

# sports

## Golden Bear Open

# The other track meet

by John Stewart

Although the great majority of the "exceptional athletes" on the local scene chose to compete at the *Edmonton Journal* International Indoor games, the Golden Bear Open held Friday and Saturday of last weekend proved to be the bargain for the track and field enthusiast out shopping for a good show.

According to U of A assistant track coach and meet organizer John Konihowski, the Golden Bear was "probably the biggest senior meet in Canada as far as I'm concerned, because all the universities in western Canada were here."

Several of the U of A tracksters who were not invited, chose not to attend or intended to compete later at the Coliseum in the *Journal* meet, turned in outstanding performances at the

Golden Bear Open, at the Kinsmen Field House.

U of A jumpers Gerry Swan and Janet Shula both enjoyed prosperous meets. Swan took the triple jump with a personal best indoors leap of 15.64 metres and finished second in the long jump behind Edmonton Olympic Club member Barry Boyd with a jump of 7.06 metres.

Shula won the women's long jump, leaping 5.55 metres, and placed second in the high jump after clearing the bar at 1.60 metres.

Four U of A Pandas took first places in their respective events. Becky Share, with a throw of 13.40 metres, won the women's open shot put; Mary Burzminski took the 800 metre with a time of 2:19.4; Margo Howe finished first in the women's 60 metres, after completing the distance in 7.6

seconds; and Sue Farley won the 60metre hurdles in 8.4 seconds.

Howe later competed in the *Journal* meet while Burzminski barely missed an opportunity to compete in the Coliseum. Burzminski's time over 800 metres at the field house Saturday afternoon, although a personal best, came a week too late. If she had recorded the time last week, or previously, she would have met the qualifications for the *Journal* meet. Farley also competed at the Coliseum.

Four members of the University of Idaho men's track team were also present at the Field House over the weekend and at least two turned in credible performances. John Trott won the 800 metres with a time 1:53.9 while Steve Saras took the shot put with a throw of 16.22 metres. Saras then competed in the *Journal* meet.

*Pie in the eye*

## Basketball Bears only get split

by John Younie

The pie throwing festivities were held at halftime, but when the final buzzer sounded, it was the basketball Golden Bears with egg on their faces, as they dropped a 79-75 decision to the fifth-place UBC T'Birds, Saturday at Varsity Gym.

The Bears had little trouble disposing of the T'birds the previous night, winning 88-67.

Alberta coach Garry Smith was not pleased with his team's performance Saturday night.

"Our offence was respectable, but our defence ... there's no way they should score 79 points on us," Smith lamented later.

The Bears, who were ahead by seven at the half, outshot UBC from the floor, but the difference was at the foul line, where UBC made six shots more than the Bears.

The last five minutes of the game were close, with Alberta trying to catch the inspired T'birds, but unable to get closer than four points. Down the stretch UBC made a number of key shots to keep them ahead, notably guard John Stark, who put in several shots from long-range.

Pat Rooney was Bears' top scorer with 19 points. Jim Bonin added 12. Rob Cholyk netted 19 points for the T'birds. John Stark and John Doughty had sixteen and fifteen points respectively.

Ken Haak was the hero of Friday's contest, scoring a season high 23 points. The M.E. Lazerte grad shot a scorching 77% from the floor (11 for 14) and scored four buckets in a row at one point in the first-half.

"It felt good tonight," Haak smiled after. "They were laying off me, so I was pulling up and hitting my jump shot. Once I hit my rhythm, it was easy."

Easy or not, the Bears' job was made simpler by the fact UBC shot only 39% from floor. Alberta completed a respectable 52%.

Other Bears who made it into double figures were Pat Rooney with 14 points, Jim Bonin with 12 and Jamie Thomas with 10.

### BEAR FACTS

The second half of Saturday's game was a half hour late in starting, because of the mess caused by the pie throwing contest during the intermission.

The weekend split means the Bears must win all four games of the home and home series against U Vic to finish first. A loss in any of the four games means Garry Smith's team is going to need some help from

someone else, if Alberta is to finish on top.

League statistics released last week show Pat Rooney in second place in the scoring derby with 17.6 points per game. Jim Bonin is in ninth place with a 12.2 average.

