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Sports

H.S. SWIMMING: Knights, Maidens off and running

Thursday, December 15, 2011

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TOWAMENCIN — The North Penn boys and girls swim teams are off to an even faster start than expected.

The Knights and Maidens each improved to 2-0 after putting on impressive performances in their home opener Thursday, as the North Penn boys earned a 104-82 win over St. Joseph's Prep and the girls swam and dove to a 110-73 victory over Mount St. Joe's.

"The first two meets kind of exceeded my expectations a little bit," said Maidens coach Matt Weiser, whose team has notched non-league wins over Methacton and Mount St. Joe's. "The girls are swimming really well. For the most part, I think where we are right now is a great spot. We had a great week of practice, and I actually thought they might be kind of beat up and swim slower than they did, but I'm not complaining."

The Maidens raced to eight first places and also got a win up on the board from senior Ashley Liss.

"This is an awesome group," Weiser said. "In terms of the team and the unity and everything that they are right now, it's just phenomenal. And I think that speaks a lot to our seniors."

Brooke Else, one of the seven North Penn seniors, was fastest in the 100 butterfly and she also swam on the winning 200 medley and 200 free relays.

A pair of sophomores also had a great day for NP: Tara Rogers was on that winning 200 free relay and also took first in the 200 and 100 frees, and Eve Kosten swam on the winning medley and 200 free relays and she also was fastest in the 100 breast.

The Knights were also pushing themselves to some great performances in their first meet of the season at The Rick Carroll Natatorium.

"It's always good to see some fast swims," said Knights coach Brian Daly, whose team opened the season last Friday with a win over Methacton. "St. Joe's had a lot of outstanding guys who made a run at some pool records here, so for our guys to get up and compete was great to see.

A lot of guys are doing season-best times, some lifetime-best times."

Indicative of just how fast Thursday's meet was, three swimmers went under two minutes in the 200 IM, including North Penn senior Pat Dunigan, who notched a second-place finish.

Juniors Jack Morris and Brandon Anders contributed mightily, as they both swam on the winning 200 medley relay, and Morris went on to finish second in the 200 free and the 100 free and Anders was the fastest guy in the 100 back and second fastest in the 50 free.

He also was on the winning 200 free relay.

Senior Jason Deana was a double winner individually for the Knights, racing to first-place finishes in the 50 free and 100 fly. He also anchored the winning 200 free relay.

A nice surprise for the Knights was that Jake Schellinger had a huge time drop in the 500 free, improving by several seconds to earn a district cut.

The Knights and Maidens look to continue their great start when they travel to The Parkland Invitational Saturday, getting to match up with some of the best competition in the state.

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