

Canadian Athletes Had A Memorable Year In Sports

By JIM BASTALE
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Canadian athletes had a memorable sports year in 1956, with some of their greatest achievements — and disappointments — recorded against powerful international competition.

It was the year of Canada's best showing in 20 years in the Olympic Games, of a golf queen's brilliant triumph in the United States and the country's loss to Russia in the Olympic hockey championships.

It will also be remembered as the year the Edmonton Eskimos captured the Grey Cup classic for the third straight time.

HONORS ABOUT EVEN

Other sports — such as hockey, curling, golf, basketball, lacrosse and tennis — also provided thrills. Honors in these sports were about evenly split among competitors from eastern and western Canada.

Canada did surprising well — in comparison to other years — in the Olympic Games at Melbourne, Australia. Canadians captured two gold medals and earned 32 points to finish 16th among the 67 competing countries.

Gold medal winners were rifleman Gerry Ouellette of Windsor, Ont., and Queller of British Columbia oarsmen.

The 22-year-old Ouellette made Olympic history by firing a perfect score — 60 bulls-eyes in 60 shots — to win the small-bore rifle competition from the prone position.

UBC oarsmen gave Canada its first gold medal in rowing by scoring a smashing victory in the fours without coxswain. Another UBC crew, the eights, finished second in its event and took a silver medal.

Irene MacDonald of Hamilton placed third in the women's springboard diving and rifleman Gil Bos of Toronto ended third in the small-bore event taken by Ouellette. At Stockholm in June, the Canadian Olympic equestrian team also placed third.

MARLENE'S BIG YEAR

Marlene Stewart, Fonthill, Ont., won the U.S. women's amateur golf crown, the first Canadian-born player to capture the event. The 22-year-old ace beat JoAnn Gunderson of Kirkland, Wash., 2 and 1 in the 36-hole final round, Sept. 22.

It was only part of a tremendous season for Marlene, voted Canada's top woman athlete in 1956 in the Canadian Press Poll. She retained her Canadian women's open and closed titles and won all the eight tournaments she entered.

Kitchener - Waterloo Dutchmen of the Ontario Hockey Association Senior A series, Allan Cup champions in the 1954-55 season, were the victims of the Olympic hockey upset in Italy. They finished third behind Russia and the United States.

The super-ly conditioned Russians won all five of their games and clinched the tournament with a 2-0 victory over Canada. It was the first time Canada had lost an Olympic hockey crown since Britain won the title in 1936.

In Olympic figure skating the Toronto pair of Norris Bowden and Frances Dafe finished second. They were beaten by an Austrian couple.

WINTER GAME STAR

The most heartening winter Olympic performance by a Canadian was provided by 21-year-old skier Lucille Wheeler of St. John's, Que. She became Canada's first medal winner in Olympic skiing when she finished third in the women's downhill. She also placed sixth in the giant slalom and earned all this country's five points in skiing.

Canada picked up a total of 16 points, good for 10th place among the 32 countries in the winter games. Russia won the unofficial team standings with 121 points.

Football fever, was climaxed by the Grey Cup in Toronto Nov. 24. Two familiar foes, Edmonton and Montreal Alouettes, met for the third straight year.

Eskimos whipped the Als 50-27 before 27,425 fans. Eskimos thus joined the University of Toronto, Queen's University and Toronto Argonauts as the only teams to win the Grey Cup three consecutive years.

For this achievement, Eskimos were named Canada's outstanding team of 1956 in a CP poll of sports writers and sportscasters.

Two weeks later, in the second annual Shrine All-Star game in Vancouver, the west walloped the eastern All-Stars 35-0.

SWIMMING TRIUMPHS

In swimming, Cliff Lumsdon, 25-year-old marathoner from Toronto became the first person to conquer the 18.3 miles of treacherous Strait of Juan de Fuca from Vancouver Island to Washington State.

Toronto's Marilyn Bell, first person to swim across Lake Ontario, failed to duplicate Lumsdon's feat but she battled the tricky currents from the shores of Washington State to Victoria Beach in 10 hours and 38 minutes.

The English Channel was beaten by 31-year-old Jacques Amyot of Quebec City.

John Jaremy, 31-year-old Toronto steamfitter, swam Lake Ontario, the first man to complete the grand England's Brenda Fisher became the second woman to do it, completing the distance in 18 hours, 50 minutes. The 28-year-old marathoner cut two hours six minutes from Miss Bell's 1954 record.

Major hockey accomplishments were racked up by the National Hockey League Montreal Canadiens and their magnificent centre, Jean Beliveau.

Canadiens, league leaders defeated Detroit Red Wings 4-1 in the best-of-seven Stanley Cup finals. Their total of 45 victories in 70 games during the regular schedule was a league mark.

Beliveau scored 47 goals, the most ever by a centre. In the playoffs he collected 12 goals to equal a record established in 1944 by teammate Maurice Richard. He was named Canada's male athlete of 1956 in the annual CP poll.

WIN EDINBURGH TROPHY

Canada's top clubs in minor pro hockey were Winnipeg Warriors and Montreal Royals. Warriors took the Western League championship and Montreal the Quebec League title. They met for the Edinburgh trophy and Warriors won the best-of-nine series.

Yemen Canadians beat Chatham Maroons for the Allan Cup, taking the best-of-seven series 4-1. Toronto Marlboros grabbed their second straight Memorial Cup and

Canadian junior hockey title by beating Regina Pats 4-0 with one game tied in the best-of-seven set. Here is a rundown on other events:

Kitchener - Waterloo Dutchmen won the Ontario Rugby Football Union senior series title and Queen's University Golden Gaels repeated in intercollegiate football winning the title for a second year. In minor football, Canadian intermediate honors went to Fort William Redskins, the junior title was won for the second successive year by Winnipeg Rods.

