

CITY WEATHER TODAY

MOSTLY CLOUDY

HIGH 25°F / -3°C
LOW -7°F / -21°C

	Fri	Sat	Sun
	p/cloudy	sunny	sunny
H	20°F/-6°C	15°F/-9°C	15°F/-9°C
L	-13°F/-25°C	-15°F/-26°C	-15°F/-26°C

SUNRISE 7:59 AM
SUNSET 5:14 PM

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Law on Political Party violates the Constitution

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BEAUTY PAGEANT

Miss Mongolia leaves to take on the World

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Fair warns consumers of faulty products

THERE are faulty, falsely-advertised products on the market, according to the National Center of Standardization and Measurement (NCSM). The center is sponsoring the first-ever faulty products fair from November 10 to 20 at the National Information Technology Park of Mongolia. There, faulty products of all sorts will be on display next to their standards meeting counterparts.

The main standard these faulty products fail to meet is the ISO 9000 international quality standard. NCSM is in charge of distributing these standards on behalf of the International Center of Standardization and Measurement.

According to the NCSM, only nine companies should have ISO 9000 certificates for their products, whereas many more than that advertise their goods as certified. The nine approved companies are Gobi, Erdenet Carpet, Spirt Bal Buram, Darkhan Metallurgical Factory, Power Supply Center Co.LTD, MCS International, ISC Mongolia and APU.

In one case, the NCSM sealed taxi meters' wires with wax last month to prevent people from tampering with the meters. The NCSM reminds people to look for this sealing wax on the meters before taking a taxi. This story is based on a report from *Onoodor* daily newspaper.

UN resolution recognizes 800th anniversary of statehood

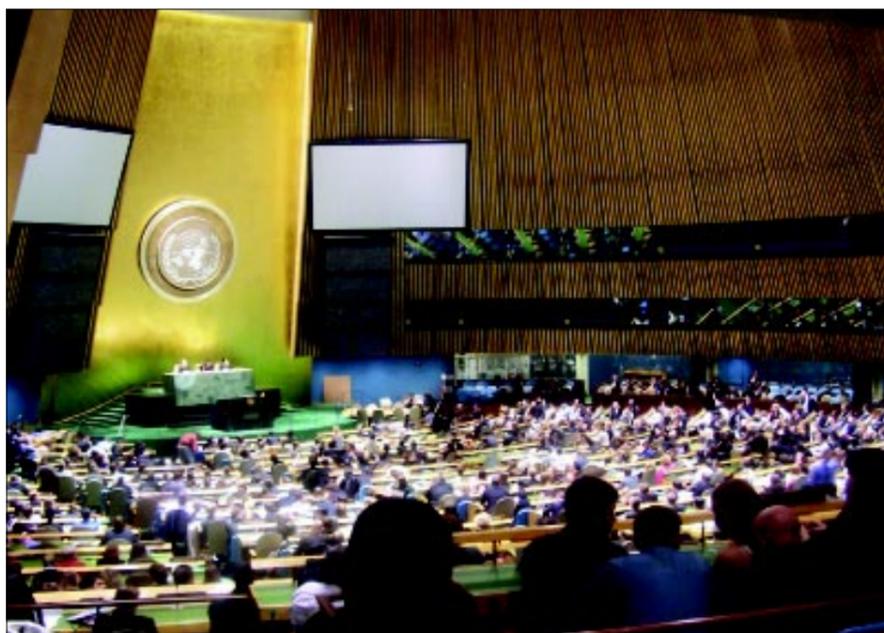
Mongolian representative hopes to trigger renewed interest in nomadic civilizations

By CH.SUMIYABAZAR

ON NOVEMBER 14, the 60th General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a non-vote resolution recognizing the 800th Anniversary of Mongolian Statehood, to be celebrated in 2006. The resolution welcomed the efforts of Mongolia and other member countries to preserve nomadic culture and traditions in modern societies.

It also invited members, the UN bodies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to actively participate in Mongolia's anniversary celebration events.

O.Enkhtsetseg, a representative from Mongolia, believes this international attention and next year's festivities provide an opportunity to trigger renewed interest in nomadic civilizations and to preserve and develop their traditions. A host of activities, both within the country and internationally, are



scheduled to celebrate Mongolian heritage.

Enkhtsetseg addressed the meeting with the message that today's world is increasingly interdependent and rapidly changing.

"Peoples, religions, cultures and civilizations are engaged in an

unprecedented level of interaction and interchange of values," Enkhtsetseg said. "That openness and perceived defenselessness in the face of change created a natural reaction of rejection, distrust or even fear, which led to attempts to define and protect

one's identity through exclusion and separation. Yet the course of human history showed that interaction and preservation of one's identity were not mutually exclusive.

"Diversity was not a threat, but a strength, and the breakthrough in

information technology provided a unique opportunity to promote it on a global scale," she added.

She said that civilizations did not have clear-cut boundaries, but flowed smoothly into one another and were greatly diversified. An example

The UN resolution:
Reaffirming that civilizational achievements constitute the collective heritage of mankind, providing a source of inspiration and progress for humanity at large,
Emphasizing the need to achieve an objective understanding of all civilizations and enhance constructive interaction and cooperative engagement among civilizations,
Recognizing the richness of nomadic civilization and its important contribution to promoting dialogue and interaction among all forms of civilization,
Recognizing also that nomadic civilization influenced, inter alia, societies across Asia and Europe and in turn absorbed influence from both East and West in a true interchange of human values,
Recognizing further the important role played by a strong and persistent nomadic culture in the development of extensive trade networks and the creation of large administrative, cultural, religious and commercial centers,
Mindful of the ever-increasing significance and relevance of a culture to live in harmony with nature, which is inherent in nomadic civilization, in today's world,
1. Welcomes the efforts of Member States, including Mongolia, to preserve and develop nomadic culture and traditions in modern societies;
2. Welcomes also the efforts undertaken by the Government of Mongolia to celebrate the eight hundredth anniversary of Mongolian statehood in 2006;
3. Invites Member States, the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, regional organizations and foundations, and academia to take part actively in the events to be organized by Mongolia in celebration of this anniversary.

was the great nomadic civilization of the Eurasian steppe, of which Mongolia was a part.

That distinct form of civilization played an important role in the development of extensive trade networks and, for thousands of years, served as a bridge

between civilizations. The role and contribution of nomadic civilizations still remains largely under-appreciated and unrecognized, and the rapid advance of globalization poses challenges to the preservation of centuries-old traditions, she said.

MINING

License of Altan Dornod Mongol canceled



Altan Dornod Mongol mining campus. Photo by T.Chimgee

THE Altan Dornod Mongolia mining company has lost its battle to move a village situated on land to which the company held a license and hoped to explore.

On November 14, Lu.Bold, chief of the Minerals and Petroleum Authority, invalidated mining license No.4411A of the Russian-invested Altan Dornod Mongol company. The company fought to move Tov aimag's Ogoomoor village, along with its 2,000 residents, to free the company's licensed area of 26.7 hectares of land. The company has estimated that the land holds more than 600 kilograms of gold, which would be worth more than US\$8 million.

The Court of Tov aimag ruled on October 11 that Ogoomoor village must be moved from its location in Khailaast bagh of Zaamar soum. Responding to Altan Dornod's efforts, local residents held a number of public protests in front of the company's mining camp in recent months.

D.Raakh, governor of Zaamar soum, appealed to the Supreme Court in early November. *Odrin Sonin* newspaper reported on Tuesday that Parliament members began on November 11 to examine and modify the company's license. The Minerals and Petroleum Authority decided to cancel the

license, citing legal violations discovered during the examination.

The Authority said the company supplied insufficient documentation when first applying for the license in 2002, according to *Odrin Sonin*. The Authority also said the company did not take into account any concerns of the local government administration, as it should have done in accordance with relevant laws of Mongolia.

B.Kherlen, head of the geology and mining cadastral department of the Authority, granted the 4411A license in May 2002. Ogoomoor residential village has been in place since 1999.

INTERVIEW

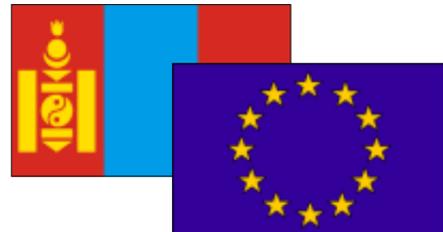
European Union examines Mongolia's democratic progress

By JAVIER DELGADO

MR. FRANK Schmiedel is an European Commission official who works for the Mongolian desk at the External Relations Directorate-General. He spoke with The UB Post in his office in Brussels, Belgium. Here are the main issues tackled during the conversation.

A source from the Mongolian Ministry of Industry and Trade told us that the European Union is expecting to make a decision about the possibility of Mongolia being included in the "General System of Preference +" (GSP+) on December 15th. Could you explain this issue?

With "GSP+", Mongolia would not pay



any taxes for almost any current export products that would enter into the European market duty-free. Before, Mongolia was not eligible because it was not meeting a couple of requirements, especially on human rights. However, with the EU's encouragement, the Mongolian authorities have accelerated the process of ratifying the last requirements to become qualified for the "GSP + 2006-2008." Anyway, as you have pointed out, we will have the formal and

definitive reply in December.

You have said that most Mongolian export products will be free of taxes. Mongolia is a big meat producer country based on its livestock sector. Russia, especially the Siberian region, is the largest importer of Mongolia's meat. Recently, Mongolia started to export meat to the Middle East and Arabian countries. Is the meat included in that "GSP +"?

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POLITICS

Lu.Bold's nominations dismissed

THE CAPITAL City's Election Committee on November 14 dismissed Lu.Bold's nominations by the Democratic Party and Civil Will-Republican Party for the upcoming by-election.

"This is a step to block human rights to be elected and a violation of the Human Rights chapter of the Constitution of Mongolia," said B.Batbayar, a Democratic Party member of the State Great Hural, at a press conference on November 14. "Today the right to be elected is blocked. Tomorrow, your rights to elect will be blocked."

