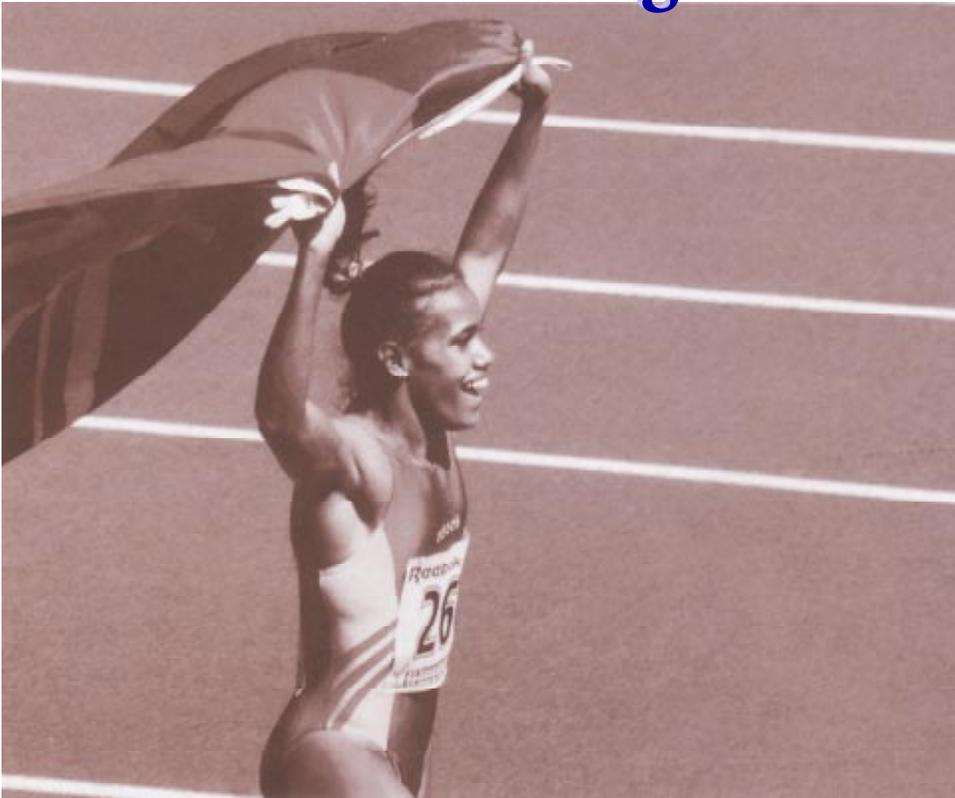


# Olympic IMPACT

Occasional magazine of the  
Centre for Olympic Studies  
The University of New South Wales  
ISBN: 0 7334 1444 3  
ISSN: 1327-6492

NO. 3 APRIL 2000

## Political Challenges Facing the Games



*Cathy Freeman carrying the Aboriginal and Australian flags after winning the 200 m at the 1994 Commonwealth Games. Although she was criticised by Arthur Tunstall, most Australians regarded Cathy's gesture as an inclusive one: she was stating that she was proud to be an Australian and an Aboriginal. Such a 'political' action could not occur in the Olympics. However, other forms of politics could intrude at the time of the Games.*

Many UNSW staff have contributed to the complex array of political challenges presented by staging an Olympic Games. Combating terrorism and dealing with Indigenous issues are two areas that have involved UNSW researchers. In the early stages of Sydney's preparations for the Games, the Australian Defence Studies Centre at University College (ADFA), focussed attention on the serious threat posed by terrorism during large-scale events, hosting a conference on *Terrorism and the 2000 Olympics*.<sup>1</sup>

More recently the Centre for Olympic Studies and the Aboriginal Research and Resource Centre organised a forum for discussion of the Olympics and issues affecting Sydney Aboriginal people (see page 3). A number of UNSW staff were also involved in the first conference held on sport and human rights in Sydney in September 1999. The extent of Aboriginal and Islander inclusion (and exclusion) from sport was a significant component of this groundbreaking conference that considered the role played by sport in human rights.

Such contributions go some way to fulfilling a key goal of UNSW: to seek to contribute to Reconciliation with Australia's Indigenous communities.

Because the Olympic Games attract such large world-wide audiences, many have attempted to use and even disrupt the Games. The estimated 19 billion television audience at the Atlanta Games in 1996 provided the theatre not only for the world's best athletes but also for a terrorist attack. Unfortunately the Atlanta bombing is what many people remember about these Games.

Australia will be under the world microscope in September 2000. John Pilger's documentary, *Welcome to Australia*, demonstrated that

the world's attention will focus on Australia's treatment of its indigenous communities at the time of the Games. Pilger's controversial documentary, which was screened in September 1999, contended that while Australia had a preoccupation with sporting success and a determination to plan well for the Olympics, it also had its share of human rights violations.

The indigenous issue has become a more sensitive one in recent times because of the recent submission of the Howard Government that there never was a stolen generation or generations. This has guaran-

teed that Australia's treatment of its Indigenous people will be scrutinised even more closely by the global media. Some Aboriginal leaders have responded by threatening some form of protest or disruption during the Games.

