

QUOTABLE

"If we have a next life, I would like to marry him again."

QIU YAN, whose husband died in the rainstorm in Beijing, in a TV program on Wednesday. Her husband, 34-year-old Ding Zhijian, drowned after his vehicle became stuck in 4 meters of water downtown near Guangqumen Bridge on July 21. He was driving to his office about 7 pm when his Hyundai sport utility vehicle stalled in a flooded area under the bridge. At 10:20 pm, Ding and his car were pulled out of the water.

"We herewith categorically refute allegations ... that a Sudanese member of those who qualified for the Olympic competition and have arrived in London is either missing (or) sought political asylum."

The Sudanese embassy in London has denied that one of its Olympic runners applied for asylum in the UK, contradicting previous reports.

THE NUMBER
20,689

YUAN

Shanghai urban residents' per capita disposable income of 20,689 yuan (\$3,243) topped 26 provincial administrative regions in the first half of 2012. China News Service reported on Friday, citing the statistic released by these regions. The Shanghai urban residents' per capita disposable income was 8.6 percentage points more than that during the same period of 2011 and is about 12,840 yuan more than that in Qinghai province, 7,848 yuan, which ranks at the bottom.

ON THE WEB

Highlights from
Chinadaily.com.cn



Video: After four years of waiting, the competition is on again. In a special Olympic edition of The Week, find out what's really going on in the Olympic Village and get introduced to what could be the weirdest Olympic sport of all time.

Culture: June 29 was a historic day for the site of Xanadu in the Inner Mongolia autonomous region and the Chengjiang fossil site in Southwest China's Yunnan province, as they gained their places on the World Heritage List.

Bilingual: The radical decline in sea ice around the Arctic is at least 70 percent due to human-induced climate change, according to a new study.

Digest China: Does China have enough jobs for college graduates?

On China Forum
<http://bbs.chinadaily.com.cn>

Tips: 11 things you didn't know about job interviews

Buzzword: Leisure guilt is the guilt that comes with taking a vacation or a day off from work. You're so anxiety-ridden about the work you're leaving behind, or will be returning to, that it's less painful to not take time off.

Scan it!

Read more on
chinadaily.com.cn



Contacts

LONDON:
Phone +44 (0)207 398 8270
Fax +44 (0)207 398 8260
Feedback views@mail.chinadailyuk.com
Circulation & Advertising
enquiries@mail.chinadailyuk.com
BEIJING:
News (86-10) 6491-8366
Subscription (86) 400-699-0203
Advertisement (86-10) 6491-8631
E-mail editor@chinadaily.com.cn
iPhone app chinadaily.com.cn/iphone

around china



PLAYING IN SUMMER

PHOTO BY HONG JIANPENG / CHINA NEWS SERVICE

Children play on the beach in Fangchenggang, in the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, on Friday.

BEIJING
President Hu meets astronauts

President Hu Jintao met on Friday morning with astronauts, scientists and engineers of the manned space-docking mission, in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

The Shenzhou IX spacecraft, with three astronauts aboard, returned from a 13-day mission on June 29, after the crew succeeded in manually docking the spacecraft with the space lab module Tianwong-1, paving the way for building a possible space station.

HENAN
Road accident kills 7 in Central China

Seven people died and 13 were injured when a concrete mixer crashed into a motorized tricycle in Henan province early on Friday, local authorities said.

The accident happened at around 5:30 am at a crossing near a high-tech development zone in the provincial capital Zhengzhou, the provincial safety administration said in a news release.

It said the injured people, including 10 serious cases, were being treated at three local hospitals.

The cause of the accident was under investigation, it said.

TIBET
Tibet to host Shoton Festival

The 19th Lhasa Yogurt Festival, also called the Shoton Festival, will be held from Aug 17 to 23 in the Tibet autonomous region.

With the theme of "Happy Lhasa, Cultural Shoton", this year's festival will include activities such as Tibetan opera shows, horse riding, yak racing and music forums. At a news conference on Wednesday, the festival's organizing committee said preparatory work is in full swing, and this year's festival will welcome more tourists from both home and abroad.

The Shoton Festival, which literally means "yogurt banquet festival", is one of the most important festivals for Tibetans. It dates back to the 11th century when it began as a religious occasion for local residents to offer yogurt to monks who had finished their meditation retreats.

SHAANXI
Fugitive arrested after 17 years

Police on Thursday captured a man charged with robbery and rape, who had been on the run for 17 years.

The 35-year-old fugitive was caught in Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi province, nearly 1,000 km away from his hometown in Funan

county, Anhui province.

After learning the suspect had arrived in Xi'an to pick up his son, police from Funan and Xi'an ambushed and arrested him.

