

AN ANALYSIS OF U.S. AND KOREA NEWSPAPER  
COVERAGE ON ATHLETES WITH  
DISABILITIES DURING THE  
2008 BEIJING PARALYMPICS

by

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A DISSERTATION

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## ABSTRACT

The first purpose of this study was to examine how athletes with disabilities have been described and portrayed in the newspaper coverage during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. The second purpose of this study was to explore the socio-cultural perspectives and ideals on athletes with disabilities in the newspaper coverage during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games from the U.S. and Korean newspapers. The last purpose of this study was to compare newspaper coverage from the U.S. and Korea newspaper on how the newspapers differently and similarly described and presented athletes with disabilities. For completion of these purposes, this study has examined and analyzed the newspaper texts and photographs during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. This study was involved in the 14 days of newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, in *USA Today* from the U.S. and 15 days of newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 in *Donga Ilbo* from South Korea during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

The results showed that: (1) Hegemony of able bodied and male athletes exists in the newspaper coverage in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo*; (2) Athletes with disabilities and female athletes have been received less attention in newspaper coverage than able bodied and male athletes; (3) The coverage of *USA Today* on athletes with disabilities and disability sport during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games have been trivialized and marginalized; (4) The treatment of female athletes with disabilities have depicted as passive image in *Donga Ilbo*, whereas no treatment in *USA Today*; (5) Lack of newsworthiness on athletes with disabilities in *USA Today* was found; and (6) Gender and race issues in the newspaper coverage in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are still present.

For further research, the newspaper coverage in other countries during the Paralympic Games will be helpful to confirm the treatment and description on athletes with disabilities and disability sports. In addition, the study that examines the coverage on athletes with disabilities through the Internet site which is dominated in current period will be required because of impact of technological current period.

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## CONTENTS

ABSTRACT .....	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	iv
LIST OF TABLES .....	ix
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION.....	1
Sport and Media.....	3
Women in Sports.....	6
Disability and Media.....	9
The Paralympic Games .....	11
Image of Disability in the Media .....	14
Coverage on Athletes with Disabilities in Paralympic Games .....	17
Coverage on Marginality .....	19
Media Effect Theory .....	23
Social and Cultural Perspectives of Disability Sport.....	26
Hegemony in Sport .....	29
Marginality.....	31
Disability Sports and Athletes with Disabilities in the U.S. and Korea .....	33
Purpose of the Study .....	35
Significance of the Study .....	38
CHAPTER II: RESEARCH METHOD AND PROCEDURE .....	40
Research Questions .....	41
Research Method .....	41

Data Collection .....	43
Sampling Newspapers .....	43
Data Analysis .....	44
Qualitative Data Trustworthiness .....	46
Pilot Study .....	48
CHAPTER III: RESULTS .....	50
Content Analysis .....	51
Textual Coverage .....	51
Photographic Coverage .....	56
Visibility of Disability .....	62
Coverage on Athletes with Disability .....	62
Textual Coverage on Athletes with Disabilities .....	64
Gender .....	64
Race .....	64
Type of Disability .....	65
Type of Sport .....	66
Page Placement .....	67
Type of Text .....	68
Photographic Coverage on Athletes with Disabilities .....	69
Gender .....	69
Race .....	69
Type of Disability .....	70
Type of Sport .....	71



Page Placement .....	72
Photo Shot.....	73
Visibility of Disability .....	74
Interpretive Textual Analysis.....	75
Treatment of Gender on Athletes with Disabilities .....	76
Report of Race on Athletes with Disabilities.....	77
Report by Type of Disability on Athletes with Disabilities.....	78
Report of Type of Sport on Athletes with Disabilities .....	79
Treatment of Page Placement .....	80
Report of Type of Text .....	81
Treatment of Photo Shot .....	83
Report by Visibility of Disability .....	84
CHAPTER IV: DISCUSSION .....	86
Lack of the Newsworthiness on the Athletes with Disabilities in USA Today .....	87
Marginalization on Female Athletes with Disabilities.....	89
Difference on Race on Athletes with Disabilities.....	90
Descriptions on Athletes with Disabilities.....	92
Medalist Centered Coverage on Athletes with Disabilities .....	93
CHAPTER V: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION .....	95
Summary .....	95
Conclusion .....	98
REFERENCES .....	100
APPENDICES .....	112

## LIST OF TABLES

1.	Frequency of Content by Gender .....	51
2.	Frequency of Content by Race .....	52
3.	Frequency of Content by Type of Disability .....	52
4.	Frequency of Content by Type of Sport .....	53
5.	Frequency of Team Sport Events in Content .....	54
6.	Frequency of Team Sport Events in Content .....	55
7.	Frequency of Content by Page Placement .....	55
8.	Frequency of Content by Type of Text .....	56
9.	Frequency of Photographs by Gender .....	57
10.	Frequency of Photographs by Race .....	57
11.	Frequency of Photographs by Type of Disability .....	58
12.	Frequency of Photographs by Type of Sport .....	58
13.	Frequency of Individual Sport Events in Photo .....	59
14.	Frequency of Team Sport Events in Photo .....	60
15.	Frequency of Photographs by Page of Placement .....	61
16.	Frequency of Photographs by Photo Shot .....	61
17.	Frequency of Photographs by Visibility of Disability .....	62
18.	Frequency of Content and Photo on Athletes with Disabilities .....	63
19.	Frequency of Content on Athletes with Disabilities by Gender .....	64
20.	Frequency of Content on Athletes with Disabilities by Race .....	65

21. Frequency of Content on Athletes with Disabilities by Type of Disability .....	66
22. Frequency of Content on Athletes with Disabilities by Type of Sport .....	66
23. Frequency of Individual Sport Events on Athletes with Disabilities in Content.....	67
24. Frequency of Content by Page Placement .....	68
25. Frequency of Content by Type of Text.....	68
26. Frequency of Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities by Gender .....	69
27. Frequency of Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities by Race .....	70
28. Frequency of Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities by Type of Disability .....	71
29. Frequency of Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities by Type of Sport .....	71
30. Frequency of Individual Sport Events on Athletes with Disabilities in Photo .....	72
31. Frequency of Photographs by Page Placement .....	73
32. Frequency of Photographs by Photo Shot.....	74
33. Frequency of Photographs by Visibility of Disability .....	75

## CHAPTER I:

### INTRODUCTION

Sports are one of the most important forces and influences in our lives. Some play baseball with friends in fields near their house. Others like watching NFL games to cheer on their local teams. People talk about sports' issues in the workplace, school, and even church. In recent years, we can approach all resources regarding common sense, life style, fashion trends, or sport events through mass media. As a result, we can watch and read about various sport events on television and newspapers, not only because of the development of science and technology, but also due to increased mass media. Specifically, the development of sport and media affects cultural and social trends and stereotypes (Boutilier & SanGiovani, 1983).

The media enable people to learn and think about society, to value and assess a social phenomenon, and to explain why they are interested in this phenomenon. According to Graber (1997), the media “present a set of cultural values that their audiences are likely to accept in whole or in part as typical of American society. The media thus help to integrate and homogenize American society” (p. 3). Therefore, the media influence various social groups for better understanding and increasing awareness of people with disabilities in the society (Keller et al., 1990). Moreover, it is valuable to explore media trends by focusing on media coverage related to cultural or social environments to construct the perspective and ideal of this society.

McChesney (1989) noted that “sports and the mass media enjoy a very symbiotic relationship in American society” (p. 49). The mass media and sport are some of the most notable social institutions affecting cultural phenomenon in this world (Duncan & Brummett,

1993; Sage, 1998; Pedersen, Whisenat, & Schneider, 2003). In addition, the power of the media to create ideals regarding sports, gender, race, and belief has increased within the last 25 years (Buysse & Borcharding, 2010). This power of media contributed to the development and excitement of sport events such as the Olympic and World Cup soccer games.

In spite of this media effect, the image and portrayal of people with disabilities through media have often been represented in a negative or unrealistic way (de Balcazar et al., 1988; Johnson, 1987). On the one hand, Hardin and Hardin (2005) pointed out that two groups, women and athletes with disabilities, have been paid little attention by sport magazines. Previous research showed that the media coverage, specifically newspaper and magazine, of women's sports is less than men's sports (Bishop, 2003; Crossman, Hyslop, & Gutrie, 1994; Duncan, Messner, Williams, & Jensen, 1991; Kane & Parks, 1992; Lee, 1992; Lumpkin & Williams, 1991; Messner, Duncan, & Cooky, 2003; Pedersen, 2002; Pirinen, 1995; Vincent, Imwold, Masemann, & Johnson, 2002). On the other hand, studies on newspaper coverage of sports for people with disabilities are scarce. Schantz and Gilbert (2001) analyzed the newspaper coverage of the 1996 Atlanta Paralympics by French and German press. They found that performance of athletes with disabilities was of less importance. Genolini (1995) stated that people with disabilities were represented as "gentle monster[s]" (p. 60). Recently, Buysse and Borcharding (2010) examined photographs from 12 newspapers in five countries during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic games. They found that newspaper coverage and photographic coverage were likely to ignore and hide athletes with disabilities.

More importantly, most researches in the newspaper coverage and photographs of sport activities for athletes with disabilities have been conducted in Europe including England, Germany, and France. Thus, there are, unfortunately, few studies on the newspaper coverage of

athletes with disabilities in Korea during the Paralympic Games. Previous studies on newspaper coverage in Korea were focused on newspaper content analysis of sports (Kim, 1985; Jeon, 1989). Koh (2008) conducted the media coverage of gender difference and found that male athletes had more coverage in the media than female athletes during the Athens Olympics in 2004. Lim (2001) examined Korean gold medalists who attended the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games, and in a more recent study, Chang and Crossman (2009) analyzed and compared the coverage of the 2004 Summer Olympic to Paralympic Games concerning the Korean newspapers.

Sport is “a powerful hegemonic institution” (Hardin & Hardin, 2004, p. 401). In particular, DePauw (1997) suggested that there were three key aspects of sports that are areas for marginality: masculinity, physicality, and sexuality. Some researchers posited the marginalization of females in sports and sports media by using the theory of hegemony (Crane, 1999; Mason, 1992; Walsdorf, 2000; Hardin & Hardin, 2004). In addition, lack of newspaper coverage and marginality of athletes with disabilities and female athletes with disabilities exist in sports. Therefore, this study examined and analyzed the newspaper coverage of athletes with disabilities during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games by focusing on marginality of athletes with disability and gender difference with respect to female athletes with disabilities, and comparing the socio-cultural differences and similarities of newspaper coverage between the U.S. and Korean newspaper.

### Sport and Media

Sports are a powerful platform for socialization. As Jackson, Scherer, and Martyn (2007) stated, “Sport is an important conduit for the transmission of images, symbols, and meanings that are central to our society” (p. 178). In this rapidly changing society, it is important for individuals to accept and develop a new knowledge and information from the various

environments in the information-oriented society because it has an influence on individuals' attitudes, ideas, and behaviors related to the modern cultural stereotypes and trends. For this reason, various media resources, including TV, books, newspaper affect the development of knowledge and the construction of cultural stereotype in their society. According to Oliver (2002), sport has a significant influence on individuals' perceptions, attitudes, and ideas, particularly with mass media. Many people participate in sports as "a direct participant"; others watch, listen, and read sport events through TV, radio, magazines or newspaper as "an indirect spectator" (Wood, 2007, p. 72). As direct participants, they play a live sport event with others, and learn the norms and values of the sport. On the other hand, indirect spectators enjoy all real sporting events across the country by watching TV, listening to the radio, or reading newspapers. The mass media may continually lead to individuals enjoying the particular sport as potential sport spectators because of media power that constructs ideas and norms about sport.

In this point of view, Buysse and Borchering (2010) suggested that there has been a two-way relationship between sports and mass media. Sports provide media with sports content and athletes' performance, while media give the sport publicity and money related to commercial advertising. That is, both of them develop and advance together in this society under a symbiotic relationship. Rowe (1999) indicated that the relationship between sport and media is interdependent and is regarded as "the happiest of marriages" (p. 32). Additionally, Slater (1998) stated, "The press is traditionally viewed as having four principal functions: to inform (the news function), to persuade (the advertising function), to entertain (the features function), and to pass on the cultural heritage (the educational function)" (p. 51); the media play an important role in socializing and integrating the various functions and cultures of the modern society.

Although media provides people with various resources on disability sports, it may challenge their perception about athletes with disabilities participating in sport events such as the Paralympic Games. More importantly, it may be critical for them to approach and experience the socio-cultural stereotype of athletes with disabilities, who have a powerful factor for creating their knowledge acquisition about disability sport in the media. The importance of the social representation of athletes with disabilities in the media is a first factor for the media research on disability sport. Next, avoiding and removing bias and prejudice about athletes with disabilities from other people without disabilities are another factor. In fact, most athletes with disabilities have been depicted as an inferior group that is “marginalized and trivialized” in the newspaper coverage from the French and German press (Schantz & Gilbert, 2001, p. 86).

Through the various media, individuals obtain socio-cultural stereotyped knowledge and information related to politic, business, cultures, entertainment, health, leisure and sports and even personal stories. As a rule, there are two broad types of media. The first type of the print media consists of newspapers, magazines, and books. The second type includes television, radio, film, and the internet, which belong to the electronic media (Wood, 2007). Print media plays a crucial role in conveying to people significant news through the printed messages. This print media has an influence on the memory effect because of headlines such as words and photographic images. On the contrary, the electronic media easily provides people with more detailed knowledge and news. Specifically, television gives sports fan the close important scenes on the sport field and stadium.

Both the print and electronic media are likely to construct the individuals’ development of socialization. This socialization allows us to form the attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors of individuals. Boutilier and SanGiovanni (1983) proposed that “regardless of what is actually



happening, it is the media interpretation of that event that shapes our attitudes, values, and perceptions about the world and about our culture (p. 184).” Therefore, it seems that media messages promote how people create, learn, and develop their attitudes, ideas, and behavior about society and the world.

In the newspapers, although television is the most powerful medium (Schantz & Gilbert, 2001), newspapers are historically one of the oldest forms of media. As a result, they still affect society and the development of the people by presenting individuals’ opinions and thoughts. Wood (2007) has suggested that newspapers provide, when compared to television, more in-depth analysis of contemporary events or social issues related to sports that require the significant issues because the sports issues in the newspaper cause the readers’ interest.

Newspapers are still a dominant medium due to the power of the newspapers in the society (Cho, 1993). Therefore, we receive all primary news or issues around the world from the newspapers all the time. However, with the development of the internet over the last 20 years, it is assumed that the importance of newspaper has been lessened. Ironically, in recent year, the sports section in the newspaper possesses more space than any other section such as politics, the economy, and world news because of sport power (Wood, 2007).

### Women in Sports

To date, women’s participation in sports is widespread and popular. Over the past 20 years, women’s power in the field of sport has increased. As a result, a number of researchers have focused on gender issues of the media coverage in the field of sports (Cuneen & Sidwell, 1998; Hardin, Lynn, & Walsdorf, 2005; Hardin & Hardin, 2005; Kane & Parks, 1992; Pedersen, 2002; Buysse & Borchering, 2010).

Women's sports and female athletes are usually underrepresented in the media. It seems that it causes the constructed marginalization in their sport area because the marginalization is an important indicator of how the conceptualization of female athletes and the ideology of marginalization work through the sport media (Markula, 2009).

As such, research on female athletes in the media coverage is still rare. Duncan and Messner (2000) reported that "the percentage of stories and airtime devoted to women's sports on local news program remains almost as low as it was a decade ago" (p. 5). Through research on the ESPN Sports Center published by Adams and Tuggle (2004), they found the ratio of men's and women's athletes to be 48 to 1 in the research. Hargreaves (1986) discussed that there is an essential symbol of male power because of physical body size and muscle tone. In addition, most female athletes have been depicted as passive and nonathletic on this media coverage. In the case of women's sport coverage, Boutilier and SanGiovanni (1983) noted that the women's sport coverage has been depicted as less coverage than men's sports, and sex-role stereotypes rather than sports roles. Molotch (1978) stated

On the news pages, women are not ordinarily present. Women are not present either as news producers or as persons for whom news is intended. Those who publish news perceive women as being in the kitchen, just as they have traditionally been whenever men have important things to discuss with one another. News is a man's world. (p. 180)

Specifically, the results of studies on the women's sports and Olympic female athletes in Asian countries such as Korea, China, or Japan, emphasize the unique culture and stereotype when compared to Western countries. That is, there are a male-dominated society and strong ancestral values because of Confucian tradition (Yu, 2009). In Confucian tradition, the men are responsible for all duties such as not only providing food and shelter, but also taking care of all their parents. Thus, most men usually have a power to make a decision when they face the

moment when they decide to deal with an issue and an affair. In particular, Cho (1993) pointed out that

...With regard to gender relations in Korean culture and society, social and cultural discrimination against women has been spread and found in almost every sector of society, family, church, school, industry, and so on, based on the traditional thought and practice, 'Namjon-yeobee' (treatment of women as inferior to men, or predominance of man over women). (p. 96)

Specifically, since the Joseon dynasty (1392-1910) in Korea, the Confucian tradition has been strongly dominated as the standards of feminine modesty and sacrifice. As a result, it prevented women in Korea from participating in social activities over the last century. The mainstream and stereotype in Korea still exist in women's society and their lives which are based on "private, passive and caring" (Park, 1999, p. 437).

Although Asian women began participating in sports later than males, they have outstanding performance results in international and Olympic games when compared to Asian males (Dong & Mangan, 2002). In spite of this, most research on the coverage of women athletes is focused on female athletes from Western countries (Yu, 2009).

The underrepresentation in media coverage affects gender bias about women athletes in the field of sports. That is to say, the image of women is expressed as not being strong and enthusiastic athletes in the sports world. The results of a number of studies on the media coverage focusing on the women athletes indicated that women athletes have been marginalized on the media coverage. In addition, as Greendorfer (1990) noted, no change occurred in the media coverage concerning the relationship between sports and women; it is assumed that sports media researchers need to explore female athletes on the media for a better understanding of women's identities and ideals because the media have a great power and ability that people can construct the professional knowledge and underpinning image. More importantly, female athletes

with disabilities, according to Sherrill (1996), and DePauw and Garvron (1995), meet the discrimination related to gender and disability. It is evidence that the media researchers need to develop and identify the ideology of appropriate and desirable female athletes with or without disabilities in sport for equity.

### Disability and Media

In the definition of disability, researchers and professionals view disability as inability or reduced performance about a specific task. According to Thomas and Smith (2009), the definition of disability can be divided into two broad categories. One is the medical model that disability is impairment, and the other is the social model that is focused on the social and environmental constraint. In the social model of disability, researchers tend to regard disability as a social structure derived from societal systems and processes (Tripp & Rizzo, 2006). Many people believe that disability results from individual and medical problems on their physical, psychological and physiological body condition. On the one hand, people can distinguish disability from impairment in the social conceptualization. Impairment is a word related to “loss or abnormality of psychological, physiological or anatomical structure or function” (World Health Organization, 1980). On the other hand, disability, according to WHO (1980), is perceived as “any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being.” (p. 14) In Barnes’ (1998) point of view on social perception of disability, disability is related to the social and environmental barriers that exclude and alienate people from the mainstream.

Sometimes, instead of disability, some regard disability as the handicap which is the problem or difficulty from the societal adaptation or environment that people with disabilities can face (Gargiulo, 2006). Thus, as Makas (1988) has suggested, because people with disabilities

need to interact with others in this society, it is important for them to improve mental and physical identity, and recognize how they develop their individual positive experience with people without disabilities as an inferior group to overcome social bias and discrimination within the society.

In this stream of modern society, the media should play a significant role in identifying and understanding the socialization for people with disability. Therefore, McQuail (1994) noted that “the entire study of mass communication is based on the premise that the media have significant effects” (p. 327). Specifically, there are a number of media that can affect our attitudes, behaviors, and knowledge acquisition. It enables people to change and enhance social awareness of disability. However, Keller and her colleagues (1990) indicated that people with disabilities do not believe that the media provide the others with positive information. What is worse is that depiction of people with disabilities on the various media coverage has been shown with cultural hegemony of disability. de Balcazar et al (1988) stressed that people with disabilities have been portrayed as the sensational or pitiful. Thus, people with disabilities on the television and movies have been described as superheroes or monsters (Bogdan, Biklen, Shapiro, & Spelkoman, 1982; Longmore, 1985; Zola, 1985). In addition, Hardin and Hardin (2004) stated that the media describe athletes with disabilities as “super cripp” (p. 402). That is, athletes with disabilities are depicted as incredibly a hero who can transcend their hardship and achieve whatever they want to do without fear. However, most people with disabilities tend to avoid expressing this stereotype (Haller, 2000). For example, Hargreaves and Hardin (2009) explored the ten women’ wheelchair basketball athletes by interviewing them with respect to their attitude and perceptions about sports media. They found that women’ wheelchair basketball athletes were fed up with the media stereotype.

In addition, sometimes it is critical to understand how the newspapers portray athletes with disabilities because visual elements, such as photographs, tell readers or audiences the live story and provide an important clue to them. Duncan (1990) stated, “when the subject of a photograph is an athlete, meanings are suggested by that person’s physical characteristics: age, race, facial, appearance, body type, clothing, type of motions, and gender related attributes” (p. 28). In this regard, an analysis of the media provides people with better understanding of the social representation of sport, specifically, people with disabilities (Schantz & Gilbert, 2001).

Thus, photographs have an important role in constructing the agenda-setting of the media (Cho, 1993). He expressed that newspaper photographs and their agenda-setting influence have a great power in marketing force because colorful and sensitive photographs enables readers to be interested in purchasing and reading the newspapers.

### The Paralympic Games

The Modern Olympics is one of primary sports events in the world. A number of social and cultural issues occur from this sport event. That is, this event leads to not only the realization of ideologies of Olympism, but also the development of sport commercialism. However, Maguire et al. (2008) criticized that there is a battle between the ideals or ideology of “Olympism” and the realities of the Olympics. In other words, because of achievement of the Olympic event, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) depends on the commercial support. As a result, Senn (1999) stated that the Olympic have gradually become a commercial event that made athletes and athletes’ events more means of pursuit of profits. Nevertheless, Olympic event becomes much more important and popular sports event. On the contrary, athletes with disabilities and Paralympic Games are not offered by lucrative sponsorship and endorsement as

the non-disabled athletes and Olympic Game (Sutton, 1998) because the Paralympic Games have paid less attention than Olympic Games.

Since the British neurosurgeon Ludwig Guttmann, a pioneer of Paralympic Games, prepared and held the first competition for the people with spinal cord injuries at Stoke Manderville Hospital in England during the London Olympic opening ceremony on July, 28th, 1948 (Schantz & Gilbert, 2001), Paralympic Games have been dramatically developed.

At first, Guttmann emphasized the importance of rehabilitation through the sports. He stated that “one day the Stoke Mandeville Games would achieve world fame as the disabled men and women’s equivalent of the Olympic Games” (Guttmann, 1949, p. 24). His effort and dedication always go to the disabled. Guttmann (1976) highlighted:

The immense value of sport in the physical, psychological and social rehabilitation of these most severely physically handicapped patients was recognized and became the incentive to many of them to carry on with their sporting activities after discharge from hospital and to become true sportsmen and sportswomen in their own right. Clinical sport is now widely used and has gained its secure place in the field of sport. (p. 3)

In 1960, the first Paralympic Games were held in Rome. During this Games, 400 athletes from 23 nations participated (Guttmann, 1979). Since then, the Paralympics have been developed and diversified as sports event, and attended and expanded to include more disability groups (Schantz & Gilbert, 2001). The competitive program in Rome consisted of eight sport events, including snooker, fencing, javelin and precision javelin, shot put, Indian club throwing, men’s basketball, and swimming (freestyle, breaststroke, and backstroke) for athletes with spinal cord injuries, and four other sports events, including table tennis, archery, dart archery, and the pentathlon (archery, swimming, javelin, shot put and club throwing). In contrast, in the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, 4,011 athletes from 156 countries participated in 20 sports (Buysse & Borchering, 2010). These 20 sports include archery, athletics, boccia, cycling, equestrian,

football 5-a-Side, football 7-a-Side, goal ball, judo, rowing, sailing, shooting, swimming, table tennis, volleyball sitting, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair fencing, wheelchair rugby, and wheelchair tennis (IPC, 2008). Thus, the Paralympic Games has become one of the biggest sports events in the world. All athletes with disabilities focus on their performance rather than their disabilities. It consists of six disability groups, which include amputee, cerebral palsy, visual impairment, spinal injury, intellectual disability and a group, which is known as *les autres* (French for *the others*).

To date, as both the Olympic and the Paralympic Games become more professional, a number of marketing companies begin to support and show interest in these games by providing finance and sponsorship. While we watch a Paralympic event, we can watch the commercial advertising about the companies that participate in the finance support. Despite this current potential, according to Sutton (1998), unlike the Olympic Games, companies are reluctant to sponsor for the Paralympic Games because they want to “be perceived as good corporate citizens, but they may not want the endorsements to look like charity decisions” (p. 21).

In addition, the value and importance of the paralympic games allow not only people to become more interested in this event, but media to portray the more emotional, joyful, and passionate angle of these games. With regard to the Paralympics and the media, although the importance of this worldwide event for athletes with disabilities has enlarged, few positive media portrayals have been completed in mainstream media. Schell and Duncan (1999) found that athletes with disabilities have been still described as “victims of misfortune, as different, as Other” (p. 27) from the content analysis of CBS’s coverage of the 1996 Paralympic Games.



Although media coverage on disability sport such as the Paralympic Game has increased, the representation of disability sport and athletes with disabilities are still lower when compared to other sports such as the Olympic Game and World Cup (Thomas & Smith, 2003).

Since the 1960, the Paralympic Games have improved and expanded the size and the number of participants from more disability groups for competing in diversified sports. A review of the coverage of Paralympic Games in the newspaper provides significant trends and references to not only how athletes with disabilities have been presented and described as dynamic participants, but also how athletes' images have affected social and cultural awareness in the disability sport areas. As Campbell and Oliver (1996) have suggested, the mass media promulgate the awareness of disabled people as a dependent, and an inferior group. In addition, it is assumed that analyzing the coverage on gender difference in the newspaper is a critical issue within the modern society as a social group because of the perspectives of equality. Lastly, we can explore and examine how the social and cultural climate regarding athletes with disabilities and female athletes with disabilities treat with and portray between the U.S. and Korea by reviewing previous research and studies.

### Image of Disability in the Media

Sport is a hegemonic field for athletes with disabilities because of their imperfect bodies (Howe, 2008). In fact, because sport is based on physically and mentally movement and activity, people with disabilities are reluctant to participate in the physical activity, specifically sport events. As a result, those who are not as physically able bodied as normal people without disabilities have been marginalized in this society. As such, DePauw (1997) stated;

Ability is at the center of sport and physical activity. Ability, as currently socially constructed, means 'able' and implies a finely tuned 'able' body. On the other hand, disability, also a social construction, is often viewed in relation to ability and is, then, most often defined as 'less than' ability, as not able. To be able to 'see' individuals with

disabilities as athletes (regardless of the impairment) requires us to redefine athleticism and our view of the body, especially the 'sporting body'. (p. 423)

The image of athletes with disabilities is scarce and invisible in the sport media. In fact, the media describe people with disabilities as not a mainstream society (Nelson, 1996) whereas people without disabilities regard the disabled as the existence of a minority group that needs others' help. However, images of disability in the media have been depicted as various characters such as heroes, survivors, or victims. Harris (1999) and Shapiro (1993) have noted that the image of 'super crip' is most stereotypes of people with disabilities. This viewpoint is usually a 'super crip' that overcomes their physical and mental struggle.

Although there have been rare media images of people with disabilities, some studies on the images of people with disabilities from the sports magazines have been conducted. Hardin et al (2001) examined the photographic image of children with disabilities in a sport magazine, *Sports Illustrated for Kids*, by using content analysis. The results showed that there was no image of people with disabilities, specifically in the advertising photographs. The other finding was that the images of people with disabilities were scarce. Hardin and his colleagues found there were only 24 photos on people with disabilities from the total of 7,092 photos that were coded and 5,565 of the total editorial coded. It seems that the children's magazine also requires changing the awareness of people with disabilities because the photo image encourages children to think of their friends with disabilities as a same cultural group. In this regard, it was controversy with the evidence by Shapiro (1993) that advertising affects the positive images of people with disabilities in the media. Therefore, it is hard for children without disabilities to reach and accept the social and cultural cues with respect to disability groups because they may not realize an appropriate bodies and images from the media resources.

Photographs provide individuals with powerful message in social learning. In particular positive stereotyped photograph on children with disabilities enable children and readers without disabilities to construct and realize their attitudes and behaviors on disability groups.

Photographs are a systematic and truthful source that leads to the interests of hegemonic groups (Duncan, 1990) because those messages provide readers with a real issue and event. As a result, sport photographs can play a significant role in constructing ideological reality, particularly images for people with disabilities.

Hardin and Hardin (2005) examined the photographic images of disability in a magazine, *Sports 'n Spokes*. They conducted the content analysis to study the relationship between sport, disability and gender issue. The results revealed that men have been documented more on the photographic coverage. In addition, they tended to be depicted as 'sports competitors.' On the other hand, women have been more described as 'non-sporting,' and depicted less as competitors.

In the perception of sport media from the viewpoint of athletes with disabilities, Hardin and Hardin (2003) explored the media-related attitude and values of ten male wheelchair athletes by soliciting their opinions and suggestions concerning disability in the sport print media. The wheelchair athletes describe themselves as avid consumers of mainstream sport media, making them a viable consumer group for such media products. Hargreaves and Hardin (2009) examined the attitude and perception of ten wheelchair athletes about sport media by using the auto drive technique. The results were significant because they think that the sport media were short of coverage for women and athletes with disabilities in the sport media. From these results, women and people with disabilities are still marginalized in the sport media.