The University has attempted to include Aborigines and for that matter all Australians - in the Games. A forum in 1999 enabled Aboriginals from four Sydney Land Councils to use the challenge posed by the Olympic Games to achieve positive political outcomes (see page 3).

<sup>1</sup>Proceedings from *Terrorism and the 2000 Olympics* can be purchased for \$20 by contacting the Australian Defence Studies Centre, phone 02 6268 8849, fax 02 6268 8440 or E-mail s-brown@adfa.edu.au

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# EXTENDING INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS...

## Message from the Vice-Chancellor

Through *Olympic Impact* we aim to showcase how UNSW is engaging with the vast array of opportunities that the Sydney Olympic Games present. This issue highlights some of the ways our core activities of teaching, research and community interaction have taken on an Olympic flavour. From the range of articles in this issue, it is abundantly clear that Olympic-related activity has touched all parts of our campuses. Perhaps that should come as no surprise given the scale, and technical complexity of this event, and UNSW's renowned ability to get involved in major matters of the day.



## An update on staff access to the box

A number of interesting suggestions (including some novel ones) have been received on ways to identify staff for accessing the box UNSW has leased in the Olympic Stadium. There is still time to submit your ideas. If you have any suggestions on how staff might be selected, please forward your ideas to Angela Burroughs, Room 213, The Chancellery or E-mail [a.burroughs@unsw.edu.au](mailto:a.burroughs@unsw.edu.au).

## Third Generation Photovoltaics

As reported in *Olympic Impact 2*, UNSW will be hosting three key research workshops of international significance during the Olympic period. This issue of *Olympic Impact* focuses on Professor Martin Green's plans to involve some of the most creative thinkers in the world contributing to the ambitious challenge of finding fundamentally new approaches to converting solar energy to electricity.

Australia is already a key player in photovoltaics as the largest manufacturer per capita, a research leader, and the developer of the current industry-leading 'buried contact' cell technology. With the acceptance of the growing importance of sustainable energy generation technologies, photovoltaics is clearly an important industry for research focus within Australia. Not only does such research have to address the short to medium term concerns of the local industry but, for the industry to retain its leadership role, the research also has to remain at the forefront in investigating future options, so that the most relevant of these are identified early and the appropriate investments made.

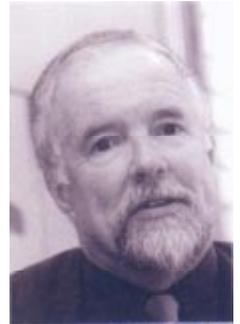
Professor Martin Green of the ARC Special Research Centre for Third Generation Photovoltaics explained that 'The limit on the conversion efficiency of the conventional photovoltaic approach is 33 per cent while the thermodynamic limit is 93 per cent. The large difference between these figures gives confidence there must be a better way. Several referees for the Centre's initial grant application stated the UNSW group was the best placed internationally to find and develop such an improved concept.'

Recognising the ground-breaking nature of this work, the ARC Selection Committee for the Centre stipulated, as a special condition of grant, that the 'Centre's Advisory Board should include high level scientific expertise related to the various approaches

## EDITORIAL

### Associate Professor Richard Cashman

I would like to thank various people around the University who have sent in more information to document the very considerable involvement of this University in the Olympics. New features in this issue include two interesting Olympic-related research projects and a list of some Olympic courses on campus. Next month the torch will be lit at Olympia, the beginning of the four-month torch relay. To mark this occasion there will be a feature on UNSW contribution to the torch design. We also would like to hear from UNSW torchbearers - students, graduates and staff - so we can list them in the next issue.



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and implementation techniques to be evaluated during the Centre's first three years'.

'Against this background, the aims of the Third Generation Photovoltaics workshop are twofold. One aim would be to focus interest and intellect upon this largely unexplored area by inviting some of the most creative thinkers in the world with relevant experience to Australia to present a paper on how they think photovoltaics could bridge the above efficiency gap. The invitees would include Nobel Prize winners with the background to contribute sensibly to the topic. Briefing material would be provided, but presumably those participating would rise to the challenge and put effort into developing interesting suggestions, without necessarily being burdened by the baggage of prior immersion in this field,' said Professor Green.



Professor Martin Green

'A second aim would be to complete requirements for input from a scientifically unassailably-qualified Advisory Board, by scheduling the Centre's first Board meeting for this period, with the invited speakers participating as either permanent or temporary members, depending on likely future interest in being involved.'

UNSW has been prominent in providing Indigenous communities with a forum to explore issues concerning Sydney Aboriginal people and the Olympics. The Centre for Olympic Studies organised a forum on the Indigenous Arts Festival, 'The Festival of the Dreaming' in 1997. The issue of 'Reconciliation in Olympism' was the subject of a First Class Honours thesis at the College of Fine Arts. This thesis was later published as a book.

## 'RED, BLACK AND GOLD: SYDNEY ABORIGINAL PEOPLE AND THE OLYMPICS'



Mrs Beryl Beller-Timbery welcomes the audience to Dharawal land on behalf of the La Perouse elders.

