August 13, 2008

Today's Weather

88°F | 31°C

Heat Index: 89°F | 32°C

Thunderstorms Possible

Security Increases for

Media Minus Explanation

Spokesmen for BOCOG and the IOC are at a loss to explain a sudden increase in security for media covering the Beijing Olympics that includes an armored personnel carrier parked outside the Main Press Center.

"I don't think there is a real threat to the media," declared BOCOG Vice President Wang Wei in response to a question about the security increase.

Despite his role as a senior BOCOG executive and spokesman, Wang said he did not know a military vehicle was parked in front of the MPC.

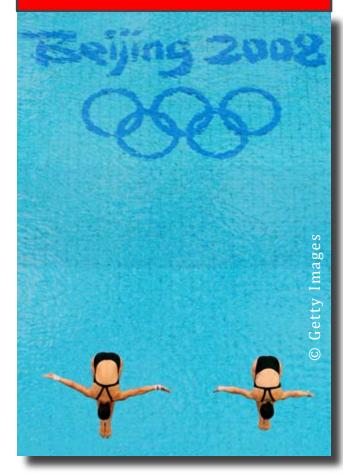
"With regard to the previously happened stabbing incident, I think the relevant authorities may have increased the security level. The point is that they should not, well, create a negative effect to the access. They should not present an inconvenience for the media, I think that is the point," said Wei.

"So if that's a reassurance, I think that is a good thing," he said, failing to deliver any explanation for what may have prompted the sudden security ramp-up.

Notices posted at the entrance to the media villages Monday night said that increased security measures were in place as of August 11. For media returning to their apartments, this now includes a mag-and-bag check. Previously, as in past Olympics, residents of the

(continued, page 3)

KODAK PHOTO OF THE DAY





South Africa fell to the Netherlands by five goals to zero. (Getty Images)

Event of the Day: Field Hockey on the Green

Men's hockey was under way at the Olympic Green Hockey Stadium with simultaneous matches at its two fields on Monday night.

Combined capacity is 17,000, but there were sizable blocks of empty seats for the featured match on the main field, a 6-1 win by defending gold medalist Australia over Canada.

The main stadium consists of a main,

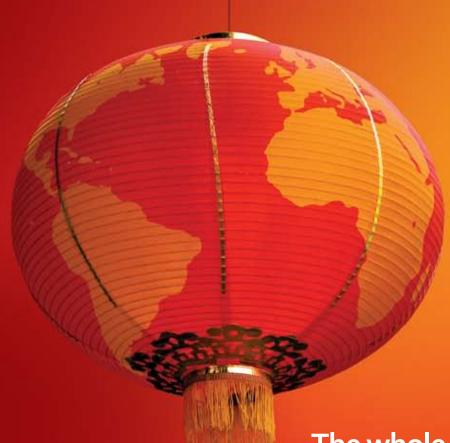
roofed stand with two end zones and a smaller stand opposite. Groups of yellow-shirted youths dominated sections in opposite stands, attempting to cheer for the opposing teams. The cheering squads in yellow are called in by BOCOG to help fill the stands when seats are open. BOCOG says that if ticket holders arrive, the cheering volunteers move on.

Early in the second half, the public *(continued,, page 7)*

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全世界同处一方 分享同一梦想

全世界各民族参加一个和平竞赛,庆祝我们拥有一个美好并充满青春活力的世界。这次,巴西有史以来最大的 奥运代表团热切希望能亲身感受奥林匹克的价值,并且 荣幸地期待上百万的巴西体育爱好者的支持。

里约2016年奥运申办委员会、巴西奥委会衷心祝贺中国人民和北京奥运组委会出色地准备了2008北京奥运会,让205个国家奥委会的一万多个运动员梦想成真。

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The dream of the largest Olympic Brazilian delegation ever is to live by the Olympic values and honor the expectations and support of millions of Brazilian fans.

The Rio 2016 Bid Committee and the Brazilian Olympic Committee would like to congratulate the Chinese people and the Beijing Organizing Committee for the excellent preparation of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, which will make the dreams of over 10,000 athletes from 205 National Olympic Committees come true.





Increased Media Security at Olympic Village

(continued from cover)

apartment blocks had only to display their credentials to return to their rooms.

"The purpose is to insure the safety of the two media villages," says a notice posted at the security turnstile to the media village.

IOC spokeswoman Giselle Davies was not able to say whether the IOC Coordination Commission was informed of the need to increase security for media. The Coordination Commission, chaired by the IOC president, meets regularly during the Games to review issues such as security matters.

