

My name is Noah Reid, and I am going to be a 5th-year swimmer at the University of Arizona, in Tucson, Arizona. I wanted to take the time to tell you about my 10 years at Tsunami Swim Team of Kansas City and what it means to me.

I started summer swim when I was 9 years old and fell in love with the sport right away, despite barely making it a 25. I joined TST because that is where all of my friends were swimming. Tsunami, like most things in my life, has been about the relationships for me. They consistently gave me precisely what I needed in my swimming life at just the right time - from experiences and opportunities to coaches and friends.

I moved up to what used to be called senior development to swim for Tom when I was about 13 years old. It was around this time when I began to dream of swimming collegiately at the division one level. It has always been essential to have a close relationship with my coaches. I want them to know me outside of the water before I can really trust in the sets they are giving me. Tom offered me that relationship. He cared about me as much as he cared about my swimming. Tom has taught me so much about swimming, but he also taught me how to be a good leader.

I never once thought about changing club teams or leaving the family at Tsunami. Loyalty was and still is really important to me. I know that whenever I need a place to train when I come home from college, Tsunami will welcome me back with open arms and a lane like I never left. Yeah, swimming is an individual sport, but not at Tsunami swim team. It truly is a family, and I am honored to have been a part of it. Isn't that what participating in sports is all about?

Tsunami contributed to the development of me into the swimmer and the man I am today, giving me lessons and relationships I will carry with me for a lifetime. Tom and the other coaches I have swum for at Tsunami have developed me from barely making it a 25 to achieve the dream I had of swimming at the Division 1 level. Under Tom, I was a sectional medalist as well as a Junior National Qualifier. During my time at the U of A, I am now an NCAA All-American and a multiple event Olympic Trial Qualifier. Without Tsunami, none of that would have been possible.

I am forever grateful for the Tsunami Swim Team and Tom Kleiboeker. I will forever be a fan of this team and the swimmers it produces. I cannot wait to see all of your dreams come true.

**Bear Down and Go Tsunami!**

Noah Reid