TRACY CAULKINS: SHE'S NO. 1

Way back in the good ol' days, before Tracy Caulkins was a tiny gleam in her parents' eyes, before anybody had heard of Mark Spitz or Donna de Varona or Debbie Meyer, back even before the East German Wundermadchen or Ann Curtis or smog in Los Angeles or Pac-Man there was a swimmer.

Indeed, there was a very good swimmer. He was an American. An Olympic champion. A world record holder. His name was Johnny Weissmuller.

Tarzan. He could swing from the vines with the best of 'em. But before entering show biz he was a great swimmer. The greatest American swimmer (perhaps the greatest in all the world) of his era. He won 36 national championships over a seven-year span (1921-28) and rather than king of the jungle, Weissmuller should have been more accurately known as king of the swimming pool.

From 100 yards or meters through 500 yards or 400 meters he was unbeatable when it came to freestyle. For good measure he even won a 150 yard backstroke title one year (1923), clocking 1:42.0 for the Illinois Athletic Club.

How far was Weissmuller ahead of his contemporaries? The year before he won his only backstroke crown, the top time for that race was a blazing 1:49.8. The year after: 1:47.4.

His Olympic golds came in 1924 (100-400 meter freestyle) and four years later in the 100 free. All were world records.

Forty-nine years after Weissmuller won his last medal, another American embarked upon a swimming streak. Five years later that streak would carry her past the legendary Tarzan and into the record books as America's greatest swimmer ever.

Little did Tracy Caulkins realize when she won her first national title (the 100 yard breaststroke at Canton, Ohio, in April 1977) what she was starting. In the half decade since, Caulkins has run up a total of

39 national championships, set 31 individual American records and one world record (the 200 IM at the Woodlands in August 1978).

At the O'Connell Center Pool here in Gainesville, April 7-10, during the U.S. Short Course Nationals, she tied Weissmuller's 36 wins by splashing to the 200 back title opening night (1:57.77, just off her American record 1:57.02). The next evening Tarzan became just another name in the U.S. Swimming record book as Caulkins won the 400 individual medley for No. 37, swept to No. 38 Friday night (200 IM) and climaxed her 14th Nationals by winning the 100 breast Saturday evening.

For the record, Caulkins has won 39 of 46 national championship races since her first U.S. title at Canton. She's won her last 12 consecutive USS National races, four at each of the last two short course championships and four last summer in Brown Deer (long course).

Caulkins' last defeat at a U.S. Nationals was Aug. 2, 1980, in Irvine when she finished second to Mary T. Meagher in the 100 meter butterfly.

Additionally, she's been on 11 winning relays, including the winning 400 medley team here. Caulkins and her Nashville Aquatics teammates have also set four American relay records plus an additional four club records.

Add the numbers up and you get 50 wins, 35 American records, eight club records, one world record and still going strong.

The 19-year-old Caulkins was a mere lass of 14 when she won her first title at Canton. However, she had been a regular at U.S. Nationals since the long course championships

in Kansas City 11/2 years earlier.

Asked which of her wins was the most memorable, she smiled: "That first one was probably the nicest so far. You always remember the very first."

She became America's winningest woman swimmer a year ago (April 11, to be precise, at Harvard's Blodgett Pool) when she won the 100 yard breaststroke in a record 1:01.13, surpassing Ann Curtis' total of 30 titles. Curtis swam for San Francisco's Crystal Palace Plunge club from 1943-48.

Despite her four wins, Caulkins set no American records at Gainesville, although her 200 back victory was the second-fastest performance in history. Only her

national standard 1:57.02 from 1981 is faster.

The media, naturally enough, had a field day. One television reporter asked her, "How does it feel to sit on the same perch with Tarzan?" Another chimed in, "Can you do the yell?" To all and sundry, Caulkins just flashed her iridescent smile, answered politely, but declined to do the yell.

Then there was Mission Viejo. The Mark Schubert-coached Nadadores won their third consecutive combined U.S. championship. Mission's men won, scoring 765 points, while their women followed suit (418) for an overall score of 1,183. Not bad but a far cry from their 1,518 from Harvard in 1981. At that championships the Nadadore men scored a record 910 points while their women chipped in with 608—41 fewer than the record high of 649 by George Haines' 1972 Santa Clara short course squad.

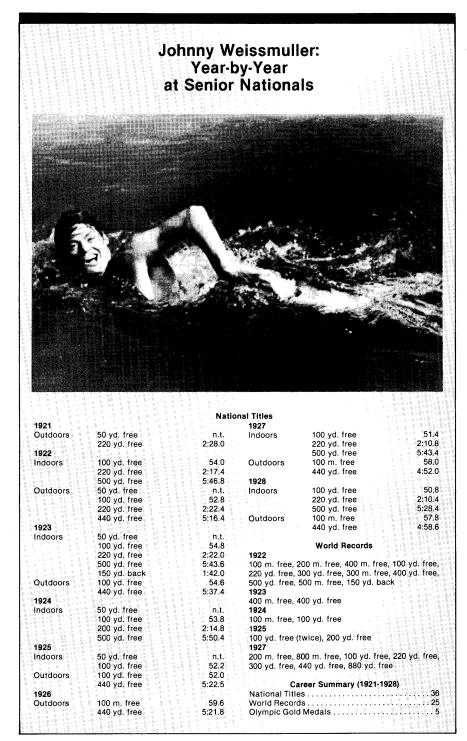
Mission has now won 11 combined, 11 women's and 6 men's titles since 1974. Santa Clara won 26 women's, nine men's titles and eight combined titles during Haines' reign.

Second overall here was Florida (405 points), while third went to Coach Paul Bergen's Longhorn Aquatics (391). Fourth was Jay Fitzgerald's Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins (371) and fifth, Ron Young's Nashville Aquatics (266).

The 1982 Short Course Nationals, while not devoid of excitement, was hardly the *ne plus ultra* of American championships. With many of the leading college men (and women) having peaked for their respective collegiate championships the previous month—and with the women having had two different title meets with two different sets of standards that did nothing but dilute the quality of both—the results attained here were far from spectacular.

Or were they? The men bettered three American and a pair of U.S. Open records. On the women's side, Mission Viejo clocked 7:10.55 to smash its own 800 free relay mark, the only distaff standard to fall.

American records included the 1000 free (8:49.97, Jeff Kostoff,



Industry Hills), 100 back (48.94, Dave Bottom, Walnut Creek Aquabears) and 200 fly (1:43.81, Craig Beardsley, Florida). U.S. Open records were set in the 200 back (1:45.22 by Sandor Wladar, Hungary) and 400 IM (3:47.97, Ricardo Prado of Brazil, swimming with Mission Viejo).

On the basis of what it took to

make the finals for both men and women, this was the fastest short course championship ever. The men's cutoff for top eight was quicker in every event save two (1500 free and 200 back) than it's ever been before. Women's top eight cuts were faster than last year in all but the 50 free, 200 back, 100-200 breast and 200 fly.

There were new faces emerging (Bottom, Kostoff, Tandem's Dara Torres, Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins' Nancy Nemet, Mid-Ohio's Dave Cowell, K.C. Blazers' Debbie Risen, Houston's Peng Siong-Ang) and veterans maintaining their championship form (Caulkins, Jill Sterkel, Cynthia Woodhead, Tiffany Cohen).

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USS NATIONALS continued

Ambrose Gaines IV, late of Winter Haven Fla., grew tired of loafing by his mom's swimming pool and watching reruns of *Gilligan's Island*, so he resumed training last winter, came here, won the 100-200 free, was second in the 500, tied for fourth in the 50 and took away men's high-point honors.

This, of course, is the same Rowdy Gaines who in 1981 set American-U.S. Open records in the 100-200 yard freestyle during the college season as a senior at Auburn, then a week after NCAAs set the current world record for the 100 meter freestyle (49.36) and promptly retired to a life of leisure.

Schubert, head coach for the USA World Championship squad, summed up the proceedings at Gainesville as follows:

"The new faces breaking through were very encouraging. Kostoff in the distances is really exciting and Sippy's performance bodes well for the summer. But we still need a lot of improvement in the women's back and breast events if we're to be competitive this summer. We're going to have to get some big drops out of people to stay up with the East Germans."

Perhaps the only discordant note at Gainesville were the constant complaints against the starters. In the women's 50 free, for example, two swimmers (Starlit's Heather Strang and Longhorn's Susie Thayer) were thrown out of one of the heats for two false starts each; Chinook's Mary Wayte was kayoed from the 200 free finals for a pair of false starts. Then when the heat

went, the recall horn failed and the swimmers (including Tandem's Torres, who won the race that night) went some 30 yards before the false start rope was finally dropped.

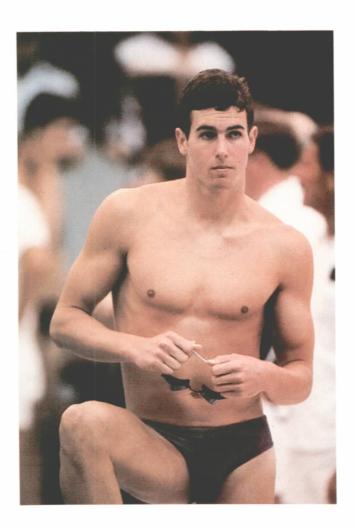
In the men's 50 there were innumerable delays due to false starts, caused in the main by swimmers trying to beat the horn.

When asked about the starting, Schubert unequivocally said: "I think (chief starter) Pat Graham did an excellent job. I think what happened in Torres' heat was unfortunate, but I understand how the recall horn could fail. I also think we should adopt the college track rule of no false starts, period. That way kids would learn to react to the first sound and all the cheating that goes on would be eliminated."

When it was over, it was Mark Schubert and his Mission Viejo Nadadores shouting "We're No. 1" over the club's third straight combined USS title.



RECORD PARADE



50 Free

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD	
Robin Leamy, UCLA (3-26-81)	19.36
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-10-81)	
Robin Leamy, Mission Viejo	19.91
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-15-81)	
Robin Leamy, Mission Viejo	
1982 FINALISTS (April 9, 1982)	
Peng Siong-Ang, 19, Houston	19.86
Robin Leamy, 21, Mission Viejo	19.94
John Pohl, 19, Longhorn	20.02
Rowdy Gaines, 23, War Eagle	20.04
Bruce Stahl, 23, Tandem	20.04
Chris Cavanaugh, 19, Santa Clara	20.31
Tom Jager, 17, Parkway	20.39
Ken Neff, 20, Santa Barbara	20.47

After a long 1980 season that included the AIAWs, the NCAAs, the U.S. Indoor and Outdoor Nationals, Phill Hansel was tired.

The University of Houston coach decided what he needed most was a vacation following the U.S. Olympic Trials at Irvine a couple of summers ago and the

Walnut Creek Aquabears' Dave Bottom (left), youngest of a trio of illustrious swimming brothers, quickly rose to the top at the U.S. Short Course Nationals with an American record in the 100 yard backstroke (48.94). Bottom's mark came on the final day of competition. In between three other men's records fell, with hometown favorite Craig Beardsley breaking his own standard in the 200 fly; Hungary's double Olympic gold medalist, Sandor Wladar, doing honors in the 200 back and Mission Viejo's (and Brazil's) Ricardo Prado in the 400 IM.

thought of lounging on the beach at Waikiki would be just the ticket for rejuvenation.

So Hansel hied himself off to Hawaii, but he didn't spend time sightseeing. Instead he and a number of other coaches attended the first (and so far, only) Hawaii International Invitational Meet at the University of Hawaii's Duke Kahanamoku Pool during the second week of August.

The Houston coach didn't show up there just to enjoy the scenery. Actually, his foremost thoughts were recruiting for his Cougar men's and women's teams. Hansel's luck was especially good on the men's side, as he signed Singapore sprinter Peng Siong-Ang, who finaled in the 50 free with a sparkling 23.22 effort.

It took the recruit a couple of years to adapt to swimming yards and the Houston training regimen (bread and water!) but the effort was worth the wait. Peng Siong-Ang won his initial U.S. Swimming Championship here Friday evening, stroking to the 50 free title in a career-best 19.86, just one-hundredth off the meet record.

Among Siong-Ang's "victims" were defending champion and meet record holder Robin Leamy of Mission Viejo, who had won the NCAA title a couple of weeks earlier, and a certain Rowdy Gaines, who was making his competitive redebut at this meet.

If anybody was regarded as a "cinch" to win, it was Leamy. Siong-Ang was rather overlooked despite his 20.06 qualifying time, second only to Leamy's 19.88. Tandem's Bruce Stahl, who set an American record for the 50 in a 25 meter pool (22.77) a couple of months earlier at the Arena Meeting in Paris, had gone 20.12 in the prelims and was thought to have one of the best



Singapore's Siong-Ang went halfway around the world to win his first U.S. Nationals title by winning the 50 yard freestyle in 19.86.

shots at toppling Leamy, along with Gaines, Longhorn's John Pohl (20.09) and Parkway's Tom Jager (20.77).

But similar to the outcome of the 50 free women's race, the defending champion, collegiate record holder and 1982 collegiate champ (Leamy) was to finish one position below No. 1.

In deference to Leamy, it should be noted that he swam his race two weeks earlier at Brown Deer, Wis., while winning the 50 free for UCLA and helping lead the Bruins to their initial NCAA Championship. So the USS Nationals was not a be all-end all situation for the Bruin senior.

But take nothing away from Siong-Ang. He swam a masterful race, held off Leamy's late charge and won over a star-studded field.

"Great coaching—no, great recruiting," Hansel laughed after his 19-year-old sprinter's win. "I can't take much credit; the boy did it on his own. It's a thrill to have a national champion and it's even more delightful to have it come about as it did."

As a freshman in 1980-81 Siong-Ang was only 21st in the 50 at NCAAs (20.39). He went home last summer and "didn't do a heck of a lot of work" according to Hansel. But upon returning to Houston last fall he got serious about swimming.

"I told him he'd have to do something besides just swim the 50 if he wanted to stay on the team and he responded very well," Hansel said.

Indeed. Going into this year's NCAAs Siong-Ang was ranked 15th nationally in the 50 (20.29) and was 19th in the 100 (44.62 after having been unable to go under 46.0 the previous year). At Brown Deer he was fourth in the 50 (20.05 after qualifying in a speedy 19.97) so winning here perhaps wasn't that untoward.

Still, beating the NCAA champion-American record holder isn't too unimpressive.

"It's a great thrill and an honor to beat him (Leamy)," Siong-Ang said after his win. "I've always wanted to be competitive and now I think I can swim with the best Americans. Before the race I would have been happy to just do my best but winning is an even greater feeling."

The Houston sophomore will represent Singapore this summer at the World Championships. Interestingly, his father was a 1964 Olympic gold medalist in judo at Tokyo.

100 Free

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD Rowdy Gaines, Auburn (3-28-81)	20.18	42.38
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-8-81) Robin Leamy, Mission Viejo DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-13-81)	20.8	43.58
Chris Cavanaugh, 19, De Anza 1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982)		
Rowdy Gaines, 23, War Eagle	20.89	43.64
Chris Cavanaugh, 19, Santa Clara	21.21	43.68
Robin Leamy, 21, Mission Viejo	20.89	44.12
Neil Brooks, 19, Arkansas	20.89	44.25
Art Griffith, 23, Gopher	21.24	44.55
Chris Silva, 20, Mission Viejo	21.55	44.56
Bruce Stahl, 23, Tandem	21.42	44.98
John Sauerland, 17, Shaker Heights	21.98	45.13

Ambrose Gaines IV—double world record holder, multi-NCAA gold medalist and American record holder—was bored.

He had spent the summer of 1981 lolling around the pool at his mother's home in Winter Haven, Fla., catching rays and watching reruns of Gilligan's Island.

But Rowdy Gaines was bored. Insufferably bored. This was just not the way the greatest sprinter of the last several years thought retirement would be.

"Honestly, I missed swimming. I missed the camaraderie and above all I missed going to the meets and competing. Shoot, it's no fun sitting around the house reading the newspaper and seeing how everybody else's doing," he told the media after winning the 100 yard freestyle race opening night.

Gaines' winning time, a "modest" 43.64, was good enough to hold off a surging Chris Cavanaugh of Santa Clara, who went 43.68 for No. 2 and a career best. Cavanaugh's previous best was a 43.85 that earned him third at this year's NCAAs.

Bronze medalist was defending short course champ and NCAA winner Robin Leamy of Mission Viejo in 44.12. Arkansas freshman Neil Brooks, who won a gold medal at Moscow while anchoring Australia's medley relay in the last Olympics, was fourth.

Gaines' American-NCAA record is 42.36 from the 1981 collegiate championships. That was his last individual competitive swim (aside from his world record in the 100 free at Austin a week after NCAAs) before tonight.

"I'd read about what was going on, how some guys were going 50-point, and I'd call Richard (Quick, his coach at Auburn) and say, 'Have they got my record?' Have they got my record?' When he'd say 'No, not yet,' I'd breathe a sigh of relief. Then when I read about the guys at the European Championships going 50+ I said to myself, 'You've gotta get back.'

"Besides," Gaines continued, "I was bored just sitting around the house last summer. You can only do so much sunning or watching TV. I had to fulfill my urge to get back in the water again."

Once he made his formal decision to "unretire" last fall he put his heart and soul into training. "At first I couldn't even go a 500 but gradually I got back to where I felt I would be competitive.

Gaines' motivation for coming out of retirement, besides pure love of the sport, was simple: he wants to be on the plane to Guayaquil for the World Championships this summer. So the first testing ground was the U.S. Nationals.

Qualifying first in a strong 43.70 (to runner-up Leamy's 44.02 and Cavanaugh's 44.04), Gaines looked as if he'd never been out of the water as he mounted the blocks for the finals of the 100. Away at the first sound of starter Pat Graham's gun, he hit the 50 wall in 20.89. Leamy and Brooks also clocked identical 20.89s for the first two laps, but after the second turn it was all Rowdy as he pulled away to win in 43.64.

"I felt good throughout the race," Gaines said. "I figured Leamy might even be a little bit ahead at the 50 but I wasn't worried. I was confident I could hold off anybody."

So the king is back and U.S. swimming is fortunate indeed to have the personable Auburn senior anxious to show his heels to the best the rest of the world has to send up against him this summer.