A half-day forum on 22 October 2000 was organised by the Centre for Olympic Studies and the Aboriginal Research and Resource Centre on behalf of four Sydney Land Councils. Mrs Beryl Beller-Timbery, one of four tribal elders present, initially welcomed the delegates to the forum stating that 'we are so proud that

Homebush Bay was chosen for the site of the Olympics because it is on Dharawal land'. Speakers included Dr Wendy Brady, Director Aboriginal Research and Resource Centre UNSW, Ms Emma Lee, Darwala-Lia Archeological Services, Ms Jenny Munro, Chairperson, Metropolitan Land Council, Ms Marjorie Anderson, Aboriginal Strategy Manager, Olympic Co-ordination Authority, Gary Ella, Program Manager, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Relations, SOCOG and Mr Shane Hunter, Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council. Some of the forum themes included:

### o Observing local protocols

The Games will be held on Aboriginal land so appropriate protocols and acknowledgments should be observed. Some of the Olympic sites include scarred trees and cultural items that provides evidence of Indigenous occupation.

### o Developing cooperation and resolving conflicts

As a result of the challenge of the Games, four Sydney Land Councils had signed a treaty and have developed greater levels of cooperation.

### o Promoting Indigenous Culture

An Aboriginal Expo at Olympic Park, organised by Indigenous people and promoting Indigenous art and culture, will provide Indigenous artists with a unique opportunity to promote their work.

### o Meeting Aspirations

Involvement of Indigenous people from the Sydney region. It is important for the local Indigenous people to be recognised at the time of the Olympics.

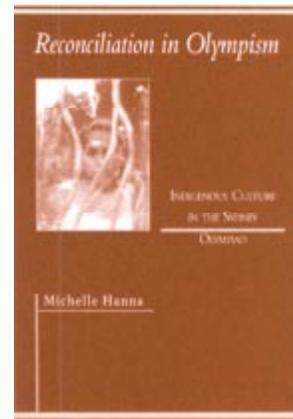


Gary Ella, SOCOG Program Manager for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Relations speaks at the forum.

The Centre for Olympic Studies Monograph No. 2, 'Red, Black and Gold: Sydney Aboriginal People and the Olympics'. will be published in June 2000. It will represent the edited proceedings of the forum. Cost: \$10 (postage included).

## RECONCILIATION IN OLYMPISM

Michelle Hanna, *Reconciliation in Olympism: Indigenous Culture in the Sydney Olympiad*, with a Foreword by Rhoda Roberts, Artistic Director, *The Festival of the Dreaming*, published in conjunction with the Centre for Olympic Studies and the Aboriginal Research and Resource Centre, The University of New South Wales. Walla Walla Press, Sydney, 1999: 138 pp. Appendices, illustrations. ISBN: 0 9587079 7 9 \$19.95



*Reconciliation in Olympism* explores the representation and involvement of Indigenous culture in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, from the time when Sydney bid for the Games to the staging of the first Olympic Arts Festival, *The Festival of the Dreaming*. The Festival created a new dialogue between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Australia.

The Festival was a landmark event in the cultural life of Indigenous and mainstream Australia, giving Indigenous Australians the opportunity to present themselves, significantly departing from traditional representations of Indigenous Australians by non-Indigenous people. *Reconciliation in Olympism* is a challenging and even controversial book in which Hanna argues that the 1997 Festival provided the debate that Australia should have had in 1988. She also examines many issues relating to the Indigenous involvement in the Olympic Games and suggests that Olympism should encourage reconciliation.

Rhoda Roberts, in her Foreword states of the Festival: 'I had a vision, a songline that would weave itself across Sydney, giving the city a soul and black independent voice'. Roberts also comments on the book:

'It is wonderful to have the Festival reviewed in such a manner as to locate its significance to both the Indigenous communities and the national culture and also to the Cultural Olympiad. Michelle does not attempt to articulate or create a new contemporary Indigenous culture in Australia, but gives an overview concluding that it is time for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians of finding a new way of being together in this nation.



Michelle Hanna completed a Bachelor of Art Theory degree at the College of Fine Arts, UNSW. She wrote a thesis on *Reconciliation on Olympism* in 1997 for which she obtained First Class Honours. Michelle went on to work for the Olympic Arts Festivals at the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games. She has been invited to present at several conferences, including the Art Association of Australia and Sport and Human Rights.

# STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES ...

## DEBRA GOOD

### THESIS ON THE CULTURAL OLYMPIAD



Debra Good has commenced a PhD in the School of History, with co-supervision provided by the College of Fine Arts. Her study will focus on the Fine Arts competitions held at the Olympic Games from 1912 to 1948. During this period medals were awarded for events in architecture, poetry, music, the visual arts and literature. Debra will also explore Pierre de Coubertin's rationale for including the Pentathlon of the Muses in the Olympic Games. Her Master's thesis from American University examined the strengths and weaknesses of the Cultural Olympiad, including the Olympic Arts Festivals which evolved from the competitions and have been held at every Olympic Games since

