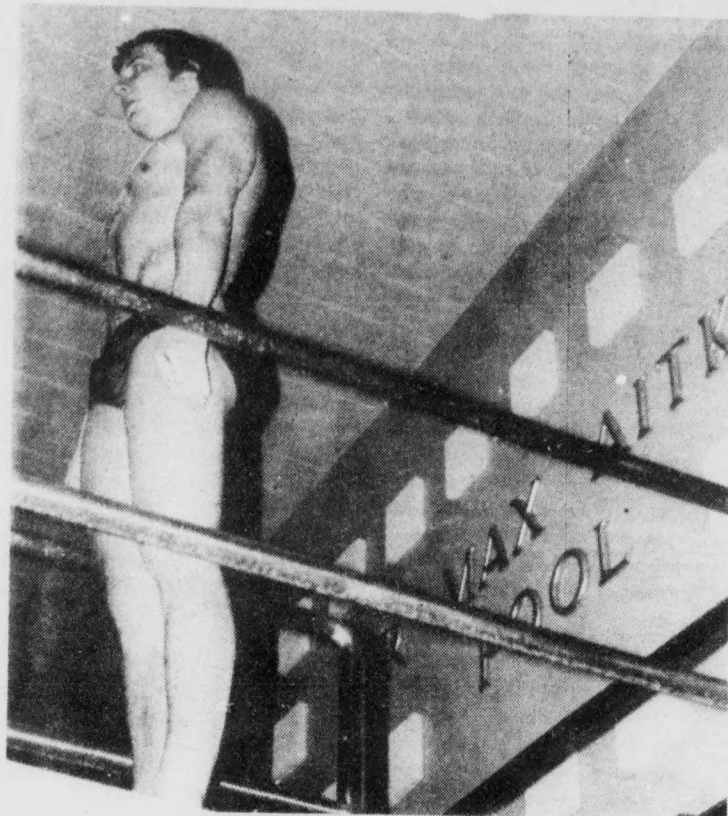


sports

Divers do it deeper at Nats



Dale MacLean, Cathie Melrose and John Thompson travelled to Winnipeg last weekend to compete in the winter nationals.

Jeff Deane, coach of the UNB diving team, said that the three divers who travelled to the winter national championships held in Winnipeg, Manitoba last weekend did "fairly well" considering the level of competition. The three UNB divers were Dale MacLean, Cathie Melrose and John Thompson.

On men's one meter board, Thompson, who was unable to compete intercollegiate this year due to ineligibility, finished 11th out of a field of 24 while racking up a point total of 330.81 on a list of 11 dives. Deane said that this score was lower than what Thompson was capable of but that the lack of competition throughout the year had hurt him.

Melrose finished ninth out of 22 divers in the women's one meter with a score of 289.83 on ten dives. Commenting on her placing, Deane said that Melrose had improved with the calibre of competition that she faced during the year. Deane again indicated that better competition in the regular season would have helped her chances.

Melrose also competed on the three meter and tower events finishing tenth on three and 12th on tower. Deane said that she defeated one of the divers who

had beaten her at the collegiate nationals.

Of her tower performance, Deane said that Melrose had not been on a tower in two years and that her list was nevertheless one of the best there.

Melrose said, "The last time that I dove tower was two years ago and I was very nervous. Tower is definitely my best event and I'd like to be able to practice on a tower this summer for the Canada Games."

MacLean finished ninth on the three meter while beating some of the top divers in Canada. One personal victory for MacLean was his defeat of D. Pope who edged him out for the gold medal at the collegiate national earlier this year. MacLean beat Pope by over 34 points.

This weekend, UNB plays host to the New Brunswick open championships and Canada Games selection trials. The competition begins at 5:00 p.m. Saturday and continues to Sunday afternoon.

Deane said that one of the most valuable aspects of the trip was the fact that the divers were able to take advantage of the tower. He said that MacLean was able to learn a list of dives which would aid him in his efforts at the Canada Games to be held in Newfoundland this summer.

Deane said that he is confident that his divers will account for most of the top spots in the meet. Besides MacLean, Melrose and Thompson, UNB will be represented by Gary Kelly, Michel Bellefleur, Sharon Paquette, Lorna Calder and Ewen Dixon.

Row, row, row your boat

Although the Saint John River is still mostly under cover of ice, the Fredericton-UNB Rowing Club has begun the process of training for the upcoming season.

Barry Thompson, Dean of Students and one of the coaches of the club, said Wednesday that the club has begun indoor training three times a week at UNB in preparation for this year's season of recreational and competitive rowing. Thompson also said that no previous experience at rowing was necessary and that both men and women were welcome to join the club.

He said that a number of home and away regattas were planned for both men's and women's crews in pairs, fours, and eights. The club currently owns one new pairs boat, one new four, one old four and a newly repaired eight.

A number of rowing experts including Roger Jackson, a gold medalist in the Tokyo Olympics and Director of Sport Canada, and James Ball, national executive director for the Canadian Amateur Rowing Association, feel that the section of the river which flows through the city is an ideal location for recreational rowing and the physical setting for the best competitive rowing course in the Atlantic area, if not in Canada.

The club was formed in 1975 when a large number of people expressed interest in rowing and over the past several years has been able to acquire the above equipment as well as the necessary accessories. Thompson feels that with full community support the club has the potential to develop Fredericton into a rowing attraction along the lines of Saint Catharines, Ontario with

its Henley Regatta.

The regattas that the club plans to attend this year will be run during the months of June through November and will be located in Fredericton, Halifax, Saint John, Montreal and the New England area.

For further information contact Barry Thompson at 453-4527; Greg Gilks at 455-5356; or Debbie MacFarlane at 453-4501.

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