

SPORTS

LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS



Sherman Swim School

skills for life

Since 1961

sessions begin every 3 weeks

M-W-F or T-Th
day and evening classes



swimming: infants thru adults
diving: beginning thru advanced
private & semi-private classes in 90° water

New Winter Classes
Beginning this Year!
Nov. 2008 -Feb. 2009

Available
to rent for
parties!

Voted "Family Favorite" by the Bay Area Parent Magazine

925-283-2100

1075 Carol Lane • Lafayette (off Mt. Diablo)
www.shermanswim.com

Stanford Routs Santa Barbara for U-20 National Title

By Alex Crook



Photo Robert Johnson

The USA Water Polo Mens 20 and Under National Championship was held at The Soda Aquatic Center at Campolindo High School the weekend of July 11. There were 11 teams going into the completion: The 680 Drivers, Diablo Water Polo Club, the CBU Lancers, Lamorinda Water Polo, San Diego Shores, SET and Shore Aquatics. The tournament also featured four college teams: Princeton, UC Davis, UC Santa Barbara and Stanford.

After two long days of action, it came down to the semi-finals, the consolation games and the championship on Sunday the 13th. Following six straight games of water polo, there remained only two teams and one final game: The Stanford Cardinal

vs the UC Santa Barbara Gauchos.

In the final collegiate rankings both teams had been highly ranked, with the Cardinal at #4 and the Gauchos #6.

The game was a rematch of a regular season game between these two teams on October 27 of last year. That time, visiting Santa Barbara, then #9, upset the 4th ranked Cardinal by a score of 9-7.

Early in the first quarter of this championship game, there was no action until Alexander Pulido scored with 1:36 remaining on the clock to give Stanford the 1-0 lead. Pulido turned out to be a key factor, scoring three times in the game for the Cardinal.

28 seconds later, the Gauchos responded with a goal from Sean Castillo to tie

it up at 1.

With just under a minute to go in the 1st, Santa Barbara failed to convert on a play that should have resulted in a goal. The shot deflected off of Cardinal keeper Brian Pingree and the quarter ended with both teams knotted at one.

The second quarter lacked scoring, except for another Stanford goal, this time from Sage Wright, and the Cardinal went into the half up by one, 2-1.

Coming out of the break, Stanford exploded and completely broke the game open by outscoring the Gauchos 4-1, including two back-to-back goals from Pulido.

Following Pulidos two goals, Sage Wright put himself in the spotlight once more by scoring his second goal of the day on a beautiful spin move to put the ball past Santa Barbara goalkeeper Travis Johnson, giving the Cardinal the commanding 5-2 lead.

With 3:31 left in the quarter, Santa Barbara got back on the board with an easy lob over the head of Brian Pingree, courtesy of Sam Evans.

31 seconds later, Stanford missed a chance after Kevin Mays shot deflected off the bar right into Travis Johnson's hands.

Near the end of the third, Johnson made a critical mistake, leaving the net wide open for Ryan Brown who lobbed it easily over the Gauch keeper's head for a 6-2 Stanford lead going into the 4th quarter.

1:15 into the 4th, Wright recorded his third goal of the day off a breakaway pass from keeper Brian Pingree.

With two minutes left to play and Stanford in control of a comfortable 7-2 lead, Santa Barbara started to wear down. Sam Evans' shot over the crossbar appeared to be the last sign of life for the Gauchos. It was now only a matter of staying in the game and not letting Stanford pour it on in the final minutes.

Santa Barbara did hold up, and Stanford didn't score any more, but the Cardinal were crowned champions in the 7-2 win over the Gauchos.

OCC Tops Competition at Bottoms Up

By Tim Fong



Mixed 11 Year Olds 200 Yard Freestyle Relay

Photo Andy Scheck

Nearly 700 swimmers flocked to the swimming pool at Miramonte High School to take part in the annual Bottoms Up swim meet. Competition was fierce in the meet and everyone wanted to win for their team. However, all swimmers displayed great sportsmanship and it ended up being a fun day for everyone.

"The meet is a great way for kids of all ages to get a chance to compete" said Orinda Country Club (OCC) coach Kelley Fernbacher. "Everyone really has a great time at Bottoms Up."

OCC came in first place at the meet, beating second place Sleepy Hollow by nearly 100 points. Garrett Dunn (7), Stephen Schmidt (9), and Charlie Wiser (13) all won the coveted high point trophy. This highly prestigious and sought after trophy is given to the swimmer in each age group who wins the most points for their team.

Nine year old Stephen Schmidt broke two records, eclipsing the previous records in the 100 yard IM and the 50 yard freestyle. Charlie Wiser broke two records as well, shattering the previous marks held in the 100 yard IM and 50 yard

breaststroke.

