

# THE ITGEL FOUNDATION



*Protecting Mongolia's Cultural and Environmental Legacy through Grassroots Projects*

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For immediate release*

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## Wilmette High School Grad working to Protect Mongolian Culture

**Boulder, Colo.—April 12, 2005—** International non profit organization, The Itgel Foundation, welcomes Wilmette graduate, Daniel Epstein to its staff. Mr. Epstein, who is currently a freshman business and economics double major at the University of Colorado at Boulder, recently assumed the position of Manager of the Boulder-based organization.

Itgel is a non-profit organization committed to protecting Mongolia's cultural and environmental legacy through grassroots projects. Having recently completed a 5-month field season in Mongolia this past December, the organization has now shifted its focus on US-based operations for the next several months.

“After returning to the US, we sought exceptional candidates with solid skills to join our staff here in Boulder,” says Morgan Keay, Itgel's Executive Director. “Dan came to the table with eagerness and fresh ideas, and has been an important asset to the organization since his arrival.” Mr. Epstein's presence on the Itgel team couldn't have come at a better time. With operations shifting towards management and funds development, Mr. Epstein has assumed a position of great importance within the organization. Heading up Itgel's latest PR campaign, Mr. Epstein is responsible for the development and distribution of press statements and sponsorship proposals. Additionally, the former Wilmette soccer player has taken charge of the financial management of the organization, gaining skills that have complimented his education at CU's Leeds Business School.

The work Mr. Epstein is contributing to the organization will help to support Itgel's unique projects in Mongolia that began in 2002. Their effort to revitalize a small reindeer-herding ethnic group through veterinary relief programs, as well as their success at establishing the first-ever music school in the Mongolian countryside have both contributed to the cultural preservation of endangered traditions throughout that country. But while project activities are concentrated on-site in Mongolia, 100% of support operations are conducted from the foundation's headquarters in Boulder, Colo., necessitating skilled personnel on this side of the globe.

Mr. Epstein was recruited by Keay, who was impressed by the skills, and the evident quality of high school education that Dan demonstrated at only 19 years of age. Mr. Epstein brings with him the resources and skills he gained while growing up in Wilmette, the community in which his family still resides. “I owe my sense of community and my drive to serve the broader good to the principles that I learned growing up in Wilmette's supportive community,” says Mr. Epstein. To support Dan and The Itgel Foundation, log on to [www.itgel.org](http://www.itgel.org) to learn more.

## **About The Itgel Foundation**

*The Itgel Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Boulder, Colorado committed to protecting Mongolia's cultural and environmental through grassroots projects. To learn more about Itgel and our accomplishments in Mongolia, please visit our Web site at [www.itgel.org](http://www.itgel.org).*

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