

PRINCE GEORGE ATHLETES AT GAMES

Medal count buoyed by aquatic events

by DON SCHAFFER Sports reporter

NANAIMO — Friday was a tough day for Prince George and area athletes at the B.C. Summer Games, especially if they weren't in the water. Six of seven Prince George medals came from aquatic events as this area's emissaries struggled in the opening day of competition. Kathy Popik of Quesnel, in masters swimming, won three of Friday's seven area medals. She won the 100-metre free style, took second in 50 freestyle and was third in 100 individual medley. Judy McCaffray won the only Prince George swimming medal Friday, taking second in 50 breaststroke. McCaffray was also fourth in 100 IM. Cathy Muller and Debbie Tutt of Prince George

took a silver medal in junior women's canoeing, following their bronze last year at the Games in Burnaby. Howard Foot won the other Prince George aquatic medal Friday, earning the bronze in the men's jumping event of water skiing. The only Prince George medal that didn't come from the water came from the equestrian arena, where Nancy Pfeiffer won a bronze in dressage on Vandy's Ima Spotlight. Other people did well in the pool in spite of getting shut out in the hunt for medals. Laurinda Cadman was fifth in junior B women's diving and master swimmer Don Schaffer was fourth in 100 breaststroke. Cory Watts was sixth in the 1,500 metres in track and field, setting a personal best time in the process.

Several tennis players from this area played Friday, with Glenn Fugate winning three games and losing one in two matches. Mike Reichenbach split his first two games, Susan Hagen and Chris Hartman lost both games in their first mixed doubles match and Janice and Karen Holmes were swept in both matches. Labatt's Pastry Chef split its first two games in men's soccer, losing 4-1 to Comox but rebounding for a 3-1 win over Burnaby. Prince George's lacrosse team lost its first game 15-12 to Sidney of Vancouver Island and the Prince George men's field hockey team lost both its games, 4-0 to Richmond-Delta and 1-0 to Surrey in back-to-back games. Roy Nagel was the top Prince George shooter, sitting fifth in handgun standings after the first day.

The men's golf team, which includes Prince George players Ron Dick, Tobin Senum and Al Wells, shot 330 Friday and was fourth after the first round, 21 strokes behind leading Vancouver Island but just five out of second place and three out of third. The zone eight women's golf team of Sheri Senum, Colleen Engstrom, Pat Sweet and Marg Niehaus — all of Prince George — was fifth, 23 behind first place and nine shots out of third. Competition resumed this morning and will end early Sunday afternoon. Almost 200 Prince George athletes are competing in the eighth annual Games. Highlights are on at 6:30 tonight and Sunday night on BCTV (channel 12, cable 11).

BAUMANN IN FORM WITH FAST SWIM

by Canadian Press

MONTREAL (CP) — Even in a post-Olympic year, and on a night he doesn't have that record-breaking feeling, Sudbury's Alex Baumann can still crank out a great swim. Baumann, double gold medallist at the 1984 Olympics, finished 83-100ths of a second off his own world mark in winning the 200-metre individual medley at the Canadian swimming championships Friday. His time of two minutes, 2.25 seconds was the second-fastest ever, and as close as anybody came to a record on the second-last night of the championships. Baumann said he knew before the race he wouldn't beat his record of 2:01.42, set winning the gold at last year's Los Angeles Olympics. Even so, turning home for the final 50 metres of freestyle in the four-stroke event he had a shot, only to fade in the final 25 metres. "We were trying for a 2:02.5 so I'm very happy with the 2:02.2," said Baumann, 21, who won the 400 medley Thursday, but was five seconds off his world record. He took it easier in the 200 heats Friday morning and then geared up for the final. "I thought about the race all afternoon. I knew I wouldn't be at the world record, but I knew that if I came close, even within six, seven, eight-tenths, I'd be very happy." Next year, Baumann has the world championships and Commonwealth Games to aim for. "I'd like to take it (the 200) to 2:00 or even under but it's going to take a lot more work on the front end (butterfly) and on the breaststroke," he said. Paul Midgley's swimmers from the London (Ont.) Y Aquatic Club continued to impress with a one-two finish by a pair of 15-year-olds in the women's 400 freestyle. Debbie Wurzbarger won in 4:14.49, nine seconds better than her time in the Olympic trials last year. Kim Milne was second in 4:15.37. On Wednesday, they finished second and third in the 200 freestyle. Another of Midgley's proteges, 17-year-old Chris Chalmers, lost a heartbreaker to Dave Shemilt of St. Catharines, Ont., in the men's 400 freestyle. Shemilt, 21, stretched for the wall and touched in 3:57.59, 36-100ths of a second ahead of Chalmers. It was also a banner night for Jennifer Campbell, 19, who shares two things in common with Alex Baumann. Both swim for Jeno Tihanyi at the Laurentian University Swim Club and both have a history of shoulder trouble. Campbell's ailment derailed her Olympic aspirations in 1984, but she won by an eyelash in the women's 200 medley with a time of 2:19.99, 4-100 ahead of Toronto's Jane Kerr. Canadian recordholder Michelle MacPherson was 17-100 behind Kerr and Jennifer McElroy in fourth was only half a second behind the winner. "I'm looking to go a low 2:18 or even a 17 this summer, maybe in Japan," said Campbell, who has made Canada's team for the coming Pan-Pacific competition in Tokyo. Canadian recordholder Mike West, 20, of Waterloo, Ont., won the men's 200 backstroke in 2:02.70 to go with his win earlier in the 100 and Reema Abdo, 21, of Belleville, Ont., took the women's 200 backstroke in 2:17.63.