## Coverage on Athletes with Disabilities in Paralympic Games

To date, numerous media studies have explored and examined the influence and media effect of the mega sport events. Specifically, the Olympic Game is a way in which sport and media have strong relationship with respect to the globalization and conceptualization of the Olympic ideals through the athletes' performance. Most sport events are broadcasted on television. Seventy percent of Americans watch ESPN (The Entertainment and Sports Programming Network) at home, and ESPN televises sport events and news more than 8,000 hours per year (Sage, 1998). Some studies on the television coverage of Paralympic Games have been conducted. When Shell and Duncan (1999) examined CBS's television coverage of the 1996 Atlanta Paralympic Games, they found the super cripp stereotype of the athletes. Thus, female athletes and women's sport have been scarcely documented. Another research on television coverage was that Schell and Rodriguez (2001) explored the CBS' 1996 Paralympic Games coverage of a female wheelchair tennis player. In this research, she has been presented as sexist and ableist stereotypes. To represent the female athlete's body that gets over her disability, CBS tended to avoid her empowered voice which looked a perfect image on her body.

Since the nineteenth century, sport events and sports as the content coverage have been initiated in the American newspapers (Sage, 1998). Through this development of sport coverage, we can reinforce and produce the sport society and new stereotype in sport arena. Thus, the mass media allow us to affect new change in the sport society.

Some studies have focused on the newspaper coverage of Paralympic Games. Thomas and Smith (2000) analyzed British newspaper coverage of 2000 Sydney Paralympics. They focused on the explanation of disability, women with disabilities, disabilities in the media, perspectives on disability sport, disability sport in the media used to describe athletes' disabilities,

and the language and image of athletes' performance from the four British newspapers. They found that athletes with disabilities have not been characterized by a medicalized conceptualization, but also portrayed as emulating the able-bodiedness of athletes without disabilities. In addition, photographic coverage has been tended to hide the athletes' impairments, and female athletes were less likely to be photographed in active poses. It is assumed that athletes with disabilities have been described as the existence of imperfect body. Schantz and Gilbert (2001) analyzed newspaper coverage of the 1996 Atlanta Paralympics from the French and German press. The results showed that athletes' performances represented by the coverage of athletes with disabilities have received little attention. The Paralympic ideals were misconstrued, and the content was focused on national success and medal ranking. In particular, the press by these two countries tended to report stronger nationalism in Paralympic than other general media coverage of sport. From these results, disability sport and Paralympics have not been attentive to the newspaper media as the not disability sport and Olympics for able-bodied athletes have focused on. In this regard, Chang and Crossman (2009) examined and compared the media coverage between 2004 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games from a South Korea newspaper. The results revealed that Summer Olympic Games have published more articles and photograph than the Paralympic Games. In the frequency of newspaper coverage, the Olympic Game have received average 15.3 articles and 13 photographs per day whereas the Paralympic game was given average 1.23 articles and 1.3 photographs per day. From this study, we can recognize that disability sport scholars need to explore the newspaper coverage more in order to allow people without disability to construct the cultural and social knowledge about disability sport. Further, they can understand and recognize the conceptualization of athletes and people with disabilities.

## Coverage on Marginality

In the social definition of sex difference and gender difference, Kane and Greendorfer (1994) noted that sexual difference is associated with physical difference on physical size or structure, whereas gender difference is related to social difference. Consequently, gender difference reflects the social hierarchy due to the perception of female that are defined as “other than” and “less than” male (Kane & Greendorfer, 1994, p. 29). As such, Birrell and Theberge (1994) stated that

The artificial separation of the sport world into two separate spheres delineated by sex clearly marks gender difference as significant and worth maintaining. Consequently, sex difference is constructed as a logical and necessary part of our cultural world. (p. 346)

In fact, sports tend to be male-dominated and play an important role in creating more marginality and sexuality on female athletes. In other words, women’s sport and female athletes are inferior to men’s sport and male athletes. Messner and his colleagues noted (1993) that

Sport is still dominated by men at early all levels, and still serves to construct culturally dominant ideals of “exemplary masculinity.” ...But the dramatic increase in athleticism in the past decades directly challenges the assumed naturalness of the equation of men, muscles, and power. In short, the institution of sport has become a “contested terrain” of gender relations and ideologies. (p. 122)

To date, although women have more opportunity to attend sports, this ideology of marginality and sexuality on women athletes affects the media coverage. Therefore, this media coverage reflects the social and cultural structure of the femininity in sports arena.

Since sports events have expanded to a variety of social groups, including race, gender, and disabled people, the number of women and disabled participants has dramatically increased. In particular, with regard to cultural and social stereotype, it seems that this phenomenon is characterized in the representation of the mass media. Although newspapers are not the most powerful medium, they still affect the social change and cultural reformation. As Bernstein

(2000) noted, the newspaper coverage leads to a “shared professional culture” of describing the content (p. 367).

In particular, the analysis of sport and sports media through the marginality lens help readers or audience, who watch and read the media such as TV, newspapers, and magazines to find out the difference of the unequal relationships and images between male and female athletes, and able-bodied and unable-bodied athletes. Therefore, several researches on the coverage of magazine revealed that there have been various gender differences.

Rintala and Birrell (1984) examined a content analysis of *Young Athletes* magazine, and found that this magazine was depicted as a male activity. Thus, girl athletes were depicted in less than one-third of the photographs in the magazine. Lynn et al. (2004) examined the sexual difference in advertizing massages in the four women’s sports and fitness magazines. They stated that images on sexual difference related to feminism have an integral influence on maintaining the ideal feminine body image.

In addition, the Olympic Games emphasize on appreciating and recognizing the difference and equality beyond race, culture, nationality, and gender. Wensing and Bruce (2003) explored and analyzed the newspaper coverage of Kathy Freeman, Australian female athlete, from the 11 major Australian newspapers during 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. They found that most media presented her as ‘a nation’s daughter’ (nationalism), not as a female athlete. Lee (1992) explored the newspaper coverage of the 1984 and 1988 Olympic Games from the *Globe and Mail* and *The New York Times*. She found that female athletes have been marginalized and trivialized, as well as have been portrayed as more different ways than male athletes.

Gender issues in the media coverage are critical sources that interpret and recognize the equality in the sport area. In this regard, Theberge (1991) noted that

The Olympic Games may be considered as a playing field for the enactment of important issues in gender relations. These issues concern not only equality of opportunity and participation but also the social construction of gender and the constitution of gender relations. (p. 385)

The description on the achievement of athletes' performance plays an important role in constructing the dominant social and cultural knowledge on gender issues from the media. Matteo (1996) has suggested that three categories affect the beliefs about sex difference from the media. These include male appropriate (such as basketball and football), female appropriate (such as gymnastics and figure skating), and neutral appropriate sports (such as tennis and golf). Jones et al. (1999) examined the description of the performance of U.S. gold medal winning athletes from the six different newspapers from 1996 and seven different newspapers from 1998. They found that 'pretty' female athletes derived from the traditional female sports such as gymnastic. On the other hand, female athletes' 'power' depiction was directed by gold medal winning games. From these findings, it is assumed that description of female athletes in the newspaper allows people to consider the knowledge and belief with respect to the gender. Eastman and Billings (2000) analyzed two most popular sportscast, including *Sports Center* on ESPN, and *Sports Tonight* on CNN, and two major newspapers, *The New York Times* and *USA Today*. They examined the amount of attention on women athletes and sports. The results revealed that the coverage on men's sports were more than women's sport by 3:1 ratio of both media. Pedersen (2002) conducted a content analysis of photographs of interscholastic athletes and examined newspaper coverage given to male and female high school level athletes from 43 different newspapers. The result was that two thirds of the photographs were depicted as masculine images. In particular, the front page coverage was 26.3% of female photographs, when compared to 36.8 % of male photographs. In this study, it seems that female athletes have been trivialized and marginalized in the sporting events. Surprisingly, Pedersen et al. (2003)



examined the gendering of sport newspaper if the coverage has been described as a function of the individuals who are related to producing the sport department. They found that male dominated the newspaper coverage. Specifically, 91.4% of the reporters, 78.6% of the photographers, 100% of the executive sports editors, and 91.3% of the high school sport editors were made up of male athletes.

Gender difference in the disability sports has been insufficient in the mass media although a number of Paralympic Games have increased from eight sports in Rome in 1960 to 21 sports in Athens in 2004. As DePauw (1994) and Sherrill (1997) noted female athletes with disabilities received little media attention during the Paralympic Games.

On the other hand, several studies on gender difference in sport areas have been developed from the magazine and photograph. Specifically, Mikosza and Philips (1999) examined the context of gender theory focused on the social construction of gendered bodies and the different ways from two media: *Golden Girls of Sport (GG)* calendar and *The Atlanta Dream (AD)* magazine. They found that masculinity and femininity have been represented in different ways. GG has described as marketable commodity while the AD has replicated the culturally normative female body. Buysse and Borcerding (2000) examined how Paralympic athletes were treated on the photograph coverage from 12 newspapers, every two newspapers of which were from China, South Africa, New Zealand, and Italy, four newspapers from the United States. They focused on the photographs and content of each photograph in order to investigate if the athletes with disabilities are marginalized or dealt with by the elite sport players as athletes without disabilities during the games. They found that newspaper coverage and photographic coverage were likely to ignore and hide athletes with disabilities. More importantly, female athletes are more marginalized. It is assumed that there still remained in the media specific

gender and disability stereotypes which enhance the male dominated and able-bodied athletes' hegemony in sports society.

### Media Effect Theory

As Brown (2002) notes that media can enhance and affect individuals' stereotypes and behaviors on society, the media have a critical influence on our lives in this world. Sage (1998) stated, "Our cultural norms and values, and our knowledge and understanding of the world, are derived more and more through our experiences with mass media (p.164)." In addition, Turner (1997) pointed out that "media texts offer especially rich opportunities to observe the cultural construction of meaning, locations where we can see the social production of ideas and values happening before our eyes" (p. 317).

We can access all news, culture, society, art, and sports through the various media. We can read a newspaper and watch CNN news channel or ESPN sports channel to enjoy the world wide news or sporting news. Even in the workplace or on college campuses, people talk about the breaking news or their preferred new issues on society, economy, or sport. Sage (1998) noted that about 1,532 daily newspapers illustrate the issues on the most important and primary sources of information and debate in nations or in the world. Therefore, from the point of this view about disability sports and athletes with disabilities, the media coverage of disability sports is an important sports issue. Cho (1993) noted that "as media devote significant attention to sport issues and events, sport media becomes an important site for the construction and reconstruction of dominant ideologies such as capitalism, meritocracy, patriarchy, white supremacy, and heterosexuality" (p. 20). Sport media, specifically for athletes with disabilities, allow readers and audiences to construct their perception and behaviors regarding disability sports and athletes with disabilities.

Another effect is that the media provide individuals with various stories and visual materials. They interact with each other on what they believe, understand, and learn from the mass media. The texts, including stories and materials described by the media affect their behaviors and attitudes. Rosenblatt (1978, 1994) noted that meaning of the text is produced in a transaction of a reader at the transaction theory. Transaction theory defines meaning as “a reader’s personal experience in reading and subject to personal reflection and self-awareness and shaped by our efforts to articulate and explain our understanding so that we can share our experience with others” (McEneaney, 2003, p. 273). It seems that media can reflect and reinforce public’s thought process and structure of behaviors regarding individuals with disabilities.

The daily newspaper and television are the primary sources for gaining information on public affairs. They represent much more critical roles than major events or issues. Consequently, the editors and news directors tend to focus on our perception and influence about events or issues that are the most important in the day (McCombs, 2004).

Eastman and Billings (1999) stated that agenda-setting theory pursues over “a simple list of assigned importance into the generation of a larger context within which to understand an event” (p. 142). As the media affect the salience of issues on the public agenda, the media play a key role in the agenda-setting that can create our perspective and representation of the world. In other words, the coverage of the newspapers can help individuals make the new agenda by creating their news story as priest stated that the readers who read and watch the issue tend to consider and respond more important when the news is shown and described.

According to Billings (2008), media framing has been a critical element to discuss media impact and influence related to sport. Frames are “conceptual tools which media and individuals rely on to convey, interpret, and evaluate information” (Neuman et al., 1992, p. 60). In addition,

the frames are “manifested by the presence or absence of certain keywords, stock phrases, stereotypical images, sources of information, and sentences that provide thematically reinforcing clusters of facts or judgments” (Entman, 1993, p. 52).

Based on the theoretical concept of media research, frame theory is grounded on mediation. It provides individuals with the social and cultural cues that enable researchers to interpret and analyze events or issues (Eastman and Billings, 1999). The concept of frame theory “offers a way to describe the power of a communicating text.” (Entman, 1993, p. 51) As such, Olympic or Paralympic Games has the power that readers or audiences can enhance their thought on what is important or not important with the basic issues from the frame being exposure (Billings, 2008).

Agenda setting and framing theories propose that the media provides people with salient issue in the world, and events and people who inhabit that world (Kosicki, 1993). In this regard, we can make appropriate words and desirable images of people with disabilities through the media coverage and photo images that contribute to the individuals’ construction of social reality.

Perdersen (2002) pointed out that “In sport, what the media choose to cover and how they provide this coverage has an influence on who participate in sports, is recognized for that participation, and reaches a certain level of fulfillment through that participation”(p. 304). Accordingly, the media allow individuals to frame and form their knowledge, attitude, and behavior regarding disability sports. That is, by reading and listening to the salient issues related to athletes with disabilities through the media, individuals can create and think their stories about disability sport and athletes with disabilities with respect to how they perform and what they do by participating in sports. The more newspapers provide a great deal of issues on disability sports,

the more readers develop and construct the proper perception and perspectives on the disability sport and athletes with disabilities through the newspaper coverage.

### Social and Cultural Perspectives of Disability Sport

Sports are a primary institution in this modern society. Specifically, sports in American society pervade culture, economy, politic, and even ideals. Their relationship is symbiotic. Wood (2007) posited that there are six theories in sports society. These theories include functionalist theory, conflict theory, critical theory, feminist theory, interactionist theory, and figurational theory. Functionalist theory focuses on enhancing and maintaining the status quo by competing and challenging sport events. Conflict theory reinforces the power of the individuals and institutions through the sport participant. Critical theory explores how culture of sports change to be more fair to all people. In this viewpoint, sports can help to develop their level toward gender, disabled people, sexism, and so on. Next, female theories address the status of women in sport. In fact, there has been lack of equal opportunity in the field of sport site, even from a coach or a manager in a team. Interactionist theory provides us with understanding on how people choose particular sport and how they perceive their participation in the sport. In this view, experience is a key to create and develop traditional feminine. Figurational theory emphasizes the connections between people and their independence to understand global expansion in the field of sport. In this regard, sports undoubtedly allow athletes with disabilities and female athletes to have closer relationship between sport and social environments. In particular, it is significant to articulate the relationship between society and sport and physical activity which are related to “social inequality, sexism, racism, and other types of social justice” (Sage, 1993, p.153). Sage (1993) stated

Sport and physical education are practices which are socially constructed within the culture in which they exist, and any adequate account of them must be grounded in an understanding of power, privilege, and dominance within society. (p. 153)

Based on the understanding cultural and social environment, individuals learn and learn the “necessary knowledge” (Lake, 2002, p. 11). According to Lake (2002), for an effective citizen in the society, sport is an integral part in understanding of the culture because sports help individuals to create and reproduce the culture and society. Therefore, understanding and learning of disability and disability culture are critical parts in the society.

In the 1870s in the U.S., the Ohio school was the first school for the disabled students who participated in the sports. Those with deafness played baseball during this time. Then, the second was that those with deafness played the basketball at the Wisconsin School in 1906 (Winnick, 1995). In fact, the early development of disability sport was originated from the United Kingdom during the World War II (Goodman, 1986; Scruton, 1998) for the wounded from the war. During this period, Ludwig organized and held the disability sport such as ‘wheelchair polo’ (Goodman, 1986). In the United States, before President H. W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990, people with disabilities were characterized by segregation and discrimination (Wood, 2007). This ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disabilities such as employment, public communication, and transportation for people with disabilities. Then, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (PL 101-476) have been passed. IDEA addressed transition planning for adolescents with disabilities. Since then, disabled people have proliferated to approach a variety of physical activities.

In essence, disability has been recognized as “impaired,” “different,” “abnormal,” or “inability” from the mainstream society since the 19 century. As Olive (1996) pointed out that

“disability is the disadvantage or restriction of activity caused by a contemporary social organization which takes little or no account of people who have physical impairments” (p. 22).

Traditionally, scholars and professionals have explained disability from an individualized or medicalized conceptualization (Barton, 1993) with the development of the industrial society. It is assumed that people with disabilities have been paid little attention, and have also been marginalized by other people. From a mainstream social perspective, Barnes (1992) noted

Disabling stereotypes which medicalize, patronize, criminalize and dehumanize disabled people abound in books, films, on television, and in the press. They form the bedrock on which the attitudes towards, assumptions about and expectations of disabled people are based. They are fundamental to the discrimination and exploitation which disabled people encounter daily, and contribute significantly to their systematic exclusion from mainstream community life. (p. 39)

Since some scholars have accessed the conceptualization of disability with the social explanation (Olive, 1986, 1992; Shakespeare & Watson, 1997), the point of their views on disability has been focused on “the environmental and social barrier, which excludes people with perceived impairment from mainstream society” (Barnes, 1998, p. 78). In this regard, Shogan (1998) noted that “to illustrate how disability can be understood as an effect of the social and that concepts, like “the normal,” “the abnormal,” “the natural,” “the unnatural,” “ability,” and ‘disability,’ have a social history. (p. 269)

To date, sport is a performance of the physical strength or beauty by acting the human’s body. As a result, the perception of most people on athletes with disabilities is still short of understanding their effort and performance, although their perception has been expanded to cover the awareness of disability sport. However, sport is not the sole privilege of able-bodied athletes (DePauw & Gavron, 2005). All athletes with disabilities can express their performance at the all kind of sport events by using adapted technology such as wheelchair or orthotics.

DePauw and Gavron (2005) noted that the purpose of disability sport has pervaded all sports events for sport and completion's sake. Through the sport events, athletes with disabilities represent their best performance and reinforce their attitude to spectators. Soeder (1995) has suggested that the image of disability sport can be described by three aspects; rehabilitation, freak show, and empowerment. Image of disability sport for rehabilitation is focused on overcoming their limitations, and encourage spectators to regard their achievements as indicators of successful rehabilitation. The freak show image enables spectators to be fascinated by their performance. Lastly, empowerment image allows spectators not to see athletes' performance as related to disability (DePauw & Gavron, 2005).

Without doubt, individuals with disabilities participating in sport events have been socially described as contorted images. In this regard, the importance of research on the image and coverage of athletes with disability on the media has been increased in the society.

### Hegemony in Sport

The power of mass media enlightens individuals to "facilitate public awareness and acceptance of disability and disability sport" (Dummer, 1998. p. 56). Sage (1999) stated that mass media are one of powerful and cultural institutions that reinforce and maintain the ideological hegemony for dominant class. As such, he continued, in the U. S., there are two social-political images of society; the plural image and hegemony image (Sage, 1999). The plural image asserts that diverse social institutions and organizations represent the individuals' beliefs and values. Under the plural image they pursue the same and equal interests within the power and influence. On the contrary, the hegemony images derive from the economic base in a society as the most critical factors of culture and ideology (Altheide, 1984). He pointed out that



“ideological freedom can be obtained when the dominant forces are identified and then resisted” (p. 477). In this regard, Sage (1999) emphasized that

It refers to a society in which dominant groups that control the critically important economic and political institutions of a society also have principal access to the other social institutions-education and mass media, for example - as well as many cultural norms and practice. (p. 20)

Antonio Gramsci, a leader of Italian communist party in the 1920s and 1930, developed hegemony theory which is based on the Marxist view as the most important factors of culture and ideology by critical cultural theorists (Hardin & Hardin, 2004). The meaning of hegemony is regarded as “power and leadership which is maintained through processes of struggle and negotiation, especially through winning the consent of the majority of people to accept the ideas or ideologies of the dominant group as common sense”(O’Shaughnessy & Stadler, 2005, p. 183). That is to say, this is a way that a social group uses the power, culture, and ideals through the process of struggle to dominate the subordinate groups. In particular, as Artz (2003) pointed out that under capitalism, media hegemony sustains the capitalist hegemony as means of education or persuasion within the context of capitalist norms. Consequently, sport culture and sport power, as a leadership, dominantly exist in this modern society, and affect individuals’ beliefs and values in other subordinate groups through ideological control. As Theberge and Birrell (1994) defined ideology as “ a set of ideas that serve the interests of dominant groups but come to be understood and taken up as the societal common sense about the way things naturally are and thus should remain” (p. 327). From this point of view, Sage (1999) warned that hegemonic theory has an important role in constructing, and reproducing the popular cultural practice that helps to enhance and recreate the norms, practices, and ideas related to sports.

Therefore, hegemonic theory affects the various sport areas. Hardin and Hardin (2004) state, “sport has been viewed by scholars as a powerful hegemonic institution in the United

States (p. 401).” They also indicated that sport media is one of an important site to enhance dominant American culture, specifically, male hegemony. Although female athletes have increased in the sport events such as the Olympic Games, male athletes still dominate in the participation of sports events due to physical and biological difference between males and females. Therefore, mass media, according to Daddario (1994), play a crucial role in strengthening sex difference by emphasizing on the masculine sports hegemony.

On the other hand, an ableist cultural hegemony still exists in the society. Most people think that people with disabilities are the presence of being sympathetic and being supported. Hardin and Hardin (2004) pointed out that people with disabilities are subjects who are blamed in the case of participating in ableist-constructed physical activity. As a result, Davis (1999)’s statement reminds us of understanding disability as a partner for pursuing the best life as people without disabilities live. He stated

One of the most egregious acts of omission committed in the twentieth century by progressive and radicals has been the almost complete ignoring of the issues surrounding people with disabilities and deaf people. (p. 1)

In this cultural hegemony, the role of media is a key for constructing the desirable ideology to individuals’ thoughts about sport and disability. Therefore, scholars of sport or media studies, specifically athletes with disabilities, need to articulate the relationship of social power and ideology through subordinate groups such as female and people with disabilities.

### Marginality

In the perspectives on sport as a cultural mechanism under capitalism, we can approach and explore how sports tend to affect and reinforce the social group and capitalist class. Marxists have criticized structural condition, class inequalities, unequal power relations (Messner, 1988). This viewpoint enables marginalized groups to improve and enhance the change of their social

ideologies. In this regard, we are capable of thinking and understanding “how sport (and culture in general) is a dynamic social space where dominant (class, ethnic, etc.) ideologies are perpetuated as well as challenged and contested (Messner, 1988, p. 198).

According to DePauw (1997), marginality in sports includes physicality, masculinity, and sexuality. She defined physicality as the “socially accepted view of able bodied physical ability or prowess, often associated with agility, aggression, and strength,” masculinity includes “aggression, independence, strength, courage, and so on,” and sexuality is regarded as “the socially expected and accepted view of sexual behavior that included being sexually active and heterosexual”(p. 421). As usual, media coverage describes athletes as sporting body that affects the image of sexuality and physicality. Specifically, female athletes or specific male sports, such as gymnastic, or wrestling have been expressed as attractive coverage of sporting body. These sports events are forced to maintain specific official rules (Schantz & Gilbert, 2001).

One of the most popular cultures in the U.S is a sport power that enhances male athletes by achieving the strength, power, and challenge through the sport events. Unfortunately, as Hardin and Hardin (2005) stated, women and people with disabilities have been ignored and marginalized from this sport power. Although these two groups of athletes increase in sports participation, they have less attention to the media than the able-bodied athletes because, specifically, people with disabilities “are looked upon, identified, judged and represented primarily through their bodies, which are perceived in popular consciousness to be imperfect, incomplete, and inadequate” (Hargreaves, 2000, p. 185).

Since the 1972 passage of Title IX has been passed in the U.S, women have had an equal opportunity to participate in sports during their school era (Messner, 1988). However, the gap between male and female athletic performance exist in sport. The primary concern is “the

manner in which this gap is understood and taken into the popular consciousness of our society” (Willis, 1982, p. 120). Consequently, there has been the marginalization of feminist theory in the area of sociology and sport sociology as a discipline (Stacy & Thorne, 1985; Birrell, 1984; Hall, 1984). More importantly, from the male dominant images in sports, a number of women with disabilities tend “not to participate in sport, because, in common with many able-bodied women, they are influenced more by commodified anti-athletic stereotypes of femininity” (Hargreaves, 2000, p. 186).

Feminist sports researchers have noted that the mass media have a significant effect on scrutinizing the sex issues between male athletes and female athletes by focusing on a masculinity in the coverage of the media. As a result, they have tended to explore “how sport, as a social institution, naturalizes men’s power and privilege over women’ (Sabo & Jansen, 1992, p. 171).

#### Disability Sports and Athletes with Disabilities in the U.S. and Korea

Participating in physical activity helps people with disabilities or without disability contribute to better lives and better relationships, as well as the significant sense of success that achieves over their ability to have a great influence on values and ideals of their lives. Specifically, it is important that people with disabilities participate in physical activities due to physical rehabilitation and mental healing. It contributes to not only the creation of desirable physical image and but also the development of self-esteem and self-efficacy by themselves.

According to a census reported by Qi Wang (2005), approximately 20.9 million families in the U.S. had more than one member with disability. There are about 50 million Americans with disabilities. Approximately, 20 percent among 50 million Americans with disabilities use a wheelchair, and take part in sports and physical activity such as hockey, horseback riding, rock

climbing, scuba diving, cycling, water skiing, rugby, soccer, basketball and so on (U.S. Diplomatic Mission to Germany, 2008). Currently, the number of people with disabilities in the U.S. has increased more and more due to various accidents. The other physical activities and disability sports are available for people with disabilities in the U.S. However, 56% of adults with disabilities have not taken part in any physical activity when compared to 36% of adults without disabilities (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2010). In Korea, the number of people with disabilities in 2010 has been reported more than 2.5 million (Yang et al, 2010). Among 2.5 million, according to Korea Sports Association for the Disabled (2011), only 12, 672 people who registered in KOSAD, have took part in physical activity and disability sport in Korea. 9,713 athletes are male, whereas 2,959 athletes are female. There are officially 26 Associations related to disability sport for people with disabilities. It includes Korea Wheelchair Basketball Federation, Korea Wheelchair Rugby Association, Korea Bowls Board for the Disabled, Korea Disabled Swimming Federation, and so on. In addition, there are four different types of disability sports associations in Korea such as Korea Blind Sport Association, Korea Deaf Sports Association, Special Olympic Korea Association, and Korea Sports Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability. Additionally, people with disabilities take part in golf, softball, and gate ball. The number of physical activity and disability sport has increased in Korea as well.

However, when compared the newspaper coverage of the Paralympic Games to that of the Olympic Games as the mega sports event, as Chang and Crossman (2009) pointed out that the newspaper coverage of the Olympic Games have reported more articles and photograph than that of the Paralympic Games. That is, the media coverage on the Paralympic Games has had little attention than the Olympic Games.

Approximately 10, 500 athletes from 204 countries participated in the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games and competed in 28 sports and 302 events. The total of 596 athletes has been sent by the United States Olympic Committee to the Beijing Olympic Games. Three hundred ten were male athletes, whereas 286 were female athletes. On the contrary, 267 athletes as the Korea national delegation not only have participated in the Beijing Olympic Games, and but have also competed in 25 events among the total of 28 events (KOC, 2008).

During the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, 3,951 athletes from 146 countries competed in 20 sports. Among the total of 3,951 athletes, 1,383 athletes were women (IPC. 2008). A total number of 213 U.S. competitors have been sent to the Beijing Paralympic Games. Final results for the U.S. Team showed that they ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> place and medaled the total of 99 medals in the world, including 36 gold medals, 35 silver medals, and 28 bronze medals. On the contrary, 79 competitors as Korea delegation took part in the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. They ranked 13<sup>th</sup> place in the world, medaling 10 gold medals, 8 silver medals, and 13 bronze medals.

### Purpose of the Study

Most media studies come from different academic disciplines such as sociology, politics, gender issues, cultural hegemony, journalism, and so forth. Because of multi disciplinary approach, media studies have a strong influence on the socialization process for people with and without disabilities. Therefore, it is assumed that the media have a strong force to enhance social awareness of the inferior groups such as people with disabilities and female. These inferior groups have been paid little attention and underrepresented on the newspaper coverage because they are not important newsworthiness in the society. However, as the amount and quantity of sport section have increased in the newspaper and mega sports have developed, disability sports

have been treated with less attention than able bodied sports as the aspect of the socio-cultural phenomenon.

Sport and media are powerful institutions that help people to learn and understand the societal and cultural phenomenon in this society. In particular, through the mass media people can create the ideals about sports value, gender and race issues, and social attribution. In other words, the mass media enable people to construct and create their perceptions and attitudes that lead to the development of their knowledge beyond their experience. For example, Thomas and Smith (2009) noted that “The socio-cultural stereotypes of disabled people and the experience of impairment and disability that are evident in the press are said to have the effect of evoking from readers emotions of pity and fear” (p. 137).

Therefore, it is important to accept media coverage of athletes with disabilities about how they have described because it provides us with the significant news and the reproductive ideals. Although the description of athletes with disabilities in the mass media has become an important topic as one of social groups in this society, the number of media coverage on athletes with disabilities has not been improvement in the quality and quantity of coverage.

In addition, athletes with disabilities have been described as ‘monster’ or ‘super crip,’ as well as ‘sensational or pitiful existence on the media coverage. Thus, female athletes have received little attention to the mass media although they have won the champion in the mega sport event such as Olympic Games. More importantly, most female athletes in the mass media have been presented as not a sport competitor, but a sexual stereotype because of male dominated society and ‘sexual attractiveness’ (Schantz & Gilbert, 2001, p.71).

Several studies on the media coverage of athletes participating in the field of sports are focused on their image (Duncan, 1990; Pedersen, 2002; Salwen & Wood, 1994), gender (Koh,

2008; Kinnick, 1998), feminine and female athletes (Cho, 1993; Duncan, 1990; Fink, 1998; Kane, 1988; Mathesen & Flatten, 1996; Pirine, 1997), and equity (Wann, Schrader, Allison, & McGeroge, 1998).

