

sports

Flying without fear (or wings)

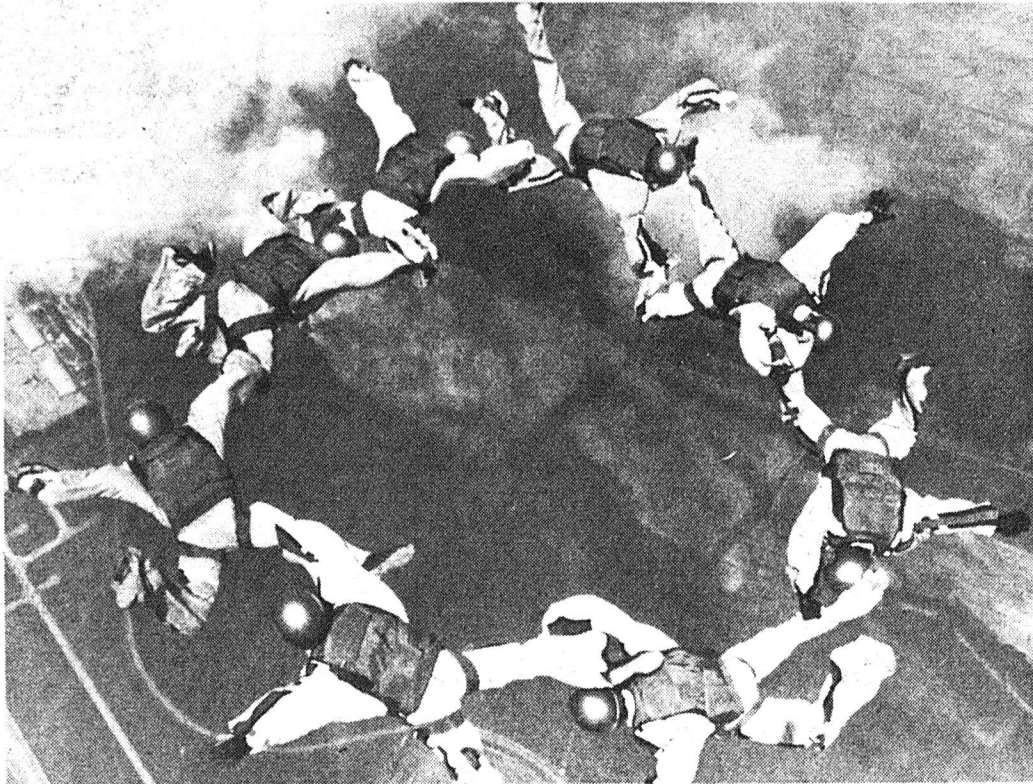
The fear of falling! Skydiving is a misunderstood sport. Most people feel that it is a wild and crazy sport that appeals only to fools with suicidal tendencies. So why do they do it? What compels relatively sane people to hurl themselves out of safe airplanes?

Statistically the sport is very safe, when kept in perspective. Studies indicate that the fear of falling is one of our deepest, darkest and oldest trepidations; possibly instinctive in its nature. To deal with such qualms and a flood of misconceptions about the sport, most people simply avoid becoming involved in skydiving.

Before starting his first jump course, the student parachutist must come to grips with these fears and misconceptions. In actuality, the rewards are numerous and the dangers are minor. Through a detailed course, the student gains a high degree of well founded confidence in his equipment and abilities. Certified instructors are trained to deal with the student's apprehensions about skydiving. 'Knowledge Dispels Fear' is the motto of the Canadian Sport Parachuting Association.

Parachuting-skydiving enthusiasts claim that this exciting and challenging sport soon becomes a second nature, easily adapted to.

Skydiving is not a brush with death. In reality it is one of the most



exhilarating sports in the world. The incredible rush you feel as you are bombarded with a myriad of sensations that flood your mind, making it, at first, rather difficult to absorb the reality and beauty of the experience. The sensation

reaches beyond the bounds of falling; the student soon learns how to fly. He has opened the door to one of life's greatest encounters.

When you exit the plane with a group of others you strive to perform

aerial maneuvers or join in intricate formations. The sensation is one of being suspended, as the wind rushes past you, seemingly holding you, allowing you to float in a vast sea of air.

By deflecting the air in various ways the skydiver learns to move his body around at will, under total control with incredible grace and precision. The adrenalin rush defies description. For a few brief seconds the skydiver is able to transcend time and gravity.

Recently skydiving has been internationally recognized as an art form. As in any other art, skydivers employ a high level of intense mental and physical control, combined with an imaginative approach and hard practice, in search of perfection. To the adept and refined skydiver, imagination becomes the outer boundary.

Skydiving is the dance of the sky, a creative endeavour embodying grace, precision and beauty. In air the feeling becomes intense:

To be able to fly is something most people only dream of. To float about in a vast weightless void of blue . . . to transcend the earthly bonds of time and gravity, to glide free . . . to feel the control and maneuverability of one's body without the need for mechanical devices . . . that is skydiving!

"And you shall walk the Earth with your eyes turned skyward. For there you have been and there you shall long return."

Tate takes title

Golden Bear wrestlers successful at nationals

Three Golden Bear wrestlers travelled to Montreal a week ago to compete in the National Junior Championships and each representatively performed admirably. U of A's Scott Tate, Mark Yurick and Gord Glanz all wrestled in Quebec.