The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP), the Green Party, and the Mongolian Traditional United Party each nominated one candidate last week, while the Democratic Party and Civil Will-Republican Party joined together in nominating Bold for the



November 20 by-election. The local election will be held in the 31st electoral district to fill the empty seat in the Citizen's Representative Meeting left by former UB Mayor and MPRP Chairman M.Enkhbold. Enkhbold was elected to the State Great Hural from the Bayangol district's 65th electoral district on August 28.

The deadline for political parties' nominations was November 13.

The election committee met last weekend and decided to invalidate Bold's nomination, based on a

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POLITICS

Lu.Bold's nominations dismissed

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 single person's complaint Saturday that the nominating parties did not consider opinions from the parties' lower structures when making nominations. The individual who made the complaint was rumored to be a member of the Democratic Party. Bold is chief of the Minerals and Petroleum Authority.
 U.Ganbat, chairperson of the Capital City's Election Committee, said the decision was based on the 17th article of the Law on Local Elections, which states that a political party should weigh the concerns of the party's lower structures when nominating a candidate.
 The nominating parties have vowed to challenge the dismissal.
 "[The Capital City's Election Committee

members] registered Lu.Bold as a nominee within the legal period. They gave him an ID card as a by-election nominee on Friday. This is an illegal, organized political blockage made on purpose. We will appeal to the Administrative Court," said B.Batbayar.
 S.H.O.R.O.S.S.U.K.H., M.Altansukh and G.Ganbat, representing the Democratic Party and Civil Will-Republican Party to the Capital City's Election Committee, declared that they would stand against the committee's decision and drop their committee memberships.
 Green Party representative Z.Ganbaatar has expressed support for the challengers' efforts but said he is not thinking about leaving the committee.

Law on Political Parties violates the Constitution, Court says

BY CH. SUMYA

DESPITE challenges from the State Great Hural, the Constitutional Court made a final ruling on November 14 that certain segments in the Law on Political Parties breached Constitutional rights.
 Kh.Selenge, from Bayangol District, sent a petition in September to the Constitutional Court stating that certain paragraphs of the Law on Political Parties, which was approved by the State Great Hural, breached Constitutional rights to freedom of association in political parties, as well as the rights to elect and to be



Photo by B.Byamba-Ochir

elect to state bodies. The Constitutional Court met on September 29 and

ruled that two paragraphs in the Law on Political Parties violated two paragraphs in the Constitution. The Court decided that the third paragraph of Article 6 of the Law on Political Parties, which stated that "A newly formed political party or other party should not use abbreviations or full names of a suspended, reformed, renamed or dissolved party for a period of 24 years," violated the 10th paragraph of Article 16 of the Constitution, which

guarantees "the right to freedom of association in political parties or other voluntary organizations on the basis of social and personal interests and opinion." That paragraph goes on to state, "Political parties and other mass organizations shall uphold public order and state security, and abide by law. Discrimination and persecution of a person for joining a political party or other associations or for being their member shall be

prohibited. Party membership of some categories of state employees may be suspended."
 In the September 29 meeting, the Court also ruled that the sixth paragraph of Article 8 of the Law on Political Parties, which stated that "the political party shall participate in both Parliament and local elections 18 months after being registered with the Supreme Court," violated

the ninth paragraph of Article 16 of the Constitution, which guarantees the "right to take part in the government of the country directly or through representative bodies" and "the right to elect and to be elected to State bodies." That paragraph continues by stating, "The right to elect shall be enjoyed from the age of eighteen years and the age eligible for being elected shall be determined by law according to the requirements in respect of the bodies or posts concerned."

The Constitutional Court has the full power to exert supreme supervision over the implementation of the Constitution, to make judgments on its provisions, and to decide constitutional disputes.
 At the time of September, the State Great Hural voiced its disagreement with the Constitutional Court decision. In accordance with the Court's final decision Monday, however, the State Great Hural must modify the Law on Political Parties.

MINING

Tavan Tolgoi coal export temporarily halted

FOLLOWING an on-site examination, the State Professional Inspection Agency temporarily suspended the export of coal from Tavan Tolgoi mine in Omnogobi aimag, reported *Onoodor* daily newspaper on November 4. The agency believes the mine is underselling their exports at 50 times less than world coal prices, said D.Davaasambuu, head of mining, geology and environment department of the agency.
 In August, the agency deployed a group of investigators to examine Tavan Tolgoi's mining

operations. They issued a letter of warning outlining 15 key problem areas to the mine administration. The warning came with a one-month correction period, which has since elapsed.
 "Though the mine administration has taken many measures in accordance with the warning, the main demands of the warning were not fulfilled," Davaasambuu said.
 The agency's main demand was and is that the mine must reestablish the price of coal. The 51-percent local administration-owned

Tavan Tolgoi mine exports its high-quality coking coal to its southern neighbor China, approximately 150 kilometers away.
 "Tavan Tolgoi has an estimated overall resource of 20 billion tonnes of coal," said O.Enkhsaikhan, member of State Great Hural. "Today, high-quality coking coal is priced from US\$400 to US\$450 in the world market. But, Tavan Tolgoi sells the coal at US\$8.4 to purchasers in China, because of what they allege is the market price in the northern province of China."

Also, the mining administration was asked to renew its sell-and-purchase contract with those in China, to make evaluations and plans about mining operations and to operate in accordance with the relevant Mongolian laws and regulations.
 The State Professional Inspection Agency said they would restore exports when the demands were met.
 The local government administration of Omnogobi aimag owns 51 percent of the mine's share and individuals own the remaining 49 percent.

INTERVIEW

European Union examines Mongolia's democratic progress

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It should be, but the problem with meat is not the taxes but the phytosanitary rules. You cannot get into the European market if the phytosanitary requirements are not fulfilled and the EU is very strict on this. It is something we have to work on a long-term basis. The idea is to help Mongolia to fulfil the international requirements in terms of animal health, meat inspections, etc. In what "GSP +" will make a difference is in cashmere. Now Mongolia is paying around 10 percent import duty to the EU on this product. With that "GSP +", this figure will be reduced to zero.

The EU Delegation in Mongolia is a non-resident mission, which means there is not a permanent EU representative office in Ulaanbaatar. Are you planning to set up a delegation in the near future?

I think that an EU delegation in Ulaanbaatar is too ambitious for the time being. The reason is that our administrative resources are very limited. What we are trying to do is to set up a small office in Mongolia, which will be used by our Beijing delegation as a sort of antenna. If all goes well, hopefully this year we will rent one or two rooms in Mongolia to have at least an address in Ulaanbaatar. At the moment, the EU has a TACIS (Technical Assistance to the Community of Independent States) office in Mongolia.

The mining industry could be considered a mainstay of the Mongolian economy. Like other countries, Mongolia is now in the process of privatizing its mining resources, a process in which Russian and Chinese companies are the main players. Do you think this could become a risk for the independence of the Mongolian economy?

I think there has always been some foreign influence in the mining sector in Mongolia. I suppose Mongolia needs capital and technology from abroad to exploit its mining resources.

It is important to regulate and organize it in a way that Mongolia sees advantages out of its cooperation with foreign companies. The main risk is that the Mongolian administration is a bit too weak to properly defend its interests in this negotiation process.

Mongolia is receiving a substantial grant from the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) through the Mongolian Cooperation Fund. One of its largest donors is Taiwan. Since Mongolia supports the "One China Policy," could this reflect negatively on the grant?

I do not think so. The EU also supports the "One China Policy." This does not prevent us from having technical and commercial cooperation with Taiwan, so I do not see why Mongolia could not do the same.

Talking about the democratic transition process, do you think that Mongolia is following the right path?

I think there are positive things and less positive ones. Mongolia is doing remarkably well in its path from dictatorship into democracy and into a market economy, compared to other Central Asian countries. Mongolia should not compare itself to the world standards. If you look at the rankings of Transparency International, you can see that Mongolia could be better, but it is following the right way. There are more open service societies, the NGOs are becoming more active and high-ranking officials have been accused of corruption. Mongolia has done very well, but this does not mean it cannot do better. I think that corruption is the biggest risk for the development of the country.

You said that after the collapse of the USSR, Mongolia is doing better than most of the other Central Asian countries. In which fields do you consider that Mongolia is getting better results?

What I find very refreshing in Mongolia is the high political interest of the population. In the last elections, there was a very high

percentage of people who voted. Compared to what has been happening in other Central Asian countries, the Mongolian elections have been relatively fair. Clear proof of that are the successive changes of governments. A relevant point that should be taken into account is the lack of training and motivation in some areas of the public sector. We try to help on the reform of the public sector with the "National Indicative Program 2004-2006".

If you have a look at the statistics, you realise that the Mongolian economy grew 10 percent in 2004. Will Mongolia be able to maintain this high rate in the following years?

What I understood is that much of this high growth was due to very favorable raw material prices on the international market. For Mongolia export products, like copper and gold, there were very good prices. That explains a big part of its high growth. Thus I am not sure that this double-digit growth is really sustainable. However, we have to take into account that Mongolia has set a GDP growth since mid-1990s, even with having severe winters. Besides, inflation has to be watched because it has also reached double digits. That is something that must be controlled.

Mongolia is an observer member in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), which is likened to the Asian EU. Hopefully, Mongolia will become a full-status member of the organization in the future. What is the relationship between the EU and the SCO?

We follow with interest what is going on within the SCO. The Mongolian interest in monitoring the SCO's activities - even closer than the EU does - it is truly understandable. At the moment, we hold official consultations with the SCO as well as with its members separately.

Mr. Javier Delgado is the UB Post's Spanish Language Editor based in Brussels, Belgium.



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Business & Economics

State budget criticisms accuse parliament members of trying to be Santa

Approval of Tg100 million per PM for unspecified election-district expenditure draws heat from media

By B.BULGAMAA

ON NOVEMBER 11, in the midst of state budget deliberations, parliament decided to allocate Tg100 million to each Parliament member to spend on her or his election district without a specified plan. Five members of the 76-member body opposed this allocation. The media has been critical of this decision.