1956. Today the Olympic Arts Festival is a feature of Sydney's Games.

Debra has been awarded a scholarship to attend the 8th Post-graduate Seminar of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, the site of the ancient Games. The six week seminar will be held during May and June. She will witness the lighting of the Olympic flame in May, the beginning of the Sydney 2000 torch relay. She also hopes to be at the Opera House on 14 September for the Olympic Arts Festivals' Torch Galas when the torch arrives at the Opera House



*Karen O'Brien, appointed Office Coordinator for the Centre for Olympic Studies in March 2000, at the Centre reception area, Cliffbrook Campus.*

## NICOLE WILSON

### INTERN, LANG & ASSOCIATES, AN OLYMPIC MARKETING COMPANY



Nicole Wilson completed a Bachelor of Commerce at UNSW in 1999. During her undergraduate years she took a course with the Centre for Olympic Studies on 'Staging the Olympics' that introduced her to various issues concerning the Games. It also led her to gain an internship, and later full-time employment, with an Olympic marketing company, Lang & Associates.

'I have had the opportunity to work with a couple of key Olympic sponsors and with SOCOG through my position at Lang & Associates' said Nicole. 'I started off at Lang as an intern and this was as a direct result of a relationship the Centre for Olympic Studies has with the General Manager of the company. It is very beneficial to people like me that the staff at UNSW have developed relationships with key people across a number of industries.' Another student from UNSW, Andrew Mellor, also became an intern at Lang & Associates.

## CHRIS VALIOTIS

### PAID EMPLOYMENT WITH THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING CORPORATION (USA)

Chris Valiotis, a PhD student in the School of History, will be employed by NBC on a full-time and paid basis from 24 August to 3 October. He has been appointed as a researcher to provide information on Australian sports and Olympic history. Chris

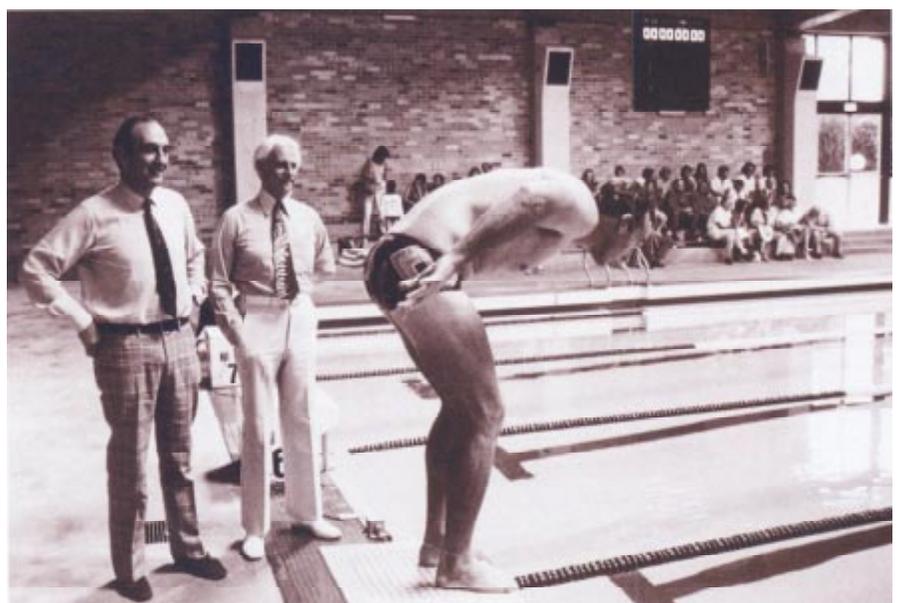
stated that 'the opportunity with NBC couldn't have come at a better time' because 'I plan to leave for a research trip to Pakistan on 10 October, one week after I have finished with NBC, to conduct field research in Pakistan for my PhD'. His topic is: 'The development of cricketing tradition in Pakistan in the immediate post-Partition period'. 'My employment with NBC will help me to secure additional funds to underwrite my research trip.



## ERRATA

Last issue we published incorrect information that the swimming pool will be open to the public from 5 am to 8 am, 2 September until 1 October. The pool will only be open at that time for squad training.

*Former Chancellor (now Governor of New South Wales) The Honourable Gordon Samuels and former Vice-Chancellor Sir Rupert Myers watch Michael Wenden prepare to swim at the opening of the University of New South Wales Aquatic Centre on 1 March 1980.*



# ASSISTING WITH OLYMPIC RESEARCH ...

## CREATING A LEVEL SWIMMING POOL

Sydney Aquatic Centre has been praised as a state-of-the-art venue: IOC President Mr Juan Antonio Samaranch has described it as 'the best swimming pool I have seen in my life'. UNSW researchers, Professors Graham de Vahl Davis, Eddie Leonardi and John Reizes and research assistant Longde Zhao, from the School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, have contributed to the excellence of this facility.

One of the problems they looked at was whether currents in the pool might give swimmers in some lanes advantage over swimmers in other lanes. They also considered the adequacy of scavenging of the pool by the through-flow of water: would there be any 'dead pockets' where water would remain without regular replacement and where, therefore, pool cleanliness would be reduced?

In work performed for the NSW Department of Public Works and the Project Managers Civil and Civic, the researchers used computational fluid dynamics to answer these questions.