Unfortunately, in spite of increase in the number of athletes with disabilities and female athletes with disabilities participating in sports areas, those groups of athletes have received little attention to the mass media. Consequently, scholars of media studies regarding athletes with disabilities, disability sports, and female athletes with disabilities need to explore the coverage of the mass media because of media effect and better understanding of inferior groups such as athletes with disabilities and female athletes with disabilities. However, most studies of athletes with disabilities derived from the magazine. (Hardin, Hardin, Lynn, & Walsdorf, 2001; Hardin & Hardin, 2004; Hardin & Hardin, 2005). In addition, among those studies, some are about the wheelchair athletes (Hardin, 2003; Hardin & Hardin, 2003; Hardin & Hardin, 2004; Hargreaves & Hardin, 2009). Few of them are on comparison of a content analysis of the coverage, and analysis of photographs of male and female athletes with disabilities (Schantz & Gilbert, 2001; Buysse & Borcharding, 2010). As a result, the lack of media coverage of and marginality of athletes with disabilities and female athletes with disabilities in the newspaper still exists in sport sites.

Consequently, the first purpose of this study was to examine how athletes with disabilities have reported in the newspaper coverage during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. The second purpose of this study was to explore the socio-cultural perspectives and ideals on athletes with disabilities in the newspaper coverage during the 2008 Beijing Paralympics from the U.S. and Korean newspapers. The last purpose of this study was to compare newspaper



coverage from the U.S. and Korea newspapers on how the newspapers differently and similarly described and presented athletes with disabilities.

### Significance of the Study

Sport enables people to create the broad reproductive social role (Sage, 1997). Under the theory of hegemony in this society, sport influence the norms, values and attitudes of dominant groups such as able bodied people and male athletes. As the critical researchers have made efforts to develop and reflect the hegemony and change the social inequality, scholars of sport media have explored to change the standpoint of marginalized groups. Utilizing the critical paradigm as the theoretical framework, this study aims to reflect the socio-cultural perspectives and ideals through the presentation of athletes with disabilities and disability sports events from the newspaper texts and photographs during 2008 Beijing Paralympics, and confirms the view point on socio-cultural fundamental perspectives and ideals regarding disability sports and athletes with disabilities through the newspaper coverage between two countries. In addition, this study attempts to understand their view point regarding athletes with disabilities and disability sports in respect to how they have been portrayed in the newspaper coverage between the U.S. and Korea. Consequently, this study provides an addition previous research on coverage of athletes with disabilities.

Although some scholars have explored the media coverage related to sports areas, most studies have been well documented from the U.S and Western countries such as England, Germany, or France. For example, in particular, there have been few studies about the newspaper coverage of athletes with disabilities during the Paralympic Games in recent years (Buysse & Borcharding, 2010; Chang & Crossman, 2009; Golden, 2003; Schantz & Gilbert, 2001; Thomas & Smith, 2003). Specifically, due to the Confucian tradition in Asian countries including Korea

the media coverage on female athletes have been paid little attention by scholars. Unfortunately, scholars in Korea have only paid attention to the able-bodied athletes and male athletes. Thus, there is no previous research that examined the comparison of newspaper coverage between the U.S and Korea regarding the newspaper coverage of athletes with disabilities during the Paralympic Games. Therefore, this comparison study of newspaper coverage from the U.S. and Korea newspapers provides us with socio-cultural features and meaningful information that lead to the appropriate view point and socio-cultural perspectives and ideals regarding the disability sports and athletes with disabilities. Therefore, this study provides more critical information to both the U.S. and Korean society.

## CHAPTER II: RESEARCH METHOD AND PROCEDURE

The purpose of this study was to examine and explore not only how athletes with disabilities have been recorded in the newspaper coverage, but also how the socio-cultural perspectives and ideals, and athletes with disabilities have been described and presented similarly and differently during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games from the two specific countries: Korea and the United States.

More specifically, this study focused on the texts and photographs on athletes with disabilities, disability sports, and the marginality of female athletes with disabilities. Therefore, it explored how each newspaper from two countries describes and portrays these disability sports, athletes with disabilities, and female athletes with disabilities in the newspapers. To process this study, both quantitative and qualitative analyses of newspaper coverage in a non-experimental setting were employed. These two methods have been named as “mixed methods research” (Creswell et al., 2007, p.6). They suggested that it is useful for social researchers to develop and know their own lens about athletes with disabilities.

This study examined and analyzed the newspaper texts and photographs during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. The primary focus was to examine the number of texts and photographic images that include frequency, gender, race, type of disability, type of sport, page placement, and type of texts in the newspaper coverage of the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. Thus, this study focused on similarities and differences in the newspaper coverage between the U.S. and Korea, and explored the existence on the marginality of female athletes with disabilities in the newspaper.

## Research Questions

This study has been examined the socio-cultural perspectives and ideals on disability sports, athletes with disability and marginality of female athletes with disabilities, and compared newspaper coverage between the U.S. and Korea.

For the purpose of this study, there were three primary research questions focused on the newspaper coverage of disability sport and athletes with disabilities, and Paralympic Games. The questions included

1. How do these newspapers in two countries report about athletes with disabilities and female athletes with disabilities in the newspapers;
2. How do these newspapers in two countries present socio-cultural stereotypes of disability sports and athletes with disabilities as sport hegemony; and
3. Do United States and Korea newspapers have similarities and differences in describing and portraying athletes with disabilities from the newspaper texts and photographs during the Paralympic Games?

## Research Method

Sport issues and events of the mass media provide various meanings and information to readers or audiences. That is, it is possible that the media influences and effects reflect the better understanding of the marginalized groups, such as athletes with disabilities and female athletes. Through this media content, it is critical for researchers to figure out the content from the media messages on what they are described, how they are meant and so on. To achieve this research, different research techniques are used. Content analysis is an efficient method that presents the most dominant and salient message from the media because it draws on the meanings of images on inferior groups such as, in particular, athletes with disabilities. Rintala and Birrell (1984)

defined the content analysis as “a method for examining the message or content of the media, such as newspapers, in order to draw inferences about encoding and decoding practices of the communication system” (p. 232). This content analysis reflects some manner and extent to which people see, hear, and read in the mass media such as TV, radio, and newspapers (Rintala & Birrell, 1984). Accordingly, this content analysis enables researchers to draw on the implication and inference on how newspaper coverage describe and treat disability sports and athletes with disabilities from the texts and message.

In addition, interpretive textual analysis is a method that leads to the prominent meanings of the text between media texts and readers or audiences. The primary view from the newspaper coverage for this research is to know how athletes with disabilities participating in the Paralympic Games have been presented and described in the newspaper coverage. Although “interpretive studies, according to Carragee (1990), view media texts as polysemic – that is, as characterized by multiplicity of meanings” (p. 85), it is useful to articulate the prominent meanings in the media because it reflects the realities in which they live. Consequently, interpretive textual analysis enables researchers to figure out how media texts express primary ideological meanings and values from the newspaper coverage. From this research, analysis of newspaper coverage and photographs develops the social meaning, values, and ideas about disability sports and athletes with disabilities through the Paralympic Games.

To achieve this study, a first researcher of this study collected and coded the frequency and number of daily newspaper texts and photographs by using the code sheets from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. Also, an examination of three days before and after the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games highlights the perception and awareness of the newspapers on athletes with disabilities and disability sport. Consequently, 14 days of

newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, in *USA Today* and 15 days of newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, in *Donga Ilbo* during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games were examined and analyzed. It is interesting and important to analyze the data because audiences and readers know and recognize how much important and valued the newspapers have reported and described about athletes with disabilities and disability sport. Consequently, the researcher collected data from three days before and after the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. Lastly, the researcher explored differences and similarities in commentaries such as discourse and narrative of the newspaper coverage. Specifically, texts and photographs were studied as socio-cultural perspectives. The meanings and ideologies about athletes with disabilities in the texts and photographs were interpreted because it was possible that representation of athletes with disabilities in the newspaper leads to the development of disability sports values and images. Therefore, researcher coded the meaningful titles, comments, keywords, phrases and sentences, then, categorized the patterns for finding out a theme from the texts and photographs.

#### Data Collection

##### *Sampling Newspapers*

According to Weis (1986), newspaper text has three characteristics that “present something, say something about its producers and animate the reader to certain thoughts or actions” (p. 239). By studying the newspaper coverage during a specific event, such as Paralympic Games, newspaper readers can construct and create their thought on the conceptualization of disability sports and athletes with disabilities.

This study examined and analyzed the newspaper coverage during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, which occurred from September 6<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> 2008. In addition, it was important to code data from three days before and after the Paralympic Games because the

newspaper coverage from before and after the Paralympic Games enables readers to continue providing awareness of disability sport to readers. This also leads to the socio-cultural perspective on disability sport and Paralympic. For this study, two newspapers were selected. One was *USA Today*, a national newspaper from the U.S., and the other was *Donga Ilbo*, one of biggest national daily newspapers in Korea.

On the one hand, *USA Today* is one of largest selling newspapers in the U.S. It has 35 locations in the U.S. and four sites abroad. In addition, more than 5.2 million people read multiple sources of news and information from *USA Today* (Copyright Clearance Center, 2011). Although circulation is down for last few years, *USA Today* is still the second largest newspaper circulation in the country (McCartney, 1997). On the other hand, *Donga Ilbo* was founded in 1920, one of oldest newspapers in Korea. Kim (2002) stated that newspaper market share of *Donga Ilbo*, *Chosun Ilbo*, and *Joongang Ilbo* in Korea society was approximately 74.5%. In addition, the newspaper circulation of those three newspapers in Korea, which include *Donga Ilbo*, *Chosun Ilbo*, and *Joongang Ilbo*, has been over 67.7% in Korea society according to the Media Management & Marketing Institute in Korea (Mediaus, 2010). Therefore, these newspapers were selected because not only both are national daily newspapers that possess their reputations, and nation circulation, but they also have micro film files.

As a result, 14 days of newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, in *USA Today* and 15 days of newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, in *Donga Ilbo* during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games were examined and analyzed for this study.

#### Data Analysis

A recording instrument developed by Hardin and Hardin (2005) for quantitative and qualitative research methods has been used. In particular, for quantitative research methods,

newspaper coverage and photographs of the 2008 Beijing Paralympic from two newspapers were categorized. These categories included gender, race, type of disability, type of sport, page placement for the newspaper coverage while gender, race, type of disability, type of sport, page placement, type of photo shot, visibility of disability, and photo placement were for the photographs. The descriptive statistics were calculated to describe all categories for coverage and photographs.

The researcher coded the number of texts and photographs on disability sport and athletes with disabilities from two newspapers during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. All categories were sorted as follows:

1. Gender is characterized as male, female, both male and female, and unspecified;
2. Race is categorized as black, Caucasian, Asian and other;
3. Type of disability is categorized as able-bodied, obviously disabled, both, and unspecified;
4. Type of sport is categorized as individuals, team, both, and unspecified;
5. Page placement is categorized as on the front page of newspaper, on the front page of sports section, the remainder page of sport section, and remainder page of newspaper; and
6. Type of texts is categorized as a personal story, a team story, a nation's story, Paralympic story.

The followings were categories for photographs:

1. Gender is characterized as male, female, both male and female, and unspecified;
2. Race is categorized as black, white, Asian and other;



3. Type of disability is categorized as able-bodied, obviously disabled, both, and unspecified;
4. Type of sport is categorized as individuals, team, both, and unspecified;
5. Photo placement is categorized as on the front page of newspaper, on the front page of sports section, the remainder page of sport section, and remainder page of newspaper;
6. Type of photo shot is categorized as head shot, upper body shot, full body shot, and unspecified; and
7. Visibility of disability is categorized as use of wheelchair, amputee, use of cane, and unspecified.

The researcher also used qualitative research method by analyzing the coverage of the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games with interpretive textual analysis. All data was collected by coding the meaningful titles, comments, keywords, phrases and sentences after reading all the texts and photographs. Then, the researcher analyzed similarities and differences and explored gender issues and marginality on the coverage of the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games from the coded data.

#### Qualitative Data Trustworthiness

A researcher developed data trustworthiness in a qualitative study by using triangulation, inter-coder and intra-coder. Goetz and LeCompte (1984) noted that triangulation is defined as, “a process of using multiple perceptions to clarify meaning, verifying the repeatability of an observation or interpretation” (p. 79). In this study, the researcher of this study established triangulation by using co-researcher who compared the coding sheets and findings. This process enabled the researcher to confirm and revise the findings interpreted about newspaper texts and

photos of athletes with disabilities. Merrigan and Huston (2009) emphasized that the results of content analysis from the media coverage “depend heavily on measurement reliability, the consistency with which messages have been unitized and categorized” (p. 158). According to Reinard (2008), inter-coder reliability is “determining the consistency of different raters who respond to the same events by using some sort of a check list” (p. 120). Therefore, this is a method that calculates the degree of agreement between two coders, and then measures how high the degree of agreement between two coders has coded. In addition, Hardin and Hardin (2005) stated that consistency in the interpretation and adaptation of the coding data should be established without the biases of coders. Intra-coder reliability should be established at least 24 hours apart by using and analyzing coding sheets on the identical data from the same coder to compare two coding sheets (Hardin & Hardin, 2005).

Holsti’s reliability formula was used to confirm coder reliability. Holsti (1969) provided the coefficient of reliability by coding a percentage of agreement statistics. Holsti’s formula is  $2M / N1+N2$ .

Where:

M = number of coding decision on which the two coders agree

N1 = number of coding decisions made by coder 1

N2 = number of coding decisions made by coder 2.

For completing the inter-coder and intra-coder reliability tests, texts and photographs regarding sports and disability sports in the newspaper from ten days were randomly coded and conducted as the preliminary reliability tests of the data collection process. In particularly, for the inter-coder reliability, the first researcher and co-researcher coded data from five days of newspapers, and then calculated the agreement rate from two coders by using the content

analysis and photo analysis sheet. In addition, the first researcher coded data from five days of newspapers for intra-coder reliability, and then analyzed coding sheet on the identical newspapers.

As the inter-coder reliability test, the purpose of this study and coding sheets were explained to co-researcher before the data were collected. Then data from the identical five days of *Donga Ilbo* newspapers were coded by using the code sheets. All texts and photographs regarding all sport events featured and described by the newspapers have been paid attention. For completion of the reliability on articles and photographs, 96.7% for content analysis and 96.6% for photographs were confirmed by using the Holsti's coefficient reliability.

Meanwhile, as the intra-coder reliability test, data were coded twice from the identical five days of *USA Today* newspapers by using the code sheets. Data were also collected from texts and photographs regarding all sport events in the newspapers. For completion of the reliability on articles and photographs, 97.9% for content analysis and 98.9% for photographs were confirmed by using the Holsti's coefficient reliability.

Finally, trustworthiness for this research was established by reviewing, confirming, refuting, or revising the finalized data through the meaningful titles, keywords, phrases and sentences. As a result, as themes emerged within the data, the researcher checked back with a co-researcher and an advisor for comments and verification because member checks were utilized to allow the researcher to confirm, refute, or revise the finalized data.

### Pilot Study

As a pilot study, data from five days of newspapers were coded by using the code sheets. All newspapers were the *Tuscaloosa News*, a regional newspaper. Texts and photographs were focused on all NCAA sports from the newspapers because there was no photograph or article on

athletes with disabilities and disability sport during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. For completion of the reliability, intra-coder reliability was conducted, and 97.5% for content analysis and 98.3% for photographs were confirmed by using the Holsti's coefficient reliability. From this pilot study, findings were followings. Unfortunately, there was no disability sports coverage. In addition, men's sports (75%) have been more presented than women's sports (25%) for the content analysis and men's athletes (10.58%) have been more portrayed than women's athletes for the photographs.

## CHAPTER III:

### RESULTS

This study examined and analyzed the newspaper texts and photographs from two countries, the U.S. and Korea during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

First of all, the primary focus was to examine the number of texts and photographic images that include frequency, gender, race, type of disability, type of sport, page placement, and type of text in the newspaper coverage of the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. In addition, through the interpretive textual analysis on the newspaper coverage, socio-cultural stereotypes of disability sports and athletes with disabilities as sport hegemony have analyzed. Lastly, similarities and differences in describing and portraying athletes with disabilities from the newspaper texts and photographs during the Paralympic Games have analyzed.

This study was involved in the 14 days of newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, in *USA Today* and 15 days of newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 in *Donga Ilbo* during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. The total number of articles regarding the contents related to all sports and athletes with and without disabilities in *USA Today* was 444 articles, whereas 178 articles were found in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, the total number of 541 photographs about all athletes without disabilities and with disabilities in *USA Today* was found, whereas 168 photographs were found in *Donga Ilbo*. Meanwhile, the total number of articles with respect to the contents about athletes with disabilities and disability sports during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games in *USA Today* was only nine articles, whereas 37 articles were found in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, the total number of photographs about all athletes with disabilities in

*USA Today* was five photographs, whereas 45 photographs were found in *Donga Ilbo*. Content analysis and interpretive textual analysis were performed to address and examine the research questions.

### Content Analysis

#### *Textual Coverage*

The results of frequency on the content by gender from *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are shown in Table 1. The total number of articles in *USA Today* was 444 articles. Three hundred sixty articles (81.0%) were related to male athletes, whereas 23 articles (5.2%) were on female athletes. On the other hand, 178 articles were found in the *Donga Ilbo*. One hundred two articles (57.3%) were on male athletes, whereas 43 articles (24.1%) were related to female athletes.

Table 1

#### *Frequency of Content by Gender*

Gender	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Male	360	81.0	102	57.3
Female	23	5.2	43	24.1
Both	3	0.7	13	7.3
Unspecified	58	13.1	20	11.3
Total	444	100.0	178	100.0

As Table 2 indicates, the total number of 444 articles on the frequency of content by gender in *USA Today* was found. Thirty articles (6.7%) were related to black athletes, whereas 71 articles (15.9%) were on Caucasian athletes. On the other hand, 178 articles were found in the *Donga Ilbo* as the total of texts. Four articles (2.2%) were on black athletes, whereas three articles (1.8%) were only related to Caucasian athletes. In addition, only one article in *USA*

*Today* was on Asian athletes, whereas about 130 articles (73%) were regarding Asian athletes in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 2

*Frequency of Content by Race*

Race	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Black	30	6.7	4	2.2
Caucasian	71	15.9	3	1.8
Asian	1	0.2	130	73.0
Other	342	77.2	41	23.0
Total	444	100.0	178	100.0

Table 3 shows that only 6 articles (1.4%) regarding the frequency of the content by type of disability were shown on obviously disabled, whereas 438 articles (98.6%) were unspecified about athletes in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 12 articles (6.7%) were found on obviously disabled about athletes, whereas two articles (1.1%) were related to able bodied in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, only one article (0.6%) in *Donga Ilbo* was on both able bodied and obviously disabled, respectively.

Table 3

*Frequency of Content by Type of Disability*

Type of Disability	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Able bodied	-	-	2	1.1
Obviously disabled	6	1.4	12	6.7
Both	-	-	1	0.6
Unspecified	438	98.6	163	91.6
Total	444	100.0	178	100.0

As Table 4 illustrates, 312 articles (70.2%) on the content by type of sport were related to team sport, whereas 103 articles (23.2%) were on individual sport in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 70 articles (39.3%) were related to individual sport, whereas 71 articles (39.9%) were regarding team sport in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 4

*Frequency of Content by Type of Sport*

Type of Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Individual	103	23.2	70	39.3
Team	312	70.2	71	39.9
Both	-	-	1	0.6
Unspecified	29	6.6	36	20.2
Total	444	100.0	178	100.0

In addition, frequency of individual sport event is shown in Table 5. Among the 103 articles on individual sport, 32 articles (31.1%) on motor sport such as car racing, or motor cycle and thirty one articles (30.1%) on golf were the highest frequency in *USA Today*, whereas 28 articles (28.6%) on golf, nine articles (12.9%) on track and field, and eight articles (11.4%) on tennis in *Donga Ilbo* were the highest frequency, respectively.



Table 5

*Frequency of Individual Sport Events in Content*

Individual Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Motor Sport	32	31.1	-	-
Golf	31	30.1	20	28.6
Tennis	18	17.5	8	11.4
Bicycle	5	4.9	1	1.4
Boxing	3	2.9	1	1.4
Track and Field	3	2.9	9	12.9
Ultimate Fighting Championship	3	2.9	1	1.4
Wheelchair Tennis	2	1.9	-	-
Boccia	-	-	2	2.9
Other	6	5.8	28	40.0
Total	103	100.0	70	100.0

Frequency of team sport event is shown in Table 6. Among the 312 articles on team sport in *USA Today*, football (211 articles, 67.6%) was dominated in *USA Today*, whereas 39 articles (55.0%) on baseball were the highest frequency in *Donga Ilbo* among the total number of 71 articles.

Table 6

*Frequency of Team Sport Events in Content*

Team Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Football	211	67.6	-	-
Baseball	71	22.7	39	55.0
Basketball	12	3.9	19	26.8
Soccer	8	2.6	7	9.8
Ice Hockey	8	2.6	1	1.4
Volleyball	1	0.3	2	2.8
Handball	-	-	3	4.2
Wheelchair Rugby	1	0.3	-	-
Total	312	100.0	71	100.0

As Table 7 indicates, 393 articles (88.5%) on the frequency of the content by page placement were shown on the remainder of page of sport section, whereas 47 articles (10.6%) were on the front page of sport section in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 84 articles (47.2%) were on the front page of the sport section and 76 articles (42.7%) were on the remainder of page of the sport section in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 7

*Frequency of Content by Page Placement*

Page placement	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
FPN	1	0.2	5	2.8
FPSS	47	10.6	84	47.2
RPN	393	88.5	76	42.7
IPN	3	0.7	13	7.3
Total	444	100	178	100

Note. FPN: On the Front Page of the Newspaper FPSS: On the Front page of the sport section. RPSS: On the remainder of page of the sport section. IPN: Inside page of the newspaper

The results of frequency on the content by type of text from *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are shown in Table 8. Two hundred thirty six articles (53.2%) were about a team story, whereas 184 articles (41.4%) were on a personal story in *USA Today*. In addition, only two articles (0.5%) were regarding a Paralympic story. On the other hand, 85 articles (47.7%) were on a personal story, 42 articles (23.6%) were about a nation's story, and 22 articles (12.4%) were regarding a Paralympic story in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 8

*Frequency of Content by Type of Text*

Type of Text	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
A Personal Story	184	41.4	85	47.7
A Team Story	236	53.2	29	16.3
A Nation's Story	22	4.9	42	23.6
A Paralympic Story	2	0.5	22	12.4
Total	444	100	178	100

*Photographic Coverage*

Table 9 reveals that frequency of photographs by gender was the total number of 541 photographs in *USA Today*, whereas 168 photographs were found in *Donga Ilbo*. Among 541 photographs in *USA Today*, 459 photographs (84.8%) were related to the male athletes, whereas only 53 photographs (9.8%) were on female athletes. On the other hand, 124 photographs (73.8%) in *Donga Ilbo* were on male athletes, whereas 29 photographs (17.3%) were about female athletes among 168 photographs as the total number of photographs.

Table 9

*Frequency of Photographs by Gender*

Gender	<i>USA today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Male	459	84.8	124	73.8
Female	53	9.8	29	17.3
Both	6	1.1	12	7.1
Unspecified	23	4.3	3	1.8
Total	541	100	168	100

As Table 10 indicates among 541 photographs, 153 photographs (28.3%) were related to black athletes, whereas 257 photographs (47.5%) were on Caucasian athletes. Only seven photographs (1.3%) were on Asian athletes in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 131 photographs (78.0%) in *Donga Ilbo* were on Asian athletes, whereas 18 photographs (10.7%) and six photographs (3.6%) were about Caucasian and black athletes, respectively.

Table 10

*Frequency of Photographs by Race*

Race	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Black	153	28.3	6	3.6
Caucasian	257	47.5	18	10.7
Asian	7	1.3	131	78.0
Other	124	22.9	13	7.7
Total	541	100	168	100

As Table 11 indicates, only four photographs (0.7%) on the frequency of photographs by type of disability in *USA Today* were shown about obviously disabled, whereas 536 photographs

(99.1%) were unspecified. On the other hand, 23 photographs (13.7%) in *Donga Ilbo* were on obviously disabled, whereas 138 photographs (82.1%) were unspecified.

Table 11

*Frequency of Photographs by Type of Disability*

Type of Disability	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Able bodied	1	0.2	3	1.8
Obviously disabled	4	0.7	23	13.7
Both	-	-	4	2.4
Unspecified	536	99.1	138	82.1
Total	541	100	168	100

Table 12 reports that among 541 photographs on the frequency of photograph by type of sport, 118 photographs (21.8%) were related to individual sports, whereas 411 photographs (76.0%) were on team sports in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 80 photographs (47.6%) about individual sports and 71 photographs (42.3%) on team sports in *Donga Ilbo* were shown among the total number of 168 photographs.

Table 12

*Frequency of Photographs by Type of Sport*

Type of Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Individual	118	21.8	80	47.6
Team	411	76.0	71	42.3
Both	-	-	2	1.2
Unspecified	12	2.2	15	8.9
Total	541	100	168	100

In addition, frequency of individual sport event in photographs is shown in table 13. 35 photographs (29.7%), 30 photographs (25.5%), and 21 photographs (17.8%) were taken on golf, motor sport, and tennis in *USA Today*, respectively. On the other hand, 15 photographs (18.8%), 12 photographs (15.0%), and 11 photographs (13.8%) in *Donga Ilbo* were taken on track and field, golf, and tennis, respectively.

Table 13

*Frequency of Individual Sport Events in Photographs*

Individual Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Golf	35	29.7	12	15.0
Motor Sport	30	25.5	-	-
Tennis	21	17.8	11	13.8
Track and Field	7	5.9	15	18.8
Bicycle	6	5.1	2	2.5
Swimming	5	4.2	7	8.7
Ultimate Fighting Championship	3	2.5	-	-
Horsing	3	2.5	2	2.5
Boccia	-	-	4	5.0
Others	8	6.8	27	33.7
Total	118	100	80	100

Thus, frequency of team sport events in the photographs is shown in table 14. Among 411 photographs, 267 photographs (65.0%) and 100 photographs (24.3%) were taken on football and baseball in *USA Today*, respectively. On the other hand, 45 photographs (63.4%) and 13 photographs (18.4%) were taken on baseball and soccer among 71 photographs in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 14

*Frequency of Team Sport Events in Photo*

Team Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Football	267	65.0	1	1.4
Baseball	100	24.3	45	63.4
Basketball	18	4.4	4	5.6
Soccer	12	2.9	13	18.4
Ice Hockey	9	2.2	1	1.4
Volleyball	1	0.2	5	7.0
Softball	2	0.5	-	-
Handball	-	-	2	2.8
Wheelchair Rugby	2	0.5	-	-
Total	411	100	71	100

The results of frequency on the photographs by page placement from *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are shown in Table 15. As Table 15 indicates, 450 photographs (83.1%) were shown on the remainder of page of the sport section, whereas 68 photographs (12.6%) were on the front page of the sport section in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 92 photographs (54.7%) were on the front page of the sport section and 66 photographs (39.3%) were on the remainder of page of the sport section in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 15

*Frequency of Photographs by Page of Placement*

Page placement	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
FPN	15	2.8	5	3.0
FPSS	68	12.6	92	54.7
RPN	450	83.1	66	39.3
IPN	8	1.5	5	3.0
Total	541	100	168	100

Note. FPN: On the Front Page of the Newspaper FPSS: On the Front page of the sport section RPSS: On the remainder of page of the sport section IPN: Inside page of the newspaper

Table 16 shows that 335 photographs (61.9%) about frequency of the photographs by photo shot were taken on upper body shots, whereas 130 photographs (24.0%) were shown on full body shots in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 54 photographs (32.2%), 56 photographs (33.3%), and 52 photographs (30.9%) were taken on head shots, upper body shots, and full body shots in *Donga Ilbo*, respectively.

Table 16

*Frequency of Photographs by Photo Shot*

Photo Shot	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Head shot	52	9.6	54	32.2
Upper body shot	335	61.9	56	33.3
Full body shot	130	24.0	52	30.9
Unspecified	24	4.5	6	3.6
Total	541	100	168	100



### *Visibility of Disability*

The results of frequency on the photographs by visibility of disability from *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 17. Among 541 photographs, 537 photographs (99.3%) were unspecified, whereas three photographs (0.5%) and one photograph (0.2%) included athletes in the wheelchairs and athletes wearing prosthetics in *USA Today*, respectively. On the other hand, 150 photographs (89.3%) were unspecified, whereas 12 photographs (7.1%), four photographs (2.4%), and two photographs (1.2%) included users of wheelchair, amputee, and users of prosthetics in *Donga Ilbo*, respectively.

Table 17

#### *Frequency of Photographs by Visibility of Disability*

Visibility of Disability	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Wheelchair	3	0.5	12	7.1
Amputee	-	-	4	2.4
Prosthetics	1	0.2	2	1.2
Unspecified	537	99.3	150	89.3
Total	541	100	168	100

### *Coverage on Athletes with Disability*

The results of frequency of newspaper coverage on athletes with disability are reported in table 18. The total number of contents in *USA Today* was nine articles on athletes with disabilities, whereas five photographs were taken on athletes with disabilities and disability sport. On the other hand, 37 articles in *Donga Ilbo* were found as content coverage, whereas 45 photographs were the total number of photographic coverage on athletes with disabilities. Among 9 articles in *USA Today*, only two articles (22.2%) were covered before Paralympic

Games, whereas seven articles (77.8%) were covered during the Paralympic Games. Thus, one photograph (20.0%) was covered before Paralympic Games, whereas four photographs (80.0%) were covered during the Paralympic Games in *USA Today*. Unfortunately, no article or photograph was reported after the Paralympic Games in *USA Today*.

Meanwhile, the total number of contents in *Donga Ilbo* was 37 articles on athletes with disabilities, whereas 45 photographs were the total number of photographic coverage. Three articles (8.1%) and three photographs (6.7%) have covered before the Paralympic games. In addition, 26 photographs (70.3%) and 33 photographs (73.3%) were covered during the Paralympic Games, whereas eight articles (21.6%) and nine photographs (20.0%) were covered after the Paralympic Games.

