



A screenshot of an “Inside Edition” video shows food being robotically served from the ceiling with plates lowered by pink robotic hands at the Olympic Village.

how the beds function, which has so far received more than 63,000 likes. Britcher said one of its features is called “zero-G mode” and “it’s phenomenal.”

## Food

The cafeteria in the village is one of the “cool things” Olympians commonly share on social media. Dutch speed skater Jutta Leerdam gave a tour around the dining hall in her vlog, showing her ordering a Chinese specialty called “*malatang*” (meat and vegetables in spicy hot soup).

Norwegian biathlon participant Filip Fjeld Anderson also shared a clip of him dining in the cafeteria, saying he’ll be “probably leaving this place 5 kilograms heavier.”

American Marino’s favorite food is dumplings. “I’ve probably had like 200 dumplings since I’ve been here,” she told NBC.

A total of 678 Chinese and Western dishes are on offer for free in the village, China Daily reported. Local specialties are included, such as Beijing roast duck, stir-fried sliced lamb with scallions and moo shu pork.

Fast food chains such as KFC are also in the village, providing dine-in and takeaway services.

Robotic bartenders and waiters are available to serve food in order to minimize human contact. A Reuters video shows robots making food at the main media center.

An “Inside Edition” video features food robotically served from the ceiling

with plates lowered by pink robotic hands.

## Pin trading

If there’s one thing most Olympians in Beijing are all in on, it’s pin trading. “Basically, you get a whole bunch of pins, you trade them with athletes from other nations and try to collect the coolest pins,” Canadian freestyle skier Elena Gaskell said while displaying her collection in one of her recent TikTok clips.

Jonny Gustafson and Sean Hollander from the United States are also pin-collecting aficionados and showcased their collections in a short video. Hollander’s personal favorites include a pin from the Netherlands in the form of a pair of clogs.

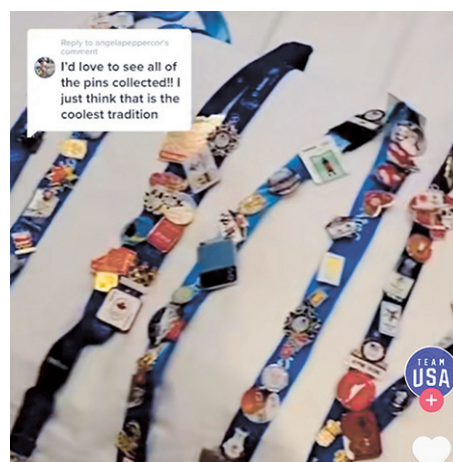
“Pretty much everything with Bing Dwen Dwen (the Olympic mascot) on it ups its value,” said Hollander.

Pin trading goes beyond simply collecting, as it’s considered a gesture of friendship.

Chinese curlers Fan Suyuan and Ling Zhi gave a set of eight pins featuring Bing Dwen Dwen to their American rivals, Christopher Plys and Vicky Persinger, after losing to the duo 5-7 in the mixed doubles preliminaries.

The Americans later posted the pins on social media, hailing it “a wonderful display of sportsmanship by our Chinese counterparts.”

“They’re just beautiful, something super unique. These will be on my desk for a very, very long time,” Plys said.



Jonny Gustafson and Sean Hollander from the United States showcase their pin collections in a short video.

In return, the American curlers also gave pins to Ling and Fan, but they wanted to add “something special” for their Chinese friends.

“We still have to go back to the village and find something, a good jersey, or put something together,” Xinhua quoted Plys as saying after their match on Monday.

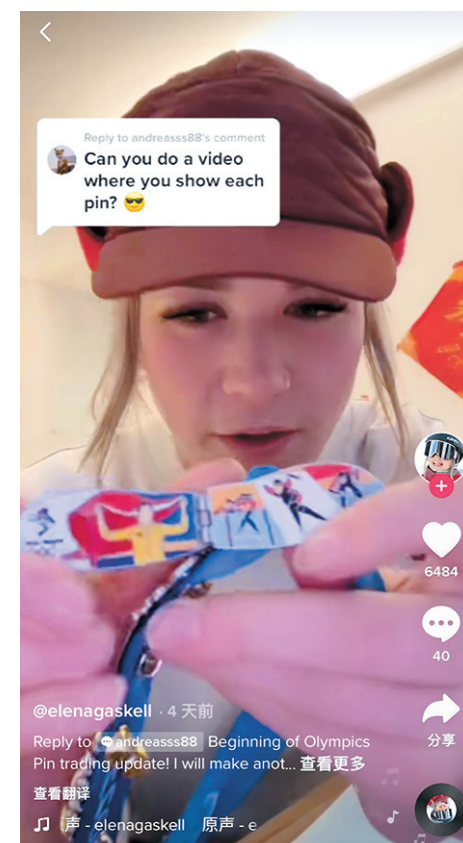
Happy to receive the pins from Plys, Ling said he would like to invite the American to his hometown of Harbin in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, a city boasting a long history of ice and snow sports. Plys once competed at a tournament in Harbin.

“Chris told me he likes Harbin. He mentioned the Harbin Ice and Snow World. I sincerely welcome him to travel to Harbin when the COVID-19 pandemic is over,” Ling said.

“

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**Julia Marino**  
American snowboarder



Canadian freestyle skier Elena Gaskell displays her pin collection in one of her recent TikTok clips.