

island sports



MICHAEL GALVIN/The Independent

A quartet of Dolphins cheers its teammates on. From left, Nicole Gottlieb, Emma Kopp, Anna Forth and Katherine Pittman rate a swimmer's performance Sunday afternoon.

Two team records fall during Dolphins meet with Sandwich

The Dolphins hosted their first meet of the season Sunday afternoon and swamped Sandwich, 607-172. With 69 swimmers for Nantucket, versus 21 for the visitors, the Dolphins took 73 of 75 events.

Two team records were broken during the meet. Miles Geddes broke the 50-yard backstroke record with a final time of 32.30 and missed setting a new league record by two seconds.

Geddes was also a member of the record-setting 200-yard freestyle relay team with Henry Blackwell, Jackie Trudel and Jack Decker that turned in a new Dolphins-best time of 2:05.27 and missed setting a new league standard by

three seconds.

"I think our team swam very well," Dolphins coach Jim Pignato noted. "There were a lot of personal best times, and many swimmers competed in events that were new to them."

Taking part in their first meet of the season were: Stephanie Ryder, Dominic Costanzo, Kayla Hudzik, McKenzie Congdon, Cameron Gottlieb, Cameron Bartlett, Katherine Pittman, Audrey Snell, Josiah Patterson and Shelly Colpitts.

The Dolphins next meet is Sunday at always-tough Marshfield. ■

— Steve Sheppard

Whaler girls, boys turn back Coyle-Cassidy swimmers

Ainsley Ellis and Beau Garufi turned in state tournament-qualifying times as both boys and girls Whalers squads prevailed over visiting Coyle-Cassidy Saturday afternoon.

The girls took their meet, 98-78, and the boys theirs, 112-46.

Ellis qualified for the state tournament in two events with a time of 2:06.21 in the 200-yard freestyle and a time of 1:05.00 in the 100-yard backstroke.

The girls' meet was a seesaw affair, with the teams trading first place scores in the first four events. Even though Nantucket took seven first place finishes in 12 events, it wasn't until the last relays that Nantucket won the match.

"It took a total team effort to win the meet," coach Jim Pignato said afterwards. "We worked on minimizing sixth place finishes (for which no points are awarded) and that really helped."

Diver Tiffany Lee just missed qualifying for the state sectionals by one-tenth of a point in the 1-metre dive.

On the boys' side, Garufi's tournament-qualifying time of 1:56.72 in the 200-yard freestyle, was two seconds off Luther Blount's school-record time. Garufi also missed qualifying for the state tournament in the 100-yard butterfly event by two seconds.

In all, the boys took 10 first place honors in 12 events. Like the girls, the boys were strong in relay events, taking first and second place in the 200-yard freestyle relay and first and third place in the 400-yard freestyle.

"Relays are our biggest strength," Pignato noted. "Every boy on our team is under 30 seconds in the 50-yard freestyle."

Both teams look forward to Saturday, when perennial rival Nauset visits the island. The meets begin at noon. ■

— Steve Sheppard



ROB BENCHLEY/The Independent

Nantucket High School's Ashley Martin swims in the freestyle event during Saturday's meet with Coyle-Cassidy.

TIME OUT
ERIC LOWELL
 Junior Point Guard, Basketball
 BY SAM TOOLE

On Basketball

Sam: How has the season gone so far?

Eric: It's going well; our record is 3-3. I expect us to keep winning, playing as hard as we can and we should make the state tournament. The rest of the year looks good.

S: What position do you play?

E: Point guard. I've always played it because I'm smaller and quicker than all of the big guys.

S: What's been the highlight of your career to date?

E: I haven't really had one that I can think of.

On School

S: What has been your favorite class this year?

E: English with Ms. Molson because it's easy and fun.

S: Who has been your favorite teacher during your high school career?

E: It's a toss up between Ms. Phaneuf and Mr. Leone. Ms. Phaneuf is a great teacher and Mr. Leone is the man pretty much.

S: What event are you most looking forward to during your junior year?

E: Prom because it's exciting and it is supposed to be one of the best times in high school.

On Eric

S: What's on your playlist right now?

E: I listen to rap and hip-hop. That song "Shawty is a 10" by Young Dream is tight.

S: What was the last good movie you saw?

E: "Superbad" because it was hilarious.



S: What are your other interests?

E: Hanging out with my friends and having a good time.