

Panda Weiwei receives a clean bill of health

By Wang Yaxin



Panda Weiwei receiving blood test

Due to the vitiligo seen on the giant panda's nose, some netizens inquired with officials of Wuhan Zoo as to whether Weiwei is suffering from a disease. The vitiligo first appeared in 2012 and has since become much bigger. In response to public concern, the zoo conducted a blood test for Weiwei on April 13 which ruled out any suspicion of health problems.

It is not an easy thing to sample the blood of an adult panda, which is huge in size but still behaves like a naughty little boy. In order to create a quiet and relaxing environment for the panda to have the test, the zoo staff cleared the

panda house, leaving only the vet, its feeder, and some staff in the ring to keep it company. When the feeder enticed Weiwei to come close to the fence with an apple, Wang Mingquan, the chief vet at the zoo, began to massage the animal before touching it with some tools to test its reaction. Weiwei seemed to be enjoying the apple very much and was in a good mood. However, just as they were injecting the needle into its vein, the panda suddenly reared up with its front paws on the fence, showing signs of agitation. After several failures, they successfully drew 10 ml of blood to examine the



Weighing the panda

biochemical functions of the panda, including that of the heart, liver, and kidneys, as well as blood routines and blood electrolytes. The test report came back later that day showing all the indexes within normal ranges and no sign of any disease. After exchanging opinions with experts at Wolong Giant Panda Protection and Research Center in Sichuan, an official at the zoo explained to the public that the vitiligo on Weiwei's nose may have been caused by inadequate pigment synthesis, which is an ordinary symptom of the giant panda's aging process.

60 professional cycling teams compete on East Lake Greenway

The East Lake Greenway welcomed its first professional-level bike competition on April 11. Sixty professional cycling teams from Wuhan, Changsha, and other cities raced on the 11-km track around the lake. The championship was won by the Morning Star Trek team from Henan Province who finished the competition with the fastest time.



400 children read poetry in hanfu



Children in hanfu

Students from a private primary school in Wuhan gathered at Moshan Scenic Spot for an annual reading event on April 7. Four hundred students dressed in *hanfu* (the traditional clothing of the Han people) performed the reading of classic Chinese poetry.

The school Principal Lin Daiqiu said, "Every spring for the past three years, we have held such an event in parks around the city. All the teachers and students wear *hanfu* of various styles to honor the traditional culture."

College student's mini library in dorm

By Li Fang

Pang Zhanghao, a student majoring in law at Wuhan College, has a mini library of more than 3,000 books in his dormitory. All the books were purchased with money saved from his monthly living expenses.

Pang prefers to read books on social sciences, especially history books. He can calm himself down to read in any situation. He has turned his fingers through all the book collections, some simply surveyed while others, like *The Metabolism of Modern China*, have been devoured. He also likes to visit the school library and the Hubei Provincial Library whenever he has the opportunity.

Pang believes the saying that "knowledge needs to be shared" and he is willing to lend his collections to others. Both his classmates and teachers have been among the readers.