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'Nole swimmers look impressive

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Many of the world's best swimmers gathered this past weekend at the Indiana University/Purdue University Natatorium for the USS International Swimming and Diving Championships. Members of the Florida State University men's and women's swim teams made their presence known in Indianapolis, where the event was held.

Sarah Linke, of the Lady Seminoles, won the individual high point trophy in the women's competition. She was a finalist in five races and consolation finalist in another event. She placed third in the 400 meters individual medley, third in the 200 freestyle, fifth in the 200 fly, eighth in the 200 IM, eighth in the 100 free, and ninth in the 400 freestyle. Her time in the 200 free (1:59.9) was only three tenths of a second off freshman Justus Breese's 200 split for the FSU men's 800 freestyle relay entry at the meet. Breese swam 1:59.6.

"Sarah swam very well," said Terry Maul, head coach of the FSU women's team. "This was the best meet of her career to date outside of the world trials. She was the only swimmer we took to Indiana. The rest of the team stayed home to train."

The women's team leaves today for New Orleans, Louisiana for a weekend meet against Tulane University. Maul said Tulane is rebuilding this year. Their coach has recruited several good swimmers, among them Joslyn Thomas of Mission Viejo, California. Thomas was a national finalist in the distance freestyle events.

"She is the best swimmer they have," said Maul. "As a team they shouldn't give us too much difficulty, but they should give us some good races. This will be an

opportunity for us to see what kind of shape we're in following Christmas training."

The Lady 'Noles have two new additions to their ranks—Natalie Deschamps, who will race in the butterfly and IM events, and Joanne Bedard, who will race in the breast stroke. Deschamps and Bedard are from Quebec, Canada.

The FSU men's team also competed in the USS meet. Coach Bill Shults took four swimmers to Indiana. They were Sam Seiple, David DeGruchy, Dan Akre, and Breese.

"We did very well," said Shults. "We had eight or 10 who qualified for the meet, but we only brought those exceptional swimmers up for the international competition. With Sarah's point total as individual women's champion plus our score I think we placed in the top 10 of all the teams."

According to Shults, team standings were kept but not released either at the meet or in the papers. The meet was covered on a tape-delayed basis by ESPN and will be shown four or five times this weekend on TV. (Check your local listings for specific times.)

Seiple was sixth in the 100 meter butterfly final in 55.84. He was the first FSU male swimmer to finish in the top eight at an international event. Breese finished in sixth place in the finals of the 200 fly.

The FSU men will also compete against Tulane this weekend. Tulane has a much improved team from last year, said Shults, and should give good races in all the events. The 'Noles will be without their divers at the meet as they are competing at the All-American meet at Austin, Texas.