This week's newspaper headlines have been rife with speculation about the state budget deliberations. "The Tg100 million to be distributed to parliament members is official corruption," read *Noondriin Mongol*. "Is this a state budget or the parliament budget?" asked *Unen*. "Life looks nice through the office windows," accused *Noondor*.

Following the first 2006 state budget discussion, Tg 40 billion was added to the draft. Of that total, Tg32.8 billion had already been earmarked for large projects, with a remaining Tg7.2 billion up for discussion on November 9. At that time, parliament members had presented more than 160 proposals, which if approved would have cost at minimum Tg100 billion. Many members said that the state could not accommodate such costs.

Initially, the plan was for this remaining Tg 7.2 billion to be spent on local development, but Tg1 billion was set aside for Parliament furnishings and Tg100 million set aside for improving housing conditions of the victims of

political persecution. The remainder of Tg6.1 billion was then discussed. Member J.Narantsatsralt proposed to increase this remainder by Tg1.5 billion so that there would be Tg7.6 billion – Tg100 million per member – for developing the members' constituent areas.

This proposal was further discussed at the next meeting, on November 11. All but five members approved the plan.

D.Demberel, who said that he believed the overall budget could be increased, said the main problem with this allocation was that it did not hold parliament members accountable because they did not have to have a specific plan for spending the funds. This was very flawed, he charged, because there may be citizen requests for schools or hospitals, and without a commitment from parliament members, the Tg100 million may not address these necessities.

R. B a d a m d i n , chairman of the standing committee on the state budget, also opposed the allocation. He argued that it is not the responsibility of parliament members to take taxpayer's money and spend it at will. He said that the state budget is essentially citizen's money, and that the government takes this money only to give it back through state expenditures. He argued that the government should reduce taxation and spend less.

The second session of discussions is still ongoing. In accordance with the law, the state budget will be completed by December 1.

Mongolian economic sector thirsty for independent research

By B.BULGAMAA

FIFTEEN years after Mongolia made a rapid transition from a centrally planned economy to a free-market economy, Mongolia's credit market has become relatively free.

That's the opinion of a group of Mongolian researchers, who recently conducted the first Mongolian-run evaluation of Mongolia's economic freedom in credit regulation. The researchers presented and discussed their findings on November 11 in the meeting hall of the Open Society Forum, which initiated the project. Although the Mongolian researchers received financial support from the Open Society Forum, they conducted their actual analysis independent of the government, the Central Bank and all foreign donor organizations.

Private investment and the general economic situation of country have become deeply dependent on bank credit and banks' activities, which in turn has slowed capital market development in Mongolia, according to D.Jargalsaikhan, the leader of the study group. Researchers based their evaluations on the Fraser Institute Index and compared their results with the Heritage Foundation Index, which supported their analysis.

Long-term loans currently make up a small



portion of all loans in Mongolia, Jargalsaikhan said, explaining that high loan rates limit private investment and ultimately hurt the economy. The average interest rate on a loan is 30 percent per year, but it can reach as high as 48 percent per year, he said. Bank privatization has not lowered the interest rates on loans, Jargalsaikhan said. Mongolia's economic sector is also suffering from low investment, something the researchers described as "financial deepening."

Ben Turnbull of Khan Bank said his bank has reduced loan interest rates each year in recent years. Khan Bank reduced the loan interest rate from 34.2 to 31.9 percent this year, he explained. All of Khan Bank's loans are granted to the private sector, Turnbull added.

The study also indicated that bank privatization and the growing number of foreign banks have not created competition among banks, which might have had the positive effects of reducing

interest rates on loans and increasing the number of sources for long-term loans. Competition among private and foreign banks could also bring fresh leaders to the banking sector, import the technological know-how of new professionals and improve the overall quality and professionalism of banking-sector management.

The researchers said Mongolia's credit market was also hurt by the presence of two Russian investment banks that do not offer all regular banking services to Mongolian citizens. Activity at the Trade and Developing Bank has declined since it was privatized and taken over by foreign investors, according to the study. Large foreign banks have yet to enter Mongolia.

Jargalsaikhan said the research marked a very important step toward judging Mongolia's economic conditions and activities in all sectors. He pointed out that professional Mongolian

Mongolia's credit market was hurt by the presence of two Russian investment banks that do not offer all regular banking services to Mongolian citizens.

researchers conducted the entire project, without enlisting the help of any international experts.

About 50 bank representatives and economic-sector leaders participated in a discussion of the research. While some said they greatly valued the information gleaned from the study, others took issue with the way the data was collected, analyzed and reported.

L.Chimgee of Mongol Bank said the researchers had not understood some of the numbers concerning private-sector activity. She said the private sector is divided into three sections – individual, state and citizen – but the researchers looked at it as a single section when assessing the rate of bad loans at Mongol Bank.

Ch. Saintsog of Chinggis Khan Bank commended the research as being very good, though he noted that his bank has granted some 5- to 7-year-long loans. Saintsog also disagreed with Jargalsaikhan's statement that the banking sector has become worse since 1995. He suggested that the researchers' analysis seemed more appropriate for Mongolia's credit market 10 years ago, but that things have improved since then. For example, he said, acquaintances of bank officers in Mongolia could take loans from those banks ten years ago, using their personal relationships as proof of their credibility. Now, Saintsog said, banks grant loans to reliable consumers and compete to win those customers' business.

The research results indicated that the banking sector is improving, Jargalsaikhan replied. His point, he said, was that it has a long way to go.

Other members of the banking community likewise checked their praise with slight criticism of the research. M.Bold of Khas Bank praised the content of the research but observed that some numbers were inconsistent. Bold criticized Mongolia's legal system for not enforcing the repayment of loans, explaining that banks face major problems when customers fail to pay back the money they borrow.

Economic-sector

leaders outside the banking industry also weighed in on the research results. R.Sodkhuu, deputy director of the Stock Exchange, offered his approval of the research analysis and requested that the Open Society Forum initiate an examination of the overall economic situation in Mongolia. Sodkhuu added that the Mongolian Stock Exchange would benefit from such research.

S. Jargalsaikhan, the deputy director of the Union of the Savings and Loan Association, thanked the researchers for their work and requested a similar evaluation of the Savings and Loan Association environment. He added that the Savings and Loan Association is filling the role of small banks in Mongolia.

The research spawned many suggestions that a similar research project be launched in a different direction. S.Orgodol of World Bank said it was more important to research Mongolia's economic freedom than credit market freedom. The researchers at the presentation event also emphasized the importance of independent research and urged that more be conducted on Mongolia's economic sector.

B. M o n k h s o y o l , manager of the Open Society Forum, said four other teams would present the findings of their economic research in December.

Gold smuggling declining Gold smuggling

MONGOLIIN Medee met with L.Baatarhuu, chairman of the State Assay Office, about the assay guarantee of gold.

How much gold does your office guarantee per year?

Last year, mining companies and individual miners hit a record of 19.6 tonnes brought through our office, with 2.3 tonnes coming from gold traders who buy gold from people who mine by hand.

How many people act as

gold traders, buying gold from individuals?

There are 130 people who buy gold from hand-miners and make assay analyses through our office to guarantee the gold. They then sell the gold to Mongol Bank.

What persuades individuals, companies and gold traders to sell gold to Mongol Bank?

Until two years ago, Mongol Bank would not buy less than 100 grams of gold. When Mongol Bank started purchasing less than

100 grams, it sparked new interest. This has been quite effective for people and the state because the gold traders are required to pay taxes, thus reducing the illegal gold trade.

May I understand that the mining companies, individuals, gold traders and hand-miners sell all their gold to Mongol Bank after getting guarantees from your office?

I could say all gold that is extracted or bought from individuals receives an assay guarantee from our

office. This means that people who run gold businesses pay taxes to the state from the total amount of gold when they make assay guarantees through our office. We relay all information to the National Taxation Office every month. The individuals and mining companies have a choice to sell their gold to Mongol Bank or export it.

Does this mean the people can choose not to sell the gold to Mongol Bank after they make assay guarantees through the

State Assay Office?

It is possible for people not to sell the gold to Mongol Bank after making assay guarantees through the State Assay Office. If gold receives an assay guarantee, it is ready for export. But our citizens don't know this rule and thus attempt to export it illegally, without assay guarantees.

Is it possible for gold traders to keep the gold purchased from individuals without assay guarantees?

It is their choice. An individual or company can keep the gold in Mongolia without assay guarantees.

What kind of gold do individuals and mining companies bring into the State Assay Office for guarantees?

The big five companies, including Boroo Gold and Altan Dornod Mongol, bring the gold bullion that they get from smelting the raw material from the mines. Other small enterprises or individuals bring in gold and our office smelts it for them, creating gold bullion so the office can give it an assay guarantee.

Is any of the gold that is confiscated in exportation gold that you gave an assay guarantee?

A little of it. But gold smuggling is declining because people have come to see gold smuggling as a great risk. They realize they are better off selling gold to

Mongol Bank.

Has there been an increase in the amount of alloy gold that receives an assay guarantee?

It is true that this illegal activity has begun to spread and increase. The State Professional Inspection Agency and the Capital City's Professional Inspection Agency have joined the State Assay Office in fighting against this counterfeit problem. There are about 70 jewelry shops and 200 small sites where people can buy jewelry in Mongolia. Most of them sell products with counterfeit assay guarantees.

Do you know of any cases in which someone has made a counterfeit copy of the assay guarantee stamp of the State Assay Office?

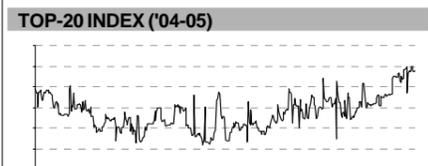
Yes, I know of two kind cases. One case involves companies making a stamp of assay guarantee and determining the amount and quality of their gold themselves. The other case involved individuals and companies making a counterfeit stamp of assay guarantee and using it to grant illegal assay guarantees.

What is the punishment for such a crime?

The officers of the State Assay Office determined found two cases like this, but the court dismissed the cases.