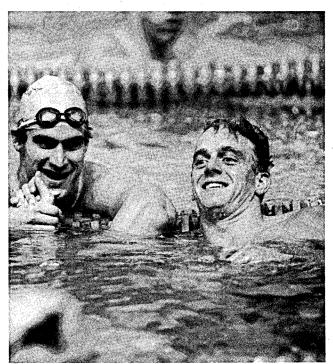
"If I'd come here and bombed I would say, 'No way am I gonna swim this summer.' But winning tonight gives me a lot of encouragement. I felt good in the water, real comfortable like my stroke was coming back," he added, noting that the next time he swims a 100 free rested, tapered and shaved, "I'm goin' for the world record."

He came close the Sunday following the meet, swimming a 100 meter free against the West Germans in 50.24, second fastest globally for 1982. Gaines has done absolutely no long course training since resuming training and only swam meters once in the last two years—his world record at Austin a year and nine days earlier.

A couple of high school seniors swam notable 100s here including Ohio's John Sauerland (44.48 in the prelims) and Illinois' Tom Jager (43.87 to win the consolation finals, which would have placed third in the championship heat).

200 Free

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
Rowdy Gaines, Auburn (3-6-81)	21.72	45.03	1:08.82	1:33.80
1981 SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambrid	ge, 4-9-81)			
David Larson, Florida	22.8	47.0	1:11.5	1:36.04
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (B	rown Deer,	8-14-81)		
David Larson. Florida				
1982 FINALISTS (April 8, 1982)				
Rowdy Gaines, 23, War Eagle	21.70	45.70	1:10.94	1:35.17
Steve Wood, 21, Florida	22.27	46.28	1:11.34	1:36.28
Geoff Gaberino, 19, Florida	22.67	47.10	1:11.74	1:36.31
John Smith, 20, Longhorn	22.15	46.35	1:11.42	1:36.78
Rich Saeger, 18, Mission Viejo	23.38	48.09	1:12.35	1:37.05
Graeme Brewer, 23, Mission Viejo	23.08	47.44	1:12.24	1:37.76
Chris Cavanaugh, 19, Santa Clara	22.24	46.89	1:12.75	1:37.80
John Hillencamp, 23, Florida	22.96	47.06	1:12.85	1:38.95



The War Eagles' Rowdy Gaines came back swimmingly to win the 200 yard freestyle in 1:35.17 over ex-Auburn teammate Steve Wood.

It used to be that Brian Goodell owned the distance freestyles. They were his private possession almost every time he got up on the blocks to race.

Similarly Rowdy Gaines owns the 200 freestyle.

He won the 200 yard free Thursday evening in 1:35.17, 1½ seconds slower than his American-NCAA record 1:33.80 from the 1981 Southeastern Conference Championships also here at Gainesville. But Gaines was far from dissatisfied.

"I would have liked to have gone a 34 (1:34) but this is fine, just fine," he said after winning. "My goal coming in was just to win, although of course I had a time in mind, too. Winning's the main thing; my times will get better as I keep swimming more."

Gaines' 1:35.17 is the fourth fastest performance of all time (Rowdy, naturally, has the other three) and is still .16 ahead of the No. 2 man on the all-time performers' list, former Florida standout David Larson (1:35.33).

Interestingly, Larson did that time at last year's NCAAs while finishing second to Gaines' 1:33.91. Larson is the only swimmer to beat Rowdy in a 200 since the 1979 U.S. Nationals. It happened during the 1980-81 college season at Auburn in the Florida-Auburn dual meet.

Larson was defending U.S. Swimming champ in this event from Harvard (1:36.04). The ex-Gator had hung up his Arena suit after last summer, however, a summer in which he won the long course 200 free and then triumphed over the USSR's Olympic gold medalist, Sergei Kopliakov, during the USA-USSR Dual Meet in Kiev. Interestingly, Larson is reportedly training with Randy Reese in Florida and is hopeful of making the American World Championship squad.

But Rowdy Gaines—not David Larson—won the ▶

1982 USS Nationals and his victory came at the expense of former Auburn teammate Steve Wood (1:36.28). Florida sophomore Geoff Gaberino was third (a careerbest 1:36.31).

Gaines qualified No. 1 (1:36.24) but his coach, War Eagle's Richard Quick, was not pleased.

"He hotdogged the turn (at the 100 Gaines flipped in corkscrew fashion and looked around) and I told him afterwards I never wanted to see him play around like that again."

"Yeah, I did hotdog it a little in qualifying. I felt easy and I wanted to let everybody know I was back. Maybe I just felt too good about winning the 100 the previous night. Anyway, Richard really let me have it afterwards and I'm not gonna make that mistake again."

The world record holder was out in 45.70 for his first 100 in the finals to Wood's 46.28 (second-fastest split). At 150 yards Gaines led, 1:10.94 to 1:11.34, but traditionally his third 50 is his slowest. Sure enough, at the finish he was a second-plus ahead of Wood, who in turn was three-hundredths in front of Gaberino.

Fourth was Longhorn's John Smith in 1:36.68, just off his career-best 1:36.60 from the NCAA prelims. Next came Mission's Rich Saeger with his career best (1:37.05). Saeger will join Coach George McMillion's SMU team this fall.

At last year's Nationals only the top two finalists (Larson and Chris Cavanaugh) were under 1:37.0 in the

finals. Here the top four dipped under that barrier. Additionally, sixth place here in qualifying was 1:36.96. Sixth place at last year's NCAAs—the fastest ever—was 1:36.99. So for the top six here the field was the fastest on record.

500 Free

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD					
Brian Goodell, Mission Viejo (4-5-78)	50.1		2:33.1	3:25.0	4:16.40
1981 SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Camb	ridge, 4.	10-81)			
Peter Szmidt, Edmonton Keyano	50.6	1:44.0	2:37.3	3:29.8	4:21.10
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION	(Brown	Deer, 8-1	15-81)		
Jeff Float, Arden Hills					
1982 FINALISTS (April 9, 1982)					
Jeff Kostoff, 16, IHAC	50.73	1:43.38	2:36.02	3:28.27	4:19.38
Rowdy Gaines, 23, War Eagle		1:41.02			
Bruce Hayes, 19, Mission Viejo		1:43.41			
John Hillencamp, 23, Florida		1:42.97			
Tony Corbisiero, 20, Columbia		1:42.97			
Andy Astbury, 21, Mission Viejo		1:44.02			
Graeme Brewer, 23, Mission Viejo		1:45.13			
Rojer Madruga, 17, Mission Vieio	52.04	1:46.30	2:40.17	3:34.49	4:29.06

When starter Keith Hansen called eight finalists to the blocks for the 500 yard freestyle Friday evening, seven swimmers and one imposter stepped forward.

And the imposter came within 17-hundredths of a second of winning!

Imposter, you say? Well, perhaps Rowdy Gaines wasn't really an "imposter" in the truest sense of the word. But he's certainly not considered a distance freestyler either.

After all, here's a man who has American records in the 100-200 yard freestyles and world records for the





Neither Gaines' powerhouse right nor Tony Corbisiero's early speed could kayo Kostoff, as Jeff captured the 500 yard free in 4:19.38

same events over metric distances. What's he doing swimming—and nearly winning—an event he had never swam in a major competition of any kind before?

"I just wanted to see if I could go a pretty good 500 and give these other folks a little scare," Gaines grinned playfully while pointing a finger at the race's winner, Industry Hills' Jeff Kostoff.

"Actually," he continued, "the 500 fits in well with my training for the 200. I don't want the race to become a habit for me but it's a good diversion once in a while."

The last time Gaines swam a distance freestyle at a U.S. Nationals was in Fort Lauderdale three summers ago. He finished second to Mission's Brian Goodell in the 400 meter freestyle (3:51.89 to 3:55.89), a time which ranked him eighth globally for the year.

Kostoff's winning 4:19.38 at Gainesville was just off his top-qualifying 4:19.13, which was a career best plus a 15-16 national age group record, breaking Kostoff's old standard of 4:22.29 from California's North-South Dual Meet last January. Gaines' 4:19.55 for second in the finals was his career best.

Mission's Bruce Hayes (4:19.68) was third with a career best and Florida's John Hillencamp, NCAA runner-up a couple of weeks earlier, finished fourth (4:19.69). Next came Columbia's Tony Corbisiero (4:20.20) with his lifetime best while sixth was NCAA champ Andy Astbury of Mission Viejo.

Kostoff had fears before the race began that Gaines would take the pace out so quickly he and the balance of the field would burn themselves up just trying to hang on. Indeed, Gaines was out in 1:41.02 for his first 200 and had built almost a two-second advantage over Hillencamp and Corbisiero (both at 1:42.97) by this point.

Kostoff was 1:43.38 for his initial 200 and if Gaines ▶

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could hang on the race would surely be history.

He couldn't. By 300 meters Kostoff had closed the gap from over two seconds to less than three-quarters of a second (2:34.87 to 2:35.54) and by 400 yards was nipping at Gaines' heels (3:28.13 to 3:28.27). As the swimmers flipped with 50 yards to go, Kostoff had taken the lead and maintained his advantage at the finish.

"That last 100 yards I felt I was in oblivion, like on

Pluto or something," Gaines said.

The victory was Kostoff's second of the meet (he had won the 1000 free opening night with an American record 8:49.97).

1000 Free

1000 1 100					
AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD					
Brian Goodell, UCLA (1-6-79)	51.23	1:44.62	2:37.18	3:30.27	4:24.55
	5:17.38	6:11.13	7:04.58	7:58.76	8:52.45
1981 SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cam	bridge, 4-	8-81)			
Brian Goodell, Mission Viejo	51.04	1:44.21	2:38.29	3:32.30	4:26.31
	5:19.96	6:14.79	7:09.99	8:04.60	8:58.54
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPIO	N (Brown	Deer, 8-	13-81)		
Doug Towne, Tucson Farmer John (800			-		
1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982)					
Jeff Kostoff, 16, IHAC	51.27	1:43.97	2:36.43	3:29.63	4:23.05
	5:16.73	6:10.72	7:03.62	7:57.30	8:49.97*
Tony Corbisiero, 19, Columbia	50.73	1:43.25	2:36.48	3:30.00	4:23.99
	5:17.55	6:11.61	7:05.80	7:59.82	8:52.81
Bruce Hayes, 19, Mission Viejo					9:01.75
Rojer Madruga, 17, Mission Viejo					9:02.40
Paul Budd, 16, Memphis St.					9:06.75
Sandor Nagy, 21, Hungary					9:07.24
Jeff Erwin, 17, Boise YMCA					9:09.06
Scott Brackett, 17, Colorado Rapids					9:10.42
* American and U.S. Open Record					
and and appli made					

On the first Saturday in January 31/2 years ago UCLA sophomore Brian Goodell swam 8:52.45 for the 1000 yard freestyle during a dual meet against Texas at Austin.

Little did he realize it at the time, but that swim was to become recognized as the American record (the 1000 was not—at that time—on the books). That record lasted until the opening night of the USS Nationals in April 1982 when a skinny 16 year old from Industry Hills named leff Kostoff broke it while becoming the first (and only) man under 8:50.

To be exact, Kostoff swam 8:49.97, an American and U.S. Open record, not to mention a 15-16 national age

group record, too.

A high school junior from Upland, Calif., Kostoff was out in 4:23.05 for his first 500, then came home in 4:26.92.

Second was Columbia's Tony Corbisiero (career-best 8:52.81) and third was Mission's Bruce Hayes (9:01.75, also a career best).

Close on Hayes' heels was Mission's Rojer Madruga in 9:02.40, a time which represents about a six-second drop from his previous best of 9:08.17 from last year's U.S. Nationals.

Brian Goodell won this race last year with an 8:58.54 effort in his swansong Nationals. At that time the 8:58 was considered the American record, but U.S. Swimming retroactively approved the 8:52.45 swim from the UCLA-Texas Dual Meet as the American standard.

In any event, the only question at Gainesville was whether Kostoff would go under 8:50-not whether he would get the record—since Industry assistant coach Ed Spencer had all but guaranteed that.

"If he doesn't tie up, Goodell's 8:52 is history," Spencer said before the race. "Jeff's been pointing for this all winter. He wants that record."

The duel between Kostoff and Corbisiero, the fastimproving Ivy Leaguer who's trained at Mission the past two summers, was reminiscent of their battle in the 1500 meter freestyle during the Swimming World/Industry Hills Invitational last August. There Kostoff led for about the first 800 meters, then had Corbisiero pass him and open up a nearly two-second-advantage at the 1000 mark. But by 1100 meters Kostoff, egged on by his Industry teammates, had regained control of the race and won by almost four seconds.

In the 1000 free here, Corbisiero was out fast for the first 200 (1:43.25 to 1:43.97) but Kostoff wasn't letting the early leader out of his view. By 300 yards Kostoff had taken his first lead (2:36.43 to 2:36.48) and he would not relinquish it the balance of the race. At 500 yards he lead 4:23.05 to 4:23.99. By 700 yards it was 6:10.72 to 6:11.61, and at the end the margin was not quite three seconds.

"I swam about the way I wanted to although I

thought I'd be a little faster," Kostoff said. "My goal

was under 8:50 and I'm pleased about that."

1650 Free

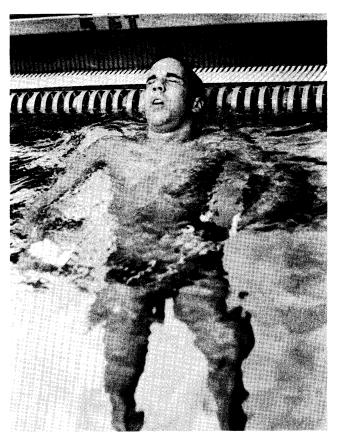
AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
Brian Goodell, Mission Viejo (4-7-79)	51.32	1:45.00	2:39.12	3:32.94
	4:26.78	5:20.54	6:14.41	7:08.32
	8:02.21	8:56.25	9:50.72	10:45.27
	11:39.35	12:33.98	13:28.18	14:21.56
				14:47.27
- 1981 SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Camb	ridge, 4-11	-81)		
Dave Sims, UnatJoliet	51.9	1:46.3	2:41.1	3:36.1
	4:30.6	5:25.2	6:19.5	7:13.9
	8:08.8	9:03.6	9:58.4	10:53.9
	11:49.1	12:44.4	13:39.5	14:34.7
				15:01.31
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION	(Brown De	er, 8-16-81)	
Max Metzker, Mission Viejo				
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)				
Jeff Kostoff, 16, IHAC	52.62	1:47.33	2:42.29	3:36.91
	4:30.89	5:24.41	6:18.79	7:13.06
	8:06.83	9:01.05	9:55.00	10:48.90
*	11:42.79	12:37.13	13:31.80	14:26.27
				14:52.39
Tony Corbisiero, 20, Columbia				15:05.56
Rojer Madruga, 17, Mission Viejo	A			15:07.82
Andy Astbury, 21, Mission Viejo				15:08.59
Bruce Hayes, 19, Mission Viejo				15:12.11
Paul Budd, 16, Memphis St.				15:19.47
Jeff Erwin, 17, Boise YMCA				15:20.54
Dave Shemilt, 17, Saints				15:22.95

After setting the American record for the 1000 free opening night Jeff Kostoff was hungry for another by the final day of the U.S. Nationals.

Deprived of the 500 free standard (he won in 4:19+, nearly three seconds slower than Brian Goodell's record 4:16.40 from Indoor Nationals at Austin four years earlier), Kostoff's last chance was the 1650 free closing night-and he had a plan.

'If he's 9:00 or better for the 1000 he's got a chance (at Goodell's 14:47.27 record)," offered Industry Hills assistant Ed Spencer, the coach who works most closely with

Spencer didn't know how prescient he would prove to be. Kostoff split 9:01.05 for his first 1000 Saturday evening, then went on to clock 14:52.39, the secondfastest 1650 free ever swum, and in the process completed an unprecedented distance triple—wins in the



Jeff Kostoff held off Rowdy Gaines' fists and feet for a 500 free win.

500, 1000 and 1650—matching the triple by Mission Viejo's Tiffany Cohen on the women's side.

It should be noted, however, that 1982 is only the second year such a triple has been possible inasmuch as the 1000 free was added to the short course championship format just last year. Many swimmers have completed the 500-1650 sweep at previous U.S. Nationals and in 1980, when the "short course" meet was long course, Mesa's Mike Bruner won the 400-1500 free and was third in the 800. At the 1980 Olympic Trials Bruner again won the 400-1500 free and was runner-up in the 800.

Kostoff's winning effort surpasses the 14:53.90 by UCLA's Rafael Escalas from last year's NCAAs as the No. 2 all-time clocking. The time is also a 15-16 NAG standard, and makes the slender Industry Hills freestyler (he won't be 17 until August 19) the fastest distance swimmer of all time for his age. (Goodell had just turned 17 when he won at Montreal with world records in the 400-1500 and Tim Shaw also was 17 when he set world records in the 200-400-1500 during the 1974 season.)

Second at Gainesville in the 1650 free was Columbia's Tony Corbisiero, who chased Kostoff to the latter's American record in the 1000 free opening night. Third, fourth and fifth went to Mission swimmers (as Corbisiero is during the summer), with Rojer Madruga third (15:07.82, his lifetime best), NCAA 500 free champ An-

dy Astbury next (15:08.59) and Bruce Hayes fifth at 15:12.11.

Two other promising young American distance specialists, 16-year-old Paul Budd (Memphis State) and 17-year-old Jeff Erwin (Boise YMCA, who'll swim for Coach Nort Thornton's Cal Golden Bears this fall) were sixth and seventh, respectively, in 15:19.47 and 15:20.54. Eighth went to a 17-year-old Canadian, Saints' Dave Shemilt.

Corbisiero, perhaps sensing his best chance for victory lay in getting out fast and trying to build up a sufficiently large lead off Kostoff so the latter might wear himself out trying to catch up, led for the first 650 yards. At first his margin was under a half-second per hundred but by a third of the race he had built it to nearly a second—5:23.73 to 5:24.41 at 600 yards.

As the duo flipped after 650 yards Kostoff (in lane 4) was nearly even with Corbisiero (5:51.38 to 5:51.68) and after 700 yards had taken over No. 1 for good. At 1000 yards he was up by more than four seconds (9:01.05 to 9:05.38) yet he was still nearly five seconds off Goodell's record split of 8:56.25. Holding 54s for each 100 thereafter, Kostoff stroked to victory over Corbisiero by over 13 seconds.

