

## FORUM

# Teach psychology to the soccer team



## just ask

### Applying yourself

Dear Ralph,

I'm a graduate of a college in Wuhan where I studied to be a secretary. I was interested in my major and told myself that I would be a secretary one day even if I was a boy. But the truth of the real world shocked me. After graduation, I found it difficult to find a job because many enterprises said they wanted a girl instead of a boy. That fact really confused me and made me despair. Everyone can have a dream, but what happens if one day he finds out that his dream won't come true? What can I do to deal with this and make myself more competitive?

Wei Zheng, Guangdong

Wei Zheng,

It is true that, unfortunately, many people still think of secretaries as women. There are male secretaries, some of them quite famous, but it is not so common. There are fortunately many related areas of business that require the file-management or phone etiquette office skills that secretaries are known for. These include many areas of organization and sales.

It is still possible for you to be in business and apply your skills. Look for businesses that train secretaries or provide secretaries temporarily and that might need someone work with (manage) secretaries but would not be one. You may find that you have the same organizational skills women but can apply them in a different way.

Ralph Jennings is an American living in Beijing. He's glad to answer your questions about life. Address your questions to: Just Ask, 21st Century, 15 Huixian Dongjie, Chaoyang District, Beijing, 100029 or email to:

Dear editor,

The Chinese soccer team's loss to Japan is a great pity when one considers China's overwhelming strength at the Busan Asian Games.

Everyone knows the Japanese soccer team is no stronger in skills or strategy. Most football fans attributed our 0 to 1 failure to the poor psychological training of the players.

I support this viewpoint. If, at critical points, Chinese players could have maintained their morale and kept playing hard, China would be the winner.

However, we lost our spirit so we lost the game. China's soccer team must be trained to be strong both technically and psychologically.

Besides telling the players how to play soccer, another duty of the coach is to tell the players how to conquer fear and keep their spirit when they are at a disadvantage. I know this requires time and patience. As a loyal soccer fan, I will always be with the soccer team.

Juana Huang, Guangdong

### Punishing cheaters

Regarding "Zero cheating no way to stop cheats," Page 15, Sept 26

Dear editor,

Personally, I am against the view of the writer of the article



Japanese-Chinese tussle over the ball at the Busan Asian Games.

## letters

who believes a "Zero Cheating Award" can not help stop cheating in exams.

Punishment is an effective way to stop cheating. But in every school, only a small percentage of students are punished for cheating each year, which means the effect of punishment is limited. The majority can not learn the lesson. The "Zero Cheating Award" compensates for this limited punishment, by widening the scope of influence.

The award increases the amount of loss for the cheater. Anyone found cheating will lose

both reputation and the honour of "zero cheating." The increasing risk will significantly lower the chance of committing another act.

To a certain extent, the bonus will inevitably lead to treating it as a commodity that can be sold. But can we give it up? Let's consider the scholarship system in schools.

After years of practice, can we say that a scholarship is only a way for students to get money? Certainly not. It's still an effective method to stimulate hard work. The same can be said of "zero cheating." We should make the results fit the purpose.

Zhou Yongji, Shaanxi

# Having a go at the Nobel Prize

## your say

LAST week's topic: Does China lag behind Japan with no Nobel Prize?

**Bugsmell:** The reason for China's failure to win a Noble Prize, I think, is the loss of persons of ability. Winning the Nobel Prize requires talented persons, but our country suffers

main reason for China's failure is that we Chinese lack teamwork. It seems that in every field of research, people seldom communicate or exchange ideas. However, without cooperation,

genge of top people. They miss their best time for development and end up being mediocre.

**Cheny (Beijing):** It doesn't make sense to care about who has won the Prize. The point is that we should think how to improve the study of science, rather than scream "I am the greatest"