At Virginia Tech

Men-Women Swimmers Break Records

BLACKSBURG—Strong team efforts by both the mens and womens swimming teams at Virginia Tech this season have left undefeated strings and broken records in their wake.

MEN

“A total team effort” is responsible for the 4-0 record the men’s swimming team has established.

“Everybody right down the line has performed well when we needed them,” Coach Billy Beecher said, “Each time we’ve called on someone they’ve done well. They were there when we needed them.”

The Gobblers defeated Washington and Lee, 65-48 on January 8; Morris Harvey, 74-39 on January 22; Richmond, 73-40, on January 27; and William and Mary 82-31 on January 28.

They recorded nine first places in each of their first three contests and ten against the Indians of William and Mary.

Freshman sprinter Joe Martz swam a team record: 21.9 in the 50 yard freestyle and is ranked first in the state in this event.

The Men’s 400 yard medley relay is also rated first in the Commonwealth with a 3:43.07. Co-captain sophomore Matt Robbins is ranked first in the 200 yard backstroke with a 2:05.4 while freshman Bill Vinton is ranked second in the 100 yard freestyle with a 49.1.

“We’ve had good performances from Vinton, Martz, Robbins and Robbie Hager,” Beecher said. “But all the swimmers have been winning the close races. All of them have been performing well.”

The Swimming Gobblers travel to the University of Virginia on the 11th.

WOMEN

Breaking seventeen records isn’t a bad way to start a season.

And that’s exactly what the women’s swimming team at Virginia Tech did in its first three meets of the season.

The Gobblers, now 3-0, defeated Randolph-Macon 88-31, on January 22, Mary Washington, 93-38, on January 24 and Old Dominion University, 73-51, on January 29.

Led by senior co-captain Robin Geiger, the Hokies recorded 13 first places in their meet with Randolph-Macon, 14 first places in the contest with Mary Washington, and 10 against Old Dominion.

Geiger, a versatile swimmer who competed in the individual medley, the butterfly, and the freestyle, has broken nine of the team records. She is ranked number one in the state in the 50 yard butterfly and third in the 100 yard individual medley.

Freshman Andi Rupert is ranked third in the 50 yard breaststroke, sophomore Bekah Bannister, third in the 50 yard backstroke, and the 200 yard freestyle relay is rated second.

“Most of the girls are making improvements,” Coach Billy Beecher stated, “They have not been pushed to their limits yet.

Beecher commended the following swimmers for their performance this season: Geiger, Rupert, freshman freestyler Kathy Beery, freshman long-distance swimmer, Gwen Braaten, and the members of the relay teams.