

Tahoe's Bennett doesn't let height hurt him on slopes

By Elliott Almond, Bay Area News Group

They dismissed him as too tall.

They said his size 15 feet were too big an obstacle. They told his parents it just couldn't be done.

But 6-foot-7 Bryce Bennett dreamed of growing into a top downhill ski racer anyway.

"There's a first time for everything," he once told his father.

Now the Lake Tahoe skier is the tallest of the 242 U.S. athletes competing at the Winter Olympics in South Korea. Bennett, 25, has emerged as America's top alpine speed skier by whooshing past the doubters and forging his own track in an unusual journey to Mount Olympus.

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