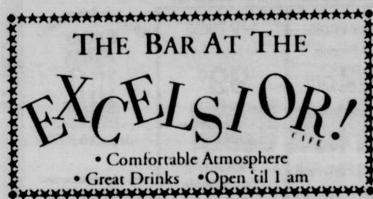


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## Is democracy in China's future?

Students support political pressure, favored nation status

By Kirsten Lucas Emerald Reporter

The spirit of the Chinese democracy movement is still alive among Chinese University students today, despite what happened three years ago in Tiananmen Square.

After seven weeks of widespread non-violent demonstrations, the Chinese army cracked down on protesters, mostly students, who had been occupying the public square in Beijing.

On June 4, 1989, government soldiers killed more than 500 supporters of the democracy movement in a brutal show of force the world will probably never forget.

University graduate students Danni Lu and Zhichao Yuan, who were involved in the movement from its hopeful beginning to its bloody end, said they will never forget Tiananmen Square, nor will they ever give up their hope for a democratic China.

"June 4 was so unforgettable to me because I saw so many people die. That event changed me a lot," Lu said. "No 'people's government' should fire on its own people. I no longer think it is a people's government."

Lu, Yuan and five other Chinese University students gathered Wednesday to talk about China's past, present and future— a meeting that would be illegal today and would have

been potentially life threatening three years ago at the University of Beijing.

The students believe that as private economic power grows and the older generation that controls the government dies. China is bound to change. However, they say as long as the state dominates the Chinese economy, democracy will not come about.

The students also believe international pressure will also play a key role in encouraging reforms in China.

"Pressure from international leaders is very important," said Yin Lin, a graduate student in chemistry. So far, she said, three famous political dissidents who were involved in the Chinese democracy movement have been able to get visas and passports as a result of outside influence.

In what some human rights advocates see as the wrong kind of outside influence, the White House Tuesday announced plans to extend China's most favored nation status, which grants China preferential trade benefits with the United States.

In general, the students expressed support for China's most favored nation status with the United States because they believe Western economic and ideological influence through trade will further positive change.

However, they also fear the beneficial trade agreement may send mixed signals to Chinese government about its poor human rights record.

"I think Bush is right to continue most favored nation status. As long as the door is open, things will keep changing," said Wei Di, a graduate student in physics.

"Most people have mixed feelings," said Zhichao Yuan. "On the one hand, it sends the wrong message. But they don't want to hurt business relationships."

Xiaoyuan Yan thought Bush's timing in renewing the controversial agreement was politically inappropriate on the eve of the Tiananmen Square massacre, which has come to symbolize the Chinese government's capacity for brutality.

"I am unhappy with the timing of Mr. Bush's decision," Yan said. "I think that it's definitely the wrong signal to the Chinese government."

"It is very important for Chinese as well as people of the world who are concerned about basic human rights in China and outside of China to remember June 4," said Haiyang Yuan, president of the Chinese Students and Scholars Association.

"People tend to forget," he said. "What we hope is that we can remind people that human rights in China are still miserable and something needs to be done internationally. We have not forgotten."

## TRAVEL

with \$400 last week. The cheapest price between Chicago and Miami dropped from \$290 to \$145.

All Ways Travel agent Rebecca Card-Bennett said she and her coworkers haven't had much free time since the lower fares were an-

"We've had a constant stream of people outside our door everyday," she said. "There is no best time (to come here). You're going to have to stand in line no matter what."

Card-Bennett said agents have had to work overtime to complete paper work that they can't get to during business hours.

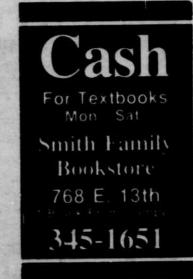
Dick Hayward, an agent for Lee World Travel, 245 E. Broadway, said his business' customers have sometimes had to wait three hours.

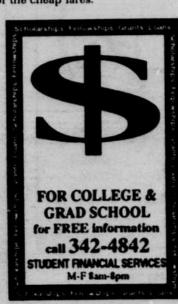
"We just put the calls in order and get back to them as soon as we can," he said. "You might say it's a zoo."

Although most Eugene agencies are experiencing a similar situation, some have shorter waits than others.

Sanni Messer, who works for Sunrise Travel at 910 Lincoln St., said customers who phone the business have only had to wait five to fifteen minutes to talk to an agent.

But before travelers rush to their phones to order tickets, agents say they should be prepared to be flexible. Most airlines have only reserved a small number of seats for the cheap fares.





## ET ALS

MEETING

tonight at 6 in the EMU Board Room.
EMU Board of Directors will meet today at 3:30 p.m. in EMU Contury Room A.

MISCELLANEOUS

EMU Craft Conter workshop and class schedules for summer term are now available. Rejistration begins June 9. For more information and registration stop by the Craft Conter on the ground floor of the EMU or call 346-436). The general public is invited

Deadline for submitting &t Als to the Emerald front deak, EMU Suise 300, is noon the day before publication. Et Als run the day of the event unless the event takes place before noon.

Notices of events with a donation or admission charge will not be accepted. Campus ovents and those scheduled nearest the publication due will be given priority. The Emerald reserves the right to edit notices for grammer and style. Et Als are published on a space-available basis.



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