Tate won his second consecutive national title, easily handling all of his opponents in freestyle competition. Perhaps Tate's toughest fight was making weight as he dropped from 130 to 114 pounds. He then proceeded to beat Canada Winter Games Gold medalist Wayne Yeastings

in his very first match.

In all likelihood Tate will travel to Mexico during May to compete in the Junior Pan-American Games. Last summer in Venezuela he won the Gold medal in Greco-Roman competition. This year he will wrestle in both freestyle and Greco-

Roman.

Yurick, captain of the Bears this season, began slowly in Montreal, as his initial fights were in freestyle competition. However, in Greco-Roman, up against 30 of Canada's best wrestlers, Yurick fought tremendously, winning the Bronze in his

weight class.

Glanz, on route to a fourth place finish in his weight class, fought to a draw against the eventual Gold medal winner.

This summer Golden Bear coach John Barry will take over the reigns of the National Junior Team. Training camp will be held at the U of A, from which the team will be chosen to compete in Sweden at the Junior World Greco-Roman Championships and in Mongolia for the Junior World Freestyle Championships.

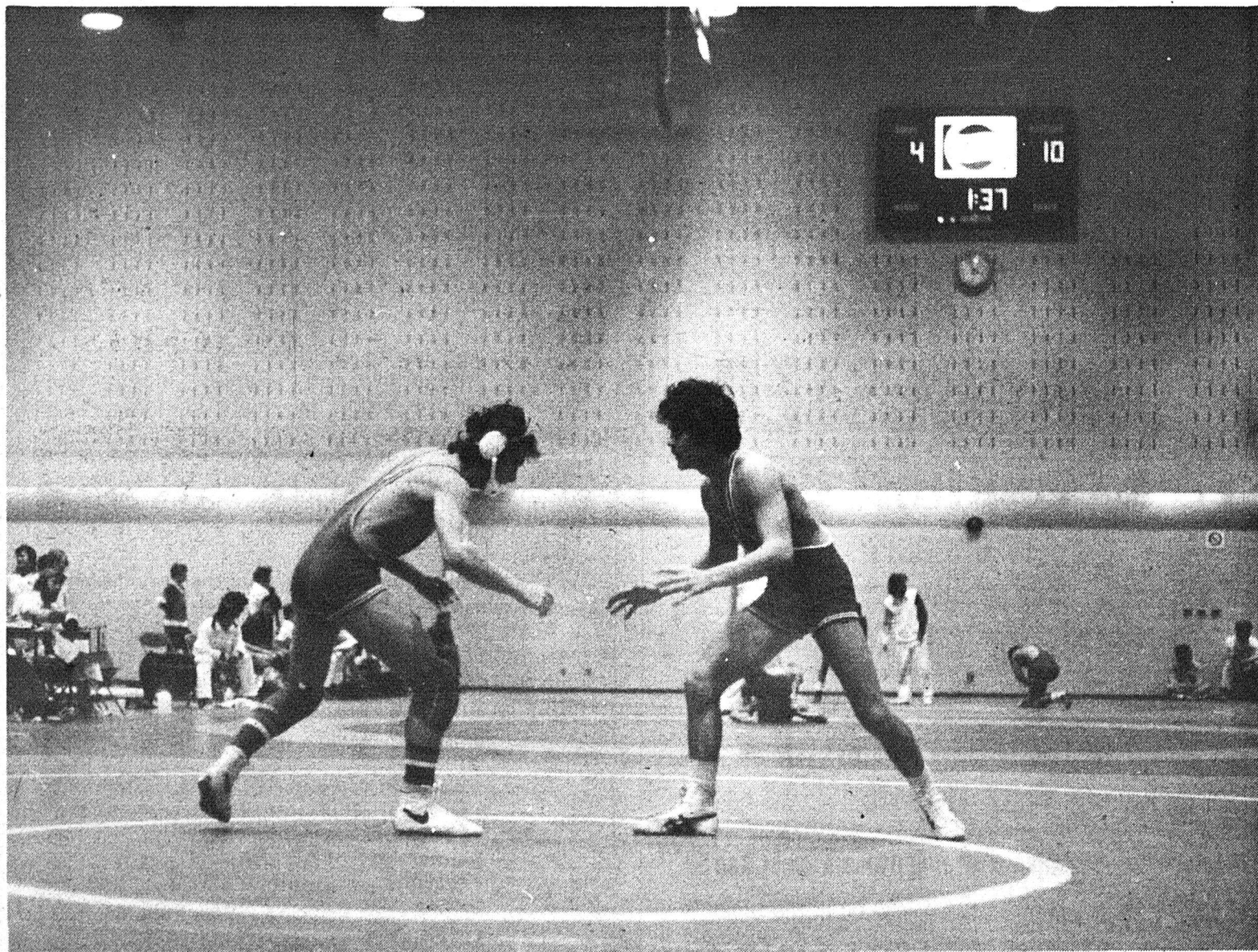
At the present time Scott Tate seems to have the best chance of the three Bears to qualify for World competition, but Glanz and Yurick are also contenders for berths in one of the two international tournaments.

U of A Judo team

The University of Calgary was the sight of the Alberta Provincial Judo Championships last weekend but University of Alberta athletes acted the part of ingrates and brought most of the tournament accolades home.

Led by Matt Contino, named Sportsman of the Month and winner of the under 70 kilogram class for men's blue and brown belt fighters, the U of A contingent won five categories and finished second in another three.

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Scott Tate (right) winning the Canadian Junior wrestling title.