

MAKING WAVES

14 Swim Records Fall

The 1980-81 school year proved to be better than average for a group of Ferris athletes who splashed their way through competition, and a 9-5 overall mark during the year's swimming action. The team recorded a 6-5 mark in league action.

Although the tankers opened with consecutive losses to Central Michigan University and Western Michigan, they rebounded to salvage what proved to be a record breaking season. The tank pack toppled a number of school records.

"The team had a fine season and I was very pleased with the job they did," stated swimming coach Rick Kowalski. "It was a year in which 14 school records were established."

The tankers were blessed with some fine individual talent which enabled them to gain high honors in some cases.

Peter Milostan, the swim team's top sprint free-styler, noted that the team has seen much improvement.

"Overall, the team swam very well throughout the season," he noted. "I feel however, we have to work out more often and swim harder, and maybe this will enable us to improve. We definitely have the capabilities, but we need more self-discipline."

In the diving competition the Bulldogs were led by All-American Dan Whalen, who made use of his unique diving style throughout the year.

Whalen was also one of three Bulldog swimmers to qualify for the nationals.

The big news of the season however, was the addition of back-stroker Randy Walker, a two time All-American transfer from Northern Michigan University. He was a strong swimmer and captured many events.

Although several individuals stood out, coach Rick Kowalski, a former All-American himself, was very pleased with the job his freshmen did.

"I was extremely pleased with Tom Koleber, a sprint free-styler, and middle distance free-stylers Rick Bachelor and Brian Greenless," he remarked. "I felt our freshmen had a fine year, and attained that much needed experience."

As far as conference supremacy was concerned, both Wayne State and Oakland University reigned above the crowd.

