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Japan Economic Foundation

JAPAN SPOTLIGHT
 Editorial Section

11th fl. Jiji Press Bldg.
 5-15-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku Tokyo 104-0061 JAPAN
Fax: 03-5565-4828
E-mail: subscribe@jef.or.jp

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EXPO 2005, Japan Week

In EXPO 2005, National Day events for each country are being held everyday to introduce their unique cultures. Japan week began from June 6th. There were lots of events featuring Japanese music and rhythms. The STRiPs, a tap-dancing group, and Zipang, a Japanese drum group, jammed on the stage, creating an impressive collaboration of Japanese traditional rhythms and the Western dance. The STRiPs became famous in Kitano Takeshi's award-winning film *Zatoichi*. During the performance of the Japanese folk dance *Awaodori*, many members of audience joined the performers on the stage.

The Japan Pavilion Nagakute seeks to harness knowledge and technology to rekindle the faltering relationship between mankind and nature. Earth Vision, a 360-degree all sky image system, is worth seeing. A different show has been put on every other day since June. The pavilion displays Japan's cutting-edge eco-technology to the world.

Visitors can also experience a wide range of cultures in the Global Commons. Each pavilion shows its unique culture and visitors can feel as if they are traveling around the world. **JS**

