

The Wave Eater



MICHIGAN MASTERS SWIMMING Year-End Review for 2005

ANN ARBOR REPEATS AS STATE CHAMPION

This year marked the occasion of the 33rd Annual Michigan Masters Swimming State Championships. About 286 swimmers from 24 teams turned up at Eastern Michigan University's Michael Jones Aquatic complex during the weekend of April 15 – 17, to participate in this traditional event.

The Ann Arbor Masters team won their 2nd Large Team Championship in their 33 year history. AA also won both the Large Team Men and Women categories as well. They are the 5th team in Michigan Masters history to repeat as State Champions. The South Oakland Seals won their 2nd Small Team combined State championship. It was the team's 17th overall combined title in their 31 year history. SOS won the Women's Small Team Category for a fourth straight women's championship. Battle Creek YMCA (BCYM) won the Small Team Men's Championship. The win marked their ninth non-combined title in the last ten years.

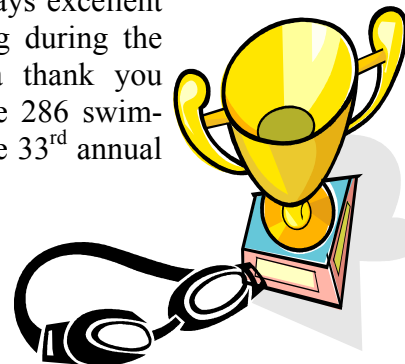
45 State Records were set during the course of the meet with Corrin Popp, Denise Brown, and Lois Nochman setting 7 records out of the 7 events they swam. Melissa Marshall (19-24) set 4 records in the events she swam. Erin McIntyre (19-24), Brigid Dwyer (25-29), Sally Guthrie (55-59) and Randy Parker (50-54) each got 3 in their age groups. Jim Makarauskas (55-59) got 2 in the 50 and 100 Free. Marilyn Early (45-49) 50 Fly, Chuck Olson (55-59) 200 Free, Kevin Doak (19-24) 50 Back, Peter Milostran (45-49) 50 Free and Jay Mahler (55-59) got single event records. 50 Breast. Two relay records were set by the Battle Creek Y in the Men's 75 age group. 13 swimmers won a maximum of 7 events (11



Women and 2 Men). There was a record of 5 ties for the individual high point awards. Results and High Point Awards for both Team and Individuals are included on the Michigan Masters website.

A well deserved thank you goes out to all the volunteers for the planning and execution of the meet. This was the 6th time this facility hosted this event and as always Michigan Master appreciates their efforts. Special thanks goes out to George Newman and Ken Shively for their always excellent officiating conducting during the meet. And finally a thank you goes out to all of the 286 swimmers that swam in the 33rd annual meet.

By Skip Thompson





2005 MICHIGAN MASTERS AWARD WINNERS

Every year Michigan Masters Swimming gives two special awards presented at the State Championship Meet. Since 1978, The **Lawrence Award** is given annually to those who have achieved outstanding performances in masters swimming representing Michigan Masters.

The **Chetrick Award** has been awarded since 1977 and is given annually to those who have given outstanding service and/or best exemplify the spirit and commitment to Michigan Masters Swimming.

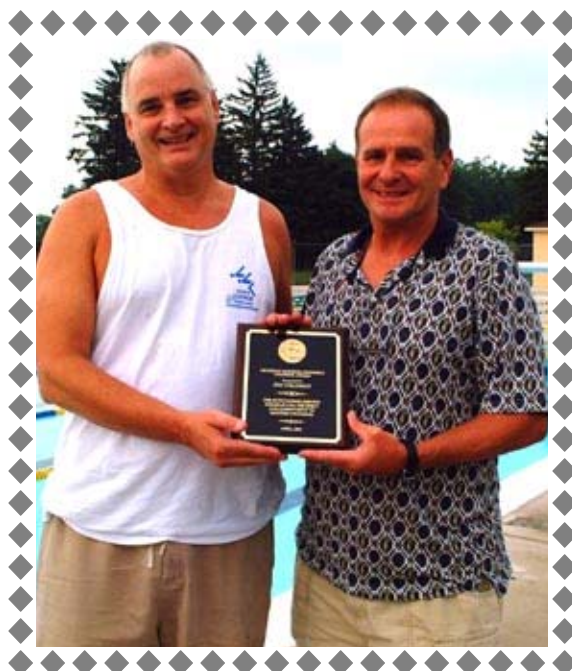
This year's **Lawrence Award** recipient was Miriam Novak. Miriam began swimming competitively in masters in 2000 and was a water polo player in college at Northwestern University. She moved to Midland, Michigan in 2001 from California where she works at Dow Corporation. She has been named a USMS Pool All American 4 times (2000, 01, 02, 04), and a USMS Long Distance All American 4 times (2001-2004). Additionally she has been named a USMS All Star for Long Distance swimming for each year she earned All American and has accumulated 14 National Long Distance Championship titles in the process. To become an All Star, a swimmer must accumulate the highest number of points in a series of National Championships held throughout the year. In pool competition, she has made the USMS Top Ten 55 times resulting in 9 Number 1 swims, 11 Number 2 swims, 6 number 3 swims, and 4 number 4 swims. She has won 14 National Championship meet titles from 2001 to 2004 at both the Short Course and Long Course Nationals. She was Michigan Masters Women's High Point winner at both National Championship meets in 2002.

