

FEBRUARY 25, 1972

Beavers bring home championship

By RANDY NASON

The University of New Brunswick male swim team returned from Acadia University last weekend the proud owners of the Ashley Coltier trophy and the right to be called the best Intercollegiate Swim team in the Atlantic provinces.

To make the spoils of victory even sweeter for the Beavers was the fact that they were not favoured to win. In their 8 previous home and home dual meet encounters with the four other teams making up the conference the Beavers had an impressive 6-2 win-loss record but the top-rated Memorial University team had 8 wins. As a result the Beavers were rated second. The cause of the upset could be attributed to several things - first and foremost being a strong urge to revenge the Memorial defeats and retain the title they have earned 22 times in the past 26 years.

An urge to win, however, is not enough, especially for swimmers. They must have the endurance and high pain thresholds to withstand an all out effort for a specific period of time, in an environment, ie water, that is alien to all other sports. Not only do they have to learn to cope and excel in this environment but they must also have the training and skill to get the most out of what they put into it. Here, coach Gary Brown, filled the bill. Together with his high intensity training program, two practices a day and an average of 3000 - 5000 metres a day for every Beaver and a skillful use of strategy at Acadia Brown added the final straw which broke the back of the Newfoundland team.

The final score saw the Beavers down their closest rivals, Memorial by some 30 points.

UNB - 117 1/2
Memorial - 87
Mount A - 59
Acadia - 53
Dalhousie - 48 1/2

Of course the win would never have been realized without the excellent performances of such people as team Captain Brian Mosher, John Dowd, Steve Coldwell, Mike Flannery, Bruce Hewson, Dave McFaul and the many more who made up the Beaver squad.

Two of the many upsets, which were certainly highlights of the meet were the results of the two relay events.

On Friday the Beaver 400 yard freestyle relay team of John Dowd, Mike Flannery, David O'Neil and Brian Mosher set many people back on their seats. This 4 man relay team, seeded last, given the outside and slowest lane started off in front and never looked back. They won the race with a near intercollegiate record time of 3:40.3.

Then on Saturday, the last event of the meet saw the Beaver 400 yard Medley Relay team of Brian Mosher (back-

stroker), Mike Flannery (breast) Steve Coldwell (butterfly) and John Dowd (freestyle) set a new intercollegiate conference record and won the event with their time of 4:06.3, two full seconds faster than the old mark.

This team, just as the previous relay team, was seeded last and in the outside lane.

Brian Mosher certainly had a field day it seems as he also had a first place finish in the 100 yd. backstroke, outswimming last years winner of that event, Don Hewson of Mount A. in a time of 1:04.1. Hewson, favoured by many to win the event has been Mosher's rival for many years and it is only fitting that Brian should beat him in this his last year with the Beavers. Mosher's time of 1:04.1 was his best time in his swimming career for that event.

In the 200 yard backstroke Brian finished second, narrowly behind Intercollegiate record holder Gary Walsh of Memorial.

Steven Coldwell, just having had his appendix out over the Christmas holidays was another Beaver star. Steve is one of the team's butterflyers and was just touched out by Peter Luscombe of Mount A. by a narrow 7/10 of a second in the 200 yd. fly event. Swimming his best time ever in the event Steve clocked an impressive 2:20.9 as compared to the first place time of 2:20.2.

Even more exciting was the 100 butterfly event in which only 3/10 of a second separated the top two places. Steven's time of 1:00.9, easily his best time ever in that event, just was not quite enough to beat Luscombe's 1:00.6.

Steven also came third in the gruelling 400 Individual Medley event, a new event for him. It took Peter Guildford's new conference record time of 4:48.8 to beat Steve.

Mike Flannery a newly discovered breast stroker for the Beavers, in his first year on the team, surely knows now that he has more than his share of talent. Not only was Mike an integral part of the two relay teams but he was robbed of a second place finish when touched out by Ralph Wheeler of Memorial. The difference of 2/10 of a second was so close and yet so far for Mike.

John Dowd, a free style sprinter and all round versatile swimmer has some very proud memories of the Acadia Intercollegiate. Not only was he part of both the winning relay teams, but in the 50 yard freestyle sprint, he came in only 2 seconds behind the Canadian Intercollegiate Record holder in that event, Don Hewson of Mount A. Hewson swam the 50 in 22.5 and Dowd in 24.5. Mike Flannery was close on Dowd's tail with a third place time in the 50 freestyle and a time of 24.7.

This list could go on and on citing the best times swam by nearly every UNB Beaver



The UNB Beavers, 1972 AIAA Swim champions. Several members of the team will take part in the Canadian Intercollegiate Championships, which will be held in March.

Photo by Ken De Freitas

in his events.

Newcomers and certainly impressive swimmers such as Dave McFaul, Bruce Hewson, (no relation to Don) and Laurie Easterbrook to name a few have set for themselves definite and deserving places in Atlantic Intercollegiate swimming.

The National Intercollegiate are being held at Laval University next weekend and Brian Mosher, Steve Coldwell and John Dowd are the UNB representatives on the Atlantic conference team. Selection is made on the basis of those making first or second place finishes in last weekends Intercollegiate.

To climax the whole very eventful and rewarding weekend the entire team made up of 18 Beavers, 19 Mermaids and their coaching staff, while en

route to Digby to catch the ferry to Saint John went off the road!! Due to expert driving on the part of the bus driver a very serious and possibly fatal accident was averted when control of the bus was lost due to icy roads, blizzard conditions, and a mechanical failure. Alas, two telephone poles, a badly battered bus, broken glass and a few screams later, all were safe, less one black eye.

The UNB Beaver roster for the year 1971-72 was as follows:

1. Brian Mosher (team captain-backstroker)
2. John Dowd (freestyle sprinter, versatile)
3. Mike Flannery (freestyle sprinter, breaststroke)
4. John Burrows (freestyler)
5. Steven Coldwell (butterfly, Individual Medley)

6. John Curtis (breast stroker)
 7. Laurie Easterbrook (butterfly, Individual Medley)
 8. Steven Golden (breast & back stroke)
 9. Roy Hastings (freestyler)
 10. Bruce Hewson (freestyler and Individual Medley)
 11. Max Matthews (back-stroker)
 12. Dave McFaul (freestyler)
 13. Paul Nugent (freestyler)
 14. Dave O'Neil (freestyler)
 15. Barry Roberts (freestyler, Individual Medley)
 16. Gary Stairs (freestyler)
 17. John Thompson - diver
 18. Jeff Deane - diver
 19. Terry Davies - diver
- Congratulations to the winningest team on the U.N.B. campus - 22 of 26 intercollegiate championships. That is an unrivaled record and one to be proud of by all UNB'ers.



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