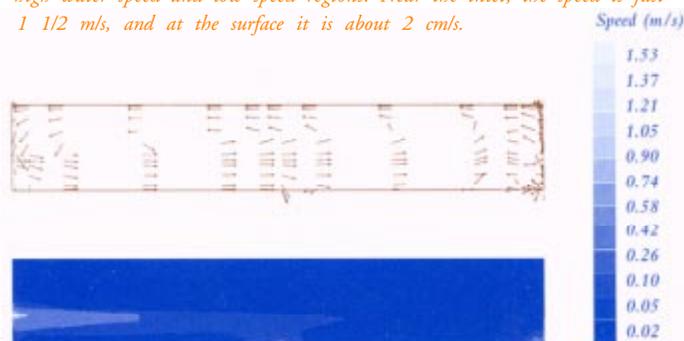
They looked at three possible water supply systems for the 50 m pool: first, a combined system, with inlets in the side walls and the floor: second, bottom inlets only; and third, side inlets only. Thirty per cent of the water was to be removed from the pool by outlets in the floor and the remainder by overflow into gutters running along the full length of each side of the pool. No inlets were to be located in the end walls of the pool. This was aimed at keeping currents along the pool to a minimum.

A typical vertical cross-section at the shallow end of the pool for inlet system 1 is shown in the figure. There are two inlets. One is in the side wall, 2 m below the surface; the second is at the centre of the floor (i.e., at the right hand edge of the figure: only half the pool is shown because of symmetry). There is one outlet, one quarter the way across the floor of the pool. Water also leaves the pool into a gutter at the top of the side wall.

As the figure shows, there is one large circulation cell, driven by the inlet jets and almost unaffected by the flow towards the floor outlets. The maximum speed occurs, as would be expected, at the inlet: it decays rapidly with increasing distance from the inlets. There is another velocity maximum, and a complex flow pattern, near the inlet at the centre of the floor of the pool.

The UNSW team have contributed to the excellence of the Olympic pool. Their calculations have enabled the designers to include features - inlets in the floor and sides and outlets only through the gutters - that will minimise currents and reduce turbulence. The researchers have also suggested that any possible difficulties can be avoided by switching off the circulation system during races. As a result, no swimmers will have an unfair advantage.

*A swimming pool has a remarkable variety of ebbs and flows. Arrows showing the direction of water flow (upper) and coloured areas showing high water speed and low speed regions. Near the inlet, the speed is just 1 1/2 m/s, and at the surface it is about 2 cm/s.*



## CATCHING THE DRUG CHEATS ... Drugs in Sport Study at UNSW

One of the most widely-abused performance-enhancing drugs, erythropoietin (EPO) is difficult to detect because it occurs naturally in the body. Although the IOC has banned the exogenous administration of this agent, it is difficult, if not impossible, to police such practice. EPO is popular with drug cheats because it stimulates the formation of red blood cells enhancing performance in endurance events.



*Dr Lalith Ratnayake and Mr Mike Trenell are two UNSW staff members involved in the AIS study of EPO.*

The UNSW Sports Medicine Unit is collaborating with the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) to improve detection of excessive and externally-administered levels of EPO in athletes. The AIS was successful in obtaining a grant from the International Olympic Committee to fund a study on volunteer athletes to examine methods for detecting the effects of injecting EPO. The AIS selected Centres in Sydney, as well as in Canberra, to conduct the study on athletes in both cities. UNSW Sports Medicine Unit is cooperating in the study to help AIS scientists develop accurate methods of detection of the injected hormone. Similar studies are also being carried out in Centres in China and in America.

EPO is a hormone produced by the kidney in response to a sustained decrease in the availability of oxygen. This is part of the mechanism involved in helping a person adjust over time, in weeks, to the effects of high altitude. It is part of the process of acclimatisation to altitude. The hormone action is to increase the production, and hence in the numbers, of red cells.

This means that, while there is less oxygen available for each red cell because of the low oxygen pressure at high altitude, the blood will carry a greater number of red cells per unit of blood and therefore the amount of oxygen carried by the blood will be improved compared to before the EPO-stimulated increase in red cells. Hence, after this acclimatisation, the person at high altitude will not feel so tired and breathless.

For the endurance athlete, oxygen is one of the limiting factors. The more oxygen an athlete can get to her/his muscles, the less lactic acid will be produced and the longer the athlete can keep going. Or, the athlete may be able to increase speed and still not produce as much lactic acid as before the injection.

Obviously, then, if an endurance athlete in long distance events like the longer walking, running and cycling track and road events, is able to artificially increase her/his number of red cells, the athlete will have enhanced performance artificially.

The UNSW Committee on Experimentation in Human Subjects has approved the procedure being carried out by staff of the Sports Medicine Unit. Twenty volunteer athletes, having signed the consent form, were required to come to the Unit each weekday for four weeks for injection of EPO and for blood collection. An AIS staff member then despatched the samples to the AIS in Canberra who then arranged for analyses of it at laboratories at the AIS and at the Australian Government Analytical Laboratory and several overseas laboratories.

