

Dear Dennis,      LAKE ONTARIO CROSSING      Sept. 74

Honestly wish you had been here because it turned out to be your kind of swim. Not cold (65-70) but fourth place didn't come in until after 15 hours (Shedid) so it was a bit like Lake St. Jean 1972. Jon swam a terrific race, especially working hard through a strong current to pass Schans — broke him and he got out. Iglesias in fantastic shape — doesn't know if he's coming to all of the Canada swims this year. Might skip La Tuque anyway. As for me, we've all heard enough hard-luck stories to last us a life-time but facts are facts and the fact is the of box of food for myself never made it to my boat. (Here the boats wait for you about 1/2 mile out instead of starting with you.) For the time I was in, I [wavered] from 5, 6th, & 7th positions and even though I've only been swimming one hour a day, I felt good and strong. Feeling a little weak because of no sugar (only black coffee on the boat) and beginning to be sea-sick after about 4 hrs. Swam to another boat to ask for COKE or anything but they refused to give. Hard to believe, I think. Anyway, I lasted 7½ hrs. and I think if I had something to absorb the saltwater or calm my stomach I could have made it. But as it was... Santa Fe is supposed to be a long one (65 km) but with the current so on an 8 or 9 hour swim. And fresh water, hooray.

Made a pact in November with Bob Duenkel (swam with Bill Barton one year) for La Tuque. Received work from him a week before I came here that he is to have a new job in Ft. Lauderdale and won't be able to get away for anytime during the summer. After the race here, made a deal with Marcello Guiscardo which could be good. If you're interested, M. Shedid has written to Magdy Mandour & hopes to team up with him again but I should think Magdy a fool if he doesn't go with Ossama or Ghazawi or somebody else Really have no idea but I think Shedid will be looking for a partner in the months to come. Did La Tuque offer you anything for swimming it alone?

Grad school is turning out to be a fantastic experience for me — very involved in the literature and happy to be in an unpretentious program; such is NYU. Am also in love with New York. Fast pace, a thousand things to do and I find myself very productive and [????????????]. Bar-tending for spare money. Got to see how the derelicts live, you know. Drop me a line some time & let me know how much your boys beat Lake Forest by, how you're doing swimming and otherwise, and anything else you care to share.

NYAD: 205 W. 15th St. #3K

N.Y., N.Y. - 10011

Take care & I'll see you come summer, Diana

P.S. If you see Margaret, give my best, please.