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# BEIJING TODAY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 12, 2001

NO. 23

CN11-0120

HTTP://WWW.YNET.COM

## China Calls for Cooperation on Security

U.S.-led air forces bombed Taliban targets near the Afghan capital Kabul on Wednesday for a fourth consecutive night, news reports from Afghanistan said.

Four loud blasts were felt in areas around Kabul after planes roared over the city in the early evening, while a Taliban military base near the Pakistan-Afghanistan border was also attacked. All this came at the end of a day of raids on Kandahar — the Taliban's southern stronghold.

China is willing to cooperate with any country against terrorism, especially those that suffer from direct terrorist attacks, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sun Yuxi said Tuesday.

"China firmly opposes and condemns any form of terrorism, and supports relevant resolutions passed by the Security Council of the United Nations," Sun said at a regular press conference.

China called on Tuesday for a new concept of security based on international cooperation, saying that the September 11 attacks on the United States have once again highlighted the importance of international cooperation in safeguarding world peace and security. (Xinhua)

## Fight Fiasco Sparks Beijing Bust-up

By Shan Jinliang

A bout of verbal fisticuffs blew up early this month after boxing impresario Don King decided the WBA world heavyweight title fight between Evander Holyfield and John Ruiz would not go ahead as scheduled in the Chinese capital. The much-touted "Melee in China" became a Brawl in Beijing as recriminations flew.

USA Today reported on October 3 that the fight would go ahead in America instead. The stunned Chinese sponsor, Great Wall International Sports (GWIS), issued a statement saying King had hit them below the belt.

"We feel shocked at this, and we cannot understand this irresponsible act of the U.S. side, which constitutes a severe violation of our agreement."

King took the criticism on the chin, arguing the shift of site had nothing to do with breaking the contract but was down to the situation created by the September 11 terrorist attacks in the United States. After the U.S. government issued a notice warning Americans to be cautious about traveling abroad, King said HBO television was no longer willing to send its production team to Beijing.

Some voices in the Chinese media backed Great Wall in its criticism of King, with one naming the legendary promoter a "Smiling Tiger". They noted that the "Old Fox", as he is known by insiders in the boxing fraternity, says he does everything possible to avoid losing money, and argued financial factors were the real reason for the incident.

Despite plentiful local Chinese sponsors, no big international companies were involved in the event. What's more, the sponsorship came mainly in the form of services rather than hard cash.

Ma Guoli, director of the sports news center of CCTV, the Chinese mainland buyer of the television transmission rights, says the rights were only worth \$170,000, including 13 minutes of commercials worth some \$120,000, as China does not have a big market for boxing. Great Wall had predicted income of \$1.2 million from the Chinese TV rights. It also failed to sell the rights anywhere else in Asia. Analysts say the event was set to lose 30 million yuan (\$3.6 million) if it went ahead.

Wei Zhendong, a senior consultant at Great Wall, said, "Don King loses more than we do in the long term as he was supposed to be eager to make this event a success in Beijing".

Great Wall says it has lost 45 million yuan (\$5.4 million) owing to King's cancellation. This latest blow comes on top of other pummelings the company has taken this year. An August concert scheduled to feature a dozen world famous stars, including Michael Jackson, Celine Dion and Ricky Martin, had to be canceled after none of them agreed to come.

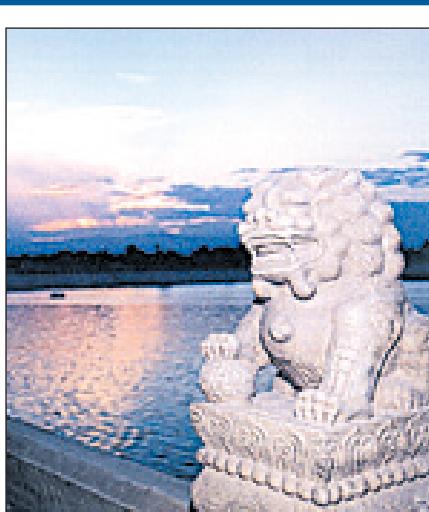
Wang Shouyi from the China Boxing Association said the fight fiasco exposed many defects in the business of Great Wall Sports. Analysts say the affair points up the company's lack of experience in running international events.



Smiling King followed the money home

Photo by Qu Liyan

EDITOR: LIU FENG DESIGNER: PANG LEI



The stone lions on the Lugou Bridge were witness to Japan's aggression in 1937

Photo by Fan Jiwen

## Japanese PM Apologizes

### Koizumi Pays Homage to Chinese Killed in War



By Zhao Pu  
Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi laid a wreath at the Memorial Hall of the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression

Photo by Hu Haixin

By Zhao Pu

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi expressed his "heart-felt remorse and apology" to millions of Chinese killed by Japan's wartime aggression on a one-day working visit to China on Monday.

Koizumi's visit, aimed at improving chilly ties haunted by history, began with a visit to the Memorial Hall of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. The hall is located near the Lugou (Marco Polo) Bridge, which witnessed the beginning of the eight-year war in 1937.

Koizumi laid a wreath at the museum and paid homage to Chinese people killed in the war. He wrote two Chinese characters — "Zhong" and "Shu" — in the visitor's book at the museum. The words, quoted from an ancient Chinese thinker named Zengzi, mean pleading for sympathy, understanding and forgiveness from others, said Koizumi. He pledged that Japan would never start a war again and would face up to and reflect on history.

Koizumi also promised to do everything possible to promote bilateral relations, which he said were beneficial not only to the two nations, but also critical for the peace of Asia and the world.

Koizumi was the second Japanese prime minister to visit the site, following Tomiichi Murayama in 1995.

Relations were strained by his Au-

gust visit to the Yasukuni Shrine in Japan, where 14 convicted Class-A World War II war criminals are honored among some 2.5 million Japanese war dead. Ties had also been frayed by Tokyo's approval of a controversial school history text, by Japan's decision to let Taiwan's former leader Lee Teng-hui visit for "medical treatment" in April, and by trade rows over Chinese imports.

Professor Jin Xide, a researcher at the Institute of Japanese Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, told Beijing Today Koizumi's apology basically copied those made by his two predecessors — Tomiichi Murayama and Keizo Obuchi — to the people of Asia and the Chinese people in 1995 and 1998 respectively.

Koizumi made no apology for his visit to the Yasukuni Shrine, nor promised not to repeat his visit. Japanese media reports say he is uncertain whether to go again next year.

This will remain a tough obstacle to recovery of the two nations' relationship, "as the knot has not been untied", said Jin.

The Japanese PM came to China also to discuss Japan's logistical support for the US anti-terrorism strike.

Koizumi plans a similar one-day visit to South Korea next week, hoping to soothe the anger sparked by his August visit to the shrine and the approval of the history text.

### Lugou Bridge

The Lugou (Marco Polo) Bridge, the oldest multi-arch stone bridge in Beijing, is located some 15 kilometers southwest of the capital. The bridge was first built in 1189 and was recorded in the travelogue of Marco Polo, who visited China during the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368).

On July 7, 1937, Japanese forces attacked the Chinese garrison near the Lugou Bridge. The Chinese troops counterattacked, marking the beginning of the Chinese people's heroic war of resistance against Japanese aggression.

### Memorial Hall of the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression

Located in a town near the Lugou Bridge, the Memorial Hall of the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression was opened to the public in July 1987 to mark the 50th anniversary of the war's beginning.

Some 1,000 items are on display in the hall, including evidence of the Japanese aggressors' atrocities during the conflict.

In May 1995, then-Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama visited the hall.

## Chinese FM Spokesman on Death of Stowaways

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Sun Yuxi said Wednesday that China demands active cooperation from the Republic of Korea (ROK) to thoroughly investigate an illegal immigration case which involved the death of 25 Chinese citizens.

Sun made the remark while answering questions from the press on the ROK's apology to the Chinese government after the dumping of the corpses of 25 Chinese stowaways into the sea.

He said that according to information from ROK police, 25 Chinese citizens, stowaways en route to the ROK, suffocated in the freezing hold of a fishing boat and their bodies were then dumped into the sea. The remaining 35 stowaways are alive and in police custody in the ROK. The captain of the boat, a ROK citizen, and other suspects have been detained.

## Debtors Banned from Life of Luxury

By Shan Jinliang

Chaoyang District Court has forbidden over 100 debtors to indulge in any form of high consumption before their debts are paid. This move, as part of a new policy on debt-recovering is intended to enforce the repayment of difficult debts, and is the first of its kind in the capital.

A number of debtors, including individuals and organizations, try every means possible to avoid their debts while living it up. Creditors have reported that such acts occur on a regular basis. Thus, this new measure has become part of the reform of Beijing's local courts, says Mao Li, an official from the Researching Office of Chaoyang Court.

The new regulation stipulates that all debtors, are forbidden to indulge in any form of high consumption such as air travel, renting luxury apartments and purchasing villas, or sending their children, relatives or friends to study abroad. The list includes 10 different items for individuals and organizations respectively. Anyone failing to comply is to be fined or detained in accordance with the China Civil Litigation Law.

The 100 debtors have been judged to have committed as fraud against the court by having the capacity to pay back the debts, but concealing the means to do so. In future such fraudulent behavior is to be treated as an act of breaking the law, says Mao.

The executive division says the court will operate in three ways, namely, court examination, public and creditors supervision. The court's investigation group will examine the accounts of the debtors, and anyone who reports such cases will be rewarded after confirmation.

Mr. Char, a business law professor from the China Tourism Institute, says this move constitutes a positive process for the Chinese courts, while enforcement of debt repayments is not very different from the Bankruptcy Law of the US.

As yet, the city's higher court has not commented on the move.

# Shanghai to Ensure Secure APEC

By Shan Jinliang

The APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) forum summit meeting will be held in Shanghai as scheduled on October 20-21.

It will be the first international conference held since the September 11 terror attacks in the US.

The meeting has been listed top of the Shanghai government's agenda and security work is to be heavily intensified, according to Yang Guoqiang from Shanghai APEC preparatory office.

US President George W. Bush will attend the forum despite the events of September 11, Foreign Ministry spokesman Sun Yuxi said on Tuesday. He also added that Chinese Taipei has decided to send representatives to participate in the informal forum.

Zhu Bangzao, another FM spokesman, said in a press conference last month that the recent international terror attacks will be discussed at the conference.



Workers put the finishing touches to the APEC Media Center under the Oriental Pearl TV Tower.

Xinhua photo

## Beijing to Improve Foreign Business Support

Foreign businesses operating in Beijing will be better served in the future as the local government upgrades the investment environment, said a senior official Sunday in Beijing.

Liu Qi, mayor of Beijing, said during his meeting with the visiting chairman of General Electric, Jeffrey R. Immelt, that a series of measures will enhance the efficiency of the government and eliminate administrative red tape.

Liu said that Beijing, in the years ahead will become an investment paradise for foreign businesses with China's entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO) and Beijing hosting the 2008 Olympic Games.

The mayor encouraged multinationals such as GE to broaden business cooperation with the capital city and to help make the 2008 Beijing Olympics the most successful in world sporting history.

Beijing will enlarge its investment in public services such as electricity generation, and heating and cooling systems by reducing burning coals and increasing consuming natural gas according to Liu, who hopes that GE will participate more in Beijing's development.

(Xinhua)

## Planning Commission Welcomes Public Suggestions

By Zheng Yuan/Wang Yanyan

Beijing Municipal Development and Planning Commission welcomes suggestions from the public on the drafting of the capital's Tendering Management Regulation.

Suggestion boxes have been set up on the websites of [www.bjpc.gov.cn](http://www.bjpc.gov.cn) and [www.bjinvest.gov.cn](http://www.bjinvest.gov.cn) to encourage the public to directly send e-mails to [ztb@beic.gov.cn](mailto:ztb@beic.gov.cn) to express their ideas as well as writing by post. The postal address is: Policy and Regulation Department, Beijing Municipal Development Planning Commission No 2 D, Fuxingmen Nandajie, Beijing 100031. (北京市复兴门南大街丁2号北京市计委政策法规处。邮编:100031)

The Planning Commission is keen for everyone to be involved in the legislation in order to make it more comprehensive and effective.

## Party in the Rain

By Xia Lei

"We brought the rainy weather to Beijing from Germany, but it also brings us luck," said German ambassador to China, Joachim Broudere-Groger at a reception celebrating the 11th anniversary of German Reunification on October 8.

An evening of heavy rain failed to dampen enthusiasm, as more than 1,000 people joined the celebration at the German Embassy. Most were foreign and Chinese diplomats, officials and businessmen. The German-style Kempinski Hotel did the catering, providing a taste of home to pining Germans.

## China to Land on Moon in 2010

By Xue Hui/Shan Jinliang

Chinese are likely to appear on the moon in 2010, as China is to establish its first-ever permanent site for human inhabitation on the moon as part of the ongoing cooperation by China National Space Administration and the European Space Bureau.

The news was released by Vice

Director Luan Enjie of the National Administration on the China Industry High-Tech Forum, which ended on October 9.

China began its moon-exploring project from the early 1990s. The Chinese government issued its first space white paper in 2000, presenting prior research on space explorations with a focus on

moon exploration. Tsinghua University, a top technical university in China, organized two symposiums on moon exploration technology in 2000 and 2001 respectively. China's theories and technologies on moon exploration have matured in the view of many scientists.

## Royal Relics Surface at Yuanmingyuan

By Huang Jianhua/Zhao Pu

The archeological excavation site of the Scripture-Storing Hall relics in Yuanmingyuan (the Old Summer Palace) opened to the public on September 27. The excavation is deemed by archeologists to be the largest and most valuable archeological project this year in the capital.

Wang Ce, Director of the Beijing Municipal Cultural Relics Research Bureau, told *Beijing Today* that this is the first formal opening of an archeological excavation site to the public in China, approved by the State Cultural Relics Bureau.

"We wish to get the public better

involved in protection of cultural relics," remarked Wang, "the cultural relics belong not only to the cultural relics organs and several archeologists, but the whole society. Thus, it's everyone's responsibility."

Over 20,000 people have visited the excavation site, including some foreign tourists, some of them offered suggestions on the protection of the relics. A public poll on the protection of the Scripture-Storing Hall relics has been carried out since the first open day, some 3,000 comments have been collected so far.

According to sources from the

archeological group, over one thousand relics have been unearthed over the past 6 months, including jade, porcelain, glass, brick carving, glazed tiles, bronze and stone articles. The excavation began on April 19 and is due to be finished in May next year. The excavated site covers nearly half of the hall's total area.

The excavation of the Scripture-Storing Hall is an important part in the integral protection of Yuanmingyuan. The building complex covers an area of more than 40,000 square meters. It used to be the largest residential building complex in the Changchunyuan (Park of Everlasting Spring), one of the three constituent parts in Yuanmingyuan.

Construction of Yuanmingyuan began in 1709 in the early Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), and took 150 years to complete. Since the 12th century, emperors developed a collection of classic buildings here, constructing 40 scenic spots and 145 large buildings, some of which contained art treasures and valuable libraries. Yuanmingyuan was plundered and razed by the French and British invading troops in 1860.

This is the first phase of archeological excavation in Yuanmingyuan. Further excavation has been planned. The opening hours of the excavation site are from 9 am to 5 pm; entrance is free of charge.



The excavated site covers half of the hall's area.

Photo by Huang Jianhua

## First Tracks Laid on Beijing Elevated Railway

By Wang Yanyan

The construction of the first tracks of Beijing's elevated railway, the first city railway in the capital, began on National Day. The project is due for completion in September next year.

The whole project will be carried out in two stages and will run from the

starting point to the joint connection of Huilongguan East Station in Changping District. The first section is the western line from Huilongguan East Station to Xizhimen and the second is the eastern line from the starting point to Dongzhimen. The elevated railway between Xizhimen and Dongzhimen,

6.3 kilometers in length, is crack-proof to minimize noise and friction.

Once completed, the railway will pass through Zhongguancun Science Park, academic institutions such as Peking University, Tsinghua University as well as trade and residential centers.

## First Private Foreign Trading Company Approved

By Shan Jinliang

The MOFTEC examined and approved China's first private foreign trading firm in mid-September.

The approved company, Zhaoxing County Yanzhong Trade Company Limited of east China's Zhejiang Province, is the country's first private concern engaged in export & import business since the Regulation on Import & Export Business Qualification Management was issued by the Ministry with effect from July 10.

The Regulation prescribes all the companies should be registered in their local municipalities, provinces and autonomous regions and confirmed by the Ministry before running foreign trade business. This ends 50 years of the approval and checking of foreign trading business qualifications by the Ministry.

The Foreign Trade Department of Zhejiang Province have reported such 40 case for confirmation by the MOFTEC by the end of this August. The number of companies for approval is climbing dramatically and has yet to be calculated, according to an official from the provincial foreign trade departments.

## Court Rejects Securities Cases

By Zhao Pu

The Supreme People's Court recently declared that civil securities compensatory cases would be temporarily rejected by courts around the country. Hereafter people concerned in the Supreme Court further explained this move.

According to sources from the court, the cases to be temporarily rejected only include those civil compensatory cases caused by insider dealings, fraud and market manipulation in the securities market. As the present securities civil responsibility system is undeveloped and qualified judicial personnel are few, the courts are not well qualified to accept and hear these cases.

But the courts accept securities dispute cases in other respects, for example, securities contract disputes, business contract disputes, securities issuing disputes, securities return disputes, securities investment fund disputes, securities registration, trusteeship and settlement disputes, and shareholder rights disputes.

This is an inevitable and significant move in the legalization and standardization process of the securities market, according to analysts.

