

Jackie Chan wants to work with son Jaycee on album, movie

By Louise Watt
The Associated Press

BEIJING — Action star Jackie Chan says he wants to work with his son Jaycee on a movie and an album as they mend their relationship after Jaycee was imprisoned on a drug charge.

Jaycee Chan was released from a six-month prison sentence in February after pleading guilty to allowing others to use marijuana at his Beijing apartment.

Jackie Chan, 61, said prison was good for his son because it made him mature and that their relationship has changed for the better.

Before, “I was too Chinese, traditional — you, son, go away, I don’t want to help you, you have to help yourself,” Chan said in an interview in Beijing. When filming the remake of *The Karate Kid* alongside Will Smith’s teenage son Jaden Smith, Chan said he was struck seeing Will “helping his son to be in a movie, every day on the set.”

“I say why am I so stubborn? I have to help my son,” Chan told The Associated Press.

The Hong Kong actor said he was looking for suitable movie projects for Jaycee, 32, and in the meantime his son would produce one of his records, expected out at the end of the year. He also said he hoped Jaycee would sing a duet with him on one of the tracks.

“Probably there is one song that we will sing to each other,” said Chan, adding that in it he would apologize for ignoring Jaycee when he was young. “I say ‘sorry, I was busy at that time.’”

Chan said he wasn’t sure his actor-singer son would go for it, and that he might have to find somebody to sing it for him.



FAMILY TIES. Action star Jackie Chan speaks during an interview in Beijing. Chan said he wants to work with his son Jaycee on a movie and an album as they mend their relationship after Jaycee was jailed on a drug charge. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

He said Jaycee wrote songs and scripts and read a lot of books in prison, and joked that a bit of prison time might be good for a lot of people.

“So many rich people, like some of my friends, they take 10 days or a month to the mountain to purify,” Chan said, adding that his busy schedule doesn’t allow him to relax for 10 days.

“I think sometimes I should set up the jail holiday, force some rich people, even myself, to go to jail,” he said. “These days all the people need to do this because they’re so busy.”

Chan’s latest film, *Dragon Blade*, is a \$65-million action movie set 2,000 years ago featuring Roman soldiers and a Chinese force that protects the Silk Road. It was a big success in China, pulling in more than \$115 million earlier this year, and debuts in the United States on September 4.

Chan plays a squad commander who strikes up a friendship with Roman general Lucius, played by John Cusack, who has fled his homeland because of ruthless ruler Tiberius, portrayed by Adrien Brody.

Chan, who choreographed the fight scenes, said Cusack knew how to free fight but not how to use a sword. “He cut me so many times in the finger, again and again, and Adrien Brody same thing, but I had to pretend nothing happened, OK, continue.”

Chan’s movies in the pipeline include a China-Bollywood action comedy called *Kung Fu Yoga*, a World War II drama titled *Railroad Tigers*, and *The Karate Kid 2*. *The Karate Kid 2* script is still being written as Will Smith isn’t comfortable with it, Chan said.

“I said ‘hurry up or otherwise Jaden will be taller than me,’” Chan said.



FELINE FATALITIES. A Royal Bengal tiger walks after pre-monsoon showers at the Ranthambhore national park in Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan, India, in this June 10, 2015 file photo. Conservationists say at least 41 tigers have died during the first seven months of this year despite awareness campaigns across India to save the big cats. (AP Photo/Deepak Sharma, File)

Wildlife groups say 41 tigers have died in India this year

By Nirmala George
The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Six months after India boasted that its tiger population was growing fast, conservationists say 41 big cats have already died this year and they are worried that the country is not doing enough to save them.

Despite awareness campaigns, India’s National Tiger Conservation Authority and the wildlife group TRAFFIC say only seven of the cats died from natural causes, one was killed by authorities, and the rest were illegally poached between January and August.

In January, Indian environment authorities claimed that conservation efforts were working as the number of tigers in the country had risen to 2,226 in 2014, up from 1,706 counted in 2010.

Experts say the partial death toll proves India was not doing enough to protect the endangered predators, noting 66 tigers died during all of 2014.

Of those that died naturally this year, two were killed in tiger battles, which experts say are becoming more frequent as the big cats vie for territory while their habitats shrink.

Wildlife experts say tigers face increasing threats to their roaming territory because their traditional forests are cleared to make way for huge power projects, roads, and human habitats as the country pushes ahead with rapid industrialization and economic development.

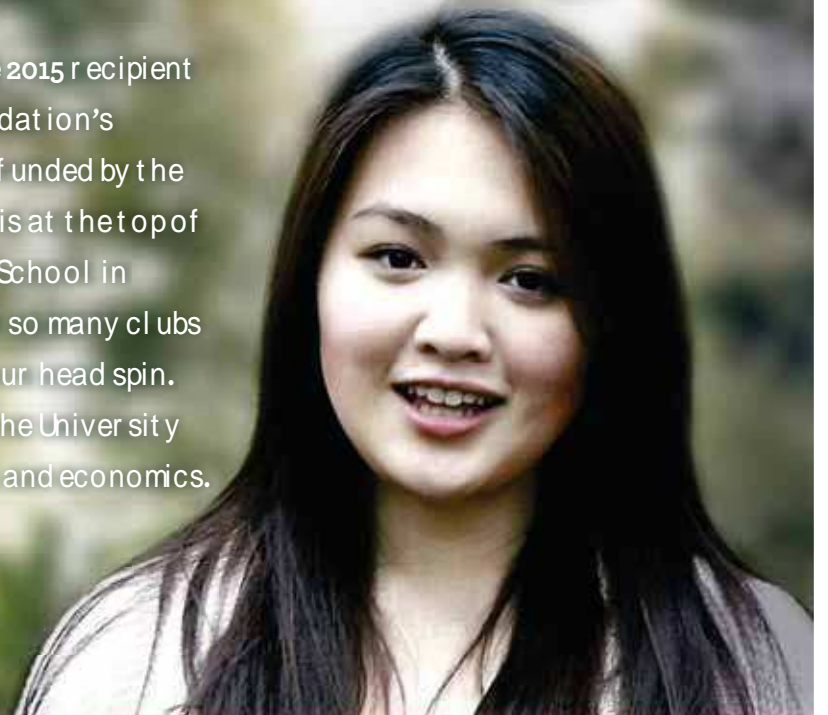
“We are losing buffer areas around the tiger reserves every day and this is worrisome,” said Shekhar Niraj, the head of TRAFFIC-India.

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Education Matters

Just ask Christina. She’s the 2015 recipient of the Asian Reporter Foundation’s \$2000 Scholarship Award, funded by the Oregon Lottery. Christina is at the top of her class at Franklin High School in Portland and is involved in so many clubs and activities, it’ll make your head spin. Christina plans to attend the University of Oregon to study business and economics.

Christina Kuang
2015 Asian Reporter Foundation
Scholarship Award Recipient



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