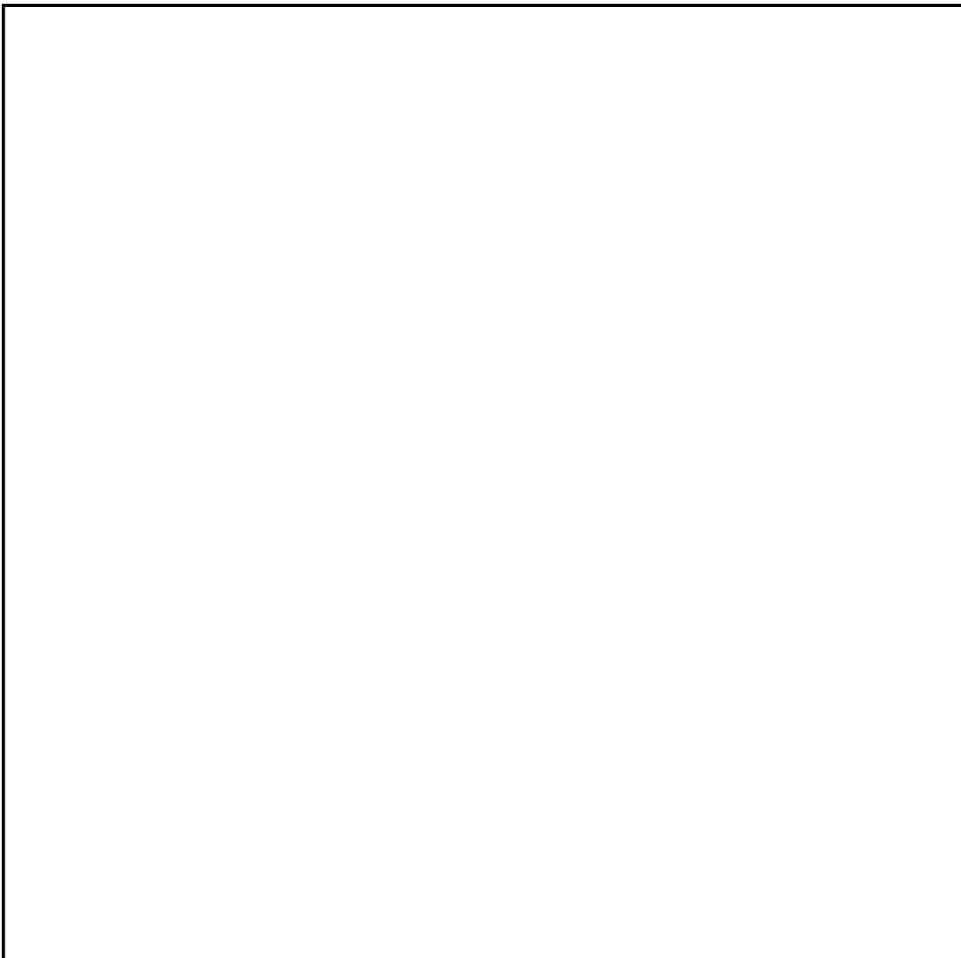


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BODY

COUNTRY: PRC

SUBJ: CHINA TO HOLD FIRST WUDANG FESTIVAL OF MARTIAL ARTS

SOURCE: BEIJING XINHUA IN ENGLISH 0741 GMT 17 JUN 91

TEXT:

((TEXT)) WUHAN, JUNE 17 (XINHUA) -- CHINA WILL HOLD THE FIRST WUDANG FESTIVAL OF CHINESE MARTIAL ARTS IN WUDANG MOUNTAIN, THE HOLY PLACE OF TAOISM.

AS ONE OF THE CHIEF RELIGIONS IN CHINA, TAOISM IS MORE THAN 1,800 YEARS OLD AND HAS CREATED A UNIQUE SCHOOL OF CHINESE TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS.

THE FESTIVAL, TO OPEN ON NOVEMBER 8, WILL INCLUDE WUDANG BOXING, SWORD DANCING, QIGONG AND TAOIST MUSIC.

ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, THE ATTENDANTS TO THE FESTIVAL WILL BE INVITED TO WATCH A TAOIST MASS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SAID THAT THEY HAD SENT MORE THAN 3,000 INVITATIONS TO MAJOR CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPECTED THE FESTIVAL TO BRING ABOUT AN ECONOMIC VITALIZATION IN THIS AREA.

ADMIN

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