

STATE AND LOCAL

China troubled by internal conflicts

By MARY ANN HARVEY
Reporter

China remains a government with an unclear division of power, said Dr. Kenneth Lieberthal, author and professor at the University of Michigan, at the Student Conference on National Affairs Wednesday.

Lieberthal, who has studied the Chinese culture, was the keynote speaker for SCONA's 30th annual conference — "The Emerging China." Delegates from various high schools, colleges and universities were among some 250 people who attended the speech at Rudder Theater.

"China has a combination of elements that has never existed in Western civilization before," Lieberthal said. The country has the largest agrarian society with 800 million peasants. China's urban society also makes up the ninth richest country in gross value of output, he said.

Despite these facts, China suffers from severe poverty and the power of the government remains in question.

Lieberthal discussed five components that may be contributing to China's peculiar combination of elements.

- China is a revolutionary society going through many changes.
- China also is a communist society guided by a Marxist philosophy that continues to monopolize political power.
- The country is bureaucratically influenced with 12 million governing officials.
- China is a developing country with "enormous pockets of poverty."

• China is unique because of its long history and cultural tradition which have a fundamental impact on its people's thinking.

Three major interest groups exist in China today and are trying to bring the country together, Lieberthal said. Each group has a differing opinion on China's reforms.

Lieberthal defined the first group as the Chinese nationalists. They believe China's strength lies in unity and distinctiveness.

The second group believes China should use foreign technology to ward off foreign threat to the country, he said. And the third interest group, consisting mostly of radicals who are willing to change, believes the people should hold nothing sacred in order to revamp China.

A change in China's traditions, however, causes heated debates throughout the country.

"China has found itself consumed in its own internal disputes while non-communist Asia surges ahead," Lieberthal said.

Lieberthal named several reform efforts now being acted upon by China.

- The country is trying to be receptive to the outside world in many ways.
- China has designated 14 major coastal cities to have open terms for all foreigners.
- The country is trying to reach a decision seeking peaceful relations with all countries which will provide stability.



Dr. Kenneth Lieberthal

• China must raise the standard of living by setting a goal for economic reformation.

• China must increase and improve its police force and improve control of its prison system.

Lieberthal considers China to be a growing country and one of the most fascinating of the world's major powers.

Today, Dr. Ross Terrill of Harvard University will discuss China's domestic policies at 9 a.m. in Rudder Theater and Ambassador Ling Qing, U.N. ambassador from the People's Republic of China will discuss China's international issues at 2 p.m.

Horse racing defended as being a clean sport

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Fears that organized crime would move in alongside legal horse racing are groundless if proper controls are used, Kentucky's lieutenant governor told Texas lawmakers Wednesday.

"If you institute pari-mutuel horse racing in Texas in the proper manner ... you will not have any serious criminal activity in connection with pari-mutuel horse racing. It's as simple as that," Lt. Gov. Steve Beshear said.

Kentucky has had pari-mutuel racing for 50 years, he said, adding that it "is one of the cleanest sports industries in this nation."

"It is that way because of all the experience that has been gained by (other) states," he said. "It is clean because of the very strict controls

that are imposed by the industry itself."

Beshear was one of several witnesses to testify as the Senate Economic Development Committee and the House Urban Affairs Committee both held hearings on horse racing bills.

The Kentucky official, who was that state's attorney general for four years, said concerns about crime always are voiced when a state considers horse racing.

But he said the Texas legislation includes the controls needed to keep crime's influence out. These include a strong state racing commission, security precautions at tracks, testing for drugged horses and security checks on racing employees.

"Everyone is licensed, from the

hot dog vendor on up," Beshear said.

Also testifying was Arthur Cobb of the accounting firm Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co., who said an economic study done by the firm indicates Texas would get \$415 million a year in new money from horse racing and see a total impact of \$1.2 billion annually.

Pari-mutuel opponents, including the Anti-crime Council of Texas, said opening race tracks is an invitation for organized crime, and they said serious doubts have arisen as to the sport's economic benefits.

Abner McCall, council chairman and Baylor University chancellor, said experience in other states indicates illegal betting always follows legalized racing.

Bill proposes daycare center fees

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The state could set up training programs for parents and child-care providers by collecting licensing and registration fees from day care facilities, a House committee chairman told his panel Wednesday.

Rep. Erwin Barton, D-Pasadena, is pushing a measure he said would set up "self-policing" of child care by parents. The state now collects no fees from the 19,000 registered family homes and 7,000 licensed day care centers.

The Department of Human Resources inspects licensed day care centers, but does not inspect registered family homes. Approximately 128,000 children are in registered family homes, according to DHR.

Under the Barton bill, the state would collect about \$1.1 million a year to set up parent and child care provider training. Parents would be told what to look for in a facility, he

said. The annual fee would average about \$1.60 per child in a center or home.

Committee member Jack Vowell, R-El Paso, said the training programs probably would do little to curtail child abuse at day care facilities.

Committee member Mike McKinney, D-Centerville, said he had been told it would cost about \$8 million a year for the state to inspect registered family homes.

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