



SSMAC Youth Stellar In Sault Michigan

Twenty-one of Sault Ste Marie Aquatic Club's youngest shining stars travelled across the International Bridge on Saturday, November 6th to compete in the Lions Invitational Meet held at the Sault Ste Marie High School in Sault Michigan. SSMAC sent their junior level 4 and 5 swimmers to this one-day meet while giving the more seasoned veteran swimmers the weekend off. The amazing thing about these swimmers was that fifteen of them had never competed before at a swim meet. However that did not stop them from showing their strength by bringing home 23 medals, 25 ribbons and finishing 4th overall in team placing behind host team Sault Competitive Aquatics Team (SCAT), Sault Y Dolphins and the Rudyard Piranhas. Five SSMAC swimmers were entered in the youngest age group of 8 and under. Emma Dingle (8) was a double medal winner by swimming a GOLD medal race in the 25yd freestyle along with receiving SILVER in the 25yd butterfly and a 7th place ribbon in the 25yd backstroke. Brandon Baker (8) was steady winning three BRONZE medals for his strong swims in the 25yd freestyle and backstroke as well as the 50yd freestyle. Hannah Hendrie (8) captured SILVER in the 100yd IM, and a 5th place ribbon in the 25yd butterfly. Sadie Sweet (7) just missed the medals with a 4th place finish in the 25yd breaststroke. Lily Elgie (8) had three great swims with a 10th place finish in the 25yd breaststroke.

The 9 to 10 year old age group saw 7 of SSMAC swimmers all place in the age group. Gracie McKay (10) in just her second meet was a triple medal winner who won GOLD in the 50yd backstroke and SILVERS in the 100yd IM and the 50yd butterfly. Amanda Jeffreys (9) was a double medal winner with SILVER in the 100yd freestyle and BRONZE 50yd butterfly. Amanda also won a 5th place ribbon in the 50yd backstroke. Alec Seccareccia (9), also a double medal winner, achieved SILVER in the 50yd breaststroke and BRONZE in the 100yd IM. Alec also won a 6th place ribbon in the 100yd freestyle. Vanessa Reid (10) captured BRONZE in the 100yd IM as well as a 5th place ribbon in the 100yd freestyle. Lynnea Barker (9) had a solid meet achieving two 5th place ribbons in the 50yd breaststroke and 100yd IM. Julia Sandvick (10) swam to a 6th place in the 50yd breaststroke to receive her ribbon for her efforts. Catherine Quon (9) also won herself a ribbon by placing 7th in the 50yd backstroke.

The largest group of swimmers from SSMAC represented the 11 to 12 years. Liam Cameron (12) was another triple medal winner for SSMAC winning SILVER medals in the 50yd backstroke and the 200yd IM. Liam also won BRONZE in the 200yd open age freestyle. Michael Reid (12) swam to BRONZE in the 50yd backstroke as well as achieving ribbons in the 200yd IM (4th) and 200yd open age freestyle (5th). Mitchell Jalak (12) also won a BRONZE medal by finishing 3rd in the 50yd breaststroke and received ribbons for the 200yd IM (5th) and 100yd freestyle (8th). Riley Kennedy (12) was a double ribbon winner with a 4th in the 50yd backstroke and 6th in the 50yd freestyle. Nathan Giulietti (12) also was a double ribbon winner capturing a 4th in the 50yd breaststroke and 6th in the 50yd backstroke. Olivia Keenan (11) yet another double ribbon winner swam her way to a 5th place ribbon in the 50yd breaststroke and a 8th place ribbon in the 200yd open age freestyle race. Madison Fillmore and Cassidy Bolton, both 11 year olds, each had three great performances in a very competitive age group.

The lone SSMAC swimmer in the 13 to 14 year old age group was Robert Sandvick. Robert was a double medal winner swimming to BRONZE in both the 100yd backstroke and freestyle and just missed a third medal by finishing with a 4th place ribbon in the 50yd freestyle.

Swimmers from both genders teamed up to race in relays. The team of 9 to 10 year olds Julia, Vanessa, Amanda and Lynnea won SILVER in both the 200yd free and medley relays. The team of Gracie, Alec, Catherine, and Brandon won a 5th place ribbon while Catherine, Amanda, Lily and Sadie finished with a 7th place ribbon. The 11 to 12 year old relay team of Mitchell, Madison, Michael and Liam swam to a 4th place ribbon in the 200yd medley relay. In the 11-12 200yd freestyle relay the team of Liam, Mitchell, Nathan and Michael swam to a 4th place ribbon while Riley, Madison, Cassidy and Olivia in 10th and Julia, Brandon, Alec, and Gracie in 12th.

Coaches Turgeon and Tomlinson were extremely proud of these young swimmers, especially those who were competing for the first time. The swimmers all stepped up to the challenge of competing in a meet and showed that they are ready to continue SSMAC's tradition of swimming excellence.

SSMAC swimmers are all gearing up for their own Joey Calzone's Invitational being held this Friday through Sunday at the John Rhodes pool. Good Luck SSMAC swimmers!