

New Beijing , Great Olympics



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Chen Yueling, a woman walker, was born in Faku, Liaoning Province, on April 1, 1968. It was this girl from Northeast China, called "fast female walker", who stood on the medal-awarding podium to receive her gold medal in the 10 km. walk in Barcelona and waved her bouquet to help China fulfil its half-century-old dream of winning a gold medal in the Olympic athletics. Chen Yueling set a new walking world record at the Sixth National Games in 1987, but she was disqualified for her technical errors at three consecutive World Cups. In order to correct her big stride and slow frequency that might give the judges a feeling of stride in air, she underwent a high-intensity training programme of walking 20 kilometres every day under the guidance of her coach. Without any shadow from her failures in the previous races, she convinced the judges with her beautiful walk at the Barcelona Olympics. She employed her planned tactics from start to finish, preserved her strength in her midway, gradually broke away from the crowd and walked ahead into the stadium. When the Russian walker Ivanov surpassed her in the final stage, she was not at all worried or flurried, but kept her cool head and rhythm until the finish line. As Ivanova was disqualified for her technical errors, Chen Yueling wrested China's first gold medal in the Olympic athletics. Another Chinese woman walker Li Chunxiu took the bronze medal.

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Shwarzenegger Supports Olympics In Beijing



Hollywood super star Arnold Schwarzenegger ran on the Great Wall in Beijing during his promotional tour of the Special Olympics Sports to China in May, 2000. It was his first ever trip to the world's most populous nation that is bidding for the 2008 Olympic Games. The American action star kicked off a series of activities around China to promote the Olympic Ideal and raise funds for the Special Olympic Games held in the country, including a Great Wall run attended by 2,000. (07/07/2000)

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