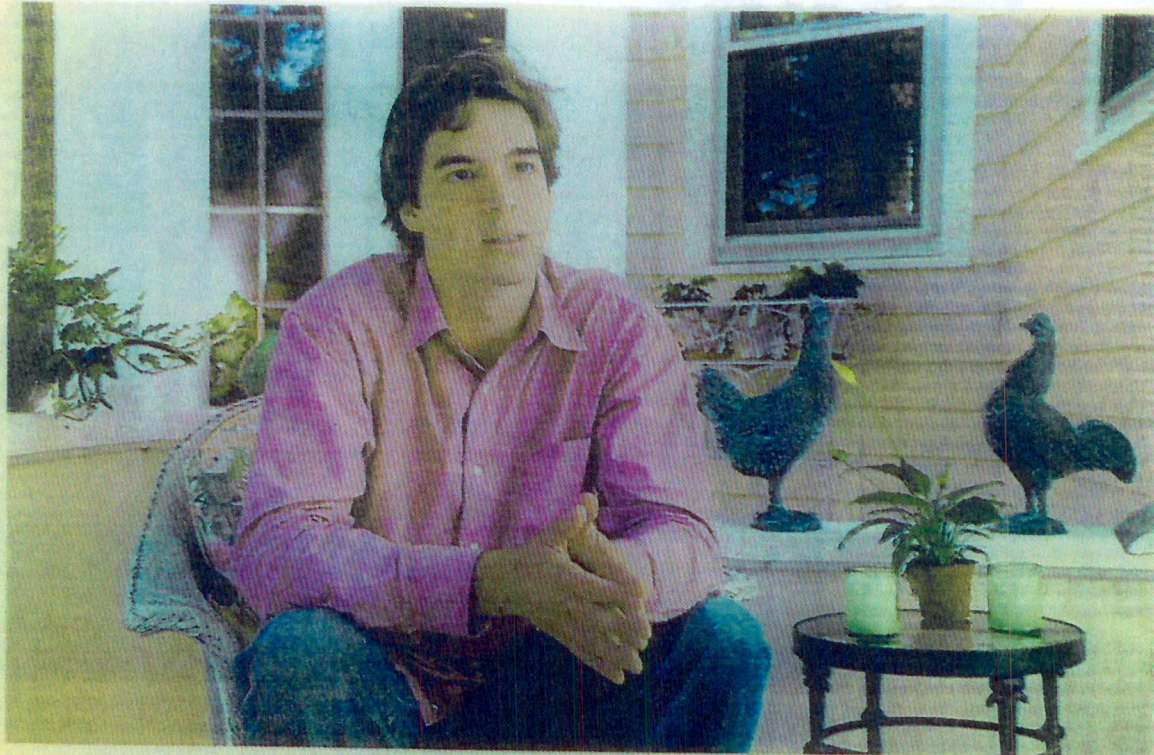


Living Arts

THE BOSTON GLOBE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2004



GLOBE PHOTO/STEVE MILLER

China Care Foundation president Matt Dalio returns to Harvard College to begin his junior year next week.

A bridge to China

Harvard junior Matt Dalio's foundation goes the distance for orphans

By Joseph P. Kahn
GLOBE STAFF

GREENWICH, Conn. — Down the block from Matt Dalio's house, in a neighborhood of landscaped lawns and investment bankers' homes, stands the Belle Haven Club, where members play tennis in spotless whites and revel in the good life.

Last night, the club was the scene of a private party featuring Sheryl Crow and Buddy Guy. Dalio, the host, promised beforehand it would be a "killer" affair, the kind of bash where the tanned and wealthy gather to feel good about themselves at summer's end.

And he should know, having grown up in a world of privilege himself.

Yet Dalio, 20, a Harvard College junior, has seen another world, too, one as different from trust-fund suburbia as one could find and still be

on the same planet. So while guests boogied down with Buddy and Sheryl, their dollars were diverted to a cause that has become Dalio's life mission: helping disabled Chinese orphans earn a chance at their own version of the good life.

From humble beginnings, Dalio's 4-year-old China Care Foundation has grown into a multi-purpose organization providing a range of services in both China and the United States. From pediatric surgeries to foster-home placements to financial aid for adopting families, China Care helps the neediest of China's children in many ways, all due to Dalio's persistence and passion.

One such child is Grace Liacopoulos, guest of honor at last year's fund-raiser. Grace, 7, was born with a disfiguring skin condition that made her an unpromising candidate for adoption. With the help of China Care, she now lives with a

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