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## SWIMMING: North Penn boys, girls in position for District 1 crowns

By [KEV HUNTER](#)

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PHILADELPHIA — With how well the North Penn boys and girls swim teams performed on Friday, the Knights and Maidens as well as the entire coaching staff left La Salle University's Kirk Pool feeling as though it was Christmas Eve.

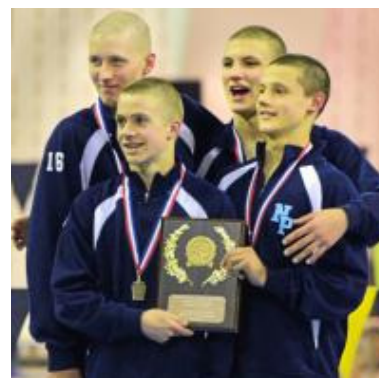
"I'm pretty excited and looking forward to tomorrow," Knights coach Jeff Faikish said. "It's gonna be real hard to sleep."

The Knights and Maidens could both be unwrapping district titles on Saturday, as each squad piled up the points and are in command after Day One of the District 1-AAA Swim Championships down at La Salle.

What the Knights began, the Maidens finished. The North Penn boys built up a 166-125 lead over second-place Upper Dublin and then the Maidens closed out Friday with a 157-104 advantage over Conestoga.

Powered by outstanding efforts in the 200 free relay, both the North Penn boys and girls won gold in the final event of the day to leave Kirk Pool on a well-earned high.

"I told all of those girls that we needed to focus and if want to get first, we had to bust our butts," said the Maidens' Olivia DiStefano. "I'm proud of all of them, and I'm glad they were on my team."



The North Penn Boys 200-yard Freestyle Relay Team of Brett Else, Thanas Kountroubis, Greg Neidlinger and Liam Kelly pose together after their first place finish during the District 1 Swimming Championships at La Salle University on Friday, Feb. 28, 2014. (Mark C Psoras/The Reporter)



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North Penn's Kailyn Evans holds up her medal for her second place finish in a 200-yard Individual Medley event during the District 1 Swimming Championships at La Salle University on Friday, Feb. 28, 2014. (Mark C Psoras/The Reporter)

DiStefano's final push enabled her to edge Methacton's Kirsten Groff, who earned the silver in 24.26.

"Olivia had a great day," Maidens coach Matt Weiser said. "I'm thrilled for her. She's an awesome girl, awesome teammate."

Other North Penn medals were earned by Kailyn Evans, a fourth-place finisher in the 200 IM, Tara Rogers, a fifth-place finisher in the 200 free, and the silver-medal 200 medley relay team of DiStefano, Erin O'Neill, Rogers and Leah Brown (1:46.54).

That foursome distinguished itself by breaking a 25-year-old school record, which at one time also stood as a national record.

By meet's end, elation had already given way to intensity, and a focus on Day Two.

"I think we need to be proud of where we are," Weiser said, "but (Saturday's) another day."

Friday got started with the Knights placing eighth in the 200 medley relay, it got even better when Thanas Kountroubis earned silver in the 200 free, and it climaxed when the 200 free team of Kountroubis, Brett Else, Liam Kelly and Greg Neidlinger won gold in 1:25.50.

DiStefano, the lone returner from last year's district champion 200 free squad, anchored NP to victory (1:36.49), following strong legs by Leah Brown, Kailyn Evans and Aimee Baur.

DiStefano and the newcomers swam so well, in fact, that they nearly broke the district record of 1:36.30, set by NP last year along the way to capturing the team title.

It was the second gold medal of the day for DiStefano, who turned it on in the final 25 yards of her 50 free to touch first in 24.03.

"I knew after the start, I just had to dig down deep and just go," the junior said. "After the flip turn, I just got up and went. I looked straight down — I didn't want to look to the sides to see where everyone was. I looked straight down, took one breath on that lap and I just went."

Kelly put the Knights in the lead and Neidlinger hammered it home.

"Those relays are really gonna help the confidence of the entire program," Faikish said. "The boys had a chance to swim first today, they motivated the girls, and then the girls put the exclamation point on Day One."

## District One Swim Championships

### At La Salle University

#### Class AA Boys

##### Team scoring

1. Upper Moreland, 197 points; 2. Holy Ghost Prep, 169; 3. Springfield (M), 167; 4. Pottsgrove, 124; 5. Lower Moreland, 111; 6. Phoenixville, 109; 7. Upper Perkiomen, 82; 8. Sun Valley, 39; 9. Pottstown, 16; 10. Valley Forge Military Academy, 3.