Edmonton Eskimos' running back Larry Cowan has his feet taken out from under him by Jo Jo Heath of the Rough Riders.

ESKIMOS GET REVENGE

Ticats growling again

Rookie quarterback Ken Hobart breathed new life into a sinking franchise Friday night when he led the Hamilton Tiger-Cats to a 39-11 road victory over the Montreal Concordes. It was the first Canadian Football League victory win for the Ticats following one-sided losses in their previous three games. It marked the second loss in five games for the first-place Concordes. "He did a tremendous job of moving our offence tonight," Ticats coach Al Bruno said of Hobart. "They were blitzing a lot on first down and we went wide with quick out passes. "We also used the draw well tonight, but give the credit to Hobart, he had us going." Hobart, taking over for Jeff Tedford, completed 14 of 29 passes for 218 yards including touchdown strikes of 23 and 38 yards to speedy wide receiver Steve Stapler in the first and second quarter, respectively. He led the club to 434 yards in total offence, by far its best offensive showing of the season. In the third quarter the rookie pivot from the University of Idaho scored the Ticats fourth TD on a 30-yard run. In the other CFL game Friday, the

Edmonton Eskimos paid the Ottawa Rough Riders back for a 41-19 loss two weeks ago with a convincing 49-14 home field victory. The Eskimos employed a balanced attack to move into second place in the West with a 3-2 record. Ottawa, 2-2, remained in second place in the East. "We got our ass kicked," said Ottawa coach Joe Moss. "We kicked their ass in our town and they returned the favor here." Edmonton quarterback Matt Dunigan, who scored twice, played one of his finest games as an Eskimo, put together lengthy and productive drives all night. Dunigan, who completed 18 of 24 passes for 323 yards, also connected on a 61-yard scoring play with Chris Woods. Cliff Toney returned an interception 57 yards for Edmonton's first TD while Brian Kelly scored their final major on a 21-yard pass from backup quarterback Damon Allen. Mike Caterbone scored both Ottawa TDs on passes covering 70 and 23 yards from quarterback J. C. Watts. The Saskatchewan Roughriders visit the Calgary Stampeders at 6:30 Saturday on CKPG (channel 2, cable 3).

SENIOR TOURNAMENT

Barber's score matches age

CONCORD, Mass. (AP) — Veteran Jerry Barber matched his golf score with his 69 years Friday to grab a one-stroke lead in the first round of the \$200,000 Digital Classic senior golf tournament at Nashawutt Country Club. Barber, a winner of eight regular PGA Tour events as a younger player, but winless in six years on the senior circuit, managed a 36-33-69 at the 6,518-yard par 72 course and joked "I figured I'd be in 12th place" to start the 54-hole tournament. "I turned a 75 into a 69, things were going for me. It always feels good to shoot your age or better."

Barber was only a single stroke ahead of five entries who were two under. Robert De Vicenzo, Gordon Jones, Orville Moody, Gay Brewer and Fred Haas tied for second. Defending champion Don January, who has already won five tour events this year, was four strokes back at 38-35-73. Al Balding of Toronto was four strokes behind Barber with a 73. Barber shot even par over the front nine, a single birdie on a 35-foot ninth hole putt offsetting his bogey of one hole earlier. He warmed up on the back nine, sinking putts of 40, 10 and 20 feet en route to the top of the leader board.

