

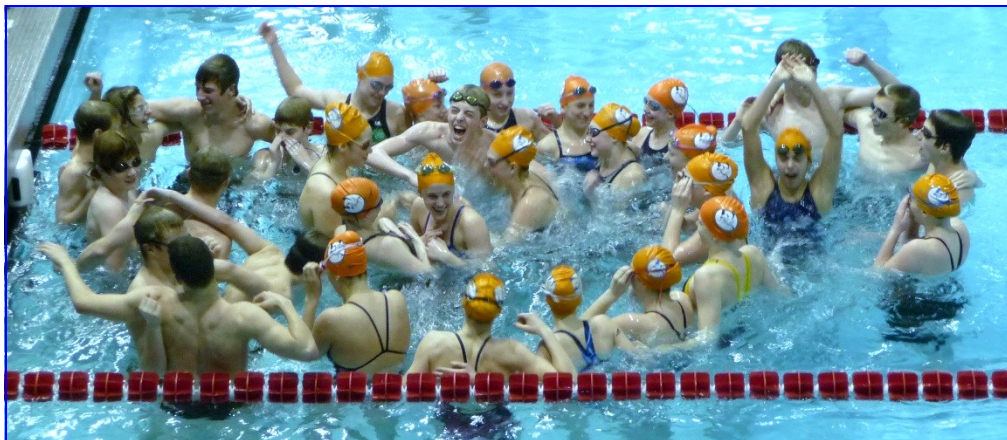
TRI-CITY CHANNEL CATS
AN INLAND EMPIRE SWIMMING TEAM

The Channel Cat Chat

www.TriCityChannelCats.org

MARCH 2010

Channel Cats Win IE Champs!



CONGRATULATIONS CHANNEL CAT SWIMMERS! ONCE AGAIN WE HAVE WON THE INLAND EMPIRE CHAMPIONSHIPS WITH A TOTAL TEAM EFFORT. WE HAD MULTIPLE SWIMMERS IN ALMOST ALL OF OUR FINALS WITH SOME OF THE HEATS HAVING HALF THE SWIMMERS BE CHANNEL CATS. ONCE AGAIN, CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT TEAM EFFORT!

The Inland Empire Short Course Champs were held Feb 26-28, 2010 in Ellensburg. Only 57 Channel Cats decided to attend which was of some concern to the coaches. We were looking to continue Channel Cat tradition of recent years to take first place at this meet. Well, our kids did not let tradition down... Channel Cats won the meet with some cushion to boot. Way to go team!!

Ryan Francis and **Alyssa Musick** were the Channel Cats leading the way for having a fantastic meet. **Ryan** had 14 out of 15 best times and **Alyssa** was 13 out of 14 (with the one that got away only .01 off a best time). Nice job you two!! But we had some other great accomplishments of the meet too. **Scott Francis** blasted out his first Zone cut among his 12 best times. **Stephanie Tixier** got her first NCSA Junior National cut while **Claire Schaefer** and **Katie Schroder** qualified for Age Group Sectionals for the first time. That's some quick swimming kids!

We also had some milestone swims. **Luke Jackson** broke :30 in the 50yd free and **Danny Tixier** broke 5:00 in the 500yd free. And I'm not done yet... **Skyler Younkin**, a young man with a goal, continued to pick up more 8 & under boys records. This time **Skyler** broke two Channel Cat records, one of which was also an IES record. Watch out for this guy, he is only .05 off another team record too. Of course we had some great time drops too. **Jeevan Philip** tops this list dropping over 40 seconds in his mile, **Lisa Tixier** made waves dropping

Inside this issue:

Jr. Champs Recap	2
Awards Banquet Info	4
Our 2010 Sectional Teams	5
Meet Maria & Emma	6

