PART THREE: INTERLUDE—CHINA DAILY)

After leaving Joe, I stop at the newsstand that is open late and I pick up a copy of China Daily, an English edition of daily news.

The newsstand is located on a part of the campus that has produce stands, restaurants, a bank and other buildings which, during class changes, is teeming with foot and bicycle traffic.

The bank in that newsstand section has an ATM machine that swallowed my debit car when I first arrived at Peking University, during the holiday winter-break week—the week when hardly anyone was on campus.

Joe was with me at the time and, luckily, he was able to use the ubiquitous and cell-phone someone who spoke Chinese. Joe handed the ubiquitous cell phone to the bank manager who understood the predicament and retrieved my debit car from the guts of that machine. The bank manager at my local bank in the states later tells me that retrieving a card from a machine is something they would never do.

That same campus bank that swallows up my card, will later gulp down the card of other visitors.

China Daily is well-written and gives a good picture of what is going on all over China; and, while the focus obviously is an "official" one, the breadth of reporting and op-ed pieces are often stimulating.

What follows in Part 3 of this journal are headlines and lead stories that appear in China Daily, during my three-month stay in China.

A VARIETY OF HEADLINE STORIES FROM THE PAGES OF THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER "CHINA DAILY" (Feb 16-May 21)

NEW RULE LIKELY ON PENSION FUNDS

GOV'T SET TO TAKE OVER MANAGEMENT OF CORPORATE ANNUITIES NEXT YEAR

BMW RACES WITH AUDI FOR GOV'T LIST

LUXURY CARMAKER KEEN TO BE PART OF HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS FLEET

BULL RUN DRIVEN BY BANKS

STRONG SUPPORT FOR PROPOSAL TO SCRAP INTEREST TAX

STOCK MARKET A MAGNET FOR INVESTORS

SHARES AND FUNDS ACCOUNT FOR MORE OF RESIDENT'S SAVINGS

REPORT: COVER-UP IN CAVE-IN ACCIDENT

BUSH POKES FUN AT FRIENDS, FOES —AND HIMSELF

BIRD FLU DEATH

A 16-YEAR-OLD BOY HAS DIED FROM BIRD FLU IN EAST CHINA'S ANHUI PROVINCE

26 MINERS KILLED

DEATH TOLL AT A SHANXI COAL MINE

IN CHINA, EATING OUT IS NOW DEFINITELY IN

BAD TOURISM OPERATORS PUT ON NOTICE

IKEA KICKS OFF FACILITY (IN SHANGHAI)

BIGGEST IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, AS IT STEPS UP EFFORTS TO CASH IN ON CHINA'S BOOMING CONSUMER MARKET

HEED GLOBAL WARMING ON SINKING SHANGHAI

STRESS IS A LAUGHING MATTER

FUDAN UNIVERSITY'S PYCHOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY'S CENTER. . . HAS SET UP A HEARTFELT LAUGHING CLUB. THE CENTER WILL HOLD TRAINING SESSIONS FOR STUDENTS TO COPE WITH STRESS AND DEPRESSION

PROTECTING MINORITIES

TO MAINTAIN HARMONY, THE GUARANTEE OF EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL 56 ETHNIC GROUPS IS A PREREQUISITE. . .

UNION FLAYS FAST-FOOD GIANTS FOR LOW WAGE

GUANGDONG PROVINCE . . . SET MINIMUM WAGE FOR PART-TIME WORKERS AT 7.5 YUAN (97 CENTS) AN HOUR. BUT McDONALD'S PAYS ONLY 4 YUAN (52 CENTS), KFC 4.7 YUAN (61 CENTS) AND PIZZA HUT 5 YUAN (65 CENTS) AN HOUR.

FAST FOOD GIANTS DID VIOLATE LAWS

TRADE UNION URGES FIRMS TO PAYPROPER WAGE, CORRECT WRONGDOINGS

TRADE UNIONS

McDONALD'S AND KFC HAVE PROMISED TO SET UP TRADE UNIONS IN THEIR GUANGDONG OUTLETS.

