

SPORTS



Photos by Fumiko Yarita / Reporter

Aqua Club's Chrissy Baumgartner competes in the girls 18U 100-yard individual medley during the 2007 Seattle Summer Swim League All-City Finals championship meet at the Kenmore Aqua Club Swim and Tennis Club pool Aug. 7.

Aqua Club rules the pool

Local team wins title

By CHRISTOPHER A. SMITH
Staff Writer

McKenzie Nakamura and Kristen Lindbergh both notched four gold medals and the Kenmore-based Aqua Club swim team swept the final three relay races, sending the local faithful home happy with a team championship at the 48th Annual Seattle Summer Swim League All-City Finals.

It marks the second local championship in three years, but just the third since 1977. Officials approximate 2,500 people showed up at the Aqua Club Swim and Tennis Club in Kenmore, with cars parked along the surface streets for blocks surrounding the Aug. 7 event, which ran for more than four hours until 9:15 p.m.

"It was awesome," said 17-year Aqua Club head coach Matt Edwards. "Our kids swam really fast, set some records, and the fact that it was at home made it even more of a party at the end."

One of the records broken was



Aqua Club's Steven Lorenzen competes in the boys 14U 100-yard individual medley at the championship meet.

in the girls 15-and-over 200-yard freestyle, where Jayme Swalin and Meaghan McCloskey joined Nakamura and Lindbergh to break the 2003 meet record with a time of 1 minute, 42.53 seconds.

That win was sandwiched between two male-relay victories for Aqua Club to end the meet. The boys 13-14 200-yard freestyle team of Ryan Lindbergh, Steven Lorenzen, Robert Andriola and Michael Postetter edged out the second-place team by .13 seconds with a time of 1:42.62 seconds.

And then, after the girls' victory, Aqua Club put down the exclamation point by setting a club record and receiving a gold medal in the boys 15-and-over 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:29.95, led by Evan Moore, Patrick Baxter, Jeffrey Postetter and John Lorenzen.

It was fitting that the final event started with Moore and ended with John Lorenzen, the only two graduating seniors on the team.

"They both have been there forever, and they are just the greatest guys," Edwards said.

"One of my favorite things about this team is you get these 18-year-olds who have stuck around for 12 years and then (it's great) to have the younger kids have them as your role models."

Moore and Lorenzen also were members of the club record-setting medley relay team (1:41.11) with Kyle Bogusz and Patrick Baxter.

Bogusz's night also included breaking a 1974 club record in the boys 15-and-over 50-yard freestyle with a time of 25.28, more than a full second ahead of the next closest competitor.

Aqua Club also showed that the future looks bright, as 12-year-old Brad Fitch came away with three gold medals of his own. He set new league record for the 11-12 boys 50-yard freestyle (24.70) and also won 100-yard individual medley and helped the medley relay to a first-place victory.

On the girls' side, Keaton Whitaker set a new club record in the 9-10 girls 50-yard breaststroke with a time of 20.98, finishing second.

Aqua Club's other 15-and-over relay victory came with the girls 200-yard medley relay team (1:53.22) with Nakamura, McCloskey, Kristen Lindbergh and Chrissy Baumgartner.