

Auggie track team covers California

by Astrid T. Larssen
Sports editor

To escape the bitter cold in Minnesota, and to run on a real track in real short shorts, the Augsburg track and field team flew out to California over spring break.

After finally getting our vans that Thrifty car rentals claimed we didn't order nor pay for, we headed for Long Beach, our base for the next week. As soon as we were installed in our rooms, coach Barker had us put on those short shorts, and off we went to the beach. After running on the beach, as close as possible to the ocean, about half the team threw off their T-shirts, shoes, and socks and jumped

into the ocean. Some people were involuntarily sucked in by the waves i.e. featherweight Rebekah Ormsby. Other people, in their excitement over being by the ocean, even made a little offering to Poseidon. Tony Lintner's glasses might be worn by an octopus this very moment.

Most of over time was spent at Long Beach State University's track and field facilities. They treated us nice, we only got two parking tickets. The pole vaulters, Nate Villnow and Mike Riley and long distance runner Stephanie Simones went to work out at UCLA (lucky pigs) every day. Stephanie ran hills until she could see the man on the moon, and the pole vaulters were

coached by the UCLA coach, said to be one of the best pole vault coaches in the country.

A great week was concluded with a windy meet at California State University at Northridge. The area was shaken badly during the last earthquake, and we saw buildings with long cracks and concrete falling down. The track we competed on was reopened only two-weeks prior to the meet.

The meet bore evidence of a week of hard work outs, fun, relaxation on the beach and by the pool by and that it was everyone's first outdoor meet. In good company with some Olympian athletes, several

Auggies placed in their events.

Becky Bjerke, just recovered from a knee injury, placed 7th in triple jump with 8.96 m (29'04.75"), and 10th in long jump with 4.21m (13'09.75"). The two throwers did well with, Angela Rath placing 7th in the shot put with 9.53 m (31'03.25"), and 8th in discus with 26.82 m (88'00.00"). Jennifer Baltuff, placed 9th in the discus with 23.44 m (76'11.00"). Aided by the wind, Astrid T. Larssen sprinted in to a 9th place in the women's 100 m, 12.68, and the women's 4x400 m relay team, took a 5th place with 4.40.69.

The men's 4x400 m kept up the

good trend from the indoor season, they came in 4th at 3.36.42. Mark Goetz, just converting from sprints to jumping, took a 6th place in long jump with 10.10 m (33'03.00"). The pole vaulters must have picked up some helpful hints at UCLA, Nate Villnow ended up 7th with 4.17 m (13'03.25"), and Mike Riley, 9th with 3.72 m (12'02.50").

Returning to Minnesota was another story, circling over Minneapolis for about 30 minutes made us suspicious, and yes, several inches of snow awaited us on the ground. All of a sudden sunburns, beaches and short shorts seemed more than a four hour flight away.

Men's and women's tennis teams hit the outdoors early in Florida

by Tara Cesaretti
Guest writer

The men's and women's varsity tennis teams travelled to Miami Beach, Florida to spend their spring break.

New Head Coach Glenn Britz and Assistant Coach Diane Ewing accompanied six members of each team.

While in Miami Beach the teams were able to play their first outdoor tennis of the season. Miami Beach offered the teams the opportunity to practice on clay courts, which for many team members was a first.

Although the scheduled match was canceled due to weather related issues, both teams were able to win scrimmage matches against another local team.

The teams also attended two days of the 12th Lipton Championships. The Lipton is an 11-day tournament featuring some of the world's highest ranked professionals. Augsburg

team members were able to watch such professionals as Stephan Edberg, Michael Chang, Pete Sampras, Goran Ivanisevic, Steffi Graf, Jennifer Capriati and Jana Novatna. Many Augsburg team members were able to meet and get autographs from some of these professionals. The tournament was held in Key Biscayne, Florida which is a short drive from Miami Beach.

As the vast majority of the Augsburg Team was born and raised in Minnesota, they have not been exposed to professional tournaments other than indoor exhibitions. Tennis is a sport in which players can learn techniques and strategies by observing others, so this was a fabulous opportunity for the Augsburg teams to learn from the world's best competitors. Travelling to Florida enabled them to watch hundreds of professional singles and doubles matches.

The trip also gave team members the chance to better get to know each other and their coaches. Staying on the beach enabled the teams to swim in the ocean, play beach and pool volleyball and bury each other in the sand. Most team members came back to snowy Minnesota with a nice tan or the remains of a bad sunburn.

Miami Beach provided a unique cultural experience for the teams. Whether it was the Cuban restaurants or the peak at Madonna's Hotel, Miami Beach offered something different than Minneapolis, and the teams had a great time.

Prior to leaving for Florida, the Women's Team won its first team match in several years by beating St. Mary's. Winning at singles for the Auggies were Angie Bremer, Marea Merrill and Tara Cesaretti. Winning doubles teams were the teams of Angie Bremer/Tara Cesaretti and Marea Merrill/Kjirsten Hoversten.

Fun in the Arizona sun with the women's golf team

by Amanda Wood
Guest writer

As the girls and I boarded the plane, I had never thought for a second that our spring break would turn out the way that it did. We were leaving behind cold, unsprung life for a place where it is always green and smells good all year round. We were practically beside ourselves when the plane set itself down, and my first sight of palm trees told me that we had actually made it. This is where our adventure of fun in the sun began in the beautiful state of Arizona.

Our initial goal on break as the official women's golf team was to play some of the most beautiful golf courses in the nation. And we indeed did that. The courses that we played were breathtaking and amazing to the

eye. We were very fortunate to play these immaculate rolling hills of green. Practice is always good, and we got some of that.

But another reason for going was to just enjoy ourselves in the sun. It was a lot of sun we had too. In fact, as a fairer skinned person, I was unable to tolerate the direct sun on my skin by the third day. The other girls on the golf team had thought ahead and had done some tanning previous to take-off, so the results of all that sun was beneficial to their tan.

We went out on the town after sundown and were usually in bed at an early hour after whooping it up for a while. The hour that we lost during the flight didn't seem to affect us much, so we were still often late risers.

To add to all of the excitement of our trip was the arrival of the snow storm in the northern United States which causes for our spring break to be extended a whole extra day! We were excited and angry at the same time to hear that our flight had been canceled, due to the fact that classes were scheduled to resume the next day. Well, we made it home in one piece eventually, and now the Augsburg girls golf team is left with our pictures and memories of the fun that we had while in Arizona on spring break.

Auggie tidbits:

* Prior to leaving for Florida, The Augsburg Women's Tennis Team won its first team match in several years by beating St. Mary's. Winning at singles for the Auggies were Angie Bremer, Marea Merrill and Tara Cesaretti. Winning doubles teams were the teams of Angie Bremer/Tara Cesaretti and Marea Merrill/Kjirsten Hoversten.

* The Baseball game scheduled against Hamline, Saturday, April 6., was canceled, due to the weather.

* The Augsburg Men's track and field athletes competed in Bolstorff Invitational at Macalester last Saturday. The Auggies showed some really good performances, Nate Villnow won the pole vault with 14.01 m (45-11.5). Dan Spies won the 5000 m with a time of 15.38.75 min. Tony Lintner came in second in the 400 m hurdles, 1.00.0 min., and the 4x400 m relay team ended up 3rd, with a time of 3.39.40 min.

The Auggie of the Week was on Easter vacation, but will return next week.

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