## Asee Projector Plays a Night of Soccer

By Jason Young

Thousands of soccer fans gathered at Sanlitun Bar Street to watch the game between China and Oman on Sunday evening. Via Hi-tech projectors provided by Asee, they saw the national soccer team reach the World Cup final for the first time.

At the street, almost every bar rented projectors from Asee, a well-known manufacturer in China. This kind of projector independently invented by the company can directly connect with a TV set, so guests can watch large sized screens in bars. "On July 13 when Beijing won the Olympic Bid, some bars got benefits from the projectors and this time no one can miss the opportunity," said Mr. Yin, GM of Tianlong Hengxin Co. The company located at Sunshine Plaza B2 Wing 405 takes in charge of selling the projectors.

# Battle Rages in CDMA

By Su Peng

A great battle has been launched among China's cell phone manufacturers. The squirming began after August 29, when they acquired the qualification to produce new cell phones suitable for the CDMA net, which will be constructed by China Unicom.

The Ministry of Information Industry (MII) approved 19 manufacturers' qualification, with Motorola as the exclusive foreign company. The other 18 companies are all domestic ones. Many speculate that MII wants to help Chinese cell phone manufacturers out of their embarrassment in the GSM mobile phone market, in which Chinese brands only have a total 10% market share. However, violent competition among these Chinese companies must be another consequence of the "CDMA Battle". "Competition is a certainty, as all want a share of the CDMA market," said Zhang Fuchun, GM of CEC Telecom, one of the 19 candidates.

### China Kejian & Motorola show confidence

Almost all these companies choose the way of cooperating with foreign CDMA mobile phone manufacturers with Motorola as a certain exception. China Kejian chose Samsung as their partner to build a CDMA production base. "This is mainly because Samsung is the biggest CDMA terminal supplier in the world," said Hao Jianxue, the general manager of Kejian, "besides the transmission of their CDMA technology and experience to us, they also guaranteed to undertake no less than 40% of our CDMA mobile phones' export."

While China Kejian is as confident in the competition as many others, Motorola still believes in keeping its leading position in the CDMA market as in the GSM market. "Motorola wants to be the champion of the China CDMA market," a senior official of Motorola said confi-



China Unicom and manufacturers hope for a mutual win Photo by Chen Shuyi

dently.

Motorola plans to put more than 2 million kinds of terminal products into the China Unicom's CDMA market. As the first foreign company allowed to build a joint venture CDMA equipment factory in China, Motorola has obvious advantages in the CDMA field. "We've had great success in the CDMA market of Korea, Japan and North America, and have accumulated rich experience in the field," said Zhou Xiaoyang, a general manager of a department key to CDMA business in Motorola. He also indicated that the Motorola manufacture bases in Hangzhou and Tianjin are ready to supply sufficient CDMA equipment.

### Be more cautious

As many are confident in joining the CDMA market, so others are more cautious.

"It may be a risk," said Sui Bo, vice manager of Ningbo Bird Ltd., "the function of CDMA is not so effective, while the price is high, and the most fatal is that the constructions of CDMA net can't compete with GSM." However, he revealed that besides the cautions, Bird has also been researching in the CDMA field for many years and already have their own CDMA phones. Like many other candidates, Bird also has its own plan to league up with foreign enterprises.

Xoceco is another one who has opinions similar to Bird. "Although we have the qualification, we are still cautious over CDMA," said Yu Feng, general manager of Xoceco. "Our CDMA mobile phone will be put into production by the end of this year, and we are still looking for some outstanding foreign producers to cooperate with us," said Yu.

According to China Unicom, subscribers to CDMA will amount to 40 million in 5 years. To mobile phone manufacturers, it is a great opportunity with certain risks.

## Independent Director: Famous or Nameless?

By Zhao Yijiang

Xiao Zhuoji, a well-known economist and professor of Peking University, accepted the nomination of Datang Telecom Tech Corp. as an independent director recently. Xiao is not the only renowned scholar who worked as an independent director.

Wu Jinglian and Dong Fureng have already become independent directors with domestic listed firms. Currently, the most popular way in China for listed companies to select independent directors is to invite scholars from universities and research institutes. But such a method is being questioned nationwide and the situation has raised fears in the market over whether these directors will be able to effectively carry out their duties. In developed countries, many such directors are company executives, whereas in China such positions are expected to be filled by scholars. "Undoubtedly, active chairman, non-chief executive officers and retired executives will be the most suitable candidates to other listed firms. A key is-



Xiao Zhuoji Wu Jinglian  
Photo by Mu Jun Photo by Chung

sue is whether those scholars really have the experience of operating a real company," said Jonathan Woetzel, general manager of corporate finance with McKinsey & Company China.

Candidates for the position of independent director would be required to have at least five years of work experience in the legal and economic sectors, according to the circular issued by the CSRC in August 16th. However, China is lacking such human resources and the growth of younger generations of executives takes time. One of the solutions is to train qualified directors for the market. "We hoped to set up some independent director institutes in China," said Javed Hamid, director of the World Bank's East Asia and Pacific Department.

## Samsung Notebook Landing



By Yang Xiao

Samsung Electronics President Chin Dae-je does not come to Beijing without purpose. This time he has brought the company's new product, Samsung Notebook NV5000, on October 9.

Chin is longing after the Chinese notebook market after realizing notebooks only take up 5% of the PC market, while in developed western countries they take a 50% share.

Samsung has dropped behind other IT giants IBM, Toshiba and Legend. It is difficult to hold a better position among them. With 16 years of experience in Samsung, Chin announced that they will compete on the design and portable, convenient use rather than the price. This model weighs only 1.35 kg, and is 21mm thick, but the price will be fixed at 24,000 yuan.

Samsung Electronics was founded in 1969 and is the largest electronics company in Korea. The company specializes in DVD, Digital-TV, semi-conductors, and home appliances. In 2000 its income surmounted \$37 billion and occupies 32% of the Samsung Group income. The company is in the Fortune 500 list. It accounts for 16% of total Korea's export income and the shares take 14% of total country's market value.

## Air China May Select HSBC And Merrill for Revamp

By Jason Young

Loss-making flag carrier Air China said on Monday it was speeding up work on its restructuring, paving the way for an eagerly awaited stock listing. Bankers added the airline will soon name HSBC Securities and Merrill Lynch as financial advisers.

"Preparatory works on the restructuring are accelerating," an Air China official involved in the project said, adding that conditions to kick off the restructuring after four months of preparations "are maturing".

As an initial step, he said a new holding company is expected to be set up by the end of this year for Air China and its

planned merger partners, China Southwest Airlines and China National Aviation Corp. (CNAC), the parent of Hong Kong-listed CNAC.

HSBC, Merrill Lynch and UBS Warburg were vying for the advisory role after being short-listed in June.

### Back door option gains

The choice of HSBC in particular is being viewed by bankers as a sign that Air China is leaning toward a "back door" listing by injecting assets from the three merged aviation groups into the Hong Kong-listed CNAC,

which already owns a 43.29% controlling stake in Hong Kong Dragon Airlines (Dragonair).

HSBC had heavily pro-

moted that option while UBS Warburg was believed to favor an independent listing.

Banking sources say the back door route could be more practical as it would give the company more ability to eliminate competition between Air China and Dragonair while the latter had helped Air China improve management, efficiency and services.

A back door listing "would make things simpler because Air China is losing money," the banking source said.

Under Hong Kong main board listing rules, a company must be profitable for three years before it can launch an initial public offering. Injecting assets into the already profitable CNAC and then launching a share issue would allow the group more flexibility in structuring its assets.

### Decisions not final

A stock listing is part of the restructuring proposals but Air China is still weighing various listing options. The CNAC back-door option, an independent overseas listing and a domestic A-share listing "are all under study", said the airline official, who declined to be identified.



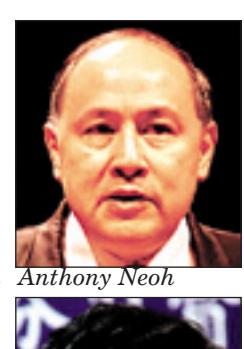
Photo by Chung

## HK Securities Advisers Come Onto Stage



By Jason Young

Alex Pang, senior director of the Legal Service Division of Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (HKSFC), will be employed as advisor of the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC), Department of Supervision to support



Anthony Neoh



Laura Cha

Photos by Photocome

Laura Cha in one month.

He is the third official of HKSFC who has recently become an advisor or senior official.

Anthony Neoh, a Hong Kong lawyer and former chairman of the HKSFC, was invited by Premier Zhu Rongji in late 1998 to serve as the chief adviser to the CSRC. After Neoh, Laura Cha, Deputy Chairman of HKSFC, became Vice Chairman of the CSRC.

This is part of the government's plan to hire overseas securities specialists to tame China's chaotic stock markets by tightening regulations and standardizing operations. Investor confidence had been shaken by scandals involving accounting irregularities, misuse of corporate funds and the disclosure of false financial information in initial public offerings.

Premier Zhu needed to shape up the stock markets to make them reliable supports in reforming state-owned enterprises (SOEs), and to prepare the financial sector for China's WTO entry.

Their salary at HKSFC is over HK\$3 million, but in Beijing they get little money for their work because of the limits on officials' highest salary. Laura Cha refused to reveal her salary that is estimated at a couple of thousand yuan per month. Pang's salary will be 3000 yuan per month. Neoh only gets a symbolic 1 yuan every year.

The Hong Kong officials cannot survive on such meager incomes, and are forced to take on other jobs. Chief Advisor Anthony Neoh is a full-time Chairman of the board of one Hong Kong's digital entertainment companies. Last month he just held a meeting in Shanghai to develop its mainland business. But according to some rules, officials have no right to run business in China. The Hong Kong officials have certainly violated the rules.

# Commercial Business Market to be Liberalized to Foreign Investors

By Zhao Hongyi

**C**hina is planning to further liberalize access for foreign investors into its commercial business in terms of geographic location, amounts of investment and other restrictions, according to sources in the State Economic and Trade Commission (SETC), the central government's economic planning organ.

As Mr Xu Ming, an official from SETC, told Beijing Today, the move is designed to introduce sophisticated sales and distributing techniques, along with relevant management skills into China's industry. It is expected that by introducing foreign investment, significant progress will be made in the layout of retail centers, quality of commodities for sale, channels and models for sales and distribution in the country as a whole.

Aside from comprehensive supermarkets and warehouse outlets, convenience chain stores and exclusive boutiques established by foreign investors will also be encouraged.

Supermarkets speed up life for Beijingers  
Photo by Zhuang Jian

Furthermore, foreign investors are urged to forge ahead into the middle and western parts of the country. Necessary administrative support and preferential policies will be granted to those investors.

Advanced management skills, talents and market exploration expertise will be introduced to these areas.

Also, as stated by Mr. Xu, foreign capital and investors are welcome to participate in the reform and adjustment of current state owned commercial entities by means of acquisition

and merger. The central government will release policies relating to the disposal of credits and loans of Chinese partners and disposal of surplus labor currently existing in these Chinese entities.

Since China opened its commercial retail business market on a trial basis in 1992, 356 foreign invested commercial entities have been established in the country by means of joint venture, including nearly half of the 50 world's largest business retailers. The total retail sales volume of these entities amounted to 52.6 billion yuan (nearly 435 million US dollars).

"That's far from satisfying," said Mr. Xu, "You have to realize that the number of Sino-foreign joint ventures and the total foreign investment in the country's commercial business sector occupy only 0.1% and 1% respectively against the total number of joint ventures and total foreign capital in the country. Their sales volume accounts for only 4% of the total sales volume of the country as a whole."

## Beijing Communities Face Convenience Future

By Zhao Hongyi

With the rapid development of the real estate industry in the capital, more and more residential communities are emerging as new districts for the city's inhabitants to live and consume in. This makes shopping centers a priority for the municipal government to develop.

The municipal government of Beijing declared recently that within the next five years, 400 comprehensive shopping centers would be built in the city's residential communities to provide living convenience for inhabitants.

According to the detailed initiative drafted by the local government, there will be at least one such shopping center in each residential community, which includes at least one supermarket, one fresh produce market and a number of service shops and restaurants.

Preferential tax reduction and facilities support will be granted to those shops and stores of low profit and long-term return.

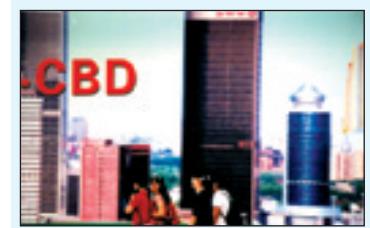


Photo by Zhuang Jian

## Land Reserved for CBD Development

By Zhao Hongyi

Aside from the 3.99 square kilometers land for the Beijing Central Business District (CBD) development, the municipal government of Beijing approved the "Temporary Steps for the Development of Beijing Central Business District (CBD)", keeping another area of more than 6 square kilometers land around the designed CBD area for further development.

The 6-square-kilometer area is surrounding the designed CBD, between the second and fourth eastern ring roads, Tonghui River and Chaoyang Bei Road.

## Come to Hawaii!

By Zhao Hongyi

Since the middle of the 1990s, a number of attractive tourist resorts have opened their doors to Chinese tourists. These resorts are in countries like Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Southeastern Asian countries and a number of European countries. Hawaii of the United States looks like it will feature on the list soon.

During the Beijing International Tourism and Cultural Festival held from September 23-27, the delegation from Hawaii stood out from the rest.

Led by Sun Wei-ping, a Chinese Hawaiian, the delegation had a greater interest to promote the beauty of Hawaii to potential Chinese customers.

"Hawaii has not yet released travel visas to China," said Ms. Sun to our reporter, "though Chinese tourists cannot travel to Hawaii at the moment, we still feel an urgency to show images of Hawaii to our potential customers here."

"Hawaii is a great destination for leisure, vacation, business travel and study."

"We are confident that sometime in the near future, Chinese tourists will be able to travel to Hawaii. Before that, please visit our website at www.gohawaii.com, we'll do our best to offer service and help whatever you need," smiled Sun.



## European Insurers Granted Licenses

By Zhao Hongyi

The door to China's tightly controlled insurance market opened a bit wider last Tuesday when eight European insurance companies were granted licenses to set up insurance practices in the country.

The eight licenses include four for life insurance and four for non-life insurance, said industry sources, who declined to be named.

France-based CNP Assurances, UK-based CGU, and Netherlands-based Transamerica each got the green light from the China Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRC) to set up life insurance joint ventures (JV) in open cities. France-based AXA, which is currently operating a life insurance JV in Shanghai, was allowed by the market watchdog to establish a sub-company of its Shanghai JV.

German-based Gerling Insurance Company and Allianz Group, and Swiss-based Zurich Insurance Company were permitted to launch non-life insurance practices.

The UK-based Royal & Sun Alliance, operating a non-life insurance company in Shanghai, got permission to set up a sub-branch company.

Transamerica and Royal & Sun Alliance could not be reached, but officials from the other six companies have confirmed the news, saying they were summoned to CIRC on Tuesday and were told the news.

Insurance experts say this is a clear indication of the Chinese government's commitment to further open its insurance market. The new approvals bring the total number of licensed foreign insurers to 26,

while the number of domestic insurers stands at only 13.

"Yes, we did get license approval, but our company prefers to keep things low-profile," said Liu Min, chief representative assistant with French life insurer CNP's Beijing office.

In May last year, after China signed a bilateral agreement with the European Union (EU) on its entry into the WTO, the EU announced that China would grant seven licenses to EU insurance companies upon the country's WTO accession.

"With the new licenses plus the two issued to Dutch and an Italian insurance companies last July, China seems to have fulfilled its promise," said an industry expert.

When the initial euphoria subsides, the major concerns will be how these companies will launch their new practices and whether there will be more licenses to come.

So far, China has only opened the cities of Shanghai and Guangzhou to foreign insurers. Life insurance companies can only operate in the form of joint ventures and have to confine their holdings to less than 50 percent.

## Insurance Premium Exceeds Ten Billion in Beijing

By Zhao Hongyi

The overall insurance premium in Beijing has risen to a record high of 10.51 billion yuan (about \$1.27 billion) in the past three quarters, surging 70.4 percent year-on-year, according to the latest statistics.

There are now in Beijing 20 property insurance companies, life insurance companies and intermediary insurance services, and 82 agencies for overseas insurance institutions, employing a total of 60,000 people.

In the past three quarters, the aggregated property insurance premium and life insurance premium increased to 3.18 and 6.69 billion

yuan respectively, up by 27.4 percent and 126.1 percent on a year-to-year base, and the compensation and expenditure totaled 2.61 billion yuan, up by 37.8 percent.

The upturn of the insurance sector can be attributed to sustainable economic development and deepened reform of the social security system in Beijing, experts said.

The investment-oriented insurance business has also been sharply boosted, experts said, adding the booming life insurance business has functioned as a major factor rejuvenating the insurance sector in Beijing.

## Hong Kong and Taiwan Enterprises Eye China's Capital Market

By Zhao Hongyi

Enterprises from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) and Taiwan are keen to seek listing on China's stock market, sources said in Beijing Monday this week.

