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French youth are rioting again

Burning cars, damaged shops and closed universities. Skinheads with police, Molotov cocktails and water cannons. Thousands of young French people are involved in strikes all over the country. Paris has already experienced this—38 years ago. May 1968 became a chapter in the history books with its famous slogan: «Be young and shut up.» They didn’t want to keep silent then and today young French are fighting for their rights again.

But today, there are no leftist slogans, red banners or portraits of Mao that characterize the 68 protests. Modern French have fears about their professional future. It’s all about the First Employment Contract (CPE) which is a new measure proposed by Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin as an answer to the opposition in November 2005. According to this contract, every French company that has more than 40 people on staff must hire a new (unqualified) worker under age 25 every year. However, employers are given slow to dismiss a worker during a two-year trial period without giving any explanation. That is the point of the struggle.

Officials treat it as a solution to the unemployment problem, but students are certain that employers will use it to fire them indiscriminately. So, now instead of the unions’ giants’ rights in 2005, France must deal with French youth damaging cars and businesses.

On March 11, two days after the CPE was approved by the parliament, approximately 40,000 students throughout the country joined the revolt. Sorbonne University was seized by the students. They made barricades and set up a new symbol of police, much like 38 years ago. But, police stormed Sorbonne with batons and tear gas and cleared the building in less than 10 minutes.

On March 13 College de France—one of the most prestigious French high schools was blocked. Approximately 600 students clashed with police. Police used batons and tear gas and students answered by throwing paving stones and bottles. Peaceful marches also occurred in Paris, Rennes, Marseille, Grenoble and Nantes. The education ministry stated that not only students took part in the strike. Parents and several thousand teachers—between 7 and 15 percent of the country’s education workers—also took part in the protests.

On March 18, between 500,000 and 1.5 million people, including students, workers, pensioners and families, marched mostly peacefully through French towns and cities in protest of the CPE. However, in Paris the strike didn’t come without violence, masked demonstrators hurled projectiles at police and set cars ablaze. The protestors declared March 18 as a Day of General Strike.

Iran’s atomic program is a curse for every journalist. Just try to pronounce “Iranian uranium” without breaking your tongue. But this topic always breaks the news and many wonder why. From the first sight it’s as simple as checkers: Iran defends its right to peaceful nuclear activities, US accuses Iran of a lie. NICK PRZYBYCIEL and ANDREY BARANOV dig through headlines and conspiracy theories to find another side of the coin.

The main battle is now in the United Nations Security Council. The United States, along with Great Britain and France, have taken a hard line against Iran: they are demanding a tough sanction against the Iran to stop its nuclear program. Iran’s nuclear activities and lobbying for serious sanctions—eventually, it can lead to the use of force—in case of noncompliance. At the same time Russia and China have refused to back any resolution that threatens extreme consequences. On March 21 negotiations stabilized because the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, Deadlock at the Security Council shows how great the challenge of keeping Iran’s nuclear program in check is to the United States. «The biggest challenge for US politics is the unwillingness of Tehran to follow the will of the U.S., but diplomatic pressure on Iran leads to the opposite result. The positions of Islamic radicals and the US are becoming stronger» said Vladislav Zaytsev, a Middle East studies professor at Moscow State University.

Had Iran accepted an earlier proposal giving Russia control of the enrichment process, then Security Council deliberations would have been unnecessary.

Recycling bombs

The Russians proposed that Iran be allowed to engage in a joint venture to convert uranium ore into gas which is then spun to produce the enriched uranium needed for nuclear fuel. However, the enrichment would be done in Russia. Iran would face—barring, we can convert uranium—but the mystery of enrichment will remain unclear for the clerical state. For everyone involved it should have looked like a fair deal. The Iranian delegation even came to Moscow for talks but after a couple of rounds Russian proposal was rejected. It allowed Tehran to win some time while it’s nuclear activities went on.

It’s not logical for a country to put the fate of its nation at the disposal of another country, even if it is a friend, said Iran’s top nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani after the talks in Moscow ended. «You can meet part of your fuel needs from abroad. But there is a guarantee that nuclear fuel producers won’t play with you over price or other things».