From these observations it is hoped to show that there are quite reliable methods for detecting the use of EPO by an athlete so that this can be used at the Sydney Olympic Games. Hopefully, with such a successful result this will become publicised to athletes and hence deter any who may have considered using the hormone. This will help to fulfil the Olympic ideal; for athletes to compete to the best of their ability without any taint or suspicion of the use of banned substances.

The Australian public want and expect a drug-free Olympics in 2000. UNSW Sports Medicine Unit in contributing, in a practical way, to the achievement of this goal.

# OLYMPIC EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE CENTRE FOR OLYMPIC STUDIES ...

## LEGENDS DINNER

9 JUNE 2000  
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL  
7 for 7.30 pm

Hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Niland and Mr John Watkins, Minister for Fair Trading and Sport  
Shirley Strickland and Michael Wenden, keynote speakers

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DISADVANTAGED ATHLETES

UNSW is keen to provide undergraduate scholarships for students who suffer from a disadvantage whether physical, social or economic. Scholarships are intended to provide opportunities for the very best young sporting talent to advance both their sporting and academic careers in an ideal and sympathetic environment, which will include mentoring and suitable competitive opportunities. Selected scholars will need to have a good academic standing.

## SPORTING LEGENDS TO HOST TABLES

A unique feature of the Legends Dinner is that each table will be hosted by a sporting legend: an Olympian, a Paralympian or a sporting celebrity. Some of the likely hosts include Olympians Kevin Berry and John Kosmina; Olympians from UNSW, Natalie Galea and Peter Vassella; Paralympian, Priya Cooper; and Australian cricketer Geoff Lawson.

### MICHAEL WENDEN

#### Keynote speaker

Dual gold medallist Michael Wenden is the most famous Olympian to have attended UNSW. Born in Burwood he grew up in Liverpool. He attended Patrician Brothers Catholic School and it was there that he first began competitive swimming. At the NSW Championships in 1964 he proved that he was the outstanding schoolboy swimmer, winning the 100, 200 and 400 m freestyle in his age group and becoming the first fourteen-year-old to clock under one minute for the 100 m freestyle. In the 1966 British Empire and Commonwealth Games at Jamaica he won three gold medals breaking a world record in the process. It was the beginning of an illustrious Commonwealth Games record: in the 1966, 1970 and 1974 Games Wenden earned a record number of thirteen medals, nine of which were gold.

Michael curtailed his swimming career after 1966 to concentrate on his studies and achieved the highest pass in his school in his fifth and final year. Coming from a working class family - his father was a boilermaker - he was keen to attend university. Unlike many other swimmers of his time he did not consider a sports scholarship in the USA. 'I was terribly nationalistic in those days', he noted, 'and I felt that someone had to show Australian athletes that it was possible to remain in competition and achieve a university education in Australia'. Awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship he enrolled in the Commerce Faculty at UNSW.

Selected for the Australian 1968 Olympics he suspended his studies for a year to become the Australian star at the 1968 Games. Although ranked only sixth in the world in the 100 m freestyle and possessing a style described in *Aussie Gold* 'rugged' and 'seem-



ingly unorthodox' he won the 100 m in world record time and defeated the favourite, the smooth-stroking American Don Schollander, in the 200 m as well. Wenden also earned silver and bronze medals in two relays.

After the Games, Wenden completed his marketing degree at UNSW, then spent some years at the Commonwealth Bank before moving to Queensland to operate a sports complex. He values his UNSW experience: 'UNSW gave me the opportunity to observe and interact with a wide range of people from backgrounds different from my own'.

### SHIRLEY STRICKLAND MBE

#### Keynote Speaker

SHIRLEY STRICKLAND has won more Olympic medals than any Australian track and field athlete - in three Olympics from 1948 to 1956 she won three gold, one silver and three bronze medals. She was born in Guildford, Perth but soon after her family returned to their farm at Pithara, on north-eastern wheatfields, a dry and remote area where her mother raised four children in a pioneering environment. She wore no shoes until she was twelve and began her education by correspondence. When she had the opportunity to attend a tiny bush school she excelled both in sports and studies. She also helped to make the bricks to build a family home and continued her education at Northam High School boarding at the Country Women's Association Hostel. She attended university in Perth gaining an honours degree in science and specialising in nuclear physics - something of a rarity for a woman in the 1940s.



Shirley's athletics career continued to blossom while at university, resulting in her being one of the first selected to attend the 1948 Olympics in London. She won a silver medal in the 4 x 100 metres relay and bronze medals in the 100 metres and 80 metres hurdles. Her medals in London were the first won by an Australian women in track and field.

In the 1952 Helsinki Olympics Shirley won her favourite event, the 80 metres hurdles in world record time and finished third behind the 'Lithgow Flash', Marjorie Jackson in the 100 metres. With another Australian, Winsome Cripps, finishing fourth in the 100 metres the Australian relay team looked certain gold medalists. Alas, a dropped baton at the final change, with the team well in front, resulted in a fifth placing.

In Melbourne, aged 31, Shirley became the oldest woman at the time to win an Olympic gold medal, in the 80 metres hurdles again in world record time. She also became the first female track and field athlete to successfully defend an Olympic title. She was the lead-off runner in the 4 x 100 metres relay team that won the gold medal in world record time.

