



ZOU ZHONGPIN / CHINA DAILY

China's Hou Yuzhuo (right) and Marlene Harnois of France exchange kicks in the women's 57kg class final yesterday.

Hou comes up one leg short

By GAO CHANGXIN
CHINA DAILY

SHENZHEN — After dragging an injured leg for four matches, Chinese taekwondo contestant Hou Yuzhuo lost in the final.



TAEKWONDO

Limping on the mat with one leg covered in painkilling ointment, the two-time world champion was overwhelmed by the relentless attacks of her French rival, Marlene Harnois.

"My old injuries recurred before the competition started today," the 23-year-old said.

"In the final, I could only fight with one leg. I am not quite satisfied with the result, but what I can say is that I tried my best."

She said the crowd's cheers helped her get off the mat when she was knocked down.

Hou injured her ankle in the preliminaries' first round and also had an old knee injury return.

She struggled to get up several times during the Universiade but never considered giving up.

"I attach great importance to the Universiade, and I wanted to win," Hou said.

Harnois said she met a worthy opponent in the final.

"Hou was strong in the match. I feel

happy that I could win," Harnois said.

Hou, who started studying taekwondo at age 9, won gold at the World Taekwondo Championships in 2009 and 2011, and finished second at the Asian Games in Guangzhou last year.

She also won the National Games in 2009.

Hou qualified for next summer's London Olympics.

"I refuse to think about whether I will or not get a gold in London," she said.

"What's important is the process."

She said her injuries would not affect her preparations.

"I have met many different kinds of opponents in this competition," she said.

"And I have learned a lot."

Taekwondo isn't everything

By GAO CHANGXIN
CHINA DAILY

SHENZHEN — Jensen Ishida loves taekwondo but has chosen to go the academic, rather than the athletic, route in life.

"Being a taekwondo athlete is not a good career in the US, even if I were to become one of the best," the 20-year-old Hawaiian said.

"I always have fun practicing taekwondo, but that fun has to be based on the fact that I can make a decent living."

Ishida lost in the second-round preliminaries in the Universiade's 68kg division.

The University of Hawaii student wants to become a physical therapist after graduation.

"Being a therapist, I can work on a sports team or in hospitals, which is not bad in the United States," he said.

"I train two to three hours a day, but I also study hard. I think I have found the balance."

The son of a Japanese father and a Korean mother, he was taken to a taekwondo club at age 5. He has spent most of his spare time since practicing taekwondo.

He does not often surf, a popular pastime in Hawaii, because he just does not like it as much as martial arts.

But he does enjoy surfing the Web, hanging out with friends and his girlfriend, and going to the movies when he is not training or studying.



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Jensen Ishida of the United States.

'Unbelievable' family encounter

By ZHENG XIN
CHINA DAILY

SHENZHEN — It's a strange place for a family reunion.

Chinese golfer Xu Yue, who attends Appalachian State, and her long-lost cousin, Carsten Corazza, a swimmer for New Zealand, had a brief but memorable encounter at the Universiade.

"It's unbelievable, but it did happen," Xu said.

After being told that her cousin would also be participating, Xu got his phone number through her parents and set up a meeting with him at the cafeteria in the Universiade Village.

"I recognized him immediately after he appeared in the dining place," Xu said. "We were so excited that we hugged each other."

Despite their different nationalities, Xu and Carsten still share similarities in appearance.

"Our noses look so much alike," Xu said. "And our smiles too!"

Xu's great aunt — Corazza's grandmother — moved to America years ago and settled there. Corazza was born in New Zealand 20 years ago and had never been to China.

"It's amazing both of us took up sports and participated in the Universiade," Xu said.

Corazza, 20, scored an impressive win in the 400m individual medley at the New Zealand short-course championships in Wellington on Aug 8, four days before the Universiade.

"Thanks to the Universiade, I can meet up with my cousin," Xu said.

Xu took a picture of the two and posted it on her micro blog.

The micro blog has been viewed and forwarded more than 1,000 times.

The cousins only spent about five minutes together because they had to prepare for their coming events.

"But the short meeting was very happy and we've already left our contact numbers and will keep in touch again after the Games," she said.

"It was a pity that we could not talk longer and we did not have time to watch each other's events, but we will talk more on the Internet in the future. I also invited him to visit me and my family in Beijing," she said.



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Golfer Xu Yue and her long-lost cousin, swimmer Carsten Corazza.