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FEBRUARY 10-11 GEORGIA TECH AQUATIC CENTER



## RALPH SWEARNGIN GREETINGS, GHSA SWIMMING AND DIVING PARTICIPANTS AND FANS!

Welcome to one of the largest events on the GHSA calendar, the GHSA State Swimming and Diving Championships. Thank you for your attendance and participation at this wonderful event. There have been remarkable accomplishments throughout this season, and it is expected that many of those accomplishments will be surpassed this week.

I want to thank the large number of people who have worked hard all season processing the data that drives competitive swimming and diving. Thanks go out to the staff at Georgia Tech and the volunteers who keep the swimming and diving championships running so efficiently. I also want to thank GHSA Associate Direc-

tor Dennis Payne and Andy Cowart, GHSA Coordinator for Swimming and Diving, for the leadership they have given to these sports throughout the year.

I hope that you will enjoy your experience at this year's event. Please notice the signs that display the corporate partners that help the GHSA put on quality championship events. If you have the opportunity to support these groups, please do so.

Best Wishes,



Ralph Swearngin GHSA Executive Director

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#### **SCHEDULE OF EYENTS**

#### Friday, February 10

9:00am
Diving (All events)
AAAAA

9:00am Swim Prelims AAAA/AAA/AA/A

6:30pm Swim Prelims AAAAA

#### Saturday, February 11

9:00am Diving (All events) AAAA/AAA/AA/A

1:00pm Swim Finals AAAA/AAA/AA/A

6:00pm Swim Finals AAAAA

#### ORDER OF SWIM EVENTS

- 1. 200-yard Medley Relay
- 2. 200-yard Freestyle
- 3. 200-yard Individual Medley
- 4. 50-yard Freestyle
- 5. 1-meter Diving
- 6. 100-yard Butterfly
- 7. 100-yard Freestyle8. 500-yard Freestyle
- 9. 200-yard Freestyle Relay
- 10. 100-yard Backstroke
- 11. 100-yard Breaststroke
- 12. 400-yard Freestyle Relay

#### GHSA.TV



The swimming finals on Saturday, February 11 will video steamed live on GHSA.tv. The AAAA/ AAA/ AAA/ A finals will be from 1:00 - 4:00 pm with the AAAAA finals from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. The diving finals will be available on demand on GHSA.tv. DVDs will be available to order at GHSA.tv. Action photos by Georgia Photographics and The Athletic Image will be available at GHSAPhotos.com.

GA Tech Staff: Mike Edwards, David Williams, Matt Griffith, Courtney Hart and John Ames Meet Directors: Matt Murphy and Franke Marsden
GHSA Officials: Dennis Payne, Andy Cowart and Vicky Sanchez Tuymer



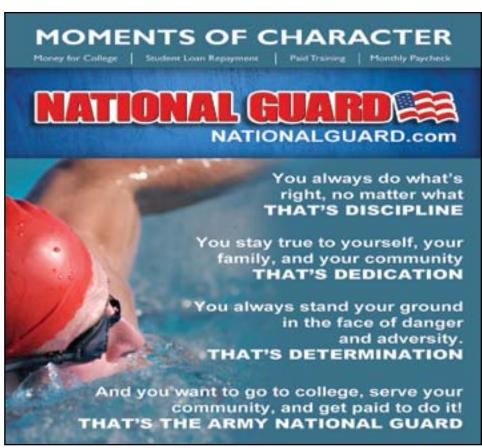
The 2012 Georgia High School Association Swimming & Diving State Championship Guide is published by *Score Prep*, a division of *Score Atlanta*, in conjunction with the GHSA. The guide was designed by DJ Galbiati, information provided by Score Atlanta and the GHSA and photos on the cover are courtesy of Brian L. Morgan, Alpharetta High School, Scott Karlins and Meghan Schroder. For more information on *Score Prep*, go to Scoreatl.com or call 404-256-1572.











# THEAMS



# Trojans, Wildcats look to continue success

#### By Ricky Dimon

Girls swimming state championships have almost been foregone conclusions in recent times. In fact, each of the past four years has been the same, with Lassiter winning the title in Class AAAAA and Marist prevailing in Class A-AAAA.