GHOST OF ILLITERACY RETURNS TO HAUNT COUNTRY

MACAU OVERTAKES LAS VEGAS TO BECOME WORLD'S GAMING CAPITAL

BELL TOLLS IN BEIJING FOR NASDAQ

NASDAQ, THE FIRST US EXCHANGE TO MARK THE TRADING DAY FROM CHINA, HAS ATTRACTED 40 CHINESE COMPANIES WITH A COMBINED MARKET CAPITULATION OF \$30 BILLION

STATUTORY BANK RATIO HIKED AGAIN

MOVE AIMED AT MOPPING UP EXCESS LIQIDITY IN MARKET

DOWNER: SECURITY PACT BETWEEN JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA DOES NOT TARGET CHINA

COMPUTER PORN SWAP SPARKS JAPAN DEFENSE LEAK FUROR

POPULATION PRESSURE

IN THE NATION'S CAPIAL,
TRAFFIC JAMS, AIR POLLUTION CAUSED BY
EXHAUST EMISSIONS FROM NEARLY
3 MILLION CARS AND PRESSURE ON WATER SUPPLIES
ARE PART OF THE POPULATION CRUSH LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS ATTEMPTING
TO DEAL WITH.

EXPECT CHINA'S EXPORTS TO CONTINUE TO EXPAND

TIME TO BUILD PAST INTO CITY IMAGE

CITY LEADERS NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE CHARACTER OF THE CITY IS ONE OF ITS ECONOMIC AND STRATEGIC RESOURCES

INDUSTRIAL DEMAND FOR CORN INCREASING

DRAGON'S TALE

THE TOP ENVIRONMENTAL WATCHDOG SUSPENDS CONSTRUCTION OF A 21-KM CONCRETE DRAGON DUE TO SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

IRAN STARTS PRODUCTION OF NUKE FUEL

TEHERAN SAYS IT WILL NOT BOW TO OUTSIDE PRESSURE TO HALT PROGRAM

GOOGLE SORRY

GOOGLE APOLOGIZES TO SOHU.COM FOR USING THE LATTER'S TECHNOLOGY WITHOUT APPROVAL.

TRASH OR TREASURE

CONTROVERSIAL GERMAN SINOLOGIST HITS OUT AT CONTEMPORARY CHINESE LITERATURE.

ICE FINALLY THAWING IN CHINA JAPAN RELATIONS

JAPAN CAN HELP CHINA IMPROVE ENVIRONMENT

SINO-US COOPERATION CAN BENEFIT AFRICA EVEN MORE

HEADQUARTERS SET UP FOR CONFUCIUS SCHOOLS

DEMAND FOR CHINESE TEACHING RISES WORLDWIDE

TRADE WITH REPUBLIC OF KOREA (ROK) TO GET "BIG BOOST"

ENVOY MEETS SUDAN LEADER

10% OF GDP NOW COMES FROM SEA, SAYS REPORT

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME STATISTICIANS HAVE ADOPTED THE METHODOLOGY OF GDP ACCOUNTING TO DESCRIBE THE GROWTH OF THE OCEAN ECONOMY.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES GET POOR MARKS

BUSINESS BRIBERY FIGHT

OLYMPICS SET FOR FAMILY-STYLE FUN

JESUS DRINKING COCA-COLA? NOT THIS EASTER.

THE ITALIAN FILM "7 KM FROM JERUSALEM" IS ABOUT AN ITALIAN ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE SOUL SEARCHING AFTER LOSING HIS JOB. HE FLEES TO JERUSALEM, WHERE 'HE RUNS INTO JESUS. HE OFFERS JESUS A CAN OF COCA-COLA AND, SEEING JESUS DRINK, HE THINKS, "WHAT A TESTAMONIAL!" APPARENTLY, COCA-COLA DISAGREED..

THEY MAY BE SHORT BUT THEY HAVE PLENTY OF HEART

TWENTY DWARFS RECENTLY GATHERED IN NANJING TO SHARE THE UPS AND DOWNS OF THEIR LIVES AND CAREERS.