Table 18

*Frequency of Content and Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities*

Athletes with disabilities	<i>USA Today</i>				<i>Donga Ilbo</i>			
	Content		Photo		Content		Photo	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Before 3 days	2	22.2	1	20.0	3	8.1	3	6.7
During Paralympic Games	7	77.8	4	80.0	26	70.3	33	73.3
After 3 days	-	-	-	-	8	21.6	9	20.0
Total	9	100	5	100	37	100	45	100

Note: Before three days: September 3, 4, 5, 2008; During Paralympic Games: September 6 thru 17, 2008; After three days: September 18, 19, 22, 2008 in *USA Today*; September 18, 19, 20, 2008 in *Donga Ilbo*

## Textual Coverage on Athletes with Disabilities

### *Gender*

The results of frequency on the textual coverage with respect to athletes with disabilities and the Paralympic Games by gender in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 19. The total number of articles on athletes with disabilities in *USA Today* was nine articles. Four articles (44.5%) were related to male athletes with disabilities, whereas two articles (22.2%) were on female athletes with disabilities. On the other hand, 37 articles were found in *Donga Ilbo*. Sixteen articles (43.2%) were on male athletes with disabilities, whereas seven articles (19.0%) were related to female athletes with disabilities.

Table 19

### *Frequency of Content on Athletes with Disabilities by Gender*

Gender	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Male	4	44.5	16	43.2
Female	2	22.2	7	19.0
Both	-	-	5	13.5
Unspecified	3	33.3	9	24.3
Total	9	100	37	100

### *Race*

As Table 20 indicates, the results of frequency on the contents regarding athletes with disabilities and the Paralympic Games by race in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are shown in Table 20. Unfortunately, no article about black athletes with disabilities in both newspapers was found

in both newspapers. Thus, three articles (33.3%) were related to Caucasian athletes among the total number of nine articles in *USA Today*, whereas 27 articles (73.0%) were on Asians from the total number of 37 articles in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, only two articles (5.4%) were related to Caucasian in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 20

*Frequency of Content on Athletes with Disabilities by Race*

Race	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Black	-	-	-	
Caucasian	3	33.3	2	5.4
Asian	1	11.1	27	73.0
Other	5	55.6	8	21.6
Total	9	100	37	100

*Type of Disability*

The results of frequency on the contents regarding athletes with disabilities and the Paralympic Games by type of disability in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 21. As Table 21 indicates, six articles (66.7%) were reported on obviously disabled, whereas three articles (33.3%) were unspecified about athletes in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 12 articles (32.4%) were found regarding obviously disabled, whereas two articles (5.4%) were related to able bodied in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, only one article in *Donga Ilbo* was on both able bodied and obviously disabled athletes.

Table 21

*Frequency of Content on Athletes with Disabilities by Type of Disability*

Type of Disability	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Able bodied	-	-	2	5.4
Obviously disabled	6	66.7	12	32.4
Both	-	-	1	2.7
Unspecified	3	33.3	22	59.4
Total	9	100	37	100

*Type of Sport*

Table 22 reports that six articles (66.7%) on the frequency of the content by type of sport were related to team sports, whereas two articles (22.2%) were on individual sports in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 19 articles (51.4%) were related to individual sport, whereas two articles (5.4%) were regarding both individual and team sport in *Donga Ilbo*. Sixteen articles (43.2%) in *Donga Ilbo* were unspecified.

Table 22

*Frequency of Content on Athletes with Disabilities by Type of Sport*

Type of Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Individual	6	66.7	19	51.4
Team	2	22.2	-	-
Both	-	-	2	5.4
Unspecified	1	11.1	16	43.2
Total	9	100	37	100

In particular, frequency of individual sport events regarding athletes with disabilities is reported in Table 23. Among 6 articles on individual sports, three articles (50.0%) were on track and field and two articles (33.3%) were on swimming in *USA Today*. Meanwhile, six articles (31.6%) were on shooting, three articles (15.8%) were on track and field, and archery in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, the result showed that only one article was on the team sport event, wheelchair rugby, in *USA Today*.

Table 23

*Frequency of Individual Sport Events on Athletes with Disabilities in Content*

Individual Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Track and Field	3	50.0	3	15.8
Wheelchair Tennis	1	16.7	-	-
Swimming	2	33.3	2	10.5
Shooting	-	-	6	31.6
Archery	-	-	3	15.8
Boccia	-	-	2	10.5
Table Tennis	-	-	2	10.5
Cycling	-	-	1	5.3
Total	6	100	19	100

*Page Placement*

The results of frequency on the contents regarding athletes with disabilities by page placement in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 24. Six articles (66.7%) were shown on the remainder of page of sport section, whereas two articles (22.2%) were inside page of the newspaper in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 16 articles (43.2%) were on the front page of sport section, whereas nine articles (24.3%) were inside of the newspaper in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 24

*Frequency of Content by Page Placement*

Page Placement	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
FPN	-	-	5	13.5
FPSS	1	11.1	16	43.2
RPN	6	66.7	7	19.0
IPN	2	22.2	9	24.3
Total	9	100	37	100

Note. FPN: On the Front Page of the Newspaper; FPSS: On the Front page of the sport section; RPSS: On the remainder of page of sport section; IPN: Inside page of the newspaper

*Type of Text*

As Table 25 indicates, six articles (66.7%) on the frequency of the contents regarding athletes with disabilities by type of text were about a personal story, whereas two articles (22.2%) were on a Paralympic story in *USA Today*. In addition, only one article (11.1%) was on a team story. On the other hand, 22 articles (59.5%) were on a Paralympic story, whereas 10 articles (27.0%) were about a personal story. Lastly, five articles (13.5%) were regarding a nation's story in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 25

*Frequency of Content by Type of Text*

Type of Text	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
A Personal Story	6	66.7	10	27.0
A Team Story	1	11.1	-	-
A Nation's Story	-	-	5	13.5
A Paralympic Story	2	22.2	22	59.5
Total	9	100	37	100

## Photographic Coverage on Athletes with Disabilities

### *Gender*

The results of frequency on the photographic coverage regarding athletes with disabilities and the Paralympic Games by gender in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 26. The total number of photographs in *USA Today* was five photographs. Two photographs (40.0%) were related to male athletes with disabilities, whereas only one photograph (20.0%) was taken on a female athlete with a disability. On the other hand, 45 photographs as the total number of photographic coverage were found in *Donga Ilbo*. Twenty seven photographs (60.0%) were taken on male athletes with disabilities, whereas eight photographs (17.8%) were related to female athletes with disabilities. Thus, nine photographs (20.0%) were taken on both male and female athletes with disabilities.

Table 26

### *Frequency of Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities by Gender*

Gender	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Male	2	40.0	27	60.0
Female	1	20.0	8	17.8
Both	2	40.0	9	20.0
Unspecified	-	-	1	2.2
Total	5	100	45	100

### *Race*

The results of frequency on the photographs regarding athletes with disabilities and the Paralympic Games by race in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 27.

Unfortunately, no photograph about a black athlete with a disability was found in *USA Today*.



Among the total number of five photographs, two photographs (40.0%) were related to Asian athletes with disabilities, whereas three photographs (60.0%) were taken on Caucasian athletes with disabilities. On the other hand, 33 photographs (73.3%) were taken on Asian from the total number of 45 photographs in *Donga Ilbo*, whereas seven (15.6%) photographs were taken on Caucasian athletes with disabilities. Only two photographs (4.4%) were taken on black athletes with disabilities in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 27

*Frequency of Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities by Race*

Race	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Black	-	-	2	4.4
Caucasian	3	60.0	7	15.6
Asian	2	40.0	33	73.3
Other	-	-	3	6.7
Total	5	100	45	100

*Type of Disability*

The results of frequency on the photographs regarding athletes with disabilities and the Paralympic Games by type of disability in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 28. Four photographs (80.0%) were shown with obviously disabled in *USA Today*, whereas 23 photographs (51.1%) were taken on obviously disabilities in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, 15 photographs (33.3%) in the *Donga Ilbo* were unspecified.

Table 28

*Frequency of Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities by Type of Disability*

Type of Disability	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Able bodied	-	-	4	8.9
Obviously disabled	4	80.0	23	51.1
Both	-	-	3	6.7
Unspecified	1	20.0	15	33.3
Total	5	100	45	100

*Type of Sport*

As Table 29 indicates, on the frequency of the photographic coverage by type of sport in *USA Today*, two photographs (40.0%) were related to individual sport, including track and field and swimming as individual sports, whereas two photographs (40.0%) were taken on wheelchair rugby. Lastly, one photograph (20.0%) was unspecified. On the other hand, 30 photographs (66.7%) were related to individual sports, whereas two photographs (4.4%) were about team sport, wheelchair basketball, in *Donga Ilbo*. 10 photographs (22.2%) in *Donga Ilbo* were unspecified.

Table 29

*Frequency of Photographs on Athletes with Disabilities by Type of Sport*

Type of Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Individual	2	40.0	30	66.7
Team	2	40.0	2	4.4
Both	-	-	3	6.7
Unspecified	1	20.0	10	22.2
Total	5	100	45	100

As Table 30 indicates, track and field was reported as the highest frequency in *Donga Ilbo*. Among 30 photographs on individual sport events, 10 photographs (33.3%) were taken on track and field, whereas one photograph (50%) among two photographs on track and field and swimming in *USA Today* was taken, respectively. On the other hand, five photographs of swimming (16.8%), four photographs of shooting (13.3%) and four photographs of boccia (13.3%) were depicted as the second highest frequency of photographic coverage in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 30

*Frequency of Individual Sport Events on Athletes with Disabilities in Photographs*

Individual Sport	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Track and Field	1	50.0	10	33.3
Wheelchair Tennis	-	-	1	3.3
Swimming	1	50.0	5	16.8
Shooting	-	-	4	13.3
Archery	-	-	3	10.0
Boccia	-	-	4	13.3
Table Tennis	-	-	2	6.7
Cycling	-	-	1	3.3
Total	2	100	30	100

*Page Placement*

Table 31 shows that three photographs (60.0%) on the frequency of the photographic coverage regarding athletes with disabilities by page placement were on the inside of the newspaper, whereas two photographs (40.0%) were on the remainder of page of sport section in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 25 photographs (55.5%) were on the front page of sport section,

whereas 12 photographs (26.7%) were on the remainder of page of sport section in *Donga Ilbo*. Only five photographs (11.1%) were on the front page of the newspaper.

Table 31

*Frequency of Photographs by Page Placement*

Page placement	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
FPN	-	-	5	11.1
FPSS	-	-	25	55.5
RPN	2	40.0	12	26.7
IPN	3	60.0	3	6.7
Total	5	100	45	100

Note. FPN: On the Front Page of the Newspaper; FPSS: On the Front page of the sport section; RPSS: On the remainder of page of the sport section; IPN: Inside page of the newspaper

*Photo Shot*

The results of frequency on the photographic coverage regarding athletes with disabilities by photo shot from *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 31. Four photographs (80.0%) were portrayed as full body shots, whereas one photograph (20.0%) was portrayed as head shot in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 21 photographs (46.7%) were on full body shot, whereas 14 photographs (31.1%) and 10 photographs (22.2%) were on upper body shots and head shots in *Donga Ilbo*, respectively. In this regard, it seemed that *Donga Ilbo* tended to hide athletes' disabilities and impairments under their lower body.

Table 32

*Frequency of Photographs by Photo Shot*

Photo shot	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Head shot	1	20.0	10	22.2
Upper body shot	-	-	14	31.1
Full body shot	4	80.0	21	46.7
Unspecified	-	-	-	-
Total	5	100	45	100

*Visibility of Disability*

The results of frequency on the photographic coverage by visibility of disability in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are reported in Table 33. As Table 33 indicates, among five photographs on athletes with disabilities in *USA Today*, three photographs (60.0%) were taken on athletes with disabilities in the wheelchair, whereas one photograph (20.0%) was taken on an athlete wearing prosthetics. On the other hand, 45 photographs on athletes with disabilities were found in *Donga Ilbo*. Twelve photographs (26.7%) were taken on athletes with disabilities in the wheelchair, whereas four photographs (8.9%) were taken on athletes having amputee. Lastly, two photographs (4.4%) were taken on athletes wearing prosthetics, whereas 27 photographs (60.0) were unspecified in *Donga Ilbo*.

Table 33

*Frequency of Photographs by Visibility of Disability*

Visibility of Disability	<i>USA Today</i>		<i>Donga Ilbo</i>	
	N	%	N	%
Wheelchair	3	60.0	12	26.7
Amputee	-	-	4	8.9
Prosthetics	1	20.0	2	4.4
Unspecified	1	20.0	27	60.0
Total	5	100	45	100

## Interpretive Textual Analysis

For the completion of interpretive textual analysis, socio-cultural stereotypes of disability sports and athletes with disabilities as sport hegemony have been analyzed. Then, similarities and differences in describing and portraying athletes with disabilities from the newspaper texts and photographs during the Paralympic Games have been analyzed.

The total number of 444 articles and 541 photographs with respect to all types of athletes and sports were found in *USA Today*. On the other hand, 178 articles and 168 photographs were reported in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, only nine articles and five photographs about athletes with disabilities and disability sports during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games in *USA Today* were covered, whereas 37 articles and 45 photographs were reported in *Donga Ilbo*. This chapter provides an overview of how two newspapers have reported and described athletes with disabilities and Paralympic Games during 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

As the researcher mentioned, Koreans are socio-culturally more conservative about people with disabilities and female athletes due to Confucian tradition. Before data were analyzed about the newspaper coverage from the U.S. and Korea, it has been expected that the

total number of articles and photographs in *USA Today* would have reported more articles and photographs than those of *Donga Ilbo* because of the socio-cultural perspective on people with disabilities and female athletes. However, the results have been much more different than what has been expected.

### *Treatment of Gender on Athletes with Disabilities*

Both *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* have reported much more articles on male athletes than on female athletes during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. In particular, *Donga Ilbo* has covered 102 articles (57.3%) on male athletes, whereas *USA Today* has reported 360 articles (82.0%) on male athletes. Meanwhile, newspaper coverage on athletes with disabilities has shown male athletes with disabilities more articles and photographs than that of female athletes with disabilities in both newspapers. In *USA Today*, female athletes with disabilities have been reported about their performance results. Specifically, Erin Popovich, swimmer of the U.S., has focused on her performance result twice, whereas Esther Vergeer, wheelchair tennis player of Germany, has reported once about her performance result on the 349<sup>th</sup> consecutive winning game in Women's wheelchair tennis. On the other hand, Oscar Pistorius of South Africa track and field player has covered twice because he took three gold medals and broke world record in the 400 meters.

In *Donga Ilbo*, seven articles (19.0%) on female athletes with disabilities have been reported. Kim, Im-Yeon of Korea, participated in the shooting, has demonstrated as not 'an athletes' but 'a mother'. The article showed that she wanted to give gold medal to her daughter, who was just born. However, she finished on seventh place. In addition, Moon, Ae-Kyung, a shooter of Korea, has been reported that she made a mistake, then failed to win gold medal. Kim, Ji-Eun of Korea, a swimmer, has been described as Ul-Zzang - the most beautiful woman - and

emphasized on her appearance although the article covered little about her performance. Thus, Lee, Yoon-Li, a shooter of Korea, has been described as ‘a daughter who has strong love for her parents’. The article emphasized not on her ‘performance’ but on her ‘love for parents’, although she won the gold medal.

On the other hand, 16 articles (43.2%) have reported on male athletes with disabilities. Among the 16 articles, three articles (18.7%) have described Oscar Pistorius of South Africa as ‘blade runner’ because of his appearance, wearing prosthetics on his legs. In addition, Park, Kun-Woo, a Boccia player of Korea, has been described three times because he not only won two gold medals in boccia, but was the youngest player in Korea national team.

In the photographs, there was no treatment on female athletes with disabilities in *USA Today*. However, among 45 photographs in *Donga Ilbo* only two photographs (4.4%) on female athletes with disabilities have been described as their ‘competition images’. The rest of photographs has described female athletes with disabilities as expressing the pleasure on their face. On the other hand, among 27 photographs (60.0%) regarding male athletes with disabilities, 11 photographs (40.7%) have been portrayed athletes with disabilities as their ‘competition images’. In addition, six photographs (22.2%) have described athletes with disabilities as ‘winners’ or ‘gold medal players’.

#### *Report of Race on Athletes with Disabilities*

Specifically, on newspaper reports of race on athletes with disabilities, Asian athletes have dominated in the articles and photographs in *Donga Ilbo*.

First of all, there was no article on black athletes with disabilities in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo*, whereas there were only two photographs (4.4%) regarding black athletes with disabilities in *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, three articles (33.3%) in *USA Today* and two articles



(5.4%) in *Donga Ilbo* have been reported with respect to Caucasian athletes with disabilities. In particular, among the total number of five photographs, two photographs (40.0%) in *USA Today*, and 33 photographs (73.3%) among the total number of 45 photographs in *Donga Ilbo* have been portrayed with Asian athletes with disabilities much more than Caucasian and black athletes with disabilities because of not only host city, Beijing, China, located in Asia, but also Korea players who represent Korea's national team. One photograph has been described Oscar Pistorius as 'blade runner', whereas another photograph has been taken on Erin Popovich.

Five photographs (71.4%) on Caucasian among the total number of seven photographs in *Donga Ilbo* have been portrayed as their 'competition', whereas two photographs (28.6%) have been described as their preparation pose and break time scene. Meanwhile, three photographs (9.1%) among the total number of 45 photographs in *Donga Ilbo* have been portrayed on Chinese athletes with disabilities. One photograph has been taken on a Chinese athlete with a disability in the wheelchair as a final torchbearer. This photograph has shown that he tried to go up to the torchere by holding the string to fire on the Paralympic torchere. Hence, this photographic image leads to super cripple image due to his appearance and his performance over his disability.

#### *Report by Type of Disability on Athletes with Disabilities*

Six articles (66.7%) among the total number of nine articles on type of disability have been described on obviously disabled in *USA Today*, whereas 12 articles (32.4%) among 37 articles in *Donga Ilbo* have reported on obviously disabled. In particular, Ma Xinyu in *USA Today* has been called 'blind' and 'not an able bodied son'. In addition, Zhang Wenli has demonstrated himself as an 'independent athlete', 'not patients or victims' in *USA Today*. *Donga Ilbo* has reported that Kim, Im-Yeon, a shooter of Korea, Kim, Ji-Eun, a swimmer of Korea and

Hong, Seok-Man, a track and field player of Korea, have cerebral palsy, whereas Park, Kun-Woo, a boccia player of Korea has profound disability.

Meanwhile, on the type of disability by photographs, four photographs (80.0%) in *USA Today* and 23 photographs (51.1%) in *Donga Ilbo* have reported on obviously disabled. In particular, Oscar Pistorius have been shown with his legs wearing prosthetics in both newspapers. In *Donga Ilbo*, two female swimmers of Poland, having left leg amputation and left arm amputation have been described as images of 2008 Paralympic Games coming soon. Nick Taylor, wheelchair tennis player of the U.S. has been portrayed as the image of ‘nothing is impossible’ in *Donga Ilbo*.

#### *Report of Type of Sport on Athletes with Disabilities*

Oscar Pistorius, a track and field player of South Africa, has been reported more than any other athlete with disability in *USA Today*. Three articles (50%) among six articles as the total number of individual sport events have reported his performance and his game record, whereas two articles (33.3%) have reported Erin Popovich, a swimmer of the U.S. regarding individual sport events. In addition, as team sport, wheelchair rugby team’s practice and game result of USA wheelchair basketball team have been reported in two articles. On the other hand, six articles (31.6%) in *Donga Ilbo* have reported on shooting more than any other sport events about individual sport events. In addition, the rest articles were treated with various sport events such as three articles (15.8%) on archery and track and field, and two articles (10.5%) on swimming, boccia, and table tennis, respectively.

On report about type of sport by photographs, only four photographs have been described in *USA Today*. Two photographs have been taken on athletes with disabilities as individual sport events. One was on Oscar Pistorius, a track and field player of South Africa, whereas the other

one was on Erin Popovich, a swimmer of the U.S. as individual sport events. In addition, two wheelchair rugby photographs have been portrayed as team sport. In *Donga Ilbo*, 10 photographs (33.3%) among the total number of 30 photographs have been dominantly portrayed as individual sports. In particular, three photographs (10.0%) have been described about wheelchair racing as track and field event. These photographs showed the ‘dynamic performance’ and ‘competition images’ about athletes with disabilities. Among five photographs (16.8%), two photographs have been depicted swimmers with disabilities as ‘challengers of overcoming their disabilities’. One photograph has been taken on a swimmer who has no arms, holding a towel in his mouth for balance as ‘a challenger’. Another photograph has portrayed a swimmer who needs other’s help because it showed that he was blind. As a result, it provides us with cue that athletes with visual impairments need assistant when male or female athletes perform swimming. On the other hand, two photographs have reported on wheelchair basketball as team sport events in *Donga Ilbo*.

In addition, *Donga Ilbo* has reported more articles and photographs regarding athletes with disabilities of Korea who won the silver or gold medal than athletes with disabilities of other countries. Accordingly, Park, Gun-Woo, a boccia player of Korea and Lee, Yoon-Li, a woman’s shooter of Korea, have been dominantly reported and portrayed in the articles and photographs. They all won the gold medal. On the other hand, only two athletes with disabilities of other countries have been reported in the articles. These two athletes were on Oscar Pistorius, a track and field player of South Africa, and Natalie Du Toit, swimmer of South Africa. They also won the gold medal.

#### *Treatment of Page Placement*

Location of articles and photographs in the newspaper is critical since it reflects one of cultural aspects of the present time. Consequently, an article or photograph on the front page of the newspapers is the most significantly important issue and event of the time. However, unfortunately, in *USA Today* there was no article or photograph about athletes with disabilities and the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games on the front page of the newspaper. On the other hand, five articles and five photographs have been shown on the front page of the newspaper in *Donga Ilbo*. In particular, both articles and photographs about opening and closing ceremony during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games have included on the front page of the newspaper in *Donga Ilbo*. Although the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Game finished, the articles and photographs about stories on a coach and administer related to Korea Paralympic Association, have been reported on the sport section. Meanwhile, two articles (22.2%) and three photographs (60.0%) about the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games have been reported inside page of the newspaper in *USA Today*, whereas the rest of articles and photographs have been on the remainder of page of sport section.

As a result, newspaper coverage of articles and photographs in *Donga Ilbo* regarding athletes with disabilities and disability sports has more attention than that of articles and photographs in *USA Today*.

#### *Report of Type of Text*

Among the total number of nine articles in *USA Today*, six articles (66.7%) have reported on personal stories, whereas one article (11.1%) has covered on a team story. In particular, because the 2008 Paralympic Games was held in Beijing, China, two Paralympic stories have been reported on the prejudice and challenge in China society regarding people with disabilities by interviewing Maxin Yu, radio show host, and Tian Yue, director of a new center for people with disabilities in Beijing, China. In addition, Zhang Wenli, China wheelchair rugby player and

Wen Yen, China wheelchair rugby coach stated that Beijing Paralympic Games provide not only all people with disabilities with encouragement and bright smiling, but also people without disabilities with equal viewpoint and treatment regarding people with disabilities. In view of that, two articles have been covered on Oscar Pistorius, a track and field player with prosthetics of South Africa about his performance, winning 100 meter and 400 meter.

On the other hand, in *Donga Ilbo*, 22 articles on Paralympic story have been reported. In particular, 6 articles were related on editorial. They included interview with Kim, Sung-II, a head of Korea Paralympic Team, and Deng Fu Fang, a head of China People with Disabilities Association. Thus, two editorials were on the issues that people with disabilities must have equal rights during their lives as people without disabilities do. Also, two articles have been reported on the effective administration for sport events for athletes with disabilities such as Paralympic Games. It showed that having financial donation and support provided by companies and state government is significant to execute mega sport event such as Paralympic Games. In the meantime, two articles have been covered on opening and closing day stories. Opening day story was on participation size, the number of countries, Korea national team history about former Paralympic Games, and Paralympic Games athletes with disabilities such as Natalie De Toit, a swimmer of South Africa and Natalia Partyka, a table tennis player of Poland who has one arm. Closing day story was on total medal ranking, Korea national team success, and medal lists including Lee, Yoon-Li, woman's shooter of Korea, Park, Kun-Woo, a boccia player of Korea, and Lee, Wha-Sook, an archery player of Korea have been reported. As personal stories, 10 articles have been reported. It included 'most beautiful woman' in Korea, Kim, Ji-Eun, a swimmer of Korea, and Lee, Yoon-Li, a woman's shooter of Korea, and Lee, Ji-Seok, man's shooter of Korea about their personal love stories. Lastly, there was one article related to

nation's story which was regarding entering event into athletes' village for Korea national team. It was an important event because it was first time to enter into the athletes' village for Korea national team since Korea national team began to participate in Paralympic Games for last 40 years.

### *Treatment of Photo Shot*

Among five photographs in *USA Today*, four photographs (80.0%) were on full body shots. Specifically, they included a Chinese torchbearer, China Wheelchair Rugby team practice, and America wheelchair rugby player, named as Mark Zupan. Additionally, Oscar Pistorius's performance has been described as 'blade runner'. Importantly, all of those photographs have described athletes with disabilities as 'acting poses and active images'.

Meanwhile, the total number of 45 photographs has reported in *Donga Ilbo*. Twenty-one photographs (46.7%) have described on full body shots. Four photographs have covered on track and field, wheelchair racing with dynamic runners' racing. In particular, seven photographs (15.6%) have reported on Caucasian athletes with disabilities which were on full body shots. 10 photographs (22.2%) have portrayed on head shots. On the other hand, 14 photographs (31.1%) have covered on upper body shots. Among 14 photographs, 10 photographs have portrayed on smiling, being touched, and pleasure.

More importantly, the total number of 28 photographs on athletes with disabilities of Korea in *Donga Ilbo* have been hidden their disabilities. Eighteen photographs have pictured upper body shot. It is assumed that the media coverage on athletes with disabilities in Korea have been marginalized on their body more than foreign athletes with disabilities in Korea society. Five photographs have pictured head shots, whereas five photographs have portrayed full body shots. In addition, two photographs on Korean athletes have reported same photographs on Hong,

Seok-Man, a men's track and field player of Korea, which has been portrayed as a talented racing athlete on wheelchair. On the other hand, among 13 photographs on foreign athletes with disabilities, 10 photographs have portrayed with their full body shots, whereas three photographs have pictured upper body shots. It showed that athletes with disabilities of Korea in *Donga Ilbo* have tended to hide their impairment body more than that of foreign athletes with disabilities.

#### *Report by Visibility of Disability*

It would be critical for newspaper readers to see athletes' type of disability via photographs because of visual effect. It enables people without disabilities, specifically children, to realize difference between people with disabilities and people without disabilities in appearance, shape and size. Through the total number of five photographs in *USA Today*, three photographs have been taken on athletes in the wheelchair, whereas one photograph on Oscar Pistorius, has described him with prosthetics. On the other hand, 21 photographs (46.7%) in *Donga Ilbo* have been taken on athletes in the wheelchairs. They included four photographs on wheelchair racing, an event of track and field; two photographs on women's wheelchair basketball; one photograph on wheelchair table tennis. In addition, five photographs (11.1%) have portrayed athletes without their arms or legs. They included a swimmer of Poland who was amputated one arm and the other swimmer of Poland who was amputated one leg, and Natalie Du Toit, a swimmer of South Africa, who was amputated left leg. More importantly, one player of track and field who has only upper body has shown his performance, Discus Throw, on the fixed chair. Another photograph has shown on full body of a player who has no left leg, but he wears prosthetics in his left leg. However, there has been no article and photo on athletes with cerebral palsy in *USA Today*, whereas three photographs have covered on athletes with cerebral palsy in *Donga Ilbo*. In particular, one photograph have depicted on boccia in *Donga Ilbo*.

However, most photographs on athletes with disabilities of Korea have been hidden their disabilities in *Donga Ilbo*. As mentioned above, this finding is somewhat critical because *Donga Ilbo* has not showed impairment or amputation of athletes with disabilities of Korea. It means that prejudice on athletes with disabilities in Korea society still exists.



## CHAPTER IV:

### DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study was to examine and explore how athletes with disabilities have been recorded in the newspaper coverage and how the socio-cultural perspectives and ideals, and athletes with disabilities have been described and portrayed similarly and differently during 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games from the two newspapers; *USA Today* in the U.S. and *Donga Ilbo* in Korea. As Grey-Thomson (2002) has stated that “the press can be useful in helping to raise the profile of disability sport and the wider issue of disabled rights”(p. 11); it is important to examine the coverage of mass media, specifically newspaper in this study, on how newspapers reported and described athletes with disabilities due to media effect and media impact. Specifically, this study was designed to make use of both qualitative and quantitative research method on the newspaper coverage of contents and photographs about athletes with disabilities and disability sports during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

Findings from data on the frequency of the number on gender, race, type of disability, type of sport, page placement and type of text for contents are first discussed. At the same time, to be discussed next are the findings from data on the frequency of the number of on gender, race, type of disability, type of sport, page placement, photo shot, and visibility of disability for photos. In addition, socio-cultural perspective and ideals about athletes with disabilities and disability sport are discussed. Lastly, differences and similarities on athletes with disabilities and disability sports between *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* from two countries are discussed.

### Lack of the Newsworthiness on the Athletes with Disabilities in *USA Today*

Since 1960, first Paralympic Games were held in Rome, the number of participants and countries has highly increased. During 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, 4,011 athletes from 156 countries matched in 20 sports. However, Buysse and Borchering (2010) stated that media coverage on elite athletes with disabilities has not increased in the mass media when compared to other mega sport events such as Olympic Games and World Cup Soccer Games. According to Chang (2009), he examined to compare the coverage of a Canadian newspaper during the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. He found that the coverage on athletes with disabilities during the Paralympic Games was less coverage and narratives than that of athletes with disabilities during the Olympic Games.

