

Swimmers Edge 'Birds, Claim WCIAA Crown

by Mike Horrocks

The announcer's voice quieted the packed spectator section: "Before the final event the point standings of the three teams are as follows: University of Saskatchewan—47 points; University of British Columbia—113 points; and University of Alberta—114 points. This last event will decide the meet."

The starter called the three relay teams to the blocks in perfect silence; as the gun sent the first swimmers off, the silence held for a moment. Then, as Bear swimmer Al Graham started to open a lead, the cheering began. Nestor Korchinsky took over followed by Ross Norminton, and the lead still widened.

When anchor-man Dave Cragg launched himself into the water his lead was unassailable, but he swam faster if anything, and as he sped down his final length, both crowd and Bear swimmers went wild.

BEARS SEEK RETALIATION

Revenge is sweet and the tension had mounted through two days of tense swimming and diving competition. UBC had won last year's WCIAA championship by one point and had already beaten the Bears by a nine point margin in a dual meet earlier in the season.

The Thunderbirds were strong with start swimmers and the question was whether the great all-round Bear strength could overcome the individual success of the Bird men. After the heats on Friday night, Bear coach Murray Smith calculated that if the final standings followed the placings of the heats, the Bears would lose by one point.

On Friday, Dave Smith of UBC won the 1650 yard freestyle with Terry Nimmon coming in second for the Bearmen. Bob Ruff and Jack Rogers were second and third in the diving behind Saskatchewan star, Larry Jensen.

Saturday morning UBC won the medley relay as expected, and with Brian Griffith's win in the individual medley, carried an eleven point lead into the afternoon events.

UPSET LEADS THE WAY

The afternoon events started with one of three U of A victories when

Ross Norminton upset Dave Smith to win the 200 yard freestyle. From there on it was a battle down the line. Jensen repeated his triumph in the diving with Jack Rogers second and Ruff fourth.

The 500 yard freestyle was run in two sections and Bob Wilson's winning time in the final standings and a valuable point for Alberta.

By this time every point counted and when Terry Nimmon repeated his victory over Bill Campbell, the writing was on the wall for UBC.

Despite Griffiths' win in the 200 yard breaststroke, the Bears took second, third, fourth and fifth places in the event with Erik Haites, John Byrne, Bob Holzer and Brian Heffel; this set the scene for the final relay.

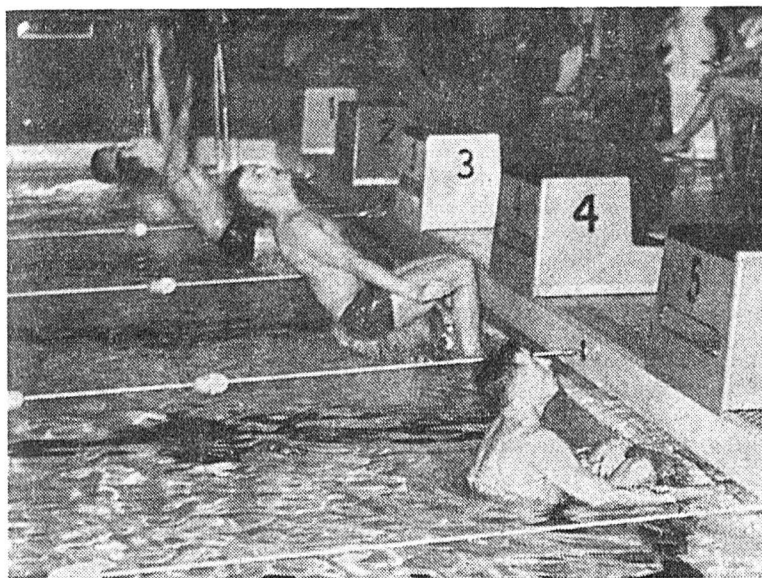
The outstanding swimmer in the meet was Brian Griffiths who set three conference records in winning three individual events as well as swimming on the winning medley relay team. Bill Campbell won the 50 and 100 yard freestyle in conference record times and Dave Smith won the 1650 yard and 500 yard freestyle events.

