



TODAY IN OLYMPIC COVERAGE



Surprise and dismay on the firing range

In a surprise, Lee Bo-na (above) captured the bronze medal in the women's shotgun event in the trap competition. It is the first time Korea has won a medal in the event.

And in what was thought by many to be a sure medal bid, Cheon Min-ho, ranked second in the world in the men's 10 meters air rifle, finished fourth and out of the honors.

For more on the Olympics, see page 6.

IN BRIEF

Seoul warns of threat of terror from North

South Korea's National Intelligence Service has issued a warning about an increased terror threat from North Korea against South Koreans in China and elsewhere.

"We have no specific information indicating there is an attack planned, but issued the warning as a precautionary measure," a National Intelligence Service spokesman said yesterday.

"North Korea's state media have been saying the North will not stand by while South Korea receives defectors en masse," the spokesman said. "So, we are asking South Koreans overseas to pay special attention to their safety."

On Friday, the intelligence service warned of possible "retaliatory terror" by North Korea, following the arrival of more than 460 defectors here last month. Since the incident, the North has accused Seoul of "planned kidnapping" of its citizens.

Average Kim spends 3.8 million on taxes

The average Korean paid 3.8 million won (\$3,300) in taxes, for premiums on the national insurance policy and to pension programs last year, the Ministry of Finance and Economy said yesterday. Koreans paid 147.8 trillion won in taxes last year, or some 20.5 percent of the nation's annual gross domestic product. They also paid 35.9 trillion won in premiums to the National Pension, to other state-run pensions or for state-run insurance policies.

The total payment divided by the nation's population of 47.9 million was 3.8 million won, the Finance Ministry said. The amount was up 9.4 percent from 2002.

The ministry said premiums on state-run pensions and insurance policies have seen double-digit annual growth rates in the last four years because the number of policyholders have increased and their incomes have expanded.



At an excavation site at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex, teams of North and South Korean archeologists have been unearthing ancient relics. Provided by the Korea Land Corp.

Gaeseong digs yield riches

By Lee Man-hoon/ Lee Ho-jeong
JoongAng Ilbo/ Staff Writer

The Gaeseong industrial complex, designed to stimulate manufacturing in North Korea through investment from the South, is taking on the appearance of an archeological treasure trove.

According to Korea Land Corp., in the first joint excavation between North and South Korean scholastic institutions in June, a large number of historical artifacts dating back as far as the Stone Age, have been extracted at the site.

The discoveries, however, are not hampering the development of the large industrial complex, located 70 kilometers (43 miles) from Seoul. The artifacts will be displayed at Gaeseong Museum, but a historic housing site will not be preserved as it was heavily damaged in the Korean War and previous conflicts, said an official at the Land Corp.

Relics discovered include an axe from the Stone Age, a piece of pottery from the Neolithic era, a coin used during the Goryeo Dynasty (918-1392), glass, jade beads, celadon porcelain bowls and even a metal cow — buried in a ritual during the Goryeo Dynasty. Moreover, a housing site from the Proto-Three Kingdoms era, which dates from 1 to 300 A.D. as well as wooden coffins from the Goryeo and Joseon dynasties have been discovered.

North and South Korea have started exchanging



Historical artifacts from the Stone Age to the Joseon Dynasty have been found at Gaeseong.

research on cultural artifacts, but this is the first time that archeologists from both countries have held joint excavations.

"This has opened the spigot for cultural artifact research between North Korea and South Korea," said Cho You-jeon, former head of the National Research Institute of Cultural Properties. "I hope that [inter-Korean cultural artifacts research] will become more active," he added.

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Labor minister assails unions' radical tactics

By Cheong Chul-gun
JoongAng Ilbo

Labor Minister Kim Dae-hwan warned yesterday that the government would no longer tolerate militant actions by the country's organized workers.

"The crisis of Korea's labor movement is coming from inside, not outside," Mr. Kim said in an interview with the JoongAng Ilbo. "If labor does not change, it may distance itself from the public."

Mr. Kim took over the Roh administration's labor portfolio in February.

"Considering the changes in Korean society, labor strikes that feature the past's militant actions will be difficult to accept now," he said.

In describing this year's labor situation, Mr. Kim said, "Unions of some large businesses and from the public sector have staged unreasonable strikes or made too many demands."

Specifically, Mr. Kim mentioned the recent strike by LG Caltex employees. He criticized organized labor at the refinery, saying the union had violated the government's arbitration policies. LG Caltex employees ended an 18-day strike on Aug. 6 after rejecting the government's arbitration efforts to establish wage increases. "A right to collective action is labor's basic right, but it cannot be unlimited," Mr. Kim said.

The Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, in a protest against the government's arbitration decision in the LG Caltex case, said it would continue boycotting the Tripartite Commission of management, government and labor, an official forum for discussing labor-management issues.

Mr. Kim said yesterday he expects Lee Soo-ho, president of the



Kim Dae-hwan

confederation, to resume his participation in the three-party talks. Mr. Lee has just finished a hunger strike, and Mr. Kim said he would meet Mr. Lee soon and discuss the issue.

