td></tr> <tr><td>US\$/EURO</td><td>1.0828 ▼ 1.0852</td></tr> <tr><td>US\$/AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR</td><td>0.6596 ▲ 0.6574</td></tr> <tr><td>CANADA DOLLAR/US\$</td><td>1.3435 ▼ 1.3450</td></tr> <tr><td>SWISS FRANC/US\$</td><td>0.8617 ▼ 0.8644</td></tr> </table>	CLOSE	PREVIOUS	US\$/UK POUND	1.2703 ▲ 1.2702	US\$/EURO	1.0828 ▼ 1.0852	US\$/AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	0.6596 ▲ 0.6574	CANADA DOLLAR/US\$	1.3435 ▼ 1.3450	SWISS FRANC/US\$	0.8617 ▼ 0.8644	FUTURES PRICE ON NEAREST MONTH OF DELIVERY \$81.65/BBL 30 DAYS TO JANUARY 26, 2024
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VOL. XXXVII • ISSUE 131 TUESDAY • JANUARY 30, 2024 • www.bworldonline.com S1/1-12 • 2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • JANUARY 29, 2024 (PSEi snapshot on S1/4; article on S2/2)

BDO	P144.900	SM	P922.000	GLO	P1,700.000	SMPH	P33.700	BPI	P112.000	JFC	P264.000	URC	P113.000	AREIT	P31.500	AC	P661.000	ICT	P236.000
Value	P513,353,096	Value	P381,714,420	Value	P316,042,950	Value	P248,425,425	Value	P214,723,734	Value	P213,708,596	Value	P199,471,385	Value	P193,074,530	Value	P182,742,380	Value	P178,499,998
P0.100	▲ 0.069%	P3.000	▼ -0.324%	P20.000	▼ -1.63%	P0.000	— 0.000%	P1.700	▼ -1.495%	P10.600	▼ -3.860%	P0.500	▲ 0.444%	P0.500	▼ -1.563%	P14.000	▼ -2.074%	P0.000	— 0.000%

Gov't urged to appoint 'traffic czar'

By Justine Irish D. Tabile
Reporter

THE MANAGEMENT Association of the Philippines (MAP) is urg-

ing the government to appoint a "traffic czar" to address the traffic crisis in Metro Manila.

In a statement, the business group recommended a holistic plan consisting of measures aimed at decongesting Metro Ma-

nila, such as the completion of a busway system, the privatization of the Metro Rail Transit Line 3 (MRT-3) and Light Rail Transit Line 2 (LRT-2), and the transfer of all national offices to New Clark City.

"The title of having the worst traffic in the world is affirmation of a known fact that has greatly cost the economy and damaged the welfare of the people... But there is no single silver bullet to slay this traffic monster, rather a

holistic approach to this crisis is essential," the MAP said.

The business group's statement was signed by MAP President Rene D. Almendras and MAP Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Eduardo H. Yap.

The MAP said the traffic crisis is a result of failed traffic management that could be addressed through "a paradigm shift in road and traffic management policies and practices."