"We wanted him to hold 53s," Spencer said later, "but this was a good swim. There's plenty of time for records down the line."

Kostoff, at 6-1/2 and 145 pounds, is from the old "animal lane" school of training.

"That boy is a killer," marvels Industry teammate Jill Sterkel, who knows a bit about life in the "Animal Lane" herself. "I don't think he's discovered pain yet."

100 Back

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD		
Clay Britt, Texas (3-27-81)	23.22	49.08
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-11-81)		
Rick Carey, Badger Swim Club	23.8	49.79
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-16-81)		
Rick Carey, Badger Swim Club		
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)		
Dave Bottom, 19, Walnut Creek	23.39	48.94*
Rick Carey, 19, Badger	23.46	49.18
Mark Rhodenbaugh, 17, CPM	23.27	49.51
Clay Britt, 21, Longhorn	23.56	50.00
Tom Jager, 17, Parkway	23.45	50.12
Roger Von Jouanne, 21, Saluki	23.79	50.46
Jay Yarid, 18, Mission Viejo	24.12	50.46
Dave Wilson, 21, CPM	23.84	50.63
* American and U.S. Open Record		

About an hour before the finals of the 100 back a reporter was approached by Walnut Creek Aquabears dorsal specialist John Engs.

"Who you betting on?" Engs not-so-matter-of-factly asked.

"Carey," the reporter replied, not so much because he believed Badger's Rick Carey, two-time defending national champion, would win but because Engs was obviously trying to goad the writer into predicting that his WCAB teammate, Dave Bottom, would emerge as the victor.

Good thing, too, as Bottom was tops as Gainesville, winning with an American-U.S. Open record 48.94. In the process Bottom became the first (and only) man ever under 49 seconds for the 100 back. About an hour later, Bottom nearly broke his own record by leading off the

medley relay in 48.99, history's second-quickest clocking.

Bottom thus becomes the first member of his family to ever set an American record in a dorsal event, the first WCAB swimmer to ever establish a national record and the first Stanford man to ever swim an American record on his back.

The irony in all this, of course, is that Bottom swims for Stanford during the collegiate season and competes for WCAB during the spring and summer months. His older brothers (Joe and Mike) were Trojans through and through, and during the then-AAU Championships usually represented either USC or Santa Clara.

Joe Bottom, the eldest of the trio, was a member of USC's national championship squad from 1974-77 and won several NCAA titles—including American-collegiate records in the 50 free and 100 fly in the 1977 NCAAS. He also silver medaled in the 100 fly at the Olympics a year earlier.

Mike Bottom was also a stellar member of the Trojan-Santa Clara dynasties in their heyday though he never won an individual national collegiate championship.

So . . . Dave Bottom has an illustrious heritage to follow.

As a freshman for Coach Skip Kenney's Stanford Cardinal this past winter the talented Bottom, who not unnaturally bears a striking resemblance to his brothers, was third in the NCAA 100 back and 100 fly and fourth

in the 200 back.

However, his 100 back-fly double was accomplished in back-to-back fashion and following his American record here Kenney stated flatly: "That (100 back) record would have gone there (NCAAs) if he hadn't had to double."

Carey was second (career-best 49.18 after tying Bottom in qualifying for the No. 1 spot with a 49.72) and third was the pretender to Bottom's and Carey's "throne," 17-year-old Cincinnati Pepsi Marlin Mark Rhodenbaugh (49.51).

Longhorn's Clay Britt, NCAA 100 back champ the previous three years and American-U.S. Open record holder prior to Bottom (49.08 from the 1981 NCAAs) was fourth in 50.00.

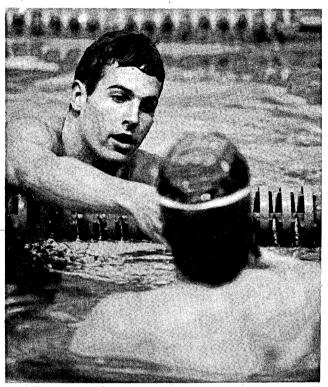
During prelims Rhodenbaugh was quickest for the first 50 (23.42 versus Bottom's 23.70 and Carey's 23.84) but nobody came close to matching Bottom's speed over that last 50.

In the finals Bottom hit the halfway point in 23.39, made a great turn and caught leader Rhodenbaugh (who was out in 23.27) just off the wall. He then "turned on the juice" and stroked to victory.

"Oh, what a feeling!" was all the ecstatic winner could think after climbing out of the O'Connell Center Pool and signing the American record application form. "I knew he (Rhodenbaugh) would be out quick but I really couldn't see him until after the 50. I just tried to

Hungary's Sandor Wladar was as good as gold in the 200 yard backstroke as he set a U.S. Open record of 1:45.22, ahead of Rick Carey at 1:46.00.





Dave Bottom was tops in the 100 back— the first under 49 seconds.

stay in control of the race and not lose my stroke."

WCAB coach Mike Troy, himself an Ólympic gold medalist (200 butterfly at Rome) summed up his swimmer's success rather succinctly when he said: "The top of the Bottoms is now on top."

And Engs, another Stanford man who was third in the NCAA 200 back two weeks earlier, prodded that same reporter: "Now do you believe he's the best?"

Yes, John, the results speak for themselves.

200 Back

AMERICAN AND U.S. OF EN RECORD				
Rick Carey, Texas (3-6-82)	24.60	51.02	1:17.85	1:45.80
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Ca	mbridge, 4-8	81)		
Rick Carey, Badger Swim Club	24.77	51.74	1:18.63	1:46.00
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brox	vn Deer, 8-13	-81)		
Rick Carey, Badger Swim Club				
1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982)				
Sandor Wladar, 18, Hungary	24.62	50.98	1:17.78	1:45.22
Rick Carey, 19, Badger	24.44	51.09	1:18.12	1:46.00
Steve Barnicoat, 20, Mission Viejo	25.07	52.30	1:18.93	1:46.63
Jesse Vassallo, 20, Mission Viejo	25.62	52.83	1:19.54	1:47.98
Mark Rhodenbaugh, 17, CPM	25.28	53.24	1:20.73	1:48.73
Ricardo Prado, 17, Mission Viejo	25.88	53.59	1:21.39	1:49.09
Richie Hughey, 18, Dynamo	24.95	52.26	1:20.42	1:50.13
Pat Kennedy, 18, No. Baltimore	25.93	54.07	1:22.44	1:51.17
* U.S. Open Record				

The third time was the charm for Sandor Wladar.

Third in the 200 back at the U.S. Nationals in 1979 as a mere 16 year old (and having never swum yards before), Wladar moved up into the No. 2 position last year. This year he hit the jackpot—No. 1 with a U.S. Open record 1:45.22.

The name Wladar may not be a familiar one to Americans but in Europe he's the toast of the continent after his two gold medals in the Moscow Olympics and his double at the European Championships in Split last September.

Those latter two victories enabled the Hungarian champion to gain the necessary advantage over the competition to be voted *Swimming World's* male European Swimmer of the Year in 1981. So far this year, he has gone 2:02 for the 200 back (long course meters) a couple of weeks before the U.S. Nationals in his native Budapest at the Elektro-Impex meeting. And if his showing at Gainesville is any indication of what he'll do this summer at the World Championships, then his leading opposition for the 200 back title had better take notice.

Badger's Rick Carey, who swam an American record of 1:46.00 while winning last year, then shattered that with a 1:45.80 effort during the Southwest Conference Championships last March swimming for Texas, hardly rolled over and played dead for Wladar.

Indeed, he clocked 1:46.00 for second, just two-tenths off his career best and one-hundredth faster than his winning effort at his inaugural NCAA Championships two weeks earlier.

Mission's Steve Barnicoat, 1980 U.S. Olympic Trials winner, was third here (career-best 1:46.63, sixth on the all-time list) and teammate Jesse Vassallo, defending long course champ, was fourth (1:47.98).

Only swimming yards for the third time in his life, Wladar was nevertheless superb. He qualified a tenth behind Carey's leading 1:46.91 (the only two prelim times under 1:48.0). In the finals, after spotting Carey the edge for the first 50 (24.44 to 24.62), Wladar took command at about the 60-yard mark and was never headed. At 100 yards he led by 11-hundredths (50.98 to 51.09) to the surprise of virtually everyone at the pool and the Olympic champion just built his advantage the final 100.

By 150 yards Wladar was ahead 1:17.78 to 1:18.12 and, withstanding Carey's furious finish, he touched in his U.S. Open record 1:45.22. Carey's 1:46.00 ties his second-best 200 and, of course, his American record 1:45.80 still stands.

Carey's coach, Badger's John Collins, speculated the next morning that the defeat may have had a sobering effect upon his swimmer.

"Rick's had things pretty much his own way the last year and for this guy (Wladar) to come over here and beat him at his own game could be the best thing that's ever happened. Now maybe Ricky'll see that to become a world champion or an Olympic gold medalist he's got to be a little less arrogant," the coach said.

Wladar's coach, veteran Hungarian Olympic mentor Tamas Szechy, said he thought perhaps Carey was a bit tired from the college season. "But whether or not he (Carey) was not at his best, our man was. That's all that counts. It (the victory) means a great deal to us because we accomplished it on your own turf, so to speak. I thought Sandor swam a very strong race and he showed he's ready to face all competition," Szechy added.

"I planned on winning," a relaxed Wladar said the Monday after the meet while lounging around the pool at the Gainesville Holiday Inn with teammates Andras Hargitay and Alban Vermes. "I was third three years ago and second last year, so this year I had to be first."

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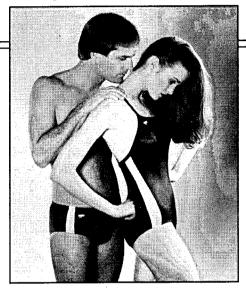
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100 Breast

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD Steve Lundquist, SMU (3-27-81) DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-11-81)	25.23	52.93
Steve Lundquist, Dallas-Dr. Pepper	25.2	53.83
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-16-81)		
Nick Nevid, Longhorn		
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)		
Steve Lundquist, 21, Mustang	25.35	53.84
Bill Barrett, 22, Mission Viejo	25.72	54.62
Bob Jackson, 22, Tacoma	25.96	54.69
John Moffet, 17, Beach	25.76	54.92
Joe Jiminez, 22, Nashville	26.31	55.89
John Ulibarri, 19, Arkansas	26.10	55.92
Doug Soltis, 19, Florida	26.18	56.12
Robert Lager, 21, Mission Viejo	26.57	56.74
		_

In April 1972, Santa Clara's Brian Job won his fourth consecutive AAU short course national title in the 100 yard breaststroke.

Since the event came into the national program two decades earlier no other male swimmer had won four consecutive 100 breast championships.

A decade later another swimmer would equal Job's record here in Gainesville when Mustang's Steve Lundquist, American record holder for both the 100 yard and 100 meter breast races, won his fourth straight national crown.

Job's streak began 13 years earlier with his 58.1 victory at Belmont Plaza in Long Beach. Lundquist's started a decade later with his 54.77 triumph at East Los Angeles College, just up the freeway from Belmont.

In subsequent years Lundquist won at Austin, Cambridge, and now in Gainesville. His initial national indoor title bettered the American record (54.77 in the finals and a still quicker record swim of 54.08 from prelims). And a year later, when the championship meet was long course, he smashed John Hencken's domestic record for the 100 meter breast with a 1:03.08.

When he's "on," Lundquist is unbeatable over 100 yards or 100 meters. He's won the NCAA 100 breast the three years he's swum it (withstanding furious charges from UCLA's Bill Barrett every time) and at the U.S. Nationals, he has similarly been unbeatable.

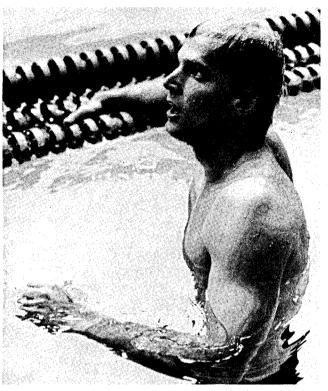
Lundquist was the race's top qualifier at 54.79 to Mission's Barrett, 54.93. In the finals after the first turn there wasn't any doubt who would emerge victorious. The Mustang speedster hit the 50 in 25.35, over three-tenths ahead of Barrett's 25.72, and simply outdistanced the balance of the field.

He won in 53.84, .01 slower than his 53.83 winning effort from 1981, and as in the other times they've faced each other for a 100, Mission's Barrett was No. 2 (54.62).

Lundquist's American-U.S. Open record for 100 yards is 52.93 from the 1981 NCAAs. His American-U.S. Open record for 100 meters is 1:02.88 from the Irvine Olympic Trials. That ranks him No. 2 on the all-time list to the 1:02.86 world record of West Germany's Gerald Moerken.

Third in Gainesville was Tacoma's Bob Jackson (career-best 54.69 for the perennial NCAA Division II champion from Puget Sound), while fourth (also in a career best) was Beach's Stanford-bound John Moffet (54.92).

Conspicuously absent was Palm Springs' Rickie Gill,



Lundquist made history of his own via a 4th straight 100 breast win.

the world's fastest 100 meter breaststroker last year (1:03.20 to win the USA-USSR dual meet). No explanation for Gill's absence from the meet was given although speculation ran along the lines that he was "saving himself for the World Championship Trials."

In any event, Lundquist continues as king of the sprint breaststroke both at the collegiate and U.S. Nationals level, and the SMU junior seemingly has no new worlds left to conquer.

"Not quite. My goal now is to win the World Championship and set a world record," he said after winning his eighth national title. "Then I want to win a couple of more NCAA titles next year and hopefully the team championship (for SMU)."

When Job won his last AAU title a decade ago Lundquist was a hot shot 10-and-under swimmer who ranked third nationally in the 50 free (27.42), fourth in the 100 (1:00.8), sixth in the 50 breast (36.31) and seventh in the 100 breast (1:21.6). For variety he was also second in the 50 fly (29.78) and fourth in the 200 IM (2:32.21).

Who were Lundquist's 10-and-under contemporaries a decade ago?

Some included Dennis Baker, now a world-class flyer for Coach Dick Jochum's University of Arizona team; Clay Britt, winner of the last three NCAA 100 back titles for Texas, Ron Zhiss, a member of Coach Ron Ballatore's NCAA champion UCLA Bruins; and Eric-Finical, a sprinter on Coach Eddie Reese's 1981 Texas Longhorns NCAA titlists.

Lundquist represented the Forest Park Swim Team then while today he swims for Coach George McMillion's Mustang outfit. ►

USS NATIONALS continued

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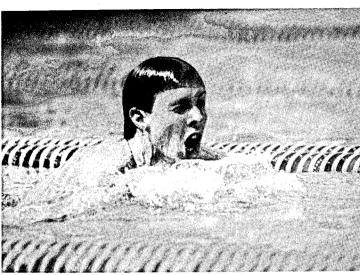
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With one eye on the clock, Moffet streaked to his first national win.

200 Breast

Beach Swim Club's John Moffet had just won his first U.S. Nationals title yet he was far from satisfied.

"It would have been a different race if they (meaning Mustang's Steve Lundquist, defending champion, and UCLA's Bill Barrett, No. 2 last year), had been here," Moffet analyzed.

Indeed it might well have. Last year Moffet was the race's top qualifier (2:00.03) but wound up third in a career-best 1:59.33 behind Lundquist's 1:56.29 and Barrett's 1:57.37.

This year he won handily in 1:59.44 after qualifying No. 1 in 1:59.79.

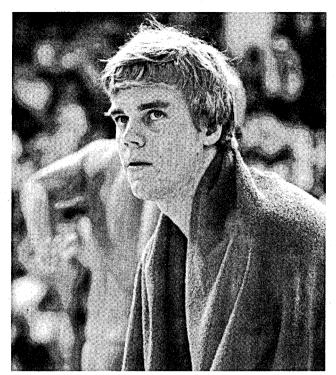
Second was Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins' Glenn Mills (1:59.93) while taking the show spot was Florida's Doug Soltis (2:00.17).

Moffet let Soltis and Hawaii's Henry Arakaki take the lead for the first 100 (57.15 and 57.10, respectively) while he lingered in third (57.75) with Mission's Dave Chernek fourth (57.76).

Then the 17-year-old Beach swimmer took command on the third 50 and with three-quarters of the race completed was right on Arakaki's shoulder (1:28.33 to 1:28,29). Soltis was still third but had begun to feel the effects of taking the pace out a little too hard. "The piano was coming down on me," he said later.

Moffet grabbed the lead shortly after the 150 point and sped away from his pursuers.

The finish—with Moffet first and Mills runner-



Big Dave Cowell was another first-time winner, taking the 100 fly.

up—was a reversal of their finals standings at the U.S. Nationals/Olympic Trials in Irvine, where the latter edged Moffet for the 200 meter breast title by a hundredth of a second.

Mills will be a junior at Alabama this fall while Moffet will swim for Coach Skip Kenney at Stanford. And both will have to face the prospect of swimming against two-time defending NCAA champion and American record holder Steve Lundquist (SMU) next spring as the Mustang senior returns for his final year.

"I'm happy to have won but I think I could have gone faster if I'd been pushed," Moffet said. "For me the only meet that counts now is the World Championship Trials."

100 Fly

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD		
Scott Spann, Texas (3-27-81)	22.10	47,22
1981 SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-11-81)		
Matt Gribble, Hurricane	22.9	47.82
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-16-81)		
Matt Gribble, Hurricane		
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)		
Dave Cowell, 20, Mid-Ohio Valley YMCA	21.91	47.89
Craig Beardsley, 21, Florida	22.73	48.33
Chris Rives, 17, Dad's Club	22.81	48.42
Bob Placak, 23, Mission	22.79	48.55
Jim Halliburton, 23, Unat.	23.01	48.67
Bruce Foster, 19, Colorado Rapids	23.18	49.20
Andy Wren, 20, Starlit	23.25	49.33
Pablo Morales, 16, Santa Clara	23.36	49.42

An assistant Florida basketball coach wandered into the O'Connell Center just prior to the start of the 100 fly finals, looked at the swimmers on the blocks, then turned to a nearby colleague and said: "Who's that big guy in the middle there?"

Informed it was Ohio State's imposing 6-7 Dave Cowell, the coach joked, "If he ever decides to transfer let me know."

