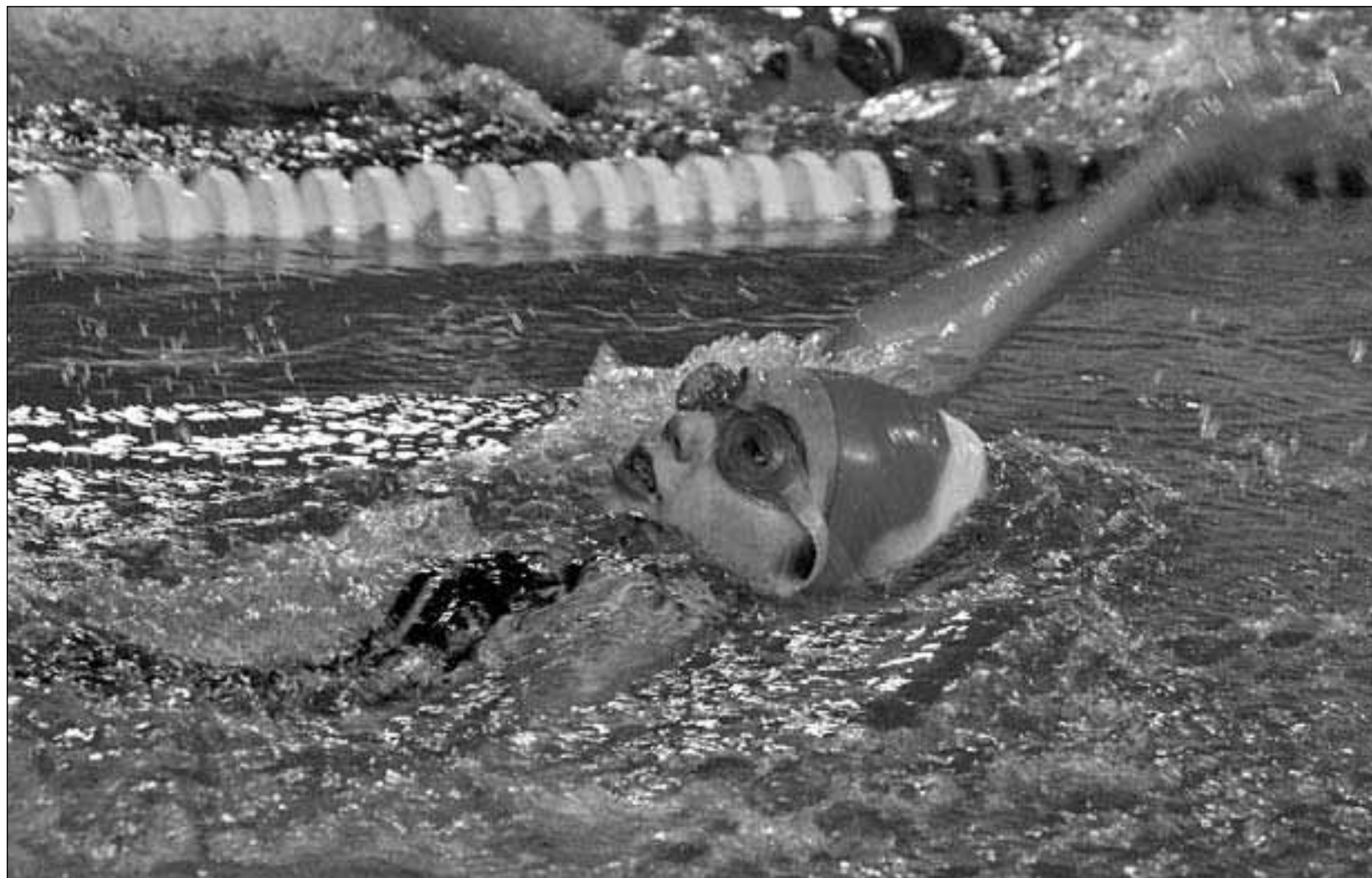


Hay River bowls to silver
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Sports & Recreation

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Last gasp of hockey
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Raven Firth of Inuvik competed in a backstroke race at the BHP Billiton Kimberlite Classic Swim Meet in Yellowknife April 25 to 27.

photo courtesy of Alexander Legaree



SPORTS Check

with Natalie Dunleavy

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Funding for trails

NWT

Communities hoping to map out local trails should look into funding available from the NWT Recreation and Parks Association (NWTRPA).