Stock Market

TRADING SUMMARY FRIDAY, 04 NOVEMBER 2005



TOP-20 INDEX	Close	Chg.	%
Top-20	1016.14	5.32	0.53

SUB INDEX	Close	Chg.	%
MSE composite index	306.41	1.71	0.56
Agriculture -10	450,016.78	0.00	0.00
Mining -10	1,106.19	55.31	5.26
Industrial -10	0.00	0.00	0.00
Commercial & Service -10	724.95	0.00	0.00
Construction & Transport -10	19,191,294,144.00-2,678,112.00	-1.38	

MOST ACTIVE ISSUES	High	Low	Close	Chg.	Volume
UID	50	33	35	-1	34,889
Turuun	45	44	44	0	17,754
Darkhan urguu	47	47	47	-3	16,169
NIC	103	100	103	2	6,857
Baganuur	150	133	140	7	3,953
Gobi	600	500	500	0	3,788
Eermel	150	150	150	34	1,714
Sor	106	101	106	-134	1,173
Undur dov	200	200	200	0	721
Jonshit Teever	30	30	30	0	600

Data provided by the Mongolian Stock Exchange Web Site: <http://www.mse.mn>

MICC
Mongolia Investment Capital Corporation

MONGOLIA INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL CORPORATION

MONGOLIA MINING INDEX (MMI)

As of 15 November, 2005 MMI index closed down 1.26 points at 108.42.

MMI	108.42	-1.26	1.5%
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STOCK PRICES IN CANADIAN DOLLAR 1CAD=0.8374 USD

COMPANY NAME	LAST	% CHANGE
Ivanhoe Mines Ltd	8.74	-1.35%
Centerra Gold	22.25	-1.46%
Western Prospector Group Ltd	4.63	-2.73%
Bayfield Ventures	0.37	0.00%
Entree Gold Inc.	1.61	-4.73%
Erdene Gold Inc	0.78	0.00%
Asia Gold Corporation	1.24	0.00%
QGX LTD	5.05	+1.00%
Fortress Minerals	0.72	-5.26%
East Asia Minerals Corp	1.13	-5.83%
UGL Enterprises	0.35	+2.94%
International Uranium	5.63	+1.08%
Solomon Resources	0.28	0.00%
Mega Uranium	3.40	+3.03%
Major Drilling Group	16.26	-0.25%
Petro China *	74.96	+0.03%
Magnum d'Or Resources Inc*	0.027	-12.90%

* Note closing prices are in US\$.

Tel: 330595, www.micc.mn

Bush calls Mongolia "close friend," describes US as "the third neighbor"

ON TUESDAY, November 8, a Mongolian Eagle Television journalist conducted an exclusive sit-down interview with U.S. President George W. Bush in the White House. This was the first time a Mongolian television station conducted a live video report from overseas, and the show included uncensored calls from viewers.

This interview is one of many being made in anticipation of Bush's trip to the region in mid-November. George W. Bush is expected to visit Ulaanbaatar on November 21, making him the first sitting U.S. president to visit the country since it established diplomatic relations 18 years ago, in 1987. Bush is scheduled to speak to the nation in a live televised address and conduct meetings with his Mongolian counterpart, N.Enkhbayar, and Prime Minister Ts.Elbgedorj.

Mongolian Eagle Television provided the following transcript.

There are many developing countries in Asia. So why did you choose to visit Mongolia at this time?

First of all, I am really looking forward to going. This is going to be an exciting trip for me and Laura. Mongolia has got a certain fascination for me. I grew up in the west of the United States where there's where we like wide open spaces. And when you think about Mongolia, you think about a big country with a lot of space. But what's interesting about Mongolia is it's more than geography now, as far as I'm concerned. It's a people that have worked hard to become free, a democracy.

We kind of consider ourselves and we like the slogan, "the third neighbor" of Mongolia. And so I've chosen to go there because of the spirit of the people, and a leadership that shares our desire to let the — to have a government of and by and for the people.

Great. So, Mr. President, let's talk for a moment about America's foreign policy.

Okay.
Democracies change leaders every few



years, so in that change often comes a change in a nation's foreign policy. So what steps has your administration taken to ensure that the foreign policy initiatives you have taken will continue to be guiding principles for the U.S. after you leave the White House?

Thank you, that's a very interesting question. First of all, there are certain values that are inherent in our country that any leader will bring to the White House: the value of human rights, human dignity, freedom to worship, freedom of the press, freedom to speak your mind. And so foreign policy will have inherent in it those values.

The other thing is, is that once democracy takes hold it's hard work to make it work, but once it takes hold, it's hard to change it. Because democracy really speaks to the people and says, we listen to you, you're free, you can realize your dreams. And so one of the things my administration is doing is working

in places where there hasn't been democracy. I think of the Palestinian Territories, or Iraq. We're working in places where there's a new democracy to help strengthen those democracies. Lebanon is a good example, Georgia, Ukraine. We're working with countries that have dedicated themselves to democracy but want the friendship of the United States to help them even further democracy. And Mongolia is such a case.

And so one way you leave behind a foundation that others can't undo is to give people, help people develop a form of government that just can't be unwound unless something catastrophic were to take place inside the country.

Okay, great. So as part of our new relationship, Mongolia has contributed our peacekeeping troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. So in the future, if there are any military threats against Mongolia by its neighbors,

would the U.S., under your administration also rise to our defense?

That's a very good question. We're close friends. And by being friends, I think we can prevent any potential military dispute from arising. But of course we would support our friends. We certainly would. Nobody anticipates over the next three years of my administration any force being used against our friend. But my visit should send a signal to the people of Mongolia that you've got a friend in the United States, and a friend in George W. Bush.

Great to hear it. So during your visit to Mongolia, you will be addressing the nation in a wide televised address. So our nation is experiencing a crisis of corruption.

Yes.
So you will be speaking to our leaders and our nation about the dangers that corruption poses to our democracy. Can you give us a preview about it?

Well, I'm not going to give you a preview of the speech, because then people may not watch it if they get a preview, see. On the other hand, I will say on your TV screens, there should be no corruption in government, that one of the foundations of any government is the ability for the people to trust the government, itself. And a foundation of democracy, and a foundation of our foreign policy, and a foundation of our Millennium Challenge Account is that there be honest government.

Okay. The next related question is going to be to Millennium Challenge.

Okay.
So how has the issue of political corruption affected Mongolia's status for the Millennium Challenge Account?

Well, we intend to move forward on the Millennium Challenge Account with Mongolia. Mongolia is a friend. On the other hand, we will insist that as a condition of the Millennium Challenge checks being written that there be honest government, that there be investment

in health and education of the people, that there be a dedication to rule of law and to the marketplace.

Okay, the last question is so important for our television. You might be aware that the Eagle Television was the first independent TV station established in Mongolia, with American Christians, and Mongolians are working together to advance freedom of speech, press and conscience in our country. So, first, how do you feel about the role of ordinary American citizens supporting this kind of work for Mongolia's democracy? And the second, what further role do you think the ordinary American citizens can play in helping to address faith and freedom in Mongolia through media?

Very good question. First of all, I believe in a free media, and I believe that people ought to — and a media that is independent from government, like we have in America, is an important part of a society. In other words, government officials should not fear a free media, they ought to welcome a free media.

Listen, in my own media, I don't agree with everything that is said, but I strongly support their right to say it, just like I strongly support the right of people of faith to be involved with helping to spread this concept of freedom.

Secondly, I think investments will help the people of Mongolia. In other words, there's a way for people in American businesses, for example to invest in Mongolia, because that means jobs and stability and a good future.

But, no, listen, you'll find Americans are very compassionate people that love freedom. And they want to help people be free. And by the way, your form of government is democracy, but it ought to reflect your traditions and your great history. And I know it is.

Listen, I'm looking forward to going to your wonderful country. It's going to be a fantastic experience. I'm excited, I truly am excited to come.

Great. Thank you, sir.
Yes, very good job. Thank you.



Economic and Social Situation of Mongolia

Data provided by the National Statistics Office

(As of the first 10 months of 2005)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET

In the first 10 months of 2005, total revenue and grants of General Government budget amounted to 671.6 bln.togrogs and total expenditure and net lending 580.5 bln.togrogs. The General government budget overall balance was a surplus 91.1 bln.togrogs, which was increased by 96.1 bln.togrogs.

Current revenue of General Government amounted to 668.5 bln.togrogs and current expenditure 457.1 bln.togrogs. The budget current balance was a surplus 211.3 bln.togrogs, which was increased by 78.0 percent or 92.6 bln.togrogs compared with the same period of previous year.

Compared with the same period of previous year, tax revenue increased by 24.4 percent, taxes on foreign trade increased by 30.7 percent, value added tax increased by 16.9 percent and excise tax increased by 11.7 percent respectively.

MONEY, LOAN AND STOCK MARKET

According to the report of the Bank of Mongolia, at the end of September 2005 money supply (broad money, or M2) increased by 34.5 percent against of the same period of the previous year and by 2.9 percent against the previous month, reaching 1112.4 bln. togrogs. Compared with the previous month, at the end of the September of 2005, currency issued in circulation decreased by 5.7 percent or 12.5 bln.togrogs. Time saving deposits increased by 4.6 percent of 17.9 bln.togrogs. As well foreign currency deposits grew by 8.2 percent or 33.0 bln.togrogs.

In the end of September 2005, remainder of loans outstanding increased by 22.7 bln. togrogs or 3.0 percent compared to the previous month reaching 775.1 bln. togrogs. Of which standard loans account for 93.2 percent or 722.4 bln. togrogs and non-performing loans account for 6.8 percent or 52.7 bln. togrogs. Standard loans break down into private sectors loans which account for 92.0 percent, public sector loans 2.9 percent, other sector loans 2.0 and principal in arrears 3.1 percent respectively.

According to Mongolian Stock Exchange report, in the October of 2005, shares were traded during 21 days. Compared with the previous month, total shares traded decreased by 21.4 percent, reaching 318.9 thousand. Their value also declined by 41.0 percent, reaching 113.7 mln.togrogs. During October of 2005, the TOP-20 average index increased by 149.8 points during the month, reaching 963.4.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

In October of 2005, the consumer price index increased by 37.7 percent compared with the end of 2000 (base period), by 9.8 percent from the corresponding period of previous year, by 8.0 percent from the end of previous year respectively and decreased by 1.4 percent compared with the previous month.