It's doubtful Cowell intends to leave the Buckeyes for whom he placed second at this year's NCAAs, but if he ever decides to start playing basketball, presumably Gator coach Norm Sloan will be first in line to bid on his services.

So, too, for that matter may be Gator swim coach Randy Reese, who watched impassively as Cowell raced away from the field in general and FAST's Craig Beardsley in particular to win in 47.89, just off the 47.85 prelim time that made him the race's top qualifier.

In deference to Beardsley, American record holder over 200 yards and world record holder at 200 meters, it should be noted his forte is the longer fly race. The 100 is a warmup for him. Even so, the 48.33 that earned him a second is just off his career best 48.26 from last year's NCAAs.

Cowell represented the Mid-Ohio Valley YMCA at Gainesville and his victory was almost a logical progression upwards for the strapping Ohio State sophomore, who first burst on the national scene two years ago upon winning the 100 meter fly at the Fort Lauderdale Junior Nationals.

He finaled last summer at Brown Deer (seventh with a 55.64 after a career-best 55.53 in the prelims), won the National Sports Festival in Syracuse and finished 1981 as the world's 18th-fastest flyer.

At this year's NCAAs he raced Miami's Matt Gribble nearly stroke for stroke before finishing second to the Hurricane soph (47.35 to 47.58)—history's second- and fourth-fastest clockings.

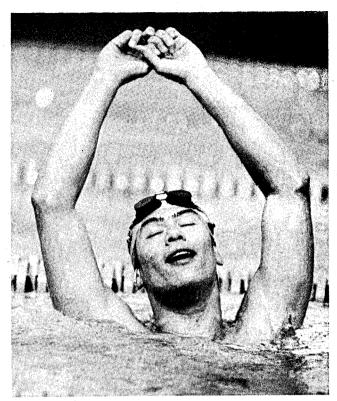
Without Gribble in the finals here (he qualified ninth and won the consols in 47.84, fastest time of the meet) the field was seemingly wide open but Cowell would have none of that. He qualified No. 1 (47.85 to Beardsley's 48.27) and in the race itself split 21.91 for his first 50, quickly separating himself from the competition. Beardsley was second at the halfway mark (22.73, same as his morning split) but there was no catching Cowell.

"Sure, I was worried about him (Beardsley)," the winner admitted. "After watching him destroy the field in the 200 I figured he'd be tough competition in the 100. I took it out a little faster than at NCAAs (where he split 22.45) and that may have hurt my time somewhat at the end."

Third was Dad's Club's Chris Rives (48.42), just bettering his career-best 48.49 which set the national high school fly record a few weeks earlier during the Texas state high school championships. Fourth went to Mission's Bob Placak, 1979 Pan-Am Games gold medalist, who retired after last summer only to "unretire" this winter and resume training again.

A 16 year old who bears watching finished in eighth place. His name: Pablo Morales, a junior at Bellarmine Prep in Northern California, who won both flys at last summer's NJOs in Mission Viejo. He went 49.42 in the finals here but in prelims went a 15-16 NAG record 49.16—fastest time ever for a 16 year old. Whose record did Morales break? Chris Rives' 49.82 from last year.

For purposes of comparison, Mark Spitz was 17 when he went 49.1 (hand-timed) to set the then-national high school fly record for Santa Clara on May 13, 1967, dur-



Beardsley raises his arms on high after a 200 fly American record.

ing the CIF Central Coast Championships at Foothill College.

So Pablo Morales is faster than Mark Spitz—at least at age 16.

200 Fiv

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD AMERICAN AND U.S. OF IN 1227-82)
Craig Beardsley, Florida (3-27-82)
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-8-81)

23.4 49.4 50.03 1:16.74 1:44.10 49.8 1:16.8 1:44.74 DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-13-81) Craig Beardsley, Florida 1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982) 50.05 1:16.70 1:43.81 Craig Beardsley, 21, Florida Chris Rives, 17, Dad's Club 24.29 50.72 1:17.68 1:45.16 50.36 1:17.57 23.84 Roger Von Jouanne, 21, Saluki Ricardo Prado, 17, Mission Viejo 51.93 1:19.41 1:46.53 52.36 1:19.44 1:47.05 Filiberto Colon, 17, Mission Viejo 24.96 52.30 1:20.08 24.81 Jon Denney, 19, CPM William Harris, 17, Unat Rafael Vidal, 18, Florida 51.44 1:19.58 1:48.96 American and U.S. Open Record

"What I like most about the guy—maybe what impresses me most about him—is how he goes out and attacks the record every time. He's aggressive as ever and that's how you've got to be to be a great butterflyer."

The speaker: Walnut Creek Aquabear coach Mike Trov.

The subject: Florida butterfly standout Craig Beards-

Troy, the Olympic champion in the 200 fly at Rome 22 years ago, had just seen Beardsley clip three-tenths of a second off his less than two-week-old American-U.S. Open record of 1:44.10 (from the NCAAs) with a

1:43.81 swim in the finals here opening night. And he was impressed.

"He may not have the classic form of a (Mark) Spitz or a (Mike) Bruner but he does move pretty darn quickly through the water and, after all, that's the bottom line," Troy opined. "He seems to use his whole body whereas Spitz and Bruner weren't quite so flat in the water and were perhaps a bit more flexible. But Craig's a big kicker and I think this helps power his stroke, too.

"His biggest attribute, to my way of thinking, is his mental attitude. He simply exudes confidence, like a Mary T. (Meagher) or a Tracy (Caulkins). He knows he's the best and he dares you to challenge him."

To say conditions were optimum for Beardsley is understating the case. After having won his second consecutive NCAA title at Brown Deer fewer than 10 days earlier, Beardsley knew his swims at Gainesville would probably be his final major competition ever before the home crowd. Thus he was prepared—mentally and physically—to put on a grand show.

"I didn't have a good swim at NCAAs," he said before qualifying Wednesday morning. "I know I can go faster and I'd like to do it here."

Qualifying in a seemingly eased up 1:44.80 to secondplace Roger Von Jouanne's 1:46.46, Beardsley came into the finals with but one thought in mind—American record.

"Yeah, I planned on getting it (the record) after that 1:44.8 in prelims. I really love swimming in this pool and I wanted to reward the fans who've always been so supportive of me with my best time."

Von Jouanne had briefly held the American record at 1:45.05 in December of 1980. Then Beardsley twice broke it within a span of three weeks, first at last year's Southeastern Conference Championships (1:44.26), then with a 1:44.15 at last year's NCAAs.

But his 1:44.10 NCAA record swim was a mere fivehundredths improvement on his record from a year earlier. Beardley figured that was no improvement at all. So he made it his personal mission to bow out in front of the home folks in record-breaking style.

Going out in 23.60 for his first 50, he built up a twotenths advantage on Von Jouanne (23.84). By 100 yards he had upped the margin to nearly three tenths (50.05-50.36). He was on record pace now (his split at Brown Deer had been 50.03) and announcer Chuck Samuels, himself a former Gator swimmer, was urging the crowd to exhort Beardsley on to greater glories.

The prompting seemed to work, for at the 150 mark Beardsley hit the Colorado Timing touchpad in 1:16.70, faster than his record split of 1:16.74. With the noise in the O'Connell Center at a fever pitch Beardsley came home in 27.11 for the 1:43.81 record.

"Sure, I heard the crowd, the noise they were making," Beardsley conceded. "Usually I don't let things like that affect me but the fans were really great tonight."

Von Jouanne faded from the withering pace and took third (1:46.17), same position he finished at NCAAs.

Second in a 17-18 NAG record was Dad's Club's Chris Rives, who moves into third on the all-time 200

fly list off his 1:45.16. Rives ranked sixth globally last summer (third in the USA) off his 2:00.72 for the 200 meter fly at Brown Deer and again the comparison with Spitz comes to mind.

When Spitz won seven golds at Munich a decade ago, among his wins was a world record in the 200 fly (2:00.70). He was then 22 years old. Rives matched that time eight months ago when he was still 16.

In the 200 yard fly Spitz' career best was a 1:46.89 to win the 1972 NCAAs at West Point. Rives is 1½ seconds faster five years younger.

However, there's a certain West German butterflyer who's an even better comparison. Last September Michael Gross went 1:59.19 to win the European Championship 200 fly. His time was a European record for Gross, then only 16.

200 Individual Medley

22.37	49.08	1:19.08	1:45.00
dge, 4-10-8	1)	,	
22.8	50.5	1:20.9	1:46.91
Brown Dee	r, 8-15-81)		
23.81	51.12	1:23.14	1:48.41
23.69	51.36	1:23.44	1:48.72
24.25	51.11	1:22.72	1:49.19
24.38	52.27	1:23.04	1:49.35
24.78	52.25	1;24.40	1:49.76
23.62	51.92	1:24.87	1:50.11
24.30	51.59	1:25.32	1:51.52
23.76	51.53	1:24.74	1:52.48
	23.81 23.69 24.25 24.38 24.78 23.62 24.30	dge, 4-10-81) 22.8 50.5 Brown Deer, 8-15-81) 23.81 51.12 23.69 51.36 24.25 61.11 24.38 52.27 24.78 52.25 23.62 51.92 24.30 51.59	dge, 4-10-81) 22.8 50.5 1:20.9 Brown Deer, 8-15-81) 23.81 51.12 1:23.14 23.69 51.36 1:23.44 24.25 51.11 1:22.72 24.38 52.27 1:23.04 24.78 52.25 1:24.40 23.62 51.92 1:24.87 24.30 51.59 1:25.32

Bill Barrett swam the 50 free and Roger Von Jouanne won the 200 IM Friday evening. Therein lies the tale.

Barrett, winner of the last three NCAA 200 IMs (including an American record 1:45.00 at Brown Deer 15 days earlier) opted out of his specialty here and Southern Illinois' Von Jouanne moved in to win his first national title.

The winning time was 1:48.41 for the toussle-haired Saluki senior, his lifetime best, and moves him up to No. 7 on the all-time list.

Runner-up was Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins' Mark (Mook) Rhodenbaugh with his career best (1:48.72). Taking the show spot at 1:49.19 was Mission's Jesse Vassallo, former world record holder in the 200 meter IM. John Simons followed at 1:49.35.

Von Jouanne had finished third behind Barrett and SMU's Steve Lundquist at the NCAAs in the 200 IM, then was third here opening night in the 200 fly and third again the next evening in the 400 IM, although his 3:53.18 clocking was a career best.

In any event, Von Jouanne was not to be denied in the shorter medley race the third night of the meet, but it wasn't until the final 50 sprint to the finish that his victory was assured.

Qualifying third at 1:49.51, behind Vassallo's leading 1:49.12 and Rhodenbaugh's 1:49.39, Von Jouanne trailed Vassallo for three-quarters of the race. At 50 yards it was Santa Clara's Chris Cavanaugh in front (23.62), with Rhodenbaugh showing 23.69 and Von Jouanne turning at 23.81

Halfway through Vassallo's strong backstroke gave him a .01 advantage over Von Jouanne (51.11 to 51.12). On the breaststroke segment Vassallo lengthened



The 200 IM saw SIU's Roger Von Jouanne (center) defeat a stellar field of medleyists, including Mark Rhodenbaugh (left) and Jesse Vassallo.

his lead and at 150 seemed to have the situation under control—1:22.72 to Simon's 1:23.04 and Von Jouanne's 1:23.14. Rhodenbaugh was not far back at 1:23.44.

Von Jouanne is a 1:37+ 200 freestyler, however, and heading for home he nailed Vassallo with a 25.27 final 50. While Rhodenbaugh nearly matched that, splitting 25.28, Vassallo clocked 26.47 and that was the difference.

The victory represented the first national championship ever for Southern Illinois coach Bob Steele as well as SIU's first national title. Von Jouanne has a 3.8 GPA in thermal and environmental engineering at Carbondale and plans to continue swimming through 1984.

400 Individual Medlev

* U.S. Open Record

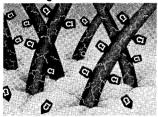
Too marriada modicy				
AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
Jesse Vassallo, Miami (3-27-81)	53.16	1:49.32	2:54.67	3:48.16
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (C	ambridge, 4-	9-81)		
Jesse Vassallo, Mission Viejo		1:49.8	2:55.5	3:50.31
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Br	own Deer, 8-1	14-81)		
Jesse Vassallo, Mission Viejo				
1982 FINALISTS (April 8, 1982)				
Ricardo Prado, 17, Mission Viejo	53.14	1:50.09	2:56.15	3:47.97
Jesse Vassallo, 20, Mission Viejo	53.40	1:50.02	2:56.45	3:51.13
Roger Von Jouanne, 21, Saluki			3:01.23	
Bruce Hayes, 19, Mission Vielo	54.37	1;54.04	3:01.23	3:54.47
Pat Kennedy, 18, No. Baltimore	53.26	1:52.34	3:01.40	3:54.69
Rojer Madruga, 17, Mission Viejo	55.09	1:55.71	3:02.92	3:55.07
Steve Barnicoat, 20, Mission Viejo	54.64	1:53.71	3:03.25	3:55.88
Jeff Kostoff, 16, IHAC				DQ

Jesse Vassallo was just 16 years old when he set his initial global record during the U.S. World Championship Trials at The Woodlands four years ago.

Ricardo Prado similarly was just 16 years old when he established his first U.S. Open record (3:47.97) at the U.S. Nationals here Thursday evening.

The parallels between Vassallo and Prado are almost uncanny. They're both Latins (Vassallo's a native of Puerto Rico, Prado of Brazil), they both swim for Mission Viejo, they both specialize in the 400 IM and they're nearly equal in size (Vassallo's 5-9, 160; Prado, 5-8 and 145).

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USS NATIONALS continued

They're two of the fastest 400 IMers swimming today and the fastest duo in history. Vassallo's world record of 4:20.05 from the III World Championships still stands, but Prado's right there on the all-time list off his 4:22.06 at Brown Deer and his world-leading 4:22.77 from this year's Latin Cup in Buenos Aires a week after the U.S. Nationals.

At last year's short course meet in Cambridge Vassallo won (3:50.31) with Prado close behind (3:51.87), then at Brown Deer, Vassallo was all-out to win in 4:20.33 to Prado's 4:22.06.

Having gone history's then fifth-fastest 400 yard IM last spring and the third-fastest meters medley ever that summer. Prado was now taking aim at Vassallo's 3:48.16 American-U.S. Open record from the 1981 NCAAs in Texas. And it only took 3:47.97 for him to erase the U.S. Open part of that record.

Vassallo was second (3:51.13) for his second consecutive major meet (he lost the NCAA 400 IM to USC's Jeff Float two weeks earlier).

Is Prado, a Mission Viejo High senior, the heirapparent to Vassallo's world record this summer at Guayaquil?

Not necessarily. Admittedly the young Brazilian with the engaging smile is the hottest 400 IMer afloat so far this year, but Vassallo, according to University of Miami assistant coach Charlie Hodgson, had been ailing for at least a month prior to NCAAs.

"Jesse had a low-grade infection that's been bothering him for some time. I'm not making excuses for the kid but he's just now beginning to regain his health. If he'd been 110 percent like last year things might have been different," Hodgson noted.

Despite Prado's breaking of Vassallo's standard by nearly two-tenths. Mission coach Mark Schubert was far from satisfied.

"The middle of the race was weak in comparison to his fly and free legs," Schubert said. "I'm delighted Ricky got the record but if he had been stronger in the middle part he would have gone 3:45."

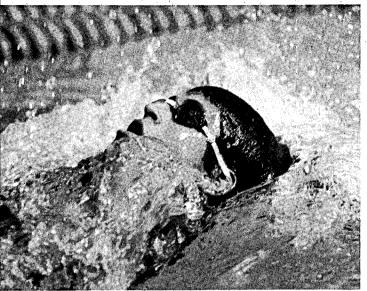
Prado, who had said one of the reasons he came to Mission in the winter of 1979 was to "train with Jesse," admitted at last year's long course Nationals his goal was quite naturally to beat his Mission teammate and establish a world record, perhaps at this year's World Championships.

"When I was a little kid I always would read about Jesse winning this race or setting that record and I dreamed someday of going to Mission and training with him. Then when that time actually came it was kind of like my dream came true," added Prado.

Dream or not, Prado controlled the race here very well. He led Vassallo after the fly leg (53.14 to 53.40), was just trailing after the backstroke (1:50.02 to 1:50.09), then split 1:06.06 to his adversary's 1:06.43 to take a 2:56.15 to 2:56.45 lead after the breaststroke. Vassallo's American record split for 300 yards was 2:54.67 so both swimmers were a good $1\frac{1}{2}$ seconds off that pace.

But Prado paid the price with a 51.82 final 100 free and the record was his.

USS NATIONALS continued



Ricardo Prado set a U.S. Open record in the 400 IM with a 3:47.97.

Southern Illinois' Roger Von Jouanne's career-best 3:53.18 was good for third and fourth went to Mission's Bruce Hayes (3:54.47, his lifetime best).

400 Medley Relay

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
Texas (3-26-81)	49.11	1:43.00	2:30.40	3:12.93
(Britt, Spann, Paulus, Kirchner)		(53.89)	(47.40)	(42.53)
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge,	4-11-81)		
Mission Vielo	50.21	1:43.26	2:30.39	3:13.22
(Vassallo, Barrett, Hering, Leamy)		(53.05)	(47.13)	(42.83)
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (B	own Deer.	8-16-81)	•	
Longhorn	, •			
(Britt, Nevid, Paulus, Kirchner)				
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)				
Mission Vieio	50.45	1:44.58	2:33.03	3:16.22
(Yarid, Barrett, Placak, Leamy)		(54.13)	(48.45)	
Florida	51.34	1:46.78	2:34.77	3:18.48
(Wood, Soltis, Beardsley, Gaberino)		(55.44)	(47.99)	(43.71)
Arkansas	51.91		2:36.11	3:18.93
(Wentz, Ulibarri, Spencer, Brooks)				(42.82)
Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins	50.28	1:45.94	2:35.02	3:20.04
(M. Rhodenbaugh, Higginson, Wilson,		(55.66)	(49.08)	(45.02)
G. Rhodenbaugh)			,	
Mission Viejo "B"	53.33	1:47.24	2:36.30	3:20.09
(Vassallo, Lager, Saeger, Silva)	**	(53.91)	(49.06)	(43.79)
Longhorn	49.62	1:46.14	2:36.43	3:20.23
(Britt, Pohl, Breazeale, Smith)		(56.52)	(50.29)	(43.80)
Badger	49.41	1:46.19	2:36.21	3:21.33
(Carey, Stafford, Hoffman, Fields)		(56.78)	(50.02)	(45.12)
Walnut Creek Aquabears	48.99	1:46.89	2:36.48	3:22.11
(Bottom, Kafka, Engs, Middleton)		(57.90)	(49.59)	(45.63)
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They didn't have a single individual event winner on their team but Mission Viejo's "A" medley relay was sufficently strong to win its second consecutive USS title—3:16.22 to Florida's 3:18.48.