The second place Sleepy Hollow Legends boasted high point winners Natalie Redig and Sean Berry; Redig was the winner in the 13 and under age group and Berry in the 5 and under boys.

Another key point scorer for the Legends was 15 year old Meredith White. White swam in the 100 yard IM, 50 yard freestyle, and 50 yard fly earning silvers in the IM and freestyle and a gold in the fly.

"I am very proud of Natalie and Sean really representing Sleepy Hollow and doing so well in the meet. Winning the high point is an amazing accomplishment, and they both deserve that trophy for their hard work," said Legend coach Lincoln Haley.

Moraga Country Club also had a strong showing, finishing in third place. First place finishes by Erica Muller, Mary Allison Ashby, Sophie Smith, and Dana Holt helped key the success of the waves.

Muller, a 13 year old, earned the gold in 100 yard IM, 50 yard freestyle, and 50 yard backstroke. She also earned silver in the mixed 200 medley relay.

Eleven year old Mary Allison Ashby earned gold in the 50 yard freestyle and the 50 yard backstroke, as well as grabbing the silver in the girls 100 yard IM. Ashby was also a high point winner for the waves.

Fifteen year old Sophie Smith nabbed three medals, gold in the 50 yard breaststroke and silvers in 50 yard fly and 50 yard freestyle.

Dana Holt, also 15, brought home the gold in the 50 yard backstroke and 50 yard fly, as well as the silver in 50 yard free.

Five year old Arielle Allen also won a high point for the waves, after winning silver in the 25 yard freestyle and 25 yard backstroke. She also earned the bronze in 25 yard fly to earn a total of 26 points.

Other notable swimmers included fifteen year olds Sierra Robbins and Nicholas Deaver of Meadow and eleven year old Tyler Bartis of Campolindo Cabana Club. All three set records; Deaver broke records in the 100 yard IM, 50 yard backstroke, and 50 yard fly, Robbins in the 50 yard freestyle and 50 yard backstroke, and Bartis in the 50 yard backstroke



Mixed 13 Year Olds 200 Yard Freestyle Relay

Photo Andy Scheck

Karate Tournament in Reno

Submitted by Colleen Monasevitch



The weekend of July 18-19, 2008, six athletes from The Karate & Fitness Place USA in Moraga, competed in the 2008 West Coast AAU Junior Olympic Games Karate tournament in Reno, Nevada. The six returned home

with 14 medals: ten Gold, two Silver and two Bronze. L to R, Chris Wellbrook, Nick Luckenbach, Edward Chen, John Monasevitch, Brandon Tokuyama and Haze Mach.

38th Annual Meadow Mini Meet

(Information submitted by Elizabeth Lewis)

An estimated 1500 people descended upon the Meadow Swim and Tennis Club for the 38th Annual Meadow Mini Meet last Sunday, July 20. More than 600 swimmers from 10 teams competed in this daylong event.

The meet is unique in that participation is limited to swimmers aged eight and younger. Swimmers compete based on their actual age on the day of the meet, giving them opportunities for healthy competition not often available to younger swimmers. For many of the children, this was the first time ever competing

at a swim meet.

Gold medals went to Chloe Morrison, Mark McCurdy, Grayson Meckfessel, Tom McGuire, Channing Hanley, Lauren McAninch, Sara McCandless, Nina Munson, Eloise Engs, Ryan Lenahan, Mark McCurdy, Margat McDonald, Katherine Cane, Clair Steele, Hana Neugebauer, Carson Broad, Kate Minden, Chris Meckfessel, Marcus Ferreira, Casey Estes, Aidan Crouch, Garrett Dunn, Katrina Nugent, Samantha DeVecchi, Derrick Garcia, Ashleen O'Brien, Megan Colpo, Charlotte Wu, Kelly Mur-

phy, Zoe Zabatian, Bennett Winther, Robby Rowell, T.J. Collins, and William Faoro (results from Hy-Tek Meet Manager).

Many proud young swimmers went home with Silver and Bronze medals as well.

Among those who began their careers at the Meadow Mini Meet were Olympic swimmers Matt Biondi, Peter Rocca and three members of the U.S. National Water Polo team, Kirk Everest, Colin Keely, and Rick McNair.

Your Swim Team Headquarters!
Open 7 Days a Week

- Suits
- Caps
- Fins
- Goggles

All Sizes: Children to Adult
Men's & Women's

25% OFF
Total Purchase of SPEEDO Items

With Coupon. Not valid with any other offer. Limit 1 coupon per household. Expires 7/31/08.

552 Center St., Moraga
376-4433
www.LPTAN.com

Shop Moraga! - Save Time - Save Gas - Save Money



Girls 7 Year Olds 100 Yard Medley Relay

Photo Andy Scheck