Russia’s enrichment program has been endorsed by the United States recently in his 2006 State of the Union address, President George Bush unveiled his plan for a Global Nuclear Energy Partnership where partner nations will work together to recycle nuclear waste. Russia’s reprocessing industry would fall under this plan. The GNEP would allow partner countries to sell the materials to developing countries. This would give countries like Iran the opportunity to develop nuclear power but not nuclear weapons, since the GNEP will only provide low-yield plutonium that cannot be used in weapons production.

There is concern that the GNEP is a smoke screen that will allow Washington the opportunity to further develop their own nuclear arsenal. If the United States is allowed to reprocess nuclear waste, then they will have control over an exceptional amount of plutonium that can be used to develop weapons.

«Reprocessing just the spent fuel rods produced by US reactors in one year would result in some 20-25 tons of plutonium—enough to build over 3,000 nuclear weapons», the Union of Concerned Scientists stated.

Bushi’s administration is currently developing plans to design a new arsenal of refur­bished or replacement warheads for an aging nuclear fleet. A new generations of weapons, such as the “bunker-buster” has already been designed. The GNEP would give Washington the capability to implement these plans.

We need a war?

The GNEP, although developed partly as a solution to end the Iranian nuclear stand-off, is indicative of the United States’ so-called “broad Middle East policy”, according to Zaytsev.

«The total aim of the US is not only about Iran but the whole region of the Persian Gulf, he said. «The aim is to put the Middle East under total political, economic and military control. It’s about the concept of so-called “broad Middle East” recently proposed by Washington.»

By not allowing the capability to produce a nuclear weapon, while simultaneously modernizing their own fleet, the US will help secure its interests in the region. The Iranian rhetoric towards Israel, a key U.S. ally in the region, has become increasingly brazen at the Iranian enrichment program.

The president of the Basque region, Juan Jose Ibarretxe, welcomed ETA's declaration as an "enormous relief to all of the Basque society," according to a report from The New York Times. "It opens a window of hope that nobody should close," he said. A spokesperson for Basakoa, the banned political wing of ETA, called on the governments of the European Union and Spain to participate in the political process. Spain Prime Minister Jose Mariano Gonzalez has said previously that a permanent end to hostilities by ETA is a condition for any talks. "Now we trust that we will be able to open a new chapter," he added. ETA's statement included a call for all of its members to abandon violence, but Spanish government officials said they could not judge out the possibility that splinter groups might ignore the cease-fire. ETA's number-two leader Mariano Rajoy said the ceasefire was a "step and it did not amount to a renunci­ation of criminal activity."

Anna Chukseva

ETA terrorists take off weapon

According to the BBC, the militant Basque separatist group ETA has killed more than 800 people and maintained Spanish society for nearly 40 years, on Wednesday announced a permanent cease-fire. Three ETA members later appeared on Basque public television, dressed in white veils and black berets, to read the statement to the public. "The objective of our decision is to advance the democratic process," the statement said. "Overcoming the conflict is possible, here and now. That is the desire and the will of ETA."

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Would You Protest if you were a French student?

Angela Borikova
MSU Journalism

A demonstration is always struggle of ideas. I would protest, because there are intrigue and excitement in it!

Aleskay Zimin
MSU Journalism

«I would never protest at this law, because I feel weakness of the demonstration. In my opinion, a crowd can't really change anything. I think, a french youth will not refuse government's stand and can't influence amending a bill. It's not 1968 now, everything has changed»

Sergey Asalyan-Rjessky
MSU Journalism

«A demonstration is always struggle of ideas, I would protest, because there are intrigue and excitement in it»

Chloe Valette
MSU Journalism

«I would, I'm French and I know not from rumors, French students fear for their future. Therefore they can't be passive to this problem. They must struggle for justice to the end, they must struggle to make ourself heard»

Andre Chekh
Coordinator of the French-Russian Center of Journalism

«Absolutely don't support French demonstration. The previous labor law is not better than the new one. Whatever the government proposes the youth will never be satisfied. Students should solve this problem in cooperation with state authorities and offer their ideas. Instead of this they destroy everything over their way. And I think violence is not justified at all. Personally I studied in France and I know what difficulties young people face. You know it's always difficult to start your career and find your place in society when you're young.»