In October of 2005, compared with the previous month the prices of foodstuffs were decreased by 3.3 percent, these decreases were caused the decrease of the overall index by 1.4 percent. But the prices of cultural goods & recreation were stable and prices of other groups were increased by 0.1-1.2 percent.

In October of 2005, the consumer price index increased by 0.3-2.7 percent in Govisumber, Bayan-Olgii, Bulgan, Uvs, Dundgovi, Dornod, Selenge, Sukhbaatar, Zavhan, Hovd, Govi-Altai aimag compared to the previous month. The prices were stable in Omnogovi aimag. In the rest aimag, month-on-month inflation decreased by 0.1-4.9 percent.

EXTERNAL TRADE

For the first 10 months of 2005, total external trade turnover equaled to 1.7 bln. US dollars, of which exports 787.9 mln. US dollars and imports 939.3 mln. US dollars. Total external trade balance turned a deficit of 151.4 mln. US dollars and compared with the same period of the previous year, total external trade turnover increased by 15.7 percent, exports increased by 21.3 percent and imports by 11.3 percent respectively.

As compared with the same period of the previous year, mineral products exports increased by 64.8 mln. US dollars and natural or cultured pearls, precious metal, jewellery by 68.5 mln. US dollars, which is reflected the increase of total exports.

The volume of copper concentrate exports decreased by 1.4 percent and their value in US dollars increased by 6.5 percent, compared with the same period of the previous year. For the first 10 months of 2004 year, the average price of copper concentrate per ton was 494.3 US dollars. But in the first 10 months of 2005, it was 533.9 US dollars and increased by 8.0 percent.

Compared with the same period of the previous year decreased imports of vegetable origin products by 16.4 mln. US dollars and textiles and textile articles by 31.2 mln. US dollars, which are comprised high percentage in the imports. Whereas, machinery, equipment electric appliances, recorders, TV sets & spare parts imports increased by 32.6 mln. US dollars and mineral products imports by 77.4 mln. US dollars respectively.

INDUSTRY

In the first 10 months of 2005, the total industrial output was 673.1 bln.togrogs at the constant prices 2000, that was lower by 46.6 bln.togrogs or 6.5 percent with the same period of previous year.

Compared with the same period of previous year, industrial output has been increased by 0.3-46.9 percent for electricity, thermal energy, steam, mining of coal and lignite, extraction of peat, mining of metal ores, manufacture of food products

and beverages, manufacture of paper and paper products, production of other non-metallic mineral products, manufacture of basic metals, manufacture of medical precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks divisions and declined by 0.5-69.0 percent for collection, purification and distribution of water, extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas, other mining and quarrying, manufacture of textiles, manufacture of wearing apparel, dressing and dyeing of fur, tanning, dressing of leather, manufacture of luggage, handbags, saddlery harness, and footwear, manufacture of wood and wooden products, publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media, manufacture of chemicals and chemical products, manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment, manufacture of furniture, manufacturing n.e.c etc.divisions.

Compared with the same period of previous year, 214 main items of industrial products, there production of 118 items increased, while production of 96 items decreased.

Compared with the same period of previous year, production of main items of industrial products, such as electricity, thermal energy, coal, gold, copper, metal steel, metal foundries, cement, lime, metal sleeper, building door and windows, combed down, spun thread, fabrics, small intestine, meat, sausage, spirit, soft drinks, bakery products, sweets, milk, dairy products, salt, disposable injection, injection and liquid medicine, medical tablets increased, distribution water, crude oil, copper and molybdenum concentrate, fluor spar concentrate, sawn wood, railway sleeper, scoured wool, camel woolen blanket, carpet, felt, knitted goods, leather footwear, book, newspaper, wheat flour, bread, biscuits, alcohol, wine, beer, macaroni noodles, fodder, etc. decreased.

In 2005 in industrial sector companies such as "Khustai Eruu", Co.Ltd, "Tsair Mineral" Co.Ltd, "Erdemen factory", "Uni C and C" have started their activities and have produced 96.4 thousand tonnes of iron-ore, 7.5 thousand tonnes of zincous concentrate, 195.5 thousand tonnes of copper foundries and 101.6 thousand metres of plastic.

In the first 10 months of 2005, production of industry (at current prices) on 1121.3 bln.togrogs sold at domestic and foreign market.

CONSTRUCTION

In the first 9 months of 2005, construction installation work was carried out 104.5 bln.togrogs, of which domestic construction entities to value of 81.8 percent or 85.4 bln.togrogs and foreign construction units to value of 18.2 percent or 19.1 bln.togrogs.

Construction installation work increased by 14.7 percent or 11.0 bln.togrogs as compared with the same period previous year, which was carried out by domestic construction entities.

In the first 9 months of 2005, domestic construction enterprises has built buildings of 43.0

bln.togrogs of fixed asset, such as residential buildings, hospitals, schooling, services center and railways.

TRANSPORT

In the first 10 months of 2005, 13.0 mln.tons of freight and 3555.1 thous.passengers (duplicated) were carried by railway transport. Compared with the same period of the previous year, the carried freight were increased by 13.9 percent or 1.6 mln.tons and carried passengers were decreased by 2.1 percent or 76.5 thousand persons respectively.

Compared with the same period of the previous year, the carried international passengers were increased 7.8 percent or 11.8 thousand persons as well as local passengers and carried freight of air transport decreased by 24.6 percent or 33.5 thousand persons and 17.5 percent and 342.1 tons respectively.

DOMESTIC TRADE

In the first 9 months of 2005, the total sales of wholesale and retail trade entities was 380.0 bln. togrogs and it was increased by 93.0 bln. togrogs or 32.4 percent compared with the same period of the previous year.

The total sales comprises 53.5 percent wholesale and 46.5 percent retail trade.

AGRICULTURE

As the 1st November, 2005, total amount of 74.9 thous.tones cereals, 80.6 thous.tones potatoes and 62.0 thous. tones vegetables were harvested. As well 828.3 thous.tones hay harvest and 24.9 thous.tones hand made fodder were prepared. Compared with the same period of the previous year, volume of potatoes, vegetables and hay harvest were increased by 1.7 thous.tones or 2.2 percent, 13.0 thous.tones 26.6 percent and 20.2 thous.tones or 2.5 percent respectively. As for the cereals and hand made fodder were decreased by 62.0 thous.tones or 45.3 percent and 0.6 thous.tones or 2.4 percent respectively.

Yields of cereals, potatoes per hectare staple agricultural crops were harvested 5.6 centners and 86.2 centners respectively. Compared with the same period of the previous year yields of cereals and potatoes per hectare staple was decreased by 3.4 centners and 2.6 centners respectively.

UNEMPLOYMENT

At the end of October 2005, the number of registered unemployed was 34.7 thousand that decreased by 7.1 percent or 2.7 thousand persons compared to the same period of the previous year. The number of unemployed women was 19.4 thousand, which is 56.0 percent of total registered unemployed.

In the first 10 months of 2005, 32.2 thousand registered unemployed persons entered into work. Of whom 13.9 percent entered in government or

state-owned enterprises and remaining 86.1 percent in joined companies, cooperatives or other types of employers, such as small-scale private businesses.

HEALTH

As of the first 10 months of 2005, the number of live births reached 37.8 thousand. This shows increase of 1.5 percent or 551 births compared to the same period of the previous year. In the meantime the number of maternal deaths was 39, and the number of infant mortality under the age of 1 stood at 783 hence showing a decrease of 4.2 percent or 34 infant mortality compared same period of the previous year. There was a decrease in under five mortality reaching 190 which is by 19.5 percent or 46 children.

On a national average the infant mortality rate under the age of 1 per 1000 live births was 21. This rate was higher than the national average in Bayankhongor, Dornod, Sukhbaatar, Uvs, Umnugovi, Khuvsgul, Khentii, Bulgan, Govi-Altai, Uvurkhangai and Arkhangai aimag.

The number of infectious diseases was 26.5 thousand showing an increase of 1.8 thousand infections compared to the same period of the previous year. This month, HIV/AIDS records increased by 1. As of the first 10 months of this year, a total of 9 cases recorded on HIV/AIDS. To be specific, the number of persons infected by varicella declined by 18.8 percent and shigellosis by 20.5 percent respectively. However, the number of persons infected by viral hepatitis increased by 22.9 percent, tuberculosis by 0.5 percent, gonorrhoea by 18.4 percent, trichomoniasis by 7.9 percent and syphilis by 29.5 percent respectively.

As of the first 10 months of 2005, total deaths were 12.9 thousand and 24.6 percent of total deaths was in the hospital. Total 467.8 thousand persons took treatment.

CRIME

The total number of crimes committed as of the first 10 months of 2005 was 14.3 thousand, as decreased by 8.7 percent compared to the same period of previous year. Decreases were recorded in crime against human life and health (or physical well-being) 4.3 percent, of which attempted murder 12.6 percent, death due to unfortunate occasion 12.4 percent, crime against child, family and social morality 16.9 percent, crime against traffic safety and use 7.6 percent, crime against ownership right 11.3 percent of which theft of property 14.3 percent, robber 11.7 percent and crime against social safety 14.7 percent.

But increases were recorded in crime against human freedom, rights and reputation 27.8 percent, crime against population health 10.7 percent, crime against economic entity 8.9 percent, forgery 13.9 percent, crime against administrative rule 13.2 percent and crime against environmental protection 2.2 times more.

Culture



Job Advertisement

Finance Administrator – Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Our client is a leading global company in the finding, mining and processing of the earth's mineral resources. Well established throughout the globe, they focus upon the import and export of high quality raw materials to supply the growing demand for their products.

Due to expansion of their Mongolian operation, our client is currently looking for a Finance Administrator to manage the set-up and successful running of the corporate finance function, reporting in to the East Asia Headquarters, based in Shanghai – China.

