

## Trivia

Last week Coach Tim took the older sharks on a brief journey into the world of swimming trivia questions. This week, the questions increased in number and became more difficult (almost as difficult as staying dry on a Saturday morning). With resident trivia expert Greg Urovsky out with an illness for part of the week, older Sharks looked to a new face to step up and get them out of swimming. Avery Breen promised to study, but then conveniently missed the next practice. Ultimately, it was David Fan who found a way to shine, even without any mankillers to anchor this week. He pulled the name Nathan Adrian out of nowhere as the clock was winding down to help keep the older Sharks from doing an extra round of the set. They were eventually able to achieve this feat even though Jason L...something didn't count as a complete answer (much to the disgust of many Sharks). In the afternoon, Andy and Lauren were the ones being tested as they attempted to learn Russian and how to spell go (hint: it's not spelled og). In addition to a return of the trivia questions from week 3, this week also brought a return of the cold weather from week 1. This cold weather impacted the 10&unders the

most, but they survived by playing games, such as sharks and minnows, gopher and Marco Polo (although many Sharks evidently thought that gopher was called goldfish, and Erik Lieske evidently thought that Marco Polo was just called Polo). Elsewhere, clearly inspired by James Lieske and Cate Ledoux's outstanding performance on Tuesday afternoon, the ageless Albert Tang did his best Eric Lu impression, and proved that the 100s he had been racing in earlier meets were actually beneficial, as he won the mile swim at his camp. Connor Combs also completed the mile, in a very unique fashion.

## Country Glen Meet

On Wednesday night, the Sharks took on the Sun Devils of Country Glen at the reef. Luckily for the Sharks none of the trivia questions this week were name all the Sun Devils, as the vast number would have made that question very difficult (especially if both first and last names were required). To make things even more challenging for the Sharks, many dressed like Waldo, making it even harder to find them among the sea of Sun Devils. Nevertheless, the Sharks had many great swims. One

week after sister Kiana dropped over 10 seconds in two events, Kierra Johnson proved that the younger sibling is not always the better sibling, as she dropped 15 seconds in free and 13 seconds in back for the two biggest drops of the day. Valentina Fernandez, Theo Gittleson, Johan Hill, Gwen Klein, "Smiles" Ledoux, Alexander Lopez, Alex Thompson (twice), Lucy Villiers, and Eva Yeghyan all joined Kierra in dropping at least 5 seconds in a single event. Kim Abera, "Smiles" Ledoux, Sophia Lieske and Therese Oertel clearly didn't let the large number of Sun Devils, and resulting long meet, bother them, as they got best times in at least 4 events. Maddy Adams, Juliana Combs, Anna Lee, Jennifer Li, Alexander Lopez, Roxana Mobini, Arvind Navada, and Eva Yeghyan were not far behind with best times in three events.

## Firecracker Relays

The older sharks had many reasons to be happy on Friday morning, as they got to sleep in, did not have to answer any trivia questions, and got to partake in a practice consisting entirely of relays. In addition to a few traditional relays, the Sharks also competed in many

fun relays as well. While the middle team had the most efficient strategy in the t-shirt relay, Eric Lu had the smartest (albeit illegal) strategy in the "keep the card dry" relay. The relays ended with Greg Urovsky returning from illness in time to help the Tom Casey and the boys (which sound like a band from the 1980s) defeat Therese Oertel and the girls, despite Therese winning the rock, paper, scissors battle, and the shallow water. After their relays, the Sharks consumed an outstanding breakfast (thank you parents!!!) and watched the pre-teamers compete in a mini-meet.

### CCRA Meet

On Saturday morning, the Sharks felt like George Washington crossing the Delaware River, as they battled the CCRA stingrays at the reef. Not even the trivia experts can remember the last time that there was this much rain on Saturday mornings during swim season (where are all those SUN Devils when you need them). However, just like last week, the Sharks did not let the bad weather slow them down. The older swimmers (perhaps hoping to make themselves the answer to a future trivia question) got the meet off to a great start by going 1-2 in both of the open-age relays. Eric Lu, David Fan, Greg Urovsky, Dominic Oertel, Matthew Klein, William Wong, Tom

Casey, Chase Peng, Jocelyn Merkin, Gwen Klein, Sarah Solomon, Therese Oertel, Maddy Adams, Kayleigh Hepburn, Katherine Lei, and Roxana Mobini contributed to those 1-2 finishes. The Sharks also swept one individual event, as Eric Lu, David Fan, and Matthew Klein went 1-3 in the boys 13-14 breaststroke. Joey Wildman battled a very fast Stingray all day, and used the tough competition to help him get best times in three events. Fuster Kyle, Anna Lee, Jennifer Li, Patrick Liang, Roxana Mobini, Lizzie Nelson, and Eva Yeghyan all joined Joey in dropping time in multiple events. Sam Mahoney had the biggest drop of the day. This meet Kiana Johnson regained the crown from Kierra, as she also had a large drop in a single event. The meet ended in a similar fashion to the beginning, as Jordan Kelly, Joey Wildman, Daniel Wang, and Fuster Kyle won the final boys relay. Due to the holiday weekend, many Sharks had to swim extra events, including events that they did not want to. The Sharks finished the day by joining Lake Marion and their extravagant system for handing out ribbons at California Tortilla for lunch.

### Records

As promised last week, the *Review* can finally give an official report of the team records broken at relay carnival

last Sunday. The Sharks broke three relay records. First, Sidney Thompson, Lizzie Nelson, Max Fuster, and Jordan Kelly dipped under a record which included current Sharks Daniel Wang and Andy Ram in the Mixed 9-10 free (Andy was evidently so mad that he decided to go to the beach for a week). Later, Maddie Kelly, Gabriela Combs, Jingjing Wu, and Valentina Fernandez broke a 13-year-old record in the Girls 8&under medley. Finally, Eric Lu, Daniel Wang, Greg Urovsky, and Andy Ram got the record in the Boys 13-14 medley (so maybe Andy was just mad that his squirtgun was confiscated on Wednesday night). In addition to these outstanding swims, Jingjing Wu re-broke her own record in the Girls 8&under fly this Saturday.

### Upcoming Events

Tuesday night, Daniel Wang will compete against the entire county in the highly prestigious Coaches' Longcourse Meet. The following night, the Sharks take to the road, to compete in their final Wednesday night meet against River Falls. They will have their final pasta dinner on Friday night, before concluding their dual meet season the next day at Potomac.