

Speaking on Sports

By LAWRIE HIGNELL

If Olympiad finishes off the week the way it started, the whole event will have to be classified a flop as far as attendance and finances are concerned.

From what I saw in gymnastics, judo and synchronized swimming, the competition was the best possible but the fans who came to observe the finals in these three sports were few, compared to what the event could draw.

Is this a fault of bad publicity?—not this time. Everyone who can read or has even been within ten miles of the campus has heard about the miniature Olympics, and any one in his right mind wouldn't miss it for the world.

For once, publicity can't be blamed.

What, then, about prices being charged to gain admission to each event?

Press releases tell us that the deficit in money spent this week must be made up through admission charges and registration fees.

It seems to me that we want this national meet to be a success and the success of the whole week will certainly depend on how many people are in attendance at the individual finals.

High prices hurt attendance

The prices being charged this week are one dollar for students and two dollars for adults, and the tickets are good for only one night, in one sport.

At this price, a student would have to pay two dollars to see the finals in judo, or gymnastics, or swimming.

And if a student wished to see the finals in four or five sports that are being presented this week, it would run into quite a little sum of money.

Must the money be recovered at the expense of a full house at each event?

Certainly not. This Olympiad is being presented as much for the students on campus as for the students participating.

Why not, then, give the student a package deal, at a saving?

For the price of five or six dollars, a ticket could be provided that would allow entrance to all the meets during the week. And the money, taken in, would more than likely equal the amount that will be received through cash sales at the gate, according to the present ticket agreement.

Any advertising company will verify the fact that sales are equal or better if the public feels that they are making a saving by purchasing a multi-purpose product.

Why not use this idea in the ticket sales? The attendance would definitely go up, and the success of the event would be greatly magnified.

From what I have heard around campus in the last three days, everyone would like to go to these different events, but the price is just a bit too high.

Week-long ticket advocated

Sell an advance ticket at a saving, and the people would buy it, just on the chance that they would save money during the week, and they would make an effort to use up the value of their ticket.

One more thing may be keeping the students from turning out, and that is the time of the event.

There were more people at the judo than the gymnastics because the judo was at night, while the gymnastics were during class time.

And many students are studying madly for tests that are part of the mid-terms for their academic year.

Why weren't these tests postponed 'til next week or scheduled for last week, so that every one would have the best chance to attend as many events as possible?

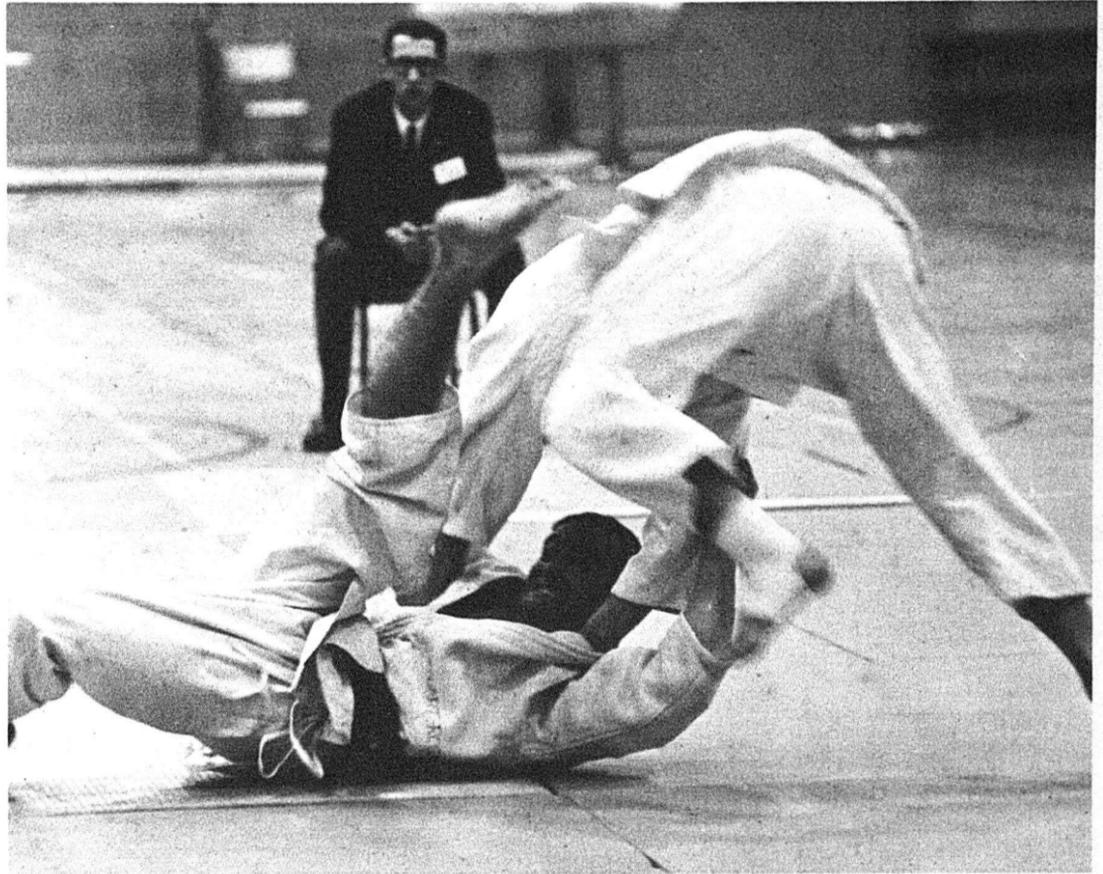
At the gymnastics meet on Monday and Tuesday, the majority of the students present were in physical education because they had all of their phys ed classes cancelled for the week.

