

SWIMMING

Garfield and friends compete at COR Classic

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The Lakeside Aquatic Swim Club reached the halfway point of the winter short course season Dec. 3-5 when the squad competed at the City of Richardson Classic Winter Invitational.

"I am very proud of how well our swimmers swam," said Jason Walter, head age group coach at Lakeside Aquatics. "We had an outstanding meet and I am looking forward to building off our success from this meet and continue our fast swimming through the Speedo Greater Southwest meet and onto the state championship meet (TAGS) in March. We have 15 swimmers who have qualified for TAGS in 69 individual events so far this season. We are looking to double that by the end of the season and I feel with our great swimming this last meet, we have that opportunity."

Top performers for Lakeside included Flower Mound residents Andy Turner and Brendan Feehery, Highland Village resident Anika Buhr and The Colony's Emma Garfield.

Leading the way for Lakeside Aquatics Club was Garfield, who was the COR Classic girls high point winner.

Garfield dominated the pool, taking first in four events, the 200-yard individual medley (2:29.54), 100 IM (1:08.40), 100 butterfly (1:07.15) and 50 backstroke. Her times in the 100 IM and 100 butterfly were program records.

Garfield continued her impressive performance by taking second in the 500 free and 50 breaststroke, third in the 100 backstroke and 100 breaststroke, and participating in the 10-and-under relay squads that took first in the 200 free and third in the 200 medley.

Turner racked up multiple top 10 finishes as well, including second in the 200 IM, second in the 50 butterfly, third in the 50 breaststroke and third in the 100 butterfly. Turner also took fourth in two events as well as sixth and ninth in others for a total of 109 points. Turner qualified for TAGS in each event and earned an "A" time in the 50 butterfly.

Feehery scored 119 points for Lakeside after notching a pair of first place finishes (200 individual medley and 500 free) to go with second in the 200 free and 50 breaststroke (team record), third in the 100 breaststroke, fourth in the 100 backstroke and fifth in the 100 free. Feehery is currently ranked in the top 10 in the country in the 12-and-under boys division in the 200 IM, 400 IM and 500 free while ranking in the top 20 in the 200 free, 100 backstroke and 50 breaststroke.

Buhr totaled 98 points after claiming a pair of first place finishes in the 100 and 200 free, in addition to earning third in the 200 IM, fourth in the 100 backstroke and fourth in the 500. She was also part of Lakeside's 200 free relay team, which finished first, and the 200 medley relay team, which placed third.

While many of Lakeside's swimmers were finding success at the COR meet, Flower Mound resident and LAC member Alex Sellers was competing at the USA Swimming Short Course Junior National Championships at Georgia Tech University.

Sellers competed in the 50 free but was at her best in the 100 and 200 free, where she set program records.

Sellers also shaved five seconds off of her previous best time in the 200 IM during a time trial for the NCSA Junior Nationals Meet, which takes place in March.

"The USA Swimming Short Course National and Junior National Championship meets are a showcase for the top swimmers in the country," said Mike Yearwood, head coach. "Swimmers here are the swimmers you will see competing for US Olympic team spots in 2012. Alex swam very well, establishing personal best times



Lakeside Aquatics members and Flower Mound residents Brendan Feehery (top) and Andy Turner (below) competed Dec. 3-5 at the City of Richardson Classic Winter Invitational.

