

# The Rockshire Review

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## A New Season

On Tuesday May 31<sup>st</sup>, the mighty Rockshire Sharks held their first practice. Despite the mean coaches who deny the swimmers their basic right to breathe, both young and old Sharks have turned out in record numbers. This includes many brand new Sharks who don't remember the freezing cold temperatures of last year and complained about this year's tepid water (in other news, this is apparently Albert Tang's first year on the team). This record breaking number of Sharks has caused the lanes to be rather crowded. Making these crowds even more challenging are the horseflies which have been flying around the pool all season and forcing the swimmers to stay in the water, something the coaches have often struggled with.

## Country Glen Meet

Wednesday night, the Sharks went on the road to face the Sun Devils of Country Glen. As school winds down, most Sharks still have very busy schedules and that may have led to some confusion, as many showed up wearing sports jerseys. After being informed that they were actually here for a swim meet, the Sharks got to

work and had a great night. Maxwell Scherr led the way with an 18 second time drop in backstroke for the biggest drop of the night. Similarly, Aiden Scherr knocked 8 seconds off his best time in backstroke, fueling rumors that these two boys who look similar and share a last name and a birthday just might be twins. Kim Abera, Erik Lieske, Sarah Magzine, Alex Okun (twice), Yamei Usui and Jingkang Wu joined the Scherr boys in dropping at least 5 seconds in a single event. It was also a good night for Connor Combs as he got four best times and won best dressed with his green hair (and green scalp on Thursday). Yamei Usui joined Connor with four best times and Mia Coven joined him in winning best dressed (mostly because the editors of the *Review* are Caps fans). Josh Freedman, Sophia Lieske, and Alex Okun were not far behind Connor and Yamei, with best times in three events.

## Team Picture

On Friday night, the Sharks cut their practices a little short to take the team picture. The *Review's* onsite reporter confirmed that there were only two coaches present, but rumors abound that there will be three coaches in the final

picture. Regardless of how many coaches were actually at the picture, there were certainly a large number of swimmers. However, our awesome photographer was still able to organize all of the Sharks and take the picture incredibly quickly. This gave the Sharks time to take some jumping pictures, where it was something (or someone) else other than the horseflies that forced Daniel Wang into the water.

## Potomac Meet

A long time ago (actually on Saturday) in a galaxy far far away (actually just down Falls Road), the Sharks took on their new archrivals the Potomac Porpoises in a dual meet for the ages. The Sharks were able to jump into lightspeed and swim faster than the millennium falcon could fly (some Sharks even made the Kessel Run in less than 11 parsecs). The Jedi Council got the meet off to a great start by winning the boys open age medley (Joey Wildman, Jonathan Yune, Daniel Wang, Andy Ram) and taking 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the girls open age medley (Yamei Usui, Sarah Solomon, Avery Breen, Emma Stern, Maddy Adams, Lisa Broydo, Roxana Mobini, Madison Kelly). Their Jedi

apprentices finished the meet just as well by going 1-2 in the final boys relay (Jordan Kelly, Connor Combs, Albert Tang, Patrick Liang, Devin Johnson, David Yune, Andy Ram, Fuster Kyle). Andy Ram has evidently taken over the "ageless" role from Albert Tang (maybe Albert was on the team last year), as Andy is somehow both a master and an apprentice. In between these relays, there were many other great swims. The force is clearly strong with Sarah Magazine as she knocked 7 seconds off her best time in breaststroke for the biggest drop of the day. Kim Abera, Cate Ledoux, Sarah Solomon and David Yune also had big drops in a single event. Cate, Sarah and David were among the swimmers to get best times in at least three events. They were joined by Avery Breen, Connor Combs, Juliana Combs, Fuster Kyle, Devin Johnson, Katherine Lei, Andy Ram, Yamei Usui, Daniel Wang and Jonathan Yune in doing this. The Sharks swept three events against the Porpoises (including taking 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> in 9-10 boys freestyle). Charles Freedman, Max Fuster Devin Johnson, Jordan Kelly, Erik Lieske, James Lieske, John Liu and David Yune contributed to these sweeps. Juliana Combs, Fuster Kyle, Jordan Kelly, Sarah Solomon, Sidney Thompson, and Jonathan Yune all swept their events. Devin Johnson, Patrick Liang, and Jingjing Wu completed the sweep of their

age groups. Many Sharks stepped up in various ways to help the team. Helen Duan, Alexander Lopez, and Eric Lopez all swam up. Lisa Broydo, Madison Kelly and James Lieske swam with the Jedi Council relay despite being 12&under. The Sharks spirit was outstanding and it was very difficult for the *Review* to pick just a few winners for best dressed out of all the great star wars costumes. Ultimately the winners were Charles Freeman, Josh Freedman, Jordan Kelly, Madison Kelly, and Sarah Magazine. However, the *Review* had no trouble naming James Lieske and Yule Pieters as the best dressed in the water. The Sharks went to Tallyho pizza after the meet to celebrate their great swims.

### Best Time Count

The Sharks got 62 best times at Country Glen and 89 best times at Potomac. This brings the season total to 151. As a reminder, if the Sharks can outperform last year's season total of 774 best times, Coach Andy will die his hair green for the banquet.

### Records

The Sharks broke two team records on Saturday. First, Kyle Fuster broke a 31-year-old record belonging to Joey Cornet in the boys 8&under backstroke. Later, Sidney Thompson added her name to the record board by officially

breaking the team record in girls 9-10 breaststroke.

### Upcoming Events

On Wednesday night, the Sharks will try to be faster than a speeding bullet as they take on the River Falls Dolphins. On Friday there will be another community pasta night. The next morning, the Sharks will finally compete at the Reef and will get a goodnight's sleep before weathering the Tsunami from Kenmont.