Bailey cracks Olympic qualifying time in opening race of the outdoor season

It didn't take Donovan Bailey long to post the Canadian Olympic Association's qualifying time for the Sydney Olympics over 100 metres (10.23 seconds).

He did it in his first outdoor meet of the season, posting a 10.21 second time in the heats of the opening meet of the season in Martinique on Saturday. He improved to a 10.03 count in the championship race, good enough for runner-up, but it was a wind-aided time. "I am very pleased with this run today," Bailey is quoted on his website (www.donovanbailey.com). "This is just the beginning."

On Monday night, in a race in Guadaloupe, Bailey also finished as runner-up in a time of 10.35 seconds, behind American Brian Lewis (10.26).

Bailey, of course, is the defending Olympic champion but he is also coming back from his career-threatening Achilles Tendon rupture in September, 1998.

While his performance last year had critics wondering if he could recapture the same form that earned him Olympic and world championships, Bailey said it was necessary grunt work in order for him to be ready for this important year in which he tries to defend his Olympic title.

Donovan Bailey, seen here at the Spectator Indoor Games at Copps Coliseum, has posted the Canuck Olympic qualifying time. File Photo by Barrie Erskine



Sayer loses one-point decision to Canadian national champ

By Norm NelsonBEAVER SPORTS EDITOR

In his first trip to the Canadian national boxing championships, Grade 10 White Oaks Secondary School student Brandon Sayer missed a shot at the gold medal by the slimmest of margins.

Sayer, who has just turned 16, was competing in the U-16, 116 pound class in Sarnia this past weekend as the Ontario provincial champion.

It's the youngest age division that proceeds on to a national championship, so it was a new experience for the entire field of five.

Sayer lost out to eventual champion Quebec in the Saturday semifinal bout by the closes t of margins — 4-3

"I tried my best," he said. "I can't argue or complain. I did the best that I could. I'm happy."

Added his Dad, Dave Sayer: "He was that close. I mean, I thought he actually won the one against Quebec and Vinnie Ryan (his coach) thought so, too. That's how close it was."

But definitely no sour grapes.

"He was fighting the best of the best, and he was right in there. He lost basically by one point," said the elder Saver.

"He met some great kids from Ontario. It was just a great experience. The team really came together and they



Photo by Riziero Vertolli

Brandon Sayer, seen in practice at McGrory's in Hamilton, went toe to toe with the eventual national champion this past weekend.

were there to support each other and ate together and things like that. It was just an experience that will last the rest of his life."

The Sayers then watched as his Quebec opponent went on to decisively win the Canadian gold medal.

"The poor kid from Newfoundland the first 30 seconds

"The poor kid from Newfoundland, the first 30 seconds of the first round, the kid from Quebec just destroyed him and they had to take him to hospital."

Sayer didn't get the luck of the draw.

With five fighters in the field (Sayer along with boxers

(See 'Sayer' page D3)



Photo by Ron Kuzyk

Crusaders

in action in Oakville

Saturday

The rugby season kicks off this

The Crusaders

first team, which finished second in

Ontario last year,

will cap off a full

day as they host

from Ottawa at 3

The second and

first teams will see

action at 1:30 and

3 p.m., respective-

ly, against teams

Barbarians club.

And in the

morning, it's the club's youth program in action.

women's team is

in action but with

out for those interested in joining.

The club has

put out a special

call for it's youth

girls program, for U-14 players.

an away game

against Ajax.
It's a good
Saturday to view
some exciting
rugby action and
to check the club

The Crusaders

from the

Bytown Blues

Saturday at Crusaders Park.

Sensei Stephen Ramkalawan helps prepare two of his students — Zakary Richardson, 12 (middle) and Chris Pereira, 16 for this weekend's world championships in Italy.

Local youth off to Italy for world championships

Two Oakville youth were set to leave for Italy yesterday in preparation for this weekend's World Karate Organization world championships which are being held in Jesolo, near Venice.

Competing in their respective divisions are 12-year-old Zakary Richardson a Grade 7 student at River Oaks Public School, and Chris Pereira, a 16-year-old Grade 11 student at St. Thomas Aquinas High School

Members of the C.A.K. School of Martial Arts in Oakville, they will compete in sparring and patterns events.

The two who typically train more than 20 hours a week were selected on to the team after team trials earlier this year.

Oakville Skating Club honours its Gold Medalists

The Oakville Skating Club held its fourth annual awards banquet Saturday night, honouring a multitude of skaters for their achievements over the past season

skaters for their achievements over the past season.

Oakville Skating Club president Mardy Hewitt was on hand with past president Greg Young presiding over the

evening as master of ceremonies.

A former Canadian novice and junior dance champion as well as a Canadian senior dance bronze medalist, he

also gave an inspirational speech.

On tap were presentations for freeskate, dance and

skills tests as well as handing out of bursaries.

As always, the highlight was the gold and diamond

medal presentations.

The gold achievement is the culmination of years of work by the skaters. To present the awards, the club was honoured to have on hand, Fran McLellan, a former past president (in 1980) and still an active member, volunteer

and precision skating judge with the club. Here they are ...
SKILLS 1: Deborah Allworth, Kendra Johnston, Katy Kellner,
Melanie Vipond, Jennifer Vipond and Marta Warner.
GOLD DANCE: Danies Fung. Jenny Gleed, Kendra Johnston

GOLD DANCE: Denise Fung, Jenny Gleed, Kendra Johnston, Ashleigh Lockwood, Stephanie Mauthe, Sarah Miniaci, Jennifer Stirrat, Alicia Visconti and Cindy von Hagen.

DIAMOND DANCE: Jessica Nelligan
GOLD FREESKATE: Ashleigh Lockwood, Julie MacDonald, Carly
McFadden, Daniel Pursoo and Tanya Rank
GOLD ARTISTIC: Deborah Allworth and Heather Wilkins.



The Oakville Skating Club honoured its gold medalists Saturday night. BACK ROW: Daniel Pursoo, Jennifer Vipond, Katy Kellner, Jennifer Stirrat, Melanie Vipond, Cindy von Hagen, Julie MacDonald, Deborah Allworth and Ashleigh Lockwood. FRONT ROW: Heather Wilkins, Carly McFadden, Denise Fung, Stephanie Mauthe, Kendra Johnston, Tanya Rank, Alicia Visconti, Marta Warner