Core Accountabilities:

- Correct and accurate booking of all kinds of activities related with assets and liabilities.
- Cash flow management
- Provide valuable analysis reports and information to senior management (include the reports regular and irregular)
- Coordinate with each group to solve problems that may effect the accuracy of financial data
- Co-ordinate with accounting form to timely file tax return
- Day to day AP/AR –data processing (including SAP system and e-banking system)
- Ensure all required financial reports are submitted in a timely and accurate basis.
- Ensure internal control is maintained
- Yearly budget preparing, monthly forecast review and variance analysis
- Cost control/Overhead management
- Involvement of WOFE business
- Month end closing of general ledger
- Month end Statutory reporting

The successful candidate will be a self-motivated, team player with strong communication skills, in both Mongolian and English. Possessing a Bachelor Degree in Finance or a similar area, with a minimum of 3 years professional working experience in a foreign invested company, the successful candidate should solid exposure to the Mongolian tax regulations.

This is a highly exciting opportunity to join a growing operation with a globally renowned Fortune 500 company, with fantastic growth potential.

An attractive remuneration package is available to the successful candidate

Candidates wishing to apply for this position should send their resume in English to:

oliver.austin@consultcareer.com.cn

Only short listed candidates shall be notified. Our client is an equal opportunities employer.



Job Advertisement

Geoscientist – Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Our client is a leading global company in the finding, mining and processing of the earth's mineral resources. Well established throughout the globe, they focus upon the import and export of high quality raw materials to supply the growing demand for their products.

Due to expansion of their Mongolian operation, our client is currently looking for a Geoscientist to collaborate with the regional team, and then generate and test targets leading to the discovery of an economic mineral deposit in Mongolia

Core Accountabilities:

- Execution of in-house exploration programs in region
- Mapping, sampling and surveying in the field as well as supervision of contractors and liaison with joint venture partners
- Detailed interpretation of results and liaison with teams on individual projects and reconnaissance work
- Assisting, mentoring and directing other project geologists
- JV partner project monitoring, reporting and auditing in the field
- Networking and intelligence gathering
- Technical review and assessment of submittals
- Generation of new exploration concepts and opportunities in region
- Basic monitoring of land tenement situation
- Good knowledge of health and safety regulations applicable in the work environment
- Ensure compliance of HSE standards and protocols for all supervised employees and contractors.

The successful candidate will be a results oriented team player with strong communication and negotiation skills. Educated with a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree, the successful candidate will have gained at least 4 years of work within the geology field.

This is a highly exciting opportunity to join a growing operation with a globally renowned Fortune 500 company, with fantastic growth potential.

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BEAUTY PAGEANT

Miss Mongolia leaves to take on the World

BY SH.BATMONKH

MISS Mongolia 2005 winner G.Khongorzul left for the 55th Miss World competition November 8, offering promises to "raise Mongolia's reputation" and do her best at the event. Her departure marks the end of an intense two months of preparation with top fashion models Sh.Tuyatsetseg, B.Odgerel and S.Tsolmon.

"They taught me everything I need to know. That's why I have no worries about the event," Khongorzul said at a November 7 press conference with Ch. Erkhembayar, head of the "Desoft" studio.

She said her preparations included lessons in how to walk properly onstage, as well as more academic work on her English skills.

"Within two months my English has improved a lot, and I think my preparation has been enough," she said, explaining that she learned Russian as a child and consequently studied English later in life.

"Now I can express myself fully to anyone," she added.

Khongorzul said she would play the bamboo fiddle at the competition, an

ability that she picked up while studying the instrument in high school. She will also wear a "national costume shown in modern Mongolian style," she said.

The 2005 Miss World Competition will take place in Sanya, China, on December 10. Khongorzul will join 129 other contestants, each representing a different country.

Khongorzul, a 1.77-meter tall 11th-grade student from high school No. 1, has said she would like to become a doctor. She beat more than 150 young women aged 17 to 21 to win the Miss Mongolia 2005 contest, held September 10 at the Central Cultural Palace. Her crowning qualified her to participate at the 2005 Miss World contest.

Erkhembayar, UBSTV's Ankhbayar, Nuudel Trade Company's principal B. Enkhtuya and top model S. Odgerel judged the Miss Mongolia 2005 competition.

There are three large global beauty contests: Miss World, Miss Universe. Eric Morley, a former bingo hall manager, created the Miss World Competition in 1951.



Photo by B.Byamba-Ochir

JAPAN PRIZE 2005

Japan Prize 2005 awarded

BY SH.BATMONKH

A PRODUCER from Mongolian National TV took top honors in a division of the 2005 Japan Prize, an international series of awards recognizing outstanding work in educational programming.

L.Ariunjargal, the producer at Mongolia National TV's educational studio, won first place in the early education category for her program "Friend." Ariunjargal said her piece faced entries from the United States, South Korea, Japan and India in the final round. She learned she had made it to the final round while browsing the competition's official Web site, she said.

"Friend" is the story of two young friends, 16-year-old Orgil and 7-year-old Baatar. Orgil suffers from a congenital disease and is mentally disabled, and Baatar constantly defends Orgil from other

children's teasing. One day, Orgil sees Baatar being beaten in his efforts to protect his friend. Orgil loses his temper, hurts the leader of the gang, and is consequently sent to a special care center for people with mental disabilities.

"This drama, based on a true story, makes us think about real friendship," Ariunjargal said.

Camera man J.Nyamsukh filmed the program. D.Tuul worked as editor in chief, and actor Kh.Batbayar and high school student N.Bilguun held the lead roles.

His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince of Japan attended the 2005 Japan Prize awards ceremony, which was held October 31 at the NHK Broadcasting Center in Tokyo. The prince offered his personal congratulations to all the winners.

"He met the people and talked with all of us for two minutes," Ariunjargal said, adding that the prince asked her how often her

station aired educational programming for Mongolian children.

"He had a lot information on Mongolia," she said. "In Japan, people know about Mongolia as professional sumo wrestler Asashoryu's home country."

The annual competition, held this year for the 32nd time, attracted 270 entries from 146 broadcasting organizations in 53 countries, including Mongolia, Germany, Japan, Afghanistan, South Africa and Sweden. Seventeen judges from 14 countries gathered in Tokyo to begin screening the entries on October 24. More than 120 delegates from around the world, including the 17 judges, attended the competition, which judged entries in the categories of adult education, early education, youth education, issues in education on the Web, and program proposals.

The Grand Prix Japan Prize went to "My Dear

Child of the Enemy," submitted to the adult education category by NHK Broadcasting.

NHK established the Japan Prize in 1965 to encourage educational broadcasting around the world. In addition to offering awards, the Japan Prize seeks to bring together "producers, broadcasters and educators from around the world to discuss and exchange ideas," Ariunjargal said.

Ariunjargal and other Mongolian producers have been competing at the biannual Prix Jeunesse Festival since 2000. Ariunjargal's "Going for Water" program grabbed a special prize at the 2002 Prix Jeunesse Festival. At the 2004 Prix Jeunesse Festival, her program "My Name is Bataa" received recognition. "My Name is Bataa" tells the story of three Mongolian children who find ways to help, get along with, respect and learn from each other, Ariunjargal said

UB Venues

What's On

The most up-to-date guide to Ulaanbaatar

Annual painting competition begins



"VALIANT Art" Company has announced a national competition for the best painting of the year. The competition will begin on November 17 in the Opera and Ballet Theater.

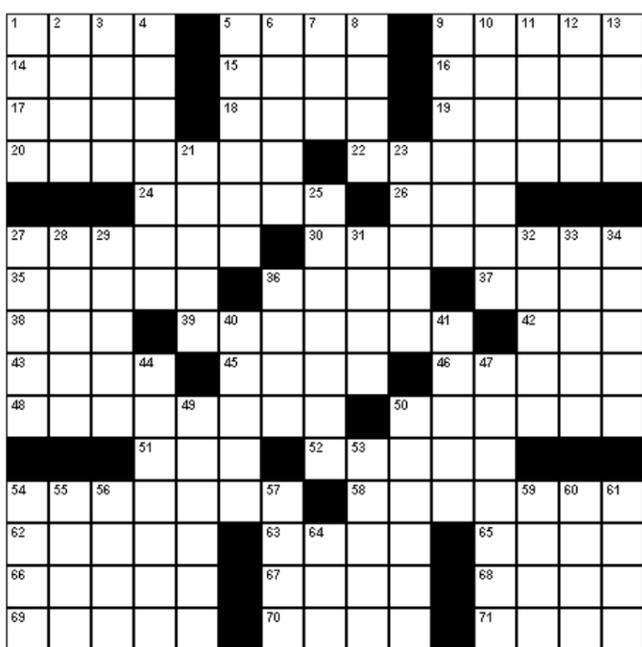
Elizabeth Koppa, President of the Valiant Art Company, said the main goal of the competition is to raise awareness of Mongolian art outside the country. The competition will select 20 painting by Mongolian painters to send to the Index 2005 in Dubai, and the choices will be on display in an exhibition from November 28 to December 2.

