

Girls swim team makes waves through record books

By Kira Matheson,
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In the 2019-2020 swim season, the girls relay swim team is the fastest in Illinois. Reflecting on a triumphant season and looking toward the state swim meet, the Mustangs are ready to tackle what lies ahead.

At the beginning of the season, the swim team took an approach in how it would improve from prior years. Coach Bryan Szweda elaborated on what his plan was for the swimmers and how to be successful in their competition season.

"The goal is to always have everyone go lifetime best times, win conference and hopefully score some points at State," Szweda said.

However, the Mustangs were not without their share of challenges. Half of the relay team had pre-existing injuries that affect them in their practices. Sophomore Audrey Mahoney, the youngest member of the relay team, considers her hip injury one of



Only sophomore of the relay team, member Audrey Mahoney, competes in the 200-medley relay during the DGN vs DGS annual swim meet, after overcoming a hip injury she had from the previous swim season.

Photo by Sarah Barber

her biggest setbacks.

"I have to say being injured from last year and going into this year was really challenging, so I constantly keep pushing through it," Mahoney said.

In their last meet of the season, the Trojan Invitational, the Mustangs took home a win, securing their state times in the process. The relay team, consisting of Audrey Mahoney, Madeline Padavic, Melanie Scheiblein and Jorie Selig, set two meet records in the

200-free relay and the 200 medley relay.

Senior Melanie Scheiblein has also had a successful individual season. She earned first place in the 100-breaststroke at the Trojan invite while setting a new meet record. Scheiblein reflected on what her victories mean to her.

"My goal for this year is to make the top 12 at state for the 100 breaststroke. I've already gone faster than the state cut,

so hopefully I can go fast to qualify in the top 12," Scheiblein said.

Junior Madeline Padavic shared her success as well, both personally and with her relay team. She set a new school record at the Trojan invite for the 100-backstroke with a time of 53.68, and explained her excitement about her improvement.

"We wanted to do better than we did last year in the 200-free relay' and we're already seated first

in the state. I've already qualified for the 100 fly, I just have to swim it at sectionals," Padavic said.

As the season comes to a close, a sense of nostalgia is very present amongst the team. After her final swim season with the DGS team, Senior Jorie Selig reflected on her experience as she looks on to state.

"I'm going to miss my teammates the most. We've gone through so much together, and conquered so much adversity. We've had our ups and downs, but overall we're really close. The coaches are just fantastic, such an inspiration every day," Selig said.

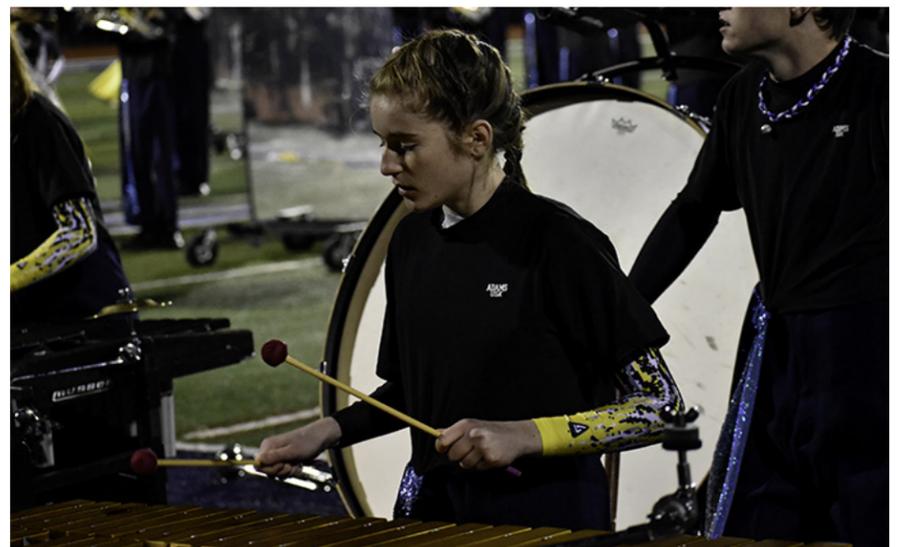
The Mustangs have fostered an environment of teamwork, working hard and celebrating their victories. With the anticipation leading up to state, Szweda leaves his swimmers with some advice to take with them into the meet.

"Swim fast, work hard, have a positive attitude. If you do that every day, you'll definitely do your best," Szweda said.

Friday night lights: Touchdown of football season recap



Downers Grove South's offensive line faces off against Downers Grove North's defensive line on second down, preparing for an exciting finish to the last half of the football game.



"I really like the Friday Night Lights, even though we do something totally different than the cheerleaders, dancers and the football players," freshman Kate Snouffer said.



There are many cheers and yells during the game, but when the varsity football team scored the first touchdown of the night, the student fan section erupted as a whole.



The theme of the crosstown classic is camo in support of the US military. A group of veterans attended the football game and were honored during the halftime show.

Compiled by Izzy Johnsen and Lauren Wilmore