

July 30, 2004

Day Four of Nationals - the last day. It's always sad writing this last entry, but then again I know that this is one of the most enjoyable parts of my summer. I train 4 to 5 days a week, wake up at 5:30 in the morning, come home earlier at night just for this one meet and in the end, it's totally worth it. All the new friends I have made, the wonderful time I've had swimming, the tighter bond my team has made...I would never ask to replace this experience. I just hope that everyone, someday in their swimming career has the chance to come and experience this meet, its just too amazing to put into words.

Well, tonight will be the second year Cheshire and LEHY go head to head in the all-night Cranium tourney. We have decided that due to the uneven teams, this year we will unite for the night with mixed swimmers in each group. Plus last year, when LEHY had 8 swimmers and Cheshire had 20 something, we totally dominated so we want to make it a little more even. This is just another example of what nationals helps to do. We have always been friends with Cheshire, but in these past two years our teams have become so close. We are constantly talking to each other back at home and support one another when we swim.

I guess that from the three years I have been coming to nationals it has taught me one important lesson... love what you do and show how much you love it. Every swim you need to go out and just be happy with yourself. If you don't start off with that mind set then you can't truly succeed. Through these past couple of years I have realized how much I do love swimming and how it has become a part of my life. Everyone knows me as "Kayleigh..the swimmer" and I love it. I love the fact that I am known for the one thing I really enjoy. If you think about it, what could be better? So remember, happiness is the only true way to succeed in what you are doing. Well, until next year!!!!

P.S. - Mary-Ellen and Tom are very nice people to talk to while I am writing my journal. They deserve special thanks for making this meet so great!!

Kayleigh Boucher (15)
LEHY - Connecticut

"People may say you are going the wrong way, when
it is simply a path of your own"