#### TROJAN WOMEN ...

Bidding for its fifth consecutive state championship, Lassiter has reloaded after a trio of stars graduated in 2011 to swim at the next level in Division I. Two weeks ago the Trojans captured their 12th Cobb County championship in their last 13 appearances. A virtual two-team race between Lassiter and Walton saw the Trojans edge the Raiders 542-522.5.

Brookwood and Mill Creek, who fin-

ished second and third behind Lassiter at the 2011 state meet, should once again contend. The Broncos and Hawks have already gone head-to-head twice this season. Brookwood had the upper hand each time, but not before serious struggles. A dual meet on Jan. 7 went the Broncos' way, 156-153, and the teams finished one-two at the recent Gwinnett County Public High School Championship. Brookwood topped the field with 987.5 points, and Mill Creek finished well ahead of all other contenders with 921.5 points.

The Marist girls have won five state titles in a row in Class A-AAAA. Only Westminster was competitive with Marist last year, as the Wildcats scored 273.5 points in the state meet to the War Eagles' winning score of 298. Westminster looks poised to turn the tide and

end Marist's streak after triumphing at the Metro Swimming and Diving Championship. The host Wildcats won with 212 points to the runner-up War Eagles' 193.

#### WINNING WILDCATS ...

On the boys side, the story is much different — especially in Class A-AAAA. Westminster's string of six consecutive state titles came to an end in 2009 and there have been four different state champions in the past four years. The Wildcats last triumphed in 2008, followed by Marist, Greater Atlanta Christian and most recently Wesleyan in 2011.

Three of those schools just faced each other at the Metro Swimming and Diving Championship, and all three finished in the top four. Marist took home top honors with 153 points, Westminster was right behind with 143 and Wesleyan came in fourth with 127. Those three teams also finished in the top five of last year's state meet; the Wildcats were third and the War Eagles fifth behind the No. 1 Wolves. Northview and St. Pius X are also expected to contend for the 2012 title.

There has been a history of repeating in Class AAAAA. Parkview won four straight state titles from 2000 to 2003, Col-

lins Hill went back-to-back in 2004 and 2005, Parkview followed suit with two more championships in succession then Brookwood captured a trio of titles from 2008 through 2010.

Now it is Peachtree Ridge's turn to defend its 2011 championship. A repeat may not be in the cards, though, because the Lions struggled amidst a loaded field at the Gwinnett County Public School Championship. They finished in seventh place behind all of the recent state champions — Parkview, Collins Hill and Brookwood.

Parkview finished a mere three points behind Peachtree Ridge at last year's state meet and it has to be considered the favorite to win its seventh title in the last 13 years. The Panthers, who are armed with a whole host of state qualifiers, dominated the Gwinnett competition with 1016.5 points. That put them almost 200 points clear of runner-up Collins Hill and even further ahead of third-place Mill Creek, fourth-place North Gwinnett and fifth-place Brookwood. Walton and Lassiter finished first and second, respectively, in the Cobb County Championships and both teams should be factors at state.

Dimon can be reached at rdimon@scoreatl.com.

# THE ATHLETES



# Talent abounds in pool this weekend

#### By Fletcher Proctor

As much as swimming is a team sport at the GHSA level, individual swimmers make up those teams, and several individuals have stood out this year with incredible times and county titles. Cobb County and Gwinnett County seem to churn out championship caliber swimmers each and every year and this year is no different.

#### **GWINNETT'S BEST ...**

Brookwood senior Michael Trice is one of the fastest swimmers in the state as he has excelled in the 50-meter freestyle as well as the 100-meter freestyle events. The same way we point to the 100-meter dash at the Olympics as the determining race to determine the "Fastest Man Alive," the 50 free is the closest event we can use to determine the swimming

sprint champion. Trice earlier this year turned in a time of 20.74, the fastest state qualifying time in Class AAAAA, bettering his time in the championships one year ago when he finished in second place. But Trice isn't a one-trick pony as he has also excelled in the 100 free and helped Brookwood take the recent boys 200-yard medley relay at the Gwinnett County championships.

"Trice thrives on the challenge of the sprint free events," said his coach Greg Puckett. Kelsey Gouge may be just as fast on the girls side for Brookwood, as she has competed well this year in the 50 free as well as the 100 breast. Rachel Muller turned in Class AAAAA's fastest qualifying time for the 200 free. "Rachel is a very quiet individual that does so well because she is a very

focused and hard working individual at practice." said Puckett.