The three best paintings will be auctioned in the Opera and Ballet Theater on December 2.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1- Two together; 5- Starch used in puddings; 9- Unit of weight in gemstones; 14- Distinctive quality; 15- Son of Zeus in Greek mythology; 16- Wide open; 17- Nicholas II was the last Russian one; 18- Work the soil; 19- Trivial objection; 20- Action of a stypitic; 22- Breakfast choice; 24- Type of sanctum; 26- Owing; 27- British island; 30- Study of human settlements; 35- Winged; 36- Shrivelled, without moisture; 37- Prepare for publication; 38- Roll of bank notes; 39- Rare metallic element; 42- Before; 43- School founded in 1440; 45- Consumes; 46- With speed; 48- Make bare; 50- Having only magnitude; 51- "... the cows come home"; 52- Pertaining to the kidneys; 54- Eternal; 58- More spacious; 62- Seine spot; 63- 6th month of the Jewish calendar; 65- Sheltered, nautically; 66- Quench; 67- Pole; 68- Slant; 69- Artist's support; 70- Baby blues; 71- Relaxation;



25- Go in again; 27- Having jaws; 28- Overjoy; 29- Radioactive gas; 31- Singer Kristofferson; 32- Perfect, something to aspire to; 33- About; 34- Point in the desired direction; 36- Chair; 40- Makes well; 41- Port near Hong Kong; 44- Nutty; 47- Web-footed; 49- Fuel oil; 50- Grunts; 53- Efface; 54- Church recess; 55- Festive occasion; 56- Historical chapters; 57- Identical; 59- Bones found in the hip; 60- Long fish; 61- Network of nerves; 64- It breaks daily;

DOWN

1- Cave dwellers; 2- Expel; 3- Salver; 4- Person who plays the harp; 5- Glossy; 6- Spring up; 7- Hair goop; 8- Scandinavian capital city; 9- Desert plant; 10- Asexual reproductive cell; 11- Talk irrationally; 12- Capital of Western Samoa; 13- Narrate; 21- Twisted expression?; 23- Farewell;

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



VISIT OUR WEB SITE
http://ubpost.mongolnews.mn

Tune leads to property questions

By B.NYAMJAV

MONGOLIAN song rang out at the concert ceremony of the 4th East Asian Games, held in Macao. A man clad in a dheel – Mongolia's national gown – sang the closing number, while dancers moved to its melody. The song, "It's Only in Mongolia," was composed by Mongolian Ts.Chuluunbat, a musician from the "Kharanga" band. The lyrics come from B.Yavuukhulan, a poet well-known not only in Mongolia, but also throughout the world. The singer was from Inner Mongolia.

Although the melody was recognizable to Mongolian viewers, the words were not sung in Mongolian. The use of Chuluunbat's lyrics led one *Onoodor* newspaper reporter to question whether the intellectual property rights of the composer had been violated.

Chuluunbat responded that the song was not registered with the Intellectual Heritage Commission of



Mongolia, though he added with a smile that if it were, he would be rich. Although Chuluunbat said he was proud to hear his melody performed at the Games, he also felt as if Mongolians were losing parts of their intellectual heritage to foreigners. Chuluunbat composed the music in 1983, but it was first performed by Kharanga singer Kh.Lkhagvasuren during the concert of "Tune of Era" in 1997. The song received awards from the Union of Mongolian Composers and was selected as the

best song at the "Pentatonic" music festival.

"It's Only in Mongolia" was also recognized as one of the Asian Top 100 songs of the 20th century by a Japanese Research Agency, which published all 100 songs with their composition histories, musical notes and verses. Also included in this publication were "Four Seasons' Steppe," by twice-State merited and People's actor L.Murdorj, and "Wide Mountainous Land" by State-merited and Honored Actor S.Gonchisumlaa.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Mongolia marks 70 years of photos

A PHOTO exhibition to celebrate the 70th anniversary of photography in Mongolia was held in Modern Art Gallery on November 11 to 15. About 700 photos from more than 80 artists captured Mongolian life, society and events from 1980 through today.

The exhibition was divided into three parts. The first part of the exhibition included Honored Artists of Culture Ts.Nina and

M.Tserenjamts's creations. Photographers from MONTSAME Agency also contributed to the first portion of the exhibition, with B.Sukhee focusing on history and lifestyle and D.Samdan capturing images of nature and animals.

The second part of the exhibition included about 460 pieces by photographers who work in the mass media. The final part, called "Children and Focus,"

displayed the works of students from a photo-study group. Headed by famous artist S.Tuya, the photo-study group receives support from the Children Support/Love Fund, Great Britain and the Mongolian Art Council.

Many artists were awarded for their photos during the exhibition's opening ceremony.

In the past 70 years, about 20 works by Mongolian photographers have received awards at

international competitions. Honored Artist of Culture Ts.Nina received a first-place award from a Sport Photo Festival funded by the Sasakawa fund, and Honored Artist of Culture M.Tserenjamts likewise took first place at the Interpress 1971 international competition. V.Battulga took second place in a competition held to mark the 100th anniversary of International Union of Motorcyclists in 2005.

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

(Nov 16-22)

Source: Hydrology and Meteorology Institute

Western aimags (Khovd, Uvs, Zavkhan, Gobi-Altai, Khovsgol and Bayan-Olgii)
Snow is expected in the some areas on November 17-19. Wind speeds will be 5-10m/s from the west.
Mountainous regions:
Night: -26°C / -21°C
Day: -11°C / -6°C
South Gobi-Altai areas:
Night: -12°C / -7°C
Day: -5°C / 0°C
Other areas:
Night: -13°C / -8°C
Day: -9°C / -4°C

Central aimags (Ulaanbaatar, Tov, Selenge, Orkhon, Darkhan-Uul, Arkhangai, Ovorkhangai, Bulgan)
No snow to be expected in whole week.
Winds speeds will reach 4-9m/s.
Mountainous region:
Night: -23°C / -18°C
Day: -10°C / -5°C
Other areas:
Night: -18°C / -13°C
Day: -6°C / -1°C
Eastern aimags (Sukhbaatar, Dornod and Khentii)
No snow to be expected in whole week.

Wind speeds will reach 4-9m/s.
Mountainous region:
Night: -21°C / -16°C
Day: -8°C / -3°C
Other areas:
Night: -15°C / -10°C
Day: -5°C / 0°C
Gobi aimags (Omnogobi, Dornogobi, Dundgobi and Gobi-sumber)
No snow to be expected in whole week.
Wind speeds will reach 4-9m/s.
Most areas:
Night: -13°C / -8°C
Day: -6°C / -1°C

Back page

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES - NOV 20-26

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 19)
 Though life's mysteries continue now throughout 2006, the month ahead brings relative enlightenment, sense out of chaos. You'll feel mellow. Love, compassion and culture will draw you. So will foreign countries, international affairs, law and learning. But until December 4, let all these be "nostalgic" - chase and embrace what was, rather than what might or will be. (As noted last week, don't start new projects through December 3. But travel to an old haunt, or reconnecting with an old love - even, next week, an old financial "deal" - can reward.)

TAURUS (Apr 20 - May 20)
 The month ahead accents life's mysteries, occultism, dreams, sexual desires, research, diagnosis, large finances, debt, investments, lifestyle changes, critical health, and consequential commitments. These matters are closely tied to your relationships now, and they also offer you a great way around the "boredom" or restrictions that confront you on home and family fronts. For example, if your home bores you, invest in a new one, or start a dream diary. This message should make sense Monday/Tuesday. Your romantic, sensual side surges Wednesday to Friday. An uplifting friend is coming!

GEMINI (May 21 - Jun 21)
 The four weeks ahead emphasize relationships, relocation, contracts, public dealings, negotiations, competition, co-operation, litigation, challenge. Any of these can help you overcome an impasse in work, health, or dependent-related duties. To succeed, communicate in a friendly way, travel, and handle paperwork "immediately." Remember this for the entire 12 months ahead, when those impasses could arise. Continue to protect ongoing projects, to deal with the past, and to avoid new starts, through December 3. An "ex" phones - or more likely, a former duty returns. Home, nature reward you deeply Thursday.

CANCER (Jun 22 - Jul 22)
 An old flame or creative, speculative, pleasure project might briefly appear this week or next - he/she/it's not important, so give it little room in your life. Meanwhile, watch work and health matters for glitches, mistakes or missed appointments - and start NO new projects - through December 3. Though work, machinery and health areas are a bit frustrating or slowed now, they represent a "solution" over the year ahead - tackling these things vigorously can reduce the monetary restrictions that would otherwise dampen your growing romantic, creative, child-related and "sports" luck.

LEO (Jul 23 - Aug 22)
 An old flame (or former adventure, creative project) might re-appear to tempt you. But this romance or project will run into the realities of home, family and security by next week. New romantic notions will come also, probably with new people, now through late December. But remember: family, home and security, retreat and rest will benefit you all 2006, while true romance waits until 2007. Still, during 2006, when home and family issues face obstructions, be a little romantic, creative, adventurous - these will offer a route around an obstacle.

VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sep 22)
 Start nothing before December 4. Monday night begins a month that will draw you into home, real estate, family, security and Mother Nature. Your body will slow to a "digestive" pace; your mind and heart will downshift to contemplative, "soul renewal" levels. During the 12 months ahead, you can use this "domestic" or security mode to get around the restrictions piled upon you by government agencies, head office, and officious types. For example, if head office cuts your travel budget, some homebound brooding could bring an idea that "replaces" travel.

LIBRA (Sep 23 - Oct 22)
 Avoid new starts in any area before December 4. The month ahead emphasizes travel, writing, paperwork, communications, siblings, distribution, errands, details and office systems. Study these areas, for they contain a hidden gem, a "profitable path." During the 12 months ahead, your earnings are greatly favored, but your social contacts or networks (or shortcomings in these) could strongly restrict your money luck. But at the same time, your travel, writing, distribution and communication efforts will offer a way around the social/network restrictions, and a "forward path" for more money!

SCORPIO (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
 Don't start any new projects through December 3, especially in money, earnings, purchases, casual intimacy and rote learning (memorizing details), as mistakes, delays and false starts are rampant. However, this area also offers a hidden benefit, a clue for the future. The 12 months ahead bring you optimism and good luck, but parents, bosses or heavy duties keep clamping a lid on your buoyant spirits. During this time, if you focus on earning and spending, memory or casual intimacy, etc., you'll likely find a productive way around those restrictions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
 A month of climbing energy, charisma, and optimism starts now! Still, your effectiveness will be mildly blunted until December 3 - others are indecisive, and contracts, negotiations, relocations, public dealings, and relations with VIPs, bosses and parents "go backwards." So instead of starting new projects, return to a spiritual, health, charitable, institutional, administrative or governmental task for the two weeks ahead, to sew up loose ends. Sometimes, during the year ahead, you could feel tired and despondent. The cure is simple: get up, out, and "burn energy." Happiness comes Saturday/Sunday (26/27th)!

