

A Long Week

The adage of working from sunup to sundown applies on the Rockshire Farm, as the Sharks added morning practices to their schedule this week. Not deterred by the extra practices, some Sharks decided to swim longer as well. On Thursday morning, many of the older Sharks competed in a mile for time at practice. Josh Freedman, Jordan Kelly and Tejas Navada chose to immediately follow that up with an 800 for time. The 10&unders spent much of their Thursday morning practice playing a just as long (and much more fun) game of gopher. This is clearly the smartest group of 10&unders in team history. Last week, we learned about their abilities to correctly spell victory, and this week we learned that they can also differentiate between a gopher and a goldfish (although some of them do still need to learn to differentiate between dangerous and harmless bugs). Ultimately, Shayna Kreiser outlasted Andrew Vorozheykin and Fuster Kyle to claim victory. The 11&ups may need to take some spelling lessons from the 10&unders, as this year's first srelliknam took a record long amount of time, thanks to the older Sharks'

inability to say the alphabet backwards. After a *slight* false start, Emma Stern did pass Max Fuster on the spelling portion, but she fell behind again on the streamline jumps and Max was able to bring his team to victory (that's V-I-C-T-O-R-Y, in case you can't spell).

Montgomery Square Meet

On Wednesday night, the Sharks traveled down Falls Road to take on the Montgomery Square Seahawks. While Nicolas Cheng and Ashlyn Roberts won best dressed, what the Sharks clearly should be when they grow up is...swimmers! An 8&under boy dropped over 20 seconds in an event for the 3rd meet in a row, as Justin Chen knocked 21 seconds off of his freestyle time for the biggest drop of the night. Kashvi Bhatia, Carina Chen, David Fan, Josh Freedman, Alana Lamb, Alex Obolensky, and Jingkang Wu (twice) all dropped at least 5 seconds in a single event. It was a repeat performance for Connor Combs. For the 2nd Wednesday in a row, he won the Coach Andy look-a-like contest and dropped time in all five of his races. He was joined by fellow 13-14 boys Josh Freedman and Alex Obolensky, as well as Jingkang Wu, in the feat. Laila Kreiser, Alex Okun,

Savannah Thompson-Jones and Andrew Vorozheykin were 4 for 4 with best times. Kashvi Bhatia, Alana Lamb, Erica Lopez, Ashley Thommana, and Kai Thompson-Jones dropped time in three events. Connor Combs and Devin Johnson each claimed victories in three events. Gwen Klein and Alan Sai won two events. Graduating senior Sarah Fagan apparently wants to be an 8&under again when she grows up, as she missed a race for the first time in her Rockshire career. Meanwhile, the Rockshire starting machine was apparently able to fulfill its lifelong dream of becoming the Montgomery Square starting machine when it grows up.

Tanterra Meet

Saying the alphabet backwards is evidently a magic spell that both fends off rain and transports you across the country, as the Sharks found themselves in sunny Hawaii for their meet against the Tanterra Tarpons. Unlike in West Side Story, the Sharks were clearly not impacted by the Jet(lag), as Jordan Kelly, Max Fuster went 1-2 in the first event and Sidney Thompson and Jingjing Wu went 1-2 in the second event. For the 2nd week in a row, the Men's Open Age Medley took 2nd and 3rd (David Yune, Daniel

Wang, Greg Urovsky, Andy Ram, David Fan, William Wong, Dominic Oertel, Kai Thompson-Jones). The Sharks similarly went 2-3 in the final event of the day, the Girl's Graduated Freestyle Relay (Jingjing Wu, Sidney Thompson, Cate Ledoux, Hawie Abera, Madison Kelly, Grace Zhang, Da-Young Kim, Mia Coven). Fuster Kyle, Jordan Kelly, Connor Combs and Alan Sai grabbed the Sharks' only relay win of the day, when they touched 1st in the Boy's Graduated Free Relay. Anton Obolensky, Max Fuster, Kai Thompson-Jones and Alex Thompson took 3rd in the event. Anton Obolensky, Patrick Liang, Andrew Vorozheykin and Charles Freedman went an impressive 1st through 4th in the Boy's 9-10 Freestyle. The future looks warmer than the weather in Hawaii, as the Sharks also swept both 8&under backstroke events (Lev Pak, Alex Thompson, Alan Sai, Hawie Abera, Laila Kreiser, Alana Lamb). Having located the pool, his event, and his lane, Daniel Wang dropped five seconds in breaststroke for the biggest drop of the day. Sarah Fagan (who also benefitted from actually showing up for the race), Da-Young Kim, Aria Kimia, Stefan Tabakov and Greg Urovsky also dropped at least three seconds in a single event. Mia Coven, Sarah Fagan, Da-Young Kim, Sidney Thompson, Daniel Wang, David Yune and Grace Zhang all got at least

three best times. Savannah Thompson-Jones and Shayna Kresier swam up to help the team. Shayna was also a last-minute entry into the 50 Butterfly. 12-year-olds Kim Abera and Grace Zhang swam against 18-year-olds on the Women's Open Age Medley. Fuster Kyle, Jordan Kelly, Jingjing Wu and David Yune swept their events. Anton Obolensky, Max Fuster, and Madison Kelly completed the sweeps of their respective age-groups. It was Anton's first Saturday win for the Sharks. Swimming in his first Saturday meet, Lev Pak also won his first event on a Saturday. Aria Kimia also competed in his first Saturday meets. Gabriela and Juliana Combs won best dressed and best prop (although the *Review* questions whether flamingos are native to Hawaii). Even though the weather had been magically improved, the Sharks were still unable to enjoy a barbeque after the meet. Instead, a record number of Sharks went to Potbelly's back in Maryland to celebrate their great swims.

Best Times Update

The Sharks got 102 best times on Wednesday and followed that up with 66 best times on Sunday, as they work towards their goal of beating last year's best time total of 913. This brings their season total to 360. They are slightly ahead of last year's pace, as the Sharks had

accumulated 350 best times through two weeks last season.

Upcoming Events

On Wednesday, the Sharks' home will really feel like a farm, as the take on Eldwick. On Friday night, there will be another pasta dinner. Saturday morning, the Sharks will show off their patriotic spirit, as they take to the road to race Glenmont. The whirlwind weekend will conclude with a relay carnival at North Creek.