'Traffic czar,' S1/3

Bank chiefs optimistic on industry growth

By Keisha B. Ta-asan and Aaron Michael C. Sy
Reporters

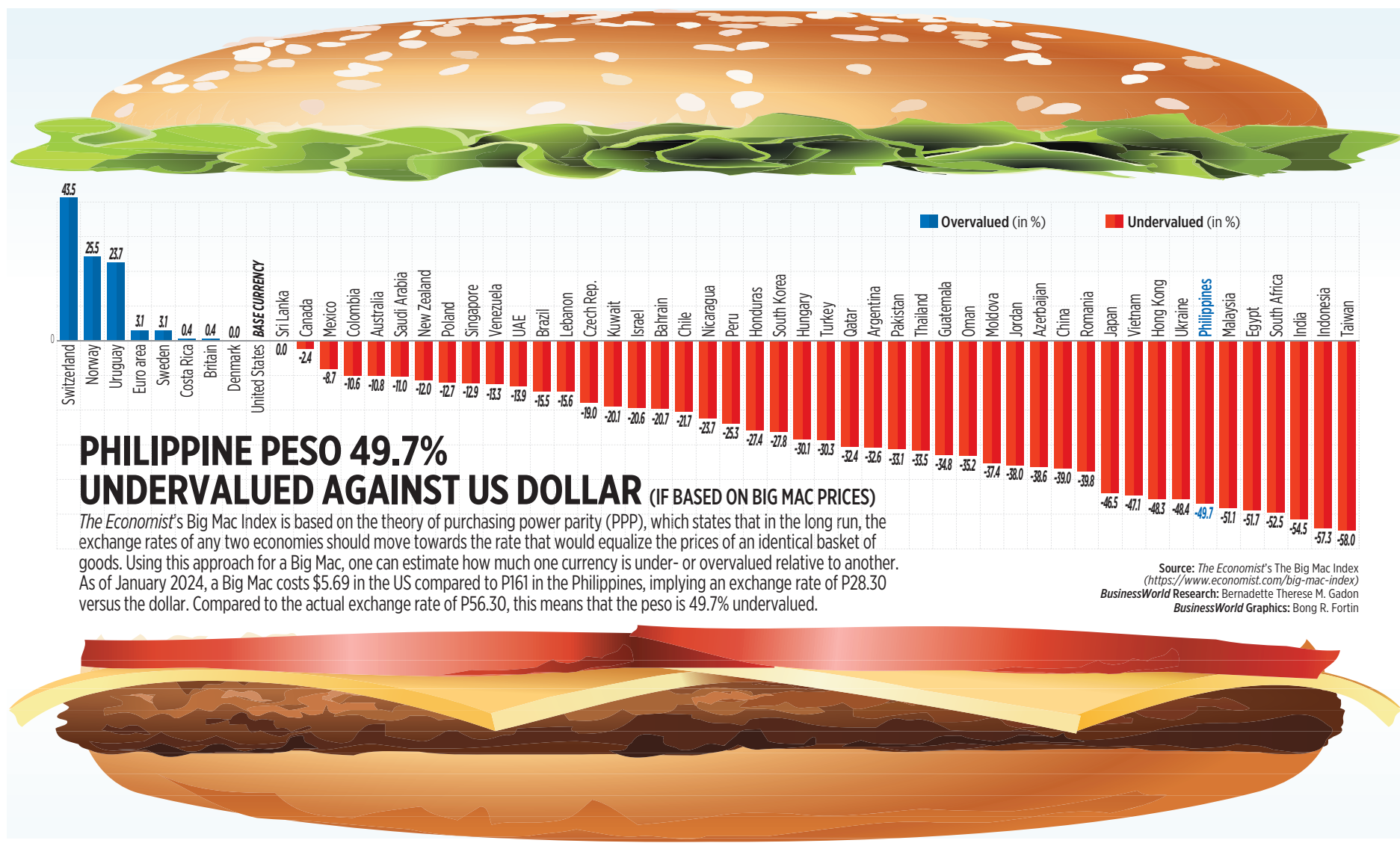
TOP EXECUTIVES of Philippine banks see continued growth in the industry this year, as expected policy rate cuts from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) in the second half may spur consumer and loan demand.

"I think this is a good year for the banks," Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Jose Teodoro K. Limcaoco told reporters during the central bank's Annual Reception for the Banking Community on Friday.

He noted the Philippines has a more positive economic outlook compared with the rest of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries.

"When you look at the forecasts, we have the highest forecast of GDP (gross domestic product) among the ASEAN economies," Mr. Limcaoco said.

Bank chiefs, S1/10



Struggling Philippine indie programmers looking for backers to step up their game

By Keisha B. Ta-asan
Reporter

JUVENILE MELCHOR "NILEY" B. BACOLCOL, 32, has been trying to develop a horror role-playing game (RPG) that revolves around Filipino mythology since 2018.

But the video game project has barely moved in the absence of local capital.

"There are limited funding opportunities in the Philippines," the multimedia graphic designer said in a Facebook Messenger chat. "There are many skilled and cre-

ative Filipinos ready to make AAA games, but instead, we get outsourced by big companies abroad."

The global gaming market was valued at \$249.55 billion in 2022 and is projected to grow from \$281.77 billion last year to \$665.77 billion by 2030, for a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 13.1%, according to Fortune Business Insights.

Lockdowns spurred by a coronavirus pandemic forced people young and old to play video games on their mobile phones, personal computers (PCs), PlayStation and Xbox consoles at home.

"People experienced worry, anxiety and terror as a result of the pandemic," it said on its website. "In addition, social gatherings and outdoor activities were prohibited. All of these factors worked together to boost gaming, which is known to provide relief from a range of mental conditions."

Mr. Bacolcol, the lead game developer and creator of *Balete City*, cited limited business-to-business events in the Philippines, so he often flies to global gaming conventions to pitch their projects.

Programmers, S1/8



Dinagyang Ilimination street dance competition had a grand opening January 26, 6pm at SM City Iloilo. The spectacular dance showdown, featured seven tribes performing in their best illuminated props and costumes. The floats parade of lights and other exciting performances added color to the event.

FUEL PRICE TRACKER (week-on-week change)

GASOLINE	
Jan. 16	▲ P0.30
Jan. 23	▲ P1.30
Jan. 30	▲ P2.80
DIESEL	
Jan. 16	▲ P0.90
Jan. 23	▲ P0.95
Jan. 30	▲ P1.30
KEROSENE	
Jan. 16	▲ P0.90
Jan. 23	— P0.00
Jan. 30	▲ P0.45

• Jan. 30, 12:01 a.m. — Caltex Philippines
 • Jan. 30, 6 a.m. — Petron Corp.; Phoenix Petroleum; Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp.; PTT Philippines Corp.; Seacoil Philippines, Inc.
 • Jan. 30, 8:01 a.m. — Cleanfuel (Shaw Autogas, Inc.)