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Intelligencer boys swimming high fives

Five Athletes to watch (listed in alphabetical order)

Pat Augustine, Lansdale Catholic: After watching older brother Albert finish in the top three at the PIAA Class AA state meet three years in a row, this 6-foot-5 senior is determined to do the same. He came close last season when he finished fourth in the 100-yard butterfly, his specialty, and will be a major threat to win the gold in his final shot.

Michael Kramer, Christopher Dock: His high school doesn't have a swimming pool or a swim team? No problem for this one man team. After succeeding in his one-shot at qualifying for the District One AA meet, he won the title in the 100 fly and finished 15th in the state. He also was fifth in the district in the 100 free and should be this year's favorite as the top four graduated.

Jimmy McEldrew, Germantown Academy: He was good as a freshman, better as a sophomore. Now as a junior, he's ready to take his place in a long list of truly great Patriot swimmers. At last season's Eastern meet, he finished ninth in the individual medley and 10th in the backstroke, but most of the finishers ahead of him were seniors. The path to finals appears to clear in both events.

Ozzie Moyer, Souderton: When last season started, very few people outside of his home territory knew anything about the freshman diver. Then he started winning and soon it was obvious he was more than a flash-in-the-pan - he was just starting what should be a brilliant career. He's only a sophomore, and only the unexpected should prevent him from improving his seventh place finish at states in class AAA.

Greg Opredek, Archbishop Wood: He's the answer to a trivia question: "Who was the first Archbishop Wood athlete ever to compete in the PIAA state championships?" He qualified for the consolation finals in both the individual medley and the breaststroke and finished 10th and 13th, respectively. He's been working hard and is determined to make the finals this season in both.

Five Teams to watch (listed in order of strength)

North Penn: All things in life should be this easy. Predicting the Knights to be the area's No. 1 team going into the season is like predicting the sun will rise in the east. They have contenders for the team title at districts, but in the area and the Suburban One League Continental, they are again head and shoulders above the field.

Germantown Academy: The Patriots used to win the Inter-Academic League title simply by showing up, but those days are over. Now they have to work for it and chances are excellent that they'll be able to do just that. Jimmy McEldrew and Artie Frayler are the hammers; it's up to the rest of the team to rise to their level if GA is to return to No. 1.

Central Bucks East: If you look at the seven seniors who graduated, you might assume East will be down this season. You would be wrong at least that's how it looks coming out of pre-season. It may be too much to ask them to push North Penn, but the rest of the SOL Continental is fair game.

Souderton: Only one returning athlete made the trip to the PIAA state meet last season and he was a diver. Ozzie Moyer will go again; whether any of his teammates join him remains to be seen, although there are three or four very promising candidates who need only to improve as they did at districts last season for them to go trekking to Bucknell.

Central Bucks South: There were three or four teams contending for this spot in the Top 5, but the Titans earned the nod based on two factors: a hunch and numbers. There are 37 athletes on this year's team and it is said there is strength in numbers. Here's a guess South will be among the area's top teams all season.

Five Meets you need to go to

La Salle at North Penn**Friday, 3:45 p.m.**

The cream of the Philadelphia Catholic League and District 12 faces the best of the Suburban One League Continental and District One. The Knights have the home pool advantage and incentive - the Explorers have won the last two years.

Germantown Academy at Malvern Prep**Dec. 15, 3:45 p.m.**

For some reason the schedule makers in the Inter-Ac League put this rivalry in December instead of later in the year. Neither team will have much of a chance to build momentum, so the intangibles, like who wants it more, will make this one a dandy to see.

North Penn at Souderton**Jan. 13, 3:30 p.m.**

By the time the Knights and Indians get to this one, we'll know whether Souderton will be able to move ahead of the rest of the SOL Continental. Either way, this one traditionally brings out the best in both teams and should again.

Central Bucks South at Central Bucks West**Jan. 20, 3:45 p.m.**

Call this, "The Duel for the Pool," as both teams practice and compete in South's pool; that means both teams are at home and on the road, and while West will be in the even numbered lanes, neither team will have home pool advantage.

Jan. 20, 3:45 p.m.**Lansdale Catholic at Upper Moreland**

The last two seasons, this one has been a dandy as both teams were strong in the freestyle events. This season the "other" strokes - back, breast and fly - plus diving, that should carry the day and make this a small school meet to see.

- Bill Keen[Buzz up!](#)

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