Concerning measures to protect irregular employees — laborers who are temporary, contract or part-timers — Mr. Kim said his ministry is promoting a plan to extend the working terms of "dispatched workers" from the current two-year period to three years.

The term dispatched workers refers usually to unskilled laborers who belong to private or public labor agencies and are sent under contract to different work sites as occasion demands. "Our plan is to do away with unwarranted discrimination against irregular workers and at the same time to increase the flexibility of the labor market," Mr. Kim said.

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Taking the heat is tough on big shots

By Ha Jae-sik
JoongAng Ilbo

High-profile politicians convicted and sentenced to prison in the sweeping corruption scandals of the last 12 months have lost weight, are suffering from various physical ailments and are generally complaining about hellishly hot conditions in their cells at the Seoul Detention Center located in Uiwang, Gyeonggi province.

The one-time powerful men are inmates because they raised illegal funds, took bribes or embezzled. They include Kim Un-yong, former Millennium Democratic Party lawmaker and an International Olympic Committee vice president, Chyung Dai-chul, former Millennium Democratic Party Chairman, Choi Don-woong, former Grand National Party lawmaker, and Kim Young-iel, former Grand National Party secretary-general.

Kim Un-yong, 73, is staying in a sick ward. Convicted on a slew of embezzlement and bribery charges, he received a 30-month prison term. An aide to Mr. Kim said his boss' blood pressure once reached 220, far above the normal level, and he fainted.

"I am really worried that Mr. Kim may experience



Chyung Dai-chul



Kim Un-yong

serious trouble inside the prison because of the summer heat," the aide said yesterday.

Mr. Choi, 69, is said to be suffering from lower back pains inside the prison and cannot stand up by himself. "Mr. Choi cannot sleep well because of the tropical summer nights," Mr. Choi's aide said. Mr. Choi was convicted for leading the Grand National Party's illegal

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North drops prohibitions on terms for South Korea

By Lee Young-jong
JoongAng Ilbo

North Korea is no longer banning the word *Hanguk*, the short form of South Korea's official name, or a similar term, *Daehan*. Pyeongyang had long insisted that the terms not be used there. The North calls itself *Joseon*, and has insisted on "South Joseon" for the South, just as residents here call the North *Bukhan*, or North Hanguk.

Some of the first effects of the North Korean sensitivity were felt by the contractors building two nuclear reactors in the North. Several incidents were triggered by imported goods marked with the terms.

And all South Korean vehicles delivering aid to the North had to cover up the word. Truck license plates with the names of South Korea-

an cities or provinces also had to be masked by duct tape. The South Korean TV network KBS, or Korea Broadcasting System, was asked to cover up its company's logo when its satellite transmission vehicles aired inter-Korean events in the North. Reporters from a South Korean daily newspaper, The Korea Daily News, had to tape over their name cards.

Now, trucks from Korea Express, a South Korean shipping company, are traveling to the North to deliver South Korean rice aid — and are not hiding the origin of their shipments. Since July, 85 trucks have been delivering rice there without duct tape or repainting. The government corporation in charge of rice aid said Seoul had asked for the change, and Pyeongyang had posed no objections.

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Weather in Seoul

30 30 10 50 High 25 Low 22

Exercise Laundry Car wash Outdoor

Daily Indicator 0(Bad) — 50(Average) — 100(Good)

Market Data

Aug. 16

Kospi 773.85 (-2.17)

Kosdaq 346.27 (+0.18)

Corp. Bond (% 3yr, AA-) 4.30 (0.00)

Won | US Dollar 1,159.10 won (-3.20)

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Meal with too much bark seeks wine with nose

By Ines Cho
Staff Writer

At Casa del Vino, a posh bar in southern Seoul, eight kinds of wine from all over the world were carefully chosen for Saturday's special dinner party. The guests would decide whether a 2000 Chateau Cissac Haut-Medoc or a 1998 Chateau Petit-Figeac St. Emilion Grand Cru, among other wines, was a better choice.

The main course had already been decided. The question was: Which vintage would go with the dog meat? Eating dog is nothing new in Korea. The tradition is centuries old. Yet the government has been trying to disavow the culinary practice since the 1988 Seoul Olympics. At the time, the sale of *busintang*, or dog meat soup, was banned for fear of generating unsettling headlines in the foreign press.

Koreans who really want their

dog meat during the hot summer, when the meat is believed to revive flagging energy, can still get it. But now, they appear embarrassed about it, especially with foreigners.

Oh Gyu-ran, a seamstress working in eastern Seoul, said she eats dog meat in the summertime but was shy about saying so. "You know, they say it's good for you, especially women," she said. "But I don't eat it at home, because my children don't like it and all. So a whole bunch of us friends or family members go up to the mountain behind my house and eat it there."

It's that sense of shame that Casa del Vino's owner, Eun Kwang-pyo, wants to eliminate. He questions why the Korean tradition has to be enjoyed in secret or with a guilty conscience.



Wine club members and the local press gathered on Saturday afternoon at Casa del Vino's monthly wine-and-food matching session. By Ines Cho

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