In February 2003, Miriam was 1 of 12 swimmers selected from around the country to the USMS High Altitude Swim Camp in Colorado Springs to train for a week with USMS and USA Swimming staff. She wrote an article about the experience in the September 2003 issue of the Wave Eater. Miriam has been Long Distance Co-Chair for the Michigan Masters LMSC and continues to provide this service.

Great swimming Miriam, and good luck in the future!

This year's **Chetrick Award** recipient was Jim Coleman. Jim started swimming masters in 1984 and is a charter member of the FAST club. He was Lap Swim Coordinator for 4 years for his the FAST club and was responsible for getting pool time for practices. In 2000, he became the Michigan Masters LMSC Registrar and provided that service for 4 years until 2003. He became the LMSC Sanctions Chair from 2003 to 2005. During that time he took the responsibility of updating the Michigan Masters By-Laws for the website. He was a USMS Convention delegate in 2002 and 2003 and still serves on the USMS Registration Committee. Jim is retired from Ford Motor Company and enjoys sailing as a hobby. Congratulations Jim, and good luck in the future!

By Skip Thompson





WALLY DOBLER RECEIVES MICHIGAN MASTERS' LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Seventy-two-year old Wally Dobler was presented the prestigious Michigan Masters' Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2005 Michigan Masters State Swimming Championships held at Eastern Michigan University. Wally's masters swimming resume of 18 All-American awards, 13 national records, two world records, and 19 national championship meet titles since 1973 certainly speaks for itself, but there is much more.

Wally's accomplishments and contributions to swimming as a competitor, coach, and promoter began at the Flint YMCA when he was only seven years old. His natural proclivity for the water established him as one of the top age group competitors in Michigan. His years at Flint Central High School 1949-1952

were filled with school and pool record-breaking performances in the freestyle and backstroke. Surprisingly Wally did not learn the butterfly stroke until after high school when he was stationed at Fort Bragg in the 82nd Airborne Division of the Army in 1954.

Wally established himself as a nationally prominent swimmer when he returned to college and competed for Michigan State University 1956-1958. The 1957 team, which won the Big Ten Swimming and Diving Championship, was led by Wally and four other married swimmers. Wally also captured All-American honors while at MSU and placed fourth at the 1956 U.S. Olympic Trials hosted by Brennan Pools in Detroit. His senior year he was co-captain of the Spartan swimming team.

After graduating from MSU with a degree in business education, Wally entered the ranks of coaching in 1958 at Florida State University as an assistant and

part-time teacher. The following year he returned to his hometown and coached at Flint Central High School from 1959 to 1964. In 1964 he moved to South Bend, Indiana where he began his fulltime career in pharmaceutical sales. He also continued his love for coaching at the Arlington Heights Swim Club.

Three years later he and his wife Ione moved to Lansing, Michigan. After a brief hiatus from swimming, Wally's good friend George Runciman encouraged Wally to participate in his first masters meet, the 1973 National Long Course Championships in Chicago. At the age of 39 Wally was immediately hooked on masters swimming. He fondly remembers the early days of Michigan Masters when there were fewer than 200 members, and he has thoroughly enjoyed the growth of Michigan Masters. He also became a major promoter of masters swimming in Mid-Michigan. He has been coaching and promoting

masters swimming at the Lansing area YMCA and the Michigan Athletic Club in East Lansing, and helped organized the Capital Area Swimmers and Triathletes club known as CATS. Wally has competed in nearly 50 triathlons over the past 20 years. He also is active refereeing many local high school swim meets. His name tops the list of current Michigan masters record holders, and he still holds one of the oldest records in the 45-49 age group, the 50 yard butterfly in 25.25 establish in 1980.

