Swimmers Split 2 Meets

By Ronald Davies

Breaking records seemed to be the trend last week, as the Tech men swam to splits in two meets, ending the season with a 6-4 record (2-2 against New England Teams). Wednesday, MIT was downed 63-32 by last year’s New England champions, Brown. Saturday the swimmers topped the Coast Guard Academy 69-36.

The Coast Guard’s pool is only 20 yards long as compared with the MIT pool length of 25 yards. Since separate varsity records are kept for the 20-yard pool, the aquamen waited all year for a chance to break these records. Some of the records went as far back as 1947. They succeeded in re-writing the record book just as they broke the existing varsity records in nine out of eleven events.

Matson Breaks Three Records

Leading the assault on the record book was Wayne Matson ’64. Matson won the 60 and 100-yard freestyle events, both in record-breaking times. Matson was also a member of the record breaking 40-yard freestyle relay team of Joe Schrade ’63, Dave Stein ’62, and Jed Engeler ’62.

Sears also set a record in the 200-yard freestyle, in which he beat the old mark by over three seconds. Engeler also swam well as he broke the 410-yard record by an unbelievable 20 seconds. Together these represent all the freestyle events swum in a dual meet.

Tech fared just as well in the other strokes. Both Laurens Sompayrac ’63, and Charles Einolf ’63 broke the standards in the 200-yard Breaststroke. Sompayrac, who edged Einolf out in the last 10 yards also tied the Coast Guard pool record in that event.

Todd, Matlin Sweep Breaststroke

In the most spirited race of the day, Mike Todd ’64 touched out teammate Rick Matlin ’63, in the 100-yard Butterfly. Both swimmers were well under the old record as they took first and second, respectively, in the event.

In the backstroke, Tom Ising ’62 brought home a record as well as winning the 200-yard event. On the first leg of the Medley Relay, Tim Main ’62 was timed in a new record for the 200-yard backstroke. The relay, made up of the team of Bolt, Ising, Dave Carey ’62, and Engeler, won the event, but missed the record by a few tenths of a second.

Finishing off the rout of the Coast Guard Team in which the Tech natators won 10 out of the 11 events, Lou Thompson ’63 took a second.

Because of this spurt of record breaking performances, Coach Easterman is optimistically looking forward to a fine showing in the New England Championships, March 9 and 10 at Amherst. Easterman attributes the tremendous improvement of his swimmers to hard work and strong team spirit, which aid the swimmer so much in the race.

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