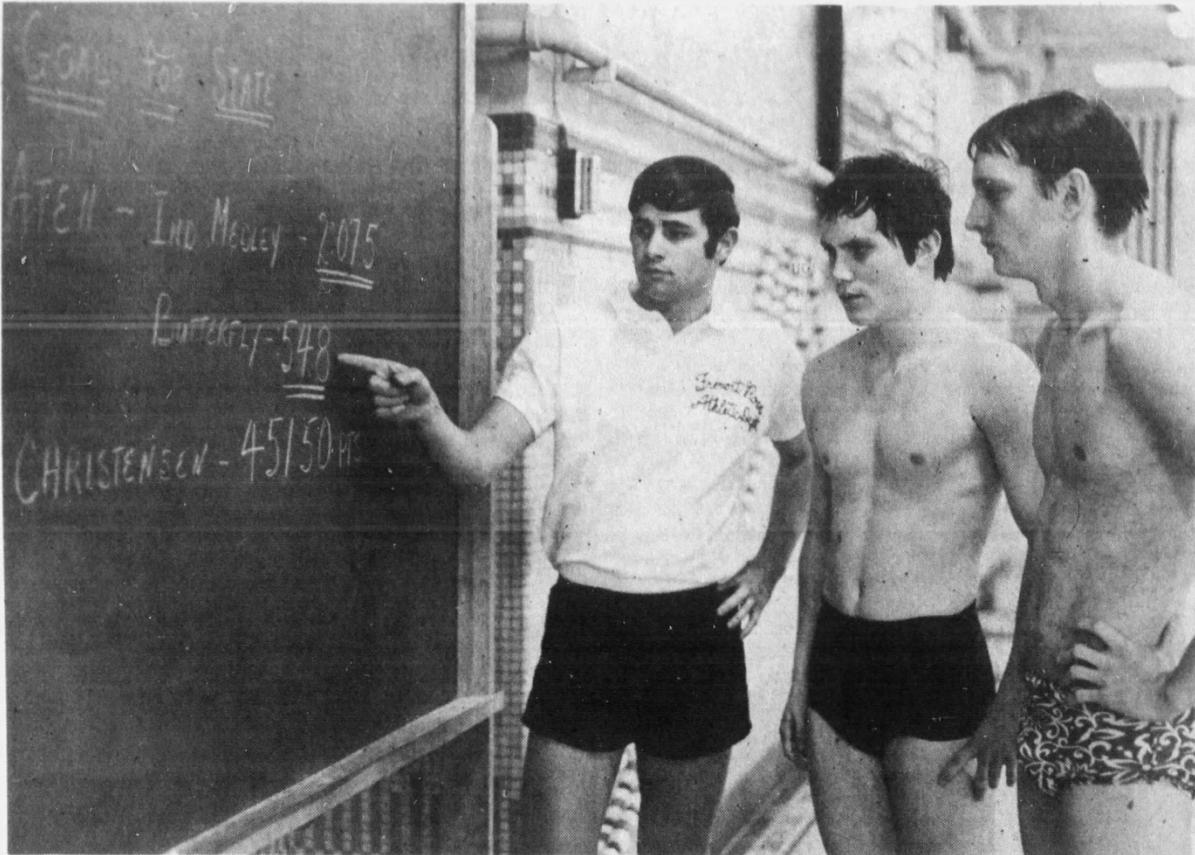


1971 State meet...

20 Fremont News-Messenger Thursday, Feb. 25, 1971



STATE PARTICIPANTS—Fremont Ross swimming coach Ron Zwierlein outlines goals for Andy Christensen (center) and Pat Aten, who will represent the Little Giants at the State Swimming Meet in Columbus this week. Christensen will

participate in the diving competition. Aten is entered in the butterfly and individual medley. The swimmers and their coach left Thursday for Columbus. (News-Messenger Photo)

Teams Vie For Second In Swim

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—“It will be a close meet — for second place,” Upper Arlington Coach Todd Grant agreed, conceding the 44th Ohio high school swimming title to Cincinnati St. Xavier today.

St. Xavier’s bombers were expected to make a shambles of the team race and keep their title after advancing 18 swimmers and two relay units to the finals in the Ohio State Natatorium.

In Friday qualifying, St. Xavier set two of the four new meet records and equaled another.

Pat Aten of Fremont Ross failed to qualify for the finals in either the 200-yard individual medley or 100-yard butterfly.

Aten, a senior, swam a 2:15.25 in the individual medley, and :58.53 in the butterfly. Cutoff point for the finals in the individual medley was 2:10. A time of :57.6 was good for the butterfly.

“Pat was very nervous and swam two of his worst times this season,” Little Giants head coach Ron Zwierlein said. “His times didn’t even equal what he did in the district last week.

“After he didn’t qualify for the individual medley he had very little time between events. It hurt him a little. Generally, there is some time between the two events, but because there was no diving Pat went almost back-to-back.”

Ross’ only hope for a place in the state meet rode with diver Andy Christensen. None of the diving competition was scheduled Friday. The preliminary rounds began Saturday morning.

Bombers Win Title

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Cincinnati St. Xavier has formed the newest Ohio high school swimming dynasty and the Bombers may challenge Canton McKinley's record run on titles.

The 227 points St. Xavier rolled up for its second straight state crown Saturday was accomplished with two freshmen, seven sophomores and three juniors.

Ross diver Andy Christensen failed to make the cut for the diving finals. He missed qualifying for the finals by one position. The top 12 divers compete in the final competition and Christensen placed 13th.

Only three seniors scored points for the Bombers, who are four titles shy of McKinley's string from 1956 through 1961.

The brightest star on the Bombers' squad, Paul Hove is only a junior and already owns three state championships and

two Ohio meet records in two seasons.

"I just want to go on to the National AAU and finish in the top three," the 5-foot-9, 135-pounder said after scoring the only double in the 44th meet.

Hove won the 200 and 400 free-style, the latter in meet record time of 1 minute and 44.89 seconds. He set a state mark in the 400 in Friday's preliminaries in 3:42.77 after winning that crown as a freshman in 1970.

The Bombers, finishing 104 points ahead of runnerup Upper Arlington, scored in all but one event, won five individual titles and posted records in two of the triumphs.

Besides Hove's record time, St. Xavier's 200 medley relay unit of Bill Schulte, Dana Bove, Jim Kemp and Bill Lauch splashed to a new low of 1:41.52.

Westerville diver Tim Moore and Bob Alsfelder, Mariemont's ace butterfly, reigned as state champions for the third time.