

## Jobs

After being swarmed by bugs for the first month of the season, Karine finally found a way to put the bugs to good use and decided to open a cockroach farm. As she does not like bugs herself, she hoped to employ some Shark swimmers to work at the farm. However, after hearing that they would be paid less than minimum wage even back when the pool was built and the wall first moved (and Andy's jokes were still new and original) the Sharks wisely declined, leaving the bugs and cockroaches unattended to (maybe they went and ate the backstroke flags, as cockroaches will apparently eat anything). We know CG can't work at the cockroach farm, as he is already employed at an apparently unpronounceable smoothie establishment. Many were worried that the Robeks pronunciation debate would turn into another Halftime/Break debacle, but it was quickly cleared up. Devin Johnson many have just been trying to change the pronunciation to help him with his rhymes, as he starts his new job as a singer/poetry reader and gets ready to drop his first album. Earlier in the week, CG and Max Fuster auditioned for jobs as kickboard holders, as they each kicked with a record

12 kickboards in the add-a-kickboard relay.

## Eldwick Meet

On Wednesday night, the Sharks showed off their patriotic fervor, as they took on Eldwick at home. Michael Johnson led the way with a 19 second drop in 1M. Leila Alam, Sabina Blate, Juliana Combs, Helen Duan, Charles Freedman, TJ Miller (twice), Tejas Navada and Clement Yuryev also dropped at least 5 seconds in an event. Emma Illig got 5 best times. Rajimi Kvedys, Vikram Mishra, Tejas Navada and Andrey Tarapunov earned 4 best times. Carina Chen, Juliana Combs, Michael Johnson, Michael Langer, Matthew Ledoux, Patrick Liang and Alex Lopez all got 3 best times. Justin Chen, Larry Liao, Max Manne, TJ Miller, Eshaan Mishra, Lukas Nuredini, Brandon Pino, Max Xu and Clement Yuryev combined to sweep all of the 8<sup>th</sup> boys' events, including taking 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> in the backstroke. The Sharks swept an additional 7 races. Hawie Abera, Kim Abera, Yasmine Badr, CG, Gabriela Combs, Helen Duan, Fuster Kyle, Alana Lamb, Matthew Ledoux, Patrick Liang, Erica Lopez, Melissa Lopez, Maddy Manne, Tejas Navada, Anton Obolensky, Aiden Scherr, Lucy Stanton, Andrey Tarapunov, Kai Thompson-Jones, Andrew

Vorozheykin, Daniel Walker and Summer Yao contributed to those sweeps. Kim Abera, Helen Duan, Max Fuster, Eshaan Mishra and Vikram Mishra won best dressed.

## Firecracker Relays

On Thursday morning, the Sharks took part in Firecracker Relays. After a few Sharks learned what corkscrew and doggy-paddle are (obviously the coaches are spending too much time on breast and fly in practice and not enough on the important things), the relays concluded with the all-important chair race. This year, Kayleigh Hepburn and girls were able to defeat Greg Urovsky and the boys, despite Greg winning the rock-paper-scissors competition and the shallow water. After the relays, the Sharks enjoyed a breakfast and tie-dyed shirts, thanks to the hard work of many parents.

## Friday Activities

Friday morning saw the closest mankillers competition to date. Ultimately, new perennial mankiller anchor Max Fuster was able to run down Tejas Navada and eek out a victory for his team. In the afternoon, the Sharks took part in the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual water balloon toss. Max Fuster continued his winning ways, as he teamed up with Eshaan Mishra to outlast Kai Thompson-Jones and Nicolas Cheng.

### Manor Woods Meet

On Saturday morning, the Sharks faced off against the Manor Woods Terrapins. Early on it appeared that the Sharks might be too tired from working at the cockroach farm, as many showed up still in their pajamas (including best dressed winners Maddy Manne and Dylan Pino). However, once they got in the water, the Sharks had no problems. Avery Breen, Catherine Hsu, Daniel Wang and Jingjing Wu dropped time in 4 events. Juliana Combs, Fuster Kyle, Max Fuster, Eshaan Mishra and Judy Wu got 3 best times. Avery Breen had the biggest drop of the day. Lindi Cheng, David Fan, Amelia Fuster, Lev Gorban, Catherine Hsu (twice), Eshaan Mishra, Andy Ram, Kai Thompson-Jones and Jingjing Wu also dropped a lot of time in an event. Foreshadowing Sunday's successes, the Sharks were great in relays. Early in the meet, Daniel Wang, Kai Thompson-Jones, Greg Urovsky and CG pulled off the upset in the boy's medley. The Sharks closed out the meet by winning both of the freestyle relays. Jason Cobb, Fuster Kyle, Jordan Kelly and Dylan Pino swam on the boy's relay, while Hawie Abera, Jingjing Wu, Sidney Thompson and Amelia Fuster swam on the girl's relay. Maddy Manne, Madison Kelly, Grace Zhang and Zena Badr added a 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the girl's relay. Andrey Tarapunov, Andrew Vorozheykin and Aiden Scherr

swept the 11-12 boy's breaststroke. Jordan Kelly, Dylan Pino, Sidney Thompson and Daniel Wang swept their events. Max Fuster completed the sweep of the 13-14 boy's. Madison Kelly and Jingjing Wu combined to sweep the 11-12 girl's events. Many Sharks stepped up to help the team. 12-year-old Gabriela Combs swam against 18-year-olds on the open-age relay. Miranda Kvedys stepped in to fill an empty lane. Fuster Kyle swam through injury. At **halftime**, the Sharks bid a fond farewell to graduating seniors Avery Breen, David Fan, Kayleigh Hepburn, Emma Stern and Greg Urovsky. All of these swimmers and their families will be missed next year. After the meet, the Sharks celebrated their great swims at Fuddruckers, home of the world's smallest chicken tender.

### Relay Carnival

On Sunday morning, the Sharks took on all of Division I in relay carnival. While Andy was apparently hoping to travel back to the 2018 relay carnival, the Sharks proved that the 2019 relay teams were great too. Hawie Abera, Jingjing Wu, Sidney Thompson and Amelia Fuster kicked the meet off by winning the 2<sup>nd</sup> event. Two events later, Max Fuster, Grace Zhang, Sidney Thompson and Jordan Kelly took first the 13-14 mixed free. Right before the first break (not halftime at this meet), Jingjing, Sidney, Hawie and Amelia teamed up again to win the graduated medley.

Later, Gabriela Combs, Madison Kelly, Jingjing Wu and Danielle Ram won the 11-12 girl's medley. The Sharks concluded their whirlwind weekend with lunch at Panera.

### Best Times

The Sharks got 107 best times on Wednesday and 69 best times on Saturday. This brings their season total to 636. Through 4 weeks last year, the Sharks had only 510.

### Records

Jingjing Wu broke the team record in 11-12 girl's IM and lowered her own team records in the 11-12 girl's free and back. She also lowered her own Rockshire pool records in 11-12 girl's IM, free and back. Daniel Wang broke the team record in the 15-18 fly. Jordan Kelly broke the Rockshire pool record in 13-14 boy's back. At relay carnival, Hawie Abera, Jingjing Wu, Sidney Thompson and Amelia Fuster broke the team record and NCC pool record in the girl's freestyle relay.

### Upcoming Events

On Tuesday night, four Rockshire swimmers will compete against swimmers from across the county at the prestigious coaches longcourse meet. On Wednesday night, the Sharks will take their horse to the Old Farm road. On Friday afternoon, they will see Toy Story 4. On Saturday morning, they will try to shine brightly against NCC. The week will conclude with PIRC on Sunday morning.