He is accused of four counts of robbery and three rapes.

Three other suspects involved in the crimes were caught and sentenced to imprisonment in 1995, but the man fled, which placed him on the police's online wanted list.

GUANGDONG
Death sentence for official imposed

A development zone official in a southern Chinese city was sentenced to death over land-related corruption cases involving more than 125 million yuan (\$19.69 million) over the past six years.

Zheng Niansheng, head of the Mingzhen management committee in the city of Foshan, was convicted of embezzlement and bribery charges by the Intermediate People's Court of Foshan. He was given a two-year stay of execution and ordered to surrender all personal assets, court officials said on Thursday.

Zheng was found to have embezzled more than 100 million yuan earmarked for relocation compensation for an overseas-registered real estate company in a housing project in Foshan last May. Zheng also pocketed 4 million yuan

in bribes from company officials benefiting from the embezzlement, the court found.

ZHEJIANG
Killer sentenced to death

A court in East China's Zhejiang province on July 26 sentenced a man who killed and dismembered a person to death.

While driving a motor tricycle at around 4 pm on Sept 18, 2011, carrying pork to a market in Jiaying city, Yi Tingman, from Sichuan province, ran down the victim surnamed Gan, who was riding a bicycle.

Yi got off his motor tricycle and saw that Gan was badly injured.

Instead of providing assistance, he loaded the victim and the bicycle onto his tricycle and ran away. He later killed Gan with a hammer and a knife.

To cover up the crime, he first hid Gan's body, and then went back at night to dismember the body with a borrowed butcher's knife.

Yi then placed the body parts in four bags and discarded them, according to the Jiaying Intermediate People's Court.

SICHUAN
Luzhou boy saves lives after flood

A 16-year-old boy in Luzhou, in

Southwest China's Sichuan province, saved several people in the heavy flood on July 23, the Jinghua Times reported on July 27.

When the flood began to hit Luzhou on July 22, high school student Ni Peng called three of his classmates to help the residents move things from their homes.

After the flood reached his upper torso, he swam and managed to save many trapped people.

He saved a 60-year-old man, who had water up to his neck. After rescuing the man, he went back into the flood and rescued a 7-year-old child.

SHANGHAI
Bidders grab bargains at auction

A bidder managed to buy a Mercedes-Benz vehicle for 320,000 yuan (\$50,164) at an auction held on July 27 by Shanghai Customs. A new car of the same model costs about 1.75 million yuan.

About 45 objects, including five luxury sedans and 17 designer handbags, were auctioned. All of the products were goods confiscated by customs this year.

A Cadillac was also sold for 353,000 yuan, while a Louis Vuitton handbag fetched 5,500 yuan from a starting price of 2,500 yuan.

Games get great play in China

By **ANDREW MOODY** and **ZHAO YINAN** in Beijing and **FU JING** in London

Though the opening ceremony for the Olympic Games took place in London, the largest group of spectators gathered around their TV sets and computers in the middle of the night in China.

Viewership of the summer Games in the nation that last hosted them is expected to be more than any other country in the world.

According to a poll by Ipsos published on the eve of the Games, 92 percent of the population planned to watch the event at some point, a far greater proportion than even the 61 percent in the host country, Great Britain.

Gu Xiaowei, 24, a marketing executive for Mercedes Benz from Shanghai, said she wouldn't miss the opening ceremony for the world.

She was gearing up for the Games by visiting a special London display — which featured a replica London bus at the National Aquatics Center in Beijing — with her boyfriend on Friday.

"We will be going to sleep for a while and then we will get up. It doesn't matter if I'm tired in the morning," she said.

Boyfriend Li Jiankun, also 24, said he had been anticipating the event since the closing cer-

emony in Beijing.

"I think it will be impressive but it will be difficult to stage something as spectacular as Beijing because China spent so much on it," he said.

China won 100 medals at the 2008 Games, including 51 gold, more than any other nation.

Pen Xinyi, 26, who is studying at Goldsmiths College at the University of London, said she would be watching the opening ceremony with colleagues on the big screen in Hyde Park.

"The opening ceremony will be almost like a graduation party for us. We hope to get a good spot and, of course, we will bring umbrellas just in case it rains," she said.

Ma Jilong, director of the marketing department of the Chinese Olympic Committee, said the British, who were showing a lack of interest according to some newspaper polls, were now beginning to warm to the event.

"With just a few hours before the opening ceremony, I finally can feel the atmosphere of the Olympic host city. Flags are waving all over the streets and the Olympic traffic lanes are beginning to get busy," he said.

