

Guangdong animation thriving

By MICHELLE FEI
CHINA DAILY

SHENZHEN — The animation industry in Guangdong province recorded grand results last year.

The core output of the industry in Guangdong province reached 3.22 billion yuan, while the gross output amounted to 10.6 billion yuan, which was 42 percent more than in 2009 and accounted for 35.32 percent of the national industry's output value.

Wang Yequn, deputy inspector in the Department of Culture, Guangdong Province, revealed the major achievements of the animation industry in 2010 on Tuesday.

"Shenzhen, as a pioneering city in many ways, has assumed a leading position in the industry as it started its animation industry at an early stage and developed it at a fast pace," Wang said.

Animation companies have gone from strength to strength due to a competitive environment, he said.

For example, the well-known animated television series, "Pleasant Goat and the Big Big Wolf" which was created by local animation company Creative Power Entertainment, has won the hearts of children and adults across the country. The characters of "Pleasant Goat and the Big Big Wolf" have surpassed long-time foreign



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Wang Yequn, deputy inspector in the Department of Culture, Guangdong province.

characters, such as Mickey Mouse and Hello Kitty, in popularity.

In addition, Guangdong Alpha Animation and Culture Cooperation Limited, which was known as the "No 1 animation stock" in China, had developed a complete business chain that includes character designing, copyright authorization, public relations, producing and marketing. Its revenues reached more than 900 million yuan in 2010.

Meanwhile, Guangzhou Comicfans Culture and Technology Development Cooperation Limited issued more than 1,354 different books in 2010, accounting

for 30 percent of the national market and keeping it at No 1 in the country.

The animation companies also widened their circulation channels.

In 2010, "Pleasant Goat and the Big Big Wolf" was launched in Chinese Taipei.

Easier this year, it was also distributed by Disney to 52 markets around the Asia-Pacific region to make it a truly international brand.

"In the future, we will continue cracking down on copyright infringement, strengthening regulations and raise social awareness about copyright protection," said Wang.

'Smiling angel' provides inspiration

SHENZHEN — For wheelchair-bound Dong Ming, all the inconvenience she has had to endure could not stop her from contributing to the Universiade.

The 25-year-old from central China's Hubei province is one of the 26,000 volunteers at the event.

"I'm involved in media service, reception and psychological aid for volunteers," Dong told Xinhua during a break from her work at the swimming venue. "The Universiade lasts less than two weeks and I really cherish the opportunity of being a volunteer here."

Dong was formerly a diver who was paralyzed in a training accident at the age of nine. For the ensuing 10 years, she was restricted to her bed and couldn't even speak, but she managed to finish her college courses and earn an advanced psycho-therapist certificate.

"A qualified volunteer requires not only passion for the cause but expertise as well," Dong said. "Psychological aid is my major, and what I am doing here is just making the best use of that."

In 2007, Dong launched a volunteer squad and set up a psychological consultancy in her hometown, offering free psychological aid to more than 5,000 people plagued by troubles varying from lay-offs to divorce. Out of gratitude to Dong, as many as 500 who received her aid have joined her squad to help others.

"A lot of people think disabled people are the most needy group, but it doesn't mean people like me cannot make a contribution," said Dong, who donated 10,000 yuan (\$1,560) to victims of earthquake-hit Sichuan province in 2008 and provided psychological aid to those who were left paralyzed after the quake.

An advocate for the disabled in China, Dong said that sometimes physical disability may turn into an advantage.

"Able-bodied volunteers often have difficulties in persuading others to obey traffic rules, but when I am on duty on the streets, it works well," she said.

Dong has devoted herself to volunteer service at a dozen international events including the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing, the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai and the 2010 Asian Games in Guangzhou.

"Being a volunteer is not just a temporary job, it should be a lifetime cause," said Dong, who is dubbed the "smiling angel on the wheelchair" by fellow volunteers.

"I really like the theme of the Shenzhen Universiade — 'Start here, Make a Difference,' she said. "I would love to paraphrase it with my life-long volunteer work."

XINHUA

Bespectacled HK star bows out with grace

By ZHANG CHUNMEI
CHINA DAILY

SHENZHEN — Hong Kong sabre fencer Au Sin Ying has earned the nickname "eyeglass knight-errant."

She is the only sabre fencer who wears eyeglasses at the Shenzhen Universiade, which makes her special on the strip.

"I think it is no problem to wear eyeglasses to fence. If my glasses are blurred by sweat, I can ask for a pause to clean them and take a short rest," Au said.

The young fencer smiled before the cameras despite losing her match.

"I want to attend the London Olympics. I am not thinking about winning an Olympic medal but just being a part of it," Au said.

Au, a sophomore majoring in physical education and recreation management at Hong Kong Baptist University, was named one of the best eight athletes of the region at the Hong Kong Sports Stars Awards in 2010.

Au impressed spectators at the 2010 Guangzhou Asian Games with her intensity. She won silver in the women's individual sabre, defeating Chinese fencer Tan Xue, a runner-up in the team sabre event at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Her supporters felt Au was one of the Hong Kong athletes with the best chance to win a medal at the Universiade, but she lost 15-13 to Tamara Pochekutova of Kazakhstan in the round of 32.

"The competition was tough as many fencers performed very well at the Universiade. I was nervous and did not control my mentality well. Maybe the expectations of the public put too much pressure on me," Au said.

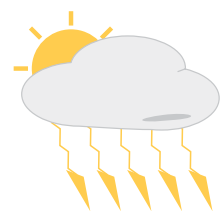
"I wasted many chances to attack my rival and get points. My target was to reach the quarterfinals, but I failed."

As a sophomore at university, Au has struggled to find a balance between study and training. "I can practice two hours after class from Monday to Saturday. My coach makes a lot of plans to help me to improve. I do not have any secrets ... I just play hard on the strip to win," Au said.

"I started fencing in junior middle school. It was not easy to find a field for this sport at that time. I could only play at public arenas. The coach told me I was talented after the first training session, so I decided to go stick with it."

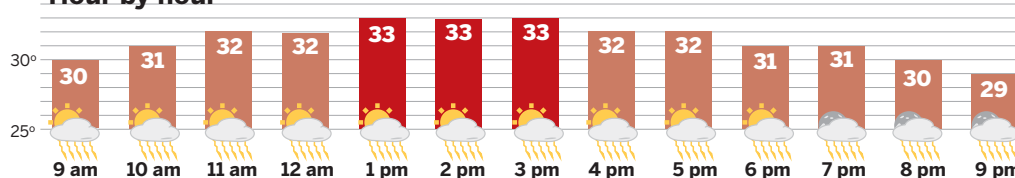
She gained a lot from nine years of training, she said.

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Today's forecast
Scattered T-Storms
Max **33°C**
Min **28°C**
Source: weather.com

Hour by hour



Thursday
33°C
27°C

Friday
33°C
27°C

