



# SPORTS



## Bears repeat as Western champs.



Photo Martin Beales

This long jumper looks as if he's riding a bike or out for a jog.

The U of A track teams competed in the C.W.U.A.A. championships in the Kinsmen field house over the weekend. Both teams performed very well with the mens team taking the championship, 86-85, over UBC and the women coming a very

close second to the University of Saskatchewan 88-74. Track coach, Gabor Simonyi commented that the women probably would have won the competition if they had had distance runner Birgit Otto and shot putter Janet Shula.

"Those two would have given us another 12-16 points easily," said Simonyi.

In the mens competition it came down to an exciting finish in the relay race. In the 4 x 100 relay the U of A Bears appeared to have won the race and the competition, but a protest against the University of Lethbridge was lodged by the Universities of Calgary and Saskatchewan.

The protest concerned the fact that a Lethbridge runner had interfered with runners from these two universities in a lane violation. Judges upheld the protest, despite the U of A's complaints, and the race was ordered re-run.

The U of A had a beef of their own concerning the alignment of the runners at the start. Coach Simonyi claims that the runners were not lined evenly and that the runners on the Bears squad were actually running about one metre longer than UBC.

The race was rerun, however, and despite a strong performance by the Bears they lost by about 20 centimetres to the squad from B.C.

"We had a bad exchange in, one of the aton hand-offs and this cost us several yards," Simonyi commented.

In the womens competition the U of Pandas fell short but certainly showed themselves to be a very strong side.

"If it weren't for those (Otto and Shula) injuries then we would have won the womens competition as well," stated coach Gabor Simonyi.

Some outstanding performances were recorded by both the women and the men:

Ian Newhouse won the 300 and the 600 metres in times of 34.48 and 1.17.90 respectively. Jack Suggett won the long jump with a jump of 7.15 metres, Iraklis Kollias took the shot put (15.43) and David Lee Pong set a conference record with a time of 5.96 in the 50 metres.

On the womens side: Jane Felling won the 50 hurdles in 7.45, and Sharon Fryett won the long jump with a jump of 5.42. Sandi Ketterer won the shot for the Pandas with a throw of 14.01 metres.

Because of the strong showing here the teams will be sending 18 competitors to the nationals at Laval university next week:

Women:

- Bev Bush
- Donna Dixon
- Janice Cherry

- Jane Felling
- Sharon Fryette
- Sandi Ketterer
- Valerie Krook
- Laurie Thomas
- Carol Ostry
- Lynn Herring
- Men:
- Iraklis Kollias
- David Lee Pong
- Ian Newhouse
- Adrian Shorter
- Jeff Suggett
- Riaydah Carmy-Jones
- Brent Kassian
- Chris Peocke

Last year the men finished third, hopefully they will be able to take it all at Laval.



### Bears third, Pandas fifth

## Bears drop from last year, Pandas pleased

After finishing second to York last year by only a paltry few points, the U of A Golden Bears gymnastic team dropped to third in the Nationals this year behind the U of Toronto and the perennial champs York.

York University captured the crown with an aggregate score of

166,000 with Toronto coming in second with 155,650 and Alberta third with 149,450.

There were ten teams competing in the meet so third place is certainly a very strong showing.

Individually, the highlight of the event had to be the floor exercises where the team placed

three in the top six finishes. Tony Smith was third followed by Reeve Martin in fourth and Eric Ruckenthaler in fifth.

Individually for the Bears, Reeve Martin successfully defended his title on the pommel horse as he took the event with a score of 18.650 over two attempts. Reeve

also placed fifth in the rings with a score of 17.550. Another strong showing was put in by Tony Smith who placed third in the vaulting event with a combined score of 18.500.

In the overall ratings, the men placed three in the top twenty as Reeve Marting finished

fifth, Tony Smith placed Twelfth, and Brent Carriy finished sixteenth. Eric Ruckenthaler narrowly missed the top twenty placing twenty-second being just 1.05 points behind the number twenty spot.

