

THE STORIES

EAST ASIA (CHINA)

TEAM CHINA

By: Meili Jiao, athlete & Yan Ding, partner

采访花絮1 2005-2-28 蔡家欢（中国 上海）

今天参加高峰会议的上海代表团去高山滑雪比赛现场进行采访，虽然一路上还在为语言不同而感到担心，但一来到比赛现场就被紧张的比赛场面给吸引住了。我和美丽、丁晔没有忘记自己的任务，在人海中寻找自己熟悉的脸，但无论怎样都没有找到中国运动员，于是我们找到一位正在为运动员大声呐喊的观众，就这样我们在语言不通的情况下进行了来日本后的第一次采访。

她叫Debur Linton，来自加拿大的一位伟大的母亲，她的女儿叫Ambyr，今年27岁，参加高山滑雪的训练已经7年了，是一位资深滑雪运动员。Debur告诉我们，Ambyr非常喜欢高山滑雪，她曾经参加过好多比赛，都获得过很好的成绩，特奥改变了他们一家的生活，由于特奥Ambyr变得非常自信，也尝试到成功的喜悦。

Debur还告诉我们一些Ambyr的小故事，当她还是一个小孩子时就被确症为智障，她从来没有上过学，父母想方设法寻求治疗的方法，并且定期陪同她去医院接受检查，他们的生活没有快乐。自从七年前参加了特奥滑雪训练以后，他们的生活被完全改变，他们全家都为Ambyr感到自豪，Ambyr的脸上也洋溢着幸福，她从封闭的家中走了出来，刻苦参加训练，从不叫苦，虽然目前她还没有工作，但特奥完全使她变成一名阳光般的女孩。

采访花絮2 2005-2-28 丁晔（中国 上海）



SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHINA

By: Meili Jiao, athlete & Yan Ding, partner

采访日记 2005-3-1

上海 蔡家欢

昨晚日本志愿者通知我们今早6点在宾馆大厅集合，虽然我们昨晚只睡了五个小时，但我们还是准时的在集合地点等，每想到大厅内除服务生外见不到任何人，原来由于语言不通他们又提前通知我们两小时，这可是我们高峰会议队伍中第二个被通知错的对象。

八点我们准时出发，今天的采访现场是白马寺附近的越野滑雪场。一走进比赛现场就看见中国代表队的身影，我们激动得控制不住情绪大声呼喊“中国队加油！”。在练习场地我们见到了中国越野滑雪队的成员们，我们被高兴地告知，昨天中国队昨天获得第一块越野滑雪的金牌，它是由黑龙江选手葛微获得的。我们找遍了练习场地都没有见到她的身影，于是我们找到了她的教练姜伟红，姜老师是黑龙江省育新学校的体育教师，她是一个非常了不起的教练，她的队员已经连续几年参加全国曲棍球比赛，都获得冠军的好成绩。这次她受命为国家特殊越野滑雪队的教练，对她来说是一个挑战。因为越野滑雪对运动员的平衡能力较高，但由于智商的关系，她的队员平衡能力很差，因此姜老师付出了比一般教练更多的心血。从去年12月开始封闭训练至今她还没有回过家，每天除了对运动员进行技术训练之外，还与运动员们形影不离，从各方面对他们似母亲般的关心。尤其是对葛微更是付出更多的关心，因为葛微来自佳木斯福利院，智商只在30-40之间，刚进入集训基地时连续两周找不到自己的房间，对于越野滑雪的技术要领也是前教后忘，但是姜老师告诉我们葛微的虽然接受能力很差，但他非常刻苦，摔倒了继续爬起来再滑，从不言苦，她的身上体现出一种常人难见的勇敢，就是由于这种勇敢的精神使她拿到了越野滑雪队的首枚金牌。姜指导还告诉我们，姜微拿到金牌后变得自信了，原本不爱讲话的她见人就笑着说：“我拿金牌了，我要给院长看！”

