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Looking ahead

Events and stories coming up in the next few days

Lancang-Mekong River cooperation meeting

The first foreign ministers' meeting on cooperation projects related to the Lancang-Mekong River area is scheduled to be held in Jinghong, Yunnan province, tomorrow, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Foreign Minister Wang Yi and his Thai counterpart Don Pramudwinai will co-host the meeting. The Lancang-Mekong River runs through China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Major conservation report set for release

The World Wide Fund for Nature China, a global conservation group, is set to release its 2015 Living Planet Report on China tomorrow in Beijing. The report is expected to provide the latest insights and discussions related to biodiversity decline, the human footprint and water consumption globally and in China, providing suggestions for local policymakers. Biodiversity declined globally by 28 percent between 1970 and 2008 due to the over-exploitation of natural resources by human activity, the group said.

Central bank rolls out new 100-yuan notes



The People's Bank of China is set to issue new 100-yuan banknotes tomorrow, according to a statement released by the central bank. The design of the new note will stay largely the same as the 2005 series, but it will boast enhanced security features, such as those that will make it harder to counterfeit and easier for machines to read, the statement said. Last year, authorities confiscated counterfeit money involving more than 530 million yuan (\$83.2 million).

Vice-premier to visit Israel and Palestine

At the invitation of Palestinian Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah and Israeli Vice-Prime Minister Zion Silvan Shalom, Vice-Premier Wang Yang will pay official visits to Palestine and Israel from today till Saturday, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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Culture: Beijing airport a 'modern world wonder near completion'

The Beijing Daxing International Airport is one of the "seven wonders of the modern world near completion", according to a list from British newspaper The Guardian. The list marks the world's top megastructures in modern times and the capital's Daxing airport, set to be the world's largest, was ranked first. "From Britain to the Middle East and China, engineers and architects are pushing the boundaries of possibility as they strive to create the biggest and the best," according to the newspaper.



Q&A: How did people worldwide support the War of Resistance?

This is the 18th of 30 questions related to the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1937-45), based on a book recently published by the Central Compilation and Translation Bureau. The book provides a concise history of the war to help mark the 70th anniversary of the triumph. Our website will post one question from the list every day. Visit us for the answers.

Business: Top 10 R&D importing countries

When it comes to importing research and development, China is the top country in Asia, according to a study by Strategy&, a unit of global consultancy PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Compared with 2007, China's R&D imports rose 79 percent to \$44 billion this year. Forty-one percent of China's total R&D imports comes from the US, which has been the largest R&D exporter to China since 2007. Visit our website to read more about the top 10 R&D importing countries.



Blog: China lacks classic movies

Foreign movies such as *Forrest Gump*, *Schindler's List* and *Braveheart* are "classic" productions that can be watched again and again, writes one of our bloggers. But many Chinese films are either "frivolous" in storyline or try to preach values, he says. Read more of his views on our website.



Buzzword: Stealth shopper

A "stealth shopper" is someone who goes shopping secretly to avoid flaunting wealth or to hide expenses from a spouse. These shoppers purchase expensive items that might not look expensive. They may hide behind their computers and smartphones to shop online in complete "privacy".

Scan it!

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Hot topic

Many Chinese white-collar workers find social networking apps useful in their jobs.



Companies can use the apps to source feedback, test ideas and manage customer services efficiently."



Zhu Xin, airline employee in Xiamen, Fujian province

"Some foreign employees in our company still stick to simple text messages or prefer to use our own communications system."

Chen Chen, fashion designer in Shanghai

"When it comes to business deals or contacts, there is no easier or faster way to make a connection than via social networks. People from different places can meet at a single point and express their views."

Li Xiaolin, telecommunications manager in Wuhan, Hubei province

"Group chats may be the most efficient way to discuss our projects. But these apps can be time-consuming, especially during non-working hours."



Dong Xinlu, business analyst in Shanghai

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Candid camera: Time to shine

Members of the Miao ethnic group wear traditional ceremonial costumes at a parade during the Lusheng Festival in Gulong village, Guizhou province, on Nov 8. The lusheng is an ancient reed-pipe wind instrument. QIN GANG / FOR CHINA DAILY

Chinese golf ditching stigma of privilege



Bai Ping
SECOND THOUGHTS

About 10 minutes' drive from the Bird's Nest National Stadium, within walking distance of a subway station on the north-south line and next to an odorous garbage treatment plant, lies one of the few golf courses in Beijing where caddies are not required.