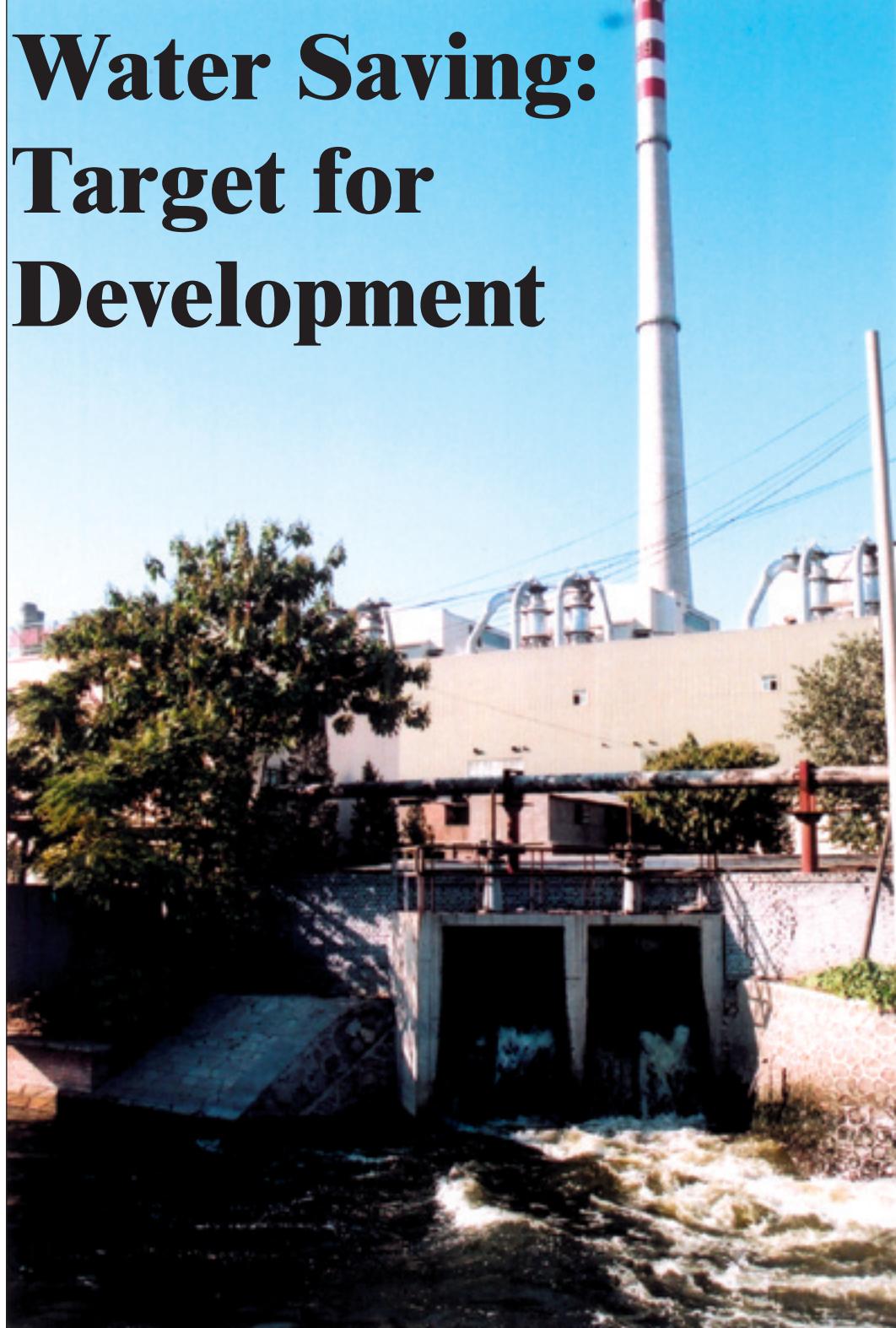
Organizers of a forum on China's capital market and foreign investment, which is scheduled to be held from October 12 to 13 in Beijing, said that Hong Kong and Taiwan enterprises have been very keen to attend the forum. This is China's first seminar specifically focusing on the stock listing of foreign-funded enterprises.

Experts said that Hong Kong and Taiwan-based enterprises are familiar with China's market policies and are eager to participate.

Senior officials from the State Council, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation and other departments have hinted at the possibility of allowing foreign-funded enterprises to enter China's capital market at the earliest by the end of this year.

Xinhua

# Water Saving: Target for Development

Water guzzling industries are on their way out  
Photo by Zhuang Jian

By Zhao Hongyi

**H**igh water consuming agricultures and industries will be phased out and moved out of Beijing, due to the fact that the city is constraint in water supply. This also offers opportunities for alternative agricultures and industries to take root in the capital.

According to the latest promulgated "Initiative for a Sustainable Use of Water of the Capital in the Beginning of the 21st Century", Beijing, Tianjin, Liaoning, Shandong and the northeastern provinces, are the coastal areas that have seen a decreased water supply and reservation in the past several years.

The municipal government of Beijing has taken steps in this regard several years ago. Agriculture is the giant water consumer, occupying 47% of the city's total water consumption but contributing only 20% of the total GDP. The number of rice planting fields has been reduced greatly. And the municipality is determined to

further reduce the number of agricultural planting areas requiring large amount of water irrigation. Instead, water saving plants and techniques will be welcomed for this purpose.

Similar steps will also applied in industries. High water and energy consuming industries like electrical generating plants, iron and steel plants, printing and dying factories, paper manufacturing and leather processing will be phased out of the city gradually. Instead, new high tech industries and enterprises are encouraged to develop. Necessary technical renovation will be applied in the traditional high water consuming sectors mentioned above.

In daily water use, the municipal government plans to further limit the spreading of grassland, auto cleaning and public bathing, all of which consume large amounts of water. Water quotation systems will be applied to those industries and service sectors to stop the currently existing water wasting phenomenon.

## A Profitable Holiday for Beijing

By Sun Ming

According to the Beijing Tourism Bureau, tourism related revenue during the week long national day holiday amounted to 2.4 billion yuan, a 52 percent increase on the same period last year. Of this amount, 2.2 billion yuan came from visitors from outside Beijing.

Analysts attribute the increase to people's improved economic situation. Another factor is the increase in ticket prices for popular tourist attractions. The average price of entrance tickets to 20 top sites in Beijing have increased by 30 percent since last year's holiday.

The Tourism Bureau also revealed that the number of people visiting Beijing from other places was 1,710,000. Besides, the order and environment of Beijing's tourist places are much better than before. According to their statistics, the satisfaction ratio of visitors has already amounted to 98 percents this year, increasing 2 percents compared with that of last year. Only 23 complaint calls appeared during national days, decreasing 28 percents compared with that of last year.



American volunteers paint characters from *Veggie Tales* in a foster home's playroom  
Photo by Tong Qingan

## Painting Love for Children

By Ivy Zhang

"We come here to show our love and care for the children in China," Tim Tyler, a volunteer at a foster home in Langfang, Hebei Province says he wants to ensure the children receive special care, because every child's life is important.

Tyler, a former employee at the design department of General Motors, is one of a team of six American volunteers who have come to China with a mission to visit and give a helping hand at the foster home, which is run by the Philip Hayden Foundation in collaboration with Tianjin welfare Institute. Established in 1998, the home accommodates about 20 orphans under the age of 3. So far this year, it has helped a total of 30 kids undergo surgery for cleft palates and lips, at a cost of US\$ 5,000.

The volunteers all take a two-week vacation from their usual jobs in the U.S. to come to China. During the team's 10-day stay, in addition to taking care of and playing with the kids, they are working on a project to paint the playroom and bedroom at the foster home.

Personalized beans, tomatoes, squashes, cucumbers are taking shape on the walls of the playroom, all characters from the video *Veggie Tales* based on a story from the Bible. "It's a lesson in courage," Tyler says, "The stories teach the kids to build morality and be honest and true. All children like the characters, because they are funny. And the next room we're going to decorate will be based on taking naps and sleeping."



A man checks his dalmatian out of the Baobeiwi (宝贝屋) Pet Hotel after the National Day holiday  
Photo by Zhang Jizhou

## Pet Hotels Gaining Popularity

By Sun Ming

Business has been sluggish for Beijing's 'pet hotels' since the first one opened for business in 1998. However the situation improved markedly over the one-week National Day holiday, with many people checking their four-legged family members in for an enforced vacation while they went traveling.

"I no longer need to worry about my beloved cat when I want to spend a few days out of town," said Wang Ling, a client of Baobeiwi (宝贝屋) Pet Hotel. She had just returned from a trip to Qingdao with her husband and son, and was collecting her cat from the pet hotel near her home. "It is not cheap; at 50 yuan per day, I had to pay 200 yuan for them to look after my cat for four days, but at least I know she will have professional care!" said Wang.

According to Niu Shihong, one of the staff at Baobeiwi (宝贝屋) Pet Hotel, the one-week holiday was a busy time, with many people leaving their pets there so they could go traveling. "We looked after more than twenty pets during that time. Every available space was taken, including the front and back yards. Other pet hotels were just as busy," said Niu.



The team's heavily laden Land Rover reaches the finish line

Photos by Cheng Tieliang

## London to Beijing by Motorbike

(March 9th London - October 10 Beijing)

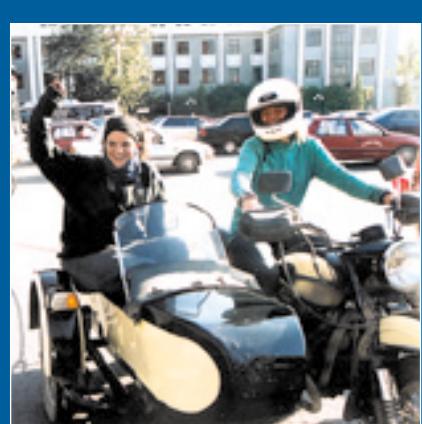


By Ivy Zhang

About 3:30 PM on October 10, two dirt-covered motorbikes and a Land Rover pulled up in front of the Beijing Grand Hotel on the Avenue of Eternal Peace, the grand finale of a 24,000 km expedition from London to Beijing.

The "Silk & Steel Expedition", is the first ever to have tackled the ancient silk route by motorbikes and sidecar. The bikers, 6 recent graduates from Edinburgh and Oxford universities aim to raise £100,000 for the Cancer Research Campaign in Britain and £20,000 for Mercy Corps Scotland during the journey that began on March 9th.

From Trafalgar to Tian'anmen, the journey across 12 countries, nine time zones and two continents has carried the adventurers through snow packed passes and scorching deserts. The most challenging part was struggling to repair the Ural 650cc motorbikes that broke down frequently, and are the primary reason for the expedition ending some two months behind the original schedule.



The second bike had to be towed home

"The bikes are very unreliable. We had to take a lot of time getting them to work," according to Rory Fyfe, from Scotland, "Anyway, we were well-prepared and had spare parts and repair kits in the Land Rover."

Taking two bikes and a jeep 24,000 km across some of the world's most inhospitable terrain accessible by road must be terrifying. Even for the most experienced bikers and mechanics, wild and windy deserts terrorized by bandits are a daunting prospect.

"We had quite a big adventure in Turkey," says Laura Hutchings who speaks fluent Arabic and is the team's logistics co-coordinator, "We went to a place where people live in caves. We found a cave to sleep in and in the morning, we were woken by hot air balloons going past. We got stuck occasionally at rivers where bridges had fallen down, we had to get towed through the deep river. Sometimes we found trucks to help us, very interesting and sometimes quite hard. The weather was very cold and wet... But

we had great fun."

After spending one month in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan waiting for permission from the authorities to bike across China, the team entered Xinjiang on September 3rd. During their one-month journey along the ancient Silk Road spanning six provinces including Xinjiang, Shanxi, Hubei, Shanxi, Henan and finally Beijing, the team visited some well-known historic sites like Jiayuguan (the western terminus of the Great Wall), and Xian's terracotta warriors.

With the long trek over and arrangements being made for their vehicles to be shipped back to London through Tianjin port, everybody deserves a good break. "I want to taste the amazing Chinese food. We'll definitely go to see the Great Wall and the Forbidden City. There are many things to see and I may stay here for 10 days while some of the others go to Shanghai." Sarah McVittie, a double-degree holder in economics and Chinese from Edinburgh University, exclaims with a big smile.

## Digital Movie Debuts in Beijing



By Chen Ying

The first digital movie to be made in China premiered at Beijing's Millennium Monument earlier this month. Titled "China", the 2 million yuan film will screen until January 1, 2002.

The main difference between a digital movie and an ordinary one is its higher clarity. Although the movie's length is just five minutes, it represents a milestone for Chi-

na's movie industry, opening the door for Chinese filmmakers to a world of new creative techniques.

Most people who have seen the first attempt have given it the thumbs up. But they will no doubt take a more critical stand towards the next one. Since China's movie industry has the technology, it's time to care more about the content. Only a good story can attract moviegoers to the cinema.

## No Holiday for Dentists

By Sun Ming

According to many dental clinics in Beijing, dentists were kept especially busy during the past one-week holiday, with people taking advantage of the break to have their teeth cleaned or straightened.

"Many people, especially white-collar workers and students, know the necessity of beautifying their teeth," said a dentist from the Beijing University Stomatology Hospital. He said the long holiday provided an ideal opportunity for people to have

such work done. Last year, the hospital treated more than 2,000 people per day during the holiday week.

As well as beautifying teeth, many people, especially young women, also made use of the long holiday to undergo cosmetic surgery. A number of hospitals and beauty parlors reported that their surgeons were kept very busy last week. "The seven-day holiday is ideal for the recovery from such operations," said a surgeon from the China Orthopedics Hospital.

## WTO Books in Hot Demand

By Liu Jinmei

Holidays mean good business for bookstores, and this National Day holiday was no exception. One of the most popular topics for book buyers and browsers during the seven-day break this year was the World Trade Organization.

In Xinhua Bookstore at Wangfujing Street, a middle-aged reader, with a book WTO Enterprise Guidance in his hands, said, "I'm running a private company, mainly engaged in deputizing clothing businesses. What I care about is how much influence China entering WTO will have on the relative industries that I manage."

"I think my knowledge about the WTO is far from adequate. I want to become more conversant with trading and laws, and the rules of competition among international enterprises," another reader, Ms. Qu said.

According to one of the store managers, books on the WTO were the hottest choice during the National Holiday, with over 120 titles available. At normal times the shop sells only two or three books on this subject per day, but this holiday around 40 books were sold every day.



# No Ugly People Or Dogs

By Xiao Rong

The celebrated lawsuit pitting a young Beijing woman against the bar that refused her admission on account of her "ugly" appearance came to a conclusion on September 13. The Second Intermediate People's Court of Beijing ruled that Beijing Dunhuang Dining Co.Ltd., owner of The Den bar, should apologize to Gao Bin for improper discrimination and pay her expenses for the lawsuit.

During a first trial last July, Gao famously said: "I'm ugly, but I have dignity". That trial also awarded her 4,000 yuan in "emotional compensation"; dissatisfied, she appealed, only to lose the compensation. Gao said she would appeal again.

Gao was refused entry by The Den's security personnel three times last year and lost her job because of her long legal struggle. Her case is China's first civil case of infringement of consumer rights owing to "appearance discrimination".

**Ms. Liu Wei, lawyer at the Centre for Women's Law Studies and Legal Service of Peking University**

I was Gao Bin's attorney in the first instance, so I learned more about the case than anyone else. As far as I'm concerned, the final judgment does not accord with the basic facts by exempting the defendant from paying emotional compensation to Gao. The first trial was more impartial.

Although I didn't handle the case after the first trial, I knew that the bar had made an oral apology to Gao in the local police station for unfair discrimination. But even after this, Gao was still forbidden to enter the bar a second time. It was under such circumstances that Gao Bin appealed to the court. So I think to make an oral apology

is not enough of a deterrent to make the bar treat its consumers equally. What is more important is to demand emotional compensation to punish the defendant. As to the specific sum of the compensation, the court can judge according to the details of the infringement.

I personally quite admire Gao Bin for her courage to protect her dignity and rights as a consumer. She stood up for groups treated as inferiors, not only for herself.

**Mr. Ding, a bar-lover (refused to give his full name)**

I don't think it's improper for the bar to refuse to accept a customer with a scary appearance. Although each customer has justifiable rights, it's also normal for a bar to refuse customers with physical defects for fear of scaring others and thus affecting its business. I may also feel terrible if I see a person with an ugly or even scary appearance.

On the other hand, even if I agree the bar should apologize to Gao Bin, I doubt the necessity of paying emotional compensation. Never mind the 50,000 yuan Gao Bin demanded at first, even the 4,000 yuan given by the first trial was too much. The definition of emotional compensation is always a complex problem in the field of law. The dignity and personality of an individual should be priceless instead of being bargained over again and again.

**Mr. Li, Manager on duty of Yun Sheng Bar, Sanlitun Bar Street**

I heard about this story last year, but I don't know much about its latest development. As a manager of a bar, I think every guest should be treated equally, no matter if he or she is healthy or not. As an ordinary man, I can understand the feelings of customers who may feel uncomfortable at the sight of someone ugly



Gao Bin meets the media after the second verdict

Photos by Yang Yonghui

**Liang Huaren, professor of China University of Political Science & Law**

According to the Law of Consumer Rights Protection in China, the consumer has the right to choose the service he or she wants. But there is no law that permits the businessmen to choose consumers according to their appearance. If the trader hurt the consumer by means of improper language or behavior,

or who has a physical defect. But if every one of us tries to empathize with those with defects, we can understand them more and treat them more kindly. After all, no one wants to be discriminated against in this way.

In addition, we should try to create a better atmosphere for those people with defects to let them enjoy themselves. In fact, you will hurt not one person but a whole group by rejecting them.

the consumer can appeal for compensation as long as they have irrefutable proof. Anyway, it's immoral for the bar to treat the girl in such a way.