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
 Monday begins a month of quietude, rest, and spiritual, charitable or red tape activities. Save new starts in these areas for December 4 onward. Until then, deal with old, former or ongoing ventures. In the year ahead, your social life will expand luckily, but secrets, sexual urges, financial situations or health demands could put a lid on your expanding popularity. Study what comes up over the next four weeks - it could give you a way around these restrictions. A confidential, governmental, administrative or institutional link might play a key role.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
 Your career is tremendously favored now to November/06, but a relationship, a competitor, or the reluctance of others to trust you, could impede your career luck. From Sunday night through Tuesday, that impediment stares you right in the face - see it; know it! (It's most obvious around 8 to 9 p.m. Monday, PST.) There's a way around this impediment, all year, and it's what you do best: socialize, schmooze, praise others, seek popularity, network, treat others (peers, parents, bosses, important clients) to entertainment tickets, etc. "Divine" the future Thursday!

PISCES (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
 Monday begins a month of VIP relations, ambitions, career pressures, and status goals. These will "turn backwards" through December 3 (so start nothing) - but they also provide you with a valuable clue. For the whole year ahead, you can use career and relations with higher-ups to minimize workplace or health restrictions. For example, work will seem lighter, less boring, if you ambitiously engage the boss. Handling these work duties is important - otherwise, you'll reduce your luck in travel, higher learning, international affairs, publishing and love for the year ahead. The above projections are courtesy of Tim Stephens.

SPORTS

Small step toward a big deal

Asashoryu makes perfect start to record attempt

BY PAUL BACON

ALL THE HYPE going into this week's Kyushu Basho centred firmly on Mongolia's Asashoryu and his attempts at making yet another piece of sumo history. Victory in Fukuoka will make him the first rikishi ever to win all six major competitions in the space of just one calendar year. With such a feat in the offing the grand-champion could not have wished for a better start to his record attempt. Not only did he begin with three vital wins at the Kokusai Centre, but he was also able to sit back and watch some of his closest challengers take some early tumbles.

Asashoryu's first bout came against his fellow Mongolian, Hakuho. The young komosubi has fleetingly offered indications that he is one of the few men capable of challenging the grand-champion and would have had high hopes of crashing his rival's party. Back at the start of this year the younger of the two men from the steppe was riding high after over-powering his illustrious compatriot in last year's Kyushu event. He went into 2005 with promotion to the rank of ozeki - just one step behind Asashoryu - firmly in his sights. Since then, however, the 20-year-old has struggled for both form and fitness, causing him to drop away from contention



over the summer.

Despite being forced to withdraw from July's Nagoya Basho with an injured left leg, Hakuho has recently begun to show no answer to a barrage of slaps hurled at his face and was unable to put up any meaningful resistance. It was a similar story the following day when Mongolia's top export proved just too much to handle for yet another unfortunate maegashira, this time the hapless Kisenosato.

Asashoryu may well be quietly content with his own form, but he will be downright ecstatic at the start made by some of his closest challengers. Much of the recent talk around the

dohyo has been about the Bulgarian sensation Kotooshu, who at last month's Aki Basho took the Mongolian yokozuna to a final day play-off for the title. Ten victories at Kyushu could assure him of promotion to ozeki and the chance to breath even closer down Asashoryu's neck. However, the 22 year-old made a nightmare start to his promotion campaign when he was upstaged by Kakizoe on the very first day. The Eastern-European had no response to his opponents vicious slapping and was forced to the dirt inside just a few seconds into the bout.

All three of the veteran ozeki who sit just one rank behind Asashoryu came

unstuck early on. Tochiazuma was unable to deal with Miyabiyama, who made a dream start to his competition by also dealing with the injury riddled Kaio. Chiyotakai completed the triumvirate of slip-ups when he fell to the veteran Mongolian Kyokutenho. The chasing pack will be aware that it is an almost impossible task to keep pace with Asashoryu at the best of time, but when the high-powered Mongolian has a one-bout lead after only three days, things get even harder. With such a strong start to this vital competition few would bet against Asashoryu breaking sumo's toughest record.

Dalai Avarga G.Osokhbayar takes first

THE NATIONAL WRESTLING competition, named for "Spirit Bal Buram" company, drew 128 wrestlers to the Wrestling Palace on November 13. The competition included one State Dalai Avarga (Ocean Champion), two State Elephants, two State Khartsagas, and two State

Nachins, 34 military lions, 14 aimag elephants, 16 aimag nachins and 32 young wrestlers.

State Dalai Avarga G.Osokhbayar won the tournament and State Elephant Kh.Monkhaabaatar finished second at the event.

Bangkok competition spotlights indoor games

IT'S the lesser-known sports that are commanding Mongolian athletes' attention this week at the Bangkok-2005 First Asian Indoor Games, held from November 12 to 19.

Ten Mongolian athletes are competing against more than 2200 other entrants from 45 countries in the games, which include aerobics, dance sport, extreme sports, futsal

(indoor football), hoop takraw (like soft tennis for the feet), indoor athletics, indoor cycling, muay (Thai boxing) and swimming. The Mongolian entrants will participate in four sporting events including aerobics, boxing, swimming and kickboxing.

As of November 16, A.Tamir of Mongolia had become in 20th place for swimming.

MNOC awards East Asian games athletes

D.ZAGDSUREN, president of the Mongolian National Olympic Committee (MNOC), awarded the top winners from the Fourth East Asian Games on November 13.

He met with athletes T s . M o n k h z u l , O . G u n d e g m a a , N . B a y a r m a a , D.Monkhtuya, O.Saruul-Od, E.Buyanbat and

M.Batjargal - medal winners at the Fourth East Asian Games from October 29 to November 6 in Macao - according to *Odrin Sonin* daily newspaper. A Japanese coach Tada Naokatsu, who has worked in Mongolia for a decade for the shooting sport development, was also awarded with the Olympic Merit medal of the MNOC.

Mongolian judoists win bronze medals

OUT OF THE 15 judoists Mongolia sent to the 2005 Asian Young Judo Wrestling Championship in Taipei, four scored medal finishes, all bronze. From November 11 to 13, more than 250 sportsmen from 22 countries competed for the top spots.

The four Mongolian medal winners include B.Khishignyam (66kg), S.Nyam-Ochir (73kg), Ts.Monkhzaya (70kg) and N.Lhamdegd (under 78kg). Overall, Mongolia placed fourth, behind Russia and Kazakhstan.

Hammer athlete wins bronze

MONGOLIAN ATHLETE S.Maamuu won a bronze medal at the hammer category of the Asian University Light Athletics Tournament in Guangzhou, China, at the beginning of November.

The 17-member Mongolian team was ranked eighth at the event, which drew more than 300 athletes from 20 different countries including Mongolia, Japan, South Korea, Iran, North Korea, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Thailand.

Mongolians for gold in Kazakhstan

IT WAS ALL gold for the Mongolian sambo wrestlers in Astana, Kazakhstan. Women M.Bundmaa (52kg) and G.Battogs (64kg) and men Kh.Tsagaanbaatar (68kg) and B.Ariun-Erdene (90kg) took top honors in their events at the World Sambo Wrestling

Championship for Seniors from November 11 to 14. More than 500 sambo wrestlers from 40 different countries competed at this event. Previously, State Honored Athlete Kh.Erdenet-Od and B.Bat-Demberel were champions at this event.

Darkhan-Uul wrestlers win in Russia

DARKHAN-UUL aimag athletes snagged silver and bronze medals in Ulan-Ude, Russia, at the international free-style wrestling competition named after honored Buryat coach V.I.Muhatova. Last week, free-style wrestlers

Ch.Bayanmonkh (97kg) and B.Odgerel (87kg) won silver and bronze medals, respectively. The cities of Russian Ulan-Ude and Darkhan have been developing and strengthening their ties in recent years.

Top models shoot hoops in tournament

MONGOLIA'S TOP fashion models will trade their stiletos for sneakers, manouevring to take shots rather than pose for them at the First Fashion 2005 Basketball Tournament this Saturday. Forty models, separated into six teams, will compete in the Sports Center to raise money for the 800th anniversary of the Great Mongolian State next year. All proceeds will go to the "Great Mongol 800" committee.

D.Garam-Ochir, coordinator and head of the "Great Mongol 800" committee, Ch.Enkhjargal, head of the State Fund, Ch.Enkhtaivan, director of the White Falcon company, fashion designer B.Soyolmaa, Miss beauties E.Odgerel and B.Sodtuya, and PM Ts.Elbeddorj.

Sitting courtside will be

"A" classified referees will judge the event. "New Entertainment Production" organized this event.

Boxer Lkhagva Sim attempts to reclaim world title

THE WORLD'S top two boxers, Mongolian D.Lkhagva Sim and American Juan Diaz, will face off again this December, with Sim attempting to reclaim the lightweight world title he lost to Diaz this July. The

Houston, Texas. The Mongolian fighter came close enough to taste victory in a few rounds, but was upset again and again by Diaz's lateral movements and relentless pace.

On December 15, the



33-year-old Lkhagva Sim has nearly a decade of boxing under his belt and plenty of titles to his name, including former WBA championships in the lightweight (2004) and super featherweight (1999) categories. He also has the distinction of being Mongolia's only fighter to have won a world title.

two will trade punches at the Gibson Amphitheater in Los Angeles, California. Since losing his title, Lkhagva Sim has won two times, and Diaz has protected his title twice.

Though tough, aggressive and strong, Lkhagva Sim lost a fast-paced 12 rounds to Diaz at the WBA match-up in

Toru Watanabe is Lkhagva Sim's manager and Joe Goossen works as his trainer. Lkhagva Sim's record is 19-4-1, with 16 knockouts.

This fight will be aired live on FOX Sports TV and the Best Damn Sports Show Period.

Top skaters head to European games

TWO OF Mongolia's top skaters, G.Jargalchuluu and D.Natsagnyam, will participate in a series of short-track competitions from November 11 to 20 in Bormio, Italy and the Netherlands. These games will determine who

participates in the Turin-2006 Winter Sports Games. The Mongolian National Olympic Committee will cover all of the athletes' expenses. The Turin 2006 Winter Games will include 55 female and male athletes in the short-track category.



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