On weekdays, golfers toting their own bags in carts pay 200 yuan (\$31.30) for a round on the nine-hole course dotted with ponds and trees. The game can be completed within two hours and the fee is just slightly higher than more popular sports such as ping-pong or badminton at nearby stadiums, which charge on an hourly basis.

The course attracts dozens of golfers every day, despite the unpleasant scent in the air and the fact that players sometimes have to wait for garbage trucks to lumber past when they cross a road that separates the first six holes from the rest.

But for some of the more wealthy golfers, it may not be their idea of a sport that is conflated with status and luxury. Caddie concierges are a fixture in China and they perform far more personalized services than their peers in the West, such as holding a cigarette for a guest while he strikes a ball or tolerating his rage when he misses a putt.

If they want to play golf here in the city, rather than the suburbs where most courses are located, they may more likely opt to play on the adjacent 18-hole golf course owned by the same

club and designed by a British former world golf champion. A round of golf on the international-standard course with a much nicer environment costs eight times more, including tips for caddies, than on its nine-hole sibling.

However, while it makes more business sense to serve a rich local clientele that often goes on a round of golf as an all-day event, there have been growing calls from supporters that golf clubs should make the game cheaper, shorter and more accessible to the general public, amid a slowing economy and government crackdowns on illegal courses as well as golfing at public expense.

Besides, after courses are no longer allowed to be built in beautiful, green surroundings in collaboration with housing developers, those

built on or near less-desirable sites seem to have a stronger case when industrialists and researchers argue against the popular assumption that golf is threatening the natural environment and farmland.

As officials and many high-profile businesspeople try to distance themselves from the game, which is often linked with extravagance and corruption, many golf clubs have lowered fees and scrapped members-only requirements to attract more players.

But probably nobody can beat the course that is near public transportation and a dump, and provides cheap "self-help" games for working professionals, in the race to shed the sport's image as a rich man's game.

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This Day, That Year

Item from Nov 11, 1992, in China Daily: Scientists from the Anhui provincial Yangtze Alligator Breeding Research Institute inspect an artificially bred Yangtze alligator, which lives along the river's middle and lower reaches.

With the help of artificial reproduction, the number of alligators in China now total more than 6,200, compared to only about 600 a decade ago.

The Yangtze alligator, also known as the Chinese alligator, was listed as a first-class protected animal in 1972.

Various measures, including the use of reserve areas

and artificial breeding, have been taken nationwide to protect the reptiles.

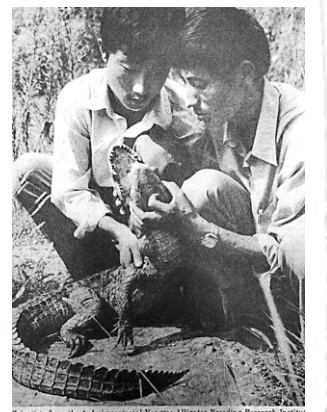
In July, about 12 Yangtze alligators bred in captivity were released into the wild by the Chinese Alligator Propagation Research Center in Xuancheng, Anhui province. They were the second batch of Chinese alligators to be returned to their natural habitat this year. Twelve alligators were returned to the wild in May.

Worsening ecological conditions in the lower reaches of the Yangtze River have caused alligator numbers to fall in recent years — an ecological survey in 2005

showed that fewer than 150 of the animals existed in the wild.

In 2002, the research center began building and restoring alligator habitats threatened by human activity and pollution.

It now has more than 15,000 captive alligators, Xinhua News Agency reported.



Scientists from the Anhui provincial Yangtze Alligator Breeding Research Institute inspect an artificially bred Yangtze alligator which lives along the river's middle and lower reaches. With the help of artificial reproduction, the number of alligators in China has risen from about 600, compared to only about 600, 10 years ago.