All told, UBC won eight events, U of A three events and U of S two.



SMILES, CHUCKLES, AND TROPHIES! ...Coach Murray Smith's Golden Bear swim team poses proudly after splashing to narrow 128-123 victory over UBC Thunderbirds in WCIAA final last weekend. Saskatchewan trailed with 55 points. The win avenged a one point loss suffered by the Bears at the hands of the T'Birds in Vancouver last season. An overflow VGW crowd watched the meet which was decided on the last event.

photo by Kendel Rust



BACKSTOKERS START 200 yard grind. Terry Nimmon won the title for Bear swimmers. photo by Kendel Rust

Pandas Place Second

by Sandy Kirstein and Mike Horrocks

The Panda Swim Team achieved a good second place in the WCIAA championship meet in Vancouver last Saturday.

The very strong UBC squad won with 75 points. Pandas got 44 points and U of S finished third with 16.

Marg Iwasaki, who swam on the 1960 Canadian Olympic team, and Susan Elliott, holder of several Canadian records, headed the UBC team, winning five out of six individual swimming events between them. Sandra Buckingham also from UBC won the other event and both relays were also won by the coast squad.

The only event in which visiting teams scored was the diving, won by Bonnie Phillips of U of S.

Panda swimmers swam to second place in both relays and other strong efforts were made by Mary Amerongen, second in the breaststroke and third in the freestyle; Kay Ogle, second in the diving; Margit Bako, third in the individual medley; Bonnie McPherson, third in the diving and the butterfly. Jill Sharp was third in the 50 yard freestyle event.

This was the final meet for the Pandas this season who, if not triumphant have shown a steady improvement this season recording two dual meet victories as well as several good placings in other meets.

The U of A synchronized swim team placed third with 22 points. UBC won the meet with 35 points and the U of S were second with 33.

The synchronized team is coached by former U of A swimmer Loretta Patterson. Members of the team are Dale Johnson, Margaret Putnam, Shirley Etter, Sharon Johnson, and Phyllis Gitzel.

Dale Johnson placed first in the strokes and fourth in figures. Dale and Margaret Putnam captured the duet trophy with their number "Chop Suey Chicks." The team number "Ghost Riders" placed third.

The intervarsity volleyball team placed second in the volleyball tournament. The UBC team was undefeated in the double round robin tourney and captured the Sam Landa Trophy.

In taking second position the Alberta girls were defeated twice by UBC and easily won the rest of their matches.

This Saturday the volleyball team will take part in the Provincial Volleyball Tournament. Teams from Edmonton and Calgary are also entered. The competition will be held in the main gym of PEB.

Smokies Host To "College Punks"

by Noel Bates

Toronto Varsity Staff Writer

TORONTO (CUP) The question of how well Trail Smoke Eaters, Canada's World Hockey representatives will do in competition this year was decisively answered for a sparse crowd of 1,011 at Maple Leaf Gardens last week.

Pitted against the College All-Stars, an aggregation of 15 college players from six teams in Ontario and Quebec, Smokies trailed throughout the game to lose 3-1.

One thing was clear throughout the game: Old pros (or as the Canadian Amateurs Hockey Association calls them, amateurs) can go abroad but not as representatives of Canada's national sport.

In a brilliant display of how to overskate passes and underrate opposition players, Trail showed signs that they knew the name of the game they were playing only occasionally.

ONE BRIGHT LIGHT The only bright light of Canadian gladiators-turned-ambassadors, was goalie Seth Martin, who prevented the score from indicating the rout the game actually was.

Bill Mahoney, a sturdy forward from McMaster Marlins, scored All-Star's first goal in the opening period when he gently lifted the puck from the stick of an unaware Trail player and waltzed in on Martin, driving a hard shot past him.

Trail, in the first 10 minutes of the game, actually showed a spark of ability as they controlled the puck between the blue-lines but poor shooting and weak defencemen detracted from this.

Don Fletcher, (a Smokie) who admitted after the game he has aspirations of joining Canada's foreign affairs service, employed that old maxim "when in doubt throw and elbow," to try and slow down "these smart college punks."