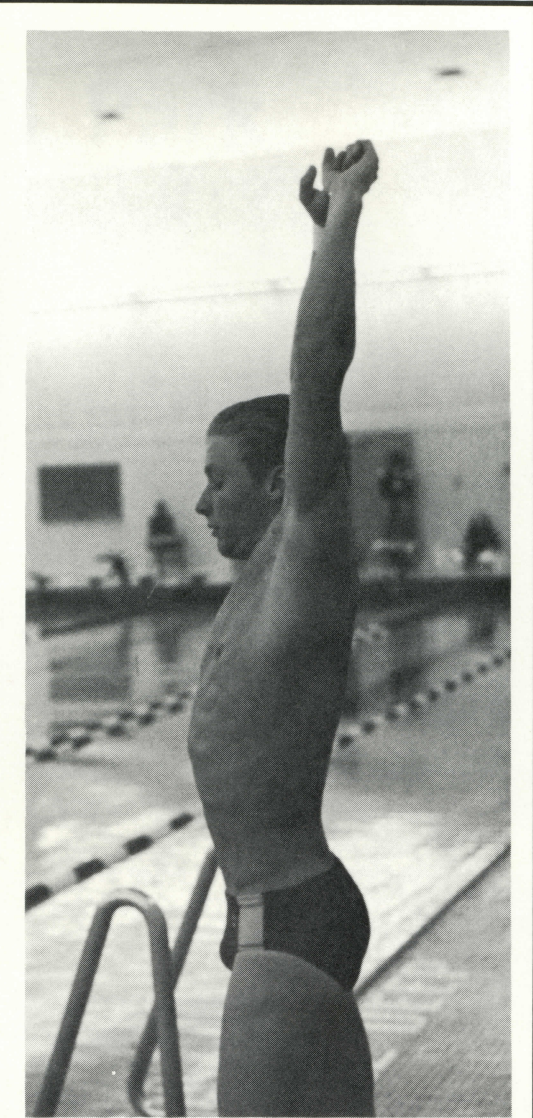
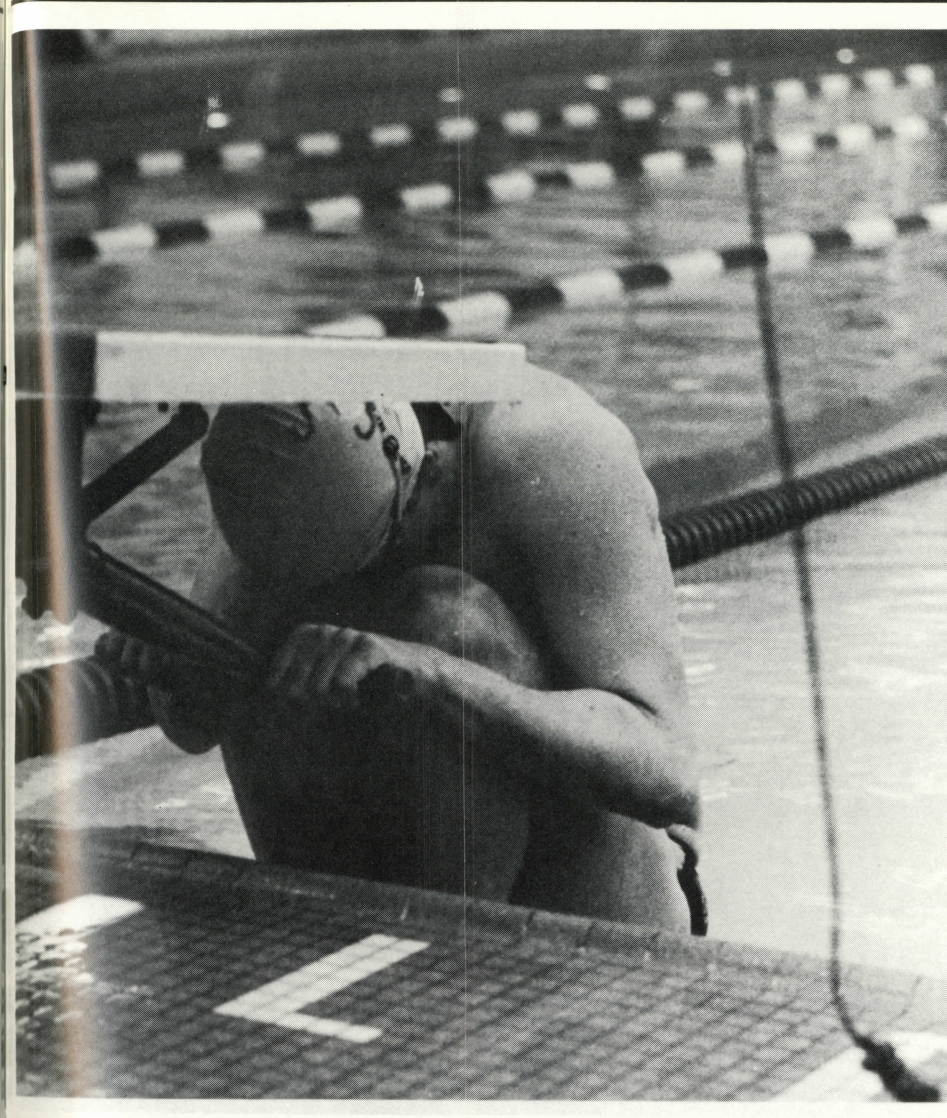
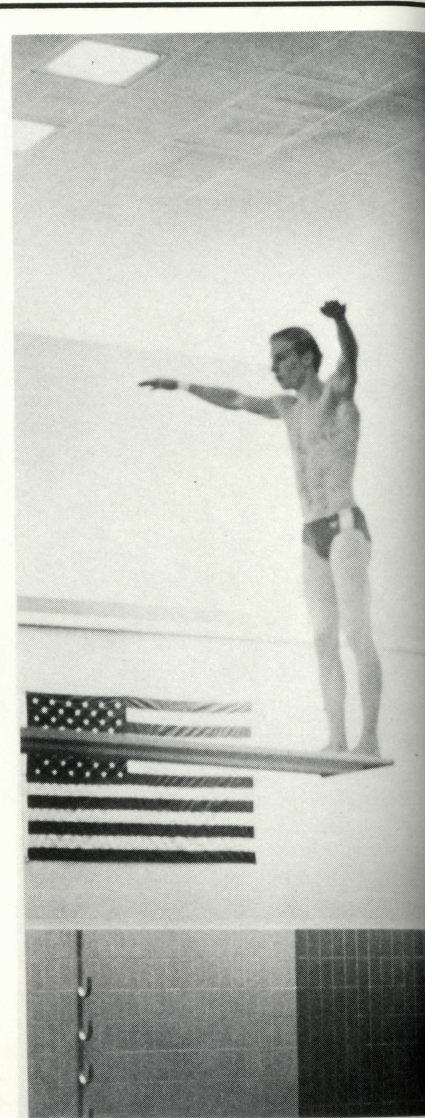
As for the Bulldogs, although having nine letter winners on the team, they just couldn't match either school. They lost to Wayne State 67-46 and bowed to Oakland 68-43 during the regular season.

With next season looming not too far in the distance, coach Kowalski is very optimistic.

"We will be looking to match or better our 80-81 season, and I feel with the talented young swimmers that we have, it should be a prosperous year," he stated. "I'm looking forward to a successful swimming season."

BY DAVE CASTERLINE

Clockwise, right; With a powerful stride, record holder Rick Bacheller dominates the 100 yard backstroke. Deep in concentration, Dan Whalen prepares for his next dive. Whalen became the first diver in Ferris history to gain honors as an All-American diver. Tension mounts as Scott Montgomery waits for the gun to begin backstroke competition. Dan Whalen stretches his muscles in warm-up activities before diving.



THE 1980-81 "TANK PACK"— Front Row (left to right): Dan Whalen, Peter Milostan, Dwight Sinclair, Mark Tomlinson, Brian Reninick, Rick Bacheller, Tim Cahill; Middle Row (l-r): Drew Sullivan, Scott Montgomery, Mike Yanderveer, Chuck Dahlinger, Andy Scogg, Randy Walker, Brian Greenless; Back Row (l-r): Coach Rick Kowalkoski, Tom Koleber, Brian Hendrickson, Steve Beckner, Ed Trickle, Tom Armstrong, Jack Dinan, Scott Cornell, Student Assistant Coach Phil Clelland.