采访完姜指导，我们很幸运地见到中国特奥会主席——王治军先生，当我们问及他对队员的看法时，王主席骄傲地说：“他们很勇敢，很可爱！”当我们问及2007年在上海举办的运动会有什么期望时，王主席说：“他相信上海一定能办出一届最国际性、融合性、有影响的国际特殊奥林匹克运动会，最后王主席还对所有参加本次运动会的运动员说：“无论是拿到金牌还是没有拿到奖牌，你们也是最棒的，因为你们勇敢尝试了，参与就是胜利，希望你们继续努力，刻苦训练，争取更大的进步！”

带着王主席意义深重的话语，我们又继续寻访英雄——葛微，问了好多人终于在运动员休息处找到了葛微，我眼前的葛微是一个内向的女孩，一直对我们笑，回答我们的问题也有一定的困难，只是一只说：“特奥，让我快乐，我喜欢特奥运动！”

好可爱、好勇敢的一个女孩，我祝福你，并希望在2007年世界夏季特殊奥林匹克运动场上在再见到你充满魅力的笑脸。



Special Olympics
SO Get Info It®
2005 Global Youth Summit

THE STORIES



SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHINA

By: Meili Jiao, athlete & Yan Ding, partner

采访花絮

今天我们采访了来自德国的特奥运动员Tanja Helminger，她今年17岁，她的脸上一直洋溢着自信。她很兴奋地告诉我们，今天她获得了高山滑雪比赛的第二名，这是她第一次参加国际比赛。她参加特奥运动已经有五年时间了，她很感谢她的父母，他们一直很支持她参加特奥运动，这次父母还与她一起来到日本为她加油，是父母的鼓励给了她战胜对手的勇气和自信。她的母亲很自豪地告诉我们，我们只有Tanja Helminger一个女儿，她非常棒，当她站在高高的领奖台上，我们全家都为她而感到自豪。Tanja Helminger是我们家的骄傲，她自从参加滑雪训练以后，每天都快乐，我们感谢特奥给我们家带来的变化。

采访花絮3

井上优是一名日本志愿者，是一个很漂亮的女孩，她非常敬业，一直在比赛场地为运动员服务，趁她空闲时我们采访了她。她告诉我们，她做志愿者只有短短的一周，但已经爱上这项有意义的工作，虽然在长野世界特奥冬季运动会以前，她并不知道什么叫特奥运动，也不了解特奥运动员，但自从做了自愿者以后，她为这些勇敢的特奥运动员感到骄傲，她觉得他们太棒了，简直可以用“英雄”来称呼他们，他们很勇敢。

当我们告诉她我们来自中国上海时，她很高兴地告诉我们，她去过上海，上海是一个非常美丽的城市。当她知道2007年世界夏季特殊奥林匹克运动会在上海召开时，她充满希望地说她想到上海去做自愿者，她期待着2007年我们能在上海的比赛场地再见！

井上优欢迎你，让我们一起高呼：Let me win · But if I can not win · Let me be brave in the attempt !

采访花絮4 乔美丽(特奥运动员)

今天是一个难忘的日子，我和蔡老师丁晔一起采访了运动员及他们的父母和教练。在采访过程中，我一直被他们感动，在运动员身上我看到特奥运动带给他们的巨大变化，他们都很快乐，脸上一直在笑，他们的父母也很骄傲，这些都是特奥运动带给他们的。所以我们要参加特奥，去尝试特奥带给我们的无穷魅力，去接受挑战，发挥特长和潜能，让我们的父母为我们感到骄傲吧！



SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHINESE TAIPEI

SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA ATHLETE TRANSFORMED THROUGH PARTICIPATION

By: Meng-Hsuan Chou, athlete & Melody Mee-Lin Kwok, partner

Her excitement is hard to miss. One of 31 Special Olympics USA skiing athletes, Meagan Paxton is not only outgoing, but fun to be around.

With Coach Kellen Britt cheering, “Come on Meg, pull hard! Give it all your might,” Paxton pressed onward until she reached the finish and stuck her skis into the snow. With a fast finish, Paxton and Coach Britt swung their arms around each other and patted each other’s backs.