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weather

TRAVELER'S FORECAST
LOW/HIGH TEMPERATURES, IN DEGREES CELSIUS, AND EXPECTED CONDITIONS

CHINA	CHINA	EUROPE
Beijing 4/8 H 4/9 F	Shanghai 13/16 O 14/19 O	Athens 14/22 S 12/22 D
Changchun -6/3 S -4/7 S	Shenyang -7/7 H -4/10 H	Berlin 17/12 D 17/9 D
Changsha 12/14 D 11/13 R	Shenzhen 21/25 C 22/27 O	Brussels 16/12 D 13/11 O
Chongqing 15/18 O 14/17 D	Shijiazhuang 4/9 C 5/10 C	Geneva 16/4 O 11/3 O
Dalian 3/9 C 6/12 C	Suzhou 14/19 C 14/23 R	Istanbul 14/18 C 11/19 C
Guangzhou 16/20 Sh 17/20 Sh	Taipei 20/25 D 22/26 D	London 17/12 D 16/9 O
Guangzhou 19/24 O 20/25 O	Taiyuan 3/10 C 1/10 C	Madrid 18/1 C 18/2 C
Guilin 12/15 D 12/14 R	Tianjin 5/10 H 5/11 C	Moscow 1/3 D 0/3 D
Guiyang 9/12 D 6/11 D	Urumqi -1/6 S 0/7 S	Paris 14/10 O 16/8 D
Haikou 24/29 C 24/30 C	Wuhan 9/14 O 9/14 C	Rome 16/10 C 19/10 C
Hangzhou 10/15 D 13/17 D	Xi'an 8/11 O 7/11 O	Vienna 19/10 C 18/5 D
Harbin -10/2 S -9/5 S	Xiamen 18/23 O 19/24 C	
Hefei 10/16 O 11/17 C	Xining -3/8 D -3/13 O	
Hohhot 0/7 C 1/10 C	Yantai 6/12 C 8/14 C	
Hongkong 23/25 C 24/26 O	Yinchuan -1/10 O 2/12 O	
Jinan 4/10 H 4/11 C	Zhengzhou 6/13 C 7/13 C	
Kunming 11/20 C 12/21 C	Zhuhai 22/25 C 22/26 C	
Lanzhou 2/11 O 4/14 C		
Lhasa -2/13 C -2/12 C		
Lijiang 3/18 C 2/18 S		
Macao 21/25 C 21/26 C		
Nanchang 12/14 D 12/14 R		
Nanjing 10/15 C 10/17 O		
Nanning 17/22 Sh 16/20 Sh		
Qingdao 7/12 C 8/13 C		
Sanya 25/32 C 25/31 C		

ASIA-PACIFIC-MIDDLE EAST	AMERICAS
Abu Dhabi 25/35 D 22/29 D	BuenosAires 28/14 C 27/14 C
Bangkok 27/35 D 26/34 D	Caracas 29/25 C 30/25 C
Colombo 24/30 D 25/30 D	Chicago 10/5 O 14/8 D
Dubai 26/36 D 23/29 D	Houston 25/20 D 27/12 D
Hanoi 23/29 D 24/31 D	Los Angeles 18/9 S 19/9 S
Islamabad 11/22 D 14/24 C	San Francisco 12/6 C 31/7 O
Jakarta 26/30 D 26/31 D	Mexico city 23/13 D 23/9 O
Karachi 20/35 C 21/35 C	New York 17/14 D 17/11 O
Kuala Lumpur 25/28 D 25/28 D	Ottawa 10/3 O 8/4 O
Manila 25/33 C 25/32 C	Rio De Janeiro 29/24 D 31/24 C
Mumbai 23/36 C 25/37 C	Sao Paulo 28/19 D 31/20 D
New Delhi 17/29 S 15/30 S	Vancouver 8/4 R 8/4 D
Pyongyang 2/14 C 4/17 O	Washington 18/11 C 16/7 C
Riyadh 16/25 C 14/22 C	
Seoul 8/17 C 9/18 D	
Singapore 26/28 D 25/28 D	
Sydney 19/23 D 18/24 D	
Teheran 6/11 C 7/13 S	
Tokyo 13/18 O 11/16 O	
Wellington 13/15 D 10/14 D	
Yangon 24/35 D 24/35 D	