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He's the fastest man - in Canada



File Photo by Barrie Erskine
Donovan Bailey

By Norm Nelson
BEAVER SPORTS EDITOR

He may not be the fastest man in the world anymore.
But 33-year-old Donovan Bailey proved he's still the fastest man in Canada.
At least he was when it counted, on Saturday in Edmonton, at the Canadian national track and field championships.
There's still only one other Canadian that could realistically challenge that title, and he, of course, is veteran Bruny Surin.
But the injured Surin watched the race from the stands, and Bailey, greatly bothered by his own injury, a bone spur, held off the rest of the upstarts.
It wasn't pretty and it won't replace those film clips from the '96 Atlanta Olympics, but, hey, the former world record holder and former world and

Olympic champion will head into his own self-declared, impending retirement with his country's national title.
"This one certainly was special because it's my last one, because it's on Canadian soil and I've probably been the most injured winning this one so I'm quite satisfied," said Bailey who was back in Oakville on Tuesday.
"I just wanted to win as opposed to run fast."
The big question, now, is whether Bailey can follow his own script right to the end — and make this summer's world championships, in Edmonton on Canadian soil, his swan song.
"I want to," he said. "I certainly want to."
Bailey said he won't keep us in suspense for long.
"I have to decide whether I'm going to go through hardly walking just to prepare for the championships in a month."
"I do need to address my heel spur."
"I have to decide whether I'm going to have surgery to correct that. If I have surgery than I can't run the world championships at all."
More to the point ...
"If I have surgery, that's it."
And that would have made this past week-end's nationals his final race.
"It could be. But I'm hoping that it's not."
"First of all, I need to make a clear determina-

tion for myself," he said.
"And also for the fans who have e-mailed and contacted us in regards to them buying tickets to go out and watch ..."
"I'll know when there has been a proper assessment done. I have to get an MRI done on my heel. I have to get an MRI done on my back."
"And certainly I have to get therapy."
"And Dan (his coach, Dan Pfaff) has to tell me exactly what sort of training that I need to do to be prepared, to at least be competitive."
"I don't want to go there (the worlds) to run one round."
Bailey said if he revs it back up for one last summer, he will compete in a few as yet to be determined European meets.
Bailey's winning time was 10.24 seconds and he edged out a 20-year-old Montreal resident who was inspired to seriously pursue the sport by Bailey's '96 Olympic gold medal run. Nicolas Macrozonaris posted a time of 10.35 seconds.
"Nick is a great young talent," said Bailey.
"Nicholas is an amazing kid and he has all the potential in the world."
"Every time I speak to him I just tell him that he needs to put himself in the right environment where training is very good and that he can learn as much as possible so he can capitalize on the great gift that he's been blessed with."



Photo by Brent Foster

Jeff Owens makes a catch for the 'Horns in recent action. The 'Horns have been making a lot of catches this season, as they boast a 3-0 start. They should get their first real challenge this Saturday as they suit up against the 4-0 Mississauga Wolverines.

Battle of the undefeated Saturday in Mississauga

The Oakville Longhorns should get a good indication this Saturday as to whether their terrific eight-year reign atop the Northern Football Conference (NFC) is in any kind of jeopardy.
As the newly expanded nine-team senior men's league enters the second half of the season, three teams, including the Oakville Longhorns, still boast goose eggs in the loss column (see standings, page D4).
With the 'Horns (3-0) taking on host Mississauga Wolverines (4-0), however, that number will fall to at least two.
Both won this past weekend, with the 'Horns defeating Sudbury 36-6 and Mississauga defeating Oshawa 55-8.
The other undefeated team, North Bay, also won their game 72-0 over North Bay to push their record to 4-0. North Bay plays Sudbury this weekend.
After three convincing wins, which basically provided the 'Horns the exhibition season they never had, the players are looking forward to an expected stiff test, this weekend, agreed coach Tony Molnar.
"We've added an extra practice," said coach Molnar. "We're going to be practicing three times instead of twice."
The 'Horns 36-6 win in Sudbury followed their typical pattern this year: putting the game

out of reach early, with comfortable quarter leads of 19-0, 33-0 and 36-0, and basically using the second half to roll through the huge roster.
The 'Horns first two touchdowns were on the ground by Luc Roberge (1 yd) and Derwin Phillips (23).
The rest of the way was through the air with Mark Demerling connecting on T.D. passes with Stephen Moore (21yd) and Michael Dingsdale (12 yd) and Domenic Camastro connecting with Moore (17 yd).
Dana Segin hit a 38-yard field goal.
The 'Horns carried 20 times for 196 yards and were led by Derwin Phillips who was four for 101 yards.
Through the air, the 'Horns connected on 11 of 17 for 136 yards, led by forty-something Q.B. Mark Demerling who was 5/9 for 93 yards.
Vince Rinella was the leading light on defence with seven tackles, one fumble recovery and one interception.
Wayne Sliwinski recorded five tackles and other notable performers included Pat McNerney (3 tackles, one interception) and Al Campbell (one interception).
If you want to catch the 'Horns at Mississauga this Saturday, it's at Mississauga Valley Park (Central Parkway, just off Burnamthorpe) at 7 p.m.



Photo by Barrie Erskine

Emily Collins from W.H. Morden public school competes in the long jump at the Halton elementary track meet at M.M Robinson. Complete results, inside sports section.

Track meets cap off sports season

As usual, the school sports year drew to an end with the annual track and field championships.
The Halton District School Board, with so many elementary schools, splits its championships into four meets with schools of similar enrollments.
The Beaver is pleased to bring you results from all four meets (see D2/D3).
Who knows, one day, one of the names in here may go on to national and even international competition!

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