Sergey Nacharov
MSU Journalism

«Who will assert my rights in my country when people, (I mean politicians) who must do, do not? I have to do myself. That's why I support French Students. If I were one of them, I would doubtless go out. The more especially as students are the very layer of society that's Unadapted socially»

«I want to repeat the 1968 revolution»

We have received a letter from our colleague Eanna de Chelpeyre. A girl from France has sent her impressions of the situation. She participated in student demonstration just two days ago.

«Let it be me, who will report it to you. This way the information will be accurate. To protest—it was the only possible thing to gather all of us together Students want to attend their classes, to get their diplomas. But not the way the government proposes. The press and the power just uses this conflict against us. They claim that those who demonstrate are anti-democratic. They persuade some students to attend their classes to reassure their future. Our parents support us and that is the most important fact. All universities out of 80 are protesting. At the beginning, we protested against the CFL, but now we want to repeat the May of 1968. We want the revolution. Nothing else. Myself, I don't believe in any big reforms or changes in the situation. But in fact we are protesting. That means that we are fed up with manipulation of the government. If the university is the vase and the students are the water, I can say now. Water comes out of the vase. It spoils out. And, it could deform the government vase. Some students are arrested. Some are manifesting in front of the police offices. The professors propose the students to work—the salaries don't matter for them. Anyways the protests are a solution to a problem which can not be postponed. The left against the right. Actually, I don't find any democracy in France»

Show Solidarity with the French Revolution - 1968!

Support the French Workers and Students
France

continued from front page

On March 28, France was shut down as millions of workers met with unemployed youths and urged them to stop the riots. Communist President Jacques Chirac called on protesters to begin talks with students have decided to step up their count ry withou t revol utions or demonstrations on March 24. More than France is France: there was no age in this life without guarantees. This fear may be real.

Cabinet resigned and Charles de Gaulle remains in tact and the rioting better than no job », said de Villepin.

Socialists have vowed to revoke the measure stalled, the threat of military action is a cure France's economic and social ills. On the other hand, the opposition continue from front page

The anniversary of Iraq war

Three years after the invasion of US forces in Iraq this war remains one of the main issues of the political agenda. Reports on car bombings, insurgencies and deaths on both sides constantly appear on the news pages. The desperate efforts to maintain stability in Iraq appear to be in vain. This year the 3rd anniversary of the conflict provided a lot of analysis and comments in the world press. Each newspaper found its own angle of approach, but on the whole, all the newspapers showed pessimism on the problem.

The Guardian issued a story concerning the anti-war marchers that took place all over the world during the anniversary days. According to the item, more than 80,000 people joined the protest march in London despite the cold weather. The protesters signed a petition calling for the creation of an international tribunal into Iraq war. The newspaper also mentioned the protests held in New York, Tokyo and Iraq.

The Times featured an article that talks about the books devoted to the Iraqi conflict. The paper emphasized that none of the books issued during the war had anything to do with proper history writing. The author of the article, George Parteck, states that the 'American Gate' can be considered as valuable, because it tries to reflect the lead-up to the war. Parker researched the way in which different influential groups in America became persuaded by the case for regime change in Iraq.

The Nezavisimaya gazeta marked the anniversary of the war with an article summarizing the consequences of the war. The author of the item considers the overthrow of Saddam's regime has become a cause of a prolonged crisis for the US government. The journalist also says that even President Bush was compelled to admit that there are increasing signs that Iraq is sliding into a quagmire of civil war.

The New York Times issued an article concerning the President Bush's speech in Cleveland (Ohio) in which he spoke of the achievements in the Iraq campaign. The paper said that Bush mentioned the northern Iraqi city Tal Afar as an example of success. In 2004 US troops couldn't manage to maintain stability there, but in 2005, the American forces regained control of the city. However, the president acknowledged some failures too: «I wish I could tell you that the situation in Sd Afar was the same in every single part of the country <...>»

Liberation published a news item in which it pointed out that the 3 years long war hasn't brought stability to the country and it is not the brink of a Civil war. The newspaper announced on Thursday that the American forces are now preparing for the withdrawal from Iraq. However, the liberation admits that the endures struggle between Muslim Arabs and other Muslim groups is one of the reasons of the instability too.