The increase in security apparently applies also to the Olympic Village, where teams with automatic weapons are now stationed outside the entrance.

"It's meant to be protective. To safeguard the security of the athletes and everybody, says Wang Wei.

"I've seen those kind[s] of things in other games."

The security increase comes in the face of criticism by IOC members over the way China is implementing Games-time security.

"The Chinese are scaring the wits out of foreigners. We can't have it like this. When, in addition, they have weapons and look scary, it is even worse," Gerhard Heiberg of Norway is quoted in the Oslo newspaper Aftenposten.

- Ed Hula



An armored tank with a machine gun now guards the Main Press Center of the Beijing Olympics. (ATR)





SOME EXAMPLES OF MAJOR SPORTS EVENTS HOSTED IN DENMARK:

World Sailing Farr 40 Championship 2007 (ISAF)

World Artistic Gymnastics Championship 2006 (FIG) World Orienteering Championship 2006 (IOF) World Match Racing Championship for women 2006 (ISAF) World Standard Championship 2006 (IDSF) World Floorball Championship for women 2007 (IFF) SOME EXAMPLES OF UPCOMING MAJOR EVENTS TO BE HOSTED IN DENMARK:
World Taekwondo Championships 2009 (WTF)
UEFA Congress 2009 (UEFA)
World Wrestling Championship 2009 (FILA)
121st Session & XIII Olympic Congress 2009 (IOC)
World Track Cycling Championship 2010 (UCI)
World Road Cycling Championship 2011 (UCI)





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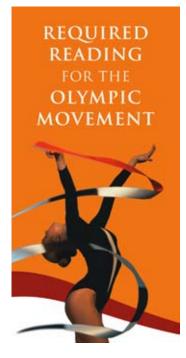
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Today's Highlights

• **8 a.m.** – ATR Newsmaker Breakfast – Vancouver 2010 CEO John Furlong and British Columbia Premier Gordon Campbell will provide a progress report on the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games and the milestones that are still ahead.

Venue: McDonald's, Olympic Green, north end.

Quote of the Day

"We think that in particular the military and police can behave in a different manner ... They look like stone faces. The Chinese are scaring the wits out of foreigners. We can't have it like this. When, in addition, they have weapons and look scary, it is even worse."

- International Olympic Committee member **Gerhard Heiberg** quoted in the Norwegian daily Aftenposten

Main Press Centre

• 11 a.m. - Joint IOC/BOCOG Daily Press Briefing

Beijing International Media Center

www.2008bimc.cn

- •12 p.m. Press conference on public traffic and safeguards with Beijing Municipal Committee of Communications Deputy Director Zhou Zhengyu. Hall 1.
- **2:30 p.m.** Group interview with top leaders from the Ministry of Water Resources. Hall 2.
- **4 p.m.** Press conference on building Beijing's Olympics payment environmen,t Director–General, Payment and Settlement Department, People's Bank of China. Hall 1.

Coming Up!

- **Aug. 14, 5 p.m.** Media event featuring Cindy Crawford at Omega Pavilion on the Olympic Green.
- Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m. "Olympic Spirit of McDonald's" video contest winners. Guests include Jacques Rogge and Carl Lewis. Loong Palace Hotel & Resort, Huilongguan, Changping District.
- Aug. 14, 8 p.m. Atlanta Legacy Night. Olympians Reunion Center, Sun Palace, Chaoyang Park.

		Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total		Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
J.S.		49	27	31	107	Spain	7	5	9	21
China	2	35	24	28	87	Japan	6	5	9	20
Russia		32	29	25	86	Cuba	5	7	5	17
Great Britain	K	20	10	19	49	Kenya	5	3	5	13
Germany		18	14	24	56	Netherlands	5	7	13	25
Australia	K	15	9	13	37	Poland	5	5	9	19
rance		9	19	12	40	Brazil	4	3	6	13
Italy		9	16	15	40	Canada •	4	6	3	13
Korea	•	9	10	7	26	Hungary	4	5	8	17
Belarus		7	2	6	15	New Zealand	2 4	6	1	11

Based on results in recent World Championships. Projections are by Luciano Barra, former director of sport for the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI), and deputy CEO of TOROC 2006. Barra has been projecting medal counts for 10 years by analyzing past performances.