In fact, Paralympic Games in the U.S. is not famous sports event. Especially, during the 2008 Paralympic Game period, not only NFL (National Football League) kicked off the regular season, but MLB post season was also about to begin. As a result, most articles and photographs have reported on NFL and MLB in *USA Today* during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

In addition, the number of the newspaper coverage on athletes with disabilities from two specific countries has been examined in this study. The result showed that both *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* have reported little coverage in contents on athletes with disabilities and disability sport when compared to other sport events. Particularly, 444 articles in *USA Today* have reported, whereas 178 articles in *Donga Ilbo* have found during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. It means that sports in American are more popular than those of Korea. However, only nine articles (2.0%) of the total number of 444 articles in *USA Today* and 37 articles (20.8%) of the total number of 178 articles in *Donga Ilbo* have reported.

As mentioned earlier, *USA Today* is one of famous national newspapers and representative newspapers in the U.S, this finding, unfortunately is somewhat unique because of the number of articles during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games when compared to that of Korea.

Interestingly, some contents of *USA Today* were focused on the game results and several issues that were about violation of regulations. In addition, Oscar Pistorius of South Africa, a track and field player and Erin Popovich, a swimmer of the U.S. have reported little more contents than other athletes. In *Donga Ilbo*, 21 articles (56.7%) have reported on medal winners. This result has been coincidence with Schantz and Gilbert (2001) that analyzed newspaper coverage by French and German press.

Although sports provides people with unexpected outcome and athletes' dynamic and energetic performance, there have not reported newsworthiness enough on athletes with disabilities in *USA Today*. On the other hand, another important issue has been reported on taking drug such as steroid, whereas there has not reported on taking drug and violation of regulations in *Donga Ilbo*.

Lastly, *USA Today* has reported only two articles and one photograph, whereas three articles and three photographs had covered in *Donga Ilbo* for three days before the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games opened. Meanwhile, eight articles and nine photographs have reported in *Donga Ilbo*, whereas *USA Today* have not covered any article and photograph for three days after the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games finished. As Hardin and Hardin (2003) indicated, this finding is deemed "courtesy and token coverage" (p. 254). That is, athletes with disabilities want media coverage that treats athletes with disabilities and disability sport with athletes' roles not the pitiful existence.

## Marginalization on Female Athletes with Disabilities

More and more women's power has increased in the every field of society. Without doubt, in the field of sport areas, lots of female athletes participate in their sport events. As a result, many studies focused on gender issue of the media coverage. However, the results of previous studies on female athletes have little attention in the media coverage (Cuneen & Sidwell, 1998; Hardin, Lynn, & Walsdorf, 2005; Hardin & Hardin, 2005; Kane & Parks, 1992; Pedersen, 2002; Buysse & Borcharding, 2010). Chang and Crossman (2009) indicated that male athletes have covered more textual and photographic coverage than female athletes in the newspaper.

In addition, as Deegan (1985) noted that female with disabilities have experienced discrimination in the current society women with disabilities have had little attention on the mass media. Thus, Sherill (1997) indicated that female paralympians faced more discrimination than male counterparts. This study showed that female athletes with disabilities have reported few articles in both newspapers. In *USA Today* among the total number of nine articles with respect to athletes with disabilities, only two articles (22.2%) have reported on female athletes with disabilities, whereas only one photograph (20.0%) has portrayed on female athlete with disability among five photographs. Regrettably, there has been no active image in the photograph on female athletes with disability. However, one photograph has included and described a female as a leader of China Wheelchair Rugby Team.

On the other hand, among the total number of 37 articles on athletes with disabilities, only seven articles (19.0%) have covered with respect to female athletes with disabilities in *Donga Ilbo*. Meanwhile, eight photographs (17.8%) have been taken on female athletes with disabilities among the total number of 45 photographs. In addition, all photographs have described female athletes with disabilities as passive posed that seemed not "an athlete," but "a

normal woman” such as mother or daughter. Unfortunately, only one photograph has portrayed a female athlete with a disability as active pose in *Donga Ilbo*. Thus, some studies found that female athletes with disabilities suffered from two negative experiences, including sexism and disability discrimination (Thomas & Smith, 1993).

In addition, one photograph with an article in *Donga Ilbo* has described a swimmer as ‘the most beautiful woman’ in Korea as it was emphasized by her appearance. In this regard, it was the same finding as Thomas and Smith (2009) noted that female athletes with disabilities comprised of three photographs (20%) when compared to male athletes with disabilities in 12 photographs (80%) among the total number of 15 photographs. In fact, this finding has not been expected because, as mentioned earlier, the Confucian tradition in many Asian countries including Korea, has dominated in their society. However, *Donga Ilbo* has more attention on female athletes with disabilities than those of *USA Today*. Accordingly, further research should keep focusing on gender bias in order of decreasing gender discrimination with respect to, specifically female athlete with disabilities in the mass media for equity.

#### Difference on Race on Athletes with Disabilities

The 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games was held in China, one of Asia countries. Consequently, the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games helped to inform other people such as North American, European or African, of Asians’ tradition and culture. It is highly important to understand and know how other people live and what stereotypes they have due to peace and globalization in the world. From two newspapers there has been no article and photo on black athletes with disabilities except two photographs (4.4%) in *Donga Ilbo*. These two photographs have been described athletes with disabilities as active poses. However, the result of lack of black athletes’ image is a coincidence of the result that Caucasian athletes (235 images) were

higher image in number than black athletes (61 images) were in *Sports Illustrated* 2004 thru 2008 (Wade, 2008). On the other hand, Caucasian athletes with disabilities have reported much more articles and photographs in *USA Today*. In *USA Today*, although five articles were on other race, three articles (33.3%) of the total number of nine articles were on Caucasian athletes with disabilities. Furthermore, three photographs (60.0%) of five photographs have been taken regarding Caucasian athletes with disabilities, whereas two articles (5.4%) among 37 articles and seven photographs (15.6%) of the total number of 45 photographs have covered in *Donga Ilbo*. In particular, because Oscar Pistorius, a track and field player of South Africa and Natalie Du Toit, a swimmer of South Africa who won the gold medals, have more covered in the media, most articles on Caucasian athletes with disabilities have covered on those two athletes in the newspapers. Additionally, in *Donga Ilbo*, one photograph was on a wheelchair tennis player playing in the electric wheelchair, whereas one photograph was on a long jump that an athlete had prosthetic in his left leg. Thus, an athlete with only upper body in the fixed chair tried to play discus throw in one photograph in *Donga Ilbo*. According to Wade (2008), black athletes' images were focused on their powerful, strong, speedy images and low IQ, whereas Caucasian athletes were related to hard, skillful, intelligent worker. Consequently, this finding seems that black athletes with disabilities have been trivialized and marginalized such as female athletes without disabilities.

Lastly, as mentioned earlier that the 2008 Paralympic Games were held in China, most articles and photographs have covered on Asian athletes with disabilities in *Donga Ilbo*. One article (11.1%) and two photographs (40.0%) in *USA Today* have covered on Asian athletes. On the other hand, in *Donga Ilbo*, 27 articles (73.0%) and 33 photographs (73.3%) have highly covered on Asian athletes with disabilities who included various sport events such as track and

field, table tennis, shooting, swimming and boccia. It is deemed that because of host city, Beijing, China it might be easier for correspondents to visit China and collect news on Paralympic Games. In this regard, further research is required to examine the newspaper coverage from the Paralympic Games held by a different country located not in Asia.

### Descriptions on Athletes with Disabilities

As mentioned above, athletes with disabilities have been described as “victim,” “patient,” and “independent athletes” in the previous research. In this study, athletes with disabilities are likely to evade the image of the “victim” and “patient”. In this regard, it is a significant finding that athletes with disabilities have been depicted as “victim” or “courageous” people suffering from “personal tragedies” (Thomas & Smith, 2003, p.172) because both newspapers and athletes with disabilities themselves have recognized the same perspective on athlete with disabilities. In addition, Schell and Duncan (1999) noted that most athletes with disabilities avoid describing them as a supercrip or a pitiful athlete. However, according to *Donga Ilbo* during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, athletes with disabilities have depicted as “a super cripp” who challenges a beautiful competition and “a film maker” who provides pleasure, pity, and humanism to people through their performance and achievements. Meanwhile, in *USA Today*, no description on athletes with disabilities was shown, but the article on Chinese’s perspective and expectation about the Paralympic Games indicates that people with disabilities in China have been alienated and depicted as people who can’t play any physical activity. Additionally, they have been called as “*canfei* - defective and useless people”. It seems that there are still prejudice and discrimination on people with disabilities in China.

In addition, both newspapers have been depicted Oscar Pistorius as “blade runner” due to his appearance with his prosthetics worn. It is deemed that not only prosthetics look like blade,

but he also runs fast although he wears prosthetics in his two legs. Thus, in *Donga Ilbo*, a female swimmer of Korea has been depicted as “the most beautiful woman,” which means same word, “Ul-Zzang” in Korea due to her appearance in the photograph. In this regard, all female athletes with disabilities in the photographic coverage in *Donga Ilbo* have been hidden their impairment on their body. Instead, female athletes with disabilities have been depicted as passive pose and able bodied people.

Thus, two shooters of Korea have been portrayed as “a mother” and “a daughter who has strong love for her parents.” It is deemed that female athletes with disabilities have been focused on not their performances, but their personal stories in the newspaper. In this regard, Hardin and Hardin (2005) indicated that the most photographic images of disability in a magazine have been depicted as ‘sports competitors, whereas female athletes with disabilities have been depicted as “non-sporting competitors.”

#### Medalist Centered Coverage on Athletes with Disabilities

In both *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo*, athletes with disabilities who won the gold medal have more covered than other athletes with disabilities and other people relate to the Paralympic Games. On the one hand, Erin Popovich, a swimmer of the U.S, has recorded in three articles in *USA Today*, whereas Oscar Pistorius, a track and field player of South Africa, have covered in two articles and one photograph. In addition, among five photographs, two photographs (40.0%) have been taken on both athletes who won the gold medal in *USA Today*.

On the other hand, 21 articles (56.7%) among the total number of 37 articles in *Donga Ilbo* have reported on athletes with disabilities who won the gold medal meanwhile two articles were on foreign athletes with disabilities who won the gold medal including Natalie Du Toit, a swimmer of South Africa and Oscar Pistorius, a track and field player of South Africa. Thus,



among the total number of 45 photographs in *Donga Ilbo*, 23 photographs (51.1%) have focused on athletes with disabilities who won the gold medalist of Korea whereas two photographs were on foreign athletes with disabilities who won the gold medal. In addition, among the total number of 37 articles, 20 articles (54.1%) were on the gold medalists, meanwhile two articles (5.4%) were on foreign athletes who won the gold medal.

According to Schantz and Gilbert (2001), nationalism in the Paralympic Games exists in the media coverage. The result showed that only one foreign athlete was informed in French newspaper, meanwhile a French newspaper has focused on French success. The result of this study showed that nation's success has more dominated in the newspaper coverage about athletes with disabilities during the Beijing Paralympic Games. Another finding by Buysse and Borcharding (2010) indicated that photographs on athleticism and triumph have dominated in the newspaper coverage from five countries. In *Donga Ilbo*, 23 photographs (92.0%) among the total number of 25 photographs on gold medalists focused on triumph, whereas two photographs were on athleticism. It is critical that newspaper coverage tends to focus on nation's success by reporting gold medalists more than any other athletes. Specifically, *Donga Ilbo* tended to focus on the nation's success by reporting and describing gold medalists.

## CHAPTER V:

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

#### Summary

This study examined and analyzed the newspaper texts and photographs from two countries, U.S. and Korea during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. The primary focus was to examine the number of texts and photographic coverage that include frequency, gender, race, type of disability, type of sport, page placement, and type of texts in the newspaper coverage of the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

The results and findings from most previous studies indicated that there has been the existence of the marginalization, trivialization, and discrimination with respect to athletes with disabilities and female athletes in the mass media. In addition, belief about sport is normal and pervasive in the world. That is, sport is male and able bodied athletes dominated, whereas female athletes and athletes with disabilities receive little attention in the mass media. As Paulsen (2000) noted that the print media play a significant role in perpetuating this situation, the role of the current media, in this study newspaper, requires removing this belief that female athletes and athletes with disabilities has trivialized and marginalized in the media.

Thus, socio-cultural difference between North America and Asia has existed. In Asian countries including Korea, they are still conservative about female under the Confucian tradition. On the other hand, specifically, many Americans traditionally like sports and enjoy playing sports. As a result, the number of the mass media in the U.S. that treat with sports or physical activities is much more than that of Korea. A sport impact in the U.S. is one of the most powerful

areas that dominated a male and able bodied strength or power from the sport events. However, Hardin and Hardin (2005) noted that there are two groups ignored and marginalized from the sport events. They are women and people with disabilities. As a result, many gender bias and hierarchy issues on minority groups such as people with disabilities have reported in the mass media research.

Therefore, this study was to exam and explore the newspaper coverage involved in the 14 days' newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, in *USA Today* and 15 days of newspapers from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, in *Donga Ilbo* during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games. Total of articles regarding the contents in *USA Today* was 444 articles, whereas 178 articles were found in the *Donga Ilbo*. In addition, a total of photographs about athletes with and without disability in *USA Today* were 541 photographs, whereas 168 photographs were found in *Donga Ilbo*. Content analysis and interpretive textual analysis were performed to address and examine the treatment and report with respect to athletes with disabilities and disability sport.

Gender and race issue were discussed in this study. These two issues are important domains because of implication and importance on sport events. In fact, all people with or without disabilities, and races are qualified as athletes in the sport areas. As Hardin and Hardin (2003) stated that the pattern of social discrimination and inequality in sport creates social discrimination and inequalities. In spite, this study has reported marginalization on athletes with disabilities and female athletes. In addition, these two newspapers have still treated them as not a main athlete or outsider. It perpetually constructs masculinity and femininity.

Hargreaves and Hardin (2009) noted that sport media still lack coverage on athletes with disabilities and female athletes. This study indicates that the amount of articles and photographs have been less attentive to athletes with disabilities than athletes without disabilities.

The contents of text coverage on athletes with disabilities were focused on the personal stories and physical appearance. In the same way, photographic coverage in newspapers indicates the value or perspectives on what is important and acceptable from the photographs. However, this study suggested that female athletes with disabilities are depicted as inferior such as mother or daughter. Males are featured in active roles.

Meanwhile, the coverage on race was totally different finding. Unfortunately, most texts and photographs reported on Caucasian and Asian athletes. On the other hand, black or Latin America athletes have little coverage on athletes with disabilities in the newspaper. Only two photographs have depicted black athletes with disabilities as active poses. Most coverage on female sports in newspapers was hidden, but focused on the medal winners and game results.

The report about type of sports and texts was discussed in the study. The whole coverage of these newspapers on type of sport has covered more football and baseball in *USA Today*, and baseball and soccer in *Donga Ilbo*. However, the coverage on type of sport about athletes with disabilities and disability sport has dominated individual sports. Track and field, shooting, and swimming were covered more in newspapers. In particular, most individual sports were about use of wheelchair. A track and field athlete was depicted as ‘a blade runner.’ Thus, most male athletes with disabilities have portrayed their bodies as active, whereas females are pictured in smiling and posed position.

Treatment on page location was another topic in the study. Most coverage on disabilities sports has reported on the front page of the sport section, and the remainder of page of sport section in newspapers. However, specifically, over half of the photographs in *Donga Ilbo* have covered on the front page of the sport section. This finding was important because the front page of the sport section would be treated as the most important issue or event in the world. That is,

*Donga Ilbo* has described athletes with disabilities and disability sport as more significant issues during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games than any favorite sports in Korea.

Report on type of text was discussed in the study. A personal story was dominant in *USA Today*, whereas a Paralympic story has covered more articles in *Donga Ilbo*. In particular, some stories included Asian athletes and a head person of association related to China and Korean government. Thus, opening and closing reports have covered in *Donga Ilbo* as well.

Lastly, photo shots and visibility of disability pictured by photographs provide readers with more meanings and images of athletes with disabilities. Fortunately, full body shot of athlete with disabilities have reported in newspapers. In addition, almost half photographs of visibility of disability in the newspapers coverage was on wheelchair. It means that most photographs have paid attention to athletes in the wheelchair such as shooting, archery, and wheelchair basketball or wheelchair tennis players. However, most athletes with disabilities in the wheelchair in photographs were male dominated. It means that the bodies of females with disabilities have been hidden their disabilities and impairments in the coverage of photographs.

### Conclusion

This study focused on newspaper coverage on athletes with disability and disability sports. The conclusions of this study were based on the findings of the study. Two newspapers were used to examine and analyze the coverage on athletes with disabilities and disability sports.

There are obviously significant differences between *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo*. However, a race issue in both newspapers is still present. Thus, the images of female athletes with disabilities will be required to change in newspapers. The followings are conclusions in this study.

1. Hegemony of able bodied and male athletes exists in the newspaper coverage in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo*;
2. Athletes with disabilities and female athletes have been received less attention in newspaper coverage than able bodied and male athletes;
3. The coverage of *USA Today* on athletes with disabilities and disability sport during the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games was trivialized and marginalized;
4. The treatment of female athletes with disabilities have depicted as passive image in *Donga Ilbo*, whereas no treatment in *USA Today*;
5. Lack of newsworthiness on athletes with disabilities in *USA Today* was found; and
6. Gender and race issues in the newspaper coverage in *USA Today* and *Donga Ilbo* are still present.

As mentioned above, the social values and beliefs on sport derive from the media impact. We gain useful information and dominant ideology through the mass media. Therefore, the treatment and report on athletes with disabilities and disability sport in the newspaper coverage provide us with the great opportunity to realize and change their biased images and values with respect to athletes with disabilities and disability sport. In this regard, all researchers continue on confirming what is wrong and important in the newspaper coverage about athletes with disabilities. For further research, the newspaper coverage from other countries during the Paralympic Games will be helpful to confirm the treatment and description on athletes with disabilities and disability sports. In addition, the study that examines and analyzes the coverage on athletes with disabilities through the Internet site which is dominated in current period will be required because of impact of technological current period.

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## APPENDICES

APPENDIX A  
A Content Analysis Code Sheet

Coder \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of newspaper \_\_\_\_\_  
Issue \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

	Title :	Textual analysis
Gender	1) Male 2) Female 3) Both 4) Unspecified	
Race	1) Black 2) Caucasian 3) Asian 4) Other	
Type of disability	1) Able-bodied 2) Obviously disabled 3) Both 4) Unspecified	
Type of sport	1) Individual 2) Team 3) Both 4) Unspecified	
Page placement	1) On the front page of the newspaper 2) On the front page of sport section 3) On the remainder of page of sport section 4) Inside page of the newspaper	
Type of text	1) A personal story 2) A team story 3) A nation's story 4) A Paralympic story	

**APPENDIX B**  
**A Content Analysis Code Sheet**

Coder \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of newspaper \_\_\_\_\_  
Issue \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

A Content Analysis Code Sheet						
placement	Gender	Race	Type of disability	Type of sport	Type of text	Textual analysis

**APPENDIX C**  
**Photo Code Sheet**

Coder \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of newspaper \_\_\_\_\_  
Issue \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

	Title :	Textual analysis
Gender	1) Male    2) Female    3) Both    4) Unspecified	
Race	1) Black    2) Caucasian    3) Asian    4) Other	
Type of disability	1) Able-bodied    2) Obviously disabled 3) Both    4) Unspecified	
Type of sport	1) Individual    2) Team    3) Both    4) Unspecified	
Page placement	1) On the front page of the newspaper 2) On the front page of sport section 3) On the remainder of page of sport section 4) Inside page of the newspaper	
Photo shot	1) Head shot    2) Upper body shot 3) Full body shot    4) Unspecified	
Visibility of disability	1) Wheelchair    2) Amputee 3) Prosthetics    4) Unspecified	

## APPENDIX D

### Photo Code Sheet

Coder \_\_\_\_\_

Name of newspaper \_\_\_\_\_

Issue \_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

## APPENDIX E

### Articles and Photographs

Name of Newspaper: USA Today  
Issued Date: 9/5/2008

# Paralympics aim to change Chinese prejudices

## Games to bring thousands of competitors

By Calum MacLeod  
USA TODAY

BEIJING — When a radio show caller complained that her blind father was a burden and jeopardized her prospects for marriage, host Ma Xinyu understood. "My father was unhappy he didn't have an able-bodied son," says Ma, 26, who lost his eyesight by age 13. "He never liked to take me outside. 'You're a blind kid, and you look ugly, too,' he said. So I rarely left home at all."

Ma says such prejudiced views will eventually disappear. That's a major goal for the Paralympic Games that begin here Saturday. Despite progress in recent years, traditional attitudes about physical handicaps remain entrenched in this nation that has at least 83 million people with disabilities, nearly the equivalent of the population of Germany.

The Paralympics, held every two years after the summer and winter Olympics, will include 4,200 athletes from 148 countries competing in 20 sports through Sept. 17. The U.S. Paralympic team includes two Iraq war veterans in track and field and swimming.

Though China is likely to top the medals table — as it did at the 2004 Paralympics in Athens and at the recently concluded Summer Games — people working with China's disabled hope for a far deeper impact.

"I hope the Paralympics will encourage greater participation and understanding by both disabled and able-bodied people," says Da Wei, founder of the Hongdandan Education and Culture Exchange Center in Beijing, which supports the blind. He



**Relay:** A Chinese torchbearer for the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games celebrates in Xian on Aug. 30. The Paralympic relay involves 850 torchbearers and showcases ancient and modern China.

trained Ma to become a broadcaster and narrates movies for blind people.

"I want to break the limits on employment for blind people, who are often told they can only train to be masseurs. If blind people can be broadcasters like Ma, they can do anything. They can be lawyers, composers and professors, just give them the right conditions," Da says.

Beijing has spent \$80 million since 2001 to improve access for the city's nearly 1 million disabled people, says Zhao Chunlun, head of the Beijing Disabled Persons' Federation, a government body.

Improvements include 2,000

buses with wheelchair access, 300 bus stops with ramps and "blind paths" — raised grooves along sidewalks that the blind can feel under their feet.

"There are many blind paths now," Da says, "but they are not standardized, and they were not built or designed by blind people. Some of them are like setting a trap (with obstructions). We did one radio program where a blind journalist walked along the path, then bang! He bumped into something, felt what it was, then continued — bang, bumped into something else."

Tian Yue, director of a new center that provides services for people with disabilities in central

Beijing, says facilities and attitudes in big cities have improved in recent years, but 75% of China's disabled people live in the countryside, where support remains limited.

"Until the 1980s, disabled people



**Promoting participation and understanding:** Ma Xinyu, 26, right, laughs with Da Wei, founder of the Hongdandan Education and Culture Exchange Center.

ple used to be called *canfei* — defective and useless," Tian says. "My classmate from 30 years ago had polio, and her parents would never let her outside for fear she would lose face for the family."

Tian scours her neighborhood to encourage those with disabilities and parents of disabled children to come to her center called Sweet Home, one of 1,400 government-funded support centers in the Beijing area.

"Prejudice and discrimination still exist," Tian says. "But if disabled people participate in more social activities and are more visible, then they themselves will change attitudes in society."

Tian has trained hundreds of Olympic volunteers to assist disabled athletes and spectators and says there is much more barrier-free access. "You will see more and more wheelchair-users on the streets of Beijing," she says.

The nation does have famous people who use a wheelchair: Deng Pufang, son of former leader Deng Xiaoping, who was paralyzed during the Cultural Revolution and is the head of China's disabled federation. Athlete Jin Jing defended the Olympic torch from protesters in Paris last spring and was dubbed the "angel in the wheelchair" by China's news media.

Ma, the radio broadcaster, says, "People used to call me names when I was a boy, but it happens less often now."

His caller "listened to our show, and she changed her mind," Ma says. "She was worried her boyfriend's family would reject her if they knew her father was blind. We talked, and we became friends. And now they are married."

► U.S. at Paralympics, 7C



## Olympic sports

# Armbruster is named Paralympic flag bearer

By Janice Lloyd  
and Vicki Michaelis  
USA TODAY

Five-time Paralympian Jennifer Armbruster will lead the U.S. contingent into Saturday's opening ceremonies of the Beijing Paralympics.

Armbruster was chosen Thursday as flag bearer by the captains of the 213-member team. She is captain of the goalball team.

"At first I was shocked, but most of all it is an honor to be chosen by my peers," Armbruster said. "I am honored to represent my sport (goalball), my country, my Paralympic family and my team."

The Paralympics has competitions for athletes from six disability groups in 20 sports through Sept. 17. More than 4,000 athletes from 148 nations are expected to compete.

Armbruster, 33, of Birmingham, Ala., is coached by her father Ken Armbruster. "Being selected as the flag bearer is a pretty big honor for me and my daughter," said Ken Armbruster, an Air Force veteran. "I am just proud of her."

After graduating from high school in 1989, Jennifer Armbruster started to lose her vision and gave up her scholarship to play college basketball. She took up goalball in 1990, a sport for the visually impaired. It is a fast-moving game in which three-person teams are positioned at opposite ends of the court

in front of goals that are 29½ feet wide. Players guard their goal and complete throws to score. The game — 20 minutes with a halftime — is played with a ball that has bells inside allowing players to determine its whereabouts.

**Pool time:** U.S. athletes figure to make the biggest splash in swimming. The team is led by Erin Popovich, who won seven gold medals at the 2004 Paralympics, and Jessica Long, who won nine golds at the 2006 world championships.

With women's relays no longer a part of the program, Popovich won't be able to match or surpass her feat from 2004. She added an individual event to her schedule, for a potential six golds. "I'm just going to do what I can with those events that I do have," says the Montana native, 23. "And hopefully be just as successful in Beijing — 6-for-6 is the same as 7-for-7, percentage wise."

Born with a genetic disorder that resulted in shorter arms and feet, Popovich competes in a different classification than Long, whose two legs were amputated below the knee when she was 18 months old. Long, 16, from Baltimore, is entered in seven events and holds 15 world records.

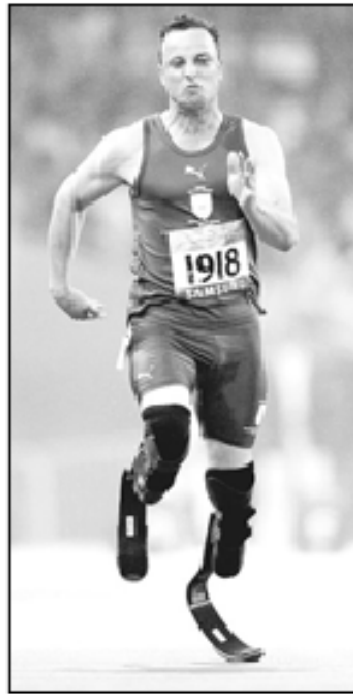
**Coverage:** Universal Sports begins its coverage Saturday with opening ceremonies at 7:55 a.m. ET. See [universal-sports.com](http://universal-sports.com) for complete listings.

Name of Newspaper: USA Today  
Issued Date: 9/9/2008

## **Paralympian runs 11.16 in 100**

Oscar Pistorius of South Africa began his bid for three gold medals in the Beijing Paralympics on Monday by finishing in 11.16 seconds for the fastest time in the 100-meter heats and a personal best. Pistorius, a double amputee, races with prosthetic legs and is known as the "Blade Runner."

## Pistorius wins 100-meter gold in Paralympics



By Peter Parks, AFP/Getty Images

**Pistorius:** South African wins in 11.17 seconds.

Despite a slow start on a wet track, **Oscar Pistorius** won the most difficult of his three races in the Beijing Paralympics, clocking 11.17 seconds Tuesday to take gold in the 100 meters. Americans **Jerome Singleton** trailed in 11.20 and **Brian Frasure** in 11.50. In the pool, American **Erin Popovich** won her third gold medal, taking the 100 breaststroke for her disability class. She also won gold in the 200 individual medley and 100 freestyle. The Paralympics saw its first athlete banned for failing a doping test. Pakistani powerlifter **Naveed Ahmed Butt** tested positive for a steroid, the International Paralympic Committee said in a statement. He received a two-year ban.

# Murderball muscles into Paralympics

Chinese take to rowdy sport of wheelchair rugby and face athletes from U.S. film

By Calum MacLeod  
USA TODAY

BEIJING — Zhang Wenli hit rock bottom, quite literally, in 1994. Diving into shallow water, she broke her neck and became a quadriplegic, unable to walk and with reduced use of her arms. For the next 12 years, the former sports teacher felt trapped at home in eastern China — and useless.

That is, until a violent sport — and its gung-ho American stars — changed her life.

Today, Zhang lines up against her heroes as Team China plays Team USA, the gold-medal favorites, in the opening battle of Murderball, aka wheelchair rugby, a clashing contact sport set to take the Paralympic Games by storm — and smash stereotypes about people with disabilities.

The sport, invented in Canada in the late 1970s by a group of quadriplegic athletes who wanted an alternative to wheelchair basketball, hit the headlines with the 2005 U.S. documentary Murderball.

The award-winner at the Sundance Film Festival showed audiences what wheelchair users can do and helped push the game globally into the fastest-growing wheelchair sport. Men and women can play on the same team in the game, which shows how sport and cinema can transcend language barriers. Nineteen countries field national teams.

China is among the newcomers to the sport. When the country started to build a team from scratch in 2006, scouts in Zhang's eastern province of Shandong asked her to try out.

"I doubted I could play, the game seemed so fierce," she remembers. Then she watched Murderball. And again, and again.

"I've seen it dozens of times. I don't understand what they are saying, as my English is poor, but I can feel the atmosphere and understand the lead



Getting ready for the big game: Chinese wheelchair rugby coach Wen Yan, left, prepares her players for today's competition against Team USA.

athlete's situation," says Zhang, 40, speaking in Mandarin. "They are saying, 'We are not patients or victims, we are independent athletes.' And now I am representing my country."

China has screened the film for its squad multiple times, team official Xin Yue says. "They love it. Many of our athletes did not think they could ever be independent and so strong in their bodies," he says.

Coach Wen Yan, 57, who sports a long ponytail and a longer history as a soldier and basketball coach to the military, says wheelchair rugby has been key to rebuilding the spirits and lives of her players.

"In just a few seconds, these people became disabled by serious accidents," she says. "Afterward, they felt depressed. They often underestimated themselves and felt inferior. But now, after training, they have recovered and wear a bright smile. We expect to come in last of the eight teams

at this tournament, but we will show our spirit and enjoy the experience."