For the women the most pleasant surprise was the showing of Elise Dworkin in the floor exercise as she won the event. Her combined score was 16.917. Heidi Ross finished third behind Dworkin with a score of 16.617. Heidi placed strongly in the bars event finishing sixth with 15.250 points.

In the overall standings the women put three of their own gymnasts in the top twenty. Heidi Ross finished number six while Shelley Spaner finished 15 and Elise Dworkin finished 18.

In the overall team competition the Pandas came in fifth with a score of 91.050.

### Government, UAB take hike, don't levy one

Cutbacks in government spending not only affect tuition fees and other areas considered academic at the university but they also affect athletic areas at this school as well.

With cutbacks in funding come a decrease in the amount of money that can be spent on certain athletic endeavors of the athletic department. Logical, right?

If this logic is carried to its proper conclusion then it can be said that to maintain existing athletic facilities at the university more money will have to be raised from the student. Remember when the UAB was asking for that substantial increase back in the early part of the year? The reasons given were precisely those given above. Now, the UAB, like any administrative body, tends to try and put into rhetoric what most people would put into easily digestible words. That is to say that they lie a little bit. But it is only a little white lie in the sense that they just do not specify certain aspects of their diatribe.

The areas in the previous logic that were left rather ambiguous were facilities. What does the UAB recognize as a faculty?

Everything.

This includes: intercollegiate teams, intramural funding, maintenance of equipment and rooms and gymnasium and arenas etc.

Most people get upset, and rightly so, when they realize that a great deal of the money they give to the UAB goes to a few intercollegiate teams. But this is just part of a priority list the UAB uses when they decide to allocate their funds. Whether for bad or good, they usually deem the average student someone which is the first to feel the affects of the cutbacks in government funding.

But all aspects of athletics are important at the school.

In 1978 at the time of the last demonstration against cutbacks and higher tuition the sports editor wrote that there were only 12 teams left out of a previous 20. Well, he failed to mention the Bears ski team. It too has gone by the wayside because of lack of funding. But in all seriousness, the average student does not give a damn about how many inter-collegiate teams have fallen or how much less travelling the remaining teams will be able to do in the coming year. What the average student cares about is the fact that your facilities in the phys-ed complex are suffering because of cutbacks in government funding, and non-allotments by the UAB.

In the not so distant future you could go down to book one of the racquetball courts for a Tuesday and find that they are only operating on weekends. The reason? The UAB does not have the funds to keep

them operating for an entire week. The reason? Decreases in government funding and the fact that the UAB may deem the courts less of a priority than other areas.

You may discover in the not so distant future that the variety of athletic clinics offered by the intra-mural office will be reduced. They may not have the funding to keep up the level of intramural activities in the future that they do now. (however inadequate they may be)

Think for a moment what it would be like to come into the phys-ed complex and find out that you can only play hockey, football, soccer and basketball in an intramural league. There may be no co-rec activities in the future. There will be less activities in the future in general unless the level of funding is increased or at the very least, not decreased.

But in actuality, funding that is not decreased or increased is in fact decreased.

If you are in a job where you get no pay increase at the end of the year but inflation has risen 12% in that year then you will be making 12% less in the following year. Your wage will buy 12% less than the year before. In this sense, you have taken a 12% pay cut.

The same logic can be applied to funding at a university. And more specifically than this, the funding in the athletic department.

It is a fact that the first things to go in the athletic department will be the facilities available to the average student. The UAB deems you and your facilities unworthy of their money. The government deems the entire university unworthy.

This is simply not an attack against cutbacks but an attack against the UAB and the way it allocates its money. More money should be handed down from the tight-fisted Alberta government. More money should be allocated to the intra-mural office and to the upkeep of the facilities that are available to every student at the U of A, not just to the few who can play intercollegiate sports.

If you don't want to lose your present facilities then why don't you let some people know it. First let the Alberta government know that you don't want funds cut back and that you don't want your tuition increased substantially, if at all, next year. And don't forget to let the UAB know that you think the average student more important than the intercollegiate teams and that you deserve first priority on where funds go.

March on Thursday March 11.

Andrew Watts