Diana Koulchitskaya

Iran

revised from front page

Comments made by the Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad calling too a «dis­ graceful bloc» that should be weeded off the maps and further proposals to move Israel from the Middle East to Western Europe have reiterated to many nations how imperious it is. The rogues from parading nuclear capabilities. Ahmadinejad's teasing of world superpowers sounds like a man playing with fire, but it is not an act of reckless abandon. In each speech Ahmadinejad is just looking for maneuvers and de Villépin said he would about relations with employers but also about the labor, more than 400 CPE were injured. French unions and remained in tact and the rioting better than no job », said de Villepin.

If we remember 1968, after the strike, the cabinet resigned and Charles de Gaulle sent in his resignation. But now we are living in 2006, in the times of dialogue and cooperation and nobody knows what will be written in the history books about the CPE.

Anna Sokolova

Anna Chakurova

May 1968

In May 1968 a general insurrection broke out across France. It quickly began to reach near-revolutionary proportions before being discouraged by the Socialist orient­ed French Communist Party, and finally suppressed by the government, which accused the Communists of plotting against the Republic. Some philosophers and historians have argued that the inten­tion was the single most important revolu­tionary event of the 20th century because it wasn't participated in by a lone demographic, such as workers or racial minori­ties, but was rather a popular uprising, supras­eding ethnic, cultural, age and class boundaries.

It began as a series of student strikes that broke out at a number of universities and high schools in Paris, following con­frontations with university administrators and the police. The De Gaulle administr­ators' attempts to quash those strikes by fur­ther police action only inflated the situation further, leading to violent battles with the police in the Latin Quarter, followed by a general strike by students and strikers throughout France by ten million French workers, roughly two-thirds of the French workforce. The protests reached the point that de Gaulle created a military operations headquarters to deal with the unrest, dis­banded the National Assembly and called for new parliamentary elections for 23 June 1968.

Il est interdit d'interdire. It is forbidden to forbid La revolution est incroyable parce que vraie The revolution is incredible because it's real Je suis vu. J'ai vu. J'ai cru I came. I saw. I believed Cours, camarade, le vieux monde est derriere toi. Cours, camarade, the old world is behind you. Le bonheur est une idee neuve Happiness is a new idea La poesie est dans la rue Poetry is in the street L'alcool tu. Prenez du L.S.D. Alcohol kills. Take LSD

SEXE - C'est bien, dit a Maïs, mais pas trop souvent. SEXE: It's good, says Mao, but not too often Je t'aime! Oht dites-le avec des poires! I love you! Oh, say it with cobblerstones!

Travailleurs de tous les pays, amenez-vous! Workers of the world, have fun! Pouvoir l'imagination Power to imagination

Dans une société qui a aboli toute aventure, la seule aventure qui reste est celle d'abolir la société in a society that has abolished all adventures, the only adventure left is to abolish society

Slogans of May '68

Lisez moins, vivez plus. Read less, live more Soyez realistes, demandez l'impossible Be realistic, ask for the impossible

Diana Koulchitskaya

Anna Sokolova

Anna Chakurova

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Lighted candles, music playing from loudspeakers and chanting people. That's how the main square in Minsk looked the last few days. But now its empty and almost nothing resembles of the protests, that took place here. On early morning the riot police dispersed the demonstration and many of the protesters were detained.

After the presidential elections held on March 19 in which incumbent Alexander Lukashenko won a third term this place turned into a tent camp where people came to protect the results of the vote. The protests started on Sunday right after the polls. Nearly 10,000 protesters gathered on the October Square in Minsk. Although their number decreased, 5 days after the start of the demonstrations there were still people determined to stay there despite the cold weather.

On the third day of the rallies the main opposition leader Alexander Milinkovich appealed to the riot police. When he spoke, the lighting on the October Square was shut off and his face was lit only by the TV camera. Milinkovich declared that he had nothing to do with the organization of the demonstrations and had come only to cheer on his supporters.