Cui Maoshan was depressed and hospital-bound in southwest Yunnan province when officials from China's federation for disabled people visited him last year. He broke his neck in 2006 in a fall at a building site. He had never heard of rugby, known as "olive ball" in China, let alone the wheelchair version.

Cui will play for his country in today's game after a year of full-time training. "I am not depressed now, but feel great and proud," he says. His only regret is that his wife and two children, back in their home village, have never seen him play. The cost of traveling to Beijing is too high, but he expects them to watch on television.

Mark Zupan, the U.S. team captain and tattooed Texan whose life, including his love life, is documented in Murderball, is delighted with the response to the film.



U.S. athletes: Rugby players Mark Zupan, right, and Scott Hogsett.

Murderball "bridges so many gaps that it doesn't matter what language you speak. The film brings disability to the forefront," says Zupan, 32, of Austin, who was disabled from an auto accident at 18. "Ten minutes into the film, you don't see the wheelchairs, you just see athletes."

Beijing student Zhang Peng, a volunteer at the wheelchair rugby training venue, agrees. "I used to think disabled people were a bit mysterious, and I had little contact with them. But once I saw them playing, I didn't think they were disabled at all. The game is so exciting. They are just like able-bodied people. I realize they are just like us and want equal treatment, not sympathy," he says.

Zhang, the only female player on Team China's 12-person roster, wants a photo with Zupan after today's game. "I worship him," she says.

Zupan warns that she will get no leniency on the court because she's a woman. "Girl or guy, if you're in my way, get out, or I'll move you out of the way," he says. There'll be trash-talking, too, he warns.

Zhang is unfazed. "I won't understand if any foreign player insults me. On the court, no one considers me a woman. The intensity and excitement is the charm of rugby," she says. "It will shock people that quadriplegics can play such an exciting game. That's what I hope the Paralympics will bring to China."

## Swimmers pile up gold in Paralympics

**Erin Popovich** of the USA and **Natalie Du Toit** of South Africa keep winning swimming gold medals in the Beijing Paralympics. Du Toit captured her third gold medal of the Paralympics on Thursday, setting a world record for her disability class in the 200-meter individual medley. She finished in 2 minutes, 27.83 seconds, breaking her mark by more than two seconds. Popovich, the American team captain, won her fourth Paralympics gold, taking the 400 freestyle.



By Feng Li, Getty Images

**Golden:** Erin Popovich with No. 4.

ruled ineligible for seven-per-team soccer. Malone said he had trained to limit his impairment and was being penalized for working hard.

tain, won her fourth Paralympics gold, taking the 400 freestyle.

► Two power lifters were banned for two years, bringing to four the number of athletes caught using illegal substances leading to the Beijing Paralympics. **Facourou Sissoko** of Mali and **Liudmyla Osmanova** of Ukraine had positive tests for steroids in out-of-competition tests, the International Paralympic Committee said Thursday. ... An Irish soccer player with cerebral palsy was expelled because he was ruled not to be sufficiently disabled. **Derek Malone** was

## Paralympian wins gold, 349th match in a row

**Esther Vergeer** won her 349th consecutive match Sunday in Beijing, capturing the Paralympic gold medal in women's wheelchair tennis with a victory against Dutch teammate **Korie Howman**. Vergeer won 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5) to extend a streak that has lasted 5½ years.

American swimmers **Erin Popovich** and **Jessica Long** each finished with four gold medals. Both, however, failed to win a fifth gold Sunday. Popovich was second to teammate **Cortney Jordan** in the 50-meter freestyle. Long finished fifth in another 50 freestyle. In women's sitting volleyball, China beat the USA 25-14, 25-19, 25-15 for the gold.

► **Sanya Richards** beat Olympic 400-meter champion **Christine Ohuruogu** on Sunday at the World Athletics Final in Stuttgart, Germany. Richards won in 50.41 seconds to Ohuruogu's 50.83. In the 100 meters, **Shelly-Ann Fraser** (10.94) beat Jamaican countrywoman **Kerron Stewart**.

Name of Newspaper: USA Today  
Issued Date: 9/16/2008

### **Dutch doubles team wins at Paralympics**

**Korie Homan** and **Sharon Walraven** won gold in wheelchair tennis at the Paralympics on Monday in Beijing, defeating Dutch compatriots **Jiske Griffioen** and **Esther Vergeer** 2-6, 7-6 (6-4), 6-4. The Paralympics wind down today with the final day Wednesday.

► Swimmer **Kelley Becherer** of Sheboygan, Wis., claimed gold Monday in the women's 50-meter freestyle with a time of 27.85 seconds. ... In wheelchair rugby, the USA beat Great Britain 35-32 to earn a berth in the gold-medal game. The Americans play Australia today. ... The U.S. women's wheelchair basketball team beat Germany 50-38 to claim gold. **Christina Ripp** led the USA with 16 points. ... In the men's shot put, Iraq war veteran **Scott Winkler** of Grovetown, Ga., finished in fifth place, setting a personal best — 11.27 meters and 995 points.

Name of Newspaper: USA Today  
Issued Date: 9/17/2008

► Double-amputee **Oscar Pistorius** broke his world record and took a third gold medal as he won the 400 meters at the Paralympic Games in Beijing today (Tuesday night ET). The South African, 21, finished in 47.49 seconds, taking almost half a second off the previous mark.



Name of Newspaper: Donga Ilbo

Issued Date: 9/3/2008



베이징 장애인올림픽 3일 앞으로 2일 중국 베이징 국가아쿠아틱센터(일명 워터큐브)에서 장애인 수영 선수들이 훈련 도중 출발대에 모여 이야기를 나누고 있다. 이들이 출전하는 2008 베이징 장애인올림픽은 6일 개막해 17일까지 열린다. 베이징=AFP 연합뉴스

장애인 선수들 운동에만 전념하게 지원 늘었으면...

## “전력 다하는 선수들 보면 몽클”

김성일 베이징 장애인올림픽 선수단장

“장애인 선수도 일반 선수처럼 운동에만 전념하게 해주는 것이 가장 큰 포부입니다.”

김성일(전 공군참모총장·사진) 베이징(北京) 장애인 올림픽 선수단장은 3일 베이징에서 간담회를 갖고 장애인 선수들의 애로사항을 강조했다.

김 단장은 “시각 장애인들은 대표선수 소집 훈련을 받기 전날까지도 안마로 생업을 이어가던 사람들”이라며 “국가대표 훈련에 소집되면 받는 하루 일당(3만원)으로는 가족 생계가 곤란하다”고 말했다.

국가대표라는 자부심도 있고 국가 명예도 높이고 싶지만 현실적 문제 때문에 운동에만 전념하지 못한다는 것.

그는 “장애인 선수를 양성하고 싶은 지방자치단체도 있지만 (지자체) 소속 선수가 되면 공무원 총원에 포함돼 그만큼 기존 공무원 자리를 줄여야 하기 때문에 어려움이 있다”고 강조했다.

이어 “지난해 4월 전역 후 장애인축구협회장에 이어 올 5월부터 올림픽 선수단장을 맡은 뒤 장애인이 비장애인보다 세상을 밝게 보려는 사람들이라는 것을 알았다”고 말했다.

이번 올림픽부터 금, 은메달 포상금이 일반 선수와 같아져 전력을 다해 연습에 몰두하는 선수들을 보면 가슴이 몽클하다고 했다.

한국장애인체육회(회장 정항숙 전 의원) 소속 올림픽선수단



동아일보 자료 사진

은 3일 선수촌 입촌식을 했다. 제 13회 장애인 올림픽은 6일부터 17일까지 열린다.

베이징=구자룡 특파원  
bonhong@donga.com

## 장애인 인간승리에 더 큰 격려와 박수를

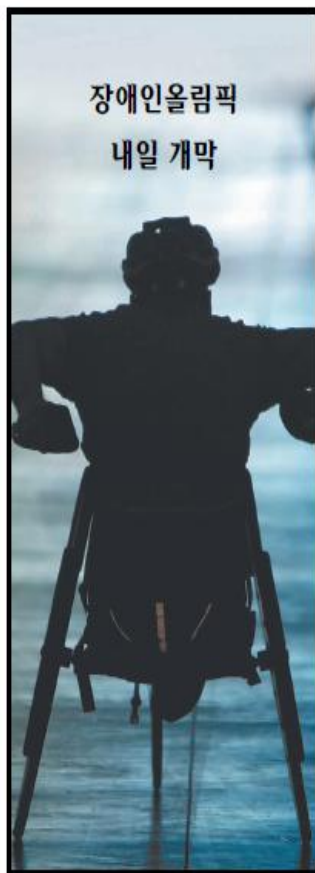
6~12일 중국 베이징에서 열리는 13회 장애인 올림픽 참가 선수들의 삶은 하나하나가 '제약과 한계에 대한 무한 도전'을 보여주는 감동의 드라마다. 세 살 때 소아마비로 하반신 장애인이 된 휠체어 레이스 홍석만(33·제주도청) 선수는 2004년 아테네 장애인 올림픽에서 금메달 2개와 은메달 1개를 딴 데 이어 이번 대회에도 출전한다. 그는 200m 세계기록(28초31)을 갖고 있다. 지체장애 3급으로 물에 대한 공포를 이기기 위해 수영을 배운 민병인(23·서울시장에 인수영연맹) 선수는 배영 50m 세계기록(49초94) 보유자다.

선천적 장애인도 있지만 후천적 장애인도 많다. 비(非)장애인도 잠재적 장애인이다. 장애를 딛고 일어선 많은 이의 집념과 용기는 60억 지구인에게 희망의 메시지를 던진다. 전도유명한 유도선수로 활약하다 대학 2학년 때 시력을 잃은 박정민(38) 선수는 "신체적 장애보다 더 무서운 것은 자신감을 잃는 마음의 장애였다"고 털어놓았다. 최근 영국사회를 감동시킨 외팔 모델 켈리 녹스(23) 씨가 떠오른다. 그녀는 '할 수 없다는 생각만 하지 않는다

면 뭐든 이뤄 낼 수 있음'을 증명하고 싶어 모델대회에 출전했고 마침내 유명 패션잡지 '마리 클레르' 영국판 9월 호의 표지를 장식했다.

지난 베이징 하계 올림픽에서 폴란드의 외팔 탁구선수 파르타카(19)는 팔꿈치 아래가 없는 오른팔 끝으로 공을 던져 서브를 넣었다. 남아프리카공화국 여자 수영대표 나탈리 뒤투아(24)는 외다리로 10km를 헤엄쳤다. 아들의 투혼은 '주의력결핍과잉행동장애(ADHD)'를 이겨내고 수영의 전설이 된 미국의 마이클 펠프스 못지않게 갈채를 받았다.

148개국에서 척수장애, 절단 및 기타 장애, 뇌성마비, 시각장애를 가진 선수 4099명이 참가하는 이번 대회에 한국은 13개 종목 78명의 선수를 보냈다. 모두 자신과의 외로운 싸움에서 역경에 굴하지 않고 기량을 닦은 선수다. 한승수 국무총리도 한국 총리로는 처음으로 장애인 올림픽 개회식에 참석하고 선수들을 격려한다. 온 국민이 승부를 떠나 진정 아름다운 이들의 도전에 더 큰 박수와 공감을 보내자. 그리고 일상 속에서 장애인 차별을 없애내자.



# 초인들 12일간 아름다운 도전

140여개국 7000여명 참가... 한국 '팀 코리아' 종합 14위 사냥

제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽이 6일 개최식을 시작으로 12일간의 열전에 들어간다. 장애인올림픽은 신체의 한계를 극복한 초인들이 펼치는 스포츠 드라마다.

## ● 금 13개-종합 14위 달성한다

사상 최대 규모인 이번 장애인올림픽에는 모두 140여 개국에서 선수 4000여 명 등 7000여 명의 선수단이 참가한다. 육상 수영 양궁 등 20개 종목에서 모두 295개의 금메달이 걸려있다.

한국선수단은 '팀 코리아'라는 명칭으로 하나가 됐다. 선수와 임원은 물론이고 응원단까지 한팀이라는 개념이다.

한국은 전체 20개 종목 중 육상 양궁 등 13개 종목에 선수 77명 등 모두 131명의 선수단이 참가했다.

한국은 금메달 13개로 종합 14위를 달성하는 게 목표다. 1988년 서울대회에서 금메달 40개로 종합 7위를 차지한 게 역대 최고 성적이다.

## ● 박태환 이용대는 잠시 잊으세요

한국선수단에는 장애인 스포츠 스타들이 즐비하다. 2004년 아테네대회에서 휠체어



베이징 장애인올림픽 마스코트

## 한국 역대 장애인올림픽 성적

연도(횟수)	개최지(개최국)	비고
1968년(3회)	텔아비브(이스라엘)	메달 없음(첫 출전)
1972년(4회)	하이델베르크(독일)	16위(금 4개)
1976년(5회)	토론토(캐나다)	27위(금 12개)
1980년(6회)	아른헴(네덜란드)	26위(금 2개)
1984년(7회)	뉴욕 등(미국 등)	38위(금 0개)
1988년(8회)	서울(한국)	7위(금 40개)
1992년(9회)	바르셀로나(스페인)	10위(금 11개)
1996년(10회)	애틀랜타(미국)	12위(금 13개)
2000년(11회)	시드니(호주)	9위(금 18개)
2004년(12회)	아테네(그리스)	16위(금 11개)

육상 100m, 200m 2관왕에 오른 홍석만(33)은 이번에는 400m 우승 사냥에 나선다. 1992년 바르셀로나대회부터 3회 연속 출전해 금메달을 5개나 거머쥔 사격 김임연(41)도 금메달을 노린다.

수영에서는 남자 배영 50m에 출전한 민병언(23)이 20년 만의 금 사냥에 나서고, 개회식 가수인 역도 90kg급 박종철(41)도 금바벨을 노린다. '열짱' 수영 선수 김지은(25)에 대한 관심이 뜨겁다.

한국은 양궁에서 금 4개, 사격에서 금메달 3개를 노리는 등 '쏜 종목'에서 목표 금메달의 절반 이상을 노린다.

한편 사고로 왼쪽 다리를 잃었지만 베이징 올림픽 수영 여자마라톤(10km)에 출전한 나탈리 뒤 투아(24·남아공)와 오른쪽 팔꿈치 아래가 없는 폴란드 여자 탁구 나탈리아 파르티카(19)도 이번 장애인올림픽에 다시 나선다.

황인찬 기자 hic@donga.com



## 베이징의 함성 다시 한번! 장애인 올림픽 오늘 개막



5일 중국 베이징 원진호텔에서 열린 장애인 올림픽 코리아하우스 개관식 때 휠체어에 앉은 장항숙 대한장애인올림픽위원장 등이 테이프 커팅을 하고 있다. 장애인 올림픽에서 코리아하우스가 마련되기는 이번이 처음이다. 베이징=연합뉴스

6일 개막해 12일간의 열전에 들어가는 장애인 올림픽 기간에 한국 선수단의 공식 인터뷰를 포함한 국가 이미지 홍보와 스포츠 외교의 전진 기지로 쓰일 코리아하우스가 5일 중국 베이징(北京)에 문을 열었다.

대한장애인체육회는 이날 베이징 원진호텔에서 장항숙 대한장애인올림픽위원장과 선수단 등이 참석한 가운데 코리아하우스 개관식

### 장애인 올림픽 첫 코리아하우스 어제 개관

을 가졌다.

2004 아테네 올림픽과 2006 토리노 동계올림픽, 2008 베이징 올림픽 때 코리아하우스가 설치돼 운영됐지만 장애인 올림픽에서 코리아하우스가 마련되기는 이번이 처음이다.

원진호텔 1층에 마련된 코리아

하우스는 개관식 전날인 5일부터 운영에 들어가 대회가 끝나는 17일까지 운영될 예정이다. 이번 대회에 참가하는 148개국 중 코리아하우스와 같은 시설을 마련한 나라는 독일 등 7개국뿐.

개회식 참석을 위해 중국을 방문하는 한승수 총리가 6일 코리아

하우스에서 공식 기자회견을 갖고, 사진작가 조세현 씨도 대회 기간 장애인 선수들의 역동적인 모습을 담은 사진을 이곳에서 전시할 예정이다.

장 위원장은 "장애인 올림픽에 참가한 지 40년 만에 코리아하우스를 갖게 돼 눈물겹고 자랑스럽다"며 "장애인 스포츠 발전을 위한 좋은 계기가 되기를 바란다"고 말했다. 이종석 기자 wing@donga.com

## 베이징 장애인올림픽 '감동의 드라마' 개막

▶A10면에 관련기사



**한국 선수단 입장** 제13회 베이징 장애인 올림픽이 6일 밤 중국 베이징 올림픽 주경기장에서 개회식을 열고 12일간의 열전에 들어갔다. 중국어 간체자로 표기한 각국 명칭의 첫 글자 획순에 따라 한국은 148개국 가운데 126번째로 입장했다. 기수를 맡은 역도 90kg급 박종철(앞)을 선두로 김성일 단장(앞줄 모자를 쓴 사람) 등 한국 선수단 '팀 코리아'가 관중의 환영을 받고 있다. 베이징=EPA 연합뉴스



# 휠체어 탄채 공중 30m 밧줄타고 성화 점화

‘초인들의 드라마’ 제13회 베이징(北京) 장애인올림픽이 6일 화려한 막을 올렸다. 신체의 한계를 극복한 초인들은 세계 최고가 되기 위해 폐회식이 열리는 17일까지 열띤 경쟁을 펼친다. 사상 최대 규모인 이번 대회에는 148개국에서 7383명의 선수단이 참가했다. 전체 20개 종목(295개 세부 종목) 중 양궁, 육상, 사격, 탁구 등 13개 종목에 선

수 77명 등 131명의 선수단이 출전한 한국의 ‘팀 코리아’는 금메달 13개를 따내 종합 14위를 달성하는 게 목표다. 1968년 제3회 텔아비브 대회에 처음 참가했던 한국은 1968년 서울 대회에서 금메달 40개를 따 역대 최고 성적인 종합 7위를 차지했고 2004년 아테네에서는 금 11개로 종합 16위에 올랐다.

6일 베이징 장애인올림픽 개막식의 하이라이트도 역시 성화 점화였다.

하계 올림픽에서 체조선수 리닝(李寧)이 하늘에 날아오른 뒤 공중을 뛰며 점화를 한 것처럼 이번에는 중국의 장애인 높이뛰기 선수 허우빈(侯斌·33)이 휠체어를 탄 채 공중으로 올라가 점화했다.

허우빈이 성화를 받기 전 주경기장(나오차오·鳥巢)에서는 펜싱의 진징(金晶) 등 6명의 장애인 금메달리스트가 운동장을 돌았다.

## ‘초인들의 드라마’ 148개국 7383명 참가 12일간 열전

1984년 중국으로서는 처음으로 장애인올림픽에서 금메달을 땀던 시각장애 멀리뛰기 선수인 평야리(平亞麗)에게서 허우빈이 성화를 넘겨받는 순간 관중은 숨을 죽였다.

이윽고 그가 휠체어에 연결된 밧줄을 직접 두 손으로 잡아당기며 주경기장을 조금씩 조금씩 올라가자 관중석에서는 환호가 터졌다.

왼쪽 다리가 없어 균형이 잘 잡히

지 않기 때문인 듯 줄을 잡은 팔의 근육에는 경련이 일었다. 그는 보조 도르래가 설치된 밧줄을 자신의 힘만으로 잡아당겨 약 5분 만에 30m 가량을 올라가 점화했다.

이윽고 성화대에 불길이 솟구치자 주경기장 주변과 베이징 하늘에는 수백 발의 폭죽이炸裂했다.

9세에 사고로 왼쪽 다리를 잃은 허우빈은 1996년 미국 애틀랜타 장애인

올림픽 당시 높이뛰기에서 1m92로 금메달을 따 세계를 놀라게 했다. 이어 시드니(2000년) 아테네(2004년) 올림픽에서도 잇달아 금메달을 땀다.

그는 20여 일 동안 주로 밤 12시 이후 주경기장에 나와 2~3시간씩 연습을 했다고 중국 언론은 전했다.

이날 세계 140여 개국에서 온 7000여 장애인 선수는 비장애인 올림픽 때와는 달리 개막공연 이전에

입장을 마쳐 함께 공연을 즐겼다.

장지강(張繼剛) 총감독이 연출한 개막 공연은 6000여 명이 참가한 가운데 ‘공간의 여행’ ‘시간의 여행’ ‘생명의 여행’ 등 세 부문으로 나뉘어 진행됐다. 개막 공연에는 휠체어 장애인 악단의 연주 등 장애인과 비장애인이 모두 참여해 한데 어우러졌다.

대회 주제는 중화권 스타인 류더화(劉德華)와 티베트족 가수 한홍(韓紅)이 ‘꿈과 함께 날아온다(和夢一起飛翔)’를 열창했다.

베이징=구자룡 특파원 bonhong@donga.com



## 사이클 3000m 진용식 은빛 질주

男 공기소총 이주희 銅 한국 첫 메달

女 탁구 정지남-문성혜 3회전 진출

한국이 제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽 경기 첫날 은메달과 동메달을 1개씩 얻었다.

사이클 진용식(30·나사렛대·사진)은 7일 중국 베이징 라오산 벨로드롬에서 열린 남자 개인 독주 3000m 결승에서 세계 기록 보유자인 영국의 케니 대런과 대결해 어렵게 졌지만 소중한 은메달을 목에 걸었다. 진용

식은 본선에서 3분58초817로 3위를 해 3, 4위전으로 밀렸지만 2위로 골인한 하비에르 오초아(스페인)가 반칙때로 실격하면서 순위가 한 계단 상승해 결승에 올랐다. 뇌병변 지체 장애인 진용식은 2000년 전국장애인체육대회 5km와 20km에서 1위를 휩쓸며 국내 장애인 사이클의 강판으로 떠올랐다. “앞으로 올림픽에

2번은 더 출전하고 싶다”고 소감을 밝힌 진용식은 12일과 14일 도로 25km와 60km에서 또 다른 메달에 도전한다.

한국의 첫 메달 소식은 사격에서 나왔다. 남자 10m 공기소총에 출전한 이주희(36)는 합계 664.6점을 쏘 결선에 진출한 8명 중 3위를 차지해 동메달을 땀다.

6연속 올림픽 금메달을 노리는 탁구의 이대곤(55)은 남자 단식 1회전을 3-0으로 가볍게 통과했고 사상 처음으로 장애인 올림픽에 출전한 여자 탁구는 정지남(44)과 문성혜(30)가 여유 있게 단식 3회전에 진출했다. 시각장애인 축구는 세계 최강 브라질에 0-3으로 졌다. 이송건 기자 why@donga.com

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8일 중국 베이징의 올림픽 주경기장에서 개회식 장애인올림픽 개회식에서 높이뛰기 선수인 허우린이 성화 경희를 위해 빛줄을 손으로 잡아당기며 성화대로 올라가고 있다. 베이징-로이터 연합뉴스



### “한국총리 첫 참석” 조직위 회보 소개

베이징 장애인 올림픽 개최식에 참석한 한승수 (사진) 국무총리가 중국 당국이나 장애인올림픽 조직위원회로부터 높은 평가를 받고 있다.



올림픽조직위가 발행하는 회보는 개최식이 열린 6일에서 장애인올림픽에 참석한 외국 지도자 중 한 총리와 신화통신 인터뷰만을 소개했다.

한 총리는 인터뷰에서 “한국 총리가 외국에서 열리는 장애인올림픽에 참석하기는 이번이 처음”이라며 “이번 장애인올림픽이 전 세계 장애인들에게 큰 희망과 용기를 줄 것”이라고 말했다.

한 총리는 또 후진타오(胡錦濤) 국가주석이 6일 마련한 각국 지도자 15명가량을 초청한 환영 오찬에서도 부인과 함께 헤드 테이블에 초대받았다. 이날 오찬에는 후 주석 내외 및 정치국 상무위원 8명 등이 함께했다.

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베이징=로이터 연합뉴스

### 외다리 투혼 뒤 투아 접영 100m 세계신

베이징 올림픽 수영 마라톤에서 비장애인들과 겨뤘던 25명 중 당당히 16위를 차지해 인간 승리의 감동을 연출했던 외다리 여자 수영선수 나탈리 뒤 투아(24·남아프리카공화국·사진)는 이날 접영 여자 100m 결승에서 1분06초74의 세계신기록으로 우승했다. 2위인 호주 엘리 콜의 1분10초92와는 4초18이나 차이가 났다. 뒤 투아는 2004년 아테네 대회에선 금메달 5개와 은메달 1개를 따냈다. 이승건 기자 why@donga.com

## “17개월 아가에게 ‘金’ 주고 싶었는데...”

김임연, 사격 여섯번째 金 도전은 실패  
 “남은 두경기 최선... 선수 위원도 노력”

마지막으로 쏜 탄환은 9.8점을 기록했다. 결선 100.3점을 보태 총점 486.3점.

전두 베로니카 바도비코바(슬로바키아)에게는 8.5점이 뒤졌다. 2000년 시드니 장애인올림픽에서 자신이 세웠던 세계기록 497.1점에는 10점 이상 모자랐다. 1992년 바르셀로나부터 2000년 시드니 대회까지 여자 사격 3연패를 달성했던 김임연(41·KB국민은행)의 여섯 번째 금메달은 쉽지 않았다.

“지난해 태어난 아가에게 꼭 금메달을 선물해 주고 싶었는데...”

김임연은 베이징 장애인올림픽 경기 첫날인 7일 베이징 사격장에서 열린 여자 사격 10m 공기소총 입사 결선에서 8명 가운데 7위에 그쳤다.

원하던 메달을 따지 못했지만 베테랑 사수는 의연했다. 결선을 마치고 이번 대회 첫 금메달의 주인공이 된 바도비코바에게 웃으며 악수를 건넬 때까지는 그랬다. 하지만 경기장을 나서는 그의 눈에서는 눈물이 흘렀다.

4세 때 소아마비를 앓은 김임연은 장애인 사격계의 독보적인 존재였다. 역대 장애인올림픽에서 금 5, 은 2, 동메달 1개를 휩쓸었다.

2004년 아테네 대회에서는 은메달에 머물렀던 그는 이듬해 경 찰청장기 사격대회에서 유산의 아픔을 겪었다. 어렵게 다시 가진 아



7일 베이징 장애인올림픽 사격 여자 10m 공기소총에 출전한 김임연. 이미 올림픽 3연패를 이룬 그는 이날 7위에 그쳤지만 미소를 짓고 있다. 베이징=연합뉴스

이가 세상 빛을 본 것은 지난해 4월. 하지만 올림픽 준비를 위한 합숙훈련을 시작하면서 아이를 보는 건 주말에나 가능했다.

“다른 선수들이 너무 잘 봤다. 최선을 다했기 때문에 만족하지만 제대로 보살펴 주지 못한 아가에게 금메달로 미안한 마음을 털고 싶었다.”

김임연은 9일 50m 스탠더드 소총 3자세, 11일 10m 공기소총 복사출전을 남겨두고 있다.

그리고 또 하나 명증시킬 계 남았다. 국제장애인올림픽위원회(IPC) 선수위원회에 당선되는 것. 14명의 후보자 가운데 6위 안에 들면 선수위원이 된다.

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## 스포츠라이트

### 끝나지 않은 감동

박태환이나 이용대처럼 잘 알려진 스타는 없다. 하지만 그들도 똑같이 4년을 기다리며 굼은 땀방울을 흘려 왔다. 그리고 이제 세계 최고의 선수들과 메달을 다툰다. 알아주는 사람이 많지 않아도 그들은 이미 국내 최고다. 제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽에 출전한 한국 선수 77명이 보여 주는 감동의 명승부는 17일까지 계속된다.



최남진 namjin@donga.com

## 아! 실수... 사격 문애경 눈물의 銀

여자 10m 공기권총서 4.5점차 2위... 탁구 이혜곤 준결 진출 6연속 금 노려

### 특화종목 보치아도 순항

사격의 문애경(40)이 한국에 두 번째 은메달을 안겼다.

문애경은 8일 베이징사격장에서 열린 여자 10m 공기권총 결선에서 합계 463.2점을 기록해 467.7점을 쓴 중국의 린하이젠의 뒤를 이었다. 문애경은 예선에서 린하이젠과 같은 374점을 쏴 금메달 가능성을 높였지만 결선 다섯 발째에서 실수로 6.5점을 맞히는 바람에 우승을 놓쳤다.

"2년 전 베이징에서 아쉽게 은메달을 따고 싶었는데..."라며 눈물을 흘린 문애경은 "중국 관중의 시끄러운 응원이 신경 쓰였다. 앞으로 생계 걱정하지 않고 운동에 전념하는 게 평생의 소원"이라고 밝혔다.

남자 10m 공기소총에는 3명이 출전했지만 모두 예선 탈락했다. 사격 대표팀은 이번 대회를 앞두

고 큰 폭의 세대교체를 해 경험이 풍부한 노장과 패기를 앞세운 신예 선수들이 조화를 이룬다는 평가를 받았지만 아직까지는 기대에 미치지 못하고 있다. 2004년 아테네에서 금 1, 은 1, 동메달 3개를 땀은 사격은 이번 대회에서 금 3, 은 3, 동메달 1개로 목표를 높였지만 아직 은 1, 동메달 1개에 그치고 있다. 총합 14위를 노리는 한국은 대회 이틀째까지 금메달을 얻지 못했다.

탁구는 전년에 이어 순항했다. 6연속 대회 금메달을 노리는 이혜곤(MI)은 남자 단식 준결선에 진출했고 조재환(MI)도 8강을 통과했다. 장애인 특화 종목인 보치아에서는 최연소 박건우(18) 등 4명이 모두 8강에 올랐다. 아테네 대회 3관왕 홍석안이 이끄는 400m 주루 팀은 예선 2위로 결선에 진출해 메달을 노린다.

이승권 기자 why@donga.com



더 멀리 8일 베이징 장애인 올림픽 육상 남자 100m에서 F55/58에 출전한 채코의 조세프 수리아르가 큰 힘을 다해 달린을 던지고 있다. 베이징=로이터 연합뉴스

## "박태환만큼 훈련... 마음속 메달 도전"

### '열광 인어' 김지은 자유형 100m 5위 역영

"장애인 선수들 모두 노력만큼은 박태환 못지않게 했을 거예요."