IT'S A MAN, IT'S A WOMAN, SHE HAS A BABY

A MONTH AFTER WORKING IN THE RESTAURANT AND PRETENDING TO BE A MAN, GAO LINSEN SHOCKED HER COLLEAGUES WHEN SHE DELIVERED A BABY BOY IN THE EATERY'S BATHROOM.

HOTEL GUESTS TO BE GIVEN AIDS WARNING

IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE AFTER "SEX AND THE CITY."

THE SOCIALITE AUTHOR BEHIND THE HIT SHOW IS BACK WITH A TALE OF POWER AND MARRIAGE IN MANHATTAN. HER NEW SET OF MODERN GIRLS ABOUT TOWN ARE ABOUT TO HIT US TV SCREENS

EYING A PLACE IN THE RECORD BOOKS

A DAILIAN MAN IS LOOKING TO A PLACE IN GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS FOR, HE CLAIMS, BEING ABLE TO PUT OUR CANDLES WITH THE USE OF JUST HIS EYES.

SOIL SURVEY TO MONITOR POLLUTION

REPORT CLAIMS MORE THAN 10% OF FARMLAND IS CONTAMINATED

BRIBES REVEALED

FORMER HEAD OF DRUG WATCHDOG HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF TAKING BRIBES TOTALING MORE THAN \$647,000.

BANK COMPETITION

DOMESTIC BANKS HAVE TO BE WARY OF COMPETITION AFTER THE COUNTRY LIFTED RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN BANKS.

NATION FACES GRIM JOB SITUATION

CHINA FACES A MAJOR CHALLENGE IN MEETING ITS GOAL OF CREATING 9 MILLION JOBS THIS YEAR, A SENIOR OFFICIAL ADMITTED YESTERDAY.

ENERGY PLAN: RELIANCE ON COAL AND OIL TO BE EASED.

THE CHANGE WAS CHARTED BECAUSE OF THE HIGH ENVIORONMENTAL AND HUMAN

COST OF COAL MINING AS WELL AS SOARING OIL PRICES.

BULL RUN

APRIL 11, 07/ SHANGHAI STOCK MARKET SURGES FOR SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE DAY, WITH INDEX HITTING A RECORD HIGH.

TRADE SURPLUS FALLS SHARPLY

CHINA'S TRADE SURPLUS IN MARCH NARROWED DRASTICALLY BY 38 PERCENT, FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO CURB THE IMBALANCE.

US CRITICIZED FOR WTO COMPLAINTS OVER PIRACY

DROUGHT AND DEVELOPMENT KILLING KOALAS

PRESIDENT ENDORSES LAW ALLOWING ABORTION

PORTUGAL'S PRESIDENT YESTERDAY RATIFIED A NEW LAW PERMITTING ABORTION UP UNTIL THE 10TH WEEK OF PREGNAANCY, BRINGING THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COOUNTRY IN LINE WITH MOST OF ITS EUROPEAN NEIGHBORS.

IT'S TIME TO TURN FOCUS ON PRIVATE FUND SECTOR

SMALL FUNDS ACCOUNT FOR 30-40% OF THE STOCK MARKET'S TURNOVER

FIRST-QUARTER VEHICLE SALES INCREASE BY 22.2%

BAO STEEL PROFIT JUMPS BY 150% ON RISING PRICES

NUNS ON THE RUN WITH STATUES

THE DISAPPEARANCE IN SPAIN OF THREE 16^{TH} CENTUIRY STATUES HAS LED TO A GROUP OF NUNS BEING ACCUSED OF THEFT.

CHINA, JAPAN LEADERS PAVE WAY FORWARD

PACTS SIGNED ON ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY,

ONE SATELLITE LAUNCHED, AND ANOTHER REPAIRED

—THE COUNTRY CELEBRATED THE LAUNCH OF AN OCEANIC SURVEY SATELLITE AND THE FIXING OF A MALFUNCTIONING SATELLITE THAT WAS BLASTED OFF TWO MONTHS AGO.