The Nadadores won at Cambridge last April in 3:13.22, then as now a U.S. club record and second on the all-time list to Texas' American record 3:12.93 from the 1981 NCAAs.

This year's Mission squad had two of the four members who swam last year (breaststroker Bill Barrett and anchor sprinter Robin Leamy). The two new members were backstroker Jay Yarid and flyer Bob Placak.

Yarid opened with a 50.45, Barrett followed in 54.13 (second-fastest breaststroke split), Placak went 48.45 and Leamy anchored in 43.19, second-quickest freestyle

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USS NATIONALS continued

split. The fastest anchor was Arkansas' Neil Brooks in a blazing 42.82.

The Nadadores also placed three other teams among the top 16 with their "B" team fifth (3:20.09), the "C" team 13th and the "D" team 15th.

Florida closed fast on the third leg when flyer Craig Beardsley split 47.99, but Geoff Gaberino's 43.71 anchor, in itself a fine swim, wasn't enough to bridge the gap on the Mission lead—especially with Leamy's 43.19 anchor.

Walnut Creek Aquabears' Dave Bottom, who earlier that evening had set an American record in the 100 back (48.94), almost did it again leading off the relay when he clocked 48.99—second performance all-time.

Other fast backstroke splits included Badger's Rick Carey's 49.41 and Longhorn's Clay Britt's 49.62. Robert Lager from Mission's "B" relay had the quickest breaststroke split (53.91). Other good anchor splits included Gopher's Art Griffith, 43.35; Mission's Chris Silva, 43.79; Longhorn's John Smith, 43.80; and Santa Clara's Chris Cavanaugh, 43.98.

400 Free Relay

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
UCLA (3-27-82)	43.49	1:27.05	2:10.75	2:53.15
(Barrett, Silva, MacDonald, Leamy)		(43.56)	(43.75)	(42.40)
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge.	4-11-81)		
Mission Viejo	43.82	1:27.49	2:10.43	2:53.86
(Leamy, McCagg, Spencer, Barrett)		(43.67)	(42.94)	(43.43)
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (B	rown Deer,	8-15-81)		
Mission Vieio				
(Leamy, MacDonald, Spencer, Barrett)				
1982 FINALISTS (April 9, 1982)				
Mission Viejo	44.32	1:28.11	2:12.08	2:55.01
(Barrett, Silva, Brewer, Leamy)		(43.79)	(43.97)	(42.93)
Arkansas	44.39	1:27.61	2:11.56	2:56.47
(Brooks, Spencer, Smith, St. Denis)		(43.22)	(43.95)	(44.91)
Florida	44.62	1:28.37	n.t.	2:56.81
(Wood, Gaberino, Gibb, Sawchuk)		(43.75)	(n.t.)	(n.t.)
Mission Viejo "B"	45.45	1:30.61	2:15.21	2:59.52
(Placak, MacDonald, Viola, Saeger)		(45,16)	(44.60)	(44.31)
Longhorn	44.90	1:29.92	2:17.02	3:00.69
(Pohl, Breazeale, Berryhill, Smith)		(45.02)	(47.10)	(43.67)
Santa Clara	45.49	1:29.97	2:16.06	3:00.99
(Kitner, K. Cavanaugh, Asplund, C. Cavana	augh)	(44.48)	(46.09)	(44.93)
Walnut Creek Aquabears	46.04	1:29.97	2:16.06	3:01.99
(Middleton, Bottom, Engs, Ebbinghaus)		(43.93)	(46.09)	(45.93)
Concord-Pleasant Hill	45.68	1:30.63	2:16.18	3:02.04
(Boatwright, Trowbridge, Monkman, Marbl	e)	(44,95)	(45.55)	(45,86)

Mission Viejo coach Mark Schubert had the four members of UCLA's American-U.S. Open recordsetting sprint relay that won NCAAs two weeks earlier available for his "A" squad here yet opted for a different lineup.

He went with three of the four Bruins from that lineup (Robin Leamy, Chris Silva and Bill Barrett) but also plugged in Iowa's Graeme Brewer, an Australian Olympian

This quartet was fast enough to swim a winning 2:55.01, not quite $1\frac{1}{2}$ seconds better than Arkansas' No. 2 finish (2:56.47). Florida's "A" outfit was third (2:56.81) while Mission "B" was next (2:59.52).

Barrett opened with a 44.32, fastest leadoff split of the event, with Arkansas' Neil Brooks (anchor on Australia's gold medal-winning 400 medley team at Moscow) just behind (44.39). Silva followed for Mission with a 43.79, Brewer went 43.97 and Leamy anchored with a sizzling 42.93, by far the fastest split of the race. Their combined time—2:55.01—was over a second off

USS NATIONALS continued

Mission's championship record 2:53.86 from last year. FAST's Steve Wood led off in 44.62 (third fastest leadoff). Some of the other leading splits (sub-44 seconds) included 43.22 and 43.95 efforts by Arkansas' Jerry Spencer and Martin Smith: 43.75 by FAST's Geoff Gaberino; a 43.67 anchor by Longhorn's John Smith; and a 43.93 third leg by Walnut Creek Aquabears' Dave Bottom.

800 Free Relay

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
Florida (4-13-79)	1:36.39	3:12.02	4:49.24	6:25.42
(Gaines, Larson, McCagg, Dickson)		(1:35.63)	(1:37.22)	(1:36.18)
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Ca	ambridge	, 4-9-81)		
Mission Viejo	1:37.36	3:15.64	4:54.13	6:31.50
(McCagg, MacDonald, Goodell, Saeger)		(1:38.28)	(1:38.49)	(1:37.37)
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Bro	wn Deer,	8-14-81)		
Florida				
(Miller, Hillencamp, Wood, Larson)				
1982 FINALISTS (April 8, 1982)				
Florida	1:38.13	3:15.20	4:51.94	6:27.94
(Sawchuk, Hillencamp, Wood, Gaberino)		(1:37.07)	(1:36.74)	(1:36.00)
Mission Viejo	1:37.64	3:13.77	4:52.55	6:29.66
(Saeger, Barrett, MacDonald, Brewer)		(1:36.13)	(1:38.78)	(1:37.11)
Florida "B"	1:41.09	3:19.31	5:00.31	6:39.58
(Gibb, Beardsley, Vidal, Fagler)	•]	(1:38.22)	(1:41.00)	(1:39.27)
Badger	1:41.09	3:20.01	4:59.65	6:39.96
(Campbell, Carey, Stafford, Fields)		(1:38.92)	(1:39.64)	(1:40.31)
Longhorn	1:40.16	3:19.49	5:02.82	6:40.54
(Breazeale, Spaid, Berryhill, Smith)		(1:39.30)	(1:43.33)	(1:37.75)
Arkansas	1:40.19	3:19.91	5:01.68	6:40.96
(Smith, Brooks, St. Denis, Deary)		(1:38.72)	(1:41.77)	(1:40.28)
Fort Lauderdale	1:40.60		5:01.69	
(Dillon, Wienants, Weldon, Roemer)		(1:40.68)	(1:40.61)	(1:39.66)
Mission Viejo "C"	1:40.65		5:03.71	
(Colon, Barker, Silva, Smith)		(1:41.68)	(1:41.38)	(1:38.97)

Three Florida Gators finished among the top eight finalists in the men's 200 free Thursday evening.

Guess who won the 800 free relay later that night? No, it wasn't the Gainesville Park & Rec. All-Stars.

Rather, it was Florida Aquatics' "A" team, composed of Bill Sawchuk (1:38.13), John Hillencamp (1:37.07), Steve Wood (1:36.74) and Geoff Gaberino (1:36.00). Their winning time was 6:27.94, some 21/2 seconds slower than FAST's American-U.S. Open record 6:25.42 from the 1979 Nationals.

Second was defending champion Mission Viejo (6:29.66), while FAST "B" was 10 seconds back in third

Mission's Rich Saeger got the Nadadores off to a flying start with his 1:37.64 to FAST's Bill Sawchuk's 1:38.13. Bill Barrett was next for Mission, splitting 1:36.13 (second-fastest of the race) while FAST's John Hillencamp clocked 1:37.07.

After 400 yards the Nadadores had what appeared to be a secure advantage, 3:13.77 to 3:15.20.

But Auburn's Southeastern Conference 200 free champ, Steve Wood, who represents FAST at USS Nationals, went a swift 1:36.74 on the third leg to Mission's Stu MacDonald's 1:38.78 and Florida was now in the lead-4:51.94 to 4:52.55.

An excellent 1:36.00 anchor leg by FAST's Geoff Gaberino (fastest of all) was enough to secure Florida's win as Mission's Graeme Brewer split 1:37.11.

There were no other sub-1:38 splits in a race that was basically a two-team affair. The Nadadores earned 62 points with teams finishing second, eighth and 14th. Mission's "B" team, which was originally fourth, was subsequently disqualified.

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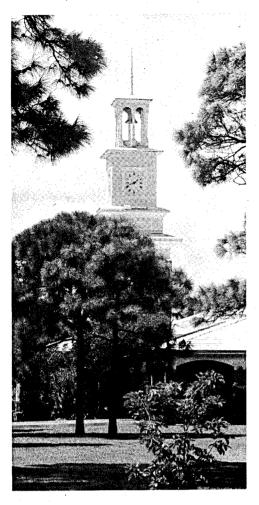
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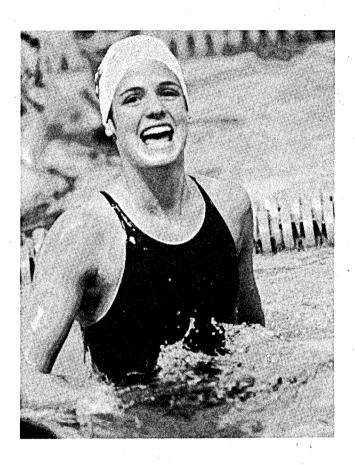




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50 Free

001100	
AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD	
Jill Sterkel, Texas (3-20-81)	22.41
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-10-81)	
Jill Sterkel, Longhorn	22.51
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-15-81)	
Jill Sterkel, Industry Hills	
1982 FINALISTS (April 9, 1982)	
Dara Torres, 14, Tandem	22.44
Jill Sterkel, 20, Longhorn	2 2 .46
Laurie Lehner, 24, Florida St.	22.87
Annie Lett, 20, Bartow	23.23
Lisa Remele, 18, Solotar	23.27
Paige Zemina, 14, Fort Lauderdale	23.45
Beth Emery, 20, SA Milk	23.52
Susan Tietjen, 21, JCSC	23.64

Here's one taken right out of a Fantasy Island script. Imagine, if you will, that you're a young 14-year-old swimmer who has only been to a USS Senior Nationals twice. When you arrive on Fantasy Island as guests of Roarke and Tattoo, you tell them your "fantasy" is to win your first national title in the 50 yard freestyle.

That's simple enough.

But then you add that in winning the event, you'd like

TRACY PASSES TARZAN

Dara Torres (left) and Debbie Risen were the only new faces in the top spot at Gainesville, but Tracy Caulkins made the all-time No. 1 spot with her 38th and 39th wins.

to beat the defending champion—the *four-time* defending champion. In fact, you'd like to beat the girl who has *never* lost this race to another American.

"I couldn't believe I beat her," exclaimed an excited Dara Torres—only 14 years old—after she outtouched America's premier female sprinter, Jill Sterkel, 20, of Longhorn, 22.44 to 22.46.

It was hard to believe that Torres beat the short course American record holder and long course world record holder in this event, but it was very true.

And not only was it a shot-in-the-arm to the youngster from Tandem Swim Club in Southern California, but it was also good medicine for U.S. swimming.

"They're the swimmers who are going to make U.S. swimming better," Sterkel said, referring to up-and-comers in general. Having swum at Nationals since 1972, Sterkel knows. She's been in that position before. And as a veteran with 15 career AAU/USS titles under her belt, she added, "It also helps make a champion better."

But for the moment, everyone seemed to want to share the excitement with the slender 5-9, 135-pound challenger.

"She had a heckuva swim. It was great," Sterkel said.
"People said I never had any guts at the end of the race. I wanted to show everyone I had guts," analyzed Torres.

Dara's coach, Terry Palmer, really didn't have anything to say about his swimmer's performance. Instead, he let his actions do the talking for him. "My coach just hugged and kissed me," Torres said. ▶

The race, itself, was as exciting as the unexpected finish. Three girls finished under 23 seconds as 24-year-old Laurie Lehner of Florida State finished third at 22.87. The winning time was just three-hundredths of a second off Sterkel's American record.

Sterkel said her start may have been the deciding factor. "I thought I had a decent race," she said, "but I think the start was off. I was pretty slow off the blocks."

On the other hand, Torres' start may have been the deciding factor for her triumph. She uses an unorthodox one, planting one foot forward and one foot back, similar to the start used in track.

"It's easier," she explained when asked why she uses the track start.

"I first used it when I was 12 years old. I saw it at Industry Hills at a meet once, and it's worked for me.

"I think you can get off the blocks a lot faster. I watched the International Meet (which was held at Gainesville in January) on TV, and I saw that the blocks were tiny, so I practiced the conventional start with the feet together and hands in front of the block.

"But once I got here, I saw that the blocks were OK, so I used the track start. Now I'm ready to use the track start on teeny blocks."

Dara felt she had a good start, but that her turn wasn't that great.

"When I came out of the turn, I saw her (Sterkel), although I'm not supposed to be looking," Torres said. "And I wanted to get her. I didn't know I touched her out, but I knew I was there, and that it was a good time. "My guts helped."

And thanks to gutty performances like Dara's, the sport is the better for it.

"U.S. swimming needs something like this—to have a young, up-and-coming swimmer beat a champion," commented Sterkel. "It's good for the sport. I don't want a repeat of Montreal."

100 Free

100 1 100		
AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD		
Jill Sterkel, Texas (3-20-82)		48.61
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-8-81)		
Jill Sterkel, Longhorn	23.3	49.24
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-13-81)		
Jill Sterkel, Industry Hills		
1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982)		
Jill Sterkel, 20, Longhorn	23.38	48.94
Heather Strang, 15, Startit	24.15	49.72
Annie Lett, 20, Bartow	24.31	49.87
Dara Torres, 14, Tandem	23.84	49.96
Beth Washut, 17, Ashtabula YMCA	24.27	50.02
Cynthia Woodhead, 18, Mission Viejo	24.30	50.12
Betsy Lind, 18, Princeton	24.54	50.58
Karin Seick, FRG	24.47	50.70

Iill Sterkel is America's finest female sprinter.

There's nothing too earth-shattering about that. She's been winning AAU/USS national titles since 1976.

That's an especially long time to remain on top.

Her last year was probably her most impressive. She won five-of-five events at her AIAW collegiate championships, four-of-four at the USS Indoors, three-of-three at the World University Games and two-of-four at the USS Outdoors.

And 1982 doesn't seem to be any different.



Sterkel's Longhorn eyes were smiling as she took the 100 free and fly.

After going five-for-five again at AIAWs (for a career mark of 14-for-15), Jill got off to another fast start, so to speak, on the meet's opening night by winning the 100 free in 48.94. She was nearly a second ahead of her nearest challenger, Heather Strang, 15, of Starlit, who touched in 49.72. That's not to say Strang's time wasn't fast. She became the eighth fastest all-time performer with her swim.

It's just that Sterkel is so far ahead of everyone in an event where the start, turns and finish are so critical.

"I've been to so many Nationals," Sterkel reflected afterwards. "It's hard to always get psyched up. But it's easier, though, at Nationals when you're able to compete against the best.

"I had competition at the AIAWs, but it wasn't as deep as it is here."

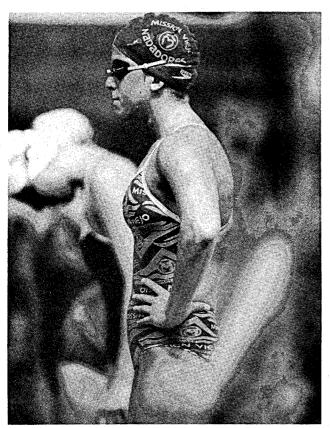
At the AIAWs, Sterkel broke her own American record in the 100 free by a tenth of a second with a 48.61.

Because of the conflict between the AIAW and NCAA, however, Jill was unable to compete with many of the other premier sprinters, whose schools opted to go to NCAAs. She was asked, therefore, if she felt she had anything to prove at Nationals or if she felt any pressure in winning the 100.

"Not really. These swimmers are fun to compete with. Concerning the NCAA-AIAW mix-up, I felt everybody got short-changed since all the top people couldn't compete with each other. It was just out of our control."

Concerning the race itself, Sterkel had hoped to do her best time, but felt she missed it because she was too anxious.

"It felt OK," she said, "but I was a little short on my arm stroke. It made my legs work too much. Consequently, I had a little trouble at the end of the race



Not standing alone, Sippy won the 200 with help from her friends.

which I don't normally have. I should have followed through with my arm stroke and not have been so anxious to get in and immediately pick up speed. I guess I wanted to get in and out too fast."

But even with a few slight "mechanical" problems, Sterkel remained the class of the field. As one would expect, however, from those who are on top, Sterkel added, "The main thing is always trying to do your best."