**Ye Nian, associate research fellow of the Sociology Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences**

From the view of sociology, the behavior of the bar does not reflect only the personal attitude of individuals. Instead, it shows the strong aversion of some Chinese to ugliness.

One of the most significant symbols of the progress of social civilization is tolerance. But it's a pity that most of us do little while talking a lot. In my opinion, only those who treat their customers equally in this increasingly competitive commercial society can be said to be smart businessmen. Moreover, the humane concerns of our society nowadays need further improvement so that everyone can truly understand each other.

**Doug Miller, former business development director of fudao.net**

I was together with Gao Bin when she was refused entry by the bar. But I was let in and five people ahead of her and five after her were allowed to enter. So I think the core problem of the case is that her physical look was apparently discriminated against. As to the emotional compensation, almost anything that has caused emotional damage can be demanded compensation for in my country. But it's very hard to decide the specific sum of money because emotional damage is not so easy to define. In this case, I think it's unreasonable for the final verdict to entirely exempt the bar from emotional compensation. Is this a message to The Den and other bars that what they have done is OK as long as they apologize?

## SOUND BITES

"Everybody wanted to score this historic goal, and I am happy that the chance fell to my foot."

— China's 27-year-old playmaker Yu Genwei describes the 36th-minute strike against Oman last Sunday that took China to its first World Cup finals after 44 fal-low footballing years.

"Television is small potatoes compared to world events. It's not a day to celebrate, certainly. Not a day to go up and accept best supporting actress in a comedy."

— CBS Television President Leslie Moonves explains why the Emmy Awards telecast, which was delayed three weeks by the September 11 terrorist attacks, was canceled Sunday after the United States and Britain launched a military attack on Afghanistan. It was the first cancellation in the 53 years of the Emmy Awards.

"We are strongly committed to bringing forward needed measures to increase economic growth and preserve the health of our financial markets. We will continue to monitor exchange markets closely and cooperate as appropriate."

— Group of Seven finance ministers said in Washington on October 6 that they were confident about prospects for the global economy despite the September 11 attacks on the United States. They also promised an unprecedented assault on the funding of terrorism.

"The works of Lu Xun and the spirit they carry have transcended every ideological impediment and lasted far beyond his time. The study of Lu Xun has drawn people together and broken through national boundaries."

— Maruyama Noboru, a professor at Oumeirin University in Japan, made the internationalist case for the great 20th Century Chinese writer at a recent international academic symposium entitled "The World of Lu Xun and Lu Xun in The World".

By Xiao Rong

# No Class, No Status

**Professors ordered back to school**

By Chen Ying

Tousands of "absent professors" have been told they must start teaching class within two years or face being stripped of their academic titles.

The Ministry of Education recently investigated 71 universities and found that 25 percent of professors had no teaching duties at all. Twenty percent of associate professors also never appeared before undergraduate classes. The Ministry has ordered that all "absent professors" under the age of 55 must begin teaching undergraduate students a course every year at least. If they refuse without good reason for two years, the universities have the right to cancel their academic status.

As college admissions are on the increase, Beijing Today asked students and teachers if professors were paying enough attention to undergraduate education.

**Chen Le, junior, Tsinghua University**

Professors should keep teaching as their major mission. They can mature and increase their abilities while they teach the students. That doesn't mean I don't want the assistants or lecturers to teach the students. After all, teaching is the necessary path these younger people take to become professors.

The key is the quality of teaching. I don't care about the teachers' status. Maybe some professors are just good at research. Some of them are really not suited to being teachers. The new regulation of The Ministry of Education may not be the best way to maintain the quality of higher education. It would be better to let some professors pay more attention to their research rather than teaching the students half-heartedly.

**Zhou Xiaozheng, professor, Renmin University**

The new regulation is right and essential. It may be late in a sense. It is well known the main duty of teachers is teaching. Professors should be in charge of teaching. It's fraudulent to be called a professor when you never stand in front of a classroom.

Those "absent professors" can go to some academic institution as researchers instead of holding faculty status. It's wrong to use researching as an excuse not to teach. After all, the job is the job. No matter the professors' age, they should always attend the classroom as long as they are not retired.

**Li Rui, associate professor, Beijing Institute of Civil Engineering & Architecture**

The first duty of teachers is to give lessons to students, even as a professor. Moreover, professors and students can exchange ideas through the courses.



A Tsinghua University professor shares time with his students

Photo by Zhang Jizhou

The lack of funds in most universities has caused professors to spend a lot of time on teaching. They have to prepare lessons, teach, answer questions, supervise the examinations and score the papers by themselves. So when can they conduct their research?

My institute has made a decision to evaluate faculty members' status according to their teaching time. Only after they finish the stipulated course time can they qualify for higher status. But if all the staff just finish their minimum required teaching time, more than half the teaching mission won't be completed, so some professors have to take on the bulk of the teaching while others have more time for research.

But when it comes to promotion to a higher status, it will depend on who has written more academic papers or done more research. It's unfair on those staff members who have taken the most teaching. Academic achievement should be tak-

en as a reference point, but teaching should be the major focus of evaluation.

**Stephen Anderson, Commercial Attaché, United States Embassy, Beijing**

The U.S. system requires tenure. Young professors must produce quality research in order to receive tenure. At the same time, both young and older tenured professors must carry a teaching load.

A poor teacher among young professors never receives tenure. A poor teacher among tenured professors may be given only seminar classes or (more typically) asked to do administration instead of teaching. But the Department Chair and the Dean of the Faculty are likely to monitor teaching and everyone looks carefully at their teaching evaluations written by the students.

Evaluations are the key mechanism in American colleges and universities for students to criticize

professors. Typically, the students complete a form at the end of every course each semester that answers basic questions about the professor, contents and lectures. The form is never collected by the professor-instead, a graduate student or secretary collects the form, gives it to the Department Chair and then passes the forms to the professor and Department to take as feedback.

At some schools, students also organize outside evaluations that critique the classes and professors. Eventually, an informal network with reputations about teachers becomes well-known as rumor and myth. Senior professors, if they are bad teachers, are often kept away from the classroom, but if they are good teachers and/or lecturers, they become famous on campus. I recall that on the American campuses, not only the content, but also the delivery of lectures, was valued by students and rewarded in the reputations of the best professors.

# Causes of Death in Beijing in 2000

## Five main causes of death for local people

Of all the local people who died last year, about 85% died from the following five causes: cerebral disease (27%), heart diseases (23%), cancer (19%), respiratory diseases (11%), and physical injuries and poisoning (6%).

## Cancer and chronic diseases, the threat for youth and the middle-aged

The ratio of people dying from cancer has risen and ranks as the main killer for those aged between 15 and 45, while chronic diseases are the main killer for people aged above 45.

Causes for developing cancer may include excessive drinking, smoking, overwork or poor diet, i.e. one containing too much fat or barbecued food.

The increase in chronic diseases is related to improved living standards, that is, a richer diet and less exercise. Furthermore, Beijing has an aging population, with around 10% above the age of 65.

## Physical injuries and poisoning ranked first for people outside Beijing

Among the 1,330 people from other provinces studying or working in Beijing who died last year, injury and poisoning was the most common cause of death (30%), followed by heart disease (15%), cerebral disease (14%), cancer 11% and respiratory disease 5%. Of those who died as a result of injuries or poisoning, 45% died as a result of traffic accidents.

56% that died aged between 15 and 60, compared with 10% for infants and 45% for people above 60 years old. This may be due to the fact that the average age of people from other provinces is lower than that of locals.

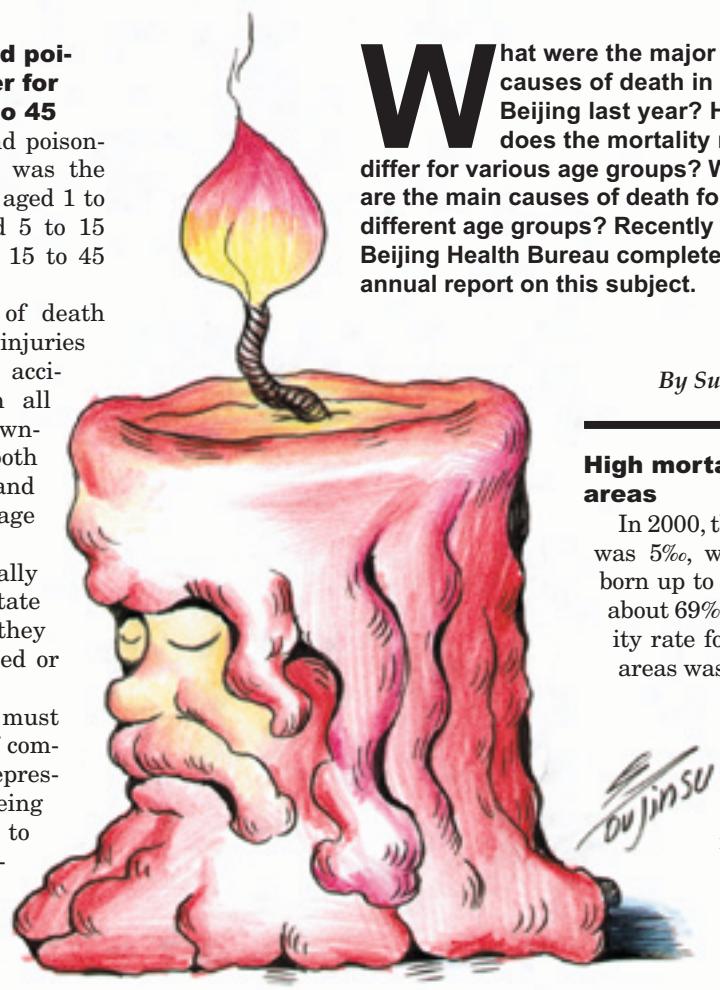
## Physical injuries and poisoning primary killer for those aged from 1 to 45

Physical injuries and poisoning (accidental death) was the main killer of children aged 1 to 5 (32%), children aged 5 to 15 (55%), and those aged 15 to 45 (36%).

Of all the causes of death included in physical injuries and poisoning, traffic accidents ranked first in all three age groups. Drowning came second for both age groups of children and suicide for the 15 to 45 age group.

Children are naturally curious and tend to imitate others. Furthermore, they are not easily frightened or deterred.

Those aged 15-45 must deal with the stress of competition and possibly depression as a result of being laid-off. If they fail to adjust to the fast developing world, they can develop psychological disorders. Coupled with excessive drinking or dependency on medicines, some may even resort to committing suicide.



Caricature by Lao Du

## Mortality rate increases in almost every age group

Those who died last year are divided into six groups: infants up to one year old, children from 1 to 5, children from 5-15, youth from 15 to 45, middle-aged from 45-64, and those aged over 65.

There was an increase in the mortality rate for every age group, except for infants. But the death rate in all age groups for women was lower than that for men.

**W**hat were the major causes of death in Beijing last year? How does the mortality rate differ for various age groups? What are the main causes of death for different age groups? Recently the Beijing Health Bureau completed an annual report on this subject.

By Su Wei

## Health care for mothers is important for their babies' well-being

Among the infants that died last year, 80% died from birth related problems and congenital abnormalities. This highlights the importance of proper healthcare for pregnant women and new mothers.

The first three months of pregnancy are especially important for the fetus in terms of development and building up immunity to diseases. Pregnant women need to improve their awareness of health protection, particularly in the area of daily nutrition.

However, there are some factors related to general geographic and environmental conditions in China. Taking folic acid (responsible for the high rate of hydrocephalus happening among babies in China) is one example. It has been shown that there is a lack of folic acid occurring naturally in China, so pregnant women have to take it as a dietary supplement.

## High mortality rate in remote areas

In 2000, the death rate for infants was 5%, while that for the newborn up to one month old was 4%, about 69% of the total. The mortality rate for infants in the remote areas was 4% compared with 6% in the outskirts.

The hospitals in the remote areas, due to comparatively less advanced equipment and fewer sufficiently skilled doctors, sometimes send critically ill infants to the hospitals in the outskirts. This may artificially raise the infant mortality rate at these hospitals. Also record keeping tends to be less stringent in hospitals in the remote areas.

There may be another complicated factor affecting these figures. Some parents in the remote areas would agree to give up their child after learning that it might suffer severe mental retardation or be severely handicapped, expensive operations notwithstanding.

Women in the remote areas are also generally in better physical shape, due to the less polluted environment and a more balanced diet.

## Low mortality rate for pregnant women

In 2000 only seven pregnant women and new mothers died; a death rate 9.70/ 100,000. Six of those deaths were directly attributable to obstetric complications such as hemorrhaging.

Economic and educational background are relevant factors in controlling and effectively reducing this figure, as well as the professional level of the hospitals. The higher level of education, the more women are willing to undergo regular medical examinations. For the pregnant women with particular health problems such as heart or liver diseases, doctor's advice may save their lives.

## Infant mortality most often occurs within one week of birth

Infant mortality has decreased sharply since 1997. Compared with 1999, the death rate dropped almost 3%.

But of all the infants that died last year, almost half died within seven days of birth, suggesting their resistance to diseases was low as a result of their mother's health condition or nutritional deficiencies during pregnancy, especially the early period.

## Highest increase in mortality for people aged between 30 and 45

The mortality rate for people between 30 and 45 increased sharply compared with a fall for those above 50.

People at the age of 30 to 45 as the core members in their enterprises and the breadwinners for their family are under heavy pressures.

Taking care of their old parents and young children while facing the heat of competition in society will result in less time spent looking after their own health. Even when ill, they are not willing to go to hospital.

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北京青年報  
BEIJING TODAY  
今日北京

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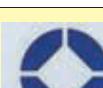
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Li Weifeng heads a goal for China in Qatar on September 7

Xinhua photo

# Football Dream Comes True

## Chinese Team qualifies for the World Cup

By Chen Ying/Liu Jinmei

**O**ctober 7, 2001 is a day China, and Chinese soccer fans in particular, will never forget. After a seemingly interminable wait, China will compete in its first World Cup!

By defeating Oman 1-0 in the Asian qualifier match in the industrial city of Shenyang, China has secured top spot in Asian Zone group B, with two games to spare, which means automatic qualification.

Hundreds of thousands of Beijing citizens swarmed to Tiananmen Square to celebrate in a burst of patriotic fervor similar to that displayed in July when the International Olympic Committee voted to hand the Olympics to the Chinese capital.

Meanwhile the cold drizzle did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of the 60,000 fans who packed the stadium in Shenyang, many sporting red headbands and painted faces, and banging drums.

### Will the Chinese team stand up to the competition at the 2002 World Cup?

This is a tough question. Every fan has the best wishes for China Soccer Team. But they need to face the reality.

Nobody can deny the team's progress, but nobody can deny China benefited from a good draw for the Asian qualifier round. In Europe, the contest is so cruel that the Netherlands was eliminated early on. In South America, even Brazil is struggling to qualify. The contest has become more

intense than ever.

China has many bitter memories of the past. Also with the help of a good draw, the Chinese team easily qualified for the 1988 Olympic Games in South Korea easily. But the team went on to a crushing defeat.

And because of poor performance in the last three minutes, China lost the games against Qatar and United Arab Emirates at the qualifying games in 1989 for the 1990 World Cup. All this shows that qualifying by no means guarantees success when the real competition begins.

### How to approach the remaining two games?

Since the team has won qualification before the round is over, it seems that China should have the power to dominate the following games.

In the following days, China's performance will determine which Asian team will compete for a place with Ireland.

Looking back at the previous six games, China has a glowing record with five wins and one tie. It will be a challenge for both players and coach to keep up that momentum.

Yang Chen, the center forward, left China for Germany on October 8. Some speculate that he may not return to join the national squad for the remaining two games, which means Bora Milutinovic, the miraculous coach, will need to make some adjustments to the team.

### Will a few new faces appear on the ground?

After studying the selections of players and



Fans cheer for the home side at the deciding World Cup qualifier against Oman in Shenyang Sunday

Photo by Wei Tong

substitutions made during the matches, experts say that Milutinovic has a masterful and unpredictable way of managing the whole team.

Starting from including Li Xiaopeng in the first eleven, focusing on Qi Hong and changing the position of Ma Mingyu, he directed his team in a way that not only confused the adversaries but was also beyond the expectations of domestic experts.

His substitution of players and changing of match rhythm are all unexpected. Thus at present nobody can tell what strategy he is likely to employ in the following matches.

### How to march forward into the future?

Some of the team's key players are getting old and may not participate in the whole games.

Fan Zhiyi has played in just three of the qualifying games, while Ma Mingyu usually doesn't take to the pitch until the second half. China really

needs to cultivate more young players as supplement.

At present there are many soccer schools in China. But many are just seeking profits. "Those soccer schools haven't changed the situation of cultivating young players radically," Gao Hongbo, one of the top football players in China noted.

Instead of fostering new players at home, the National Soccer Committee would rather send players abroad. In the past four years, some national players went to foreign soccer clubs. Yang Chen, the best example, has made great progress, not only in his playing technique but also in his professional attitude.

The Chinese team's victory has drawn the attention of the world's media. Many foreign press ran full length stories about China's success. We have every reason to say that now is the time for China to really promote the game of soccer.

## Eminent Scientist Captivates Beijing

By Liu Jinmei

Before a packed audience of scientists, scholars, students and entrepreneurs, Nobel laureate Professor Tsung-Dao Lee gave a landmark address Sunday at Beijing's Great Hall of the People.

The 75-year-old scientist arrived in Beijing last week to a warm welcome from the scientific community, to participate in the China Industrial Hi-Tech Forum. Premier Zhu Rongji sent a congratulatory letter in which he expressed his best wishes on the occasion of Professor Lee's lecture in the Great Hall of the People, saying he believed "it must promote the development of science and technology in China."