TOP EARNERS ARE BIG GIVERS, TOO

THE RICH IN CHINA OFTEN TAKE FLAK FOR BEING TIGHT-FISTED WHEN IT COMES TO CHARITY — BUT...

ROBUST ECONOMY

IMF PREDICTS AN ENERGETIC GLOBAL ECONOMY FOR 2007-08 BUT WEAK US GROWTH

PEKING OPERA BUILDS BRIDGES WITH KABUKI

MOVIE INDUSTRY COUNTS COST OF ONLINE PIRACY

CHINESE FILMMAKERS THEMSELVES ARE THE BIGGEST SUFFERERS

HELP NEEDED TO PREPARE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

ENGLISH SPOKEN HERE, THE CAPTAL WANTS TO SEE AND HEAR

BEIJING'S PLAN TO WIPE OUT MISTRANSLATED ENGLISH-LANGUAGE SIGNS IS JUST ONE PART OF A BROADER EFFORT TO PREPARE THE CITY TO WELCOME EVERYONE HERE FOR THE 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES.

CHINA STRUGGLING TO GET PAST ITS TRANSLATION BOTTLENECK

DOCTORS PULL OUT NAIL LODGED IN MAN'S LUNG

WOMAN ON CELL PHONE TOPPLES OFF TERRACE

URANIUM RESERVE TO BE BUILT

MOVE AIMED AT EXPANDING SHARE OF NUCLEAR POWER IN ENERGY USE

TEEN KEEPS TO ROOM ALL DAY AFTER SCHOOL STRESS

—STOPPED GOING TO SCHOOL FOUR YEARS AGO. , , , EVER SINCE, HE HAS KEPT TO HIS ROOM, PLAYING ON HIS COMPUTER THE WHOLE DAY, AND DOES NOT LET ANYONE IN. HE HAS NOT SAID A SINGLE WORD TO HIS PARENTS ALL THESE YEARS.

SOUTH ASIA SHOWING NEW COOPERATIVE SPIRIT

THE LEADERS AGREED TO SET IN OPERATION THE \$300 MILLION SAARC DEVELOPMENT FUND, ESTABLISH THE SOUTH ASIAN UNIVERSITY (STARTING IN NEW DELHI), CREATE THE SAARC FOOD BANK AND THE SAARC ARBITRATION COUNCIL

FREEDOM TO BLOG IS NOT FREEDOM TO SLANDER

WHEN MY FRIEND RECALLED THE EARLY DAYS OF THE "CULTURAL REVOLUTION" (1966-76) HE ASKED ME HOW'D I FEEL WHEN I, AS A TEENAGER, WENT THROUGH MY HOME ALLEY, WHOSE WALLS WERE PLASTERED WITH POSTERS SCREAMING OUT SLANDEROUS WORDS AGAINJST MY FATHER....IN THOSE DAYS MANY PEOPLE BECAME TARGETS FOR SLANDER IN THE PUBLIC NAME ROOTING OUT "CAPATALIST ROADERS," ANTI REVOLUTIONARIES," "TRAITORS," OR "WESTERN SPIES."

MELTING METAL ENGULFS 32

THIRTY-TWO WORKERS WERE CONFIRMED DEAD AND TWO OTHERS INJURED AFTER MOLTEN METAL ENGULFED THEM FOLLOWIUNG A FURNACE BLAST