However, even on that time there were signs of division in the opposition camp. The question causing the greatest disagreement was: should the protestors continue holding the rallies. For example, one of the leaders of the Belarussian opposition Alexander Kozulin proposed organizing a sit-down demonstration to demand new elections. Milinkovich said that he was going to stay with his supporters until the end.

The rallies in Minsk were not legally sanctioned by the authorities and some people were threatened with arrests every other day. For example, one of the leaders of the protests, Anatoly Lebed, received a sentence of 15 days for having organized an unsanctioned protest. The two sons of Milinkovich were among the detainees too, but police released them very fast.

Lukashenko and his team refused to accept the criticism of the elections. He insists, the vote was transparent and fair and in an official appearance on TV he concluded the desperate efforts to incite a revolution were in vain.

Despite the unauthorized attempts to dictate us and colossal external pressure, they have failed to break our resolve. The election that aroused so much interest was unfair to the other candidate because Lukashenko received the majority of media coverage. However, Russian observers recognized the elections to be fair and President Vladimir Putin was the first to congratulate Lukashenko on his victory.

In fact, some analysts assume that voting may not have taken place because the current president is widely supported in different areas of the country, especially by elderly people. On this point, the world press has provided various comments in favor and against this theory.

The opposition forces, however, are still trying to attract attention to their activities and have created several internet sites providing eyewitness reports from the spots. And the protest place. One of these sites called Chark 97 put a photo of the October Square on its front-page with a banner saying: "We want a new one connected with the elections. On Monday the site covered the things happening on the square, but the number of internet users in Belarus is not large.

By the time publication, it remains unclear whether the great protest planned by the opposition on the 25th of March will take place, but the demonstrators hope to resume the rallies.

Diana Koutsichitskaya

Opinion

By any measure, Byelorussia's is not a difficult regime to deal with. It doesn't build far-flying missiles. It doesn't threaten its own people. I know this because I grew up there.

But in the modern world it is a habit to criticize Belarus and its leader—Alexander Lukashenko. They criticize everything that he does from the way he walks and talks to his policies. His stance is far from the correct one, and he does not have a democratic agenda.

What tyranny do we have to deal with, though, if more than 80% of the electorate voted for him on the elections on the 16th of March? Why do we have to deal with Russian President Vladimir Putin eagerly adopts Lukashenko's methods in establishing his social programs? How much tyranny do we have when our yearly agricultural harvests are more bountiful than even Russia's harvests?

Yet, at a press-conference the day after the elections, Pavel Borisov, who now represents the allied power of Russia and Belarus, praised the Truman. So, even if you feel my position cannot be objective because of my ties to Byelorussia, Borisov also supports my position when he makes comments such as:

"Lukashenko has a range of social programs very similar to the prosperous Swiss

Development of disease in a bird

Pavelolamkovich, MSU professor: «There are two migration ways the virus can be transferred by: from western Europe and Africa to Greenland and Northern Canada and a similar way from Asia to North America.

So the chance of transferring the virus of bird influenza is really big»

The outbreak of the H5N1 virus, better known as avian influenza, has covered already 37 countries on three continents. The reason is still unknown, but in case of pandemic, the worst UN and World Bank forecasts promise millions of victims and 800 billions dollar loss. What to believe?

The present outbreak started in 2003 in Southeast Asia. In 2005 the virus encroached its original area, routing Russia, Kazakhstan and some European countries. The first cases of human infection were registered in Hong-Kong in 1997 when half of 18 diseased died. Since that time 193 cases of human infection have been registered, 98 ended with fatal outcome. Most scientists and epidemiologists think that the main infection spreaders are wild migrant birds and, during spring migration, the avian influenza virus can fly to America and there infect birds. 37 countries are already infected. Who is next? Vasily Polyakov

Infographics: Svatoslav Neklau
We are inevitably under the power of stereotypes. Americans, for example, think that Russians are voracious carnivores who eat fur and walk barefoot. But is it really true?