This worked for the remainder of the first period.

NONCONFORMISTS In the second period, the All-Stars, who wore Varsity Blue uniforms, didn't conform to the plan and kept right on skating while Trail slowed down.

Ian Sinclair, ex-Varsity Blue, now with McMaster, led All-Stars' defensive corps to thwart almost every Trail attempt to form a rush, and All-Star coach Joe Kane's (U of T)

fore-checking tactics kept Trail looking like they were afraid to use the puck.

Blond winger Ward Passo, a freshman for U of T took a pass from Sonny Osborne, U of T Blue's captain, and broke away on Trail's goal.

Passo's fake left Trail Goalie Martin coming when he should have been going and the score was 2-0 at 9:24.

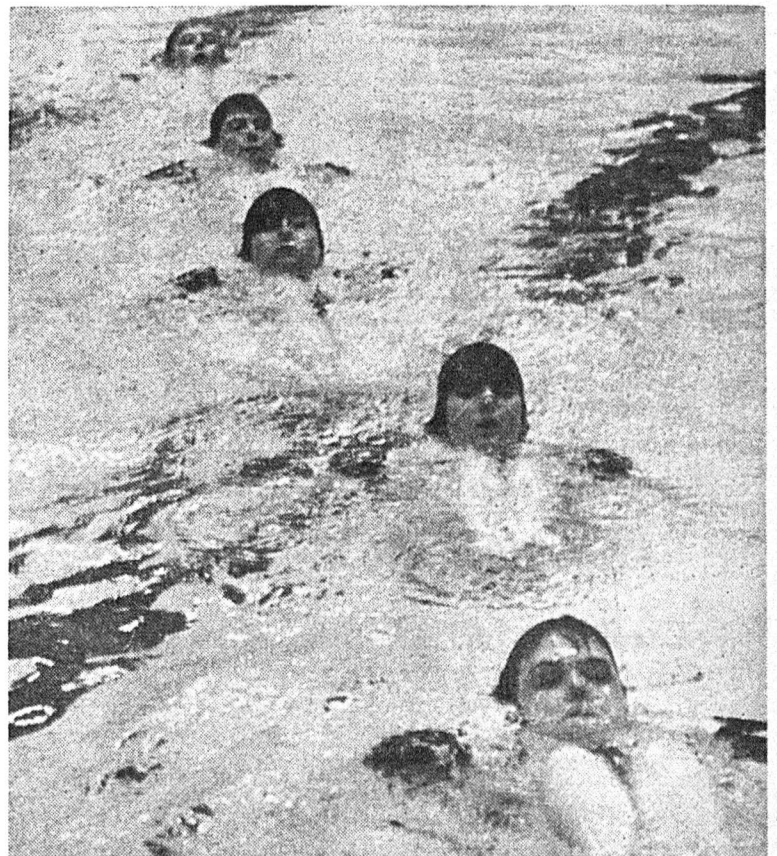
Trail seemed to realize that they might lose the game at this point and Harry Jones, one of the seven Trail-born players on the 16-man club, flipped the puck over All-Star goalie Maurice Grenier, the Laval netminder who was outstanding during the game.

CADIEUX SCORES

Ray Cadieux, another Laval import who was later nailed to the boards by "ambassador Fletcher" took the puck on a defensive lapse by Trail defenceman George Ferguson and fired the puck past a surprised Martin before the period ended.

In the final 20 minutes the frustrated Smoke Eaters resorted to playing the players and not the puck. Passo and Cadieux were victims of a few heavy jolts with a couple of elbows and sticks thrown in.

Suggested one of the many disgruntled fans after the game: "We should send the All-Stars to Europe and the Trail club back to college."



PANDA SYNCHRONIZED swim team performs in recent provincial championships which they won with their number, "Ghost Riders." Pandas, however, could manage only a third place finish in intercollegiate championships at Vancouver last weekend. From top to bottom team consists of: Dale Johnson, Sharon Johnson, Phyllis Gitzel, Shirley Etter, and Margaret Putnam.

photo by Kendel Rust