Just think how the attendance would increase if everybody on campus had the same chance to attend the meets through cancellation of classes.

Even class cancellation for Thursday and Friday of SCW would have been better than nothing, and then all the events could be scheduled for those two days and the weekend.

These few ideas would have made the Olympiad a great success from all viewpoints—not just from the money side of it.

Don't get me wrong—the whole idea is still the greatest thing that has come to this campus—it's only too bad that many people are denied the privilege of enjoying it, for some rather insignificant reasons.



—Hiroto Saka photo

STU ROGERS OF BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

... hits the mat with U of M's Brian Mitani

U of A scuttles competitors, storms to CIAU judo trophy

Three individual CIAU judo championships and the team trophy belong to the WCIAA after one of the most one-sided contests at Olympiad '67.

Monday night saw the WCIAA representatives take three of the four titles at stake.

The finalists in the division were determined by a double knock-out system.

U of A's Lee Mah advanced to the final in the light weight division by defeating David Robb of the Ontario Intercollegiate Athletic Association in the semi-finals.

In the finals Charles Maigon of the Ontario Quebec Athletic Association was faced by Mah, whom he defeated for the light weight victory.

Stewart Rogers of the Ottawa-St. Lawrence Athletic Association defeated Frank Foulkes of the OQAA to advance to the middle weight finals.

He was met there by Brian Mitani of the WCIAA who had earlier defeated W. Strapps of the Maritime Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

IPPON THROW

Mitani wrapped up the middle weight crown by using an ippon throw to defeat Rogers.

In the light heavy-weight division the West was represented by U of A's Don Hames.

He went on to win the title by defeating E. Corkum of the MIAA in the semi-finals and Terry Blatt of the OSLAA in the finals.

Ron Lappage of U of A walked off with the heavy weight crown after Pierre Demers of the OSLAA.

In Tuesday's team competitions, five men from all weight divisions compete, but not necessarily against men of their own weight divisions. The coaches draw up the list of competitors and submit them in a sealed envelope to the judges.

The WCIAA team composed of U of A's Lappage, Hames, Mah, Ken Shannon and Dick Rideout advanced to the final by trouncing the MIAA team 40-10.

The other finalists were a team from the Ryerson Institute of Technology, who defeated Royal Military College 22-5, with one match declared a draw.

RMC took the bronze medal by defeating the MIAA representatives 30-15.

The final saw the U of A squad use its weight advantage and win every match with full points as Ryerson went down 50-0 in the final.

Ron Lappage, 206 pounds, won over Tom Rourke, 158; Hames, 182, over Laramee, 199; Shannon, 196, over Radchenko, 170; and Mah, 152 pounds over Turner, 162.

Mah's victory over Turner was the most convincing of the night. Mah sent the heavier Turner flying with one of the most beautiful throws of the tournament, as he more than made up for his second place medal in the lightweight division.

THE STAR

Ron Lappage was the individual star of the tourney, winning two

individual medals, the heavyweight and the open classes, as well as taking two wins along the road to the team title.

The chief referee, Frank Hata-shita, President of the Canadian Judo Association said after the tournament: "This was one of the best tourneys I have ever seen. The boys fought hard and clean; the sportsmanship was of the highest calibre. There were no injuries at all."

Said U of A coach Ray Kelly: "God I was happy. Without the people who stuck with the Judo club and came out night after night, we would have got nowhere. They made the boys work; they provided the chopping blocks for the fellows. We owe them a lot."

DR. P. J. GAUDET

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