At the invitation of Beijing mayor, Liu Qi during the celebration banquet, Tsung-Dao Lee assumed the position of Chief Advisor of Science and Art in Beijing.

### Face to face with the great scientist

On the morning of October 7, Professor delivered his lecture "Challenges for 21st Century Science" to an audience of nearly 10 thousand at the Great Hall of the People, marking the opening of the China Industrial Hi-Tech Forum.

Besides experts, scholars, entrepreneurs and heads from administrative departments and fields of science and technology, education, economics and enterprises, over 1,000 top university and school students were invited to the lecture, though tickets were extremely hot, as the professor always pays much attention to young students in China.

In order to make some difficult theories easier for the audience, Professor Lee employed multi-media and simplified some explanations. When describing his so-called parity laws, for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize together with Chen Ning Yang in 1957, he even read a poem by A. A. Milne to the audience.

### Science, learned by yourself

Intellectuals are the generators of scientific development, and Tsung-Dao Lee has his own ideas on how to nurture a new generation of scientific innovators.

He believes that fostering creativity requires a good teacher and a period during which the teacher and student do research together. Classroom lectures and hi-tech teaching aids are not enough. Hi-tech tools can deliver information quickly, but information is after all not comprehension.

Professor Lee's instructor was Enrico Fermi (1901-1954), a renowned scientist who himself was awarded a Nobel Prize for his work on radioactivity and nuclear reactions. Fermi instructed his students to think alone over physics problems till they reached answers.

Once, Fermi suddenly asked Professor Lee about the temperature of the center of the sun. "Perhaps 10 million Centigrade," professor Lee answered. When he knew Professor Lee hadn't measured the temperature before he gave the answer, Fermi said nothing and went away.

Two days later, Fermi himself made a special measuring tool, on which Professor Lee later marked accurate scales. Through their own measurements, they found the temperature of the center of the sun - about 10 million Centigrade. Although the result was the same as his original answer, Professor Lee learned a lot from that experience. "There is no 'perhaps' or 'possibly' in the dictionary of science," he says.

### Science and art, two sides of a coin

From a unique angle of view and by unique means, Tsung-Dao Lee has carried out thorough research on the emergence of science and art and made a historic contribution to the advancement of understanding in this area.

Not long ago, the international exhibition of works on art and science was held in Beijing. Works created by Professor Lee displayed his thoughts on science and art.

According to him, science and art are the two exotic flowers of the whole culture of humanity, and the means by which human beings not only understand the world, but also change it. They are two realms that have distinct laws, yet have been closely related since ancient times. They have merged gradually through various stages of the development of social history. There is art in science, and vice versa, like the two sides of a coin.

### Converse Thinking

Tsung-Dao Lee says the situation of current physics is similar to that of the early 20th century, and as such, it has a bright future.

In his opinion, there are currently two key questions confronting physicists: first, the current theories on physics are symmetrical, while the results of experiments demonstrate asymmetry; second, half of the elementary particles cannot be separated at present. So it is wrong to think that elementary particles can tell us all we wish to learn about vacuums. Similarly, we cannot reveal all the secrets of life only through studying genes.

For 21st Century physics, he believes there will be many more breakthroughs, like exciting the energy in a vacuum, emergence between microphysics and macrophysics and so on.

Tsung-Dao Lee explains his theories at the Great Hall of the People  
Xinhua photo

By Bao Yan

The slender young man leans his rickety old bike against a tree by Weiming Lake in Peking University. He finds a rock to sit on, shakes the dust of his aging shoes, and basks in the sun. "Yes, I am the vice-president of the institute," are his slightly surprising first words.

Liu Zhe, from Zhejiang province in East China, is indeed the vice-president of the Institute of Cao Juren Study. Another title he aspires to is editor in chief of Beida (Peking University) Borderline Students Post.

After graduating from high school in a small county, Liu was first a teacher, then an assistant librarian. After bearing the grind of such a quiet life for a year, he soon realized that he had to do something to pull himself out of this rut and become somebody.

So, with all his belongings (including family savings) on his back, Liu bid his parents farewell, and set out for the big lights. Peking University became his new home, the first, and until now only, choice. He has since given his whole life to the university, attending the full range of courses and seminars. He thrust himself straight into society to meet as many people as possible, including professors and students. Time has accelerated ever since. Five years have rushed past, all in Beida, with no sign of coming to an end in the near future.

Although on the fringe of university society, Liu is actually just one of hundreds of such students who frequent the hallowed corridors of China's most famous seat of learning. This group of wandering scholars has just got itself a new name, 'borderline students'.

**"I care about all borderline students studying in Peking University because I am one of them. I can read their minds."**

Liu Zhe was the first to pen the term 'borderline students'. He was also the first to give them a voice in print in Beida Borderline Students Post, never minding the fact that it cannot go to print due to lack of funds. Liu still beams with pride as he tells people of his achievement.

Borderline students in Peking University refer to all external or associate students who do not register in the university and will not be awarded degrees. They get no school badge, no official status, and no academic certificates. They can however join in with the other students, and end up staying on for more and more study. They enthusiastically fill the front row of all kinds of courses, such as on economics, politics, culture, science and aesthetics, the latter being particularly popular.

"Although I can't get a doctor degree in Peking University, I reckon I can achieve more than the holder of a PhD," he said with confidence, "I am different from the internal students of Peking University. But we are equal in spirit. We pursue the same goals of freedom and truth. That's the spirit of Peking University."

Liu divides all the borderline students into three groups. One group is committed to studying for the national postgraduate qualification tests. Another lot are keen to develop their potential and enrich their knowledge. Those in the last section are just there to look for answers, and sometimes ask questions. These are the ones who often encounter difficulties when trying to structure a career.

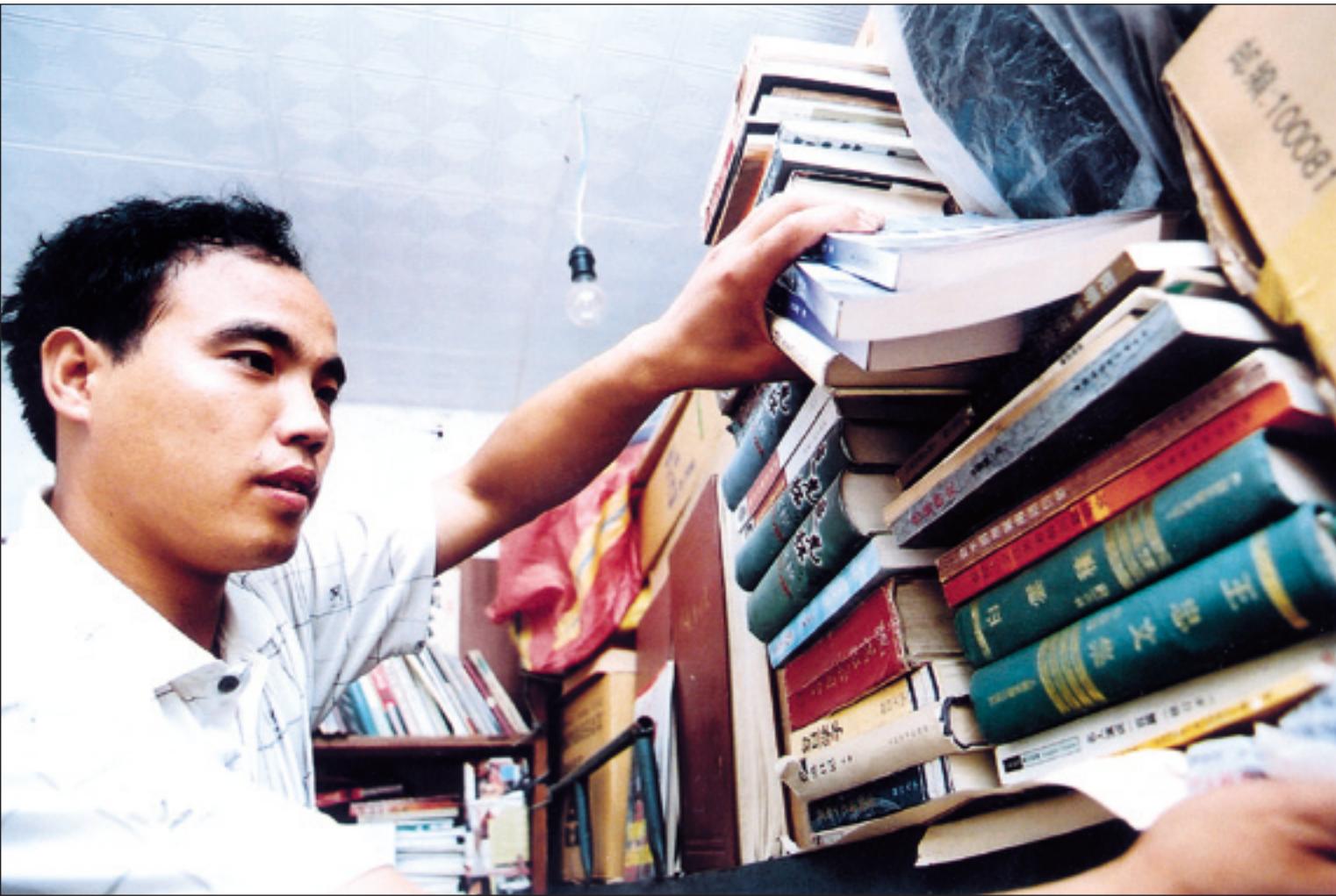
"Among them, some are teenagers; some are millionaires; some are artists; some are marginal people," Liu said, "I am a marginal person."

As a matter of fact, there are very few millionaires. Most borderline students are making marginal living.

"It's a hard life, but we are happy. We cheer for living in a spiritual paradise," he said.

Liu is determined to publish a book about borderline students in Peking University. He has realized there are too many stories that should be known by the public.

**"Yes, I am living a hard life. I do care about money. But..."**



# Peter Pan Of Beida



① Liu Zhe is reading  
② San Jiaodi of Beida  
③ Weiminghu of Beida  
④ The gate of Beida  
⑤ Liu Zhe is eating in the dining hall

Photos by Zhuang Jian



After all the chatting during the interview, Liu's lips became drier and drier. He suddenly jumped to his feet saying he should buy some drinks. When he sauntered back to the table, there was only one bottle of drink in his hand. Of course, this could be interpreted in two very different ways.

"Here you are. I guess you must feel thirsty," he said, politely handing me the drink. Seeing the reporter's surprise, he explained that he did not feel thirsty at all, preferring to have some soup before supper if he did feel thirsty.

Suddenly it is all too clear that he is struggling to fill the bowl with rice.

No steady job. No regular income. One way he has of making money is to write the odd article for a newspaper. Naturally, a few words in print are not enough to

keep the walls up and maintain the flow of electricity and water. At the same time, he has to keep his part-time study going. Liu admits he has to cherish every coin.

In order to save money, he once found a shack without power or water supply, about six or seven square meters, with the great attraction of non-existent rent.

Soon the long winter reared its icy horns. He recalled: "That was the hardest time, I really suffered. Once I was going to write something, but found it was impossible because the ink was completely frozen."

Sometimes he works as a coolie. At others, he helps people tear down houses or clears rubbish off building sites.

"Yes, I am living a hard life. I do care about money. But I will not hesitate to invest in study," he

frankly declared.

He is extremely generous when investing money in the study of Cao Juren, a patriotic writer in the beginning of 20th century, one of China's greatest modern writers. He spent all his savings on books or study. Then one day, finding he was skint, he had to borrow 8,000 yuan to go on studying and continue his campus life.

"I hope all Chinese know the great man, Cao Juren. He is a giant in Chinese literature. He is also Lun Xun's friend. While the big name Lun Xun is widely known, few people, not even Chinese intellectuals, know about Cao Juren. We should remind people of him," he uttered in tones shaking with emotion.

**"It has a certain strange fascination for me. I am not sure why. I'm sure though that I can't stay away from it."**

"Can you believe it? I've moved 11 times during the five years, but always around Peking University. My furthest lodgings were only about a 5 minute-ride from the east gate of the university," said Liu.

He claims that it has a certain strange fascination for him but is not sure exactly why.

So what is it that attracts him most? Maybe the following combination of events will provide an answer.

Liu said that he is forever grateful to Peking University. It's a tolerant university. It has the tradition of accepting people from all walks and jumps of life. People can take most courses free of charge. Professors of Peking University welcome all hard-working students and all book-lovers, whether registered Peking University students or not. Sometimes if they think a lot of you, they will invite you to visit their homes, and maybe have dinner with them. There is no discrimination.

The management level has also given him generous amounts of help. Wang Xuezhen, the former secretary of Peking University Committee of CPC, helped Liu Zhe solve his board and lodging problems when he first arrived.

Even Liu's girl friend, Yu Xin, is also a borderline student. Although the young lady was not very forthcoming, Liu said she helped him handle many problems. During the interview, she sat two-meters away from him, keeping watch over her lover with a sweet smile.

**"I have a dream... trust me. I can realize it."**

What has he really got in the five years? As he said, many titles which were mostly self-appointed. He is the vice president of the Institute of Cao Juren Study, which has been admitted by the Chinese Academy of Social Science. He unfortunately does not have the funds to provide the institute with an office. He is also the editor in chief of Beida Borderline Students Post, but as mentioned above, a dearth of liquid green prevents it from getting to its readers.

Five years, from the age of 27 to 32, the golden time for a man to carve a career, have past like this. What is his big goal? Where is the other shore?

"I have a dream," he said, eyes gleaming. "I will have my own company. When my book, temporarily called The Story of Beida Borderline Students, is published, I will have enough money to set up my own company. It will engage in culture and communication. It will also be famous and profitable."

Liu Zhe, like most of the other borderline students in Peking University, lives in poverty, longing for a brilliant future.

No one is able to foretell his or her destiny. Success always involves a fair bit of fate engineering.

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Mysteriously burnt to ashes 78 years ago, along with uncountable imperial treasures, Emperor Qianlong's favorite garden, Jianfugong Garden in the Forbidden City, has never faded from the memories of some people. With a \$4 million donation from the China Heritage Fund (Hong Kong), the garden has been under reconstruction since last May. How is it looking now?

# Ancient Garden Rises from Imperial Ashes

By Miao Yajie

## Emperor Qianlong's Favorite Haven of Peace

When talking about the gardens in the Forbidden City, what first hits people's mind is usually Qianlong Garden, the largest garden in the royal court. Actually, Jianfugong Garden, though smaller, was built earlier. Subsequently, part of the Qianlong Garden was based on its design.

Jianfugong Garden, also called the west garden and covering an area of more than 4,000 square meters, used to be the living quarters of the crown prince. According to the imperial rules of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), when the crown prince became emperor, his living quarters would also be promoted so that no other people would live with him. In the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of Qianlong (1740), the area was transformed into a garden as a refreshing and entertaining refuge for the emperor and the empress.

"Jianfugong Garden has the magnificent and imposing Yanchun Pavilion, small and exquisite corridors, and the elaborately-piled up rockery. It may be rated as an excellent piece of garden, combining characteristics of both the imperial garden and the private gardens south of the Yangtze River. Meanwhile, it didn't follow the symmetry and balanced pattern of other gardens in the Forbidden City: the layout is quite unique. It occupies a special position in the ancient imperial gardens," said Zhang Kegui, director of the Ancient Architecture Department, Palace Museum.

Emperor Qianlong was very fond of the Jianfugong Garden, he wrote poems and essays in the name of the garden, and stored rare treasures he loved there.

Emperor Jiaqing (1796-1820)

once had these treasures all sealed. From then, rooms in the garden area served as the imperial treasure storage.

### A Mysterious Fire

On 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1923, heavy smoke suddenly rose up to the sky from the garden, flames spread rapidly, and raged the whole night. It is said the first to notice the fire was a foreigner staying at the hotel east of the Forbidden City (nowadays Beijing Hotel). He was standing on top of the building to enjoy the summer breeze, and saw the flames in the imperial court; he immediately called the Italian fire brigade. When the firemen were finally let into the fire site, the western section architecture including the Yanchun Pavilion along with other halls nearby had been reduced to rubble. Over the five hundred years since its establishment, the Forbidden City suffered from fire many times, but none was as severe as this.

Of course it is possible that the fire broke out accidentally, but it was most probably set intentionally. No individual was ever identified as arsonist however.

Puyi, namely Emperor Xuantong, the last emperor of the Qing Dynasty, wrote about the fire in his autobiography *From Emperor to Citizen*. He said that one day he curiously ordered a eunuch to open a storage room in the garden. The paper strip seal was very thick, seemingly unopened for several decades. He saw wooden boxes piled to the ceiling sealed in the reign of Jiaqing, although no one could tell him what was inside.

His master Reginald Johnston (1874-1938) once told him that many new curio stores had opened at Di'anmen Street where the former lived. It is heard that some were opened by eunuchs,



Yanchun Pavilion, photo by Oswald Selun in 1922

some by officials or their relatives of the Internal Affairs Ministry. Johnston along with other masters of the emperor thought measures should be taken to stop the theft. Puyi decided to make an inventory of the imperial treasures. And just at the beginning of the inspection, the fire broke out. Sorted and unsorted goods all perished in the flames.

The garden stored the greatest number of treasures in the Forbidden City, and the full extent of what was lost during the fire still remains a mystery. The Internal Affairs Ministry later

issued a statement saying that the total number missing items includes 2,665 gold Buddha statues, 1,157 pieces of paintings and calligraphy, 435 curios, and several tens of thousands of books. "The statement is based on which account book, only God knows!" Puyi wrote in his book.