Russians

Vodka

In fact, vodka isn’t as popular as it may seem. Russians prefer beer, particularly students. It’s cheaper, tastier, and vodka just won’t drunk too fast. Nevertheless, tastes differ.

Cap with ear-flaps

The younger generation, women, old people and successful men don’t wear caps with ear-flaps. Only old men of shallow appearance do. This is a remnant of World War Two. Lenin, Stalin and Khrouchtchev respected that this type of clothing was made from sheep wool. Now valenki has become fashionable again. The New York Times says that valenki with removable rubber foot gaiters are the last fashion renovation. If you don’t like the height, simply customise them with a matte knife at whim.

Old non-fashion clothes

No! No! Nobody wears torn shirts and abominable rotten sweaters. Boundaries do exist nowadays. Russians and Americans dress practically the same. Russian girls are ready-made fashion models for catwalks.

Night Watch: vodka and vampires

Night Watch is the first part of a science fiction trilogies based on a book series from Sergey Lukyanenko. Night Watch is a thrilling vampire epic, many critics and viewers have compared to The Matrix. Night Watch began by explaining that we are all vampires. A battle ensued between two sides. Each side promised not to make food at home or buy it at any of the places. The most common cafes are Pizza Hut, Papa Jones and Domino’s. Besides, you have to be sure to order a pizza without meat. The most popular ones are hands-free. Hands-free is especially convenient when driving.

Cellular phones

Almost everyone has a mobile phone. The situation is the same in Russia. Hands-free is especially convenient when driving.

Clothes (baseball caps, jeans, sneakers, T-shirts)

Actually, very many people dress like that (let’s not consider it run-of-the-mill). Men usually wear sports clothes, while women try to follow the latest fashion trends. And, we must confess that indeed—women have more choices!

American smiles

Not all American smiles. Though George Sand wrote, that laughter is a splendid medicine, only intercity can smile from dusk till dawn. This is just a symbol of benevolent attitude and is refined a standard conduct in a society.

Pocket-money

It depends on the student. Many college students love their own and so don’t have a lot of extra spending money. Some students are lucky enough to live at home and get their cash from mom and dad.

American smile

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Hamburgers

Well, there is no doubt. American eats hamburgers, but pizza is much more popular. Why? Well, mainly because it can be eaten cold the next day and can be shared with friends. Try to divide a hamburger! The most frequently ordered pizza is pepperoni. A large pizza costs approximately $18, making it not so expensive. If you are a party organizer—order 11.

Vodka

Everybody will gorge pizza, your veggies (just be sure to order a pizza without meat). The most common deliveries are Pizza Hut, Papa Jones and Subway. In Moscow people often eat sandwiches, especially at lunch. They make food at home or buy it at Subway or a deli.

Brokeback Mountain: breaking the myths

It has been called «the most revolting movie of the years» and «unimaginable». Brokeback Mountain directed by Ang Lee has become a sensation in the cinema world. On March 16 the premiere of Brokeback Mountain took place in Russia. The Russian audience has a chance to appreciate the film. In Russia, Brokeback Mountain has been written and talked about in the press and on the street. A lot of myths about the film now exist in our country.

Myth #1: Brokeback Mountain is a western

In fact, it’s not! If you want to find traditional elements of a western (a lot of shooting, drunk cowboys who fight in saloons, etc.), you’ll be disappointed. In reality, Brokeback Mountain presents itself more like a traditional melodrama with a surprise. Instead of a man and a woman in a relationship, the movie presents the romantic relationship between two men.

The plot is simple. In 1963, Ennis and Jack meet on a ranch in Wyoming where they work as shepherds. They spend a summer on Brokeback Mountain and, thus, the movie becomes the symbol of the place and where they continue to meet for the next 20 years. The first and the last meetings of the main characters happen on Brokeback Mountain.

The movie is really touching. It illustrates that no matter people are of the same sex or opposite sex, they can fall in love.
What the FAQ

Olga Kuracheva

On page five of this special issue, the Russian and American editors discuss stereotypes they hold about each other's culture. It's interesting to know how the Americans imagine a typical Russian student and how the Russians imagine a typical American one. But, what about the lifestyle outside of the university? In what ways do the students spend their free time? The Russian students treated the Americans to several exciting days and nights out on the town in Moscow. Let's go to a few of those clubs that the Russian students like the best and find out what they do there.

