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Lively day for Maidens, Knights at Pennridge

By KEV HUNTER

Staff Writer

PERKASIE — It was a work in progress versus a work of art.

The Pennridge swim program, rapidly improving under coach Ryan Griffiths, gave the North Penn boys and girls teams a strong challenge in several events Thursday afternoon at Pennridge High School, serving notice that this is a rivalry that could develop quite well in the years to come.

The Maidens were able to overcome a Rams effort that included a school record relay time, and prevail 122-64 on the girls side. And the Knights pushed themselves to some district-qualifying times in order to overcome a strong Pennridge effort on the boys side, as North Penn earned a 97-81 victory.

North Penn started its Suburban One League Continental Conference schedule in strong fashion.

"We had a good solid holiday training session," Knights coach Brian Daly said. "Coming off the Upper Dublin win, the guys had a renewed focus and commitment. I'm pleased that they were able to race the way they did today, and have some of the times that they did."

By the time you could try to say Peter Kolokithias' name 10 times in a row really fast, he could probably swim a 100 freestyle. And the Knights' speedster was good for two wins in the 100 and the 200 free, with impressive times.

Also for the North Penn boys (3-1), Adam Myzal made the district cut in the 500 free, finishing second, and North Penn was able to take two of the three relays.

And then something peculiar happened during the boys 50 freestyle race. Is that...diver Zac Nees winning the race?

"He's kind of toyed around with (the 50 free) over time, and he's just a talented athlete," Daly said. "Now he's under 24 seconds for the first time, so we'll see. We'll give him a couple more opportunities."

It was the first time in Nees' high school career that he was a double winner, taking first on the board and then winning the 50 free with a near district-qualifying time.

Robert Phiambolis had a solid night for the Rams, winning the 500 free with a time that earned him a spot in districts. And Pennridge's younger guys and girls are coming along.

"Overall, some of our middle-of-the-pack swimmers, you're seeing the progression from a core group of kids that had never swam before, and the kids that have been on the team for a couple years now, they're finally seeing the results," Griffiths said.

The Pennridge girls 200 free relay team saw great results, breaking the school record with a time of 1:46.35 as a team of Erica Redmond, Alicia Detweiler, Gabi Rinaldi and Megan Hahn broke the previous mark set in 2006. The Maidens won the event by a couple seconds, but Pennridge was close.

"We're a growing program, and we've had numbers for about two years, and going against North Penn, you know what you're gonna need to do every year because they have state-caliber swimmers from top to bottom," Griffiths said. "Our kids swam phenomenally well."

Shelby Rinker had a busy day for the undefeated Maidens. She swam on all three winning relays, and won the 100 fly.

And Julia Tate once again stood out for the Maidens up on the board.

The senior diver was the only female to score 200 points, as she won the event by a huge margin, earning a score of 212.85.

Closest to her was Pennridge's Erica Smale, who scored a solid 176.45. The Maidens grabbed 11 of the possible 16 points in the

event. North Penn would take first in everything except the 500 free and the 100 back - Megan Hahn and Erica Redmond took those events for the Rams.

"I'm very happy with how they did after a tough week and coming off Christmas break practice," Maidens coach Matt Weiser said. "We had a couple good swims from the younger girls - the freshmen and sophomores swam very well, and our upperclassmen were a little beat up, but that's alright."

North Penn now shifts focus to Souderton on Wednesday.

"That's gonna be the big one of the year," Weiser said. "I think that will be our first real test. We've had some competitive swims here and there, but we haven't had that solid team effort against us yet, so that will be good to see."

"It's always circled on the calendar," Daly said of the Souderton meet. "It's a good rivalry, and I'm sure they're excited for it, we're excited for it, and it should be a good meet on both sides of the pool - girls and boys. We always look forward to the meet with Souderton - it's a lot of fun, we swim good times, they swim good times, it's a good crowd, and it's one of the exciting events of high school sports."

The Rams are 2-2 overall on both the boys and girls sides, and have a tough week coming up. Pennridge has three meets next week, starting with a home one against Cheltenham on Monday.