##### Event results

200-yard medley relay: 1. Springfield (M) (Jake Corcoran, Tyler Chamberlin, Ben Wiley, Tim Resch), 1:43.17; 2. Lower Moreland, 1:46.39; 3. Holy Ghost Prep, 1:47.11; 4. Phoenixville, 1:47.12; 5. Pottsgrove, 1:47.76; 6. Upper Moreland, 1:55.09;



Members of the North Penn boys swim team react as their 200-yard Freestyle Relay Team finishes first during the District 1 Swimming Championships at LaSalle University on Friday, Feb. 28, 2014. (Mark C Psoras/The Reporter)



North Penn's Kailyn Evans competes in a 200-yard Individual Medley AAA event during the District 1 Swimming Championships at La Salle University on Friday, Feb. 28, 2014. (Mark C Psoras/The Reporter)

200 freestyle: 1. Danny Giampietro (Springfield M), 1:46.12; 2. Kane Nelson (Upper Moreland), 1:48.92; 3. Dan Maxian (New Hope-Solebury), 1:49.11; 4. Kevin Basch (Pottsgrove), 1:51.99; 5. Josh Ziev (Phoenixville), 1:52.65; 6. John Polidoro (Holy Ghost Prep), 1:54.23; 7. Mitch Cairns (Upper Perkiomen), 1:56.30; 8. Eric Fenstermaker (Holy Ghost Prep), 1:57.60;

200 individual medley: 1. Brandon Umstead (Upper Perkiomen), 2:01.16; 2. Morgan Schreiber (Pottsgrove), 2:03.73; 3. Ondrej Maxian (New Hope-Solebury), 2:03.93; 4. Chamberlin (Springfield M), 2:03.93; 5. Brennan Garber (Springfield M), 2:09.43; 6. Michael Prior (Pottsgrove), 2:10.47; 7. Elijah Gibbins (Holy Ghost Prep), 2:10.68; 8. Bobby McLaughlin (Holy Ghost Prep), 2:14.16;

50 freestyle: 1. Ian Smith (Upper Moreland), 22.49; 2. Owen Robinson (Calvary Christian), 22.83; 3. Anthony Gazzillo (Pottstown), 22.98; 4. Resch (Springfield M), 23.37; 5. Alex Perkins (Upper Moreland), 23.41; 6. Mike Freeman (Upper Moreland), 23.52; 7. Robert Newman (Phoenixville), 23.58; 8. Mark Ivensky (Lower Moreland), 23.69;

100 butterfly: 1. Nelson (Upper Moreland), 55.68; 2. Zachary Gibbins (Holy Ghost Prep), 57.49; 3. Ryan Mercado (Upper Perkiomen), 58.63; 4. Philip Rutherford (Holy Ghost Prep), 58.71; 5. Anthony Stepshov (Lower Moreland), 59.31; 6. Young Sheng (Valley Forge Military Academy), 59.42; 7. William Culbertson (Devon Prep), 59.47; 8. Newman (Phoenixville), 59.64;

200 freestyle relay: 1. Springfield (M) (Wiley, Chamberlin, Resch, Giampietro), 1:30.47; 2. Upper Moreland, 1:30.93; 3. Holy Ghost Prep, 1:35.20; 4. Upper Perkiomen, 1:38.34; 5. Lower Moreland, 1:38.46; 6. Pottsgrove, 1:38.49; 7. Phoenixville, 1:41.51.

#### Class AAA Boys

**Team scoring**

1. North Penn, 166 points; 2. Upper Dublin, 125; 3. Owen J. Roberts, 98.5; 4. Council Rock North, 96.5; 5. Souderton, 96; 6. Radnor, 85; 7. Hatboro-Horsham, 80; 8. Bayard Rustin, 76; 9. Methacton, 65; 10. Perkiomen Valley, 50.

**Event results**

200-yard medley relay: 1. Radnor (Ryan Freedman, Mitchell Gartland, Eli Avart, Brian McKeon), 1:34.57; 2. Bayard Rustin, 1:35.90; 3. Perkiomen Valley, 1:37.00; 4. Methacton, 1:37.17; 5. Hatboro-Horsham, 1:37.27; 6. Council Rock North, 1:37.38; 7. Upper Dublin, 1:37.47; 8. North Penn, 1:37.52

200 freestyle: 1. Christopher Devlin (Upper Dublin), 1:41.49; 2. Thanas Kountroubis (North Penn), 1:41.61; 3. Steve Miller (Boyertown), 1:42.21; 4. Connor Hart (Haverford), 1:42.34; 5. Quentin Cody (Downingtown East), 1:42.62; 6. Clay Resweber (Strath Haven), 1:42.79; 7. Curtis Sumner (Hatboro-Horsham), 1:43.78; 8. Alex McCullough (Owen J. Roberts), 1:44.00