200 Free

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
Cynthia Woodhead, Riverside (4-12-79)	24.61	50.58	1:17.39	1:44.10
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPIO	N (Cambridge	e, 4-9-81)		
Jill Sterkel, Longhorn	25.4	52.5	1:19.1	1.46.13
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION	l (Brown Deei	r, 8-14-81)		
Marybeth Linzmeier, Mission Viejo				
1982 FINALISTS (April 8, 1982)				
Cynthia Woodhead, 18, Mission Viejo	24.81	51.34	1:18.12	1:45.46
Jill Sterkel, 20, Longhorn	24.50	51.51	1.18.42	1:45.93
Sara Linke, 18, Walnut Creek	25.90	53.03	1:20.24	1:46.77
Tiffany Cohen, 15, Mission Viejo	25.95	53.30	1:21.05	1:48.14
Annie Lett, 20, Bartow	25.32	52.39	1:20.11	1:48.29
Jutta Kalweit, FRG	25.42	52.76	1:20.94	1:48.83
Marybeth Linzmeier, 18, Mission Viejo	25.62	53.25	1:21.58	1:49.83
Mary Wayte, 17, Chinook				DQ

The Bible teaches us that we are to rejoice in our sufferings and tribulations. We do so because it produces patience and perseverance, which produces character, and in turn, leads to hope.

Sippy Woodhead has had her share of "tribulations" in 1981. In a nutshell, she wasn't winning any more.

After three straight years of going to Nationals and taking home two, sometimes three, gold medals at one

meet, the well suddenly became very dry.

She was in a transition period, having moved away from home and having changed high schools. She was swimming with a new club for a different coach with a different training program.

Even as recently as last November, Sippy had a stress fracture in her leg and was out of training for five weeks.

But the 18-year-old Mission Viejo swimmer has been patient. She's learned more about herself. And after the women's 200 free on the second night of Nationals, Sippy's hope of returning to the top became reality.

With a 1:45.46 win over her close friend and last year's champion, Jill Sterkel of Longhorn (1:45.93), Sippy issued the call that she is back . . . and everyone seemed happy for her.

"My friends helped me a lot," Woodhead shared after the race. "God's always there, too, and that means a lot to me.

"Last year was a real learning experience, and my friends really helped me be who I am. I really got depressed, but they were always there when things weren't going so good for me. It meant a lot to me to win tonight."

After qualifying first by 1½ seconds ahead of her nearest challenger in the morning, Sippy knew she had to be ready for a good race in the evening.

Unfortunately, the No. 2 qualifier, Mary Wayte of Chinook, false-started twice and was disqualified.

"When she jumped the second time," Woodhead said, "I got the idea that somebody would take the pace out pretty fast, so I was ready."

Sterkel was the one to set the pace, touching first after 50 yards.

"Sometimes you can play the field and sometimes you can swim for time," Woodhead said. "Since Jill took it out fast, I had to keep pace with her."

By 100 yards, Woodhead took the lead and increased it ever-so-slightly until the finish where she won by a half-second.

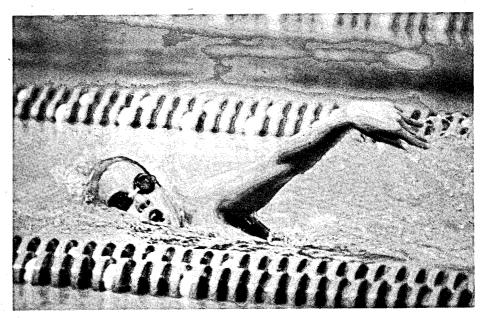
Woodhead admitted she had to change her attitude a lot during the last year. Her last USS national title came at Irvine during the summer of 1980 where she won the 100 and 200 free. But even before that at the USS Indoors, Sippy went home empty-handed for the first time in five Nationals. Then in 1981, she tried her hand in seven events and was 0-for-7.

"It was real hard to win all the time and then all of a sudden, not win. It makes you appreciate winning more."

Perhaps the turning point for Sippy came last year in Kiev where she won the 200 free, just tenths off her world record, and the 200 IM in a dual meet with the Russians

"To go third at Nationals and come back with a week's rest to win and come close to my world record really helped," she admitted. But with the tribulations, the patience, the character and the hope, the thing that really helped her through were her friends.

"They were there when I was losing and they were there tonight when I won." ▶



Tiffany Cohen (right) made short work of the long hauls, winning all three distance freestyle events—the 500, 1000 and 1650.

500 Free

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD 53.55 1:49.74 2:45.63 3:41.49 4:36.25 Tracy Caulkins, Nashville (4-11-79 Tracy Caulkins, Nashville (4-11-79) 53.55 149.74 2.43.6 DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-10-81) Kim Linehan, Longhorn 53.6 1:49.9 2:46.7 3:43.4 4:38.80 DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-15-81) Tiffany Cohen, Mission Viejo (400 M. Free) 1982 FINALISTS (April 9, 1982) 54.97 1:51.93 2:48.50 3:44.71 4:39.97 Tiffany Cohen, 15, Mission Viejo Marybeth Linzmeier, 18, Mission Viejo 54.82 1:51.92 2:48.62 3:45.11 4:40.18 55.48 1:52.75 2:49.26 3:45.80 4:40.33 Cynthia Woodhead, 18, Mission Viejo 55.27 1:52.43 2:49.34 3:45.91 4:42.56 Sara Linke, 18, Walnut Creek Mary Wayte, 17, Chinook 55.08 1:52.90 2:50.65 3:48.22 4:43.60 Kim Linehan, 19, Longhorn 55.53 1:52.83 2:49.83 3:47.24 4:43.99 54.92 1:52.10 2:49.82 3:47.44 4:44.88 Nancy Nemet, 18, CPM 55.24 1:52.78 2:50.62 3:48.62 4:46.48 Laura Campuzano, 17, IHAC

The sport of swimming really is a science, and Mission Viejo's Tiffany Cohen, at just 15 years old, is one of its better students.

With each Nationals, Cohen is gaining more experience, and most important, more confidence.

Contributing to that confidence was a win in the 500 free, 4:39.97, over Mission Viejo teammates Marybeth Linzmeier, 4:40.18, and Cynthia Woodhead, 4:40.33. It was her second freestyle win of the meet en route to a 500-1000-1650 triple triumph.

The 500 free was also a classic lesson in race strategy. And Cohen showed she deserved an A + for her efforts.

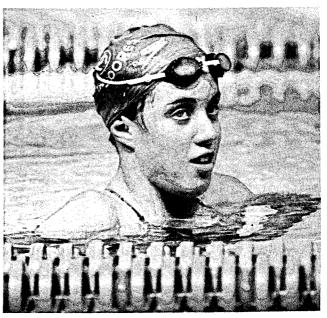
The race was basically between three swimmers—Cohen, Linzmeier and Woodhead. They're all from the same school (so to speak), Mission Viejo, and they all have the same professor, Coach Mark Schubert.

They're three swimmers with different strengths and weaknesses, yet all three adhered to the basic game plan of swimming descending 100s.

"In workouts, we all practice descending sets," Cohen said. "It really helps a lot to have you go faster at the end of the race. And when you swim together a lot, you get to know how each other swims."

Knowing how Linzmeier and Woodhead usually swim the 500 helped Cohen in her ultimate victory.

For example: "I knew I had to be a little bit ahead of Sippy near the end because she really comes home strong." analyzed Cohen.



And Coach Schubert remarked, "Sippy and Marybeth took it out a bit too slow and let Tiffany get too far ahead."

By 100s, this is how the three split the race:

Cohen	Linzmeier	Woodhead	Leader
54.97	54.82	55.48	Linzmeier
56.96	57.10	57.27	Linzmeier
56.57	56.70	56.51	Cohen
57.21	56.49	56.54	Cohen
55.26	55.07	54.53	Cohen

As one can see from the splits, Linzmeier and especially Woodhead brought it home faster than Cohen. From the post-race comments, it was expected. And one can see that swimming really is a science when listening to Cohen: "It might have cost me the race if I went out slower and came home faster. And the other two might have gone out faster but not have been able to bring it home as well."

Race strategy really comes down to just that -knowing the best way to swim for vourself.

And Coach Mark Schubert, who was naturally pleased with the 1-2-3 Mission Viejo outcome, realized Cohen had been a good student. "The girl who swam her race most properly was the girl who won."

1000 Free

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-8-81) 55.07 1:52.19 2:49.33 3:46.64 4:44.35 5:41.94 6:39.62 7:37.40 8:34.38 9:29.97 Kim Linehan, Longhorn DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-13-81) Marybeth Linzmeier, Mission Viejo (800 M. Free) 1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982) 55.80 1:54.06 2:52.08 3:49.92 4:47.55 Tiffany Cohen, 15, Mission Viejo 5:44.45 6:41.56 7:39.17 8:37.24 9:34.61 56.04 1:54.48 2:52.63 3:50.77 4:48.93 Kim Linehan, 19, Longhorn 5:47.01 6:44.74 7:42.62 8:40.43 9:36.62 56.05 1:53.70 2:51.67 3:49.36 4:46.91 Sherri Hanna, 19. Starlit 5:44.47 6:42.54 7:40.78 8:39.21 9:36.79 9:42.69 Marybeth Linzmeier, 18, Mission Viejo 9:42.73 Karin LaBerge, 18, Germantown 9:43.60 Laura Campuzano, 17, IHAC Nancy Nemet, 18, CPM 9.44 64 Jenni Johnston, 17, CPM

A year ago at the USS Short Course Nationals in Cambridge, Mass., Mission Viejo's Tiffany Cohen, only 14 at the time, was tabbed as the girl to watch in the future.

The future is a year later, and swimming fans like what they see.

Now, all of 15 years old, Cohen is no longer the challenger. Starting with her 400 meter freestyle victory at last summer's Long Course Nationals in Brown Deer, Wis., Tiffany added a second national title to her credit with a win in the meet's opening event, the 1000 yard freestyle.

And she won the race like a champion, although the 9:34.61 winning time was slower than she had hoped.

"I thought a lot of girls would be under 30 (the American record is 9:29.97)," Cohen said. "It was a slow time for me tonight considering I went that time in January." A year ago, Cohen finished fifth in the 1000 free at 9:39.17.

But tactically speaking, she swam a smart race, coming from behind at 600 yards to overtake the early leader and eventual third-place finisher, Sherri Hanna, 19, of Starlit.

"I like to build the first 200 of my race," Cohen analyzed. "I also break the race up into two 500s where the last 500 should be faster than the first."

Tiffany split nearly identical 500s-4:47.55 for the first and 4:47.06 coming home. And by swimming her race, she never panicked or felt out of control even though trailing Hanna by as much as a body length for over half the race.

"I expected Hanna to go out fast early," Cohen said. "I've raced with her a lot, and she also trained with me last summer at Mission. For the first part of the race, I was feeling pretty easy."

Perhaps it was too easy, as Cohen admitted that if she went out a bit quicker, she might have brought it home even faster.

But the somewhat slower pace didn't hurt American record holder and runner-up Kim Linehan, 19, of Longhorn Aquatics. Her coach, Paul Bergen, said, "The slow pace at first actually helped Kim. She lost it in the middle of the race when she let Tiffany get out too far ahead of her."

Coming off her AIAW collegiate championships a couple of weeks earlier, Kim saved a lot of energy for a strong finish. She trailed Cohen and Hanna nearly the entire race. She was nearly two body lengths behind Hanna in the middle of the race, but she finally pulled even at the last turn and outtouched Sherri at the finish, about a body length behind Cohen.

"I know those girls can go faster," Cohen said after-

wards. "And I know I can go faster."

Did she have a specific time goal? "Yes."

After a little thought, she added, "I'll just say I wanted to go faster than I did."

But for the time being, she was happy with the win. "That helps give me a lot of confidence for when I race in July at the World Championship Trials."

1650 Free

1000 FIEE				
AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
Kim Linehan, Sarasota (4-14-79)	54.66	1:51.96	2:49.66	3:47.55
Killi Ellichari, Garasota (* * * * * *)	4:45.27	5:43.22	6:41.36	7:39.37
•	8:37.00	9:34.77	10:32.46	11:30.28
	12:28.11	13:25.67	14:23.17	15:20.94
	12.20.	10120101		15:49.10
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPIO	N (Cambrid	ge. 4 11-81	n '	
Kim Linehan, Longhorn	55.4	1:53.4	2:51.2	3:49.0
Killi Elilellali, Longiloli	4:46.9	5:44.9	6:43.1	7:41.5
	8:39.3	9:37.0	10:34.3	11:32.0
	12:29.6	13:27.4	14:25.3	15:22.5
	12.20.0	10.27.7		15:50.23
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION	l (Brown De	er 8-16-81	1	
Marybeth Linzmeier, Mission Viejo (1500	M Free	, • •		
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)	111. 1 100,			
Tiffany Cohen, 15, Mission Viejo	56.39	1:54.55	2:52.78	3:51.09
Imany Conen, 15, Mission Viejo	4:49.71	5:47.99	6:46.31	7:44.59
	8:43.17	9:41.58	10:40.18	11:38.71
	12:36.73	13:34.93	14:33.12	15:30.62
	12.00.70	10.0 7.00		15:58.52
Marina	56.40	1:54.77	2:52.92	3:51.29
Nancy Nemet, 18, Cinci. Pepsi Marlins	4:49.72	5:48.07	6:46.33	7:44.66
	8:43.25	9:41.55	10:40.08	11:38.71
	12:36.92	13:35.01	14:33.20	15:31.16
	12.30.92	13.33.01	14.00.20	15:59.44
Observation and Charlist	56.69	1:55.29	2:53.67	3:51.95
Sherri Hanna, 19, Starlit	4:50.32	5:48.59	6:47.22	7:45.75
	8:44.19	9:43.26	10:42.09	11:40.86
	12:39.75	13:38.69	14:37.60	15:37.09
	12.33.73	13.30.03	14.07.00	16:06.33
40 Commentered				16:07.81
Karin LaBerge, 18, Germantown				16:11.39
Susan Andra, 16, Wichita				16.11.39
Laura Campuzano, 17, Industry Hills				16:14.52
Michelle Richardson, 12, Memphis St.				16:17.72
Virginia Diederich, 17, Dynamo				10.17.72

The United States has been blessed with exceptional freestyle talent.

From Debbie Meyer and Shirley Babashoff to Cynthia Woodhead and Kim Linehan, U.S. swimming fans have been treated to many memorable moments.

And as the 1982 version of U.S. Swimming's Short Course Nationals were coming to a close, 15-year-old Tiffany Cohen of Mission Viejo was strengthening her claim as the next U.S. distance freestyle standout.

By winning the 1650 free in 15:58.52 in an exciting stroke-for-stroke race with Nancy Nemet, 18, of the Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins (15:59.44), Cohen had completed a triple sweep of the 500-1000-1650 freestyles.

Cohen's "hat trick" marked the sixth straight Nationals that someone has won at least three freestyle events. Mainly, it's been the Longhorn's Linehan, 19, who has won either the 500-1000-1650 (short course) or ▶ 400-800-1500 (long course). She's done it three times—once in 1981 (short course) and twice in 1980.

Last summer, Mission's Marybeth Linzmeier tripled in the 200-800-1500 freestyles. And back in 1979 at Fort Lauderdale, Woodhead captured the 100, 200 and 400.

Linehan has pretty much dominated the distance freestyles since 1978. The main thing that prevented her from winning three freestyle races back in 1978 and 1979 was that either the 800 or 1500 wasn't contested. The 1000 yard free was first held at last year's Indoors.

But this year, Linehan, who just completed her AIAW collegiate championship a few weeks earlier, failed to make top eight in the 1650. Uncharacteristically, Linehan placed sixth in the 500 and ninth in the 1650. She did well, however, in the 1000 with a second-place finish.

So the spotlight in 1982 was re-focused on Tiffany Cohen, who, with three wins at Gainesville, now has four career national titles.

And characteristically, Cohen is realistic about the new-found fame.

"There's a lot of freestylers," Cohen said. "And it always changes (as to who's on top).

"Personally, I feel a lot more comfortable. I have a lot more experience now, and you can learn something after every race and get more experience with each race."

Besides learning about her own race tactics, Cohen admits she learns a lot about other swimmers as well. And one thing she realized after the 1650 is that Nancy Nemet is quite a competitor herself.

The two girls brought the crowd to its feet by keeping pace with each other for nearly the entire race. It wasn't until the final 50 to 100 yards that Cohen gradually started pulling away to win by a body length.

Nemet's strategy was simple: "I kept telling myself, 'Keep up, keep up, keep up.' I just wanted to keep up with the field."

Keeping up with the field meant keeping up with Cohen, Linehan and Sherri Hanna, 19, of Starlit for the first 500-or-so yards. At that point, Linehan started to fade. Two hundred yards later, it was developing into a two-girl race, Cohen vs. Nemet.

"The race felt great," commented Nemet. "I didn't hurt at all. At 400, I felt my concentration breaking, but I quickly got back in it. During the race, I think about how I feel and concentrate on riding high in the water and just gutting it out."

Cohen, on the other hand, felt tired because it had been "a long meet" for her. "If she (Nemet) weren't there, it might have been different. I didn't expect her to be that close. I was conscious of her as soon as I pulled away from Kim (Linehan).

"The last 300, my coach had communicated to me to sprint and leave her," Cohen added, "but about the last 100 is when I picked it up. I noticed my team cheering at the side of the pool, and that really helped."

Apparently, swimming together helped both Cohen and Nemet. Although Cohen doesn't really prefer swimming next to someone in a race like the 1650, she said, "When I feel really good, it helps (to have someone swim alongside you) because it helps push you."

Nemet couldn't have agreed more. She was asked how she felt after the race. "I wanted to thank her for pushing me."

100 Back

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD		
Sue Walsh, Univ. of North Carolina (3-19-82)	25.89	54.81
1981 SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-11-81)		
Sue Walsh, North Carolina	26.4	55.51
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-16-81)		
Theresa Andrews, No. Baltimore		
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)		
Debbie Risen, 16, KC Blazers	26.64	55.49
Beverley Rose, 18, Houston	26.92	56.44
Theresa Andrews, 19, No. Baltimore	26.78	56.57
Libby Kinkead, 17, West Chester	27.04	56.70
Sandy McIntyre, 19, Dynamo	27.63	56.75
Kim Carlisle, 21, Cinci. Pepsi Marlins	27.00	56.79
Patty Gavin, 17, West Chester	27.30	56.80
Tori Trees, 16, Lakeside	27.48	57.61

Sixteen-year-old Debbie Risen of the K.C. Blazers accurately analyzed the situation and took advantage of it.

"Sue Walsh (the 100 back American record holder) isn't here and some of the college kids are swimming tired at this meet," she said. "So I thought the 100 back was open to anybody."