Paxton shared that her Special Olympics experience has completely transformed her life. She changed from a sheepish individual to a confident, independent individual. She believes that Special Olympics has provided her a chance to compete with many people from different countries. Special Olympics has allowed her to develop herself more, learning what it means to persist and persevere.

Besides doing Special Olympics cross country skiing every weekend, Paxton also enjoys to swim, play basketball, work out, play soccer, do gymnastics and cycle. She also enjoys reading, so much in fact that she can’t keep track of her favorite book—a title she gives to any work she reads.

At 25, Meagan has a part-time job that involves data sorting. She works four and a half hours each week amid all her other activities.

She used to have roommates with her, but she believes that being independent is something that she will need to learn later in life. Special Olympics has changed Paxton in many ways, and she is grateful for the opportunity to participate.

THE STORIES

ATHLETES ENJOY SPECIAL OLYMPICS

By: Meng-Hsuan Chou, athlete & Melody Mee-Lin Kwok, partner

As the Global Youth Summit representatives of Chinese Taipei, we decided to find out more information about our own team.

Chen Jien Hong, figure skating chaperone from Special Olympics Chinese Taipei, shared his first experience of training Special Olympics athletes with us. He claimed that it was difficult to train the athletes in figure skating since there are no figure skating places within the city where they live, KaoShung. If they wish to do some real practicing, they need to travel seven hours by train from KaoShung to Taipei, and practice in the figure skating place for two hours at night.

This was a great challenge for the athletes. They not only needed to have the mentality to keep up with the difficult practices, but also the healthy body to withstand the training.

One of the athletes we were especially fond of was Wei Yuan Hong. Wei Yuan Hong is 10 years old, and this is his first Special Olympics World Winter Games experience. He's so excited to be able to skate and perform his best that he skated without the judge's permission. The crowd laughed at Wei's actions, but he took that as further encouragement.

Being part of Special Olympics has made Wei confident and strong in mind that no criticism will hurt him.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS GERMANY ATHLETE WINS MEDAL FOR THREE DAYS

By: Meng-Hsuan Chou, athlete & Melody Mee-Lin Kwok, partner

Nicole Peters glides. She leans back, making a left turn, smooth and slick. Then she snaps, making a 90 degree turn, slowly stopping at the finish line.

Nicole Peters, Special Olympics Germany athlete competing in snowboarding, is 16 years old and she's been part of Special Olympics for three years. She'll be the first to admit that her involvement in Special Olympics has made her happier and much more confident.

Her current success is also making her coach really proud. She has already earned two gold medals in the past three days.

"Nicole often feels sad about not being able to meet her own standards," said her coach, Ingo Cordes.

Peters played down her take on her recent placing.

"Cool, flower power," she said. Her coach quickly explained that the name of her board is Flower Power.

Before she settled on snowboarding, Peters was a diehard skier. At first, she fell down very often and felt very badly about it. Yet the same time, she was happy about trying new things and going beyond what she thought were her limits. After days of practice, she was already boarding like a professional, impressing even her coach.

Cordes, who has been coaching with Special Olympics for five years, loves working with athletes like Peters.

"The best experience in Special Olympics is to be able to see his athletes happy in the process of doing things that they like."



Special Olympics

SO Get Info It

2005 Global Youth Summit

THE STORIES



SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETE FROM ALASKA PLANNING TO GET MARRIED

By: Meng-Hsuan Chou, athlete & Melody Mee-Lin Kwok, partner

Amy Murrill, Special Olympics Team USA athlete competing in snowboarding at the 2005 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Nagano, Japan, is currently 32 years old. At home, she is now working as a store clerk, living a very happy life.

In addition to her practice and working hours, she hangs out with her boyfriend, who is 35 years old; she met him through Special Olympics. Murrill has participated in many competitions before, but this was her first snowboarding event. She's proud to say that she changed a lot during her time with Special Olympics. Not only is she more willing to try new things, but she's also more independent now.

She first started her Special Olympics career in 1992 when her teacher recommended getting involved. She really enjoys all that she is doing and realizes that she can achieve anything she sets her heart to.

After returning home from Nagano, Murrill will return home to what she hopes will be a wonderful wedding as she plans to get married shortly after going back to the United States.