Rick Creed is the coach of Mill Creek and he boasts a pair of swimmers that move like dolphins. Chris Powell is a name to watch out for in the boys 100 free while Rachael Dudley is a standout in seemingly every event. Dudley had the No. 1 qualifying time in the 100 fly (an event she won last year), the 100 back and has placed well this year in the 200 free and the 500 free events.

#### COBB'S FINEST ...

Lassiter, meanwhile, has talent oozing all over the Trojans' roster. Jordan Drake recently took home Cobb County championships in the 100 free and 100 back as the Trojans took a 12th Cobb title in the last 13 years. According to Lassiter coach Glenn Meeden, Drake "has displayed exceptional skill at the butterfly and backstroke, but this year she also wanted to go out and show her skill as a breast-stroker." Meeden noted that winning the county title at both 100 breast and 100 free was "a huge deal for her."

The Lassiter boys have a plethora of talent too, starting with Jimmy Yoder. Much like

a Swiss Army Knife, Yoder is multi-dimensional. He has turned in amazing times this year in both the 200 free and the 500 free, while also doing well in the 100 free and 100 fly. His 200 and 500 free are the fastest qualifying times in the state for those events. Zach Bunner has turned in the top times this year for 100 fly and 100 back.

Meeden said the key for both is more than just a simple desire to win. "They simply refuse to lose. They wish to be the best and at the same time, show their skill and talent in the water without bringing any attention to themselves."

Many other top swimmers will be on display at the swimming championships including Parkview's Ricky Lehner and Geoffrey Carter. Both have turned in incredible times in the 100 breast as well as the 200 IM.

Finally, if you want to take a gander at other classifications, spy on Anthony McMurry and Nick Salyers of Wesleyan. McMurray is the defending champion in 100 free event and should challenge in the 50 while Salyers is a 100 backstroke standout.

Proctor can be reached at fproctor@scoreatl.com.

# GHSA STATE SWIMMING AND DIVING RECORDS

BOYS						
Event	School	Year	Time	Name		
200 Yd. Medley Relay	Westminster	2008	1:34.00	Miller Douglas, Matt Lunati, Adlai Pappy, Chris Faux		
200 Yd. Freestyle	Northview	2011	1:37.98	Matias Koski		
200 Yd. Ind. Medley	Parkview	2002	1:47.86	Eric Shanteau		
50 Yd. Freestyle	Heritage-Conyers	2009	20.46			
100 Yd. Butterfly	Lakeside-DeKalb	2011	48.72	Jack Lane		
100 Yd. Freestyle	Centennial	2003	44.90			
500 Yd. Freestyle	GAC	2009	4:19.32	Will Freeman		
100 Yd. Backstroke	Marist	2000	48.42	Peter Marshall		
100 Yd. Breaststroke	Parkview	2011	55.88	Ricky Lehner		
200 Yd. Freestyle Relay	Wesleyan	2011	1:24.85	Timothy Marsh, Chase Bartlett, Will Gregory, Anthony McMurry		
400 Yd. Freestyle Relay	Wesleyan	2011	3:06.53	Chase Bartlett, Nick Salyers, Michael Reynolds, Anthony McMurry		
Diving (1m)	Colquitt County	2007	615.00 ^	Ryan Helms		

GINLS								
Event	School	Year	Time	Name				
200 Yd. Medley Relay	. Lassiter	. 2011	1:45.01	Samantha Bosma, Shannon O'Malley, Jordan Drake, Kim Carducci				
200 Yd. Freestyle	. Westminster	2004	1:46.32	Elizabeth Hill				
200 Yd. Ind. Medley	. Marist	. 2008	1:57.41					
50 Yd. Freestyle	. Brookwood	. 2003	22.91	Amanda Weir				
100 Yd. Freestyle	. Brookwood	. 2004	49.06	Amanda Weir				
EOO Vd. Evenetule		2004	4.40.02	Flinghoth Hill				

CIDIC

^ = Score

# **2001-11 PAST CHAMPIONS**

	BO	<b>7</b> S	GIRLS			
Year	AAAA	AAAA/AAA/AA/A	AAAA	AAAA/AAA/AA/A		
2001	Parkview	Marist	Brookwood	Westminster		
2002	Parkview	Marist	Brookwood	Westminster		
2003	Parkview	Westminster	Brookwood	Westminster		
2004	Collins Hill	Westminster	Brookwood	Westminster		
2005	Collins Hill	Westminster	Lassiter	Westminster		
2006	Parkview	Westminster	Centennial	Westminster		
2007	Parkview	Westminster	Northview	Marist		
2008	Brookwood	Westminster	Lassiter	Marist		
2009	Brookwood	Marist	Lassiter	Marist		
2010	Brookwood	GAC	Lassiter	Marist		
2011	Peachtree Ridge	Wesleyan	Lassiter	Marist		