Wally's achievements and contributions have not gone unnoticed in the Lansing area. He was inducted into the Greater Lansing Area Sports Hall of Fame in 2004. He is recognized as a major influence in masters swimming, and he always has an entertaining story to share about places and people. Perhaps this can be attributed to his life in pharmaceutical sales. When Wally was

Continued on page 4





BOB JENNINGS INDUCTED INTO THE MIDLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Bob Jennings who swam for Midland Dow High School, Eastern Michigan University, and the Michigan Masters/Plymouth YMCA has been inducted into the Midland County Sports Hall of Fame. He is the third swimmer represented in the MCSHOF. Bob joins the late Charlie Moss (All-American at the University of Michigan and Michigan Masters World Record holder) and Kristy Heydanek (Midland Dow High School, UCLA, and second place finisher in the 100-m backstroke at the 1995 Pan American Games).

The following appears on Bob's Hall of Fame plaque: A 1984 graduate of Dow High, Bob became the first swimmer in the Saginaw Valley League to win six individual championships in three years. The former team captain (1983-84) held varsity records in the 50-yard free, 200-yard Individual Medley and 100-yard breaststroke and was a three-year State Meet qualifier, placing 5th and 8th in the 100-yard breaststroke."

While at Eastern Michigan University (1984-1988), Bob was a six-time MAC individual champion, winning both the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke championships and a three-time MAC champion as a member of the 400-medley relay (1986-88). The former EMU (100 and 200-yard breaststroke) and MAC (100-yard breaststroke) record holder was a member of four MAC team championships and was selected captain, Most Value Swimmer and MAC

Senior of the Year in 1988. For his outstanding collegiate efforts, Bob was inducted into EMU's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001.

Swimming for the Midland Masters, Bob won numerous National YMCA and United States Masters National titles in breaststroke and the individual medley. In 1994, Bob won the 100

"A 1984 graduate of Dow High, Bob became the first swimmer in the Saginaw Valley League to win six individual championships in three years..."

and 200-meter breaststrokes at the V FINA World Masters Swimming Championships in Montreal, Canada, setting a national record in the 200-meter breaststroke. Bob received the Lawrence Award the same year for outstanding lifetime swimming achievement by a Michigan Master as well as being voted one of the "Top 25 Male Swimmers of the Twentieth Century" by the Michigan Masters.

Bob has also coached swimmers at Dow High School (1990-95), Northeast Intermediate (1994), Midland Dolphins (1991-95), Midland Country Club (1982-1987), and mentored swimmers from the Midland Masters.

By Steve Hansen

WALLY DOBLER—LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Continued from page 3

asked what his two top lifetime achievements were, he had a big smile on his face when he said, "First, celebrating fifty wonderful years of marriage on August 13, 2005 to Ione" his high school sweetheart, and "second, breaking the world records for the 50 meter and 100 meter butterfly 60-64 age group at the 1994 World Masters Championships in Montreal."

by Paul Chaffee

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Meet Schedule

POOL COMPETITIONS							
Date	Club	Sanction #	Location	Course	Meet Director	Phone	
11/13/2005	West Bloomfield Laker Fan	Recognized #195-010-R	<u>West Bloomfield High</u>	SCY	Bob Crosby	248-865-6748 pool	
12/03/2005	CATS	Sanctioned #195-0011-S	<u>Dewitt High School</u>	SCY	Paul Chaffee	989-725-2863	
01/15/2006	Ann Arbor/SOS	Sanctioned #196-002-S	<u>University of Michigan Canham Natatorium</u>	SCY	Sally Guthrie	734-913-9282	
01/29/2006	Harper Creek Swim Boosters	Sanctioned #196-003-S	<u>Harper Creek School Battle Creek</u>	SCY	Corrin Popp	269-441-8467	
02/12/2006	F.A.S.T.	Sanctioned #196-005-S	<u>Brighton High School</u>	SCM	Jason Colwell	313-323-9346 j.squared@comcast.net	
02/25/2006	West Michigan	Sanctioned #196-004-S	<u>Grand Haven Community</u>	SCY	Ken Danhof	231-739-5592 KJandM@comcast.net	
03/05/2006	West Bloomfield Laker Fan	Recognized #196-001-R	West Bloomfield High	SCY	Bob Crosby	248-865-67480	
03/12/2006	Midland Masters	Sanctioned #196-007-S	H.H. Dow High School	SCY	Louise Hofer	989-422-2054	
03/24 thru 03/26/2006 EMU - State Championships	SOS/Ann Arbor	Sanctioned #196-008-S	Eastern Michigan Jones Natatorium	SCY	Frank Thompson	248-683-2191 FrankSkipThompson@aol.com	

In order to swim in a Sanctioned Michigan Masters meet, you must be a registered USMS member