The disaster directly led the thousands of years long eunuch system to castrate itself for good 18 days after. Experts say that even if Puyi hadn't started making the inventory, the eunuchs may not have committed arson in fear of the disclosure of their

thefts, and that sooner or later they would have been disbanded. Since the court had long been unable to make ends meet, the servants and eunuchs had to make their own living, and taking precious objects from the court to sell was just one way to get profit. The theft was a public secret. The Jianfugong Garden fire warned Puyi that the whole Forbidden City would be burned away, so he made up his mind to drive the over 1,000 eunuchs out of the palace.

### Reconstruction of the Garden

In order to create a effect of completeness in the 'eastern garden' palace, the Palace Museum decided to reconstruct Jianfugong Garden in 1999 with a donation of \$4 million from the China Heritage Fund (Hong Kong). A special research group was set up to prepare for the reconstruction. Renowned experts on ancient architectures gathered together to clear and investigate the ruin site, work out an overall plan for construction, and prepare the materials.

With the intention of creating an example for ancient architecture reconstruction, the rebuilt garden exactly follows its Qianlong appearance. The foundation of the reproduction is based on four points, according to Wang Shiwei, vice director of the Ancient Architecture Department, Palace Museum.

First, the stone paving of Yanchun Pavilion remained, which helped to confirm the size and basic structure of the pavilion; second, Ningshougong Garden, namely Qianlong Garden to the east of the Forbidden City, built some 30 years later, used the blueprint of Jianfugong Garden; third, a Swede named Oswald Selun was permitted to enter the palace in 1922, and took many

photos, including some of the Yanchun Pavilion; fourth, an imperial painter drew a painting with western perspective, including Jianfugong Garden and Yanchun Pavilion. A copy of this painting has been obtained from the Palace Museum, Taipei.

The reconstruction project started from 31st May last year, and the main structure of Yanchun Pavilion was erected on the original site after 16 months of hard work.

The materials and skills used in the reconstruction will decide the final quality. According to Li Yongge, vice director of the Engineering Department, the skill of the team is assured without question.

The materials are collected from the original places as in Qianlong's time. The stones are from Fangshan District, south west of Beijing. The bricks, known as gold bricks, use smooth silt at the bottom of the Dayun River, are baked at the imperial kiln in Suzhou, and soaked in tung oil, according to previous practice. The tiles are also made by the ancient methods to meet with the standards of the Qianlong tiles.

The construction is presently a little behind schedule in order to ensure quality, said Li. Since the wooden architecture is sensitive to the changes in season, hurrying construction means to shorten the life of the architecture. For example, if the wood used were not properly dried, it would not last long. The same goes for the tiles.

For the time being, the second phase of the construction has already started, and the whole project is estimated to be finished in five years. By then, tourists may have another place to appreciate the art of traditional Chinese architecture, and to meditate on the past.



Puyi (sitting front-middle) with Empress dowager Yulon (4<sup>th</sup> right) at Jianfugong Garden



The fire site

Old photos provided by Palace Museum



The remaining wall of Yanchun Pavilion after the fire



Yanchun Pavilion under construction  
Photo by Chen Shuyi

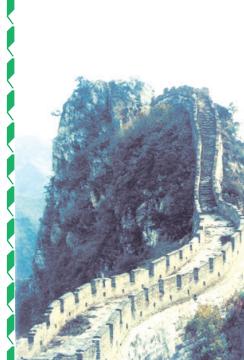
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Preface from Liu Zhifeng  
— the book's chief editor

□ October 1967, in a primary school in mountainous area in Bolivia, Che Guevara was shot, aged 39.

Thirty years passed, Guevara's name, figure and thoughts are still wildly praised, admired and respected across the whole world. Actually, when Guevara left Argentina, his native country, for Cuba's revolution, when he gave up Cuban nationality and struck into Bolivia for guerrilla wars, he had surmounted the limits of nation and become a true internationalist warrior.

□ Also, Guevara had some connections with China. He visited China in 1960 and 1965 as a Cuban leader and was received by Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping. Diaries of Che in Bolivia, something Guevara wrote in between bouts of fighting, was published in the form of a "gray book" in China after the Cultural Revolution. The book was originally published as material for Chinese people to criticize his adventurism and guerrilla spirit. As many other materials designed for criticism in that special period, the book offered people a channel to know more about the outside world. Furthermore, Guevara's diaries and biography became secretly popular among Chinese youths at the time. The legend of his life and his idealism, heroism and romanticism fulfilled the spiritual desires of some young people who were longing for new thought and action, greatly infecting and encouraging them.

□ April 2000, Guevara came back to China again via an epic drama *Che Guevara*, produced by a group including Shen Lin, Huang Jisu, and Zhang Guantian. At the premier of the drama in Beijing, a thundering cacophony of voices was aroused. "Guevara" has become a symbol of some thoughts, a sign and a medium. The drama touched many sensitive problems facing the China of today, such as gaps between the rich and the poor, polarization of social ranks, dissimilation of authorities, corruption, chaos in people's mentalities, and loss of beliefs. Guevara stand for equality, justice, revolution, ideals and salvation for the bottom-class people contrasts and contradicts. So *Che Guevara* taken as a drama possesses some potential political tendencies. And that is the reason why it arises so great a disturbance among Chinese scholars.

□ This book presents people with the background birth of *Che Guevara* and collects many representative voices from different social contexts, including tit-for-tat discussions among audience and the production team of the drama. Those discussions also reflect great changes that are taking place in China and diversification of people's thoughts from different fields and classes.

# Conflicts Behind Che Guevara

By Shi Xinyu

This is a book under the name of a hero, a book of a play of the hero's story. It's a book on the conflict aroused by the hero, the story and the play. The book, the play and the hero share the same name: Che Guevara.

Che Guevara died in 1967 leaving behind a red Cuba, and made himself into a saint of immortal revolution. The drama was born in Beijing in the year 2000, and has been staged more than 60 times in Beijing, Zhengzhou, Guangzhou and Shanghai until March 2001. Diverse groups of people congested the theaters while a medley of voices rang out in almost every section of society. A moral storm swept over people's thoughts overnight. One year passed, a review book was published. "It is not a full stop to the moral storm, it will be a new jumping-off point for deeper thoughts," said Yuan Hong, the producer of the drama *Che Guevara*, who also provided many first-hand materials for the book.

In a material age, how can a person be responsible for his or her conscience? That is the theme of the drama. "After watching it, some people were encouraged, some got irritated, some felt uneasy, and some immediately started hurling abuse," said Yuan Hong, "that is the success of our drama. All society was involved, whether moved or stimulated!" Also he felt gratified that "we received enthusiastic support from true comrades! That makes us not feel lonely anymore and gives us confidence and strength to do more for our society." Furthermore, the book, which contains many background details of why the drama comes into being and includes various voices from people on different standpoints, "would let more people have the chance to face their own souls and make a judgment."

Actually the sharp words aimed at corruption and inequality in the reality of present China push the drama far beyond the saga of Che Guevara. The book recording the chaos raised from the drama is destined to be a carrier for more thoughts and comments.



Photo by Cui Jun

## FLYING

When lands are merged, you fly on seas;  
When seas dry up, you fly in the sky;  
When rolling thunders burn the sky, you fly in fires;  
When fires die out, you fly in tribulation.  
When past falls, you fly in future;  
When future recedes, you fly in present;  
When present hesitates, you fly in hearts;  
When hearts decay, you fly in creativity.  
You are flying, you are flying, fly for all time;  
You are flying, you are flying, fly for eternity.

—Words from the drama

## Words from the drama

Do not ask if the bonfire should burn, you should know whether the cold darkness is still there first,

Do not ask if the bullets should be loaded, you should know whether the exploitation is still there first,

Do not ask if the righteous adventures could have a tomorrow, you should know whether injustice is still alive first.

## Articles from members

### Of the audience

"Nobody could still be calm after watching *Che Guevara*. They are excited or irritated, shamed or scared. The drama is a torture to the soul. Also it dispenses justice on good and evil, a distinction between price and value, and a fight between idealism and reality. Che Guevara could be called an authentic modern, experimental and avant-garde drama of the last 20 years. Its achievement in art and connotation in thought have torn away the disguise of all wildcats who sell their so-called avant-garde art."

—A Drama Makes People Uneasy by Xiao Mei

The name of Guevara was used as a title, his picture was projected on a white cloth of roughly 10 square meters. But when the performance began, the spotlight focused on the director who appeared on stage holding a guitar like a poet. All our eyes focused on him, the real master of sound, light and color on the stage. And the dead Guevara could only be a black-white picture on the background that silently foiled the director's revolution show.

They (the directors and producers of *Che Guevara*) mixed many different kinds of dissatisfaction, turned them into a spotlight, and frazzled themselves. It is okay if they want to sell T-shirts printed with figures of Guevara, or if they want to hawk their voice on stage, or catch people's attention, or to enjoy bravos with their eyes narrowed, or even to guard the theater's doors for the entry fees. But please do not do that under the name of the poor!"

—Spotlight Made of Dis-satisfaction by Hao Jian

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By Zhu Lin

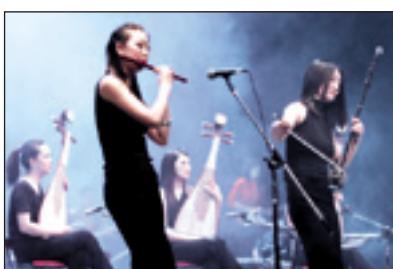
**T**welve beautiful women carrying Chinese traditional instruments lit up the stage as soon as they appeared at the Beijing Century Theatre on October 5 and 6. Aiming at exploring a new path for Chinese traditional music, the 'Twelve Girls Band' makes a worthy attempt, but leaves room for further work.

It's a brilliant idea to establish a band with the 12 players since they all have two things in common. First, they're professional traditional Chinese music players from all over the country. Second, they're all pretty young women clad in elegant dress. Thus, the visual effect of the concert can be assured, and such an arrangement serves audiences at different levels. Audiences were also expecting a sound revolution, but met with much disappointment. When the artistic director Yard Guo mixes rocky rhythm with ancient Chinese tones, he forgets to adapt either of them. Rock rhythm bumps through the Midi equipment without



Photos by Liu Ping

## 'New' Traditional Chinese Music Pelted with Rock



any adjustment in dynamics, let alone tone color.

"The background rock and Chinese traditional music sound separated," said Wang Bo from the audience. In the piece 'Spirit Dance', the heavy rhythm doesn't even hold off when Chinese flutes are imitating the birds' crystal singing. "Bang! Bang!" Two little birds are killed by a shotgun!

According to famous music critic Jin Zhaojun, Chinese traditional instruments have

their own identity in tone color, and the accompaniment should work for that. But during the whole concert, there's only one moment of success. The piece 'Free' develops convincing ensemble between electronic bass and Erhu.

'Twelve Girls Band' is not the first one to combine Chinese traditional music with rock. Many musicians have tried various ways to promote 'New Chinese Traditional Music', but few have made it. 'New Chinese Traditional Music' shouldn't imitate them. 'Twelve Girls Band' should have waited until both the compositions and their performance matured. Chinese people still expect to hear good interpretations of Chinese traditional music.



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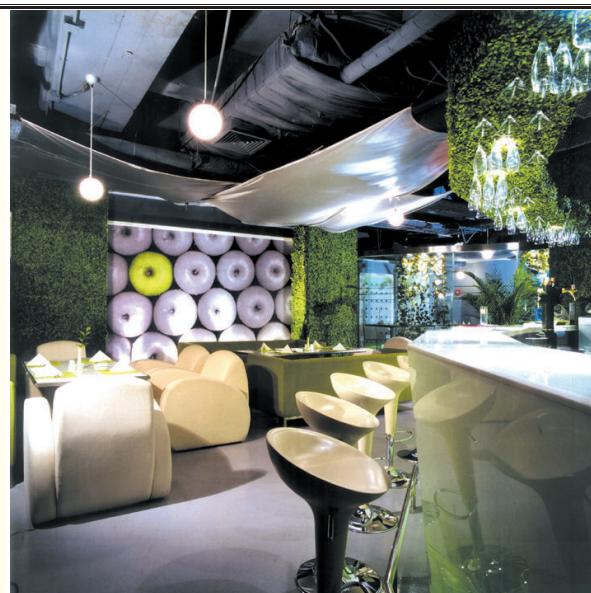
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## Teenagers Feast their Eyes, not Ears

By Zhu Lin

A drumstick was hurled off the stage to hundreds of frenzied fans, cranking the party up to its panting climax. The hand responsible belonged to exhilarated Dai Daming, the drum player of the band 'Rosex', performing at the second 'Japanese Music Fans Party' at the Sunshine Club on October 5.

At the party, the wackier the performers, the more excitedly the teenagers reacted. Female fans, known as 'cosplays', dressed in dazzling kimonos skipped up and down among the audience imitating their idols. When the male artists from visual rock bands appeared



Girls in Cosplay

Photo by Michael Reynolds

on stage, hysterical applause broke out in celebration of the performers' faces made up as women.

Ever since Japanese singers captured Chinese teenagers' hearts in the late 1990s, some young music lovers have started to imitate Japanese rock and pop bands. 'Rosex' is one of them. "We thought there were too

many bands in Beijing mimicking American and European styles, and we wanted to do something special," recalled Li Yao, singer in 'Rosex'. The fans raised their hands, showing 'X' and 'I love you' as they screamed and gestured. They were copying Japanese fans' reactions from VCD or DVD.

According to many fans, the most important thing is not the music itself, but the far out qualities of the performers. "Actually I don't care about 'X-Japan's music so much," said Zhu Zhu, a 15-year-old fan, "as long as they have something special to excite me."

## A Movie on Strings

By Shi Xinyu

People can see hatred, intrigue, conflict and romance, but no actors or actresses could be spotted in 'Legend of the Sacred Stone', the first puppet movie in the world produced by PILI Multimedia Inc. Costing over \$8 million, and taking more than 3 years to produce, the film is on show in Beijing this October.



High-tech computer graphics are the puff of breath that brings the puppets to life. The story comes from the traditional Chinese Puppet genre. Su Huanzhen, the main character in the film has been popular with puppet fans for a long time. The Stone of Heaven, a magic stone wielding immeasurable power, is the focus in the story. As an ancient legend in 'Wulin' (warrior's world or

circle), the final result is a victory of good over evil under the guidance of the Stone of Heaven.

"The movie is excellent, even better than some films performed by real persons," commented Cindy Zhen, a viewer at Dahua Cinema, "though there are many fights in the movie, it does not make people feel its gore. I was really moved by those little puppets."

Chris Huang, CEO of PILI, is both the director and editor of the film. He was born into a family in the puppet theater world, and is the fourth generation to continue the family tradition. After taking on such a responsibility, he tirelessly explores new possibilities in puppet theater to revive traditional culture.

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# Love Outdoor Activities? Do come to Dou Bar!

By Su Yan/Lydia

Push open the bar door and what appears is a big family of hiking lovers. This is not a common bar but a popular get-together place for Beijing's lovers of outdoor sports. Most of the regulars are net friends, who know each other from www.lyye.org. The bar provides not just entertainment, but a place for them to keep in contact and meet each other.

Although the decor inside is simple, everything in the bar has its own story. The whole bar is a kind of outdoors museum, with backpacks, sleeping bags, mountain-climbing canes, even a mountain bike! Some of the items are souvenirs from various trips and there are many vivid pictures on the wall of happy hikers' smiling faces. You can write something on the notice board or search for your photo that was taken surreptitiously on your last trip!

Thursday is the regular meeting-time for all the hiking fans at Dou Bar, and food and drink is discounted. Professionals and amateurs from all over the city gather, and you cannot imagine how lively and bustling with noise and excitement the place gets as people chat and discuss travelling skills and their latest hiking experiences. On Tuesdays photographers and travel lovers meet to look at travel photos.

Dou Bar is a home for hiking lovers and also a classroom for outdoor activity learning. Both the patrons and the staff share a passion for hiking and traveling, so if you love the outdoor life, come along, you'll fit right in!

**Add:** bus 332, 320, 302 to Renda(人大), walk west at Sitongqiao(四通桥) Bridge, turn right at the first flyover, 1st floor of Worker's Club of Friendship Hotel.

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Photo provided by SuYan

## Li Hua Clothes Shop



Shop specializes in women's clothes, shoes and sometimes scarves, hats, bags and belts. All are of simple design, but have a kind of special look. People say the real classical clothes are always simply designed. Almost every article is unique, and seldom seen in big department stores. If you have keen eyes, you'll find something you really like and suitably matched.

The shop owner says proudly, "as soon as those famous brands release their latest ranges abroad, we have those styles almost immediately." She has engaged in clothes promotion for many years and has her own views on matching clothes and what styles of clothes are suitable for different customers. So if you are a little uncertain about what suits you, she will be happy to give you some helpful advice.

The prices are similar to those in middle-level department stores, but you can usually get a 10% or 20% discount.

**Add:** 55 Dongsi Nandajie, Dongcheng District, 100 m south of Sanyou Department Store, beside the Silver Point shop.

**Open:** 10am-9pm.  
**Tel:** 65249482.

By Priscilla

Clothes shops in the best department stores sell newly styled clothes indeed, but the prices are also "good". Where can a young woman who wants to dress herself up fashionably buy clothes that are both modern and inexpensive? Some of those small clothing shops hidden in the big or small streets are worth checking out.