200 individual medley: 1. Michael Thomas (Hatboro-Horsham), 1:48.21 (meet record, previous record 1:50.60 by Dominick Szabo, North Penn, 2000); 2. Thomas McCormick (WC Henderson), 1:54.34; 3. Triston Loux (Souderton), 1:54.61; 4. Mark Miller (Downingtown West), 1:55.82; 5. Owen Dougherty (Downingtown West), 1:56.05; 6. Ivan Michalovic (Garnet Valley), 1:56.35; 7. Corey Smith (North Penn), 1:56.77; 7. Alex Schon (Conestoga), 1:56.92

50 freestyle: 1. (tie) Brandon McCredie (Council Rock North) and Sam Feiser (Owen J. Roberts), 20.90; 3. Kevin Musterair (Souderton), 20.98; 4. Kyle Dix (Perkiomen Valley), 21.12; 5. Liam Kelly (North Penn), 21.53; 6. Colin Bauer (Owen J. Roberts), 21.67; 7. Andrew Zhugayech (Central Bucks East), 21.69; 8. Greg Neidlinger (North Penn), 21.77;

100 butterfly: 1. Michael Jensen (Upper Dublin), 49.82; 2. Feiser (Owen J. Roberts), 50.48; 3. Tyler Cummings (Bayard Rustin), 50.65; 4. Schon (Conestoga), 50.82; 6. John Libert (Kennett), 51.49; 7. Cooper Tollen (Upper Dublin), 52.00; 8. Avart (Radnor), 52.05

200 freestyle relay: 1. North Penn (Thanas Kountroubis, Brett Else, Liam Kelly, Greg Neidlinger), 1:25.50; 2. Council Rock North, 1:26.61; 3. Owen J. Roberts, 1:26.68; 4. Souderton, 1:26.70; 5. Upper Dublin, 1:27.04; 6. William Tennent, 1:27.36; 7. Radnor, 1:27.93; 8. Haverford, 1:28.22.

**Class AA Girls****Team scores**

1. Villa Maria, 86 points; 2. Springfield (M), 191; 3. Nazareth Academy, 152; 4. Phoenixville, 130; 5. Gwynedd Mercy, 128; 6. Upper Moreland, 89; 7. Upper Perkiomen, 71; 8. Lower Moreland, 70; 9. Villa Joseph Marie, 60; 10. Merion Mercy, 54.

**Event results**

200-yard medley relay: 1. Villa Maria (Emily Cornell, Olivia Tierney, Julie Dobson, Olivia Giampietro), 1:47.64; 2. Phoenixville, 1:49.59; 3. Springfield (M), 1:50.05; 4. Gwynedd Mercy, 1:51.98; 5. Nazareth Academy, 1:53.23; 6. Upper Perkiomen, 1:54.79; 7. Villa Joseph Marie, 1:54.96; 8. Lower Moreland, 1:59.72;

200 freestyle: 1. Grace Kowal (Nazareth Academy), 1:54.59; 2. Steph Szekely (Gwynedd Mercy), 1:55.49; 3. Mary Harrington (Nazareth Academy), 1:57.29; 4. Grace Carey (Villa Maria), 1:57.46; 5. Mary Kate Curley (Gwynedd Mercy), 1:58.77; 6. Claire Schumann (Villa Maria), 1:58.85; 7. Michaela Fallon (Springfield M), 1:59.07; 8. Emily Lund (Nazareth Academy), 1:59.17;

200 individual medley: 1. Allie Szekely (Gwynedd Mercy), 2:01.69; 2. Shannon Harrington (Nazareth Academy), 2:06.48; 3. Molly Kowal (Nazareth Academy), 2:09.88; 4. Rachel Munger (Springfield M), 2:10.12; 5. Olivia Tierney (Villa Maria), 2:12.71; 6. Hope Reynolds (Villa Maria), 2:13.98; 7. Nicole Saladino (Villa Maria), 2:115.88; 8. Kirsten Siwy (Upper

Perkiomen),2:15.93;

50 freestyle: 1. Maddie Cooke (Phoenixville), 23.85; 2. Jules Marble (Springfield MO, 24.72; 3. Olivia Giampietro (Villa Maria), 24.75; 4. Maura McManus (Villa Maria), 24.77; 5. Lizzie Nadolski (Springfield M),25.01; 6. Emily Fabius (Phoenixville), 25.25; 7. Ashlyn Chermol (Villa Maria),25.51; 8. Shawna Moore (Phoenixville), 25.56

