

Old Friends, New Records at Lafayette City Swim Meet

By Kevin D. Shallat

Aside from the raucous atmosphere and the life sized trophies, swimmers were competing for bragging rights for the city at the annual Lafayette City Meet on Saturday and Sunday, July 14 and 15 at Acalanes High School. The atmosphere was electric as swimmers from Las Trampas, LMYA, Oakwood Athletic Club, Rancho Colorados, Springbrook, and Sun Valley Swim Team competed against their friends, teammates, and classmates.

Springbrook captured the most high point trophies over the weekend, accounting for eight of the potential 13 individual high point trophies. Springbrook's impressive trophy count helped secure first place for overall points in the Lafayette City Meet, finishing with 786.5 points. Coming in second place was Rancho Colorados, with 454.5 points. Sun Valley secured third with 384.

As the finals approached in the afternoon, fans were seen leaving the bleachers to crowd around the edges of the pool. One long-time fan came by to check out the action: 72-year-old Nevada resident Donald H. Fibush, Jr. has been coming back to his hometown for the last six years, and always enjoys watching the meets. A 1952 Acalanes graduate, Fibush recalls riding up to the warm-up pool by horseback and swimming in the pool for a nominal charge of 20 cents.

Times have changed since then, but the allure of the pool has not.

Nick Ferrif continues to leave his mark on the Lamorinda swim scene. Ferrif had another phenomenal day while taking home the high point trophy for the boy's 15-18 age group, ending up with 33 points. His most impressive race came in the 24th event when he set a meet record in the 100-yard breaststroke, recording a time of 58.93.

Matt Boone of Springbrook would finish second behind Ferrif, finishing with 29 points. Boone also set a meet record in the 100-yard backstroke, finishing with a time of 55.01, beating Paul Crawford's record of 55.03 set back in 1999. "This meet is a good place to compete with friends, but it's also a good place to show your talent to the Lafayette community," Boone said.



Girls 15-18 100 Yard Backstroke. Front to back: Michaela Tarpey, SPBRK; Brianna Trapey, SPBRK; Claire Love, LT; Jenna Thurston, SVST; KJ Kroetch, SPBRK; Molly Quinn, SPBRK; Kate Warner, SPBRK; Rebecka Watson, LT; Lindsey Harrigan, LT; Sammie Stuber, SVST

Springbrook swimmer Shannon Pegnim had a fantastic day as she would capture the high point trophy for the girls 15-18 age group. Pegnim's teammate, 12-year-old Brooke Aiello, would put on an even bigger show as she went on to win the high point trophy in her age group, setting two records in the process. Aiello and her relay team won the 200-yard medley relay, finishing with a record time of 2:03.89, and Aiello set her second meet record in the 50-yard butterfly, with a time of 28.56. The record beat out Haley Strausser's 2003 time of 29.37.



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