Situated in the center of downtown Beijing, Li Hua Clothes

## Simple and Soft Embroidery

By Lydia

Located in downtown Dongsi, Suxifang attracts many people, especially young girls, whenever they pass by. Suxifang means "simple embroidery house", and this cute store offers a selection of simple and appealing patchworks, cotton pieces and cloth bedding.

All the hand worked embroidery on sale is designed by the owner, for whom the shop is a part-time labor of love. Items for sale include cloth aprons, handbags, cushions, handkerchiefs and little hangings, all nailed or framed on the wall in picturesque disorder, white, pink, light green and blue. Some small decorations, no matter whether they are photo frames, wallets or potpourri bags are enclosed in pierced cloth work. Many overseas customers like this kind of traditional Chinese patchwork, which is hard to find in most shopping malls.

Home cloth decorations in Suxifang all used to be only exported, and nowadays, the intricate designs and beautiful colors also attract the attention of many young people in China. As the saying goes, simplest is best.

Prices range from six to several thousand yuan.

**Add:** 1-10 Dongsi Nandajie, Dongcheng District, bus 116, 110 to Mishidajie (米市大街).

**Open:** 9am-9pm.  
**Tel:** 65226141.



Photos by Chen Shuyi

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In the second part of our series covering the recent Beijing CBD Planning and Construction Summit Forum of the Beijing Chaoyang International Business Festival, we present the summary of a speech given by Qiu Shuiping, deputy director of Chaoyang District.

# Beijing CBD

## Transportation & Internet key to planning

By Wang Dandan

According to the Municipal Planning Institute, Chaoyang District has the best infrastructure in the city. For example, the underground water supply system provides sufficient capacity and there is no need to construct new pipes.

To cope with future needs, the city has to focus on two key aspects: transportation and the Internet. Chaoyang Road, Chaoyang North Road and Dawang Road will be reconstructed as main roads, part of the 6 billion yuan traffic project invested by the government in the lead-up to the Olympics. The construction of underground walkways will also be hastened.

Internet construction is one of the main focuses of the city planning. There is a preparatory agreement with Beijing Telecom to speed up the development of Internet infrastructure in the CBD area. It was thought that the focus of the Internet economy should be in Zhongguancun, but actually it is centered in the vicinity of the Kerry Center where it is developing rapidly.



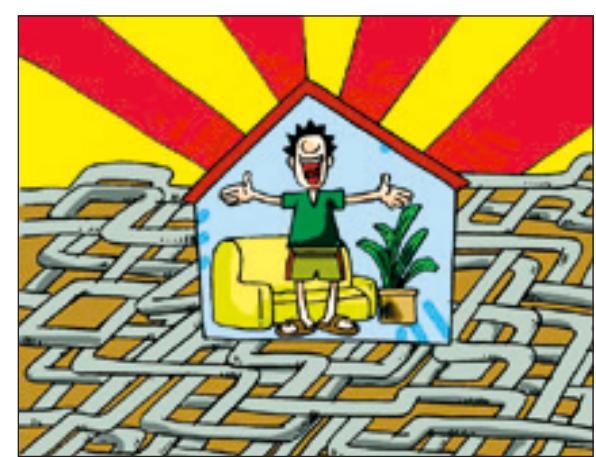
## Simplified registration procedures

The breakthrough of the district lies in two aspects: one is planning, the other one is focus on key projects.

We will build even higher buildings. The Jingguang Center, the highest in Beijing, stands over 208 meters. But we will build buildings over 300 meters, even as high as 330 meters.

Focus will also be put on the key projects to promote the CBD image, such as international hotels. Besides, about 1,800,000 rooms will be available in the district and before 2008, China Central Television and Beijing Television will move their headquarters there. All these factors constitute the special image of Beijing's CBD.

The CBD is different from other districts and needs to be equipped with new management systems. It mainly deals with multinationals and can not be operated under the original system, in terms of personnel, policies, operating methods and the simplified examination, approval procedures and registration procedures. All the policies will meet the international standard and will be published by the media.



## Government sets the stage business plays the lead

The construction of the CBD is the product of a market economy as opposed to a planned economy. Though the government is in charge of the management of the CBD, it does not represent the companies to construct the district. The whole investment in the district will be several hundred billion yuan; it is impossible that the government take the lead in the investment. The key is that the stage is set up by the government, while the lead roles will be played by the companies. What the government should be engaged in is guiding, planning and advertising.

The development of land in the district is very complicated, as most of it has already been allocated to respective developers. The remainder cannot be individually developed and needs the help of the government. The core area is planned to cover about 1,300,000 square meters, plus an underground area of over 1,500,000 square meters.

We are going to establish a land repertory center for the government to take the first level development. The government, rather than companies, should conduct the first level of development, as in other places like Singapore and Hong Kong. The main tax income should come from land.

The district does not need any other investment from the government except for infrastructure.

At present, the government has no land to offer to developers, as most of the remaining areas need to be dismantled and this requires the help of the government. Only after this is done can the government engage in unified management and relevant activities.

## English website for apartment renting

By Wang Dandan

[www.soufun.com](http://www.soufun.com) has recently added an English language version to its apartment rental website. [apartment.soufun.com](http://apartment.soufun.com) aims to cater to the needs of the 150,000 to 200,000 foreigners working and living in Beijing. Non-Chinese speakers can find detailed information about apartments in both Beijing and Shanghai.

The website provides two ways of searching for an apartment, map search and classified search. For the map search, you simply click on the part of the city you are interested in; Dongcheng, Sanlitun, etc. for a list of all available apartments and villas within the area.

With the classified search, you select an area, how many bedrooms and whether you are looking for an apartment or a villa.

A "renter's center" is also available for those who fail to find something that meets their requirements. You register your request and participating property owners or real estate agencies will inform you if they have anything that may be suitable.

There is also a "tips and tools" section that provides basic information about renting, what you have to do before moving into an apartment, and even some suggestions on home decoration.



Pictures by Liu Yang

"HOUSING" welcomes your feedback: What kind of difficulties do you encounter when looking for housing in Beijing? What kind of information do you need? What can we help you with?

Our E-mail: [jianrong@ynet.com](mailto:jianrong@ynet.com)  
Tel: 65902522  
Fax: 65902525



Guest  
**Target: New Otani Hotel**  
**When: 16:30-18:50, Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Hotel Detective: Wang Dandan**

### Nina Naclash, India

I like China very much. And I like to take lunch or dinner at places full of Chinese style. There is a cafe bar in the lobby, with completely Chinese decoration. This may be the reason why I chose to stay here, as I can be so close to Chinese culture.

### Misuzuka Tamemata, Japan

They have the purest Japanese food and I am sure the cook is a Japanese. Though people from other countries can also cook the Japanese food, there is something that

needs a very delicate sense of being a Japanese. Without the cultural background, the food is not the best food! Of course, if only the waitress could be a little more pretty!

### Yoto Hatsushimi, Japan

They have very good massage. I have been to many hotels with a massage center. But they are not as good as the one here. They know your body's weak point and can release the pain as soon as possible. I do not have much time for leisure, so I need a quick and efficient massage.

### Q: What about the rental price?

A: From April 2000 to April 2001, rent increased at a rapid rate. However it has now stopped rising, and is expected to remain static for a while. Whether prices will again start climbing next year depends largely on the American

economy. Another factor is whether or not demand meets supply.

### Q: What about the development of office buildings in the south of the city?

A: It has no promising future. For office buildings, location is very important. But the CBD, Zhongguancun (China's Silicon Valley) and the financial area (Fuxingmen) are all far from the south area. Also, if rentals in the north area decrease, that will definitely affect the development of office buildings in the south.

During the 2001 Beijing Office Building Conference, Deng Zhiren, President of Universal X&D Property Consultants, gave a speech on office buildings in Beijing and participated in a Q&A session, an edited text of which is printed below.

By Wang Dandan

Q: A central air-conditioning system seems to be essential for a top-level office building. If a building is not equipped with such a system, but all the other facilities are of the highest standard, can the office building still be described as top-level?

A: I am not an expert on cost calculation and facilities, but I should emphasize this point; without a central air-conditioning system, an office building cannot be accepted by the market.

## Renting in the south

South Third Ring Road

By Wang Dandan

Today, we look at apartment prices around the south Third Ring Road, from the Yuquanying Qiao in the west to the Fenzhongsi in the east.

### Yuquanying Qiao to Yangqiao

Prices around here range from about 900 yuan for a simply decorated, fully furnished one-room apartment to 1,200 yuan for a two room and 1,600 yuan for a three room apartment.

More elaborately decorated apartments might cost between 1,000 and 1,400 yuan for one room, and up to 1,600 yuan for two rooms.

There is a large furniture center nearby, handy if you rent an unfurnished apartment. There is also a police station in the vicinity, which might help your peace of mind.

### Yangqiao to Muxiyuan Qiao

A simply decorated, fully furnished one room apartment costs around 1,000 yuan, two room, 1,300 yuan and three room 1,500 to 1,700 yuan. Better quality apartments cost 1,200 yuan (one room) and 1,500 yuan (two rooms).

Yongnan Hospital is located nearby, but there is not much in the way of entertainment.

### Muxiyuan Qiao to Zhaogongkou Qiao

The average price for one room with simple decoration and full facilities is 1,000 yuan, two room, 1,300 yuan and three room 1,700 yuan.

Zhaogongkou long distance bus station might be a source of noise and traffic congestion, and the large transient population could be a disadvantage in terms of security.

### Zhaogongkou Qiao to Liujiayao Qiao

A one room apartment costs around 900 yuan, two room 1,200 yuan and three room 1,500 yuan.

The famous Tongrentang Pharmacy Factory is located in this area, giving the air a distinct aroma of Chinese medicine.

### Liujiayao Qiao to Fangzhuang Qiao

The average price for one room with simple decoration and full facilities is 1,000 yuan, two room 1,400 yuan and three room 1,700 yuan. This is a good area to live; Fangzhuang, has been ranked the top residential area in Beijing city.

No need to worry about anything. Just pay your rent!

## Sports &amp; Activities

**Beijing Viennese Ball** Welcome reception starts from 6:30pm, and 7pm Opening 8pm gala dinner & program. **Where:** Kempinski Hotel Beijing Lufthansa Center Jade Ballroom. **When:** Saturday, October 13, 6:30pm. **Admission:** 850 yuan all-inclusive. Tel: 64653388-4001 / 4021.



**Ballet Training Course** Li Yan is a famous ballet star in China, and former No. 1 dancer with the Central Ballet Troupe. She has won many awards, including prizes at the 2nd China Ballet Competition and 6th Moscow Ballet Competition. This course is aimed at adults and covers introduction to ballet, ballet vocabulary, and appreciation of classical ballet, and also organizes some performances. **Where:** Rehearsal room of the Central Opera House (中央戏剧院排练室). **Time:** every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6:30pm-8pm. **Tel:** 1391120230, 65012960 / 2495. Ms. Guo.

**Belgian Beer Tasting Evening** 14 different beers for 100 yuan / person. Snacks are Belgian butterballs (15 yuan), mini hotdogs and french-fries (both 10 yuan). Sign up via email yph@yahoo.com and pay on the day. **Where:** Hidden Tree (隐藏的树), South Sanlitun Bar Street, Sanlitun, Chaoyang District. **When:** Tuesday, October 16, starts 6:30pm.

**Weekly Activities of Chinese Culture Club**

1) **Chinese music, Tang poems, and tea ceremony.** This is a private tea house tucked away in a narrow alley on the east side of the Forbidden City, small but exquisite with Buddhist flavor. We

will explore the history and stories of Erhu and Guzheng, two traditional musical instruments. Free of charge; English narration is provided. **Where:** Jia Zu Tea House, 2, Nanwanzi Hutong, Nan He Yan Street, east of the Forbidden City. **How to get there:** Right behind the Beijing Grand Hotel (west of the entrance of Wangfujing street) on the west side, there is a pagoda. Just opposite the pagoda is the small Nanwanzi Hutong. The teahouse is not more than 20 meters into the hutong. **Time:** Oct.14, Sunday, 4pm-6pm.



**2) Time:** Oct 21, Sunday, 2:30 pm-5pm. Chinese Ink and Water Painting learning Chinese traditional Ink and Water painting will be introduced brushes, paper and color are provided. Free of charge; English narration is provided. **Where:** Beijing Friendship Association with Foreign Countries, 97, Nanheyen Dajie, East of the Forbidden City. **Tel:** Contact Feng Cheng at 8462-2081/1350-103-5145. **Email:** chinese\_cultureclub@hotmail.com.

**Are you Super Football Fans?** Fri. Oct 12, 9pm, European Championships, Olympiakos vs Manchester United. Sat. Oct 13, 1:30pm, European Championships, Feyenoord vs Bayern Munich. 6:50 pm, English Premiership, Liverpool vs Leeds (LIVE!) 00:15am, English Premiership, English Premiership match (DELAYED) Sun. Oct 14, 9pm, English Premiership, Blackburn vs West Ham United. 11pm, English Premiership, Aston Villa vs Fulham. **Where:** Room 25, Red House Hotel, No. 10 Tai Ping Zhuang, Chunxiulu, Dongzhimenwai, Chaoyang District. **Tel:** 64170497. **Email:** bar@wanguoquxing.com

## Exhibitions

## Weather

**Friday**  
October 12



Clear to cloudy  
Max: 21C. Min: 8C.

**Saturday**  
October 13



Cloudy to showers  
Max: 18C. Min: 7C.

**Sunday**  
October 14



Cloudy  
Max: 19C. Min: 5C.

**Monday**  
October 15



Clear  
Max: 17C. Min: 7C.

**Tuesday**  
October 16



Clear to cloudy  
Max: 19C. Min: 8C.

**Wednesday**  
October 17

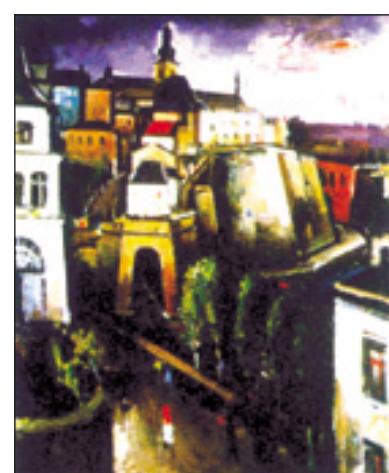


Clear to cloudy  
Max: 17C. Min: 7C.

**Thursday**  
October 18



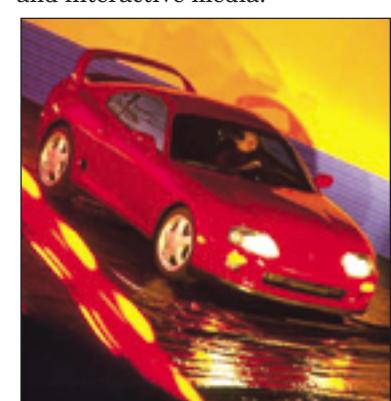
Cloudy  
Max: 16C. Min: 7C.



**Luxembourg Painting Exhibition (1839-1939)** The biggest exhibition from Luxembourg ever held in China, featuring 140 works from the mid of 1800's to the mid of 1900's by 30 painters.

**Where:** Chinese Millennium Monument (中华世纪坛), near the Military Museum. **When:** till October 17, 9am-6pm. **Admission:** 15 yuan, 10 yuan for elementary and high school students. **Tel:** 68513322

**Automobile Forum Beijing** Meticulously designed exhibited cars with Internet terminals, visible telecom systems, advanced audio & video systems & multimedia facilities. Get to know cars through information exchange and interactive media.



**Where:** Beijing Oriental Plaza (东方广场), 1 Chang'an Avenue, Dongcheng District. **When:** 9:30am-9:30pm, daily. **Admis-**

## Music

**4th Beijing Music Festival Grand Opening Concert featuring St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra** One of the most renowned orchestras in the world will perform a program including the Festival Overture, Russian dance from Swan Lake, and selections from the Nutcracker Suite. **Conductor:** Yuri Temerkanov. **Where:** Forbidden City Concert Hall, Zhongshan Park. **When:** Monday, October 15, 7:30pm. **Admission:** 180-580 yuan, 800 yuan VIP box. **Tel:** 65598285, 65071890 (English)

**Piano Recital** British Pianist Peter Donohoe with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra: Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor, and Symphony No. 2 in E minor. **Conductor:** Yuri Temerkanov. **Where:** Forbidden City Concert Hall, Zhongshan Park. **When:** Tuesday, October 16, 7:30pm. **Admission:** 180-580 yuan, 800 yuan VIP box. **Tel:** 65598285, 65071890 (English)



**Nabucco** To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of Giuseppe Verdi, Teatr Wielki - National Opera Warsaw, Poland's grandest opera and ballet institution with a history of over 200 years will perform this delightful opera. **Conductor:** Jacek Kaspszyk. **Where:** Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nandajie, Dongcheng District, bus 115 or subway to Dongsihitia. **When:** Wednesday-Friday, October 17-19, 7:30pm. **Admission:** 180-680 yuan, 680, 1000 yuan VIP box. **Tel:** 65071890 (English).

**10th China Tour of Vienna Strauss Festival Orchestra** **Conductor:** Peter Guth. Program includes "The Beautiful Galthee", Par Force, Fast Polka and New Vienna. **Where:** Beijing Concert Hall, 1 Beixinhuajie, Liubukou, West Chang'an Avenue, Xicheng District, bus 7 to Liubukou. **When:** Friday, October 12, 7:30pm. **Admission:** 80-380 yuan, 580 yuan. **Tel:** 64636572, 64636628.

