

Golden Bear wrestlers will be struggling for the Canada West title

Photo Alex Miller

Wrestlers, gymnasts vie for West title

by Alan Small

The Bears and Pandas gymnastics squads host the Canada West championships this weekend at the University Pavilion.

The U of A has done well at gymnastics over the years, and this year should look even better, especially with the Pandas. Last year the Pandas were the second best team in the CIAU last year, and all of the gymnasts on that team are back. Six gymnasts on the Pandas squad, Michele Hannemann, Diane Patterson, Lisa Jefferies, Monica Krnec, Michelle Graham, and Michelle Maltais, have all qualified for the University Cup in Calgary, the championship of university gymnastics.

The Bears were fifth in the country, and have qualified three already for the University Cup. Malcolm Dunford, Brad Law, and Joe Friedman have all qualified for the nationals. All three qualified last year as well.

Another Canada West championship is on tap for this weekend. The U of A wrestlers host the Canada West championships take place in Varsity Gym all day Saturday, where wrestlers from Calgary, Saskatchewan, Regina, Manitoba, and Lakehead University all will try to qualify for the national championships in Hamilton at the end of February.

Wrestlers from the U of A to



watch are Tony Bacon, who won the 54 kg weight last year in Canada West, Glen Allen (51 kg) Brent Murray (61 kg) and John McMullen (heavyweight), who all took silver medals at the Canada West championships last year. McMullen took a bronze medal at the nationals as well.


Other university teams in action this week are on the road. Canada West player of the week Sid Cranston leads the Golden Bears hockey club into Regina where they will play their final regular season games. Two more wins will solidify their hold on second place, and depending on games between

Calgary and Manitoba, and UBC and Saskatchewan. If the Bears sweep Regina, the worst they could finish is second, but a loss, could drop them to third place, and on the road for the playoffs.

Both volleyball clubs go to Saskatoon this weekend for one game against the Saskatchewan Huskies. The 10th ranked Pandas split a pair with the Huskies early in the

season, while the Bears will have a tougher time with the second ranked Huskies. The weekend after, the Bears host two games at home against the Huskies to close out the season.

Admission to the wrestling and gymnastics meets are free. Gymnastics starts Friday and Saturday, while the wrestlers start at 10 a.m. Saturday and go until 4 o'clock.



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The legend of the Fairmaidens

by Carol Kassian

Although they are called the "Fairmaidens", this unit participating in the majority of Intramural activities is generally not known to be a group of beautiful, demure, young girls.

The Fairmaidens is a unit currently based on the 5th floor of Mackenzie Hall. The unit consists of all of the men living on this floor in addition to approximately 12 alumni. Originating in 1985/86 on Mackenzie Hall's 8th floor, the unit still includes some of its original members.

One of these original members is the current unit manager, Jay Vandergaast. Jay was instrumental in establishing this unit that is known for its overwhelming support of Campus Recreation's Intramural programs. As Jay suggests, "there is a lot of interest and the guys will try anything."

According to Ken Lange, the Sports Senior for 5th Mackenzie, "we're not all the best athletes, but our main goal is to go out and participate. We'll go into any activity that we can sink our teeth into."

The Fairmaidens have participated in a wide range of activities including football, hockey, kayak, water polo,

soccer, volleyball, and basketball. Their high level of participation has also proven to be successful.

Upon gaining full status as a unit in December, 1985, the Fairmaidens were still able to finish in 3rd place in the Men's Intramural "C" Conference. The following year, they won the "C" Conference, and this year they are currently leading in the cumulative standings for the "B" Conference.

Although the unit is actively involved in Men's Intramurals, it also encourages and welcomes the contribution of women's participation. This was not, however, the reason for naming the unit the "Fairmaidens". According to Ken, "the floor we started on in Mackenzie Hall used to be an all girl's floor and it was referred to as the Fairmaidens. Now guys live there too, but we decided to keep the floor's name."

The unit's name may receive the most interesting reaction from those playing against the Fairmaidens in the various intramural activities. As Jay suggests, "our opposition thinks we are pansies because of the name, but then when we win, they won't acknowledge the name of the team that they lost to."

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