

# Bear-a-cudas set to defend league swimming title

by Paul White

The Berlin Bear-a-cudas are at it again. They won the league title last year. One more into the season this year, they're looking just as hungry.

The European Forces Swim League champions crowned Augsburg Sunday, picking up right where they left off last year. The performance was no surprise to head coach Ted Colquhoun, who's become accustomed to seeing his team breeze past opponents in his five years at the helm.

This year, however, the Bear-a-cudas will be operating without one of their major strengths in '94—depth. Last year, Berlin had 18 swimmers on the roster, out of which 16 qualified for the EPFL championships in Munich. This year, the 'Cudas only have 10 swimmers on the team. Among the missing are the talented British stars, Alys, Bethany, Nona and Samara. But

according to Colquhoun, the team has plenty of talent remaining and should still be among the league favorites.

Perhaps the most talented aspect of the team is the 15-19 age group. "Point for point and person for person, we have the strongest 15-19 team in the league, barfing none," Colquhoun said. "We have six boys and six girls who are very close in everything."

In the 15-18 division, Troy Johnson, a star last year in the 10-12 age group, looks to "one of the best in the league again," Colquhoun said. Johnson won five gold medals at the EPFL championships last year.

Alicia Freytag leads the girls 13-14 bracket.

Anna (Dorofenko) is among the leaders in the 11-12 group in her second year in the division. The boys will be strengthened by the return of Casey Benton, who's been sidelined by a broken arm. Benton accumulated the seventh-highest point total for the 'Cudas at Munich. "It will be nice to have him back," Colquhoun said.

The obstacles in Berlin's path to defending its title, Colquhoun said, will again be Patch and Kobersteiners, perennially strong teams. The challenge from SGLAFI figures to be particularly strong since they had won the crown two consecutive years before the 'Cudas wrestled it away.

The team's first home meet is scheduled for Nov. 3 against Wetzberg at Andrews Pool.

## Cudas rip Augsburg

by Ed Williams

Led by triple winners and triple qualifiers Troy Johnson and Alicia Freytag, the Defending EPFL champion Bear-a-cudas opened their 1993-94 swimming season with an impressive 21-0 win over the Augsburg swim team in Augsburg.

Behind the support of additional triple winners Tristan Green and John Rigby, the Bear-a-cudas reeled to 41 out of 46 first places and 35 second places. The Bear-a-cudas qualified nine swimmers for the championship meet, which will take place in Munich. Head coach Ted Colquhoun was pleased with his swimmers' performance during the meet, stating that "the poor pool conditions kept the team from qualifying several other swimmers."

Outstanding winners for the meet were Laura Dussente in the 15-14 girls backstroke and breaststroke, team captain Mary Cogle in the 200 individual medley, Renate Fischer in the 15-19 girls 100 breaststroke, and newcomer Jim Long in the 17-19 boys 100 freestyle.



Flout like a butterfly . . . Chris Pinter testing up for the Bear-a-cudas.