

California crash course

Gateway Staff Writer

The Panda gymnastics team headed south to California this past weekend for two invitational competitions against top-level American Universities. Despite trying circumstances (including a missed plane flight Thursday which led to the teams arrival at Stanford University five minutes before warm-ups began on Friday afternoon), the Pandas performed consistently and cleanly.

The Friday night "Stanford Cardinal Classic" featured California State University at Fullerton, the fourth-ranked NCAA Division I school in the United States.

Fullerton won Friday's competition with a team score of 182.85 points. As well their top three girls, including former USA National Team Members, Roni Barrios, Heather Thomas and Tami Elliot finished first, second and third overall.

The top all-around performer for the Pandas Friday was senior Heidi Ross who totalled 35.10 points for seventh overall. Ross stated "the facility and equipment at Stanford was incredible and competing along-side such good gymnasts and with such an excellent crowd, made the entire competition a pleasure."

Five of the six Pandas improved their CIAU national qualifying scores at Stanford as the high-energy level and enthusiasm of the competition rubbed off on the entire team. Diane Patterson scored 34.80 points (including an excellent 9.20 on bars) to finish in a tie for eighth position, while Margie Drysdale (31.50), Donna Spaner (31.0) and Nancy McLeod (30.75) all improved or obtained qualifying scores.

The entire team was impressed, and slightly awed by the efficiently run competition on Friday evening, and coaches Sandy O'Brien and George Novak agreed that the confidence and experience gained by every girl was invaluable.

Saturday the Pandas drove for three and one-half hours to reach Davis University where they competed against San Jose State and Davis in a Tri-Meet.

The competition was slightly lower-key and Alberta narrowly missed taking the team title, finishing 1.70 points behind San Jose State (169.10-167.40). The University of Davis was third with 154.45 points.

Heidi Ross was again the Pandas' top All-Around as her 35.20 total was good enough for first place overall. Diane Patterson (33.80) Carrie Nawata (32.60), Shelley Spaner (32.45), Margie Drysdale (30.80), Nancy McLeod (30.55) and Donna Spaner (30.25) all competed well and contributed points to the team total.

First year team member Diane Patterson, who set a new U of A

school record score on the uneven bars (9.20) summed up the entire weekend: "The whole team did really well considering how exhausted we were, and we really got some valuable experience which should help us at the Canada West Championships next weekend."

Panda Notes: Ross's 35.20 points is a new U of A school record for All-Around competition... The Pandas now have seven gymnasts with qualifying scores for March's CIAU Nationals, however, only six gymnasts per institution are eligible. Ross, Patterson, S. Spaner, Nawata, Drysdale and D. Spaner have Alberta's top six scores



Western Canada Tae Kwon Do Champion, Paul Molinor, destroyed all opposition on his way to the gold in his lightweight category on Saturday in the DK Chun International Tournament. The next major showcase involving the university club will be March 8 at the Commonwealth Stadium.

Photo P.D. Bhatta



ATTENTION

Science Students Science General Elections

- Students' Union (5)
- General Faculties Council (7)
- Science Faculty Council (13)
- USS Executive (5)
- Science Student Council (6 & 3)
- and many other positions

Nominations close 5 PM Feb. 21; Election Day Feb. 28/86. For more information, come to room M-142, Bio. Sci. Bldg. or phone 432-2099.

Science Week Feb. 24-28. Science Jackets now available.

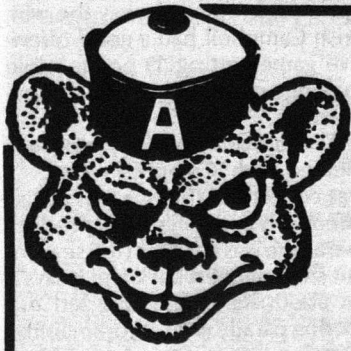
FEBRUARY

14

Bring Your
SWEETHEART
To
HUB MALL
89 Avenue & 112 Street
On the U of A Campus



LISTEN TO
Classical
Guitars
AND
RECEIVE
Free Heart
Shaped Balloon
Free Draw
For Prizes



**TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 11**

**GOLDEN BEAR
HOCKEY
Vs.
CANADIAN
OLYMPIC TEAM**

7:30 PM Varsity Arena

SPIRIT, HUSTLE AND PRIDE

SUELECTION



**NEED SOME
EXTRA CASH?**

The Students' Union requires staff for the election March 12, 13, 14. Help us out and earn \$5.50/hour. For further information and application forms, please contact the SU Returning Office (Room 234 SUB) or the Receptionist, SU Executive Offices (Room 259 SUB).

Deadline: February 14, 1600 hours.