# **TOTAL TITLES PER SCHOOL**

BOYS				GIRLS			
22	Westminster	2	Shiloh	19	Westminster	3	North Fulton
15	Woodward Acad./GMA	1	Blue Ridge	7	Marist	2	Parkview
11	Athens	1	Chattahoochee	6	Dunwoody	2	Peachtree
8	Parkview	1	Dalton	6	Lakeside-DeKalb	1	Americus
7	Boys High	1	Pope	5	Lassiter	1	Centennial
7	Marist	1	Savannah				
4	Dunwoody	1	Walton	5	Decatur	1	Northside-WR
3	Brookwood	1	GAC	4	Brookwood	1	Northview
2	Cedar Shoals	1	Peachtree Ridge	4	Chattahoochee	1	Walton
2	Collins Hill	1	Wesleyan	3	Briarcliff		

### Strong returning champs will be challenged By Stephen Black

It has been, once again, a great year for Lswimming in the state of Georgia. Here we are at the state finals meet in one of the best facilities in the state for swimming: the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center.

What better place for the championship meet than a pool that once hosted Olympic swimming?

#### TRADITIONAL POWERS ...

Parkview won its 18th Gwinnett County championship in 21 years this season and, therefore, is among the contenders in both boys and girls this weekend. Gwinnett programs have won the past 12 Class AAAAA state crowns and the Panthers won six of those. Their last title, however, came in 2007. Coach Jack Gayle hopes his squad returns to the winner's circle behind a state record 40 swimmers in today's championships.

Meanwhile, in girls swimming, Lassiter looks to complete an unprecedented five-peat in the state's highest classification. The Trojans are coming off their 12th county championship in 13 years and are led by super sophomores Nicole Prendes and Micaela Janco as well as senior captain Sarah Williford.

Also from Cobb, the Walton boys will attempt to win their first state swimming title since 1983. The Raiders won the Cobb County championship two weeks ago behind another solid performance from All-American diver David Sanchez. Lassiter will be tough to beat again, though, as Jimmy Yoder leads a stacked Trojan squad. Yoder qualified two All-American times in the Cobb meet.

#### TALENTED UPSTARTS ...

Although Marist has won the last five state championships in the girls Class A-AAAA meets, Westminster upset the War Eagles in the Wildcats' home pool at the 42nd Annual Swimming and Diving Championship two weeks ago. However, the state championships this weekend are at a neutral site. We'll see how that affects the Marist-Westminster matchup and whether or not the Wildcats can again edge the War Eagles. Regardless, Rachel Astles and Katie Christy lead a strong Westminster girls squad which could challenge the War Eagles for the state championship.

Meanwhile, after winning six state crowns in a row, the Westminster boys have not won state gold since 2008. The Wildcats, however, appear to be loaded this

year and come to Georgia Tech as one of the favorites in Class A-AAAA. But Wesleyan brings a talented bunch of Wolves into the meet as well, and are led

by seniors Anthony Mc-Murry and Nick Salyers, who have each set school records in their four years on campus.

One of the most accomplished swimmers in the state this year was David Barnes of West Forsyth. Barnes didn't do much this season — other than qualifying for the state championship meet in every event and relay. A four-year varsity letterman for the Wolverines, Barnes has led his team in points in two consecutive years. Barnes qualified for the state meet in the 200 Free, 200 IM, 50 Free, 100 Fly, 100 Free, 500 Free, 100 Back, 100 Breast, 200 Medley, 200 Free and 400 Free.

Also, in the diving portion of this weekend's activities, Jack Nyquist is the guy to watch in the boys' Class AAAAA competition. The junior from Alpharetta High School is the two-time defending state champion and is strongly favored to win again this year. He has

only been div-

ing for seven years but has already proven himself as the state's best diver twice.

Photos courtesy of Lassiter HS, Weatherford/River Oak tography, Alpharetta HS, and Brian L. Morgan. Black can be reached at sblack@scoreatl.com.



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