

Bottoms Up Meet a Big Hit at Miramonte

By Kevin D. Shallat



11 year Girls Heat 7 of 7 Finals: (left to right)
 1 Nishioki Julia F OCC; 2 Reshka Julia MCC; 3 Bengtsson Adrienne MCC; 4 Durant Hannah MCC; 5 Larsen Annie MEAO; 6 Schoenfeld Erin PARK; 7 Gunn Jessica MRSC; 8 Gwynn Michaela PARK; 9 Fellner Reilly F OCC; 10 Goodreault Maddie PARK

Every year the Lamorinda swim teams compete in a meet that features the youngest swimmers in each age category. For instance, only the 11-year-olds compete at the Bottoms Up, as opposed to all the 11 and 12-year-olds that normally compete in the same category. This gives the swimmers a good gauge to determine how they stack up against their own peers in their age group. The 2007 Bottoms Up Invitational was held Sunday, July 8 at Miramonte High School.

Pictured to the left is the seventh heat of the girls 11-year-olds 50-yard freestyle, where Erin Schoenfeld of Orinda Park Pool came away with the win, finishing with a time of 28.23, and smashing her original seed time. Julia Nishioki of Orinda Country Club and Julia Reshke of Moraga Country Club tied for second place with an identical time of 29.77. Moraga Ranch Swim Club's Jessica Gunn took home third place, finishing with a time of 30.16.

Jenna Pettegrew is a swimmer and coach for Moraga Country Club, who says the Bottoms Up meet is one of her favorites. "I love the Bottoms Up meet because I get to compete against people my own age,

not just graduating seniors," she said. Pettegrew made the most of her Bottoms Up experience as she coached the kids, competed in three races, and cheered on her teammates with her mom.

Seven-year-old Courtney Krause also had a positive experience at the Bottoms Up meet Sunday. She won her heat in the 25-yard breaststroke, bettering her seed time by almost five seconds. Krause was very proud of her improvement as she walked to the tent to pick up her blue ribbon. "I practiced in my backyard and at the pool for an hour each time," said Krause.



Jenna Pettegrew MCC

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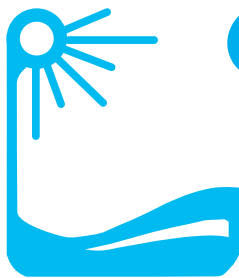
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