

UiTM displays prowess in archery

THE sacrifice and dedication shown by University Teknologi Mara's (UiTM) archers paid off handsomely when they clinched the overall champions title in archery at the inaugural Malaysian Institutions of Higher Learning Games (SUKIPT) yesterday.

UiTM sealed the title by winning three out of the four gold medals on offer on the final day of competition at the Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) Serdang campus. UiTM emerged victorious in the men's and women's team compound as well as the women's team recurve.

The results saw them top the overall standings with a haul of six gold, one silver and five bronze with hosts UPM placing second on three

gold, three silver and five bronze.

Third was Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) who managed one gold, one silver and one bronze.

UiTM coach Mon Redee Sut Txi said she was delighted with the performance of her charges, which far exceeded their pre-Games expectations. The archers had undergone a three-week centralised training programme in preparation for SUKIPT.

"To be honest, we were only expecting to win three gold medals as we knew that UPM would be a tough side to beat in the competition," said Mon Redee, who competed at the 2004 Athens Olympics.

"Our archers really deserve this

win as they have worked so hard to be here. All of them had sacrificed their semester and Raya Haji holidays to keep training together.

"I am proud of them as they kept their heads down, focused well and were not once overawed by their opponents."

In tennis, former national champions Jawairiah Noordin-Syed Agil Syed Naguib proved they are head and shoulders above the rest as they powered to the mixed doubles gold yesterday.

The duo, representing Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP), drubbed UTM's Syed Azhar Syed Naguib-Sharifah Syafinaz Syed Azmir 6-2, 6-2 in the final.

The mixed doubles bronze went

to Huzaifah Rahizam-Farah Hamima Karim (UiTM) after Lukman Hakim Abd Aziz-Alieya Natsha Shaifol Nizam (USM) withdrew from the playoff match due to injury.

UniMap also bagged the men's doubles gold when brothers Mohd Faez Said-Mohd Fazree Said defeated Yip Li Kuan-Kevin Loke Ke Wei from Help University 6-0, 6-2. The bronze medal match saw Hanifah Rahizam-Akmal Hakim Mohamad Salleh emerge winners over Mackendy Manggis-Lukman Hakim Abd Aziz (USM) 6-0, 6-1.

The women's doubles event had to be postponed to today due to intermittent rain disrupting the competition yesterday. **By Fadhli Ishak**

SPORTCHECK



UiTM's **Fatin Nur Fatehah Mat Salleh** (left) and **Ariff Farhan Ibrahim Putra** from UPM each won three gold in archery at the SUKIPT. Pic by