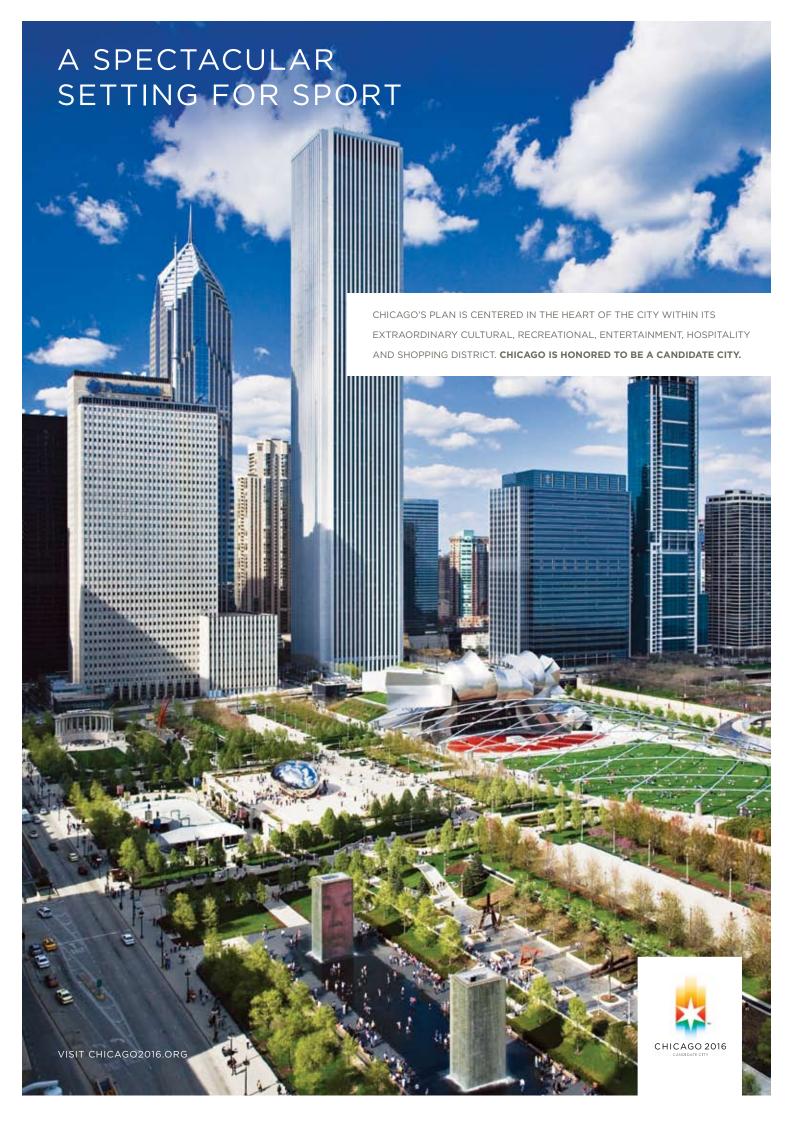
Inclusive Innovative Inspiring

Softball: The "In" Olympic sport for 2016

Back Softball is an initiative of the International Softball Federation



www.backsoftball.com



Men's Gold Final is August 23



The U.S. and Japan drew 1-1 in their Aug. 12 meet. (Getty Images)

(continued from cover)

address announcer had to quell uninformed cheering. What was thought to be a goal by the Canadians was actually shot from outside the goal circle.

Host China, Netherlands, South Korea, South Africa, Spain, Belgium, Pakistan and New Zealand are the other entries in the men's event, which wraps up with the Aug. 23 gold medal match.

In women's, which began a day earlier, China, Germany, Argentina, South Africa, Netherlands, Great Britain, New Zealand, Australia and Japan are the contestants. The women's gold medal match is Aug. 22.

- ATR Staff



Blogging Beijing: Opening Ceremony Dazzled World

Sports writer Yang Min attended opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics, an event he says that China has been anticipating for years. Here's his blog about the ceremony and its meaning for him and his Chinese compatriots:

People shouted excitedly as dazzling fireworks exploded in the air around the Bird's Nest during the Opening Ceremony, casting a colorful glow into the sky around the stadium. The huge pyrotechnics were vivid and full of imagination, and left a very deep impression on the people.

As the director of the opening ceremony, Zhang Yimou integrated many elements of traditional Chinese culture into the performances, such as the ink paintings and giant scrolls. Coupled with the sound of ethnic Chinese songs, people were immediately brought into a Chinese atmosphere. Many people



were mesmerized by Zhang's superb directing and the overall performance.

When Li Ning carried the last torch and was lifted into the air, everyone was speculating on how he would light the cauldron. When the answer was finally revealed, every Chinese felt that their wait and dreams over the past seven years were fulfilled. All of our contributions and efforts, from the start of the 500-day countdown till the day when the much-awaited

event finally arrived, paid off. In this moment, the world's attention was focused on us.

