Women Swimmers At Madison

By Diane Clevenger

A record breaking time in the last event enabled Tech's women's swim team to slide past Madison 69-62 Saturday in a tri-meet with Madison and William and Mary.

William and Mary was kept to 31 points as Tech and Madison traded leads throughout the entire meet. Madison came out on top with eight wins to Tech's seven, but a consistent overall team effort gave the Hokies the seven point victory.

A n outstanding performance was turned in by Bekah Bannister, a sophomore from Charleston, West Virginia. Bannister set new team records and placed first in the 50 yd. back (:29.76) and the 100 yd. back (1:06.0), and placed second in the 50 yd. free. Setting new team records and placing second in the 200 yd. free (2:06.1) and the 500 yd. free (5:34.4) was freshman Gwen Braaten.

Diving played a vital part in this tight meet as Carol Williams and Beth Jones placed one and two respectively in the compulsory diving to bring Tech back from a nine point deficit to within two points at the end of the eighth event. With one event to go, Jones and Williams again outclassed Madison and William and Mary divers to tie the score at 62 all.

An all out effort in the last event, the 200 yd. free relay, produced a new team record and the seven points needed to take the meet 69-62.

Coach Bill Beecher has been working all season to reduce the time of this relay team that consists of Bannister, Berry, Poulsen, and Geiger. As Beecher put it, "they just had to," when fierce competition and quick starts produced the record time of 1:44.04.

The girls travel to Charlottesville this week-end to compete in the University of Virginia Invitational and return home the 18th for their biggest meet of the season with Virginia Commonwealth University.