장애인 체육에 관심이 없는 사람도 한 번쯤은 김지은(25·사진)이라는 이름을 들어봤을 듯하다. 지난해 TV 다우먼터라 프로그램에 나왔고 올해 장애인인의 날에는 잠실야구장에서 시구를 했다. 그리고 지금은 베이징 패럴림픽(장애인 올림픽)에 출전하고 있는 '열광 선수'가 바로 그다.

'열광'이라고 불리는 게 부담스럽다는 김지은은 뇌병변 장애인(뇌성마비), 뇌출혈 등을 앓았다는 게 비밀을 입고 태어났다. 자기도 걸을 땀만 더러가 30여 일밖에 걸리지 않았다. 초등학교 때 수영을 배우다 다른 사

랑들의 사상이 들어 그전였다. 그리고 3년 전 재활 치료를 위해 다시 수영장을 찾았고 이듬해 장애인 전국체육대회에서 4관왕을 차지할 정도로 기량이 확실히 늘었다.

김지은은 8일 베이징 워터큐브에서 열린 자유형 100m 결선에 출전했다. 비록 자신이 출전하는 57(장애 7등급) 부문 선수가 모두 8명이라 예선이 필요 없긴 했지만 그는 한국 여자 수영 선수로는 처음으로 장애인 올림픽 결승 무대에 섰다.

출발 반응 속도 0.88초로 5위를 기록한 김지은은 막판까지 역주했고 결과도 1분18초34로 5위였다. 2004 아테네 대회 7위를 예전

포포비치(미국)나 세계 기록(1분11초61) 보유자 크리스틴 브룬(독일) 등의 벽은 아직 높았다. 국내 훈련 도중 다친 어깨 때문에 막판 스퍼트가 마음먹은 대로 되지 않았다.

비록 우승은 1분11초8으로 패럴림픽 기록을 갈아 치운 포포비치의 물이었지만 김지은은 자신의 기존기록을 4초 가까이 앞당기며 확실한 가능성을 보였다. 출발 선수 명단에 있던 그의 기존 기록은 1분22초14로 8명 가운데 7위였다.

경기를 마친 뒤에도 그의 다리는 현상 동안 경련을 일으켰다. 힘들었던 레이스가 고스란히 근육 속에 담겨 있었다. 김지은은 "비록 메달을 따지는 못했지만



사진 제공 대한장애인체육회

무엇보다 우리 장애인 선수들이 이렇게 열심히 도전하고 있다는 점을 알아주시면 고맙겠다"고 말했다.

김지은은 자유형 50m, 400m와 평영 100m 출전을 남겨놓고 있다. 이승권 기자 why@donga.com



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더 빨리 베이징 장애인올림픽 육상 남자 400m T54에 출전한 김규대(가운데)가 결승선을 앞에 두고 막판 역주를 하고 있다. 김규대는 4위로 골인하면서 결선 진출에는 실패했다. 베이징=연합뉴스

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**장애인올림픽 金金金... 베이징의 감동 다시 한번** 기다리던 금메달이 한꺼번에 3개나 쏟아졌다. 한국 선수들은 9일 베이징 장애인올림픽 사격에서 2개, 보치아에서 1개 등 세 번이나 시상대 맨 위에 올랐다. 사격 여자 50m 소총 3자세 결승에서 한국에 첫 금메달을 안겨준 이윤리(왼쪽 사진 오른쪽)와 은메달을 딴 김임연이 함께 태극기를 들고 기뻐하고 있다. 보치아에서 우승한 한국 대표팀 '팀 코리아'의 막내 박건우(오른쪽 사진)가 시상식을 마친 뒤 환하게 웃고 있다. 베이징=신화 연합뉴스 ▶A13면에 관련기사

## ‘사랑’을 장전해 장애 너머로 쏘다



첫 금메달의 주인공인 여자 사격 이윤리(오른쪽)가 남자친구 이준희 씨와 포즈를 취하고 있다. 사진 제공 장애인복지재단한국체육재단



사격 남자 10m 공기소총에서 금메달을 딴 이지석(왼쪽)이 앞에서 경기 진행을 도와 준 아내 박경순 씨와 함께 시상식을 마친 뒤 기자회견을 하고 있다. 사진 제공 대한장애인체육회

금메달이 터졌다. 6일 개막 이후 들을 수 없었던 애국가가 9일 베이징 하늘에 3번이나 울려 퍼졌다. 제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽에 참가한 한국의 ‘팀 코리아’는 사격 여자 50m 소총의 이윤리(34)를 시작으로 사격 남자 10m 공기소총의 이지석(34), 보치아의 박건우(18·인천은광학교 3)가 잇달아 금메달 소식을 전했다. 여자 사격 페리방 김임연(41·KB국민은행)은 은메달을 보냈고 보치아의 정호원(23)과 육상 남자 400m 계주는 동메달을 땀다. 전일까지 총합 28위에 그쳤던 한국은 금 3, 은 3, 동메달 8개를 얻어 총합 11위로 뛰어올랐다.

“

● **여자사격 50m 첫술 이윤리**  
 복권사 자격수 출신 남친  
 베이징 파라와 코치 역할  
 귀국하는대로 청혼 계획

”

### ● 남친과 함께

1996년 7월 4일, 그날은 비가 많이 내렸다. 전남 영도군청에 근무하던 스물두 살의 이윤리는 친구와 함께 승용차를 얻어 타고 집으로 돌아오고 있었다. 차는 고여 있는 빗물을 피하려다 비탈길에서 굴렀다. 곧 당면 그는 허우를 다쳐 1년 반 동안 병원에 있어야 했다.

2008년 9월 9일, 휠체어에 앉은 이윤리는 무거운 소총을 든 채 민세를 불렀다. 사격 여자 50m 소총 3차 세 쏠음에서 한국에 첫 금메달을 안겨준 주인공이 됐기 때문이다.

사고 뒤 합병증 심화에 빠져 있던 이윤리는 걱정하는 부모님을 위해서라도 부언가 해야겠다고 생각했다.

총을 잡은 건 2년이 조금 남았다. 2006년 1월 대전보훈병원 사격장에서 재미삼아 화 본 게 인연이 됐다. 마침 같은 병원에는 부상 치료자 온 화전사 자격수 출신 동갑내기 이준희 씨가 있었다. ‘전문가’ 이 씨는 사격의 재미에 빠져들던 이윤리를 적극적으로 돕기 시작했다.

이윤리의 사격 실력은 점차 놀랄 만큼 급성장했다. 지난해 독일오픈 세계선수권대회에서 2위를 했고 올 8월 제1회 서울컵에서는 한국 신기록과 비공인 세계신기록을 세우며 우승을 차지해 사격계를 놀라게 했다.

베이징까지 날아가 개인 코치를 자처했던 이 씨는 이윤리가 귀국하는 대로 조만간 청혼을 할 계획이다.

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### ● 아내와 함께

남편이 쓴 총알이 표적지 험가운 때를 통과했다. 옆에 있던 아내의 눈에서는 하얀물이 눈물이 흘렀다.

9일 남자 10m 공기소총에서 706.8점을 찍 프랑스의 리하를 물리쳐 0.2점 차로 누르고 짜릿한 금메달을 목에 건 이지석은 평소 “힘들어도 사랑하는 사람과 함께 호흡할 수 있어 행복하다”는 말을 자주 했다. 그는 하얀신을 쓰지 못했다. 앞손에도 제대로 힘을 줄 수 없다. 이번 화수 장애 사격 선수들은 일반 장애인 등 사격 발사 이전에 필요한 일들을 도와주는 보조 요원을 둘 수 있다. 이지석과 사격장에 1분씩 서 있던 보조 요원은 바로 아내 박경순(31) 씨였다.

이지석은 2001년 교통사고를 당한 뒤 재활 과정에서 간호사였던 박 씨를 만나 사랑에 빠졌다. 그리고 2006년 힘들게 결혼에 골인했다. 이날 박 씨는 때로는 조언을 했고, 그보다 더 많이 기도를 했다. 마지막 10번째 발사를 총에 날려 준 뒤에는 힘줄을 위로 물리나 남편의 발을 보며 눈을 감았다. 그리고 ‘교만하지 않고 평소 하던 대로만 해 달라’고 마지막 기도를 올렸다.

장내 야구장이사 이지석의 금메달 확정 소식을 알리는 순간 아내는 남편의 목을 끌어안고 키스 세례를 했다. 힘은 세월을 이겨낸 아내의 배 속에는 사랑하는 남편의 6개월 된 아기가 자라고 있다. 남편은 “아내, 그리고 아이와 함께 행복한 사격 선수로 남고 싶다”고 말했다.

이윤진 기자 why@donga.com

“

● **남사격 10m 공기 이지석**  
 재활 도운 간호사 아내  
 사격장 보조요원 나서  
 마지막 순간까지 기도

”

## ●보치아 선수 박건우 1급장애 대표팀 막내 '1급투혼'

대표팀 막내 박건우는 태어날 때 뇌에 산소 공급이 제대로 안 돼 1급 장애를 갖게 됐다. 말 하는 것 해볼 수는 혼자 할 수 있는 게 없다. 그런 소년이 보치아 BCS(최종종 장애 등급) 결승에서 그리스 선수를 3-2로 꺾고 한국에 세 번째 금메달을 안겼다.

박건우가 장애인 올림픽 특화 종목인 보치아를 시작한 것은 은평학교 중 3 때인 2005년. 체육교사 김진환(68) 씨는 "처음 건우를 봤을 때 장애 정도가 너무 심해 보치아도 힘들다고 생각했지만 정신력이 대단하다는 것을 알고 부모에게 권했다"고 말했다. 보치

아는 표적으로 흰색 공을 하나 던져 놓고 양쪽 선수가 빨간색 또는 파란색 공을 6개의 연지거나 골라서 상대방보다 표적에 가까이 간 공에 1점씩 적시 점수를 합산하는 경기다.

아들이 운동하는 것을 처음에 반대했던 부모는 며칠 뒤 "내 인생을 부모님이 책임지실 것이 아니라면 운동을 하게 해 달라"는 아들의 말을 듣고 든든한 후원자가 됐다.

박건우는 이를 악물고 연습했다. 김 교사는 그런 건우를 '독충'이라고 했다. 보통 10년 정도 해야 세계 정상급 선수가 되지만 박건우는 3년



금메달을 목에 건 박건우(오른쪽)가 김진환 교사와 함께 시상식을 마친 뒤 금메달을 재물어보고 있다. 베이징=연합뉴스

만에 세계 랭킹 1위에 올랐다.

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## “장애인의 한계 도전 스포츠 활동 자신뿐 아니라 사회도 변화시켜”



‘당사자형 장애인’이자 장애인

당부평 중앙장애인연합 주석

“장애인의 활발한 스포츠 활동 장애는 자신뿐만 아니라 사회를 변화시킵니다.”

중국 지도자 당사오핑(鄧小平)의 장남으로 중국장애인연합회 주석이기도 한 당부평(鄧東方·64·사진) 베이징(北京) 올림픽조직위원회 집행위원은 최근 신화통신과의 인터뷰에서 이렇게 말했다.

그는 “장애인이 불편한 몸으로 격렬한 경기를 치르는 것에 대해

가 부족한 사람이 적지 않다”고 말했다.

하지만 장애인 스포츠는 무엇보다 장애인 스스로에게는 스포츠를 통해 신체적 장애를 치료하고, 장애로 인한 한계를 극복하게 해 줄 뿐만 아니라 자칫 고립에 빠질 수 있는 장애인이 웅만하게 사회와 융화하게 한다는 것.

그는 이번 베이징 올림픽 구호인 ‘하나의 세계, 하나의 꿈(同一個世界, 同一個夢想)’이야말로 장애인올림픽에 더 적합한 것이라고 강조했다.

장애인올림픽에서 자신의 한계

를 극복하는 모습을 통해 장애인들도 비장애인들과 마찬가지로 하나의 세계에서 살고 있으며 같은 꿈을 꾸고 있음을 널리 알릴 수 있다는 것이다.

필 집행주석은 문화대학원이 한 장애인인 1968년 5월 홍위병에 쫓겨 건물에서 뛰어들었다 하반신이 파비했다. 그는 1983년부터 장애인 사업에 적극 뛰어들어 현재 888만 명(인구의 약 6.34%)에 이르는 ‘장애인 대국’ 중국을 ‘장애인 스포츠 강국’으로 만드는 전인자 역할을 했다.

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## 스포츠라이트

### 효심의 금빛 총성

제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽 사격 소총 50m 3자세에 출전한 **이윤리** (34)가 한국 선수단에 첫 금메달을 안겼다. 1996년에 당한 교통사고로 휠체어에 의지하게 된 이윤리는 가슴 아파하는 부모님을 위해 2006년 1월 총을 잡았다. 사격 입문 2년여 만에 이뤄 낸 올림픽 금메달과 그녀의 깊은 효심에 아낌없는 박수를...



최남진 namjin@donga.com



## 문성혜, 첫 출전 여자탁구서 銅 男단식 조재관-정은창 銀 확보

《오늘 김승권》

100m 금 피스토리우스  
 육상 단거리 3관왕 도전

지난달 베이징 올림픽에서는 우사인 볼트(22·자메이카)라는 '괴물'이 탄생했다. 100m, 200m에서 세계신기록으로 우승한 볼트는 400m 계주에서도 세계신기록으로 금메달을 획득했다. 스페인도 브라질·미국 단거리 3관왕을 달성했다.

장애인올림픽(패럴림픽)에서도 '스프린트 황제'로 나올 가능성이 높다. 볼트와 동갑내기인 오스카 피스토리우스(남아프리카) 주연 공이다.

피스토리우스는 몸이 다리가 없이 태어났다. 생후 11개월에 두 다리 부분을 절단했고 보조기를 사용해 서고, 걷고, 뛰는 일을 배웠다. 2004년 베이징 올림픽에서는 장애인 육상에서 처음으로 열리는 육상 선수기 본고개 대회에 패럴림픽 200m에서 금메달, 100m에서 동메달을 탔다.

100m, 200m, 400m 세계기록 보유자 피스토리우스의 꿈은 비장애인 올림픽에 출전하는 것이었지만 쉽지 않았다. 국제육상경기연맹(IAAF)에서 "기록 향상을 돕는 기구를 사용하지 때문에 불공정하다"며 계보를 정하기 때문. 피스토리우스는 "의족은 바퀴가 달린 실패와 같아 왔다"며 국제스포츠중재재판소(CAS)에 제심을 요구했고(CAS는 그의 손을 들어줬다. 하지만 그는 출제 거론 기록을 받지 못했다).

피스토리우스는 9월 11일 내리는 가운데 열린 100m 결승에서 11초 17로 제왕 실용민(미국)을 0.03초 차로 제치고 우승했다. 스페인도 100m 30초 80m까지 뒤쫓지만 막판 스프린트 제했다.

피스토리우스는 '블레이드 러너'로 불린다. 날카로운 생긴 의족 때문에 붙여진 별명이다. 그는 "남은 경기에서도 우승하겠다"며 "과 2012년 런던 올림픽에 출전하겠다"고 말했다. '블레이드 러너'는 10월 200m, 16일 400m에 출전한다.

한국은 20일 탁구 은성태(30·세계 4등)가 여자 단식 3, 4위전에서 독일의 호니카 바인만을 3-1로 꺾고 입선 동메달 1개를 보냈다. 여자 탁구가 패럴림픽에 출전한 것은 이번이 처음이다. 탁구는 이날 조재관(21·세계 1등)과 정은창(29·4-5등)이 남자 단식 결승에 올라 은메달 2개를 추가해 확보했다. '달팽' 김지은(20)은 수석 배명 여자 100m 결승까지 출전지만 6위에 그쳤다.

이승연 기자 [isa@donga.com](mailto:isa@donga.com)



동계달리수의 환호 문성혜가 10일 베이징 올림픽체육관에서 열린 주일(중국)과 탁구 여자 단식 은메달에서 과이팅을 꺾고 있다. 문성혜는 주일에게 3-2로 승리한 3, 4위전에서 독일 선수들 3-1로 꺾고 동메달을 따냈다. 베이징=연합뉴스




'블레이드 러너' 극적인 역전승 '블레이드 러너' 오스카 피스토리우스(왼쪽)가 9일 열린 육상 남자 100m 결승에서 역전하고 있다. 오른쪽은 100m 2연패에 도전한 일본 피사. 그러나 피사는 도중에 넘어져 8위에 그쳤다. 베이징=AP 연합뉴스



발로 서보 -- 불가능은 없다 10일 베이징 올림픽그린우드에서 열린 휠체어테니스 남자 단식 8강에서 네 대일 라이언이 서보를 하기 위해 왼발로 공을 띄워 붙이고 있다. 대일리는 손목에 연결된 라켓으로 공을 패러센서로 내달린 도끼 한 에르스트 마스 2-1로 승리했다. 베이징=연합뉴스

## '휠체어 육상황제' 홍석만 400m 세계新

 베이징 장애인올림픽

사격 이지석 한국 첫 2관왕

'휠체어 육상 황제' 홍석만(33·제주장애인체육회·사진)이 세계 신기록을 세우며 한국에 다섯 번째 금메달을 안겼다.

▶A21면에 관련기사

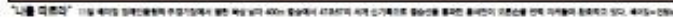
홍석만은 11일 베이징 장애인 올림픽 주경기장에서 열린 육상 남자 400m 결선에서 자신이 갖고 있던 세계기록을 1초19나 앞당긴 47초67의 기록으로 가장 먼저 결승선을 통과했다. 홍석만



베이징=연합뉴스

은 2004년 아테네 대회 100m, 200m에서 2관왕에 올랐던 한국 최초의 육상 금메달리스트다.

9일 사격 혼성 10m 공기소총 복사에서 금메달을 딴 이지석(34)은 이날 같은 종목 입사에서 다시 정상에 올라 한국 선수로는 대회 첫 2관왕이 됐다. 한국은 금 5, 은 5, 동메달 8개로 메달 순위 13위에 올랐다. 이승건 기자 why@donga.com



## 타고난 '질주본능' 막을 자 없었다

홍석만 400m 47초67 금- 자신 기록 1초19나 당겨  
2004년 아테네 100-200m 2관왕 이어 다관왕 시뮬

특히 남가주 400여에 달했던 홈리스가 대부분 대안주택으로의 대안이 없었다. 커먼웰스 정부도 홈리스 문제에 관심을 갖지 않았다.

그렇지 만은 했다. 그는 이미 개전에서 40대 초반에 폐렴으로 산기도를 세우지 못한 채 올랐다. 이 개기 40대 초반을 보지 못한 그가 살아온 적이 많았다면 무슨 그런 말이 있었을까.

홍익인간은 자연에서 영감을 준 사상으로 태어났다. 만물을 움직이게 한 그에게 소아마비가 걸린 것은 세 살 때. 만물일과 제도가 살아 보려는 뜻한 채 뛰노는아름답고 씩씩한 아이가 됐다.

학자를 옮기면 그는 고등학교 때 부친의 반대  
를 무릅쓰고 철학에 관심을 시작했다. 유심 선의  
말미 조율이 있었기는 했지만 무엇보다 '일주 천  
년'을 익힐 수 있었다.

“두 달의 일할 수 있는 재능을 찾아 올랐을 거죠. 수확전을 논할 수 있다면 어떤 기업이라도 재능이 있습니다.”

제2차 대전이 끝난 후, 그는 다시 피난을 주었다.

다. 손가락의 길이 해골 후 정맥파 운동성을 300마이크로미터 이하로 낮췄다. 앞의 테스트에서 실패한 그는 300마이크로미터 이하에서 300m, 300m, 300m, 300m에서 300마이크로미터 이하의 한국 최초의 육상 금메달리스트가 됐다.

이날 홍지현은 실수하지 않았다. 경기장을 가득 채운 관중이 일방적으로 자기의 코루타움을 응원했지만 그는 냉정한 상인 남자 허벅지 깊은 밑창으로 때리고 또 힘차게 뒤편에 차이를 만든

다. 그리고 47.86미터는 세계 신기록으로 기념  
적인 출산을 종가했다.

9월 40cm 겨우에서 살아남을 만 출산은  
28cm, 30cm, 38cm 겨우 출산을 남겨 놓  
았다.

1994년 일본 요미우리에서 실린 '한국의 자살률'과  
 비교하면 우리나라는 자살률이 낮은 편에 속한다.  
 그러나 1994년 우리나라는 자살률이 1994년 7만명  
 이 된 것으로 나타났다. 이같은 사실은 우리나라  
 자살률이 높다는 것을 보여준다.

세화에서 두 달의 가을 향기를 맡고 있는 서지아를

적인, 그 때문에 나중에는 자살으로 이어가  
가을의 풍경다. 이승환 기자 [whattong@naver.com](mailto:whattong@naver.com)

2. 공으로 일러주세요



## 사격 3번째 金… “최고 메달밭”

이치의 숲-심재룡 冊 추가  
학구제도 冊2-冊2개 나외

이제라도 내가 배마를 잡으면 술집의 과묵함이  
해서 한숨의 몇 개월이 된다.

이제부터는 17일 자정 중심 10㎞ 완주자를 돕기  
 위해 함께 704.25km인 884~885인 104.10km를 완  
 주한 884~885.10km에 2인 104.10km를 완주한 884~  
 885.10km에 2인 104.10km를 완주한 884~885.10km

연간 생산액이 새만금 개발에 기록파이어,  
본선에서 80% 인입을 기록해 불우하게 2등  
있던 이기씨는 10월 30일 100% 파세를 맞춰면서  
내년 선두를 지켰다. 이기씨는 이날 종량 10% 줄어

소문과 사실이 혼란을 일으킬까 봐, 제치고 유승민  
다. 사표는 김대중(90%)에 열매달릴 자격 아닐까?  
지금도 온갖 열매달리기에 대한 대립 표출이  
흔히 지적을 받는다. 유승민에서는 남의 80%에

출판한 출판인(주)·저술(주)·출판(주)이 세계 각국을 방문하여 수출했다.

물속에 잠긴 채피는 체중의 90% 이상을 물에 떠서 지탱하는 수중으로 있다. 깊은 물에서 미끼 낚시(30cm)와 2, 4번 물결에서 미끼 낚시(10cm)를 낚는다. 깊게 4~5cm까지 잠긴 채피는 물속에서

원스 코퍼레이션은 유럽에서 각 나라별로 영업과  
개발을 하는 것에 중점을 두어 2000년 12월 15일  
남자 박노희 대표이사(서울시경제인재육성회  
사무총장)를 대표로 하여 2000년 12월 15일

그는 이 여남과 화합하며 그가 대표 연수 여남이 되는 공작을 맡았다.

여자 수백이 여인 조부지(조부는) 급지(급지) (20)에 올린 40% 이상에서 수백 40%에 올랐다. 급지(급지)는 여인 조부지(조부는) 급지(급지) (20)에 올린 40% 이상에서 수백 40%에 올랐다. 급지(급지)는 여인 조부지(조부는) 급지(급지) (20)에 올린 40% 이상에서 수백 40%에 올랐다.

한미은행 광고, 연초, 일대일 소개의 송진 고위직  
출처 있다.  
이메일 주소: [www.kmibank.com](mailto:www.kmibank.com)

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▶


정해진 물속에서는 비정해진 다이버에서는 볼 수 있는 일련의 장면이 나타난다. ③ 폭설 남자 200m 에선엔 물면엔 코팅스와 투웨이로 다룬다(코팅스의 가이드 하나리 조종을 받아 투웨이 일루하고 있다. 가이드는

산수의 정통자를 일거나 땀을 흘려서 얻을 수 있다. 산수를 낚아 200m 이상떨어져 떨어진 표류식 마늘채 등이 연장을 가져다와 고사 해에 부딪히는 것을 막기 위해 표류가 적대기에 모든 종류의 마늘채를 주조하고

있다. 강의자 형제가 농가 여인들에 귀족의 귀족 서  
스내비스(가난한) 형제가 다른 선수들의 형제이며  
일하는 농부라고 한다. 농부들이 조지라고 한다.  
세이징은 내가 조지라고 한다. 세이징은



## 박세균 사격 세계신 金 박건우 보치아 2관왕

 베이징 장애인올림픽

사격의 박  
세균(37·청  
주시청·사  
진)이 세계  
신기록으로  
한국의 7번



째 금메달을 명증시켰다.

▶A16면에 관련기사

박세균은 12일 베이징 사격  
장에서 열린 사격 혼성 50m  
권총 결선에서 합계 644.9점  
(552+92.9점)을 쏴 우승  
했다. 같은 종목 이주희(36)  
는 630.1점으로 은메달을 따  
1, 2위를 모두 한국 선수가  
차지했다.

박세균은 예선에서 기존 세  
계기록보다 4점이 많은 552점  
을 쏴 일찌감치 본선 우승을  
예약했다.

보치아에 출전한 한국선수  
단 '팀 코리아'의 막내 박건우  
(18·인천은광학교)는 전날 사  
격 이지석(34)에 이어 두 번째  
로 2관왕에 올랐다.

이승건 기자 why@donga.com



# “첫 출전 금 기쁘지만 고생한 동료들에 죄송”

한국사격 4번째 금 박세균 “이젠 청혼해야죠”  
 2000년 대회엔 농구로 출전... 종목 바꿔 꿈 이뤄

합계 출전 이주희는 은메달

“힘들게 운동한 동료들이 많은데 처음 출전한 올림픽에서 금메달을 따 죄송합니다.”

12일 베이징 장애인 올림픽(패럴림픽) 사격 혼성 50m 권총 결승에서 우승한 박세균(37·경주시청)의 소감은 뜻밖이었다. 그는 예선에서 552점을 쏜 세제신 기록을 세운 뒤 본선에서도 출전 선수 가운데 가장 높은 90.9점을 기록해 합계 644.9점으로 세제신기록을 갈아 치웠다. 이전 기록은 인도네시아 레베덴스키(러시아)가 1998년에 세웠던 641.2점. 같은 종목 이주희(36)는 630.1점으로 은메달을 보냈다.

고등학교 3학년이던 1989년 교통사고로 장애를 입은 그는 처음 휠체어 농

구에 소질을 보였다. 2000년 시드니 대회 때 휠체어 농구 선수로 출전했지만 사격 선수들의 경기 모습을 보고 충격을 받았다. 그동안 국제무대에서는 눈에 띄는 성과를 올리지 못했지만 패럴림픽 출전을 앞두고 금메달 획득 가능성이 높은 24명으로 구성된 ‘팀팀’에 소속돼 대회 150일 전부터 강도 높은 훈련을 해 왔다.

충북에서 사격을 가르치고 있는 양연주(30) 씨와 교제하고 있는 박세균은 “대회 첫날 남자 10m 공기소총에서 7위에 그쳤는데 이후 여자팀구가 경합을 받은 격려를 해 준 게 큰 힘이 됐다”며 “한국에 돌아가면 청혼을 할 계획”이라고 말했다. 사격은 이날까지 금 4, 은 3, 동메달 2개를 따 최고의 효자 종목 자리를 굳게 지켰다.



금-은 쌍둥이... 한국 사격의 날 12일 베이징 장애인 올림픽에서 열린 베이징 장애인 올림픽 사격 혼성 50m 권총 결승에서 나란히 1, 2위를 차지한 박세균(오른쪽)과 이주희가 시상식에서 메달을 들어 보이고 있다. 베이징=신화 연합뉴스

박건우-정호원 보치아 2인조 우승... 사이클 진용식銅

한국 선수단 ‘월 코리아’의 막내 박건우(18·인천운남중학교)는 보치아 BC3(최중증 장애) 혼성 2인조 결승에서 우승해 사격의 이자희(34)에 이어 한국의 두 번째 2관왕이 됐다.

9일 개인전에서 금메달을 땀던 박건우는 동메달리스트 정호원(22)과 짝을 이뤄 스페인을 8-1로 꺾었다. 1일전에서 8-0으로 기선을 제압한 한국은 2일전에서 1점을 내줬지만 3일전에서 4-1로 점수 차를 벌였고 마지막 4일전에서 4점을 보태 낙승했다.

보치아는 휠체어 공을 표적으로 하나 먼저 놓고 양쪽 선수가 볼링에 또는 파란색 공을 6개씩 던지거나 굴려서 상대보다 표적에 가까이 간 공에 1점씩의 점수를 할 수 있는 방식으로 언뜻 보면 지루하고 재미없을 수도 있지만 공을 굴릴 때마다 완공한 작정이 필요하다.

대회 첫날인 7일 사이클 남자 개인 복주 3000m에서 은메달을 땀던 진용식(30·나사렛대)은 도로 24.8km에서 동메달을 추가했다.

이윤진 기자 yhw@donga.com

**베이징 장애인올림픽 종합 순위** 12일 오후 8시 현재

	금	은	동
1 중국	36	42	27
2 영국	33	20	16
3 미국	23	15	17
4 호주	14	17	16
5 우크라이나	14	10	16
10 한국	7	6	9
12 일본	2	5	3



시상식은 즐거워 12일 베이징 장애인 올림픽 펜싱에서 열린 보치아 BC3 개인전 결승에서 스페인을 8-1로 꺾고 우승한 한국의 박건우(오른쪽)와 정호원이 시상식에서 장난을 치며 기뻐하고 있다. 베이징=AP 연합뉴스

## ｜ 황설수설 ｜ 100미터 11초17 義足

9일 베이징 장애인올림픽 육상 100m에서 남아프리카공화국 오스카 피스토리우스(22)가 두 다리 의족(義足)으로 뛰어 11초17을 기록하며 우승했다. 준족이 돋보이는 축구 선수의 100m 기록이 11초대라니 '생체(生體)다리'로도 내기 힘든 속도다. 베이징 올림픽 100m에서 세계 신기록을 낸 우사인 볼트(9초69·자메이카)보다 1초48, 여자 육상 100m 금메달(10초78)보다는 불과 0.39초 뒤지는 기록이다.