British Columbia Totems took the Canadian senior men's basketball crown. One of the great records in Canadian women's sport remained intact as Vancouver Elfers won the women's senior championship for the seventh successive year, while Toronto Nortowns retained their men's junior title.

TOPS IN CURLING

Manitoba had another star added to its curling crown as Billy Walsh skipped his Winnipeg Fort Rouge rink to the Dominion curling championship. It was Manitoba's 15th triumph since 1927, and Walsh's second win as skip.

Saskatchewan, represented by Regina Central Collegiate, won its third successive high school curling title at Fort William. Dave McTaggart of Vancouver won the Canadian men's singles at the Dominion badminton championships in Calgary in March and Jean Miller of Montreal evented things for the east by winning the women's singles.

Two British Columbia lacrosse teams gave the west a clean sweep in that sport. Nanaimo Timbermen defeated Peterborough Trailermen for the Mann Cup senior honors and Vancouver Mount Pleasant juniors whipped Brampton Excelsiors for the Minto Cup.

Canada's Davis Cup tennis team got as far as the North American semi-finals but bowed to the United States, winning only one match. In Canadian tennis championships again, the American invaders left few honors to Canadians.

As in the Davis Cup semi-final Paul Willey of Vancouver was the only Canadian to win, teaming with Jean Laird of Modesto, Calif., to take the mixed doubles.

SKATING CHAMPIONS

Carol Jane Pacht of Ottawa won the senior ladies' figure skating title and Charles Snelling of Toronto the senior men's. Barbara Wagner and Robert Paul of Toronto took the senior pair' championship and in junior competition, Margie Collins of Calgary won the ladies' title and Edward Collins of Ottawa took the men's.

New Westminster Royals defeated Montreal Ukrainians to retain their Canadian soccer championship, but the big soccer news was made by the Moscow Locomotiv, first Russian team to tour Canada. Locomotiv won all five games of their tour.

In the only Canadian boxing championship bout, Gaby Pallotti successfully defended his featherweight title against Tommy Corrick of Toronto over 12 rounds in Toronto Sept. 2. Bill Hodgson of Toronto made one of the few world records established by Canadians when he piloted his 266-cubic inch hydroplane, Miss O'Keefe, to an average speed of 125.281 miles an hour at Picton, Ont., in July.

NEW WINTER HOURS

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WEDNESDAY 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
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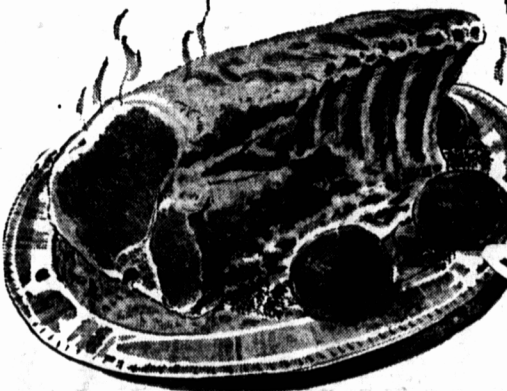
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Mormon Hoopsters Have Code Of Ethics Far Different From That Of Other Teams

TORONTO (CP)—Mormon Elders, Ottawa league basketball team coached by National Social Credit party leader Solon Low, don't believe that nice guys don't win. Mormons have a code of ethics far different from many teams. If they knock an opponent down, they help him up. They never retaliate, even if they suspect foes of deliberate fouls. They showed what they could do here last Thursday in an exhibition game against Toronto Tridents. They led 48-48 with only 15 seconds to play but lost 50-49. The players call Mr. Low "brother"; he calls them "elder"; they call each other "elder." All though the players are all in their early 20s, seldom do they address each other by first names.

TRAINING EASY Mr. Low has none of the personnel problems that plague many other coaches. The players don't cuss or smoke, and there are no nightclubs.

"All members of our team are ordained ministers," explains Elder Nickell, 21-year-old native of Utah who was picked for all-star when he was playing high school ball.

"All of us are donating our time to the church. There are no paid clerics in the Mormon faith. We are dependent on our parents or interested groups for our living expenses. Some of the members depend on their wives, who have jobs.

So there's no chance Mr. Low will get paid for his job. And there is no chance he'll lose it. It costs him money—and he undoubtedly considers it a privilege to pay it—to coach the team.

NO DIRTY PLAY The Elders' polite habits would lend support to the belief that they are inviting the tough guys to run them out of the league. But if they run into dirty play, they call it to the attention of the referee.

They consider it unfair to needle an opponent into a penalty. But if they can draw a foul from a rival, they consider it sound play. Elder Bryson, 24-year-old "bad man" of the team, confesses to fouling out in three of the Mormons' five league games. But he lacks experience, eagerness,

even clumsiness, but no malintent. The Mormons live in twosomes during their two-year missionary stint in Canada, doing their own cooking and thus holding absolute reign over athletic diets. The team sometimes shocks the janitor of a gym in which they have been playing. He discovers the Elders have delayed their departure long enough to clean up their dressing-room. "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," says Elder Bryson.

Remember When

Don Budge outstaided Ellsworth Vines, who had been ruler of the pro tennis world for five years, to win by 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 before a packed Madison Square Garden crowd of 16,725 fans 14 years ago tonight. Budge was making his debut in professional tennis.

CHANGED CAREER

Nicholas Rowe, who became England's post laureate in 1715, abandoned the legal profession to write poems and plays.

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