

Great time at games Down Under

By Brian Mortensen
Spilyay Tymoo

Charlene Moody competed last month in the shot put, javelin and discus events in the Down Under International Games in Australia. She placed in all three events, including first-places in two divisions in the shot put, her best event.

The Down Under International Games, presented by International Sports Specialists Inc., were held in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, July 9-10. The two-day meet was part of a 12-day overseas trip for Moody that included a stopover in Hawaii.

Moody, like Warm Springs tribal member Blaine Begay in wrestling, and Madras High volleyball player Katie Wunsch, raised over \$4,000 to travel to Australia for their competitions.

"I thought the competition would be really big because of all those girls from the Carolinas and Florida," Moody said. "And then I thought, I can't think like that. And then I started throwing, and I thought, 'I could beat them.'"

She ended up throwing 11.97 meters (39 feet, 3 1/4 inches) to win the Open Division that included college-age athletes. She won the 18-19 age group with a toss of 11.42 meters (37-5 1/2).

As an added bonus, Moody finished fourth in discus and sixth in javelin. She threw a best of 34.38 meters (112-9 1/2) in the discus, and of 30.32 meters (99-5 1/4) in the javelin.



Charlene Moody

Two Australian athletes had better marks in the discus, but Jessica Adeky, one of four other Natives that made the trip from the U.S., beat Moody for third by seven inches.

"I was like, 'No-o-o-o!'" she said in mock horror at being so close to a top-three finish.

Most of the athletes at the meet were Americans who made the trip, and Americans were clearly better in some events, like the shot put.

The meet was fairly large, and featured events like steeplechase and race walking not usually run in high school track and field.

Moody said she didn't particularly care what her marks were in Australia, and hadn't practiced the shot put much before leaving for Australia.

"I tried to practice a little at home, but I didn't really get to go for a full-out glide, so I just tried to power it. And in the jav-

elin, I hadn't practiced since school, so I did really bad in that because I forgot the footwork and everything."

Moody graduated from Madras High in June. For the meet in Australia, even though she might not have been as fine-tuned as she was, say, two months ago, the competition energized her and got her thinking about college and goals even further down the road.

"It opened my eyes a little more, because my real goal is to go to the 2008 Olympics in Beijing," she said.

In the fall Moody will compete at Lane Community College in Eugene, the same junior college Tom Pappas, the U.S. hopeful in the decathlon at the 2004 Olympic Games.

Lane Community College was the first to offer Moody a scholarship, and she accepted. She had been talking with Clackamas Community College in the spring, but coaches from Lane approached her at the Class 3A state meet in May.

At Lane, Coach Grady O'Connor has some experienced throwers, "and I can learn from them," Moody said. Lane also has an art program, which also interests her.

Interesting sights

Competition is part of the draw of the Down Under International Games, but just being in a foreign land is what the athletes remember most.

In Sydney, Australia, the

group of athletes viewed some of the Olympic sites of the 2000 games, including the Olympic stadium. They also saw the famous Sydney Opera House. And the group visited a wildlife park that had all the animals unique to the Land Down Under, like koalas and kangaroos. Moody had her picture taken while holding a koala. "They're so soft!" she said.

She also witnessed a football player having the wind knocked out of him by a red kangaroo when the 'roo rocked back on its tail and kicked the football player in the chest.

Moody and her new friends also saw a large crocodile, dingos and Tasmanian devils.

Before the competition the visiting athletes had a free day. They used the time to play Laser tag and check out Surfer's Paradise on the Gold Coast.

Moody said she found the Australian guides friendly, and she even found herself talking like them. "When we were coming back, me and my friend Penny were starting to talk like them," she said.

The ocean, she said, was cold but people were surfing anyway. "The day we left Australia, a little kid got attacked by a shark. We thought, 'Good thing we didn't get in the water!'"

While the flights from Portland to Honolulu, and then to Sydney, were long, they were short compared to the 14-hour flight from Sydney to Seattle.

See ATHLETES on 12

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Important dates for high school athletes

Falls sports at Madras High School begin on August 22. Sports will include cheerleading, volleyball, boys and girls cross country, football, boys soccer and girls soccer.

The following are some of the important dates to keep in mind:

Tuesday, August 16 at 7 p.m.: Mandatory parent/player/

coach information meeting at the high school commons.

Thursday, August 18: Free fall sports physical at 4 p.m. at the IHS clinic; and at 5:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church.

Monday, August 22: First day of practice.

Wednesday, Sept. 7: First day of school for freshmen.

Thursday, Sept. 8: First day of school for tenth through twelfth grades.

Monday, Sept. 12 at 5:30 p.m.: Free fall sports physicals for winter and springs sports at the United Methodist Church.

If you have any questions, call the athletic office at the high school, 475-7265 ext. 312.

Hawaiians, Local Boys golf tourney results tallied

The following are the results of the Hawaiians and Local Boys Golf Tournament, held recently at Kah-Nee-Ta:

A Flight: first gross team, Monte Simmons and Tom Dieker (189); second gross team, Brian Condon and Joe Finley (199); third gross team, tied between Kelly Wechter and Phil Miller, and Chuck Anderson and Tyrell Peterson (both 201).

A Flight: first net team, Tom Estimo and Satch Miller (170); second net team, Greg Josi and Ken Ellison (182); third net team, Gary George and Sean Hoolehan (183); fourth net team, Arnie Engle and Roger Pardue (187).

B Flight: first gross team, Dan Martinez and Vince Couch (216); second gross team, Janell Smith and Ray Upshaw (217); third gross team, Tom Bradley

and Karson Elkins (218); fourth gross team, John Norstman and Steve Blakely (224).

B Flight: first net team, Dave Dieker and Ron Iler (173); second net team, Verna Conner and Dave Elkins (175); third net team, Chief Delvis Heath and Wendell Jim (178); fourth net team, tied between Bob Kjenslee and Arden Olson, and Dylan Hobson and Andrew Davis (181).

2nd annual 12 and under tournament

The Recreation Department sponsored the Second Annual Warm Springs All-Indian 12 years and under baseball tournament at the Paopose Field July 16-17. There were five teams in the two-day event, including Warm Springs Eagles coached by Sue Matters, Wolfe Point C-Hawks coached by Jerry Sampson, NW Connection/Springers coached by Vivian Smith, the Little Bucks coached by Brian Suppah, and Suquamish Washington

coached by Charles Deam. Many thanks to the grounds crew for assisting with set-up of each game. It was a fun-filled two days of baseball for local children. Youth baseball across Indian Country has made a rebound for post-season tournaments including Yakama hosting one in June, the Pi-Ume-Sha youth tournament, and Lummi usually hosting one at the first of August. Look for results of the July 16-17 tournament in the next paper.

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