100 butterfly: 1. Alexa Fabbri (Villa Joseph Marie), 56.62; 2. Julie Dobson (Villa Maria), 58.89; 3. Emily Messina (Villa Joseph Marie),59.23; 4. Mary Katherine Clark (Villa Maria), 1:00.71; 5. Alyssa Myers (Villa Maria), 1:01.22; 6. Meghan Smith (Springfield M), 1:01.93; 7. Emily Fabius (Phoenixville), 1:02.19; 8. Jackie Hammill (Upper Perkiomen), 1:02.28.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Villa Maria (Emily Cornell, Julie Dobson, Maura McManus, Olivia Giampietro), 1:37.32 (meet record, previous record 1:37.77 by Villa Maria, 2012); 2. Phoenixville, 1:37.80; 3. Springfield (M), 1:40.08; 4. Nazareth Academy, 1:44.19; 5. Merion Mercy, 1:46.16; 7. Lower Moreland, 1:46.85; 8. Upper Moreland, 1:48.33.

### Class AAA Girls

#### Team scores

1. North Penn, 157 points; 2. Conestoga, 104; 3. Upper Dublin,95.5; 4. Strath Haven, 75; 5. Methacton, 71; 6. Haverford, 69; 7. West Chester Henderson, 71; 8. Central Bucks East, 62; 9. Unionville, 60; 10. Owen J. Roberts, 58.

#### Event results

200-yard medley relay: 1. Haverford (Maddie Hart, Annie O'Brien, Emily Wolfe, Ilira Zherka), 1:46.27 (meet record, previous record 1:47.33 by Upper Dublin, 2011); 2. North Penn, 1:46.54; 3. Conestoga, 1:47.84; 4. Hatboro-Horsham, 1:48.95; 5. Radnor, 1:48.98; 6. Owen J. Roberts, 1:49.06; 7. Bayard Rustin, 1:49.47; 8. Souderton, 1:49.81;

200 freestyle: 1. Tommie Dillione (Council Rock North), 1:50.49; 2. Quinn MacMillan (Central Bucks West), 1:52.29; 3. Frances Resweber (Strath Haven), 1:52.80; 4. Emily Harris (Downingtown West), 1:53.47; 5. Tara Rogers (North Penn), 1:53.56; 6. Laura Barthold (Unionville), 1:53.58; 7. Maddie McNichol (West Chester Henderson), 1:53.68; 8. Amber Zimmerman (Conestoga), 1:53.75;

200 individual medley: 1. Hannah Whitman (Central Bucks East), 2:04.80; 2. (tie) Emma Brinton (Avon Grove) and Sam Wheatley (Upper Dublin), 2:06.30; 4. Kailyn Evans (North Penn), 2:07.34; 5. Camille Jablonski (Strath Haven), 2:07.89; 6. Gab Rudy (Ridley), 2:08.13; 7. Morgan Curl (Oxford), 2:08.47; 8. Erin Fife (Bayard Rustin), 2:08.51;

50 freestyle: 1. Olivia DeStefano (North Penn), 24.03; 2. Kirsten Groff (Methacton), 24.26; 3. Hannah McGee (Plymouth-Whitemarsh), 24.30; 4. Summer Martin (Strath Haven), 24.41; 5. Meghan Keithly (Downingtown West), 24.44; 6. Amanda Zlotnikoff (Wissahickon), 24.45; 7. Samantha Campbell (Upper Darby), 24.65; 8. Rickilee Hodges (Souderton), 24.66;

100 butterfly: 1. Maddie Hart (Haverford), 55:47; 2. Abby Mack (Conestoga), 55.69; 3. Brittany Weiss (Pennridge), 56.36; 4. Erin Fife (Bayard Rustin), 57.16; 5. Jenna Johns (Upper Dublin), 57.19; 6. Morgan Hansen (Owen J. Roberts), 57.24; 7. Caroline Apathy (Conestoga), 57.53; 8. Meghan Keithly (Downingtown West), 58.06;

200 freestyle relay: 1. North Penn (Leah Brown, Kailyn Evans, Aimee Baur, Olivia DeStefano), 1:36.49; 2. Central Bucks East, 1:37.16; 3. Upper Dublin, 1:37.81; 4. West Chester Henderson, 1:38.00; 5. Unionville 1:38.16; 6. Council Rock North, 1:38.26; 7. Methacton, 1:38.74; 8. Strath Haven, 1:38.89.

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