

SCHULMAN THEATRES

Daily matinees begin June 9 at Plaza 3 and June 16 Manor East 3

SCHULMAN 6		PLAZA 3	
2002 E. 29th	775-2463	226 Southeast Pkwy	693-2457
SEE NO EVIL, HEAR NO EVIL R	2:20 7:20 4:50 9:55	*MAJOR LEAGUE R DOLBY	2:10 7:10 4:45 9:35
\$ DOLLAR DAYS \$			
DREAM TEAM PG-13	2:15 7:00 4:45 9:30	*PINK CADILLAC R DOLBY	2:15 7:20 4:50 9:50
DEAD CALM R	2:10 7:05 4:40 9:30	*STAR TREK V PG DOLBY	2:00 7:00 4:30 9:45
FLETCH LIVES PG-13	2:20 7:10 4:50 9:35	MANOR EAST 3	
CHANCES ARE PG-13	2:05 7:00 4:35 9:25	*PET SEMATARY R DOLBY	2:10 7:15 4:40 9:30
K-9 PG	4:35 9:45	*SEE YOU IN THE MORNING PG-13	2:15 7:20 4:45 9:45
		*RAINMAN R	4:45 9:45

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2:00 4:20 7:00 9:20	

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Chinese bond together worldwide to tighten movement for freedom

Editor's note: Due to a production error, part of this article, which ran Wednesday, was not published. The article is printed in full in this issue. The Battalion regrets the error.

By Kelly S. Brown
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The horror of the 27th Army Division — the "people's army" — opening fire on unarmed pro-democracy demonstrators at Tiananmen Square in Beijing Sunday has tightened the movement for freedom and democracy within China.

But the bonding together of the people seems to have spread beyond the streets of Beijing.

Throughout the United States, thousands of Chinese university students, including many from Texas A&M, have taken to the streets in peaceful demonstrations to show support for their homeland and to fight for freedom.

Xun Ge, an A&M graduate student in physics who is from Beijing and has relatives living there now, said he hopes democracy and freedom can be attained through peaceful means, although he admits this is not likely.

"We don't want a civil war," he said. "But the government must understand that we will fight. Democracy and freedom are rooted in Chinese people's hearts already, and no one can use anything, not even force, to remove this belief from our hearts."

Their conviction is so strong that many Chinese students hoped to return to China so they could express support for the pro-democracy movement that began more than six weeks ago.

Zhihua Sai, president of A&M's China Club and a graduate student in chemistry, is one of these students.

"Three weeks ago we were ready to go back to China and enter the protest," Sai said. "But things kept getting worse there and it became impossible. We wanted to speak directly with the students. I don't know if that's possible right now."

Sai and Chinese students like him say they aren't going to give up though.

"We can't," he said. "The students and citizens protesting in China are so brave and unselfish — they make us so proud. When we first heard of the protest in China we became very excited."

After first hearing of the demonstrations in their homeland, students at A&M and around the country began marching in support of the uprising. Money was collected for the cause and letters were sent to the Chinese government.

During all the excitement though, it's unlikely that anyone foresaw what lay ahead.

Ge said he didn't foresee the bloodbath that occurred on June 4.

"Within six weeks of the demonstration, which involved the people making suitable requests peacefully, the movement was turned upside down," he said. "Instead of working with the people, the government used force to crack down and kill so many innocent people."

Orders from the hard-line hierarchy were given to the 27th Army to open fire on the unarmed demonstrators on Sunday, and it's still known how many people died.

Ge said information flow in and out of China is slow and uncertain.

"The pentagon reported 31 people dying," Ge said. "While the Chinese government said on television Tuesday that 500 people died, mostly soldiers, and 23 civilians were burned."

They're lying. I think the number even higher than 3,000 — but we never know because some bodies were burned."

Ge said one problem now is lack of facts circulating through China about the massacre.

"Many people all over China do even know about the violence," he said. "The government is spreading not only about how many people died, but about how the violence began. They're saying that the students attacked the soldiers."

Ge said they are sending newspapers to China to show the people what is really going on.

Ge said he and the other Chinese students are "so angry with the Chinese government."

"The government showed brutal, inhumane behavior," he said. "They do not represent the people. They are murderers — animals even — not human beings."

Sai said he once believed the government would listen to their people if they just reasoned with the government.