These clubs are kinds of places where people can not only eat tasty food, but also read good books, listen to pleasant music and communicate with interesting people. Everybody must like a friendly atmosphere, nice waiters and waitresses and comfortable, laid back surroundings. And, the prices in these clubs are affordable for students. Of course, the low prices are very important for us. Each of these places are similar, but each one has its own features and interesting moments.

«Bilingua», for example, unlike other places in Moscow, is on the second floor. Usually such clubs are located in basements. But in «Bilingua» you have an opportunity to see daylight. Sometimes you can even imagine that you are flying through the sky. They also have built a balcony inside the club, intensifying the effect.

«FAQ-cafe» is not far from our department, so we often go there to have lunch after classes. To tell the truth, we usually call it not «FAQ», but just «*£*¥-cafe». It's shorter. There are four «rooms» there: «a dining-room», «a bedroom», «a children's room» and «a study». Each of these rooms suits its name. For example, there is a real bed in the «bedroom».

In «Apshu» you can find not only a bed, but also a bath. Sometimes people call this place «the club with the bath». There is a system of keys there. If you are a member of the club «Apshu», you can open the door just using your key. Such a way you can visit closed parties.

«PodMoskovye» is a new place. The word «PodMoskovye» means «the area around Moscow», but in this case it means that it is located in the basement under the city. There are three halls with the main hall design to look like Moscow's underground Metro system. The history of this cafe/club comes in two versions. The first version explains that it was the basement of the Russian Academy of the Theater Art GITIS. The other version claims that it was a cellar where people kept cabbages. Both of these versions are really interesting, aren't they?

The last place on our tour today is club «Zh*£*¥». If we translate it into English, we'll get the word «tin». But nowadays, we say this word when we want to express our emotions. It usually means that we don't like the situation. For example, you can say: «I am to write fifteen articles by tomorrow. Zh*£*¥». Young people like this word, and the club personifies the feelings of Russian youth. The furniture is unique and the prices are student friendly. «Zh*£*¥» opened just some months ago and it's not that popular as «FAQ-cafe» or «Apshu» yet, but there is no doubt that time will change this.

Russian students like these clubs, and our American guests liked them, too. Thank you for your attention and good luck. See you there :)
to do in Moscow

www.bilinguclub.ru
www.faqcafe.ru
www.apshu.ru
www.podclub.ru
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Two worlds of card games

Emerging from the seedy underbelly of American society, a decades-old card game called Preference and Whist were prohibited. But people would play anyway, and they preferred to play online, with the excitement of their favorite card games. The card game Preference is popular mostly among Western casinos, have mushroomed all over the Western countries. Most Russians enjoy playing cards for fun. There are over 60 easy games with simple rules and some others like 'The Fool', 'The Billy-Goat', and 'The Drunkyard'. You win if you get all of your cards. As for poker, although it is used to be played in the 19th century, it is now growing quickly in popularity. Numerous professional tournaments, which can be attributed to Western casinos, have mushroomed all over the world. The first Russian poker tournament was held in June 2005. It's worth noting that in the 1990s most casinos were frequented by people with a disability, must be kept alive and organized to sport and athletics with a disability, for people with a disability. The Paralympic Games ended on March 19 with a solemn ceremony. The banquet was handed over to Vancouver as the host for the next Winter Paralympics. Today, the Paralympic Games are elite sporting events for athletes from six different disability groups.

Tatiana Fedorova

Produced by: Nelly Akhmetova (MSU), Melinda Andrews (UWT), Andrew Baranov (MSU), Tatiana Fedorova (editor-MSU), Oksana Fedorova, Ina Filatova (MSU), Artem Galushyan (MSU), Grigory Ignatov (MSU), Ilya Ryukhin (MSU), Julia Klimova (MSU), Maria Kizyakova (MSU), Diana Kuzhiktyakova (MSU), Olga Kurevich (MSU), Anna Sokolova (MSU), Nick Pryzpytch (UWT), Sasha Zubkov (MSU)

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