Sean Yee leaps to victory

NATIONAL high jump record holder Yap Sean Yee kicked off her season with a gold medal and a new games record at the Malaysian Institutions of Higher Learning Games (Sukipt) in Johor Baru yesterday.

Though slightly off her 1.79 metre national record, the Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) student notched a respectable 1.75m leap to erase the games mark of 1.66m set by UPM's Norliyana Kamaruddin in 2012.

State University of Jakarta's Nadia Anggraini took silver with 1.70m while Nurul Falena (Help University) was third on 1.51m.

Sean Yee, 21, who is studying human development and information technology, said she was happy with her performance considering it was her first tournament of the year.

"I had expected to hit 1.75m here and I am glad to have achieved my goal and set a decent season's best for myself," she said.

"I have a few goals that I want to achieve this year and my next target is to do 1.80m and better my personal best at the Asian Indoor Championships in Doha (Feb 19-21).



The UiTM handball team with their medals after the final in Johor Baru yesterday.

"My third goal is to achieve 1.82m and secure a place for the Malaysia Sea Games next year, though I have yet to set a time frame to achieve it."

The men's shot put saw UPM's Mohamad Alif Hanif Mohd Afandi clinching the gold with a throw of 14.12m while Kolej Komuniti Sabah's Paul Kenneth Tay came in second with 13.49m.

Defending champion Harith Ammar Mohd Sobri of Universiti Malaya (UM) sent out an early warning to his challengers after he broke the games' record in the 100m. He notched 10.74s to win his heat and progress to the semi-finals today, the former record of 10.82s was set by

Mohd Azhar Md Ismail (Kolej Komuniti Pahang) in 2012.

Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) bagged both the gold on offer in the handball competition with a close 14-13 win over Universiti Malaysia Perlis in the men's decider and a 13-9 victory against Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris in the women's final.

In tenpin bowling, Sunway University's Natasha Roslan, Nur Ameerahusna Aznil, Victoria Chin and Dayang Khairuniza Dhiyana Abang Jamallidon notched a comfortable win in the women's team event with a total score of 4,743 pinfalls.

UiTM (Nur Amirah Auni Azman, Faten Najihah Ahmad Faik, Fatin Azmira Khairul Faizi, Nursyamimi Supardi) and UPM (Radin Nur Najwa Radin Dzulfakar, Norasikin Maulad Nor Azman, Siti Aishajan Hussin, Siti Aishatun Hussin) took silver and bronze on 4,688 and 4,551 respectively.

International Islamic University of Malaysia's Nor Syazana Mohd Rusli took the women's all events gold on 3,875 while Amirah and Natasha placed second and third, 10 and 98 pins behind.

Defending champions UiTM remained in the overall lead with 24 gold, 23 silver and 11 bronze. Sunway are in second on 16-10-11 while UM were third with 11-6-7. By Fadhli Ishak