Although it may have been "anybody's race," Risen was the one who took charge and made sure that she

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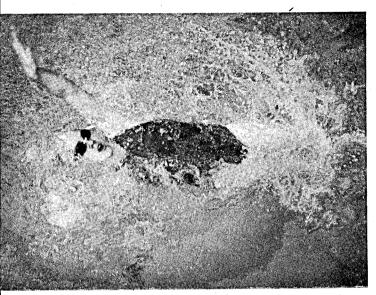
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Finally taking a back seat to no one, K.C. Blazers' Risen won the 100.

was that "somebody." After taking the lead from the start and splitting 26.64 at the 50, Debbie was the only girl to break 56 seconds, clocking 55.49 and winning by a full second over Houston's Beverley Rose, 18, at 56.44.

Risen also became the fourth fastest all-time performer in the women's 100 back, trailing only Walsh, Linda Jezek and Theresa Andrews.

"I thought Theresa Andrews would be faster," Risen said. "She's a very good sprinter, and she won the 100 back at Milwaukee."

Risen was referring to the Outdoor Nationals last summer in which Andrews clocked a time that ranked her No. 1 in the United States and fourth in the world.

But Andrews, who had recently competed in the NCAA women's collegiate championships and whose Florida team won the overall title, finished third in 56.57.

Although just 16, Risen has been close to winning her first USS Nationals title before. Oddly enough, though, her greater success has been in the 200 back. In only her second Nationals, Risen finished second a year ago to Tracy Caulkins in the 200 back at Harvard. Later that summer, she finished second again in the 200 back, this time to Libby Kinkead.

Her best performances at a Nationals in the 100 back had been two fourth-place finishes at both the short course and long course meets last year.

But with the help of positive visualization, Debbie combined her mental toughness with her physical abilities to capture the win.

"I remembered how I did in Paris and thought of that race," Risen said, referring to this year's Meeting Arena, Feb. 5-7, at Paris, France. At that meet, Debbie won the race, beating the Russian, Larissa Gortschakova, who was ranked seventh in the world last year in the 100 back. A year ago, Risen was ranked ninth.

"I just wanted to do like I did in Paris."

She did. And her start and turns helped her turn the trick.

"I wanted to get out on the start," she said, "because I have good reactions. I also drive into the walls from the flags, so my turns are usually good.

"My coach (Pete Malone) said I swam the best I've ever swum."

200 Back

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAM	PION (Cam	hridae. 4-	8-81)	
		D11090, .		4 00
Tracy Caulkins, Nashville	27.95	57.49	1:26.88	1:57.02
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Dee	r, 8-13-81)		
Libby Kinkead, West Chester				
1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982)				
Tracy Caulkins, 19, Nashville	27.28	56.96	1:26.90	1:57.77
Patty Gavin, 17, West Chester	27.64	57.45	1:27.59	1:58.91
Mary Wayte, 17, Chinook	28.35	58.50	1:28.94	1:59.79
Debbie Risen, 16, K.C. Blazers	27.76	57.80	1:29.03	2:01.35
Libby Kinkead, 17, West Chester	27.96	58.15	1:29.07	2:01.41
Shelly Carruth, 17, FAST	28.55	59.16	1:30.45	2:02.33
Kim Carlisle, 21, CPM	27.94	58.61	1:30.13	2:02.61
			1:30.94	2:03.15
Darci Bodner, 17, FLST	28.19	59.14	1.50.94	2.03.13

No. 36.

The 200 back was the event that enabled Tracy Caulkins to tie Johnny Weissmuller as the winningest amateur swimmer in history.

It was her 36th AAU/USS national title, and it was a special event for those who were able to share the moment with her on opening night of the 1982 USS Short Course Nationals

She clocked a 1:57.77 for the win, about seven-tenths shy of her American record. Patty Gavin, 17, of West Chester gave her a good race, finishing second at 1:58.91, becoming the third fastest performer of all-time. Only Linda Jezek (who's retired) and Tracy have gone faster.

"I was pretty nervous tonight," Caulkins admitted. She had only started swimming backstroke at major events in 1981. A year ago at Cambridge, Mass., was the first time she had swum the 200 back at a USS Nationals—and she promptly broke the American record, winning by nearly three seconds.

But this year's field seemed more competitive and provided more reason for nervousness.

"I knew those girls would swim well," Caulkins, who qualified third in the prelims, said. "By the way they

swam this morning, I knew they would be ready.

"Also, I haven't been swimming much backstroke this year in college, so I was nervous. I knew I had to be

ready too."

Nervous or not, Tracy was ready and led through

Nervous or not, Tracy was ready and led through out—by a half-second at the 100 and a full second at the finish.

The media's attention was focused on title No. 36. Tracy's attention, however, was focused on winning one title at a time.

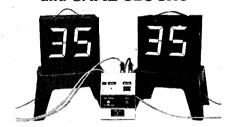
"I understand what I did tonight is a milestone in swimming," Caulkins admitted. "Since I was close to Weissmuller's record, people have taken notice this last year. But it was never a goal of mine to break his record. I just always wanted to be one of the best.

"I always look at doing the best I can in each individual event. I don't really look at 36 or 37 titles. I just try to improve.

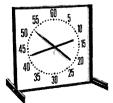


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USS NATIONALS continued

Caulkins, nevertheless, was happy with her accomplishment, although she said everything really wouldn't sink in until after she retires from the sport.

"This is just quite an honor," she said. "Johnny Weissmuller did so much for the sport of swimming. Hopefully, I can do as much."

100 Breast

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD		
AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-11	l-81)	
Tracy Caulkins, Nashville	28.84	1:01.13
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-16-81)		
Tracy Caulkins, Nashville		
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)		
Tracy Caulkins, 19, Nashville	29.64	1:02.41
Kim Rhodenbaugh, 16, CPM	29.79	1:03.12
Kathy Treible, 19, Florida	30.01	1:03.15
Shannon Orcutt, 15, Mission Viejo	30.06	1:03.21
Jacqueline Komrij, 17, Petaluma	30.34	1:03.24
Beverly Acker, 16, Cape Coast	30.27	1:03.38
Angelika Knipping, FRG	30.16	1:03.62
Kathy Smith, Bellevue Eastside	30.13	1:04.03

There's no secret to Tracy Caulkins' success.

"You have to be mentally tough and be able to overcome obstacles," she said following her fourth win of the meet and 39th of her career.

Obstacles . . . like leaky goggles.

That's what happened to Tracy in the 100 yard breast, but she was still able to lead all the way and win in 1:02.41 over 200 breast winner Kim Rhodenbaugh of the Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins at 1:03.12.

"The left eye of my goggles started leaking after the start," Tracy revealed. She used her hands to be more descriptive: "It started flapping back and forth."

"After my first turn, I had to adjust it. I couldn't see out of my left eye very well."

Well, even with one eye, Caulkins is still the class of America's breaststrokers. And the 100 breast has always played a significant role for Caulkins at the U.S. Senior Nationals. It was that event in which she first competed at the senior championship in 1975. On Aug. 20th of that year, she finished 32nd!

After placing 25th and 10th in the 100 breast in 1976, Caulkins eventually won her first AAU Nationals title in the 100 breast at the Indoor Championships at Canton, Ohio, on April 6, 1977. She set an American record in the prelims at that meet and bettered her mark in the finals.

Since then, Tracy's accomplishments have been duly recorded in the swimming record book. The 100 breast has been a favorite of hers, having won the event nine times and the last five in a row.

"It makes me feel good when people say I really enjoyed your swimming," Tracy shared at meet's end. "I'm just glad I'm able to contribute to the sport. I'm just out there having fun and doing the best I can. I'm very fortunate."

People have always admired Tracy's accomplishments and have often wondered what it is that makes her excel in her sport.

"I guess I have natural talent—" she admitted, "that, along with hard work, a good program, support from my family and others. Without them, I wouldn't be here today. I credit them a lot."

And Tracy has combined those ingredients and has

put them together well—even overcoming obstacles like the leaky goggles.

That didn't upset my stroke at all," she said, "except for the one time when I used my hand to move my goggles. I probably could've gone faster . . . I should've been thinking about my race instead of my goggles!"

With short course season officially over, though, Tracy can concentrate on the upcoming World Championship Trials. And she'll be concentrating on the qualities that continually make her a champion—working hard, doing her best and always trying to improve.

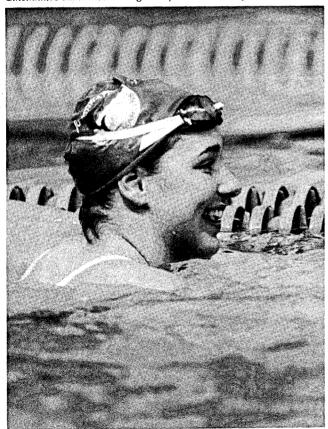
"I think I have a lot of work to do. The East Germans are going to be ready at the World Championships. Everyone is. I know I'll really have to work hard.

"I'm really pleased with this season, and I'm looking forward to long course season."

200 Breast

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD Tracy Caulkins, Nashville (1-13-80) DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION	l (Cambrido	ie, 4-8-81)		2:11.46
Kim Rhodenbaugh, Cinci. Pepsi Marlins	31.0	1:04.9	1:39.5	2:14.55
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION	(Brown Dec	er, 8-13-81)		
Tracy Caulkins, Nashville				
1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982)				
Kim Rhodenbaugh, 16, CPM	30.47	1:04.14	1:38.84	2:14.17
Susan Rapp, 16, Starlit	30.80	1:05.09	1:39.68	2:14.59
Polly Winde, 17, Germantown	30.79	1:04.92	1:39.91	2:14.70
Michelle Merchant, 18, CPM	31.72	1:06.45	1:41.90	2:17.78
Margaret Brown, 15, Riviera	31.69	1:06.75	1:41.92	2:17.98
Lisa Geiger, 17, Germantown	31.68	1:06.75	1:42.59	2:18.22
Jackie Heeney, 17, SCSC	31.48	1:06.13	1:42.28	2:18.81
Beth Cuddeback, 20, Georgia	32.28	1:08.24	1:45.05	DQ

Cincinnati's Kim Rhodenbaugh is 2-for-2 in the 200 yard breaststroke.



The 16-year-old Cincinnati Pepsi Marlin breaststroke champion is taking one step at a time.

Kim Rhodenbaugh won her first USS national title a year ago at Harvard, and on the meet's opening night, she successfully defended her short course victory with a 2:14.17 win over two frantic challengers, Susan Rapp, 16, of Starlit (2:14.59) and Polly Winde, 17, of Germantown Academy (2:14.70).

About a month earlier, Rhodenbaugh had set a national high school record in the 100 yard breast at her Ohio state championships.

Things seem to be falling in place right now for Kim, and it was evident in her 200 breast race.

Leading the entire way, she stubbornly held off strong challenges by Rapp and Winde.

"I felt in control," Rhodenbaugh said. "My timing was there, and I was really psyched up for it."

Swimming in lane 5, Rhodenbaugh sensed Winde in lane 4 and Rapp in lane 3 gaining on her after nearly a full-second lead at the 100. But she didn't panic and emphasized she felt in control.

"My race felt a lot smoother than it usually feels," she said. "I usually feel tight coming home, but tonight I felt strong

"Before, I used to really rush my stroke, but this time I stretched it out, and I felt more confident bringing it home."

As it turned out, she was never caught. She split 1:10.03 for her second 100 yards, while Rapp returned in 1:09.50 and Winde in 1:09.78.

"I really wanted to win the title again like I did last year," Rhodenbaugh said. "And I wanted to improve my time. I improved it by four-tenths, but I also wanted to break 14.

"Perhaps if I had come back in a 1:09, I would've done it."

Rhodenbaugh's next logical step is a good performance at the U.S. World Championship Trials.

"I've been thinking about it," she admitted, "and I hope to make the team.

"I'm aware that Tracy Caulkins and Jeanne Childs (the No. 1 and No. 2 American 200 breaststrokers last year; Rhodenbaugh was third) dropped out of the event here, but they'll be ready for the World Championship Trials. But I'll be there too. I just want to take one thing at a time.

"And winning here is a step forward."

100 Fly

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD		
AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-1	1-81)	
Jill Sterkel, Longhorn	24.78	52.99
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-16-81)		
Mary T. Meagher, Lakeside		
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)		
Jill Sterkel, 20, Longhorn	24.74	53.20
Mary T. Meagher, 17, Lakeside	25.34	53.22
Laurie Lehner, 24, Florida St.	25.17	53.46
Melanie Buddemeyer, 15, JCCS	24.97	53.70
Karin Seick, FRG	25.79	54.27
Patty King, 17, Nashville	25.56	54.80
Carolyn Goodley, 18, West Chester	26.18	55.19
Karin Werth, 15, Longhorn	26.51	56.43

When you mention women's butterfly, one automatically thinks of Mary T. Meagher. ▶



Sometimes when you only win by five seconds, you have to explain why—Mary T. just started lifting weights two weeks before Nationals.

But when it comes to the 100 butterfly during short course season, Jill Sterkel is making people think twice.

For two straight years, Sterkel has beaten the long course world record holder in the 100 fly—by a total of three-hundredths of a second.

Last year at Harvard, Jill edged Mary T. by a hundredth. This year at Gainesville, she doubled her margin of victory.

The 20-year-old Longhorn Aquatics star still holds the American record of 52.99 from last year. This time around, Sterkel clocked 53.20 for the win, ahead of Meagher's 53.22. Only two other swimmers were able to crack 54 seconds—Laurie Lehner of Florida State at 53.46 and last year's "Rookie of the Meet," Melanie Buddemeyer of the Jewish Community Center Sailfish at 53.70.

"I thought I could break 53 tonight," Sterkel said afterwards, "but I guess it just wasn't to be. After this morning's swim (she qualified first in 53.23), I felt really good."

In the evening, she took command of the race. It was the day after she had lost the 50 free for the first time ever to another American, but Sterkel, like the champion she is, quickly put that event behind her and concentrated on the fly.

"Tonight, I thought I had a good start. I was waiting for the gun. In the 50 free, I think I got nailed on the start. I did something in that race which I shouldn't have done—I was expecting a false start. You can't get caught like that."

Sterkel was in lane 4 and Meagher, who had qualified a surprising fourth (53.82), was in lane 6. It was a close race, especially in lanes 3-4-5-6—the swimmers who eventually placed first through fourth. But after a good start, Sterkel maintained her advantage on the turns.

"My turns were good," she said. "I hit the walls really

well. But at the end of the race, my shoulders started tightening up. I kept getting that way all week.

"I could sense two people on the sides of me, but I really couldn't tell I had won. On the last lap, I knew Mary T. would be coming on."

But Lakeside's Mary T. Meagher, who won the 200 fly handily and whose 100 meter fly was 3½ seconds faster than Sterkel's last year, couldn't catch her. So, for the second year in a row, Sterkel owned the 100 yard fly. In fact, Jill has won the short course event that last three times it's been held—1979, 1981 and 1982. The Indoor Championships in 1980 were swum long course, and Meagher captured that title.

Since the 1979 short course season, then, Meagher still holds a slight lead over Sterkel in the 100 fly, 4-3, with Meagher taking all the long course swims and Sterkel all the short course performances.

But Jill keeps things in perspective, not focusing on streaks or statistics.

"I just thought before the race, I'm going to go as fast as I can," Jill said. "If I don't get in the top three, I'll still try to do my best and be satisfied with that."

And when someone has been to 17 straight Nationals, it's easy to keep things in perspective.

Sterkel first competed at an AAU Senior Nationals in 1974 when she was just 12 years old. Since then, she's won 15 national titles, and she can remember how it was back when.

"When you're in high school, this is it. When I was in high school, I'd count down the number of days left till Nationals and pack a week early. That's your whole season.

"The college kids come more to help out U.S. swimming. We have a lot of tough little kids putting it on the line combined with people who are still staying around. That's good for U.S. swimming."

200 Flv

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-8-81) 1:23.37 Mary T. Meagher, Lakeside 54.43 1:52.99 DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-13-81) Mary T. Meagher, Lakeside 1982 FINALISTS (April 7, 1982) 26.15 55.36 1-24 58 1:53.37 Mary T. Meagher, 17, Lakeside 1:27.89 1:58.51 Patty King, 17, Nashville Terrianne McGuirk, 16, Germantown 27.36 57,35 1:58.63 27.64 Sara Linke, 18, Walnut Creek 27.94 58.13 1:28.38 1:58.87 1:59.16 Kara McGrath, 17, Lakeside 27.12 57 17 1:28.11 58.82 1:29.64 28.16 Holly Green, 18, FAST Melanie Buddemeyer, 15, JCCS 1:28.77 2:00.91 Laura Thomas, 17, Fair Oaks 58.94 1:30.15 2:01.48

It's hard to imagine Mary T. Meagher nervous before her races. But she admits she is.

She also admitted that you still have to be mentally tough and prepared for your races. If not, you'll achieve less than what you are able to accomplish.

It was good advice from the Lakeside Swim Club 17 year old who hasn't lost a 200 fly race since the 1978 Long Course Championships some 3½ years ago.

And her comments made it easier to understand why she would be a little disappointed after clocking a 1:53.37 for her 11th AAU/USS national title, just fourtenths off her American record.

"I wasn't completely ready tonight," she said, "and consequently, it wasn't my best time.

"I felt great in warm-ups. And I put in more work than I did before last year's Nationals, but it just wasn't there."

In closer examination, Meagher was referring more to the first half of her race where she split 55.36 for the first 100 yards. When she swam her American record a year ago at Harvard, she was out nearly a second faster in 54.43.

Coming home, Meagher swam a 58.01 (compared to a 58.56 for her American record) to win be nearly five seconds over a tight grouping of three swimmers—Patty King, 17, of Nashville (1:58.51), Terrianne McGuirk, 16, of Germantown Academy (1:58.63) and Sara Linke, 18, Walnut Creek (1:58.87).

King improved from her fifth-place showing a year ago (1:59.46) and McGuirk finished third two years in a row (1:58.82 at Cambridge). It was Linke's first time in the top 8 at a USS Senior Nationals.

Meagher's nervousness stemmed from what she felt was insufficient preparation for the meet, even though it was more than last year.

"I kept telling myself, 'You don't have the background.' I started double workouts in January for the World Games. And I just started weights two weeks ago.