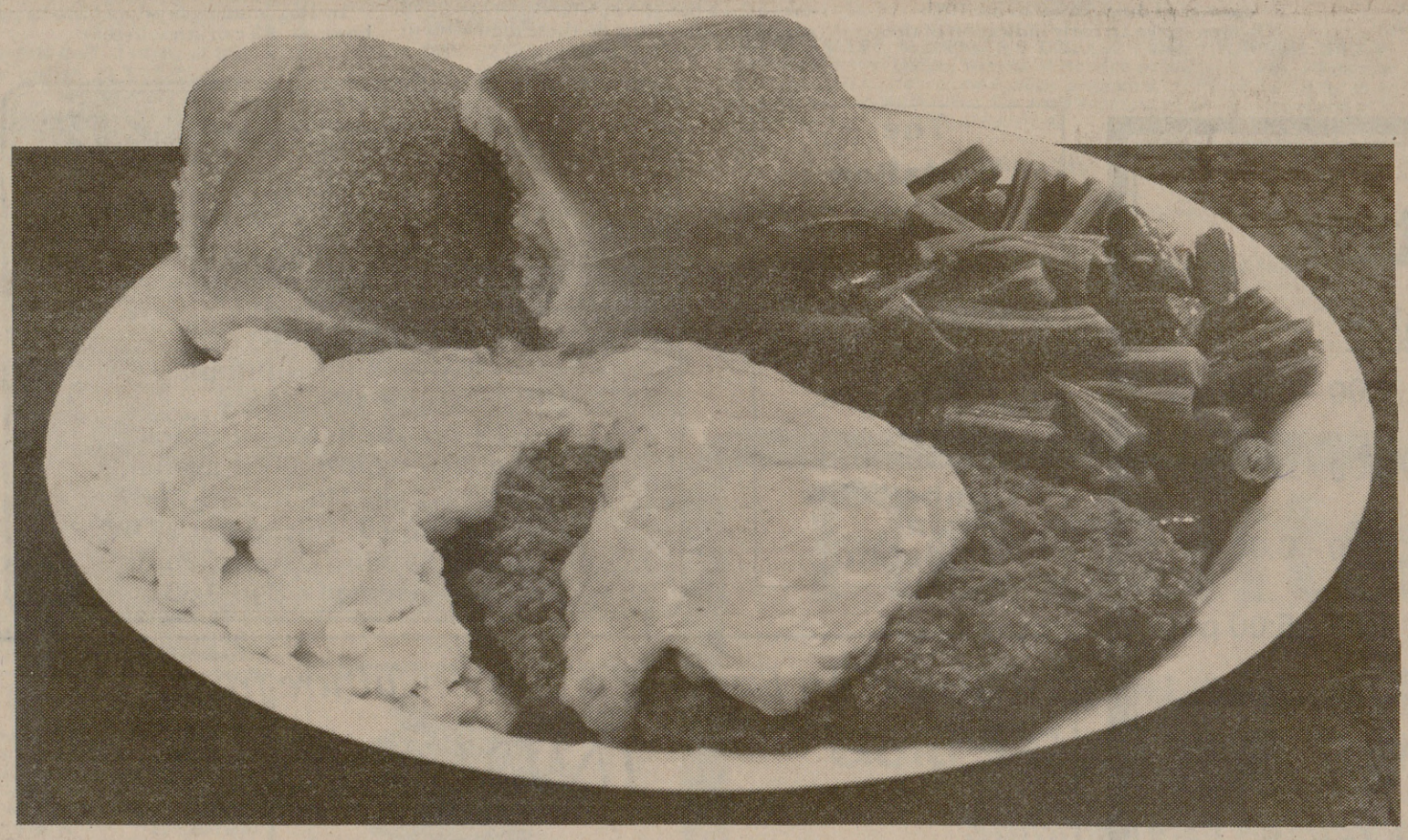
"It's too complicated now," Sai said. "It's hard to believe that a government, my government, would let unarmed students and civilians make me sad, very sad."

Tina Wadkins, the International Students adviser, said 175 Chinese students are attending A&M, and 130 Chinese scholars are here as well.

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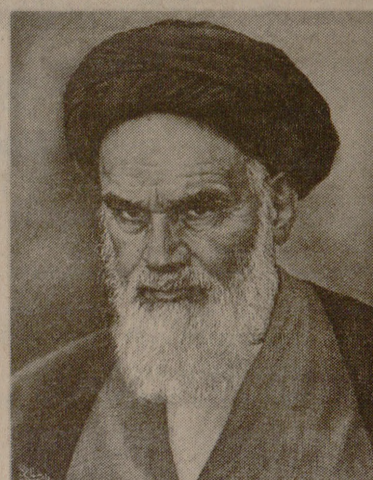


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