Shirley later became a coach and an administrator in athletics. She had managerial positions with Australian teams at the Olympics at Mexico City in 1968 and Montreal in 1976. Later she became a champion of community issues and an ardent conservationist, taking a keen interest in the preservation of the 'bush'.

Shirley was awarded an MBE in 1957, a Helms Award in 1955 and an Advance Australia Award in 1987. In 1985 she became an inaugural member of the Sport Australia Hall of Fame eventually being elevated to 'Legend' status. In 1998, she was inducted into the international Women's Sports Hall of Fame.

# COURSES AND ASPIRATIONS ...

## JO RUBA

### ASPIRING PARALYMPIC ATHLETE

Second year Social Work student Jo Ruba is looking forward to 27 July with eager anticipation and some nervousness because that is the day the Australian team for the Paralympic Games will be announced. Jo is expected to be one of the first picked for the Australian goalball team.

Goalball is a sport unique to the Paralympics. It was first designed in Germany in 1944 as a form of rehabilitation for blind soldiers. It is played on a court eighteen by nine metres with the goal extending the width of the court. The court lines are marked with string. The aim of the game is to throw a ball past the opposition team into the goal net. The ball, weighing 1.25 kg, is of the same size and texture as a basketball but contains three bells. A goalball team consists of six players but only three are on the court at one time - two wingers and a centre. Jo Ruba is currently a centre on the Australian team. Players are blindfolded to equalise competition because some vision impaired athletes can see better than others. The blindfold ensures all players must rely on the sound of the bells as the ball rolls along the boards.

The ball is delivered ten-pin bowling style towards the opponents goal. Once it has reached the designated defensive zone of the court the opposing players may dive on it to prevent a goal scored. If they save the ball it is then delivered towards the opposition players. Goalball players attempt to move the ball quickly to catch the opposition centre out of position and to tire the opposition wingers. Players wear chest guards and elbow and knee guards, to protect themselves from bruising caused by the impact of the ball.

Jo Ruba was born at Newcastle on 11 June 1980 with a hereditary condition for which there is no cure, Lebers Amourosis, a form of Retinitis Pigmentosa: she has tunnel vision and severe night blindness. The Royal Blind Society provides camps for vision impaired children and youths and it was at these camps that Jo, at fifteen, first came into contact with goalball. She represented the Hunter Goalball Association in 1995 and progressed rapidly through the ranks. By 1997 she had made the junior NSW team and attended her first national championships. In 1998 and 1999 she was a member of the NSW senior women's team that won successive national championships. In 1998 she was a member of the nation-

*Jo (to the right) crouches ready to intercept the ball. Note the arm and knee guards to prevent injury in this vigorous sport.*



al team training squad, but was disappointed to miss selection for that year's world championships. Since 1999, she has been a member of the Australian team and she will travel with the squad to Sweden in May 2000 to take part in a pre-Paralympics tournament. The tournament will include the five top-ranked nations in the world Sweden, Finland, Holland, Great Britain and the USA. Australia is currently ranked ninth in the world.

Jo faces many difficulties in the quest for her Paralympic sporting dream. She is a resident at Baxter College but needs to travel twice a week to Blacktown for training by public transport. She also trains at the University gym and swimming pool five days a week. There are also regular training camps and trial matches at Dural. Her training and study commitments mean she has no time for a job. She has to rely on her family and a small disability pension to pay university and college fees and travel. She stated that 'without Dad's support I could never do any of this'. Another difficulty is that the Paralympic Games (unlike the Olympics) will be held during term time. If selected for the Paralympics, Jo is concerned that living in the Olympic village for three weeks preparing for the Games will adversely affect her studies.

Jo is dedicated to her sport. 'I am inspired by that vision that I will walk into the Stadium Australia for the Paralympic Games opening ceremony representing my country, dressed in my uniform, in front of a home crowd of 110, 000 people.' Jo has applied for support from the UNSW Sports Association scholarship to enable her to travel to the tournament in Sweden. Jo Ruba is a dedicated elite athlete with a disability. She has had to overcome many obstacles to compete in the sport she loves and to undertake a University education at the same time. She deserves all the support and encouragement she can get from the university community.

## OLYMPIC COURSES ACROSS THE FACULTIES

There are at least five subjects taught in three faculties and in General Education on the Olympics at UNSW and many other courses have introduced an Olympic component.

### College of Fine Arts

#### SAHT3690 '2000 Olympics: Art and Design Perspectives' (Peter McNeil)

This intensive course will consider the visual culture of the Olympics and associated events: art, arts events, graphics and media, objects and architecture. Students will participate in the program including lectures and site visits, and will place their experience of Olympic art and design within a critical and cultural framework. Topics to be covered include Olympic City, Olympic Design, Olympic Image, Olympic Public Art, Sport and Social Space.

### Faculty of the Built Environment

#### Integrated Planning Project 2: Plan 3031 (Rob Freestone)

*Project: 'The Planning and Landscape Impacts of the Sydney Olympic Games'*

An applied focus on selected planning issues in an established urban area.