"I've done a lot of traveling this year, and I didn't completely taper for this meet as I should have."

It wasn't so much making excuses as it was a logical explanation for someone who so dominates her stroke. "I go for times," she said. And for this meet, the time she wanted wasn't there.

Asked to evaluate her own race, Meagher first looked on the bright side. "I would call it very good. It felt really good."

But with the World Championship Trials coming up, requiring total concentration and preparation, Meagher

added, "I wish I had this race to do over again. I would have taken it out harder. It was just a stupid mistake."

200 Individual Medley

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAN	PION (Cam	bridge, 4-	10-81)	
Tracy Caulkins, Nashville	25.81	55.65	1;29.16	1:57.11
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION	(Brown Dee	r, 8-15-81)		
Tracy Caulkins, Nashville				
1982 FINALISTS (April 9, 1982)				
Tracy Caulkins, 19, Nashville	25.82	55.31	1:30.33	1:58.94
Cynthia Woodhead, 18, Mission Viejo	26.85	57.53	1:32.97	1:59.61
Polly Winde, 17, Germantown	26.87	57.3 7	1:32.24	2:00.38
Patty Gavin, 17, West Chester	26.39	55.90	1:32.49	2:01.52
Karin Werth, 15, Longhorn	26.05	56.92	1:33.51	2:02.20
Lisa McClain, 18, West Chester	26.67	57.39	1:33.96	2:03.18
Monica Nielebeck, 14, Fair Oaks	27.30	58.22	1:35.48	2:04.27
Patty King, 17, Nashville	26.32	57.99	1:35.39	2:04.49

It was like Hank Aaron hitting No. 716.

There was much to-do when Aaron was approaching the great Babe Ruth's career home run record of 714. And when the Atlanta Braves slugger finally hit No. 715 into the left field stands at home off the Los Angeles Dodgers' Al Downing, the media made sure that everyone knew of his accomplishment.

But then, in comparison, his next home run almost went unnoticed.

That's what it seemed like with Nashville's swimming ace, Tracy Caulkins. It will be remembered in swimming history that Caulkins broke Johnny Weissmuller's career record of 36 national titles at the USS Indoor Nationals at Gainesville, Fla.

She won her 36th and 37th titles the first two days of the meet to first tie and then break the record. But on the third day, Caulkins won No. 38, and by meet's end, she would win No. 39... with certainly a lot more good years of swimming ahead of her!

The 200 IM was No. 38. She cruised to a 1:58.94, a little under two seconds off her own American record. She beat Mission Viejo's Sippy Woodhead, who had an impressive swim of 1:59.61. Just a few events earlier, Sippy finished third in the 500 free, yet was able to become only the third girl ever to swim the 200 IM under two minutes. On her final 50 yards of freestyle, she blazed home in 26.64, making up nearly two seconds on Caulkins.

But this race belonged to Tracy all the way. In fact, the 200 IM has belonged to Tracy for 10 straight Nationals.

After 100 yards, Tracy was under her American record splits, but she swam a much slower breaststroke and freestyle to finish well off the pace.

"At the end, I was kinda tired," explained Tracy. "I knew Sippy, though, would be coming on freestyle, so I was ready to pick it up a bit when she came."

As it was, Tracy had just enough to win comfortably. Even though Sippy made up two seconds in the final 50 yards, Tracy's lead never seemed threatened. Going into the freestyle, Caulkins had already opened up a two-second lead on her nearest competitor (Polly Winde of Germantown) and had a 2½-second lead over Woodhead, who was lodged in fourth just behind Patty Gavin of West Chester.

It's interesting to compare Tracy's splits with her own American record and that of Woodhead. The splits for ▶

each 50 yards of butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle are as follows:

Caulkins	Woodhead	American Record
25.82	26.85	25.81
29.49	30.68	29.84
35.02	35.44	33.51
28.61	26.64	27.95

Caulkins, perhaps, didn't go as fast as she could, but she was grateful for Sippy. "Sippy pushing me helped me go faster," she admitted.

And Caulkins was also grateful that the pressure of surpassing Weissmuller's record was finally over.

"I was the most relaxed I've been in the whole meet," she said. "I probably would have done better if I were nervous!"

400 Individual Medley

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Cambridge, 4-9-81) Tracy Caulkins, Nashville 56.5 3:08.0 4.04.63 DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-14-81) Tracy Caulkins, Nashville 1982 FINALISTS (April 8, 1982) Tracy Caulkins, 19, Nashville Polly Winde, 17, Germantown Patty Gavin, 17, West Chester 56.34 1.59.39 3 11 86 4.11 75 58.58 2:04.36 4:13.16 3:15.64 2:02.22 3:17.08 4:16.89 Karin LaBerge, 18, Germantown Petra Zindler, FRG Diane Ursin, 18, Mission Viejo 59.46 2:05.06 3:20.35 3:22.99 4:18.54 4:20.70 2:07.46 59.12 Vera Barker, 16, Mission Viejo Channon Hermstad, 15, Mission Viejo 1:01.03 2:10.39 4:29.30

No. 37.

The inevitable happened the second night of Nationals at Gainesville, Fla., April 8, 1982. It will be remembered in swimming history as the night Tracy Caulkins of Nashville became the winningest amateur athlete in her sport.

She won the 400 IM in a relatively easy (for her) 4:11.75 to break the legendary Johnny Weissmuller's record of 36 national swimming titles.

Amid the bright TV camera lights, tape recorders and reporter's notebooks, Tracy ably fielded all the questions regarding her step into history.

"A lot of pressure is relieved now," Caulkins shared with about 20 members of the media. "Maybe I can swim more relaxed now that it's over.

"I tried not to think about the pressure, but a lot of people made a big thing of it. I really didn't place a lot of importance on it. I still had a little pressure, but I usually swim well under pressure."

Weissmuller, who won his titles from 1921 through 1928, naturally could not be on hand to congratulate Tracy as he resides in a rest home in Acapulco, having to be fed through tubes in his stomach.

It was fitting that Caulkins surpassed the record by winning the 400 IM, one of the most demanding events and one which requires proficiency in all four strokes.

Tracy was never strongly challenged, although Germantown's Polly Winde made up a lot of ground on the last 200 yards to make it a reasonably close finish at 4:13.16.

By 100 yards, Caulkins had a body length lead over Patty Gavin, which was increased to two body lengths at the halfway mark. Winde moved into second at 300 yards, about three body lengths off the pace, and finished 11/2 lengths behind at the end of the race.

"I knew Patty Gavin and Polly Winde had strong second 200s," Caulkins told the press. "I just wanted to swim a smooth race. I hit my first two splits about right, then my legs got tired.

"I was kinda tired at the end, too. Last year, I was better prepared for the 400 IM (when she set the American record of 4:04.63). I just wanted to have fun here."

One of the reasons she "just wanted to have fun" was because she had just swum in a high-pressure meet a couple of weeks earlier in which she won five events and her Florida teammates won the NCAA women's championship.

"We all took a few days off after NCAAs," Tracy said, "and naturally, we had a little letdown afterwards. It's been difficult to get back up."

Her priorities, instead, will be focused on the World

Championships this summer.

"This coming summer is really important to me," she said. "The World Championships is an important meet, and I think I have a lot of room for improvement."

But for the moment, everyone's attention was riveted to "No. 37," probably even more so than Tracy.

"All of my wins were important," she admitted. "They're all meaningful in their own way. My first title was really nice. That was the 100 breast at Canton, Ohio. But they're all very different.

"It was nice that I could set the record in Gainesville at my home school."

And with the record all her own, she could concentrate on more important things—like preparing for her next event, the 200 IM, the following night. But there was one thing that Tracy made sure she wouldn't do:

"I don't have a very good Tarzan yell," she laughed when egged on by reporters to imitate Weissmuller's famous jungle call. "I'll let Johnny Weissmuller take care of that."

400 Medley Relay

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
University of Florida (3-19-82)	55.28	1:57.03	2:50.24	3:40.99
(Andrews, Treible, T. Caulkins, Kurtzman)		(1:01.75)	(53.21)	(50.75)
DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (Car	nbridge	, 4-11-81)		
Nashville	59.38	2:00.18	2.54.69	3:43.69
(Phillips, T. Caulkins; King, A. Caulkins)		(1:00.80)	(54.51)	(49.00)
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brow	n Deer	, 8-16-81)		
Mission Viejo				
(Rozowsky, Orcutt, Habernigg, Woodhead)				
1982 FINALISTS (April 10, 1982)				,
Nashville	57.87	1:59.40	2:53.12	3:44.01
(A. Caulkins, T. Caulkins, King, Pruden)		(1:01.53)	(53.72)	(50.89)
Mission Viejo	57.29	2:00.97	2:55.41	3:44.39
(Carosi, Orcutt, Woodhead, Williams)		(1:03.68)	(54.44)	(48.98)
Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins	57.26	1:59.86	2:55.20	3:46.06
(Carlisle, Rhodenbaugh, Mitchell, Nicholson)		(1:02.60)	(55.34)	(50.86)
West Chester	` 56.90	2:01.37	2:56.76	3:47.37
(Kinkead, McClain, Goodley, Gavin)		(1:04.47)	(55.39)	(50.61)
Starlit	58.34	2:01.98	2:58.63	3:47.69
(O'Brien, S. Rapp, Iori, Strang)		(1:03.64)	(56.65)	(49.06)
Longhorn	59.27	2:05.29	2:58.02	3:48.80
(Werth, Borsholt, Sterkel, Klimpel)	4.	(1:06.02)	(52.73)	(50.78)
Florida	58.25	2:02.28	2:58.25	3:49.64
(Carruth, Treible, Green, Cross)		(1:04.03)	(55.97)	(51.39)
Lakeside	57.75		2:58.97	3:49.72
(Trees, Miller, Meagher, Welting)		(1:07.89)	(53.33)	(50.75)

Mission Viejo needed just one more relay win to complete a clean sweep of the women's relays, but it fell three-tenths shy of its goal.

Standing in its way was Nashville, which put together



After the IM, Caulkins had a winning smile-37 wins, to be exact.

a 3:44.01 to 3:44.39 triumph. Mission nearly pulled it off with an impressive 48.98 freestyle split by Julie Williams, but Nashville had already built up a lead of over two seconds after 300 yards.

That was due in large part to Tracy Caulkins and Patty King.

After Nashville started off in fourth place when Amy Caulkins split a 57.87 backstroke leg, Tracy Caulkins and King made sure nobody could catch them.

Tracy turned in the fastest breaststroke split of the race with a 1:01.53. Kim Rhodenbaugh of the Cincinnati Pepsi Marlins also had a fine breaststroke leg of 1:02.60. At that point in the race, Nashville took over the lead, just ahead of the Marlins, 1:59.40 to 1:59.86.

Then it was King's turn. She turned in the third fastest fly split with a 53.72. Only Jill Sterkel (52.73) of Longhorn and Mary T. Meagher (53.33) of Lakeside were faster, but their two teams weren't a factor for first place.

After 300 yards, Cincinnati still held on to second, 2:55.20 to Nashville's 2:53.12. Mission Viejo was third, 2:55.41.

With Sterkel and Mission's Sippy Woodhead swimming butterfly instead of freestyle, it was Julie Williams' turn to shine, and the Mission Viejo speedster nearly pulled out a win for her teammates. She clocked the fastest split of all freestylers with her 48.98, but Nashville's Libby Pruden anchored in 50.89, which was good enough for the win. Cincinnati faded to third at 3:46.06.

The victory was Nashville's second straight short course title in the 400 medley relay. There was a time from 1977 through 1979 when Nashville had won five straight medley relay titles.

While Nashville, Mission and Cincinnati were battling for first-place honors, there were other swimmers who turned in notable splits. In the backstroke, even though her team finished 20th, North Baltimore's Theresa Andrews had the fastest backstroke leadoff time of 56.80. West Chester's Libby Kinkead turned in a fine 56.90.

Besides Caulkins and Rhodenbaugh, only two other swimmers completed the breaststroke leg in less than 1:04—Susan Rapp of Starlit (1:03.64) and Shannon Orcutt of Mission (1:03.68).

The fourth fastest flyer was a girl known more for her freestyle-Mission's Sippy Woodhead (54.44).

And the top freestylers after Williams were Heather Strang of Starlit (49.06) and Laura Blankley of Santa Clara (50.57). In all, there were nine girls under 51 seconds.

400 Free Relay

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD				
AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION	l (Cambi	ridge, 4-10	D-81)	
Mission Vielo	51.01	1:40.60	2:29.85	3:19.55
(Linzmeier, Williams, Habernigg, Woodhead)		(49.59)	(49.25)	(49.70)
DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brow	n Deer,	8-15-81)	*	
Mission Viejo				
(Habernigg, Major, Woodhead, Williams)				
1982 FINALISTS (April 9, 1982)				
Mission Vieio	49.82	1:40.18	2:31.74	3:20.68
(Williams, Linzmeier, Cohen, Woodhead)		(50.36)	(51.56)	(48.94)
Longhorn	51.05	1:41.62	2:32.50	3:20.90
(Klimpel, Werth, Linehan, Jill Sterkel)		(50.57)	(50.88)	(48.40)
Nashville	49.94	1:41.07	2:32.55	3:21.76
(T. Caulkins, King, Pruden, A. Caulkins)		(51.13)	(51.48)	(49.21)
Starlit	50.35	1:41.66	2:33.46	3:24.00
(Strang, S. Rapp, Dunbar, Bush)		(51.31)	(51.80)	(50.54)
West Chester	51.34	1:42.29	2:33.23	3:24.40
(Kinkead, Gavin, McClain, Goodley)	* *	(50.95)	(50.94)	(51.17)
Fort Lauderdale	52.18	1:43.19	2:34.11	3:26.31
(Gardner, Bodner, Zemina, Woolger)		(51.01)	(50.92)	(52.20)
Industry Hills	52.77	1:44.32	2:36.42	3:27.30
(Campuzano, Shupe, Jodi Sterkel, Birdsell)	•	(51.55)	(52.10)	(50.88)
Lakeside	51,53	1:43.80	2:36.06	3:27.44
(Meagher, McGrath, Trees, Welting)		(52.27)	(52.26)	(51.38)

"It's pretty hard to run down Sippy Woodhead."

An understatement, true, by Jill Sterkel, but she gave it her best try, and her Longhorn Aquatics team fell three-tenths shy of overtaking Mission Viejo.

Sterkel, the American record holder in the 100 free, anchored her team's 400 free relay in a blazing 48.40 for the fastest split in the event. With her team trailing Mission by eight-tenths of a second, all she could do was make up a half-second on Sippy since Woodhead had the second fastest split in the event, 48.94.

But the Sterkel-Woodhead confrontation provided an ightle

exciting finish to Mission Viejo's third straight national title in the sprint relay.

Mission clocked 3:20.68 for the win, a little over a second off their own American record of 3:19.55, set last year at Harvard. Longhorn was second at 3:20.90, followed by Nashville at 3:21.76.

Three-fourths of Mission's American record squad returned a year later to successfully defend its title—Julie Williams, Marybeth Linzmeier and Woodhead.

800 Free Relay

AMERICAN AND U.S. OPEN RECORD AND DEFENDING SHORT COURSE CHAMPION (4-9-81) Mission Viejo 1:47.88 3:35 98 5:24 19 7:12 62 (Linzmeier, Habernigg, Williams, Hanna) (1:48.10 DEFENDING LONG COURSE CHAMPION (Brown Deer, 8-14-81) (1:48.10) (1:48.21) (1:48.43) Mission Viejo (Linzmeier, Habernigg, Cohen, Woodhead) 1982 FINALISTS (April 8, 1982) 1:48.14 3:36.07 5:25.13 7:10.55* Mission Vieio (Cohen, Linzmeier, Williams, Woodhead) (1:47.93) (1:49.06) (1:45.42) Nashville 1:46.88 3:37.08 5:26.88 7:16 16 (T. Caulkins, King, Pruden, A. Caulkins) (1:50.20) (1:49.80) (1:49.28)1:50.28 3:36.67 7:17.35 Longhorn (Klimpel, Jill Sterkel, Werth, Linehan) (1:46.39) (1:51.09) (1:49.59) 1:49.13 7:19.43 3:38.78 5:27.66 Industry Hills (Shupe, Campuzano, Peterson, Jodi Sterkel) (1:49.65) (1:48.88) (1:51.77) 1:49.00 3:39.61 5:29.59 7:20.08 (1:50.61) (1:49.98) (1:50.49) (Treible, Brown, Green, Irish) 7:20.57 1:50.97 5:33.23 3:41.31 Lakeside (McGrath, Welting, Trees, Meagher) (1:50.34) (1:51.92) (1:47.34) 1:50.60 Starlit 3:41.45 5:31.84 7:20.60 (Hanna, Brosseau, S. Rapp, Strang) (1:50.85) (1:50.39) (1:48.76) Fort Lauderdale 3:44.31 5:33.46 (Woolger, Gardner, Bodner, Zemina) (1:51.50) (1:49.15) (1:48.46) * American and U.S. Open Record

Earlier in the evening, Mission Viejo's Sippy Woodhead won the 200 yard freestyle, ending a frustrating one-year spell of not winning at Nationals.

With the win neatly tucked away and the proverbial monkey off her back, Woodhead proceeded to contribute nicely to Mission Viejo's assault on the 800 yard freestyle relay American record.

A team of Tiffany Cohen, Marybeth Linzmeier, Julie Williams and Woodhead bettered their club's previous American mark of 7:12.62 by speeding to a 7:10.55 clocking. Both Linzmeier and Williams were repeat performers on the two American record relays.

They easily beat a good Nashville team, 7:16.16, but it was largely due to the efforts of Woodhead that helped them break the American record.

Sippy turned in the fastest 200 split of the event with a 1:45.42 anchor leg. At 600 yards, Mission was still a second off the American record pace.

But all four Mission swimmers had good swims, with Cohen leading off in 1:48.14, a body length behind Nashville's Tracy Caulkins' 1:46.88. By 350 yards, Linzmeier gave the lead to Mission.

Marybeth split 1:47.93, followed by Williams' 1:49.06. By 600 yards, Mission had about 1½ body lengths over Nashville.

Some of the faster 200 splits turned in by the field included a 1:46.39 by Longhorn's Jill Sterkel and a 1:47.34 by Lakeside's Mary T. Meagher.



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