In the next 12 days, athletes from all over the world will be competing against each other, hoping to win honor for their countries and to exchange experiences by means of competitive sports.

- Yang Min

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On the Scene in Beijing: India's First Gold Medal

A nation of a billion people finally has an Olympic gold medalist. India's Abhinav Bindra won the men's 10m air rifle title Monday at the Beijing shooting range. Prior to Beijing, Indian athletes had managed to win just four medals in the 80 years the country has competed at the Games.



Abhinav Bindra of India reacts to gold medal result (Getty Images)

Tibetan Reporter Barred

A Tibetan-born correspondent for Radio Free Asia, a U.S.-based radio station critical of China, is barred from the Olympics.

RFA had applied for two media credentials for the Olympics. Jill Ku Martin, chief correspondent for the Mandarin Service of Radio Free Asia, received her accreditation only the night before the opening ceremony Aug. 7.

But her colleague Dhondup Gonsar, who is of Tibetan descent and broadcasts in the Tibetan language on RFA, is currently in Hong Kong awaiting his accreditation which acts as a visa.

BOCOG has yet to issue the credential even though the IOC has approved the application. A decision is pending, Chinese organizers say.

The IOC's Director of Communications Giselle Davies confirms Tuesday that the issue has been raised with BOCOG.

The radio station, a non-profit organization sponsored by the U.S. Congress, broadcasts within China from Washington D.C. through shortwave and the internet. Its mission statement "is to provide accurate and timely news and



Jill Ku Martin of Radio Free Asia (ATR)

information to Asian countries whose governments prohibit access to a free press and those in other undemocratic Asian states."

Asked why she thought BOCOG has yet to issue a visa to her colleague, Ku Martin says: "We can only speculate. My colleague is of Tibetan descent and he works for the Tibetan service in our organization and broadcasts in Tibetan."

Ku Martin says RFA's signal is "constantly jammed" in China.

Celebration of the life of Steve Parry

London 2012, the IOC and Reuters are inviting friends and colleagues of Steve Parry to join them in celebrating his life, cut short on the eve of the Beijing Games. The event takes place in the lobby bar area of the Intercontinental Hotel (at the end of the MPC) at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. Drinks and light refreshments will be available.

Crowds Will Come Promises BOCOG

Wang concedes there are not enough people visiting the Olympic common domain. He says about 40,000 people visited the Olympic Green Aug. 11.

"We are concerned about these not full stadiums," he told a press briefing Tuesday.

Restating his remarks of two days ago, he insists crowds have stayed away due to the poor weather, while Olympic Family guests are not taking up some seats reserved for the preliminary rounds.

He insists BOCOG is renewing efforts to lift attendance and encourage more Beijing

citizens to visit the Olympic Green.

Wang also defends the deployment of groups of volunteers as cheerleaders in some venues, filling seats that would otherwise be empty. He says they are there "to create a good atmosphere for competition." Dressed in yellow shirts, they are easily identified at venues.

Ticket Scalping Concerns

BOCOG says it will investigate reports of ticket scalping outside one of the Olympic Green entrances.

Chinese and foreign scalpers were said to be operating freely around Gate 25 Monday, selling tickets for sports such as volleyball, fencing and swimming at inflated prices.

Wang admits he is unaware of a scalping problem, saying BOCOG has strict measures in place to prevent it. "Scalping is prohibited by Chinese law. We will look into this to see whether it is true or not." "If we know about it, we are going to do something about it."

Fake Firework Images

The countdown section of the Olympics opening ceremony with fireworks "footprints" launching across Beijing leading to the Bird's Nest stadium included pre-recorded film, BOCOG admits.

"Previouslyrecordedfootagewasprovided to the broadcasters for convenience to provide theatrical effect," Wang says.

While there were actual footprint fireworks exploding to the north and south of the city, some pre-recorded footage "may have been used," he says.

Where's Jacques?

IOC President Jacques Rogge visits the wrestling venue Tuesday. Men's Greco-Roman 55 and 60 kg competition and medal rounds are under way at the CAU Gymnasium.

