

Special Interview **OB・OGの今**

Alumni Today

プロボクサー

Professional Boxer

村田 諒太 むらた りょうたさん

Ryota Murata

その時々で、
常に一生懸命にやってきたから
今があると思います。

大学時代を振り返るとやはりボクシングが中心でした。朝から練習に参加して、授業を受けたら、また練習…。その繰り返しで、とにかく真面目に4年間トレーニングに取り組んでいました。

入学当初はボクシングをあくまで個人競技だと考え、高校で5冠を達成していたこともあり「俺が成績を残してやる」という意識さえありました。しかし、大学リーグのデビュー戦では敗北。その後も、半年で3回負けました。鼻をへし折られた気持ちで、「ここでは強くなれない」と、負けた原因を環境のせいにしていた時期もありました。しかし、当時の総監督が「絶対に大丈夫だ」と最後までサポートをしてくださった。支えになってくれる人と出会えたことは、人生での大きな財産ですね。

3年生の時には、主将の先輩が「大学リーグ戦(団体戦)で絶対優勝するぞ」と部員を引っ張る姿を見て、「東洋大学で優勝したい」というチーム意識が芽生えたんです。翌年、主将として挑んだリーグ戦でも優勝という夢は叶いませんでしたが…。しかし、夢は託すことができます。私が実現できなかった夢に、先輩が挑んでいる。その姿に自分を重ねると、気持ちも新たに引き締まります。今年、ボクシング部がリーグ戦初優勝を果たしたことは本当に嬉しかったです。卒業から10年以上が経った今も、ボクシング部と心のつながりがあることが嬉しいんです。

大学時代のリーグ戦も、オリンピックの舞台も、世界タイトルの防衛戦も… その時々で、全力を尽くし一生懸命に取り組んできた舞台です。振り返れば「昔はこんなことでも緊張してた」なんて思いますが、それは「一生懸命」を経験したから言えること。学生の皆さんも、とにかく何事にも一生懸命に取り組んでみましょう。学生時代は経験が大事な時期。全力で取り組んだ経験は深く自分の人生を色づけてくれると思います。

I believe
the efforts I have always made
have led to who I am now.

Looking back at my student days at Toyo University, my life was already centered round boxing. I participated in training in the morning, and had training again after attending classes... I repeated that process. I devoted serious efforts to training for four years.

Soon after entering the University, I believed that boxing was a non-team sport and even thought, "I must and will produce good results" because I had won five major boxing meets as a senior high school student. However, I was defeated in my debut match. After that, I lost three times in half a year. I felt my overconfidence had been deflated and even attributed my defeats to the environment around me, thinking, "I cannot become stronger here." Nevertheless, the then head coach supported me all the way, encouraging me, "You will surely become a good boxer." Encounters with people who support me are the important assets I have gained in my life.

When I was a third-year student, I was impressed by the efforts of the then captain, senior to me, Saying to lead team members saying, "We will surely win the university league (team competition)," which made me aware of teamwork and led me to desire to achieve a victory with the Toyo University team. Although I served as the captain the next year, I was unable to lead the team to fulfill the dream of achieving a victory in the tournament... But the dream can be handed down to younger generations. My juniors are now striving to fulfill the dream I was unable to fulfill. Empathizing with them, I can renew my determination. I felt truly happy when the Toyo University Boxing Club won the tournament for the first time this year. I am pleased that I still have a spiritual bond with the Boxing Club even 10 years after my graduation.

I have devoted serious, all-out efforts to all matches, including matches in the university league tournaments, matches in the Olympics, and matches for defending world titles... In hindsight, I am surprised that I used to feel tense even with minor issues, but I can say so because I have experienced what making "all-out efforts" is. I recommend that students try devoting all-out efforts to everything in front of them. While you are students, the most important thing is having diverse experiences. I believe that your experience of making all-out efforts will add profound color to your life.



Profile

2008年、経営学部経営学科卒業。東洋大学ボクシング部所属時には全日本選手権で優勝。北京オリンピック出場を逃し、現役を一度引退するも2009年に現役復帰。その後2012年にロンドンオリンピックミドル級金メダルを獲得すると翌年プロ転向。連勝を重ね2017年10月には念願の世界王座獲得、2018年4月には日本人初となる防衛に成功するなど、日本人には体格的に不利とされるミドル級で快進撃を続けている。

Mr. Ryota Murata graduated from the Department of Business Administration, Faculty of Business Administration in 2008. While a member of the Toyo University Boxing Club, he won the All Japan Boxing Championships. Failing to qualify to compete in the Beijing Olympic Games, he retired from active competition but returned as an active boxer in 2009. After that, he won the gold medal in the middleweight class in the 2012 London Olympic Games, and became professional the next year. He has since continued to win matches, and in October 2017 he fulfilled his long-cherished dream of becoming a world champion, and successfully defended his title in April 2018, a first for a Japanese boxer. He has accomplished remarkable achievements in the middleweight class, where Japanese boxers are thought to be at a physical disadvantage.



村田さんの特集記事『「WBAミドル級世界王者・村田諒太」不安と葛藤と、情熱の狭間でたどり着いた境地とは?』をWebメディア「LINK UP TOYO」にて公開中です。

A special feature article has been uploaded to the LINK UP TOYO webpage. (English unavailable)

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検索

