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SPORTS LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

Six Dads Race in Triathlon

Local Man Qualifies for the Kona Iron Man
Submitted by Stacy Giglio



Pre-race group photo. Back row (l to r) Bret Goodman (lafayette), Jim Huchingson (Lafayette), Brian Rhea (formerly Orinda—now Wash, DC), Rob Giglio (Moraga) Front row (l to r) Blake Wise (Moraga), Carter Hemming (Orinda), Ken Webster (Lafayette)
Photos submitted by Stacy Giglio

Six local dads, all over the age of 40, competed in the Iron Man Triathlon in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho on Father's Day. "LATR" (Lamorinda All Three Racing) put in a year of dedicated training to prepare for the event and it paid off—every man completed the race in their goal of less than 12 hours. Jim Huchingson qualified for the Kona Iron Man.

The six men: Bret Goodman, Lafayette; Carter Hemming, Orinda; Rob Giglio, Moraga; Ken Webster, Lafayette; Blake Wise, Moraga; Jim Huchingson, Lafayette.



Carter Hemming (Orinda) on the 112 mile bike course



Jim Huchingson (Lafayette) running the 26.2 mile run course and going on to qualify for the Kona Ironman World Championships with his 10th place finish.



Blake Wise (Moraga) finishing the 2.4 mile swim

Camaraderie Cleans Up at OMPA Championships

Individuals Overwhelmed by Team Support
... continued from page 1



Charlie Wiser OCC

Photo Deanna Wentzell

A total of 21 individual and six relay meet records were broken. Katie Bilotti, 18, this year's Outstanding Swimmer-Girls, set three personal best records, beating her own times from 2008 in the Back and Fly events. Charlie Wiser, 14, the Outstanding Swimmer-Boys, decimated five meet records, including a twenty-three year relic from 1986, swimming the 50 Fly in 24.0.

Starting on Thursday, teams warmed-up and worked out; building enthusiasm for Friday's IM Relay Finals. "It's a friendly competition," said this year's team publicist, Josie Kelley, "because kids stick with it and the team spirit builds year after year." It's true of each individual team, but remarkably, it's also true of the combined 1700-plus swimmers entered in OMPA this year.

Jane and Chip Wiser, whose son Charlie left no question he is a speedster, were suitably revved-up. "The spirit, with everybody rooting each other on: it's a whole different world!" said Chip. Charlie, caught

up in the excitement noted, "When I breathe, I can hear the crowd through my cap."

If the star of the show is the spirit, the runner up is the bountiful talent residing in this area. Nicholas Deaver, a 16-year-old from Meadow Swim & Tennis Club, set new meet records with a 52.99 100 IM, a 24.02 Back, and a 22.59 Fly. Megan Colpo, 8, swimming for Sleepy Hollow, set aside meet records in Breast and Back.

Clearly, these swimmers, even at a young age, are hyper-focused. Ashleen O'Brien, an 8-year-old Campo Cabana Club swimmer, was looking to improve in the fi-

nals. Still, she wasn't discouraged. "My teammates help me to not just worry about getting first place," she said. "At first I really hated swimming, because I was afraid, but when I got the confidence, I forgot all that fear."

OMPA is more than a swim meet, more than simply an opportunity for local kids to feel good. "It's the epitome of a community event!" said Sleepy Hollow Head Coach Matt Ehrenberger, his arm sweeping wide to include the kids, the tents, the crowds, the fin-topped SUV's in the parking lot. He's watched generations of swimmers dive in and grow-up in the process. This year, McKenna Farrar, 18, got his nod: "She came back this year to do it right," he said. "What she's done for this team, her leadership, has been more beneficial than any points she scored at the meets." All nine clubs recruited their senior swimmers to coach the junior athletes, forming a never-ending chain of young swimmers and mentor coaches. "These teen age swimmers, when they were four or five, looked up to their coaches," Kelley explains, "Now, they get to coach. The effect is magic."



Christina Vidal

Photo Jordan Fong

3Ks for Cancer

Oakland A's Pitcher and Local Boy Team Up to Raise Awareness

Hudson Davis, a 13-year-old Lamorinda resident and cancer patient at Children's Hospital and Research Center gave Craig Breslow, Oakland A's relief pitcher, a tour of the hospital on August 4. Breslow began the Three Strikes Foundation in 2008 to raise money for pediatric cancer. Davis, a truly dedicated player, continued to play Little League while undergoing treatment for a malignant brain tumor in 2008. His pitches have been clocked at 70 miles per hour. Davis was invited by Breslow to watch batting practice and throw the ceremonial opening pitch at the A's game on August 4 against the Texas Rangers. C. Graveson



Davis and sister, Molly, with Breslow

Photo Kristy Fick, Oakland A's

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Sat, Sep 5 VB Texas A&M McKeon-Pavilion 7:00 PM	Wed, Sep 9 VB San Jose State - McKeon Pavilion 7:00 PM
Sun, Sep 6 WSOC Texas A&M - Saint Mary's Stadium 9:00 AM	Thu, Sep 10 VB Eastern Washington - McKeon Pavilion 7:00 PM
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