A rare phenomenon was observed at Saturday night's game. The closeness of the game actually got people off their hands, forcing them to clap, shout and generally make a racket. It's been a couple of seasons since the basketball team has received some honest fan support. This year's team sure deserves it.

### Intramurals

## Competition good?

by Pat Frewer

Can you imagine a hockey tournament in which eligibility for play-offs would be determined by a team's general conduct, as opposed to simple point standing? Variables such as number of penalties, misconducts, defaults and goals for and against might be considered. The idea itself is presently being considered in the IM office. The problem facing the administrative staff is "how to maintain an optimal degree of competition?" The program has traditionally existed as a compromise between the level of competition found in collegiate sports (and in classes, for that matter) and the lack of competition inherent in unorganized private recreation.

Recently the competition appears to be getting "out of hand" in the ice arena. One game saw the levying of two match penalties and four game misconducts; another, twenty-seven minor penalties, four game misconducts and a match penalty. The latter results in a review of the referees report by IM staff

and provincial authorities, with suspension for the rest of the season a common punishment. This is happening with alarming regularity.

IM program director Hugh Hoyles, connected with the program for twelve years, says that there's always been some rough play, but that it has increased noticeably. While other staffers are quick to suggest that students are under greater stress these days, Hoyles asserts that the mere existence of play-offs overstates the game's competitive element. At least the program is taken seriously, he adds, but doubts that the threat of injury and even of assault is likely to inspire the kind of athlete we try to cater to.

Due to limitations of facility time and scheduling, the IM Program distorts competition frequently in other sports. Indoor soccer and flag football ties are broken by counting corner kicks or participation point. Perhaps the ice hockey league is in for the imposition of similar rules, if only to discourage overzealous concern with making those all-important playoffs.



U of A's Ian Newhouse (above) did run a 48.22 second 400 metres  
Photo by Jim Connell.

## Newhouse legitimate Coliseum track

Shaune Impey

Not bad for a first effort. The *Edmonton Journal's* (and hopefully first annual) International Indoor Games had technical difficulties, ie missing two hours late, but from a fan's standpoint the event was a tremendous success.

With many of the world's best track and field competitors present the spectators were expecting records to be broken; they were not disappointed. The amazing Renaldo Nehemiah shattered the world record for the 50 metre hurdles. Nehemiah it was his fifth record in three weeks, and his second in two nights. Friday night in Toronto he established a mark in the record book with a time of 6.04 in the 50 yard hurdles. Saturday he ran the slightly longer distance in 6.36 seconds.

Irish runner Eamonn Coghlan broke his own Canadian Open mark in the mile as he paced three-tenths of a second his 3:58.0 timing of Friday night. New Zealand's John Walker who was a co-holder of the record, finished dead last in the field of five.

The pole vault competition produced some excitement as when American Dan Ripley cleared the bar at an indoor record height of 5.63 metres. The controversy surrounded the entire event, however, because of the standards used to support the bar. Some officials argued that the bar would not

fall off because the standards acted as shock absorbers. The meet organizers originally intended to use the Commonwealth Games equipment, but last minute space problems forced them to substitute the poorer caliber U of A standards.

The most successful local athlete was Ian Newhouse of the U of A and Edmonton Olympic Club. Newhouse ran the second fastest 400 meters in the world (indoors) this season to capture this event at the Games. Again, discussion arose over the validity of the time. Some claims were made that the track was not laid out properly and that the true distance was less than 400 metres. An independent U of A source has confirmed that these allegations are false; Newhouse's mark stands.

Other local athletes who fared well are:

- Women's 50 metre hurdles
- 5. Sue Farley (first in heat)
- 6. Diane Jones-Konihowski
- Women's 50 metre: Margo Howe
- Men's 50 metre:
- 6. Frank van Doorn
- Men's 1500 metre:
- 4. Bob Baxendale
- 6. Dave Theriault
- 7. Blaine Whitford
- 8. Ross Munro

The meet was a good test for the local participants and gave them an opportunity to compare themselves with the class of the track and field world. Hopefully the International Games will return next year and be both bigger and better.