

Wednesday, July 28, 2004

Last night at finals was a blast. I swam my 100-meter backstroke and dropped another second. I placed 10th and got an awesome ribbon. After I got my award our team went to Pizza Hut. I really wanted some good pizza. The lights went out because we had a bad storm. I heard today that they had to stop the meet because of the weather. So they are going to finish yesterday's finals tonight. At least I got to swim my event last night. Swimming it today would of made me really nervous.

Today I swam my 100-meter butterfly. I did pretty well considering I was entered with a yard time. The butterfly always makes me really nervous, because it's not as easy to swim as freestyle or backstroke. I did get the national cut again, so I was really pleased with that. Tonight since no one on our team made finals, I think we are going to go into Washington, D.C. Our team wants to visit the World War II memorial. That will be a lot of fun.

One cool thing about this meet is getting to meet new people. Right before my heat of the butterfly I met a girl from New Jersey. She goes to a school named Chatham, which happens to be my name. So I want to try to get a shirt from her school with my name on it. Chatham isn't a very common name so it's hard to find my name on keychains or pencils. I got her email, so I will contact her when I get back to Ohio.

Getting ready for my best event tomorrow, the 200-meter backstroke. Hopefully I swim well enough to make it to finals again. A lot of records were broken last night and a lot of swimmer's improved their times, so I hope the success of the meet continues.

Chatham Penrod
Miami County Marlins Swim Team
Ohio

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Last night was very awesome because seeing one of our swimmers do very well is very cool. Its almost as though you are also in there swimming with her because you practice with them every day and your not just teammates your friends and it feels really cool to have someone that you know very well do good and represent our team like Chatham did last night. There were some very good swims last night, it is very exciting getting to see people swim very good and break new records. After finals last night it stormed really bad last night and knocked out our cable at the hotel, so I was very disappointed because I was not able to watch any TV and all I did was go to sleep and rest up for the next day.

This morning I started us out swimming the 200 Breast this is probably not one of my better events, but I still just love to swim breaststroke. The swim felt really good I dropped two and a half seconds off of my seedtime, which was the best feeling to have, especially at this level. Then Chatham swam the 100 Fly and she was seeded with a yard time and had never swam it in long Course before and she ended up getting the National Cut and will be back next year. Then Sean came in and swam the 200 Free, he added a second, but still managed to get the cut and doesn't really have to worry about qualifying again next year.

Tomorrow I have the day off and I am do not have to swim until Friday, when I swim the 100 Breaststroke. The 100 is probably my better event, at least I'm hoping it will be. I am really going to go after it because I really want to get the cut for next year. Well until I write again tomorrow, Seeya later.

Eli Fellers
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