FASTER AND BETTER: BULLET TRAINS MEET THEIR TARGET

URANIUM RESERVE TO BE BUILT

MOVE AIMED AT EXPANDING SHARE OF NUCLEAR POWER IN ENERGY USE

ITALIAN COMPANIES ZERO IN ON THE CHINESE MARKET

GM MAY SELL RECORD IM UNITS

ENCOURAGING FIGURES FROM FIRST QUARTER SPUR US AUTOMAKER

GERMAN CHEMICAL COMPANY WACKER OPENS LAB IN BELJING

LOCAL BANKS LINE UP TO TACKLE QUEUING TIMES

22 KILLED IN US COLLEGE SHOOTINGS

A LONE GUNMAN GOES ON A TWO-HOUR RAMPAG BEFORE HE IS KILLED

S. KOREAN STUDENT "IS MASS KILLER"

SHOOTER, 23, "WAS A LONER" BELIEVED TO BE TAKING DEPRESSION MEDICATION

US REPORTS ON "CHINESE KILLER" CRITICIZED

CHINA TO HELP ASIAN ECONOMY IN CRISIS

COAL IMPORTS HIT NEW HIGH

FACE SLAPPING IS NO CURE FOR BELCHING, DOCTORS SAY

WARMEST APRIL

CHINA'S AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IN APRIL THIS YEAR WAS 11.1 DEGREES C, 0.9 DEGREES HIGHER THAN THE SAME PERIOD OF PREVIOUS YEARS.

RESCUERS SCOUR MINE AFTER DEADLY BLAST

RESERVE TO DEAL WITH CURRENCY UPHEAVALS

FINANCE MINISTERS OF ASEAN+3 AGREE TO SOLVE LIQUIDITY DIFFICULTIES

POLL: 20% OF SHENZHEN ADULTS SUFFER FROM 'MENTAL PROBLEMS.'

3,176 POLLUTING FIRMS SHUT DOWN

THE DAYCARE DILEMMA

RESEARCHERS FIND THAT EARLY-AGE GROUPCARE IS MAKING CHILDREN MORE AGGRESSIVE

CORRECTING BAD HABITS OF LOCAL TOURISTS

...JUMPING QUEUES, SPITTING, LITTERING AND CLEARING ONE'S THROAT LOUDLY IN PUBLIC ARE SOME OF THE BAD HABITS FREQUENTLY OBSERVED AMONG CHINESE TRAVELERS....

YUAN HITS NEW HEIGHTS AGAINST THE GREENBACK

YOUNGSTERS GETTING FATTER, NOT FITTER, SURVEY SAYS

HOTLINE REACHES OUT TO GAYS

AMBITIOUS PLAN TO SAVE WETLAND RESERVED

HEROD'S TOMB FOUND NEAR JERUSALEM

POLITICAL FALL OUT LIKELY AS ARCHAEOLOGIST FINALLY FINDS LEGENDARY KING'S TOMB AFTER 35-YEAR SEARCH IN DESERT

STOCKS SURGE THROUGH 4000 BARRIER

HIGH LIQUIDITY, STRONG COMPANY FUNDAMENTAS FUEL THE BULL RUN

SAFE TAP WATER PROMISED FOR OLYMPICS

CITY AUTHORITIES VOW TO IMPROVE SUPPLY SYSTEM, CLEAN WATERWAYS

BEIJING SETS SIGHTS ON GREEN GOALS WITH NEW ACTION PLAN

SUBWAY CONTRACTOR FACES STIFF PENALTY OVER COLLAPSE

WOMAN BURGLER, 80, SCALES 3-METER-HIGH WALL

. . . A BURGLER IN HER 80S SURPRISED POLICE IN NANJING BY CLIMBING OVER A 3-METER-HIGH WALL CARRYING A BAG OF STOLEN COAL ON HER BACK

128 GOATS ROASTED WITHIN 2 HOURS

PARENTS USING NET TO FIND FRIENDS FOR THEIR CHILDREN

NEW STOCK ACCOUNTS HIT RECORD HIGHS

MAINLAND MARKET GROWING IN VOLUME, INFLUENCE

BAYER UNIT BEEFS UP SHANGHAI PLANT

FOCUS ON CUMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SERVICE CENTERS

PERIODICAL MARKET TO OPEN WIDER

INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE PRODUCERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE CHINESE MARKET

GOING GREEN

ENVIRONMENT CONCERNS HAVE INSPIRED MANY CHINESE TO OPT FOR GREEN PRODUCTS

HUNGRY FOR MORE

PING-PONG HEAD COACH WANTS MEDAL SWEEP REPEAT AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

CONSUMER PRICE RISE SLOWS TO 3%

BATTLE AGAINST WORKPLACE BIAS 'TOUGH'