- ATR Staff



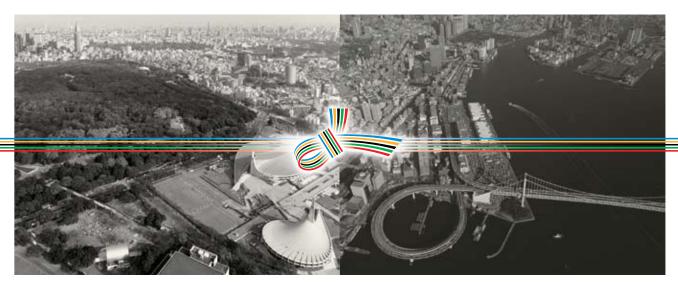
Sports Day August 13, 2008

	Event	Time	Venue	
Archery	M individual elimination rounds	10:00 - 13:30, & 15:30 - 19:00	Olympic Green Archery Field	
Badminton	M and W doubles and singles quarterfinals	10:00 - 14:00, & 18:30 - 22:30	BJUT Gym.	
Baseball	M preliminaries	10:30 - 12:30, & 18:00 20:00	Wukesong Baseball Field	
Basketball	W preliminaries: Groups A,B	9:00 - 13:00, 14:30 - 18:30, & 20:00 - 00:00	Olympic Basketball Gym.	
Beach Volleyball	M preliminaries: pools A,B,C, E; W preliminaries: pool E	9:00 - 15:00 & 18:00 - 00:00	Chaoyang Park BV Ground	
Boxing	M light fly, heavy and super heavy rounds	13:30 - 18:00, & 19:00 - 23:30	Workers' Gym.	
Cycling - Road	W and M Individual time trial and medal ceremonies	Starts: 11:30 women 13:30 men	Road Cycling Course	
Canoe/Kayak - Slalom	Heats: C2 men, K1 women	15:00 - 18:30	SY Rowing-Canoeing Park	
Diving	M synchronised 3m springboard final	14:30 - 15:30	National Aquatics Center	
Equestrian	Dressage team and individual grand prix day 1	19:00 - 20:30	HK Equestrian(Shatin)	
Football	M first rounds: groups A,B,C,D	17:00 - 21:30, & 19:45 - 21:30	Shenyang Olympic Stad., Workers' Stad., Shanghai Stad., Tianjin Stad., Qinhuangdao Stad.	
Fencing	M individual foil, W individual epee competition and medal rounds	10:00 - 17:30, & 18:00 - 22:30	Fencing Hall	
Gymnastics - Artistic	W team final	10:30 - 11:30	National Indoor Stad.	
Handball	W preliminaries: Groups A,B	9:00 - 12:15, 14:00 - 17.15 & 19:00 - 22:15	OSC Gym.	
Hockey	M matches: Pools MA, MB	8:30 - 12:00, 18:00 - 22:30	Olympic Green Hockey Stad.	
Judo	Judo W -70 kg M -90 kg competition and medal rounds		USTB Gym.	

	Event	Time	Venue	
Rowing	W and M single sculls, M pair, M double sculls, M four	14:50 - 19:00	SY Rowing-Canoeing Park	
Sailing	Races: Laser Radial, laser, 470 men and women, yngling, finn, 49er	13:00 - 16:00	Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center	
Shooting	W 25m Pistol competition and medal rounds	9:00- 15:50	Beijing Shooting Range Hall	
Softball	Preliminaries	9:30 - 14:00 & 17:00-21:30	Fengtai Softball Field	
Swimming	Heats: W 100m freestyle, 200m breastsroke 4x200m freestyle; M 200 m backstroke and 200m individual medley. Semifinals: M 100m freestyle, W 200m butterfly, M 200m breaststroke. Finals: M 200m butterfly and 4x200 freestyle, W 200m individual medley.	10:00 - 12:30 & 18:30 - 21:30	National Aquatics Center	
Tennis	M and W doubles and singles	16:00 - 22:00	Olympic Green Tennis Center	
Table Tennis	W and M teams: groups A,B,C,D	10:00 - 13:00, 14:30 - 17:30 & 19:30 - 22:30	PKU Gym.	
Volleyball	W preliminaries: Pools A,B	9:00 - 12:30, 12:30 - 16:00 & 20:00 - 23:30	Morning: BIT Gym., Afternoon: Capital Gym.	
Weightlifting	M 77kg and W 69kg competition and medal rounds	10:00 - 14:00, 15:30 - 17:30, & 19:00 - 21:00	BUAA Gym.	
Water Polo	W preliminaries: Groups A,B	13:00 - 18:00	Yingdong Natatorium	
Wrestling	M Greco-Roman 66 kg and 74 kg competition and medal rounds	9:30 - 15:30 & 16:00 -19:30	CAU Gym.	

W = Women's / M = Men's

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