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China's First Space Walker Disqualified After Age Fraud Scandal



BEIJING, CHINA - China's first reported spacewalk has been officially declared void by the International Federation of Astronauts (IFA). Zhai Zhigang quickly became a national sensation when the China National Space Administration (CNSA) declared him the first Chinese taikonaut to walk in space on September 27, 2008. Huge, state-sponsored, internet fan clubs boasted that China had finally moved from the "Have Nots to the Have Nauts". However, immediately following China's declaration of victory, many international observers pointed out Zhigang's youthful looks, leading to speculation that he may not have been above the age of 16.

Based on detailed space ethics studies, 16 is the required minimum age, set by the IFA, for space walking. The rule was issued in the spirit of promoting fairness because younger space walkers are supposedly more fearless when performing difficult maneuvers, such as putting one foot in front of the other, and doing the robot and/or the moonwalk.

The IFA demanded that the CNSA produce undisputable proof of Zhigang's age within a week. When they could not, the IFA promptly stripped Zhigang of his title of "First Chinese Space Walker" and promised to open an exhaustive investigation of the ages of Chinese space walkers. "I believe we will be able to thoroughly investigate all Chinese space walkers," stated a top IFA official, on condition of anonymity. "Especially since Zhai Zhigang is the only one." In response, the CNSA has announced that it will appeal the decision, stating "One week is simply not enough time to doctor a modern passport...give us just a few more days, and we will be able to provide plausible, passport-like evidence that Zhigang is of required age."

This is merely the latest in a string of scandals regarding Chinese taikonauts. Just six months before, China had declared Liu Boming the country's first taikonaut to crawl in space. However, the IFA found him guilty of doping with moving-through-space-enhancement drugs and stripped him of his title. "China may yet compete in the space race," explained NASA Administrator Michael Griffin, "but until they learn to cheat without getting caught, they'll just have to live in shame with America's obvious cosmic superiority." 

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Republicans Accuse Michael Phelps of Elitism

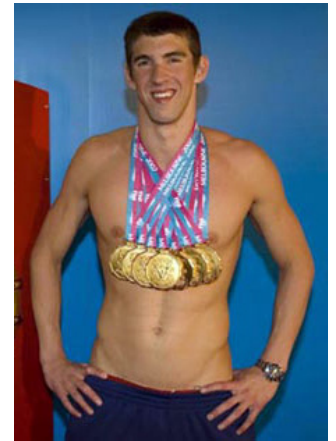
"Who does this guy think he is, clinging to his bumper bowl, kiddie pool past? Does he think he's better than us? Average Americans don't want to hear these pampered athletes blab about themselves. Blah blah blah these gold medals are so heavy and I'm so awesome. Shut the f%&k up and get a real job!"

-Bill O'Reilly, The O'Reilly Factor


TOWSON, MARYLAND

In response to negative comments by right wing pundit Bill O'Reilly, and other high profile members of the Republican party, 14-time gold medal winner and American swimming superstar Michael Phelps gave a prepared statement last week at a press conference in his Maryland home town.

"Look people. Its not my fault that I'm objectively better at what I do than any other human on Earth. My coaches and trainers trained me to stay humble in all my post-win interviews, but honestly all that false humility I was forced to show in Beijing was really dragging me down. Let's face it, accurate self assessment can easily come across as arrogance in the extremely talented. Indeed, that is perhaps the central irony of greatness. I mean, the only guy that can even hold a candle to me had his prime over two decades ago... although to be fair, he did have a serious moustache, which I'd say is at least a three hundredth of a second handicap in the water.



I'm not saying I'm not blessed and lucky and thank Jesus and all that. But seriously, what I do is a lot of fucking hard work. I eat 10,000 calories worth of raw carbs and protein cubes a day. I look just like Michael Phelps and I'm only allowed to have sex when I'm not training. During the Olympics, I didn't even have time to take a shit...I had to get one of my leg masseuses to do that for me.

All I'm saying is, I'm simply the most aquatically elite man on the planet and I'd be lying if I didn't say so. Maybe I'm crazy, but aren't Olympic champions supposed to be physically stronger and faster? Don't you want the guy representing America to the world to be better than you? Now, I'm not saying I'm a better person, somehow smarter or morally superior to others — God knows my interview skills need a little polishing — but what's wrong with knowing I'm an elite athlete and being honest about my obvious strengths? As soon as the GOP figures that one out, they can meet me in the fucking pool. I won convincingly this year and I'm going to win it all again in 2012. And if I have my way — and I always do — 2008 will kick off the most elitist eight years in American history. 

harvardsp@gmail.com

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