

# International students cooperate in experimental agriculture

On the afternoon of April 7, six foreign students from Egypt and Pakistan, were working side by side with their Chinese classmates, planting corn seeds in the 200 square-meter experimental field of Huazhong Agricultural University (HZAU), under the guidance of Professor Dong Wubei. They are postgraduate students studying botanical science at HZAU.



International students planting seeds

Fassi, from Egypt, and Abbas, from Pakistan, made a perfect team, with one digging in the earth and the other planting the seeds, cooperating effectively.

Armand from Pakistan

has lived in China for four years, and speaks good Chinese. He previously worked in Pakistan's Department of Agriculture for six years, and is planning to return home this

summer. "I intend to continue working in the Department of Agriculture, so as to apply what I have learned in China to the farming practices in my country," he said.

## 11-year-old Wuhan boy wins two national rock climbing championships

By Deng Xiaolong

Eleven-year-old Xu Ziqi, a fifth-grade pupil from Changchun Street Primary School, has practiced rock climbing for five years. In December of last year, he won both the speed climbing and the bouldering championship in the finals of the National Climbing Star of Hope Competition, sponsored by the China Mountaineering Association.

Xu explained that rock climbing will officially become a Summer Olympic event in 2020, and his goal is to participate in the Olympics.

After about 10 minutes of stretching and warm-up exercises, Xu fastened the safety belt, attached the main rope,

and began to climb up a 15-meter-high rock wall, which has a roof-like bevel about 10 meters from the ground. It took him four minutes and 50 seconds to climb to the top.

Xu has been an excellent climber since childhood. When he was six, his father took him to a professional coach named Han Yi, to begin formal training in rock climbing. Han, the coach of the provincial rock climbing team, said that there are only about 100 primary school pupils throughout China who choose to be trained as rock climbers. Xu's scores in speed climbing are even better than those of many adult rock climbing enthusiasts.



Xu Ziqi Photo by Ren Yong

## Doctor limps to complete her rounds

On April 16, a patient took a photo of a doctor who was limping while completing her rounds in the wards due to an ankle sprain. The doctor, whose name is Xu Ying, received praise from the medical staff, her patients, and their family members for her devotion and love.

Xu is the director of the Department of Hematology and Endocrinology in the Fifth Hospital of Wuhan. Just before Tomb Sweeping Day, she fell and broke the bones in her left foot. To complete all of her busy medical duties, Xu persisted and worked in a wheelchair, making it difficult to pass through the narrow wards. She then decided to walk on a single leg, aided by one of her colleagues, to make her rounds through the wards, inquiring about the patients' conditions. Seeing all this, 58-year-old Ms. Gao could not resist taking a photo of Xu, to tell others of the doctor's devotion and love for the sacred occupation

## Craftsman dedicated to watch repair for 57 years

In Chengshanli Community of Wuchang District, there stands a watch-repairing stall. Its owner, 71-year-old master Hua Erdong, has been maintaining this traditional craftsmanship of repairing watches for 57 years.

A desk and few watch repairing tools are all he needs in work. Master Hua moved from Hankou to Xujiapeng, Wuchang to learn watch repairing with his master when he was 14 years old, and continues to this day. Watch-repairing is a delicate job, requiring high concentration. There are over 100 parts in a clock or watch. Without high familiarity with all the parts, one cannot detect the real fault.

Master Hua charges RMB 20 for replacing a battery, RMB 30 for cleaning the inner parts and adding lubricating oil, and RMB 50 for mending the core structure. He has not raised the prices in the past twenty years. On one occasion, a customer approached him with a Rolex worth RMB 60,000, and Master Hua charged him only RMB 30 for cleaning the watch.