▷피스토리우스가 의지하고 있는 제이(J) 모양의 첨단 의족은 탄소섬유로 제작돼 무릎과 엉덩이 충격을 흡수하고 탄력도 있다. 밑바닥에는 축구화처럼 스파이크가 박혀 있다. 아이슬란드 오수르사(社) 제품으로 많은 장애인 육상 선수가 사용한다. 그러나 미국 마이애미 의대 로버트 게일리 교수는 "정상적인 다리는 땅을 디딘 뒤 탄력을 붙여 에너지를 240%까지 사용하지만 의족은 땅을 디딜 때의 에너지 중 80% 정도만 다시 뛰어 오르는 데 사용할 수 있다"는 데이터를 내놓았다. 그만큼 현저하게 불리할 수밖에 없다.

▷피스토리우스는 태어날 때부터 두 다리 종아리뼈가 없었고 생후 11개월 때 무릎 아래를 절단했다. 어렸

을 때부터 의족을 다리 삼아 럭비 수구 같은 운동을 섭렵했다. 이번 우승 뒤 "다리가 정상이었으면 하는 아쉬움은 없었느냐"는 기자의 질문에 그는 "(그런 생각은) 비장애인들이 나를 보면서 '의족을 끼고 달리는 건 어떨까'라고 묻는 것과 똑같다. 나는 아니다"라고 말했다.

▷그는 지난달 열린 베이징 올림픽에 참가하기 위해 비장애인 선수들과 육상 400m 예선에서 겨뤘지만 기준 기록을 넘지 못해 탈락했다. 그러나 기록이 계속



빨라지고 있어 언젠가는 그가 우사인 볼트와 경쟁하는 모습을 볼 수 있을지도 모르겠다. 물론 피스토리우스가 아무리 노력해도 볼트와 상대해 이기기는 어려울 것이다. 그러나 의족으로 뛰는 그가 예선을 통과해 스타트 라인에 볼트와 나란히 서는 것이 완전히 불가능하지는 않을 것도 같다. 불굴의 도전정신과 집념 어린 노력이 슈퍼맨을 낳는다는 사실을 피스토리우스가 다시 한 번 인류에게 입증해 보이고 있다. 누구나 좌절하지 않는다면 희망이 있다.

허문명 논설위원 angelhuh@donga.com

## 양궁 남자단체 - 女개인 이화숙 金

### 베이징 장애인올림픽

한국이 남자양궁에서 베이징 장애인올림픽의 9번째 금메달을 수확했다.

양궁 남자대표팀은 15일 단체전 리커브 결승전에서 중국을 209-206으로 꺾고 금메달을 땀다.

#### ▶A20면에 관련기사

이흥구 윤영배 정영주로 구성된 남자팀은 1엔드를 54-53의 근소한 차로 앞서간 뒤 2엔드에서 6점 차로 앞서며 승리를 지켰다. 이에 앞서 열린 여자단체전에서는 이화숙 김기희 김란숙으로 구성된 한국팀이 중국에

177-205로 저 은메달에 머물렀다. 한편 이화숙은 13일 여자 개인 리커브 스탠딩 결승에서 중국의 가오팡샤를 103-92로 여유 있게 누르고 한국팀에 양궁 첫 금메달을 안겼다.

한국 장애인 수영계의 '마린 보이' 민병인은 남자 50m 배영 S3 결선에서 자신의 최고 기록인 44초80을 세우며 분전했으나 중국의 두젠핑(44초31)에게 밀려 은메달에 그쳤다.

육상 홍석만은 남자 800m T53 결선에서 동메달을 추가했고, 탁구 남자대표팀도 단체전에서 동메달을 따냈다. 황인찬 기자 hic@donga.com





베이징 장애인올림픽 대회 열흘째인 15일 양궁 남자 리커브 단체전에서 중국을 꺾고 금메달을 따낸 한국의 윤영배(왼쪽)가 동료 선수들과 함께 기뻐하고 있다. 베이징=연합뉴스



양궁 남자대표팀 장영국(위)과 이소구.

## “女양궁 울지 마라, 오빠가 있다”

중국 양궁의 거센 도전은 장애인 올림픽에서도 이어졌다.

15일 베이징 장애인올림픽 남녀 단체전 리커브 결승전에는 한국과 중국이 나란히 올랐다.

앞서 열린 여자단체전.

이화숙 김기희 김관숙으로 구성된 한국팀은 중국에 177-205로 크게 지며 은메달에 머물렀다. 1연전에서 37-58로 뒤진 한국은 힘 한번 제대로 못 써보고 패해 자존상에 상처를 입었다.

하지만 1시간여 뒤 열린 남자단체전에서 한국은 이를 보기 좋게 되갚았다.

이흥구 윤영배 장영주로 구성된 남자대표팀은 1연전 6월 가운데 3월을 10점에 쏘아 넣으며 54-53으로

앞선 뒤 2연전에서 6점 차로 도망가며 기세를 잡았다. 한국은 최종 4연전에서 6점 1발, 7점 2발로 흔들렸으나 결국 중국을 209-205로 눌렀다. 전날 노 메달에 그쳤던 한국 선수단에 활력을 불어넣는 값진 금메달이었다.

한국 양궁은 13일 여자 개인전에서 이화숙이 금메달을 따 때 이어 이날 성전으로 모두 금 2개, 은메달 1개를 기록했다.

한국 장애인 수영계의 '마린 보이' 민병언은 아쉽게 은메달에 머물

렀다. 남자 50m 배영 83 예상에서 45초 85로 세제신기록을 세운 민병언은 결선에서도 44초80으로 기록을 새로 썼지만 중국 부경병(44초31)의 막판 스피드에 밀리며 은메달에 그쳤다. 앞서 자유형 50m에서 동메달을 딴 민병언은 결국 금메달의 꿈을 이루지 못했다.

한국 장애인 육상의 건판 홍석만은 남자 800m T53에서 1분37초 45로 동메달을 추가했다. 홍석만은 600여 m 지장자치는 성취를 저

지만 뜻상이 달랐다. 이로써 홍석만은 금 1개, 동메달 3개를 땀다.

김광용 김경복 이해관 조재환으로 구성된 학구 남자대표팀은 단체전 M 1~2 총득 3-4위전에서 오스트리아를 3-0으로 꺾파하고 동메달을 땀다.

한편 베이징 올림픽 수영 마라톤에 출전해 관심을 모았던 의다리 여자 수영선수 나빌리 뒤 푼아(남아프리카공화국)는 장애인올림픽 5관왕 2연패를 달성했다.

촬영한 기자 no@donga.com

단체 결승 나란히 中과 격돌... 여자 銀 1시간 뒤 3점차 설욕  
 배영 50m 민병언 세계新 깨고도 銀... 홍석만 육상 800m 銅

베이징 장애인올림픽 메달 순위 15일 오후 1시 현재				
	금	은	동	총계
1 중국	80	60	47	187
2 영국	41	27	28	96
3 미국	32	33	26	91
4 우크라이나	23	17	29	69
5 호주	20	26	25	71
6 캐나다	18	9	20	47
7 러시아	17	20	20	57
8 남아공	17	2	5	24
9 스웨덴	14	20	21	55
10 독일	13	22	20	55
11 브라질	13	12	16	41
12 프랑스	10	21	15	46
13 튀니지	9	9	2	20
14 한국	9	8	13	30



## 男탁구단체 中 꺾고 10번째 金

베이징 장애인올림픽 오늘 폐막

남자 탁구가 개최국 중국을 꺾고 한국에 10번째 금메달을 안겼다. ▶A21면에 관련기사

한국은 16일 베이징대 체육관에서 열린 제13회 장애인올림픽(패럴림픽) 탁구 남자 단체전 M 4~5등급 결승에서 최경식(41),

정은창(39), 김병영(39)이 출전해 중국을 3-1로 눌렀다. 한국은 금 10, 은 8, 동메달 13개로 종합 13위를 달렸다.

6일 개막한 패럴림픽은 17일 오후 9시 폐회식을 끝으로 12일에 걸친 인간 승리 드라마의 막을 내린다.

이승건 기자 why@donga.com



18일 베이징다 체육관에서 열린 제13회 장애인올림픽 탁구 남자 단식전 MM-5등급 결승에서 한국 선수들이 패자가 없어서 환호하고 있다. 왼쪽부터 최정식, 정은성, 김병영 선수. 뒤쪽 왼쪽은 양현철 감독, 배이팅-리틀뉴스

## 2시간 21분 혈투... '붉은 벽' 넘었다

남자탁구 단체 中과 절전 '금빛 마무리'  
 사격 김임연 IPC 선수위원 선출 좌절

2시간 21분에 걸친 혈투였다. 늦게만 보였던 판  
 피압박을 주저하던 정은성은 물고 있던 락을 눈  
 색 락이 될 위에 내리쳤다. 그리고 주 손을 잃은 간  
 은 채 두 손을 하늘 높이 치켜올렸다. 결코 도 뛰어  
 도 보지 못할 만큼 기쁨이 넘쳐난 황색야에 앉은 그가  
 할 수 있는 승리 세리머니는 그것으로 충분했다.  
 한국 남자 탁구가 중국을 제치고 10번째 금메달  
 을 따냈다.

최정식(10), 정은성(38), 김병영(38) 3명이 출전  
 한 한국은 18일 베이징다 체육관에서 열린 제13회  
 장애인올림픽(파라올림픽) 탁구 남자 단식전 MM-5  
 등급 결승에서 일본 황제 중국을 3-1로 꺾었다. 단  
 제전은 단식, 단체, 복식, 단체, 단체와 손서로 진  
 행되며 먼저 3경기씩 치르는 형이 이긴다.

첫 번째 단식 경기에 출전한 정은성은 세브 스  
 코어 0-2로 패자다 내리 3세트를 피내며 금메달  
 의 초석을 다졌다. 두 번째 단식 경기에 나간 김  
 병영도 중국의 장영을 3-2로 아슬아슬하게 눌렀  
 다. 경기 스코어 2-0.

탁구 세계 최강 중국은 쉽게 넘어갈 상대가 아  
 니었다. 경기장을 가득 채운 관중이 열광적으로  
 자유타를 응원하는 가운데 중국은 정  
 은성도 최정식이 출전한 복식에서 한국을 3-1로  
 꺾고 분위기를 바꿨다.

대표팀 양현철 감독은 세 번째 단식에 다시 정  
 은성을 내보냈다. 개인전에서 아슬아 손매달에  
 그렸던 정은성으로서 자신의 손으로 금메달을 따  
 낼 수 있는 절호의 기회였다. 중국과 장영과 맞붙  
 은 정은성은 1세트를 11-4로 쉽게 이겼지만 크게  
 앞서 나가던 2세트를 10-12로 내줬다. 이어진  
 3세트를 11-7로 따낸 뒤 4세트를 8-11로 겨 세트  
 스코어 2-2.

**베이징 장애인올림픽 탁구 순위**  
 18일 현재

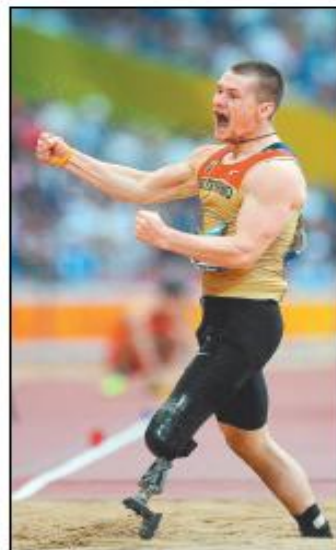
	금	은	동
1위 중국	87	81	52
2위 영국	42	29	31
3위 미국	38	34	28
4위 우크라이나	34	18	31
5위 호주	22	29	27
6위 한국	10	8	13
7위 일본	5	52	7

피 말리는 혈전은 5세트에서도 계속됐다. 정  
 은성은 초반 0-4까지 뒤졌지만 내리 5득점에 성  
 공해 전세를 역전한 뒤 10-10 듀스를 거쳐 결국  
 12-10으로 이겼다.

역대 장애인올림픽에서 한국이 얻은 300개의 금메달  
 가운데 가장 많은 23개를 따냈던 탁구는 이번 대회  
 에서 금 2, 은 1, 동메달 2개를 확보해 했지만 첫날  
 까지 금메달 장이 은 3 동메달 4개에 그쳤다. 최지  
 안 탁구 경기 마지막 날 개최국 중국을 제고 정상  
 에 오르는 장면을 맞았다. 한국은 이날까지 금 10,  
 은 3 동메달 13개를 얻어 총합 19위에 올랐다.

한편 국제장애인올림픽위원회(IPC) 선수위원  
 에 출마한 사격 여자 국가대표인 김임연(41·K3)  
 국민은행은 이날 발표한 8명의 신임 위원 명단  
 에 이름을 올리지 못했다.

‘올림픽의 피너’ 오스카 피츠제르(미국)가  
 피가상(미국)은 300m, 200m 금메달에 이어 이날  
 육상 남자 400m 결승에서 47초48로 세계신기록  
 을 세우며 우승해 ‘스프린트 브라더’ (단거리 3관  
 왕)을 달성했다. 아출연 기자 [ay@donga.com](mailto:ay@donga.com)



달리뛰기 세계신기록 '파워풀 이 밋' 최정식 38 보이데  
 가 18일 베이징다 국제체육관에서 열린 육상 남자 달리기 결승 1차 시가  
 서 6.50초 세계신기록을 세운 뒤 두 주먹을 불끈 쥔 채 환호하고 있다.  
 배이팅-리틀뉴스

‘아름다운 도전’ 베이징 장애인올림픽 폐막 한국 금10개 종합13위



“2012년 런던서 만나요” ‘인간 승리의 드라마’ 제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽이 17일 열전 12일의 막을 내렸다. 올림픽 주경기장에서 관중 9만여 명이 지켜보는 가운데 폐회식 공연이 열리고 있다. 베이징=연합뉴스

제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽이 17일 폐회식을 끝으로 12일간의 열전을 마쳤다. 한국은 금 10, 은 8, 동메달 13개로 종합 13위에 올랐다. ▶A14·25면에 관련기사  
개막 전 금 13, 은 6, 동메달 7개로 종합 14위를 목표로 삼았던 한국은 전체 메달 31개로 기대했

던 것보다 5개를 더 얻었다. 사격의 이지석(34)과 한국 선수단의 막내인 보치아의 박건우(18·인천은평학교)는 2관왕이 됐다.

총 20개 종목에 472개 금메달이 걸린 이번 대회에 한국은 선수 78명을 포함해 132명의 선수단을 파견했다. 개최국 중국은 금

89, 은 70, 동메달 52개를 얻어 2004년 아테네 대회에 이어 2연패를 달성했다. 다음 대회는 2012년 런던에서 열린다.

한국 선수단 본진은 19일 오후 3시 30분 인천공항으로 입국해 현장에서 기자회견을 한 뒤 해산한다. 이송건 기자 why@donga.com



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## 희망, 그 이상을 보았다

[illegible][illegible]



장애인올림픽 메달리스트

금메달(10명)	은메달(10명)	동메달(13명)
이승민(사격) 이지석(사격 2개) 박세균(사격) 박소현(보자간) 유재환(농구 2인칭) 학구 남지 (단체 M4-M5) 홍지민(육상) 양승 남지 단체 이복자(농구)	김일민(사격) 홍지민(사격) 이수희(사격) 김윤서(사이클) 유재환(농구) 양승 남지 단체 이복자(농구)	이수희(사격) 김지민(농구 2개) 홍지민(농구 2개) 김지민(농구 2개) 김지민(농구 2개) 김지민(농구 2개) 김지민(농구 2개) 김지민(농구 2개) 김지민(농구 2개)

## 인간승리 드라마 쓴 영웅들 수고했습니다

### ■ 되돌아본 열전 12일

12일간의 드라마가 끝났다. 무대는 지난날 올림픽이 열린 베이징이었다.

선수들은 4년 동안의 노력이 헛되지 않도록 혼신의 힘을 다했고 관중은 인간 능력의 한계를 뛰어넘는 도전에 감동했다. 선수 77명 모두 최선을 다했지만 조금 더 특별한 경향을 한 금메달리스트들을 찾아본다.

6일 개막식 베이징 장에 인솔함에서 한국의 첫 금메달을 9일 나왔다. '호

### 女사격 이윤리 금 물고- 男탁구 中궤고 피날레 혼신의 힘 쓴 선수 77명에 국민들 박수 갈채

'네' 이윤리(34)가 물고쳤다. 이윤리는 사격 여자 50m 소총 3차 세 골장에서 세계신기록으로 우승했다. 사격은 이지석(34)도 가져갔다. 김호수였던 부인 박정순 씨의 도움을 받으며 혼성 10m 공기소총 복사에서 금빛 총성을 올렸다. 한국 선수단 막내 박진우(18·인천은광학교)는 보자아 BC3 개인전 결승에서 그리스 선수를 3-2

로 꺾었다. 9일 금메달 3개를 얻은 한국은 11일 다시 금 사냥에 나섰다. 이지석은 혼성 10m 공기소총 입사 골장에서 우승해 2관왕이 됐다. 2004년 아테네 대회 2관왕인 홍지민(33·제주장애인체육회)은 육상 남자 400m 결승에서 47초67의 세계신기록으로 1위를 차지했다. 12일에도 금 소식은 이어졌다.

한국은 보자아 BC3 혼성 2인칭에서 우승했고 박진우는 2관왕이 됐다. 사격은 이윤리도 메달링박이 처음 출전한 박세균(37·경주시청)이 혼성 50m 권총 결선에서 세계신기록으로 금메달을 추가했다.

고대하던 양궁의 첫 금메달은 13일 이복자(42·경기도장애인양궁협회)가 여자 개인 리커브 스턴드 결승에서 우승하면서 나왔다. 남자 양궁은 15일 단체전 결승에서 중국을 꺾고 여자 단체전에서 중국에 단판 패배를 당했다. 한국은 16일 남자 M4-5등급

2008 베이징 장애인 올림픽 종합 순위

	금	은	동
1 중국	89	70	92
2 영국	42	29	31
3 미국	36	26	28
4 우크라이나	26	18	32
5 호주	23	29	21
6 한국	10	8	13
7 일본	5	14	8

단체전에서 중국을 꺾고 마지막 100m의 금메달을 따냈다. 이종진 기자 [win@donga.com](mailto:win@donga.com)

## “기업-지자체, 장애인 더 도와주길”

### 김향숙 장애인체육회장

김향숙(사진) 대한장애인체육회장은 베이징 장애인올림픽 폐막일인 17일 베이징 시내 원정호텔에 마련된 코리안하우스에서 열린 기자회견에서 “기업이나 지방자치단체의 사회 공헌 이미지를 평가할 수 있는 것이 바로 장애인 체육”이라고 강조했다.

장 회장은 “국민의 격려가 장애인 선수들의 실력을 향상시킬 수 있다는 것을 이번에 다시 한 번 실감했다”며 “장애인 체육이 사회 공헌 이미지를 갖는 데 적합한 활동으로서라는 것을 기업과 지자체들

이 이번 기회에 알아줬으면 좋겠다”고 말했다.

그는 “총괄별로 장애인 실업률을 장려하는 일에 적극 나설 생각”이라며 “이것이 바로 다음 번엔 장애인 체육에 대한 준비의 시작”이라고 덧붙였다.

지자체나 기업의 실업률 장려와 관련한 장 회장은 “유인촌 문화체육관광부 장관이 장애인체육 지원 방안을 이번 방한에서 고민해야 하는지를 일제 해 손 계기가 됐다”고 말했다고 전했다. “대외 기간에 베이징을 방문한 국내외원들에게 좋은 의도 장애인 선수를 지원할 수 있도록 일을 개성해 달라고 요청했다”고 말했다.



이번 대회에서 양궁과 탁구 등 전통적 강세 종목이 기대에 못 미치는 성적을 낸 뒤 대회 장 회장은 “다음 대회 때 좋은 약이 될 것으로 생각했다”고 말했다. 이종진 기자 [win@donga.com](mailto:win@donga.com)

## 금 포상금 4500만원-연금 매달 80만원

銀 36만원 - 銅 24만원 매달 지급

장애인올림픽에서 금메달을 따면 포상금과 연금을 얼마나 받게 될까.

정부는 장애인올림픽 금메달리스트에게 4만 달러(약 4500만 원)의 포상금을 지급한다. 은메달은 2만 달러(약 2250만 원), 동메달은 1만 달러(약 1125만 원)다. 장애인에 대한 추가 포상금 지급 규정은 아직 마련되지 않았다.

이는 비장애인의 80% 수준이다. 비장애인 금메달의 경우 5만 달러(약 5625만 원)를 받는다.

정부는 이번 대회부터 포상금에 대한 규정을 정했다. 이전까지는

예산이나 기업 후원금에 따라 그때마다 다른 포상금을 지급해 왔다.

연금이 나온다. 금메달은 80만 원, 은메달은 36만 원, 동메달은 24만 원이 매달 지급된다. 비장애인 금메달의 경우 매달 100만 원이 지급된다.

장애인올림픽 금메달 연금은 매달 24만8000원씩 지급된다.

2001년 2월 60만 원으로 인상됐고 2006년 1월 다시 80만 원으로 올랐다. 하지만 비장애인과 달리 장애인의 경우 협회 거래금은 찾아보기 힘들다. 확인한 기자 [hoo@donga.com](mailto:hoo@donga.com)

## 스포츠라이트

### 막 내린 '감동 드라마'

제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽이 17일 폐회식을 끝으로 열전 12일간의 막을 내렸다. 한국은 금메달 10개, 은메달 8개, 동메달 13개로 종합 13위를 차지했다. 신체의 한계를 뛰어넘어 최선을 다하는 선수들의 모습은 감동의 드라마였다. 장애인들에게 '나도 할 수 있다'는 꿈과 희망의 메시지를 전해 준 장애인올림픽은 2012년 런던에서 다시 열린다.



최남진 namjin@donga.com

## “허기 달래며 허름한 식당서 훈련... 金 旻 선수들에 감사”



### 스포츠 화제/이사람 패럴림픽 2관왕 보치아 김진한 코치

금메달이 확정되자 코치는 팀 불령을 했다. 허리를 펴곤했지만 아픈 줄도 몰랐다. 선수는 경기 전 우승 세리머니로 코치에게 팀 불령을 주문했다. 코치는 휠체어에 앉아 있는 선수들 위해 “내가 대신 해주마” 하고 약속했다.

박건우(18·인천은평학교 고3)는 베이징 장애인올림픽 보치아 BC3(최중증 장애) 개인전과 혼성 2인조에서 우승했다. 2관왕 뒤에는 그림자 같은 김진한(38·인천은평학교 교사·사진) 코치가 있었다.

역도 선수 출신으로 대학에서 체육교육을 전공한 김 코치가 장애인 체육과 인연을 맺은 것은 1990년대 후반 장애인 역도 대표팀 코치로 자원봉사를 하면서부터.

“그때 이상하리만큼 만족감을 느꼈다”는 김 코치는 2000년 용

인대 대학원에서 특수교육을 전공하며 특수학교인 은평학교에서 교편을 잡았다. 그리고 보치아를 알게 됐다. 멀리 지도교사를 맡았지만 장비 외에는 아무런 지원이 없어 선수들의 저녁도, 교통비도 그가 해결해야 했다.

라는 목표를 세웠다. 본격적인 고행의 시작이었다.

오후 3시에 수업이 끝나면 학교 식당으로 갔다. 보치아 코트 규격인 ‘12×6m’가 나올 수 있는 장소는 그곳뿐이었다. 식탁과 의자를 치우고 매일 오후 10시까지 훈련했다. 혼자

### 자원봉사하다 장애인 체육과 인연 훈련장 지어줄 후원자 나타났으면

“5000원짜리 김치찌개 하나에 공기밥만 서너 개를 시킬 때도 많았어요. 아이들 더 먹으라고 자리를 비웠다가 돌아와 보면 늘 제 몫을 남겨놔더라고요. 그렇게 착한 학생들이예요.”

김 코치는 2004년 박건우의 재능을 발견한 뒤 올림픽 금메달이

움직일 수 없는 박건우를 집에 데려다준 뒤 학교로 돌아와 식당을 원상 복구하면 밥 12시가 넘었다.

“매일 오전 1~2시에 집에 돌아가 오전 7시에 출근했습니다. 인젠가 쉬는 날 두 달을 안아 주려 했는데 낯선 사람 보듯 피해 마음이 아팠죠.”

동갑내기 부인 황나영(인천 문일여고 교사) 씨는 큰 불평 없이 남편을 지켜봤다. 김 코치가 교사들 시작했을 때 황 씨는 같은 학교 ‘선배 교사’였다.

“금메달을 딴 날 아내에게서 전화가 왔어요. 목표를 이뤘으니 이제 그만해도 되지 않냐고 묻더라고요. 그동안 많이 참았나 봐요.”

김 코치는 제대로 된 시설에서 지원을 받으며 보치아 유망주들을 키우고 싶다고 했다. 소박한 꿈이지만 실현될 가능성은 높지 않다. 학교 식당은 간접 보수가 필요한 D등급 건물이고 금메달 2개를 딴 보치아에 대한 관심은 곧 사라질 것이기 때문이다.

그는 스스로 “보치아에 미쳤다”고 했다. 하지만 가족도 뒤로한 채 박봉을 털어 가며 선수들 키워 온 그가 계속 보치아에 미쳐 있기를 바라는 건 정말 ‘미친 짓’일지 모른다.

이승건 기자 why@donga.com



## 시론

## 장애인 보듬는 사회



오 무 영

인제대 의대 소아청소년과 교수

제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽(패럴림픽)에서 한국이 금메달 10개, 은메달 8개, 동메달 13개로 종합 13위에 오르고 대회는 17일 막을 내렸다. 장애인올림픽 소식은 세계 금융의 대혼란으로 신문의 한 귀퉁이로 밀려난 듯한 느낌이어서 아쉽다.

### 패럴림픽 발레소녀의 의지

6일 밤 베이징 장애인올림픽 개막공연이 펼쳐진 메인스타디움에서 한쪽 발이 없는 소녀가 청각장애인 무용단과 함께 10여 분간 발레공연을 선보였다. 초등학교 4학년인 리웨 양은 대지진 때 무너진 학교 건물 더미에서 70여 시간 만에 기적적으로 구조됐다. 왼쪽 다리를 잃어 더는 보통사람처럼 춤을 출 수는 없지만, 발레에 대한 꿈을 포기하지는 않겠다고 무대에 나섰다. 신체 일부를 잃었지만 인생의 꿈을 잃지 않은 소녀의 모습이 인상적이다.

우리 기억에 가장 오래 남는 장애인으로 영화 '수퍼맨'의 주인공 크리스토퍼 리브를 떠올

린다. 지구를 구하는 영웅의 모습으로 팬들의 뇌리에 깊이 남았던 리브는 1995년 말에서 멀어지면서 목을 크게 다치는 바람에 장애인이 된 뒤 휠체어에 의지해 살다가 2004년 52세의 나이로 유명을 달리했다.

그가 아직도 우리의 기억 속에 영웅으로 남아 있는 이유는 전신이 마비된 뒤 보여준 의지 때문이다. 그는 "영웅이란 힘센 사람이 아니라 힘을 잘 쓰는 지혜와 용기가 있는 사람이다" "장애가 내 삶의 방식을 결정짓게 내버려두지 않겠다"고 다짐했다. 그리고 크리스토퍼 리브 재단을 설립해 장애인을 후원하고 권익 보호에 앞장서 왔다. 지금 이 재단은 미국에서만 400만 명에 이르는 척추 부상 환자를 돌본다. 그는 인류에게 용기와 희망을 준 진정한 슈퍼맨이었다.

'오체불만족'의 저자 오토다게 히로타다는 "장애는 불편하지만 불행하지는 않다"고 했다. 그의 손발은 10cm도 채 안 되지만 야구, 농구, 축구 등 못하는 스포츠가 없다.

우리나라에서 장애를 극복한 영웅으로는 한국 최초의 시각장애인 가수 이용복, 교통사고로 하반신이 마비됐으나 재활치료 후 '내 사랑 송이'로 휠체어 댄스를 보여주었던 강원래, 유럽 5개국 일본 한국을 휠체어로 종단하고 방송에서 '바퀴 달린 사나이' 코너를 진행했던 하반신 마비 개그맨 박대운을 들 수 있다.

세상 모든 일이 자기 뜻대로 되지는 않는

다. 살다 보면 생각지 못했던 사고가 발생해 한 사람의 꿈과 인생을 송두리째 뒤흔들어버린다. 주변에서 육체적 장애가 정신적 장애로 이어져 절망하고 포기한 뒤 불행한 삶을 사는 사람을 여럿 보았다. 이들이 삶을 포기하지 않도록 하려면 신체적 장애는 물론이고 심리적 사회적 문화적 장애까지 극복하게 하는 사회적 프로그램이 필요하다. 선진국일수록 이 분야에 관심과 투자를 많이 한다.

### 반짝 관심 대신 해야 할 일은

베이징 장애인올림픽에 출전한 한국 선수들은 연습할 만한 변변한 시설과 별다른 지원도 없이 종합순위 13위에 올라 우리 대한민국의 국력을 세계에 알리고 국민을 자랑스럽게 해주었다. 장애를 극복하고 선전한 사실 자체가 국력과 메달에 상관없이 위대한 승리임을 보여줬다는 점에서 우리 모두가 격려하고 축하할 일이다.

육체적 장애가 부끄러운 것이 아니다. 육체적으로 멀쩡하지만 정신적으로는 남을 배려하지 못하고, 장애인을 비하하고 외면하는 사람들이야말로 스스로를 부끄러워해야 한다. 이제 우리도 국력이 커진 만큼 장애인에 대한 반짝 관심에서 벗어나 장애인의 처지와 고민과 꿈을 이해하고 사회적 국가적으로 돌볼 점이 없는지를 살펴야 한다.



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### 태극기 휘날리며... 영웅들의 귀환

제13회 베이징 장애인올림픽에 출전해 종합 13위(금메달 10개, 은메달 8개, 동메달 13개)를 차지한 한국선수단이 19일 귀국했다. 이날 인천공항 1층 출국장에서 열린 해단식에서 김성일 단장이 선수단 및 환영 나온 가족과 관계자들 앞에서 태극기를 흔들며 보이고 있다. 인천=변영욱 기자 out@donga.com