

Oldfield: Up to his old

By KEN VELOSKEY

He wore scanty trunks, mesh T-shirts and puffed cigarettes without shame as the whirl of events played on around him at the 1972 Olympiad in Munich. A stodgy, starched collar, conservative Olympic Committee shook their heads in disgust.

Scribes from such prestigious journals as Sports Illustrated and Time labeled him behemoth, humongus, a colossus and a loudmouth.

He's South Elgin's own Brian Oldfield.

Oldfield literally turned the art of shot putting around. His discus like release for the 16 pound orb, like himself unconventional, produced a record which some feel (including Brian) will not be broken.

But like Roger Maris' record breaking home run feat, there is an asterisk after Oldfield's mark set at Bowie High School in El Paso Tex. on May 10, 1975.

Oldfield's 6-5, 275 pound frame heaved the shot 75 feet. A record toss that still stands but he did it under

the guise of a professional athlete.

The amateur associations refuse to recognize the effort in their books. "I'm like the Dr. Perry of sports medicine, said Oldfield. "He's a chiropractor, not AMA oriented, it's the catch 22 baby."

"You might say I have been disenfranchised," said Oldfield while tossing a shot like a golf ball at Larkin High School Tuesday afternoon.

It's been a little over four years since the flamboyant giant released that record toss.

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