



FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

**I BELIEVE I CAN FLY** Alberta's track and field teams each collected four medals at nationals this past weekend in Montreal; only one of those came from a runner.

# Field stars put U of A in top six

ROBIN COLLUM  
Sports Editor

Alberta's young track and field squads exceeded expectations this weekend in Montreal, as both teams finished in sixth place overall at nationals. In addition to the team results, Alberta athletes made it to the podium eight times, including one gold-medal finish.

"I'm really excited," Alberta head coach Georgette Reed said. "We have a really small team, six men, and they end up getting sixth place in the country when they're competing against teams that have got 21 or 22 guys—that's phenomenal."

"It's the same with our women. We had ten women compete, and they did a phenomenal job. I'm really quite pleased with it."

The teams' successes were largely thanks to stellar performances from the U of A's field athletes.

Alberta's one gold medal of the tournament, hosted by McGill, came from fifth-year Matt Doherty in the

shot put on Saturday. Doherty, who was also named Canada West Male Field Athlete of the Year this season, beat out throwers from Windsor and Guelph—the overall team winner—and earned first place with a distance of 16.92m. Doherty also collected a silver medal on Friday in the men's weight throw event, posting a distance of 19.42m.

Other successes on the Bears' side came from Canada West Rookie of the Year Matthew Cardoza in the long jump and pentathlete Marcus Cunningham. On Thursday, Cunningham's success in the 60m hurdles, long jump, high jump, 1000m race, and shot put earned him bronze in his event. Cardoza earned a bronze medal on Friday with a jump of 7.16m.

The Pandas earned three silver-medal finishes and one bronze in the tournament. Fifth-year thrower Jenilee Way came in second in the weight throw with a distance of 17.41m on Thursday. On Friday, Sue Kupper cleared 3.95m in the pole

vault, good enough for second, and 3000m runner Paula Findlay earned a silver medal as well. It was Findlay's third CIS championships this year—she is also a member of Alberta's cross-country and swim teams.

Lindsay Bergevin, who's this year's Canada West Female Field Rookie of the Year and shattered an almost three-decade-old U of A high jump record earlier this year, finished with a top height of 1.72m in her event and added a bronze medal to her collection.

With the exception of Findlay, none of Alberta's runners placed higher than fifth in their events, but Reed was happy with the everyone's results nonetheless.

"Everyone went out there and worked hard and did the best they could, and some people were able to have the luck of the draw and end up on the podium and do the things we wanted them to do," she said. "Some people weren't as fortunate, but they still went out there and worked hard and gained points for the team."

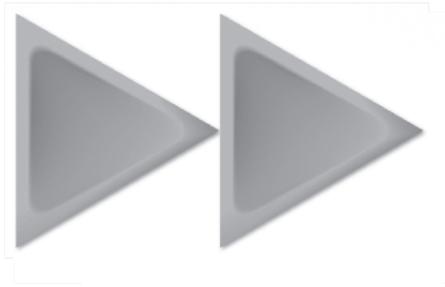
The warm-up game that volleyball players play between sets is called "pepper."

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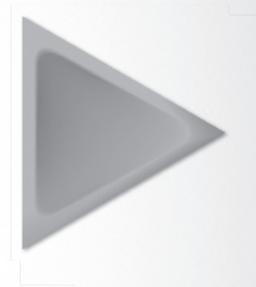
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