

North Penn boys, girls dominate swimming meet

By: BILL KEEN The Intelligencer

TOWAMENCIN - Don't let the final scores fool you.

The results seem to indicate visiting Methacton hung tough with North Penn in both ends of Friday's season-opening, double-dual swimming meet.

In truth, North Penn's coaches ordered a cease fire after the 500-yard freestyle - the Knights and Maidens swam only for time in the final four events while the Warriors earned all the points - otherwise, the margin of victory would have been considerably more lopsided than the nearly identical 96-79 victory for the boys and the 97-78 win by the girls.

"For our first meet, I'm very pleased with how we did," said Knights coach Brian Daly, who could have been speaking for both the boys and girls teams. "I'm very happy with the leadership of our upperclassmen, the juniors and seniors; they really set the tone for our underclassmen."

That was especially true in the boys meet where upperclassmen won all seven of the individual events in which the Knights scored, led by junior sprint freestyle specialist Jason Deana. He won the 50 in 22.45 seconds, and 100 free in 49.06, which was only fractions off the 49.02 seeding time he had going into last season's District One Class AAA meet.

"We've been working really hard," Deana said. "Off the start I saw I was pulling away from other people, so I thought I was doing pretty good. As it went on I started getting a little tired, but I saw I was keeping good pace compared to other people so I just kept going. + You just have to know (the race) is over about 30 seconds after the second lap and you just have to keep going."

While Deana won twice, he knows that may not be the case as the season progresses. Past teams had a couple of individuals that were almost assured of winning multiple events every meet; this year's team has superior depth and a lot of swimmers capable of winning.

"I think it's better to have more depth than just have one or two guys winning every race," he said. "We can take every event and we don't have to win, we can take second, third and fourth and we'll be fine."

Deana also claimed a third victory as part of the opening 200 medley relay. Peter Kolokithias, Tomas Gimenez, Matt Ortlieb and Deana recorded a workmanlike 1:40.35 to win handily by more than seven seconds over Methacton's No. 1 quartet.

The girls' meet was the same as the boys as the Maidens won all seven individual events and the medley relay before giving the Warriors a free pass.

Two girls won twice, including a freshman in her first high school meet. Tara Rogers matched Deana by sweeping the sprint freestyle races, the 50 in 25.22 and the 100 in 55-flat, both of which were good enough to qualify for districts .

Also winning twice was senior Jan Ikeda, one of the team's "grizzled veterans," who hopes to lead the way to Suburban One League Continental Conference and District One team titles.

She won her two specialties, the 100 butterfly with a 59.20 and the individual medley at 2:16.52, later explaining the IM time was a pleasant surprise.

"Going in I had no idea how it would turn out," she said. "Last year I was doing, like, 2:17 during the season, so getting a 2:16 at the first meet, I was pretty pleased with that."

Ikeda didn't mention it, but her seeding time for districts last spring was 2:15.50; like Deana on the boys' team, she is starting the new season at virtually the same place as she left off the last one. Part of that is because the girls' times are bunched pretty close together in virtually every event.

"We're competitive in practice," Ikeda said. "We're always thinking, 'Who's going to win,' (practice races); you never know because we're all so close and working so hard together that I think we're going to be better this year.

"It's giving us a taste of what to expect against tougher opponents."

North Penn 96, Methacton 79 (boys)

200-yard medley relay: 1. North Penn (Peter Kolokithias, Tomas Gimenez, Matt Ortlieb, Jason Deana), 1:40.35; 2. Methacton, 1:47.33; 3. North Penn, 1:52.10; 200 freestyle: 1. Eugene Feely (NP), 1:52.87; 2. Jack Morris (NP), 1:54.28; 3. Kevin Dunigan (NP), 1:55.70; 200 individual medley: 1. Pat Dunigan (NP), 2:02.52; 2. Gimenez (NP), 2:07.48; 3. Ortlieb (NP), 2:09.12; 50 freestyle: 1. Deana (NP), 22.45; 2. Kolokithias (NP), 23.68; 3.

Anthony Picozzi (M), 24.40; Diving: 1. Josh Hoch (NP), 214.50; 2. A.J. Russo (NP), 204.25; 3. Daniel Roy (M), 184.70; 100 butterfly: 1. Ortlieb (NP), 54.90; 2. K. Dunigan (NP), 59.72; 3. Eric Bai (M), 1:00.05; 100 freestyle: 1. Deana (NP), 49.06; 2. Feely (NP), 51.04; 3. Morris (NP), 51.72; 500 freestyle: 1. Colin Kelly (NP), 5:16.77; 2. Nick Pulli (NP), 5:18.49; 3. Jonathan Krail (NP), 5:20.14; 200 freestyle relay: 1. Methacton (Louie Seefeld, Anthony Bucci, Conor McAnally, Picozzi), 1:38.09; 2. Methacton, 1:49.36; 3. Methacton, 1:58.46; 100 backstroke: 1. Colin Mansfield (M), 1:06.32; 2. Ricky Weber (M), 1:06.53; 3. Owen Whitman (M), 1:10.89; 100 breaststroke: 1. Seefeld (M), 1:00.16; 2. Alex Yang (M), 1:13.09; 3. Alan Wu (M), 1:16.37; 400 freestyle relay: 1. Methacton (Eric Drummey, Matt Turner, Patrick Lebold, McAnally), 3:48.29; 2. Methacton, 4:00.02.

North Penn 97, Methacton 78 (girls)

200-yard medley relay: 1. North Penn (Katie Patterson, Eeve Kosten, Jan Ikeda, Mary Morris), 1:54.21; 2. Methacton, 1:55.26; 3. North Penn, 2:00.28; 200 freestyle: 1. Brooke Else (NP), 2:04.13; 2. Lindsay Musoleno (NP), 2:10.15; 3. Kelly Rogers (NP), 2:11.35; 200 individual medley: 1. Ikeda (NP), 2:16.52; 2. Julie Krout (NP), 2:21.33; 3. Alex Rodman (M), 2:22.60; 50 freestyle: 1. Tara Rogers (NP), 25.22; 2. Morris (NP), 25.95; 3. Nicole Young (M), 26.24; Diving: 1. Erica Elias (NP), 215.10; 2. Ashley Liss (NP), 190.60; 3. Heather Paolone (NP), 99.50; 100 butterfly: 1. Ikeda (NP), 59.20; 2. K. Patterson (NP), 1:04.81; 3. Caelan McCann (M), 1:07.96; 100 freestyle: 1. T. Rogers (NP), 55.00; 2. Kosten (NP), 55.19; 3. Else (NP), 56.04; 500 freestyle: 1. Aspen Trautz (NP), 5:40.19; 2. K. Rogers (NP), 5:43.14; 3. Musoleno (NP), 5:46.08; 200 freestyle relay: 1. Methacton (Rodman, McCann, Becca Sykes, Young), 1:48.26; 2. Methacton, 1:57.84; 3. Methacton, 2:11.45; 100 backstroke: 1. Audrey Rittenhouse (M), 1:03.40; 2. Rikki Li (M), 1:10.62; 3. Sarah Furtek (M), 1:11.14; 100 breaststroke: 1. Young (M), 1:17.10; 2. Brooke Dobbs (M), 1:25.89; 3. Erin Ginther (M), 1:33.98; 400 freestyle relay: 1. Methacton (Sykes, Li, Katie O'Rourke, Rittenhouse), 4:16.55; 2. Methacton, 4:28.21; 3. Methacton, 4:43.78.

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