Introduces the concept of the study brief and the role of the consultant planner.

The course integrates group skills and knowledge to address a multifaceted planning issue typical of central city, inner urban, suburban or regional centre environments. Examples would include an environmental, town centre, urban design, transportation, redevelopment or heritage study. The emphasis is on individual and team research, analysis, technical report production, and presentations, with a significant fieldwork component.

### Centre for Olympic Studies/School of History

#### HIST2059 'The Modern Olympics' (Richard Cashman, Anthony Hughes)

Examines the successful elevation of a small-scale European athletic event into a major world festival. Topics include: the invention of the modern Olympics; myth and ideology; politics, including the role and structure of the IOC; commercialisation; the impact of media, especially film and television; the bidding process; gender issues; and the impact of the Olympics on the environment, town planning, tourism and the economies of host cities.

#### HIST2740/GENT0306 'Media, Technology and the Olympics' (Richard Cashman, Anthony Hughes)

The first half of the subject will deal with issues of representation, the Games as spectacle; the impact of different forms of media and the changing role of technology in the Games. The second half will deal with the involvement of the media in the staging of the Games: media organisation; technical problems to be overcome; objectives and outcomes of a major media player.

#### GENT0305 'Staging the Olympics: The Event and its Impact' (Richard Cashman, Anthony Hughes).

This subject focuses on the Games, particularly since 1984, as case studies to explore many Olympic-related issues involved in winning an Olympic bid and staging an Olympic Games. Topics will include: architecture, community and social issues, athletic training and support, Australian identity, cost factors, design issues, drug policy, environment, housing, language, media, politics, security, sponsorship, tourism, transport and urban infrastructure. The subject will also consider the wider impact of the Games on a city and the host community and country.

# OLYMPIANS AT UNSW

## UNSW JUDO CLUB – A UNIQUE OLYMPIC TRADITION

UNSW Judo Club has a unique Olympic tradition. It has produced representatives at four Olympic Games - Mark Carew (Moscow, 1980), Andrew Richardson (Los Angeles, 1984), Warren Rosser, (Seoul, 1988) and Natalie Galea (Atlanta, 1996). The Club, noted Natalie Galea, 'is one of the best organised and most enterprising in the state'. 'It encourages both elite athletes and those who are starting out in the sport under the direction of Olympian Warren Rosser', who was once ranked fifth in the world. 'People at the Club are also broad-minded', Natalie added, 'they have trained rugby and rugby league players, children and even blind people.'



Five middle-level government officers from Hong Kong, who are students in AGSM, visited the Centre Library in March 2000 to discuss their project on the Hong Kong bid for the 2006 Asian Games. Seated with them in their supervisor, Ian Marsh (fifth from left) and Centre staff Richard Cashman (left) and Anthony Hughes (right).

## UNSW TEAM AT THE GAMES

UNSW is likely to have a larger contingent at the Olympics and the Paralympics than at any previous Games. The following UNSW students and graduates are in contention for selection. Later issues of *Olympic Impact* will confirm which athletes are selected for the Games.

## NATALIE GALEA – UNLUCKY NOT TO QUALIFY FOR SYDNEY

Natalie Galea has been prominent in Australian and world judo for the past six years. She reached the quarter-finals in her category (72 kg) at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, finishing thirteenth. In 1999 she was Australian Champion and fifth in the US Open. However, while she was in line for selection for the Australian team, it all came down to one contest on 11 March at the 2000 Oceania Championships. Unfortunately, she lost to her Victorian rival, whom she had previously beaten. Although she believed that she was a stronger competitor than in 1996, she had to be content with being chosen as a reserve. She regards herself to be privileged to be a part of the camaraderie of the Olympics and to experience 'that special feeling at the opening and closing ceremonies'.



The result of just one bout has meant a major rearrangement of Natalie's life. For the last two years Natalie has had to juggle two careers as a second year student in Building Construction Management, in the Faculty of Built Environment, and as an international judo competitor. She is appreciative that the staff in her Faculty, particularly Paul Marsden, have been very understanding of her extended absences when involved in international competition.

Far from being downcast by her failure to be selected for the 2000 team, Natalie will look for a new sporting challenge - she will take up kayaking instead. She was awarded a Ben Lexcen Scholarship in 1999.

Natalie first took up judo at age eleven. She would have liked to have played rugby league but settled for the body contact of judo instead. UNSW Judo Club has been very supportive of her and has welcomed women to the sport.

## UNSW TEAM AT THE GAMES OLYMPICS

### Athletics

Patrick Dwyer 400 m  
Jane Saville walk

Building Construction Management  
Bachelor of Social Science (1996)

Undergraduate  
Graduate

### Sailing

Lars Kleppich sailboard

Bachelor of Commerce (1989)

Graduate

### Volleyball

Russell Wentworth

Bachelor of Sports Science

Graduate

### Water Polo

Liz Weekes  
Taryn Woods

Bachelor of Sports Science  
Bachelor of Sports Science

Graduate  
Graduate

## PARALYMPICS

### Goalball

Jo Ruba

Social Work

Undergraduate