Boys Swimming

North Penn 97, Pennridge 81

Key: NP - North Penn; P - Pennridge; D - district-qualifier.

200 medley relay: 1. North Penn (Jacob Sisko, Matt Ortlieb, Brendan Hatfield, Craig Hennessey), 1:47.73 (D); 2. North Penn, 1:49.19 (D); 3. Pennridge, 1:52.66; 4. Pennridge, 2:03.70; 5. Pennridge, 2:09.01; 6. North Penn, 2:09.71.

200 free: 1. Peter Kolokithias (NP) 1:51.99 (D); 2. Robert Phiambolis (P) 1:53.56 (D); 3. Nathan Chesmar (NP) 1:58.34; 4. Josh Hoch (NP) 2:06.38; 5. Lucas Rogers (P) 2:19.35; 6. Robbie Grasmeder (P) 2:19.59.

200 IM: 1. Patrick Dunigan (NP) 2:12.66; 2. Adam Myzal (NP) 2:14.66; 3. Kyle VanLeer (P) 2:16.67; 4. Jacob Sisko (NP) 2:23.09; 5. Chris Bashaar (P) 2:27.83; 6. Dan Walker (P) 2:36.64.

50 free: 1. Zac Nees (NP) 23.73; 2. Jason Deana (NP) 23.74; 3. Greg Koehler (P) 24.55; 4. Eugene Feeley (NP) 25.22; 5. Dave McVaugh (P) 26.70; 6. James Faucette (P) 27.47.

Diving: 1. Zac Nees (NP) 270.95; 2. Richard Fly (P) 171.50; 3. Brady Werkheiser (P) 171.05; 4. Josh Hoch (NP) 169.10; 5. A.J. Russo (NP) 162.60; 6. Josh Hagen (P) 112.20.

100 fly: 1. Brendan Hatfield (NP) 57.52 (D); 2. Kyle VanLeer (P) 58.78 (D); 3. Sean McDonald (NP) 1:00.09; 4. Chris Bashaar (P) 1:04.85; 5. Connor Hatfield (NP) 1:05.48; 6. Tim Bergey (P) 1:16.79.

100 free: 1. Peter Kolokithias (NP) 51.62 (D); 2. Nick Pulli (NP) 56.64; 3. Michael Thomas (P) 1:00.79; 4. Matthew Leo (P) 1:01.18; 5. James Faucette (P) 1:02.15; 6. Kevin McClure (NP) 1:03.32.

500 free: 1. Robert Phiambolis (P) 5:12.18 (D); 2. Adam Myzal (NP) 5:12.36 (D); 3. Eugene Feeley (NP) 5:18.89 (D); 4. Kevin Dunigan (NP) 5:27.68; 5. Lucas Rogers (P) 6:08.20; 6. Robbie Grasmeder (P) 6:16.98.

200 free relay: 1. North Penn (Jason Deana, Jack Else, Brendan Hatfield, Nick Ortlieb), 1:33.43 (D); 2. North Penn, 1:33.58 (D); 3. Pennridge, 1:40.34; 4. Pennridge, 1:54.92; 5. Pennridge, 2:04.28.

100 back: 1. Dan Walker (P) 1:06.94; 2. Greg Koehler (P) 1:09.89; 3. Wade Miller (P) 1:18.35.

100 breast: 1. Dave McVaugh (P) 1:12.83; 2. James Lohan (P) 1:14.43; 3. Charles Brawner (P) 1:16.85.

400 free relay: 1. Pennridge (Michael Thomas, James Faucette, Matthew Leo, Robbie Grasmeder), 4:13.48; 2. Pennridge, 4:27.52; 3. Pennridge, 4:48.45.

Girls Swimming

North Penn 122,

Pennridge 64

Key: NP - North Penn; P - Pennridge; D - district-qualifier.

200 medley relay: 1. North Penn (Katie Patterson, Lera Toropin, Jan Ikeda, Shelby Rinker), 1:56.86 (D); 2. Pennridge, 2:03.05; 3. North Penn, 2:05.29; 4. North Penn, 2:08; 5. Pennridge, 2:09.98; 6. Pennridge, 2:24.83.