The Chinese are particularly keen to follow their heroes, including Lin Dan, the 29-year-old reigning Olympic champion and four-time world champion badminton player and, of course, Liu Xiang, the



ZOU HONG / CHINA DAILY

Chen Miao, a gymnastics fan, strikes a pose in front of a London bus at the National Aquatics Center in Beijing on Friday, as the city's residents are in a festive mood to celebrate the opening of the London Olympics. Chen dreams of winning gold at the Olympics one day.

110-meter hurdler who won gold in Athens but broke the nation's heart when he walked off the track unable to compete on home soil in 2008.

Zhang Yidang, 23, a freelance photographer based in Xi'an, will be looking out for Chinese Olympic stars like Liu.

"I will certainly be paying attention to his performance this time. I am very excited about the Olympics in London because I am a sports fan. I will watch every event," she said.

The big question for many Chinese is whether the country will do as well in London as it did at home in terms of its medal tally.

Jiang Zhichao, 30, a civil servant with the Wuxi municipal bureau of sports in Jiangsu province, thinks it will be difficult to better the 2008 tally.

"I don't think we can win more medals, but I think we can still win a lot of them given that the government has invested a lot in sports. It is certainly very good for national morale if we win medals. It is important for Chinese people," he said.

Yang Zhen, 17, a student at Suqian Middle School in Jiangsu province, believes Chinese athletes may perform better because they will be under less pressure than they were at home.

"It will make it easier for them

and as a result, I think they can win more medals," she says.

The dream of an Olympic gold motivates the very young in China.

Eight-year-old Chen Miao from Harbin in Heilongjiang province, who was also at the National Aquatics Center on Friday, said she practices gymnastics every day to achieve her goal.

"I hope to win a gold at the next Olympics in Brazil. I am very excited," she said.

Whether London will be as a big branding opportunity and commercial success as Beijing remains to be seen.

Sports brand marketing expert Mike Bastin, a researcher at Nottingham University's School of Contemporary Chinese Studies, who was in Beijing last time but will now be watching in the UK, believes London has more commercial potential.

"I think it will provide a bigger platform for Asian brands than Beijing since there is more Western exposure. I think it is also a golden opportunity for China to showcase its companies and their brands," he said.

Contact the writer at andrew.moody@chinadaily.com.cn

Deng Zhangyu, Su Zhou, Sun Ye and Yang Yang contributed to this story.

Cashing in on the Olympic demand

By **WANG ZHUOQIONG**
wangzhuoqiong@chinadaily.com.cn

Of the many millions watching the London Olympic Games, one bag maker in Fujian province is particularly proud to see the world's top athletes wearing his products.

Fan Jinfeng, general manager of Quanzhou Epoch Travelling Goods, said the company made bags for the Netherlands team and has provided bags for leading sports brands including Asics, adidas and Dunlop.

"We have made more than 18,000 bags for the delegations attending the London Games," Fan said.

"It's an honor to be involved in the world's biggest sporting event."

The deals involving the Games are worth only \$500,000, about six percent of the company's annual revenue. But participating in the Olympic Games helps the manufacturer upgrade its brand and attract more top brands to work with it, Fan said.

"It is the best branding campaign," he said.

Epoch is one of many Chinese manufacturers cashing in on the London Games, with about 65 percent of London Olympic merchandise made in China, including mascots, cups and clothes, according to Chinese e-commerce company Alibaba Group.

The involvement of Chinese products at the Games reflects the rapid rise in quality of Chinese exports, said Jin Yonghui, director of the commerce department of Zhejiang province.

At the London Games, two of every 10 fluttering flags are made by Zhejiang Wuyi Jinshi Industry.

The company has produced 40 million flags of various sizes and types for the event, said Lu Zhuyuan, its general manager.

Since the collaboration with the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008, an increasing number of global clients have approached the flag maker.

In 2010, the company received orders from London and has worked on the project since October.

Dunelm supermarkets in the United Kingdom ordered 2.5 million yuan (\$392,000) in folding chairs from China in November.

Most will be used for the Games, said Lou Zhiqiao of Zhejiang Shanglin Import and Export, which exported the chairs.

On the field, athletes will be competing on artificial turf made in China.

Beijing Torchgrass Co, a manufacturer specializing in artificial turf, won the bid for two soccer fields and two hockey fields worth about 10 million yuan, said Feng Yan, export manager of Torchgrass.

Answering worries whether made-in-China products will face competition from manufacturers in other countries in the coming years, Feng is confident about the quality and price Chinese manufacturers can offer.

"In 10 years, the artificial turf market will be dominated by China because of its mature technology and cost control methods," said Feng, whose company's exports are expected to surge to 150 million yuan this year from 60 million yuan last year.