SURVEY: PHYSICALLY-CHALLENGED AND PEOPLE WITH INFECTUOUS DISEASES ARE AMONG PEOPLE WHO FACE THE MOST DISCRIMINATION IN CHINA

CHINA TRADE A BOOST TO AFRICA'S ECONOMY

ASIA VOWS HELP TO MAINTAIN PROGRESS

REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL ASIAN COUNTRIES YESTERDAY PLEDGED TO MAKE AVAILABLE THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTISE TO HELP AFRICAWITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

IT'S A HUGE MARKET OUT THERE, BUT TREAD SOFTLY

NATION TO FORGIVE IRAQ DEBTS

\$6.5M GRANT OFFERED TO ASSIST IRAQ HEALTHCARE EDUCATION EFFORTS

MAJOR DISCOVERY INCREASES OIL RESERVES

MORE OIL, GAS FINDS LIKELY AT BOHAI

NEW ENERGY CLUSTERS WILL DRIVE FUTURE OUTPUT, SAYS CNOOC

MEGA CAR PLANT GETS GOING

NANJING; US CARMAKER FORD COMPANY'S \$312.5 MILLION DOLLAR PLANT WITH ITS JAPANESE UNIT, MAZDA MOTOR CORP KICKED OFF PRODUCTION YESTERDAY IN THIS CAPITAL CITY OF EAST CHINA'S JIANGSU PROVINCE

AFRICA UPBEAT OVER TIES WITH CHINA

SHANGHAI COMMITTED TO ITS AGING POPULATION

THE MORE OLD PEOPLE A CITY HAS, THE GREATER THE NEED FOR PENSION AND MEDICAL FUNDS, WHICH PUTS EVEN MORE PRESSURE ON THE DWINDLING NUMBER OF WORKERS

PRIVILEGED KIDS FORCED TO WEAR MASKS

"IT IS SAD TO SEE THAT SOME STUDENTS ARE GOING TO SUPER LUXURIOUS SCHOOLS WHILE MANY OTHERS CANNOT EVEN AFFORD AN ORDINARY ONE DUE TO INCREASINGLY HIGH TUITION FEES."

AIRPORT GEERS UP FOR GAMES

OILFIELD MAY HAVE 'MORE RESERVES' THAN ESTIMATED

IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT THE OFFICIAL RESERVE FIGURE TO BE ASSESSED BY STATE RESOURCE AUTHORITY, WILL EXCEED 1 BILLION TONS

HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERING ALL URBAN RESIDENTS WILL BE LAUNCHED ON A TRIAL BASIS IN SOME CITIES THIS YEAR. . . PART OF AN AMBITIOUS PLAN TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL MEDICAL INSURANCE.

SOCIAL WORKERS DISCUSS DEATH WITH THE FAMILY

THEE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG IS CONDUCTING A SERIES OF WORKSHOPS ON PREPARING FOR DEATH

A WOMAN DISLOCATED HER JAW WHILE LAUGHING AT A MAHJONG GAME

'RIGHT TO BE SILENT' MAY BE GRANTED

AMENDMENT TO CRIMINAL LAW AIMS TO CURB FORCED CONFESSIONS

BELJING TARGETS SMOKERS

CHINA IS THE WORLD'S BIGGEST CONSUMER OF TOBACCO, WITH A MARKET WORTH \$65,03 BILLION THANKS TO ITS 460 MILLION PLUS SMOKERS

TRADE TO REACH \$2 TRILLION IN '07

Central bank raises interest rates, bank reserve ratio

China raised interest rates and bank reserve requirement ratio on Friday in the latest effort to prevent the economy from overheating

'Economy not to decline after Olympics'

Beijing's party chief said that the economy of the Chinese capital will not slow down after the 2008 Olympic Games as investment and consumption will continue to soar.

Sinopec establishing oil reserve firm

Asia's top refiner is busy building up China's first commercial oil reserve company as the country focuses more on securing vital energy supplies.

Reform Dickensian Hong Kong

Economists in Hong Kong seem to agree that the widening gap between rich and poor is threatening to erode the social fabric on which the vibrant economy is imprinted.