



BALCONES Woods
BLUE WAVE

CATCH THE WAVE

2009-08

The Blue Wave had a great meet against Westover this past weekend! Although Westover claimed the top spot with a score of 313.5 to 282.5, we had many outstanding swims and the meet ended up being much closer than anticipated. There was a whole lot of team spirit this weekend. The addition of big/ little siblings (thanks to Huddle!) really made a difference. The partnerships will help our team grow tighter, and our younger swimmers will benefit from having someone to 'show them the ropes'. I know the older kids also like having a younger swimmer cheering them on. Remember the Champs meet is scored completely differently, so we are looking for a rematch with this very competitive team.

We had **63% best times** and we had many swimmers score points when they weren't seeded to do so. It was exciting to watch relays race all the way to the finish, especially at the end of a long and hot day. I hope everyone got the chance to see our 15-18 Girls and Boys win extremely close races at the end of the meet! Check out the great pictures on the BW website that **Zack Rivette** took of our swimmers, especially those final relays. I know we will continue to gain momentum as we race the Fast Frogs and all the way to Champs. Though we may not be practicing under ideal circumstances, it is great to see that our kids have never stopped working hard and it is continuing to pay off. Our swimmers of the meet were: **Julianna Hays, Jack Burgess, Brooke Anthony, Christopher Hesse, Alexandra D'Angelo, John Umstatt, Janet Wagner, Brandon Barnes, Katie Beckham, George Anthony, Rachel Beger, and Alex Alvarado**. See the Blue Wave web site for our list of Outstanding Performances for the Great Hills meet.

Our All Time Top 10 records have also been updated with many swimmers moving into or up the record list. These are the fastest times in Blue Wave history! Congrats to: **Blair Kinsey, Amy Olsen, Christy Olsen, Katie Beckham, Chris Anne Laskowski, Zoe James, Shelby Kiser, Regan Rivette, Christopher Hesse, Gareth Prati, Jake Imperial, Noah Schmidt, Justine Heinzke, John Umstatt, Carter Hanson, Brandon Barnes, Alex Alvarado, Harley Stout and Tim Murray**. Remember all our dual meets so far this year have been in meter pools. Our team records and the champs meet are in yards, so the times have to be converted. Way to go Blue Wave!!

Thank you so much to all our hard working volunteers who helped us run a great meet away from home. A special thank you to our concessions volunteers headed up by **Birgit Hesse & Debra Ramirez** and our extremely hard working grill masters who sweated it out to keep us all fed!

Our next meet is back at **Twin Creeks pool** against the Forest Area Fast Frogs. Swimmers should be at the pool and check-in with their age group parents **by 6:40 a.m.** Our warm-up time is 6:55 a.m. The meet begins at 8:00 a.m. Twin Creeks is running the concessions. Please support them as they are letting us use their pool for FREE. **We are the meet hosts** again. Please stay after the meet to make sure we left the pool cleaner than when we came! Remember, **NO SHARPIES** writing on the swimmers backs. We are so lucky to be back at this pool and we can't risk ruining their chairs! Age group parents may write the swimmers name on their shoulders and their event list on their arms. We will have Blue Wave tattoos for sale for 25 cents to show your Blue Wave pride!!

SWIMMER'S EAR could pay a visit to some of our Blue Wave swimmers. To keep your ears healthy throughout the swim season, mix together 1/3 rubbing alcohol, 1/3 white vinegar, and 1/3 water and drop into both ears. If your rubbing alcohol is already diluted, then use less water in the mixture. Keep those ears dry & healthy!! We need everyone for these last 2 swim meets.

Remember to get your donations for the **RED CROSS SWIM-A-CROSS** turned into Coach Huddle by Monday, June 22. It's not too late to get donors, just ask your neighbors, families and friends. People are usually impressed by the number of laps our swimmers are able to do! The three swimmers with the most donations collected will be awarded a **cash prize of \$250, \$100 & \$50**. This donation is made possible by the very generous donation of **Maria Holzmueller, realtor**. In addition, this year the team will be putting every swimmer who raises at least \$50 into a drawing for additional prizes such as **gift cards to iTunes, Blockbuster and Regal Cinema**. If you can donate a gift card to this cause, please let me know! T-shirts are given to all swimmers who raise at least \$30.00.

CHAMPS MEET AND PEP RALLY INFO:

Champs Pep Rally will be held on Thursday, June 25th at 6pm at Schroeter Park at 11701 Big Trail. **Olympic Gold Medalist Brendan Hansen will be coming to talk to our kids** about his experiences in swimming and how nutrition can affect your performance. He will be bringing samples of his companies sports drink. He usually brings his Olympic medals to show the kids, lets them hold them and takes pictures. Should be a great way to send our kids off to the Champs meet!

The **CHAMPIONSHIP MEET** is on for **Sunday, June 28th**. The meet is at the University of Texas Jamail Swim Center located on the corner of Martin Luther King and San Jacinto Blvd. A map to the pool is located at www.balconeswoods.org. Look on the record board for Brendan Hansen's name – he holds several UT records. If you know you will not be at Champs, please let the coaches know ASAP!! The meet will start at 10am with the national anthem sung by our senior swimmers. All swimmers must **check in with their age group parents by 8:45** so that the swimmers can be marked before they go on deck. We'll meet outside in the back lobby to get marked. Blue Wave goes on deck at 9. Warm-ups will be from 9-10 a.m. Please make sure your swimmer can be there for the entire meet. The team will sit in one bleacher area together near the spectator stands. The meet is run in two pools with boys on one side and girls on the other.

Please note: UT restricts the number of persons allowed on the deck and bulkhead. Only parents whose jobs require them to be on Deck will be allowed on Deck. If you are required to be on Deck, our league rep, Julie Vander Stoep, will mark your name tag either at the Champs pep rally or at Champs. Wear your name tag – UT personnel will verify it as you enter the Deck area. Sorry, but **no marked tag means NO ENTRY. If you need a new name tag, let me know ASAP!** Each age group EXCEPT the 6&unders is allowed ONLY 2 age group parents on deck. (6 & unders can have 3 parents.) Again, parents will not be allowed on deck – only volunteers and ONLY during their volunteer shift.

If you want to volunteer to work at Champs, you need to go to the following web site and sign up for either girls pool or boys pool. Age group parents do NOT need to sign up.

<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=ck1jZkN1bG0tWnlWRk15d2pGbHFyV3c6MA>.

After the Championship meet our end of season party will be held at Davis Elementary at 6pm. More details coming next week. We will be adding a FAQ page to the web site soon. Thank you to **Nancy Beckham** and **Coach Huddie** for working on this document. Now, I just need to finalize it.....

WE ARE THE BLUE WAVE! COULDN'T BE PROUDER!

DeAnn Kiser

2009 Blue Wave President

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