

Swimmers win gold

A number of Canadians earned gold medals at the sixth annual U.S. international swimming championships recently.

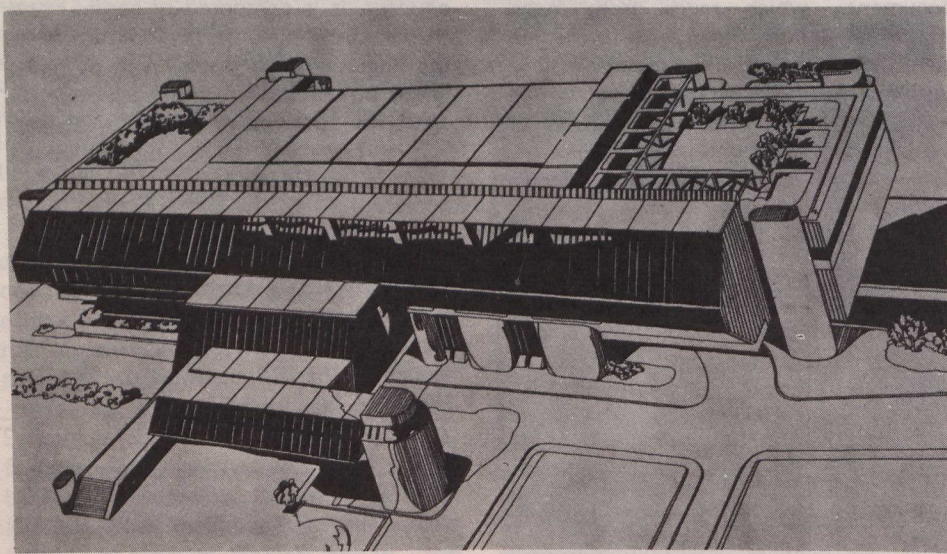
Victor Davis, 17, of Waterloo, Ontario was the outstanding male performer at the meet winning two gold medals and establishing a world's best time in the men's 200-metre breast stroke event clocking 2:11.54. Since the competition was held in a 25-metre short course pool, Davis' time was not eligible for world-record consideration.

Davis also won the 100-metre breast stroke in 1:01.36. Both his times were Canadian and age group (15-17) records.

Two more gold medals were won by Peter Szmidt, 20, of Edmonton, Alberta who clocked 1:49.26 in the 200-metre free style and 3:49.00 in the 400-metre free style. Mike West, 17, of Waterloo, won a fifth gold medal at the meet and established Canadian national and age group records with a time of 55:88 seconds in the 100-metre back stroke.

The relay team of Peter Szmidt, Wayne Kelly, Benoit Clements and Alan Swanson, swam to a silver medal in the 800-metre free-style relay setting another Canadian record at 7:23.64.

New conference centre under construction in Montreal



Les Palais des Congrès, a convention centre currently under construction in Montreal, is expected to be opened in the spring of 1983. The centre has 65,000 nights' occupancy confirmed through to 1986 primarily by United States associations, according to president Jean Labonté. Located in downtown Montreal, the new centre has a 9,300-square metre exhibition hall, a 4,600-square metre convention hall, 30 meeting rooms seating 80 to 1,200 delegates, a cafeteria restaurant, lounge bar, press room and underground parking. About 8,000 hotel rooms are within 20 minutes walking distance of the centre, half of which are connected to the city's subway system.

Centre involved in hazard alert

Canada is part of an experimental international alert system that originates at the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva.

When an alarm sounded in Geneva recently about the potential cancer-producing properties of a chemical, it brought a quick response from the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety in Hamilton, Ontario.

After receiving the warning from the ILO about the chemical 2-Nitropropane, the Canadian centre immediately sent the information to the 2,600 organizations and individuals on its mailing list. Within two months the Canadian centre received 50 inquiries from businesses and individual workers about the chemical.

The centre's action was part of the ILO's international occupational safety and hazard alert system that reaches out to 98 countries, including Canada. At present only five hazard alerts have been sent to the ILO for world-wide transmission.

The chemical with the suspected carcinogenic properties is used as a solvent in adhesives, printing inks and paints for street signs and marine coatings.

Rare Indian clay jugs found

A Canadian skin diver diving in the St. Lawrence River has made a rare discovery of two complete Indian clay cooking jugs that experts say are about 1,300 years old.

Steven Alford of Kingston, Ontario found the jugs and kept them in water because he did not know how old they were and did not want to take any chances with them.

Although scientists have known that Indians roamed southern Ontario for 10,000 years or more, archeologists have unearthed only 13 other complete jugs and most of them only half as old. Generally, they reconstruct jugs from fragments found in digs.

Submerged for 1,000 years.

What is unusual about this find is that a small jug was found inside a much larger one and both have survived the 1,300 years underwater in what was described as "unbelievable condition".

The jugs are now in the hands of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto for study and conservation. Because the jugs had been underwater for so long the larger jug was washed with water and buried in sand so the moisture could be drawn out slowly to minimize cracking. The small jug, already fragmenting, was allowed to air dry.

The earliest fragments of Indian vessels acquired by the museum have been dated around 500 B.C. but the museum does not have any complete jugs from that era. Its oldest Indian vessel is dated about 500 A.D. and most of the other complete jugs are dated after 500 A.D.

Soya sauce without the beans

A University of Alberta food scientist has invented a soya sauce made without soybeans, reports the *Canadian Press*.

Dr. Buncha Ooraikul recently produced a sauce made with canola, formerly known as rapeseed meal, instead of soybean meal and figures the sauce could be produced for about 30 cents a litre.

Canadians purchase about \$10 million worth of soya sauces each year.

"It (canola sauce) tastes exactly the same and the chemical properties are very similar to commercial soy sauce," claims Dr. Ooraikul.

Most canola is used for producing cooking oil and the meal is fed to animals