

Intelligencer Athlete of the Week: Brooke Else, North Penn swimming

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What she did: Else clinched the gold for the Maidens in the 200-yard freestyle relay at the District One championships with an outstanding anchor leg. She held off a rapidly closing Carolyn Meier of Upper Dublin for a razor-thin victory, 1:37.10 to 1:37.24 for the Flying Cardinals. Saturday, the senior swam leadoff on the 400 free relay that finished third for an automatic bid to the state championships; she also earned an individual at-large bid in the butterfly with a 58.93, more than a second off her previous best.

What she said: "I like anchoring and the pressure helps me. With teams like Souderton and Upper Dublin, teams we swam before, we knew it wasn't going to be easy to win (the 200 free relay) so we're excited that we did. It really felt great."

Out of the pool: She enjoys hip hop dancing after taking dance lessons for about 10 years. For a while, she left dancing for gymnastics but eventually came back. In the fall, Else was a member of the Maidens' outstanding water polo team and scored a goal in the 9-7 win over Wilson that gave North Penn the state championship.

College choice: She will attend Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where she will play water polo, rejoining former North Penn teammates Heather Fellmeth and Shelby Rinker, who will be seniors.

Person she would most like to meet: "Oprah. I like the fact she's a very influential and powerful woman who does a lot of great things for people. I think it would be great to meet her."