Golf amateur still leading

OAK BROOK, Ill. (AP) — It's been 29 years since an amateur won a pro golf tournament, and Scott Verplank is carefully, even aggressively, staying away from any predictions he might break that string. "I guess we'll find out Sunday afternoon," the 21-year-old Oklahoma State student said Friday after a string of six birdies on his last eight holes gave him a three-shot lead at the halfway point of the Western Open. "I won't worry about that until, when and if the opportunity arises," said Verplank, the current United States national amateur champion and winner of four other important amateur titles this summer. He admitted he was "kind of nervous" when he started second-round play as the tournament leader, after his closing burst of birdies had finished off another 68 and put him through 36 holes at 136, eight under par on the Butler National Golf Club course. A clipped, one-word response, "no," or "no comment," served as

answers to most reporter's questions on his chances of becoming the first amateur to win a professional tournament since Doug Sanders won the 1956 Canadian Open. "I played with him the first two rounds in the U.S. Open. He's a very good player, good driver, good touch with the putter," said Seve Ballesteros of Spain, whose 68 lifted him to 143. "Scott is showing a lot of poise. It's no surprise that he's there (in the lead). The kid can play," said Canadian Dave Barr, five strokes off the pace at 141. "Scott is the Nicklaus of the amateur players. He has an incredible record," said Steve Jones, who chipped in for an eagle-3 on the way to a 67 that lifted him into second alone at 139. Barr and Jim Thorpe, who had a no-bogey 66, were next at three under par. The third round of the Western Open is on at 3 p.m. Saturday on KIRO (cable 7). The final round is on at 1 p.m. Sunday on KIRO.

Toledo course fine for Walker

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Colleen Walker describes Glengarry Country Club, site of the Toledo Classic, as "a placement golf course." Maybe that explains the placement of Walker and defending champion Lauri Peterson at the top of the leader board after the second round of the \$175,000 LPGA event. Walker and Peterson avoided trouble and maintained their patience in arriving at scores of four-under-par 140 after two rounds at the tight and twisting par-72, 6,220-yard layout. "You can't spray the ball around here. This course requires a lot of thinking and I like that kind of golf course," said Walker, who is winless in her four years on the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour. Over 36 holes, only 10 golfers have been able to break par of 144. Walker recorded her second consecutive 70 while Peterson backed her first-round 71 with a 69 to arrive at matching 140s. One shot back of the co-leaders are Nancy Lopez, rookie Penny Hammel and Val Skinner, all at 141. First-round co-leader Lauren Howe, veterans Sandra Palmer

and Kathy Whitworth, and rookie Marci Bozarth comprise the quartet at 142, two shots back. All alone three shots off the pace at 143 is Cindy Hill, who surged into contention when she registered a hole-in-one on the 165-yard fourth hole. Peterson flew to the top spot during an early-morning round which saw her collect three birdies, an eagle and two bogeys. After a par on her first hole, she followed with a birdie, an eagle and another birdie to move to five-under on her way to a 69. Walker finished strongly. After 11 holes she was even par, but she canned an eight-foot birdie putt at 12 and then dropped a 10-footer at 16 to pull even with Peterson. Lopez missed nine birdie putts of 12 feet or less, but still racked up a 71 to rest one shot behind the front-runners. Nancy White-Brewer of Oakville, Ont., was eight strokes behind with a 72 for 148, while Judy Ellis of Waterloo, Ont., carded a 75 for 152. Barb Bunkowsky of Burlington, Ont., shot her second straight 80 and missed the cut of 153 or better with a 160 total.

Gretzky offer accepted

HULL, Que. (CP) — Hull city council will sell the city's junior hockey club to National Hockey League superstar Wayne Gretzky for \$175,662. A city hall spokesman said Friday the contract with the Edmonton Oilers star will be signed next week, although the specific date has not been set. Council has been considering Gretzky's offer since February. The city has owned the Hull Olympiques, since 1976 and it has been a constant money-loser. Last year, it lost \$161,000.

In March, council agreed in principle to accept Gretzky's offer, but placed several conditions on the sale, including that Gretzky must remain the majority shareholder, the team must stay in Hull, and if Gretzky decides to sell, the city must have first option to buy the club back. Deputy city manager Jean-Guy St-Arnaud said the contract will give Gretzky exclusive rights to professional, semi-professional, junior and university hockey in Hull. The city will rent the Guertin Arena to the Olympiques for between \$1,000 and \$1,500 a game, depending on gate receipts.

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