

Diane Jones-Konihowski

*Simonyi — Konihowski — Jones*

## Coaching combination

When is one Konihowski not enough? Simple. When you get two at the same time!

With the appointment of John Konihowski and his wife, Diane Jones-Konihowski to the athletic staff of the University of Alberta, Athletic Director Ed Zemrau has pulled off a major coup for the track program.

John, 27, presently completing his third season of professional football with the Edmonton Eskimos, will serve in the capacity of coach-administrator for the track team while Diane, 26, a world-renowned pentathlon performer, will serve in a similar capacity but will also assist in regular Physical Education course instruction.

"We're extremely happy with the appointments because it's a foot in the door, since we're both looking at teaching and coaching at the university level full-time eventually," stated Diane in an interview with Al Ruckaber, the U of A Sports Information Director.

"This situation will be good for us and good for the athletes because we'll be working

together on the same level — that is, an athlete-to-athlete relationship," added John.

Their track and field background is quite extensive, and Diane (a native of Saskatoon and graduate of Aden Boaman Collegiate and the University of Saskatchewan (B.Ed.)) has been in the national, as well as international, spotlight for a decade.

Currently ranked third in the world in the pentathlon, Diane placed sixth in that event at the '76 Montreal Olympics, and from the time she first represented Canada internationally (1967), Jones-Konihowski has held a variety of Canadian records that include the 50-metre hurdles, high jump, shotput, pentathlon and long jump.

Her world record of 4,540 points in the pentathlon will remain in the record book, as the 200-metre event has now been changed to 800 metres internationally.

Diane's future aspirations include the '78 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton, and, possibly, the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

A native of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, John

Konihowski attended Riverview Collegiate where he was a national class long and triple jumper while still attending high school.

He held several provincial and national records in hurdles and triple jump and in 1972 he won the Canadian Olympic Trials hurdles event.

In 1973 his 300-metre hurdles mark of 34.7 seconds was the second fastest clocking in the world at that time. Altogether he represented Canada on four national teams.

John's academic credits include four years at Brigham Young University and three years at the University of Saskatchewan.

Commenting on the joint appointment, head track coach Gabor Simonyi stated: "I am delighted to have John and Diane as my assistants because not only are they personal friends, but also I have had the privilege of coaching them on occasion in Saskatchewan. I know our coaching staff now is very capable of doing a great job with the team."

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## Bear wrestlers to the mats

The grappling version of the Bears are off to an early start this season. The reason: four of six Canada West weight class winners from their championship team will not be returning this year.

Gone from the mat are oldtimers Russ Pawlyk, (voted the best wrestler in Canada at the national tournament), Pierre Pomerlieu, Steve Tisberger, and Tom Mayson.

Coach John Barry, however, isn't dismayed. He has the help of Gord Garvie, a former National Coach and presently a Physical Education grad student. They have assessed this year's crop, and although for the most part the team is inexperienced, they seem to be very enthusiastic and hard working.

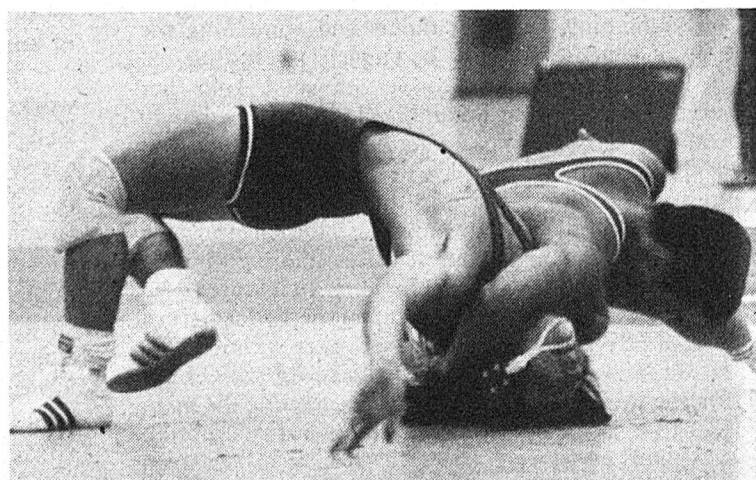
Leading the list of veterans are Glenn "The Pencil" Purych, and Davey Judge who both placed in the top three in Canada last year. The Bears also picked up a former Calgary student, Curtiss Brinker who is the 177 pound CWUAA (Canada West University Athletic Association) defending champion.

There are also a number of

good wrestlers at camp who the coaches feel will come into their own. These include John Fedorus, Foon Chu, Kim Vanderlinden, Jay Heatherington, Fred Mertz, and Earl Binder. Out of these coaches Barry and Barvie feel that Binder, a 195 pound hulk out of Harry Ainlay is ready to surprise the national scene. A team funnyman and leader, Earl "The Pearl" Binder, is chomping at the bit to take on all comers.

Although there are approximately twenty rookies so far, Scott Tate, Herman Mah, Jerry Derewoko, and Mark Yurick are the most experienced. So far, so good, is the way coach Barry looks at the new season, but he insists that the team still needs more bodies. If you are at all athletically inclined, like to work out and want to join a crazy bunch of guys, then drop in to the wrestling room at 5:00 any night or call coach Barry at 432-5906.

The Bears first tournament is Nov. 5 in Calgary. Why not give wrestling a try?



Back-bending wrestling action

photo Brian Gavriloff