

The Rockshire Review

Vol. 1 No. 1

June 14th, 2015

The Cold Never Bothered Us Anyway

The 2015 season got off to a great start for the Rockshire Sharks. However, the 60 degree temperatures left many wondering if Coach Andy had brought the weather with him from Vermont. As a result of the extremely cold water, the Sharks got to play many games during the first two weeks of practice. Kiana Johnson dominated the water basketball, suggesting that there might be at least one sport in which Wootton is better than Churchill. However, it was Ashely Thommana's defensive performance that impressed the large audience (ok, just the coaches) the most. The 5th grade boys took on all of the 10&unders in shallow end water polo. The 8&unders took advantage of extra time on deck and practiced their cheering (and spelling). Luckily, by the 3rd week of practice, the weather had improved and the water had warmed up. It even got hot enough that some Sharks were reminiscing fondly about the cold days of yesterweek.

Fallsmead Meet

On Wednesday night, the Rockshire Sharks drove a *very* short way down the road to compete against the Fallsmead...Sharks. All the

games of basketball and water polo clearly left some of the Sharks confused, as many showed up wearing sports jerseys and eye-black. After realizing that they were actually there for a swim meet, the Sharks got to work and had many great swims. Kim Abera, Dominic Oertel and Ashley Thommana led the way with best times in 4 or more events. Kierra Johnson and Daniel Walker both dropped 9 seconds in freestyle for the biggest drops of the day. Argeline Lee, Matthew Ledoux, Lizzie Nelson and Andrew Vorozheykin also all had time drops of at least 5 seconds in a single event. Josh Freedman and Kayleigh Hepburn both had best times in 3 events. However, it was the 8&unders who pulled off the biggest upset of the night by proving that practice makes perfect and being the loudest age-group during the V-I-C-T-O-R-Y cheer. This cheering unfortunately was done without Danielle Ram, who was in the hospital with a broken wrist. The *Review* wishes Danielle a speedy recovery.

Friday Events

On Friday afternoon, the *Review* was finally able to confirm rumors of a 3rd coach, as Coach Tim made his first appearance at a practice. After

Tim helped with a slightly shortened practice, the Sharks put on their team suits and got out their best smiles, so that they could... sit in one place for a really long time. Actually, it was to take a team picture. Luckily, weeks of practicing boring drills prepared the Sharks for this activity, and the picture turned out great. The Sharks also had fun with an underwater camera after the official picture. The night concluded with an outstanding pasta dinner put together thanks to many hard-working parents.

Seven Locks Meet

Saturday morning the Sharks donned their bright colors returned home to the Reef to swim against the Seven Locks (what else) Sharks. There was some debate about whether Coach Andy's shirt was actually neon or lettuce green (and the *Review* is happy to report that it was indeed neon), but there was no debate about well how the Sharks swam. The older swimmers got the meet off to a great start suggesting that there might even be two sports in which Wootton is better than Churchill) as they went 1-3 in the Boys Open-Age Relay (Eric Lu, William Wong, Gregory Urvoksy, Daniel Wang, Matthew Klein, David Fan, Dominic Oertel, Andy Ram),

and 1-2 in the Girls Open-Age Relay (Jocelyn Merkin, Gwen Klein, Sarah Solomon, Sofia Eliseeva, Roxana Mobini, Kayleigh Hepburn, Sarah Fagan, Therese Oertel). The Sharks went on to sweep an additional twelve events, including going 1-6 in two of those events. Avery Breen, Gabriela Combs, Sofia Eliseeva, Sarah Fagan, David Fan, Charlie Freedman, Kyle Fuster, Kayleigh Hepburn, Maddie Kelly, Gwen Klein, Matthew Klein, Matthew Ledoux, Erik Lieske, Eric Lu, Jocelyn Merkin, Roxana Mobini, Therese Oertel, Andy Ram, Sarah Solomon, Andrey Tarapunov, Gregory Urovsky, Daniel Wang, and Jingjing Wu contributed to those twelve sweeps. The 13-14 boys swept all of their races, and as a result outscored the Seven Locks 13-14 boys 68-12. The future also looks as "bright" as a neon shirt, as the 8&under boys outscored the Seven Locks 8&under boys 48-13, and the 8&under girls swept half of their races. Sarah Solomon, Daniel Wang, and Joey Wildman swept their events. Albert Tang swam up as a 15-18 to help the team. Connor Combs was a late addition to many races, and responded with 4 best times, including a 5 second drop in the breast. Sidney Thompson and William Wong both also had four best times. Connor, Aava Kimia, Jennifer Li, Andrey Tarapunov, Sidney, and Jingkang Wu all dropped at least 3 seconds in an event. However, it was Sarah Fagan

who had the biggest drop of the day, dropping 8 seconds in the back and showing that it is not only new swimmers who can have massive time drops. The meet ended just like it started as the boys went 1-3 in the Graduated Free Relay (Jordan Kelly, Joey Wildman, Andy Ram, Kyle Fuster, Max Fuster, Connor Combs, Gregory Urovsky, Charlie Freedman). Many Sharks went to Fuddruckers after the meet and had a great time eating food and watching track and field on TV (although rumor has it that Coach Tim was unimpressed with the quality of the pole vaulters).

Records

Daniel Wang broke team records in the 13-14 boys 50 free and 13-14 boys 50 fly. Both of these records belonged to Daniel Yook. The *Review* thanks Daniel Yook for his service and wishes him the best of luck at the Air Force Academy next year.

Upcoming Events

On Tuesday, the Sharks celebrate the end of school by beginning morning practice. The next day, the Sharks will have their first home Wednesday night meet of the season, as they host the Potomac Porpoises and have a luau at the Reef (hopefully it will stay warm and continue to feel like Hawaii). On Friday, the Sharks will have their second

pasta night of the season. They will take to the road the next morning and hope to be double the trouble, as they travel to swim the Lake Marion Lasers.