The Trail Building Fund is available for school, club or community governments that want to map trails such as those for walking, skiing, dog sledding, hiking and snow-

Swimmers prove worth

Coaches see improvement with performances at Yellowknife meet

by Natalie Dunleavy
Northern News Services
Somba K'e/Yellowknife

Swimmers preparing for the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) took a stroke in the right direction at the BHP Billiton Kimberlite Classic Swim Meet in

Yellowknife April 25 to 27.

"There's been some great improvement over these couple of months," said NAIG coach Ian Legaree.

He has not seen most swimmers since the 2008 Shoppers Drug Mart NWT Championships in January.

"You can tell they were training well and sticking to their training plans because they are taking big chunks off (their previous times)," he said.

Kelvin Yee, coach of the Hay River team, said his four NAIG swimmer's are also

well on their way.

"There's a lot of work to be done but for the most part the kids did really well," he said.

The NAIG swimmers were among more than 100 competitors from communities including

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sports & recreation

Longer races

Swimmers, from page 30

Yellowknife, Hay River and Inuvik at the meet.

Tessie Chinna, 11, and Raven Firth, 11, took a step up at the meet by competing in their first 200-metre races.

"It was fun," said Chinna. "I thought it would be harder than it was."

Firth, however, found the feat a little more challenging.

"It was really hard," she said. "You use all your energy to do the first 100, then you have to do 100 more," she said.

Chinna took a third place in the 50-metre fly, while Firth took three thirds in the 100-metre backstroke, 50-metre backstroke and 200-metre individual medley.

For swimmers who will not

be going to NAIG, the meet was their last in the NWT of the season.

Hay River's Malcolm St. John, 12, was pleased to reduce his times in backstroke events he had not competed in for some time.

"I got my backstroke back (to where it was when) I was nine," he said.

St. John took four firsts, one second and two thirds at the meet.

Other swimmers such as Hay River's Lyndon Yee were also happy with their success.

"I got a pretty good time on my 100-metre free," said Yee, who finished with a time of 1:20, snagging a second place in the event. Yee also took three firsts and three other second places at the event.



HOCKEY'S LAST GASP

Brandon Voudrach spent the first few minutes before a hockey tournament in Inuvik practising his puck handling. The community held a picnic and hockey day to mark the dying days of winter.

Dez Loreen/NWSL photo

KIMBERLITE CLASSIC RESULTS (FIRST PLACE FINISHES)

The Polar Bear Swim Club hosted the BHP Billiton Kimberlite Classic Swim Meet in Yellowknife April 25 to 27.

Mason Hachey, 16 (Hay River)
1st, Men's 15-18 100 Breaststroke;

Graham St. John, 8 (Hay River)

1st, Men's 8 & Under 25 Free;
1st, Men's 8 & Under 50 Breaststroke;
1st, Men's 8 & Under 25 Breaststroke
1st, Men's 8 & Under 50 Free;

1st, Men's 8 & Under 25 Back;
1st, Men's 8 & Under 100 Free

Malcolm St. John, 12 (Hay River)
1st, Men's 11-12 100 Back;
1st Men's 11-12 50 Breaststroke;
1st, Men's 11-12 200 Breaststroke;

1st, Men's 11-12 100 Breaststroke

Colton Yee, 15 (Hay River)
1st, Men's 15-18 50 Fly;
1st, Men's 15-18 200 Free ;1st,
Men's 15-18 100 Fly;
1st, Men's 15-18 50 Free;
1st, Men's 15-18 100 IM;

1st, Men's 15-18 50 Back;
1st, Men's 15-18 100 Free

Lyndon Yee, 12 (Hay River)
1st, Men's 11-12 50 Fly;
1st, Men's 11-12 200 Free;
1st, Men's 11-12 100 Individual medley