200 free: 1. Colleen Stiles (NP) 2:03.18 (D); 2. Casey O'Neill (NP) 2:03.32 (D); 3. Megan Hahn (P) 2:07.09; 4. Jayme Craig (NP) 2:07.53; 5. Sarah Denard (P) 2:27.30; 6. Chelsea Lewis (P) 2:29.30.

200 IM: 1. Mary Morris (NP) 2:22.57 (D); 2. Claire Thompson (NP) 2:29.39; 3. Erica Redmond (P) 2:34.01; 4. Alexis Detweiler (P) 2:36.08; 5. Kristy Mejetich (P) 2:36.46; 6. Jenn Barrett (NP) 2:42.52.

50 free: 1. Brooke Else (NP) 26.76; 2. Alicia Detweiler (P) 26.98; 3. Gabi Rinaldi (P) 27.43; 4. Sarah Pfeiffer (P) 27.55; 5. Lera Toropin (NP) 27.82; 6. Anna Janoff (NP) 29.64.

Diving: 1. Julia Tate (NP) 212.85; 2. Erica Smale (P) 176.45; 3. Diana Vose (NP) 166.35; 4. Ashley Liss (NP) 165.70; 5. Emily Kaemp (P) 160.50; 6. Kristen Zweifel (P) 122.75.

100 fly: 1. Shelby Rinker (NP) 1:03.88 (D); 2. Katie Patterson (NP) 1:04.01; 3. Kendra Poirier (P) 1:12.04; 4. Alexis Detweiler (P) 1:13.54; 5. Deanna Maurone (P) 1:15.45; 6. Christina Dachowski (NP) 1:16.46.

100 free: 1. Jan Ikeda (NP) 57.69; 2. Alicia Detweiler (P) 59.64; 3. Lindsay Musoleno (NP) 1:00.26; 4. Val Stearns (NP) 1:00.51; 5. Gabi Rinaldi (P) 1:00.72; 6. Sarah Pfeiffer (P) 1:02.50.

500 free: 1. Megan Hahn (P) 5:38.50 (D); 2. Mary Morris (NP) 5:40.28; 3. Erin Meingossner (NP) 5:40.52; 4. Kelly Rogers (NP) 5:57.70; 5. Kristy Majetich (P) 6:19.64; 6. Chelsea Lewis (P) 6:46.59.

200 free relay: 1. North Penn (Mary Morris, Casey O'Neill, Brooke Else, Shelby Rinker), 1:44.57 (D); 2. Pennridge, 1:46.35; 3. North Penn, 1:50.68; 4. North Penn, 1:58.28; 5. Pennridge, 2:06.49; 6. Pennridge, 2:09.28.

100 back: 1. Erica Redmond (P) 1:06.18; 2. Jan Ikeda (NP) 1:06.52; 3. Colleen Stearns (NP) 1:07.02; 4. Mary Kate Meingossner (NP) 1:07.85; 5. Kendra Poirer (P) 1:16.95; 6. Kendra Poirier (P) 1:16.95.

100 breast: 1. Casey O'Neill (NP) 1:14.99; 2. Jill Brown (P) 1:18.45; 3. Taylor Connolly (NP) 1:18.51; 4. Trish Michelson (NP) 1:20.23; 5. Sarah Denard (P) 1:23.40; 6. Erika Samuelsen (P) 1:38.24.

400 free relay: 1. North Penn (Shelby Rinker, Brooke Else, Jan Ikeda, Mary Morris), 3:55.59 (D); 2. North Penn, 3:58.81 (D); 3. North Penn, 4:17.12; 4. Pennridge, 4:25.42; 5. Pennridge, 4:55.09; 6. Pennridge, 4:57.62.



MARK C. PSORAS / THE REPORTER

North Penn's Brendan Hatfield makes his turn in the 100 butterfly event.



MARK C. PSORAS / THE REPORTER

North Penn's Katie Patterson competes in the 100 butterfly event against Penridge.

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