**Environment-Protection & Friendly Communication Concert 2001** An environmental organization by Japanese living in



Beijing has organized a concert aimed at deepening the friendly relations between people who care about the environment. 6pm-7:15pm: exchange of name cards; 7:30pm-9pm: concert. Performed by Zuo Jicheng, vice - professor of the Central Music Institute. **Where:** The Hall of China Dui Wai You Xie (中国对外友协礼堂), 1 Taijichang Dajie (台基厂大街), Dongcheng District. **When:** Saturday, October 13. **Tel:** 65181020. Liu Baohua.

**New Sound** Performed by Black Diamond (Progressive Metal), Attack ( Rap Metal), En Chong (Thrash Metal), Kaximodo (Industrial Metal), the newest and loudest metal music in Beijing. **Where:** Get Lucky Bar (豪运酒吧), east of the south gate of Jingmaodaxue, Taiyanggong, Chaoyang District, south side of the road. **When:** Saturday, October 13, 8pm. **Admission:** 30 yuan, 20 yuan for students (including a beverage). **Tel:** 64299109.

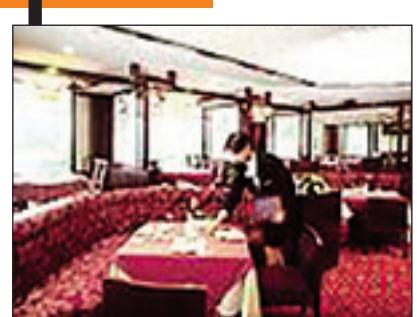


**First Concert of Underground Rock 'n' Roll at Flamingo Bar** The band Gong Bing Club will perform with their electric drum. Special guests Supermarket and Feather Umbrella. **Where:** Flamingo Bar (烈鸟酒吧), 8 Gongtibie, opposite Zhao-long Hotel, Chaoyang District. **When:** Saturday, October 20. **Admission:** 20 yuan. **Tel:** 68154488-38055.

**Live Music at the Loft** **When:** Oct 12-13, 9:30pm-12:30am. Soul Band from the Phillipines, 30 yuan. Oct 14, 9pm-11pm, five bands including Tangchaolaowu, e\Ershoumeigui, Tiefengzheng, Tangguo-qiang and Yecaoemei. 50 yuan. Oct 18, 9:30pm-11:30pm, Jazz bands from China, Japan and Italy. Free. **Where:** the Loft, 4 Gongtibie, Chaoyang District. **Tel:** Contact Xiaomei at 65065637.

## Restaurant

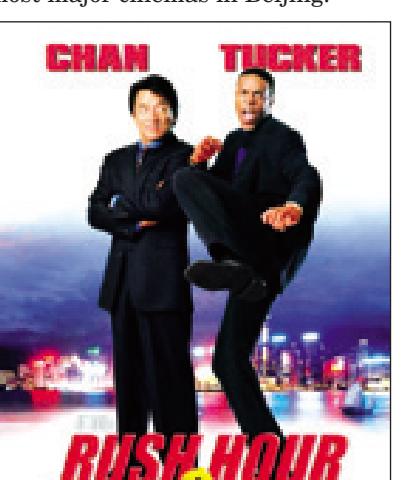
**Seafood Fair at Mudan Garden** Famous Yangchenghu fresh - water crabs are priced at 120 yuan/crab till October 31. 24 kinds of seafood dishes are offered, one of which is offered at a special price everyday. **Where:** Mudan Garden (牡丹园), Hotel New Otani, Chang Fu Gong (长富宫饭店), 26 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang District. **Tel:** 65125555.



## Movie

**Quitting (Zuo tian)** Directed by Zhang Yang, starring Jia Hongsheng. 2001, 115 minutes. A true story played by actors who play themselves. It depicts a one man's journey, from the cutting edge of China's artistic movement in the early 1990's, through a period of conflict with himself and his parents, to a mental institution and finally to the quest of re-discovering himself and his family. The producer, director and members of the cast will be on stage after the film for a dialogue with the audience.

**Rush Hour 2** Another Jacky Chan Hollywood kung fu movie, and a box office hit in the US. Showing in most major cinemas in Beijing.



## Performances

**The 7th Chinese Drama Festival "Golden Mango" Dramas at Mini Theaters** Ba Wang Bie Ji Performed by the Air Force Political Troupe. **Where:** Mini theater of the People's Art Theater, 22 Wangfujing Dajie, Dongcheng District. **When:** October 17-20, 7:15pm, October 18, 2:30pm. **Admission:** Tel: 65250123.

**Korean Music Opera: Subway Line 1** Since its first public performance in 1994, the opera has been performed 1,200 times. It depicts life in Hancheng through the eyes of a Chinese girl. **Where:** China Children's Art Theater, 64 Dong'anmen Dajie, Dongcheng District, bus 103, 104, 108 to Dong'an Shichang. **When:** October 12-18, 7:30pm. **Admission:** 50-280 yuan. **Tel:** 65241831.



**The Performance of Asian Art Festival** Performed by Mongolian Art Troupe. **Where:** Tianqiao Theater (天桥剧场), 30 Beiweilu Xuanwu District. **When:** October 13, 14, 7:30pm. **Admission:** 20-180 yuan. **Tel:** 63030300.



**Chinese Soul Acrobatic Performance** China National Acrobatics Troupe will perform a brand-new acrobatic show combining Kung fu, traditional dance and opera. Most of the performers are famous acrobats who have won gold medals both at home and abroad. **Where:** 135 Xizhimenwai Dajie, Theater of Beijing Exhibition Center, bus 7, 15, 27, 102 to Zhanlanguan. **When:** Oct 17-Oct 23, 7:30pm. **Tel:** 68354455.

**Mysterious Light** Traditional and modern magic performed by Hebei Acrobatic Troupe. **Where:** 22 Wangfujing Dajie, Capital Theater, Dongcheng District, bus 103, 803 to Meishuguan. **When:** Oct 18-Oct 23, 7:30pm **Tel:** 65250996.

We are glad to receive your feedback. If you need any help in your life, you can email us at bjtodayinfo @ ynet.com or call 65902522  
By Priscilla / Lydie

*Autumn is the most beautiful season of Beijing, and red leaves are the most beautiful attraction. Most people go to the Fragrant Hills to enjoy the autumn leaves, however there are several other options for autumn sightseeing in Beijing, no less picturesque and probably not as crowded.*

By Jiang Zhong

### Baiwang Mountain

Baiwang Mountain (百望山) is the nearest place for Beijingers to admire the beautiful scenery of autumn. Youyi Pavilion (友谊亭) on the mountainside and Lanfeng Pavilion (揽风亭) at the summit are the two best locations to enjoy the view.

**Where:** 19 Heishanhubeikou (黑山扈北口), Haidian District, Beijing  
**How to get there:** bus 330, 933 or 717 to Baiwangshan  
**Admittance:** 5 yuan  
**Phone:** 62870640, 62884508

### Yangtai Mountain

The red leaves of smoke tree and maple and the green pine trees make a colorful carpet covering the mountain, you can also find old gingko trees there.

**Where:** Bei'anhexiang (北安河乡), Haidian District, Beijing  
**How to get there:** bus 346 from the Summer Palace to Bei'anhebeikou (北安河北口), then walk westward  
**Open:** 6am-8:30pm  
**Admittance:** 8 yuan  
**Phone:** 62456816

### Hongluo Temple

Red leaves have covered Hongluo Mountain since the beginning of October. The famous maidenhair tree standing before the main hall of the temple is now decorated with yellow leaves. The 70 hectares of old pine trees to the east of the temple are also an attraction. Hongluo Temple was built in 348 A.D., it is renowned for the massive historic relics, the numerous old pines, bamboo and maidenhair trees. Hongluo Mountain and Hongluo Lake nearby are also ideal places for spending your holidays.

**Where:** Hongluo Mountain, Yanqizhen (雁栖镇), Huairou County  
**How to get there:** bus 916 from Dongzhimen to Huairou, then bus to the temple; or tourism bus 6 and 16 to the temple; **Open:** 7am-6pm  
**Admittance:** 20 yuan  
**Phone:** 60681175, 60681678

### Miaofeng Mountain

You can find the red haws and the red leaves of smoke trees, maples and persimmons in the scenic spot in autumn. The roses, larkspurs, orchids and lilies here blossom all year round. Miaofeng Mountain is called the No. 1 Mountain in the western suburbs of Beijing. The nearby Niangniang Monastery (娘娘庙) is a famous Taoist relic.

**Where:** Xiangjiangoucun (乡间沟村), Miaofeng Mountain, Mentougou District, Beijing  
**How to get there:** bus 336 or 326 from Pingguoyuan (苹果园) subway station to Hetan (河滩), then bus to

### Besides admiring the red leaves you can also...



Dancing party at Simabianzhai, the Simatai Great Wall in the distance

Photo by Chi Yueqiang

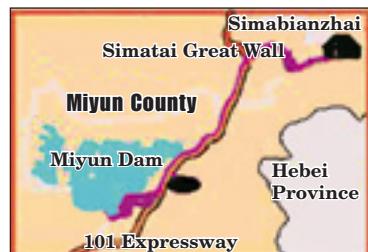
### •Escape from the city at Simabianzhai

By Jiang Zhong

No five star hotels or restaurants, no bowling, no sauna, no karaoke, Simabianzhai (司马边寨) at the Simatai Great Wall (司马台长城) Scenic Spot is a place for simple living. It is a popular retreat for many of the expats living in Beijing.

Dance parties featuring popular DJs are held there from time to time, as well as the odd beer carnival. You can laze in a hammock reading your favorite novel, stroll along beside the stream, play frisbee or just sit and enjoy the view of the ancient Great Wall in the distance and the beautiful sunset.

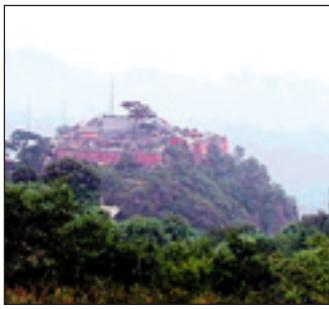
**Where:** Simatai Great Wall Scenic Spot, Gubeikouzhen (古北口镇), Miyun County  
**How to get there:** bus from Dongzhimen to Miyun, then bus to Simatai; or tourism bus 12 from Xuanwumen  
**Phone:** 69031221



# Enjoy

## the beautiful autumn

## of Beijing



Nianqiang Monastery at Miaofeng Mountain

**Songshan Mountain Scenic Spot** (松山风景区)

The red maple leaves, buff willow leaves, yellow elm leaves and various wild flowers here make Songshan Mountain an attraction in autumn. Songshan Mountain scenic spot is also renowned for its numerous hot springs. The temperature of the water of Tangzimiao (塘子庙) hot spring is around 42 degrees centigrade.

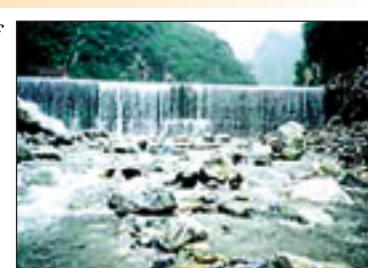
**Where:** Zhangshanyingzhen (张山营镇), Yanqing (延庆) County, Beijing  
**How to get there:** bus 919 from Deshengmen (德胜门) to Yanqing, then bus to Songshan  
**Open:** 8am-5:30pm  
**Admittance:** 30 yuan  
**Phone:** 69148436, 69148435

### Bailongtan

The red leaves of maples, oaks and smoke trees will hang on the trees till snow starts to fall. Bailongtan has been a sightseeing resort since the Yuan Dynasty. Twenty famous temples and pavilions are located within this area. The most famous historic relics include Wulongci (五龙祠) of the Northern Song Dynasty, Longquan Temple (龙泉寺) of the Yuan Dynasty and the Summer Palace for Emperor Qianlong of the Qing Dynasty.

**Where:** Longtangoucun (龙潭沟村) Village, Taishitun (太师屯), Miyun County, Beijing  
**How to get there:** bus from Dongzhimen to Miyun, then bus to Taishitun  
**Open:** 7am-9pm  
**Admittance:** 20 yuan  
**Phone:** 69038558, 69038398

Waterfall of Xiangshui Lake



### •Fruit picking at Xiangshui Lake

Xiangshui Lake (响水湖) lies to the east of Dazhenyucun Village (大榛峪村), west of the Mutianyu (慕田峪) Great Wall. It is renowned for the ancient Great Wall, caves, mountains, pools, fountains and waterfalls.

Xiangshui Lake is situated in a valley, and the mountains on either side feature steep cliffs and strange rock formations. The Great Wall winds majestically through the mountains, and the ancient stone sculptures create a mysterious atmosphere. In autumn the trees turn the mountain a brilliant red. At this time the fruits grown in the local farms come to their maturity. The fruits include: apple, haw, jujube, pear, walnut, Chinese chestnut, grape, as well as wild pepper and various edible wild herbs. If you visit the scenic spot before the end of October, you can pick fruit in the orchard and take it home in a specially provided fruit-bag.

**How to get there:** Bus 916 from Dongzhimen to Xiangshuihu. The bus leaves daily at 8am and returns to the city at 3:30pm; or bus 936 from Dongzhimen to Huairou, then bus to Yanqi Lake Scenic Spot Or tourism bus 6 to Yanqi Lake Scenic Spot  
**Phone:** 69665236, 69665238

Or you can try to...

# Hike



## in Huangcaoliang

By Jiang Zhong

Huangcaoliang (黄草梁) scenic spot is located in the northwest of Zhaitang County (to the north of Baiyuncun Village 柏峪村), Mentougou District. The highest peak in the scenic spot is 1,732 meters above sea level. The mountain also features a 10-square-kilometer area of grassland on the top, said to be the largest such plateau in north China. Tourists seldom visit the plateau, which in autumn resembles the grasslands of Mongolia. There is a well-preserved section of the Great Wall named Qizuolou here, built in the Ming Dynasty. It is a great experience to enjoy the sunset at Qizuolou Great Wall (七座楼长城).

**Travel plan:** Take a bus from Pingguoyuan subway station at 8am, and around 11am you will reach Baiyu. From there hike to the top of the highest mountain of Huangcaoliang. You can enjoy the sunset at Qizuolou at dusk.

**Details:** bus 336 from Pingguoyuan to Hetan (河滩); from there, bus to Zhaitang County (斋堂镇); then a mini-bus to Baiyu. **Accommodation:** you can stay with a local family for around 15 yuan, or camp at Shixinlou (实心楼). The hike to the top of the mountain will take four to five hours. **Tips:** You should take 4 liters of water per person, as it's quite scarce around the scenic spot. A thick coat and down-filled sleeping bag are essential. If you want to return to the city the same day, you will need to set out earlier in the morning.



## Two-day trip in Tianxian Waterfalls and Yunmeng Mountain

By Jiang Zhong

Tianxian Waterfalls (天仙瀑) lie in Shichengxiang (石城乡), Miyun County, in the north of Yunmeng Mountain (云蒙山) region. It is 115 kilometers from Beijing city. There are eight waterfalls with drops ranging from 20 meters to over 100 meters. Three consecutive waterfalls, Wangxian Waterfall (王仙瀑), Jiebian Waterfall (接仙瀑) and Jingxian Waterfall (惊仙瀑) have a combined drop of 310, with Jingxian Waterfall itself featuring a drop of 115 meters. Besides the waterfalls there are more than 30 scenic sites scattering in this region, and the virgin forest generates all the fresh air you can breath!

**How to get there:** bus from Dongzhimen to Miyun, then bus to Tianxian Waterfalls  
**Phone:** 69015287  
**Admittance:** 16 yuan

Yunmeng Mountain lies at the border of Huairou and Miyun Counties, to the east of the Huafeng Highway (怀丰公路). Yunmeng Mountain is a national forest park. It covers an area of 920 hectares, with the highest mountain reaching 1414 meters. Forest covers 91% of the area. The steep cliffs, strange rock formations, cloud sea, elegant pine trees and winding streams are much like those of Huangshan (Yellow Mountain) in Anhui Province. The most popular sightseeing sites include Sunbin Temple (孙膑庙) and Lengfengdian (冷风甸) Grassland.

**Where:** 35 kilometers section of Huafeng Highway, Liulimiaoxiang (琉璃庙乡), Huairou County, Beijing  
**Admittance:** 20 yuan  
**How to get there:** bus 936 from Dongzhimen to Yunmeng Mountain; or bus 916 to Huairou County, then bus to Yunmeng Mountain  
**Phone:** 61622481

**Travel plan:** Start from Dongzhimen at 8:30am and you will reach the entrance to Tianxian Waterfalls around 11am. After a one-hour walk into the scenic spot, you will find a parking area, take a short break there, then walk on to Woxian Waterfall (卧仙瀑). Take another break to sit in the sun on the bank of the stream there. When you get to Xianpu Stream (仙浦溪), it should be around 1pm, lunch time! Tianxian Waterfall is not far ahead; you will get there soon. At 3pm, you should descend the mountain and find a place to spend the night. The next day, visit the Yunmeng Mountain National Park. Start out at 8am, so as to enter the park by 9:30am. Around 12pm you will get to Lengfengdian Grassland, you can have a lunch break here. Visit the various scenic sites and return to the park entrance at around 4pm. You should be back in Beijing by around 7pm. **Tips:** Take sufficient warm clothing and a bag for rubbish. If you make a campfire, be sure it is properly extinguished before you leave.

