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William Tennent's Aichele slips to third

By **BILL KEEN**
 The Intelligencer

The bad news was that William Tennent senior Dan Aichele let the Suburban One League Continental Conference boys diving title slip through his fingers when he misfired on his final dive and received no score.

The good news was that he can learn from his third-place finish and redeem himself Friday, Feb. 22, at the District One diving championships at North Penn.

Still, that was of little consolation to Aichele on Wednesday at Central Bucks South, where he built a better than 30-point lead over teammate Greg Mulherin after the semifinal round. Despite opening the door for Methacton's Trevor Fitzgerald with a sub-par effort on his next-to-last dive of the finals, all Aichele had to do was get average scores on his final dive, a forward 21/2 somersault with a 2.3 degree of difficulty.

Instead, he heard those dreaded word, "Failed attempt," from the public address announcer.

"(That dive) has never given me a problem," Aichele said. "Bad hurdle, bad jump, I don't know. It was just not a good dive for me ... I was looking forward to doing a little better today, but I guess it will help me later."

Fitzgerald finished first with 400.60 points, ahead of second-place T.J. Schenkel of Council Rock South at 380.65; then came Aichele at 370.70, Mulherin with 363.35, and Hatboro-Horsham's Chris Garstka with 337.90.

Mulherin was disappointed he slipped from second to fourth.

"My last round was my toughest round; I didn't like most of the dives," the junior said. "I'll probably do a little different reconfiguration (before districts) and see how things flow."

Suburban One League Continental Conference

Boys Diving Championships

1. Trevor Fitzgerald (Methacton), 400.60;
2. T.J. Schenkel (Council Rock South), 380.65;
3. Dan Aichele (William Tennent), 370.70;
4. Greg Mulherin (William Tennent), 362.35;
5. Chris Garstka (Hatboro-Horsham), 337.90;
6. Kyle Schultz (Methacton), 311/15;
7. Marcus Dare (Souderton), 285.05;
8. Stephan Doherty (William Tennent), 264.05;
9. Alex Evers (Souderton), 245.90;
10. Josh Rizzuto (Methacton), 240.40;
11. Chris Torsitano (Hatboro-Horsham), 213.25;
12. Craig Mootz (Methacton), DQ

SOL National Conference

It was a clean sweep for North Penn in the top three places at the Suburban One League National Conference boys diving championships Wednesday night at Abington.

Zac Nees won the conference title with a score of 440.85 points, beating out runner-up teammate Frankie Murray (405.30). North Penn's Michael Kohler placed third (367.70). Nees had placed third in the event last season.

The pre-meet favorite for the title, defending champion Brian Gemberling of Neshaminy, was a last-minute scratch from the meet because of an illness.

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The District One boys diving championships are slated for Friday, Feb. 22 at North Penn's Rick Carroll Natatorium at 5:30 p.m.


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