

Double nickel finish for Wolverines

Clear Brook's boys and girls swim teams participated in The Ranger Classic last weekend, coming up with strong showings by all swimmers.

The Wolverines came up with good swims as both teams placed 5th in the team competition held at Baytown Sterling High School.

"Top 5 was our goal," said second year coach Rick Barker. "This was an incredibly fast meet for this time of year. All of the teams ahead of us have Regional and in most cases State level athletes, so to place in the top 5 there is definitely a good showing for our team"

The meet was as fast as it gets with 6 meet records and 2 pool records for the Sterling High School Natatorium set. And with 26 athletes qualifying for the finals in 20 individual events and 11 relays, Clear Brook was absolutely in the mix.

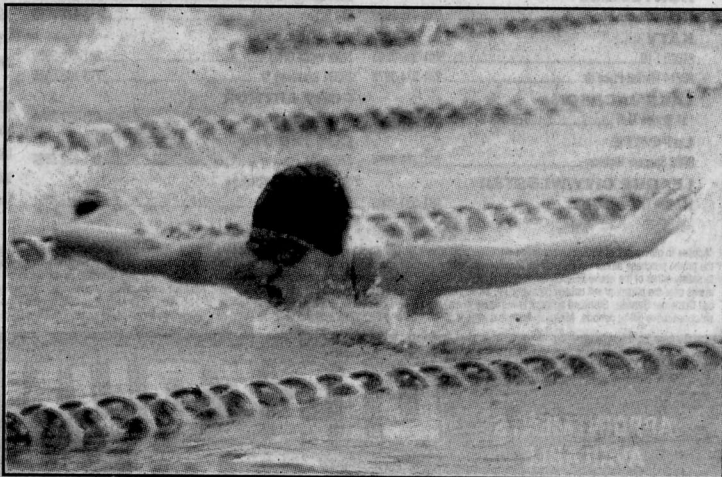
On the boy's side, team co-captain Mark Grijalva won an individual gold in his 200 freestyle with a time of 1:47.21, and took 3rd in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:03.10. Junior Will Garske placed 5th in the 100 backstroke with a best time of 1:00.23. Garske and Grijalva, along with co-captain Chuck Prosch and freshman Brian Bloomfield, contributed to the 200 Medley and 200 Freestyle relays that also placed in the top 8. Sophomores Vince Fincher and Daniel Iwai also had individual swims at the finals. Senior Connor Kelly and underclassmen Brad Bevaló, Tyler Dalme, Zach Arend, and Dakota Peacock contributed in relays.

"It was good to get those young guys out there," says Barker "I want them to see some fast swimming. It really pushed them to some big drops in time, and although they didn't make finals individually, they got to go on relays. Now they know what that is like and can use that to get hungry for the upcoming District Meet and on into next year."

Youth was the key word on the girl's side as well as 9 of the 15 girls qualifying for finals were underclassmen. Freshmen sisters



Mark Grijalva took gold for Clear Brook in the 200 freestyle and a third place in the 100 breaststroke.



Diana Sepulveda swam to her fastest time this season in the girl's 100 butterfly to help the Lady Wolverines to a fifth place finish.

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Courtesy photos

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Adriana and Julia Sepulveda continued an impressive string of swims at the Ranger Classic. Julia made the finals in the 100 backstroke with a personal best time of 1:02.73 and the 50 freestyle at 26.28. Adriana placed 4th in the 100 yard breaststroke with a personal best time of 1:10.24 and also made finals in the 200 IM finishing with 2:12.42. Junior Diana Sepulveda made finals in both her events as well and all 3 girls contributed on relays.

"They are pretty special girls" coach Barker said about the three sisters, "quiet leadership - they don't have to talk very much; I guess they let their swimming do that for them. They were not swimming their usual or 'best' events this weekend, and they still did amazingly well."

Brook took 15 girls total to the finals with seniors Laura Peterson and Team Captain Lauren Holderrieth, juniors Ashlee Fabling and Melissa Au, sophomores Anna Monteith, Kelly Vu,

Jill Johnson, and Caithn Scott, and freshman Madelyn Tadlock all contributing swims to help the team. And while all had great swims, two more freshmen stood out to Coach Barker.

"We had some really fast swims and some really big drops in time just all over the meet, but the 2 that stand out to me were both on the girl's side and both by freshman." Molly Freeman went 5:54.51 in the 500 yard freestyle and Sarah Nesrsta went 2:12.98 in the 200 free. Molly dropped over 30 seconds and made finals out of nowhere and Sarah did the same dropping over 11 seconds to qualify. "Both of these girls showed heart this weekend, and I am really proud of them. They have really come a long way this year."

"Overall it was a great meet for us. There was a lot of excitement, and a lot of fast swimming. It was fun and that's what its all about anyway."

Clear Brook will have one last home meet against Westside High School before participating in the District Championship Meet coming up on Jan. 27 to be held at the Lake Jackson Natatorium.