

## It's Just a Matter of Time

Clearly intimidated by the number of best times that the Sharks are getting this season, the clock at the Rockshire pool decided to just give up and to stop showing any times this week. Robert Frost Middle School evidently needs to spend more time teaching its students how to read analog clocks and less time producing the news, because many Sharks were left confused and unsure about whether or not the clock was indeed broken. Math (or maybe arithmetic) also proved to be difficult for the Sharks this week, as many swimmers struggled with the concept of counting strokes.

## Eldwick Meet

On Wednesday night, the Sharks appropriately donned their best cowboy and cowgirl apparel and took on Eldwick at the Farm. In some of its final working hours, the clock was able to keep track of one of the fastest Wednesday night meets in Rockshire history. The speed of the meet was thanks to both the hard-working parents and the Sharks' speed in the water. An impressive 66 swimmers got a best time in at least one event. David Fan and Alexander Lopez dropped time in five events. Nick Kim was

not far behind with best times in four events. Maddison Manne knocked 14 seconds off her best time in butterfly for the biggest drop of the night. Sam Mahoney also dropped over 10 seconds in a single event. Mason Aarhus, Leila Alam, Nicolas Cheng, Sam Issadore, Michael Johnson, Aria Kimia, Sophie Lin, Ethan Mahoney (twice), Lyla Mahoney, Yule Pieters, Mariana Saenz, Pedro Saenz-Guisande, Lucy Stanton, Lucy Villiers, Santi Villiers and Temmy Zhang all dropped at least five seconds in an event. Nick Kim swept his events. Avery Breen, Emma Stern and Yamei Usui combined to sweep the 15-18 Women's events. Rockshire also won all 8 of the 9-10 events (Matthew Ledoux, Anton Obolensky, Danielle Ram, Andrew Vorozheykin, Felicia Wang). Hawie Abera, Melissa Lopez and Mariana Saenz-Guisande are evidently most ready to work at a dude ranch, as they won best dressed for the night.

## Friday Activities

The broken clock played a significant role in this week's mankillers. Robert Frost Middle School evidently does teach construction, because the Sharks' kickboard houses were much more impressive than their spelling last week or their

counting this week. Ultimately, new perennial mankiller anchor Max Fuster was able to hold off a hard-charging Greg Urovsky to give his team the victory for the second week in a row. On Friday night, the Sharks participated in a scavenger hunt for their first ever pasta night activity. The stacked team Cate took home a dominating victory, although all Sharks continued to struggle with arithmetic when they attempted to determine the depth of the baby pool.

## Glenmont Meet

On Saturday morning, the Sharks showed off their patriotic fervor, as they took on Glenmont on the road. While there was some debate as to what county the Sharks were supporting with their red, white (and blue?) outfits, there was no debate about how the Sharks swam. For the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in a row, Jordan Kelly won the first event and the Sharks never looked back. Jordan and Hawie Abera swept their events. Eric Lu and Daniel Wang swept the 15-18 Men's Events. Eric and Daniel also combined with William Wong and Andy Ram to win the Men's Open Medley Relay. In a thrilling finish, Jingjing Wu, Sidney Thompson, Cate Ledoux, Hawie Abera, Madison Kelly, Grace Zhang,

Da-Young Kim and Alana Lamb took first and third in the Girl's Graduated Freestyle Relay. Eric Lu had the biggest drop of the day. Madison Kelly, Alexander Lopez, Melissa Lopez, Madison Manne, Tejas Navada, Lucy Stanton and Yamei Usui also dropped a lot of time in a single event. Madison Kelly and Yamei Usui and David Yune got four best times. Max Fuster, Jordan Kelly, Eric Lu, Daniel Wang, and William Wong dropped time in three events. Hawie Abera, Madison Manne and Laila Kreiser swept the 8&under girl's breaststroke. Daniel and Sabina Blate, Sam Issadore and Melissa Lopez swam in their first Saturday meet. Jordan Kelly and Madison Manne won best dressed. The Sharks celebrated their great swims at Chick-fil-A.

### Relay Carnival

On Sunday morning, the Sharks woke up early for the 2<sup>nd</sup> morning a row (good thing no one was relying on the pool clock as their alarm clock) and took on all of Division I in relay carnival. The Sharks continued their colorful weekend, as they painted the North Creek pool green with their body paint and hair spray. Sidney Thompson, Max Fuster, Grace Zhang, and Jordan Kelly provided the Sharks' only win of the day, when they touched first in the 11-12 Mixed Freestyle Relay. Alana Lamb, Madison Manne, Hawie Abera and Summer Yao

finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Girl's 8&under Medley Relay. Yule Pieters and Santi Villiers swam-up to help the team. The Sharks' concluded their whirlwind weekend with lunch at Chipotle, although many Sharks apparently have GPSs that work about as well as the pool clock.

### Best Times Update

The Sharks got 118 best times on Wednesday night and 76 best times on Saturday. This brings their season total to 554 best times. They remain slightly ahead of last season's pace. At this time last year, the Sharks had 535 best times.

### Records

On Saturday morning, Jingjing Wu broke a team record belonging to current Shark Sidney Thompson in the Girls 9-10 50 Meter Freestyle. On Sunday, Sidney put her name back on the record board again, as she teamed up with Max Fuster, Grace Zhang and Jordan Kelly to break a team relay record in the 11-12 Mixed Freestyle Relay.

### Upcoming Events

On Tuesday morning, the Sharks will celebrate America's Birthday with Firecracker Relays and a breakfast. Wednesday night, they will travel to a galaxy far far away, (or Inverness) to take on the Nessies. On Friday night, the

Sharks will have another pasta dinner. Hopefully, the Sharks will have learned how to spell by Saturday morning, when they take on Forest Knolls on the road.