FOR YOUR CALENDAR



- March 10-14**
Western Senior Sectional Championships, Federal Way
- March 12-14**
Moses Lake Manta Ray Invite, Moses Lake
- March 19-21**
Northwest Section Age Group Championships, Federal Way
- March 25—April 4**
SPRING BREAK, no practice
- April 5**
Scrip orders and payments due to Renee Schroder
- April 6**
Spring Plant Sale orders due
- April 13, 7:00 p.m.**
Channel Cat Board Meeting, CBRC Activities Room
Everyone is invited!
- April 23-24**
IE Swimposium in Moscow, ID
See website for details!
- May 6**
Channel Cat Spring Plant Sale Delivery Date
- May 8, 4:00-6:00pm**
Annual Awards Banquet
Columbia Community Church



over 12 and 11 seconds in two of her swims while her brother **Danny** dropped over 11 seconds to break the 5 minute mark in his 500yd free. **McKenzie Schroder** dropped close to 11 seconds while her sister **Katie** took off close to 12 in one of her own races. **Mylie Oberg** followed suit taking 11 seconds off one of her best times, **Cade Musick** dropped over 13 and his sister **Alyssa** dropped over 10 seconds in one of their swims. Rounding out the list, **Alexis Murphy** dropped 13 seconds and **Nolan Hill** took off over 15 seconds in one of his swims as well. Channel Cats were just tearing things up.

The best times list is as follows:

14 best times: Ryan Francis

13 best times: Alyssa Musick

12 best times: Scott Francis

11 best times: Jonathan Peacock and Luke Jackson

9 best times: Alexis Murphy

8 best times: Lisa Tixier, Lisa Bratton and James Bennett.

7 best times: McKenzie Schroder, Claire Schaef and Addison Pollick.

6 best times: Cade Musick, Ashton Pollick, Katie Schroder, Sean Stephens, Stephanie Tixier and Cole Westendorf.

5 best times: Skyler Younkin, Porter Withers, Hailey Rankin, Andrew Peacock, Nolan Hill, Cheyenne Griffith, Mackenzie Gant and Nick Connors.

4 best times: Dante Vega, Danny Tixier and Blair Murphy.

3 best times or less: Tanner Collins, Lauren Hall (3 out of 3), Katelyn McLaughlin, Mylie Oberg, Linnea Peacock, Jeevan Philip, Meghan Pickett, Max Timm-Ballard, Christine Tixier and Nathaniel Weinman; BreAnn Bell, Claire Megna, Sarah Olsen, Hannah Pickett and Emma Pope; Amanda Vega, Aurora Oberg, Allyson Fuller, Eric and Andrew Blanchard; Nicole Weinman, Natilee Ruiz, Mackenzie Ruby, Megan O'Leary, Hailey Murphy, Tori and Tabitha Jones and Kristen Bennett.

The coaching staff was very pleased, not just at the Channel Cat victory but at the RACES we saw. Congrats team. Keep up the good work Channel Cats!

We are looking forward to Senior and Age Group Sectionals and a strong finish at Moses Lake too. Just a reminder that the last day of practice before Spring Break for our team is Wednesday March 24th.

And a note of thanks to all those parents who represented the team by timing and officiating at the Champs meet. We appreciate the support and time you gave to make this a great meet for all our kids.

Our Jr. Champs Team was Small but Mighty!

The Inland Empire Short Course Junior Championship Meet was held the weekend of February 12th – 14th, 2010 in Moscow Idaho and 20 Channel Cats brought home 3rd place! That's right, our small but mighty team out swam some teams over twice our size came away with hardware. It was a fast meet with around 15 new meet records being set. Our own **Skyler Younkin** nabbed three new meet records himself and earned the high point award for 8 & Under boys. Way to go Skyler, great swimming! Some of our Channel Cats might like to know if their records still hold or not: **Kristen Bennett's** 9-10 100yd IM record finally fell (although not to a Channel Cat) but her brother **James'** 50yd fly record for 11-12 yr olds still stands. **Andrew Blanchard** still comfortably holds the meet record for the 100yd fly and **Tyler Pickett** maintains the 9-10 boys 100IM... although that record might not last much longer. Some of the existing Jr Champs meet records are held by some very fast IES swimmers who are still swimming in the IES. Some are currently National level swimmers while others have graduated and gone on to even NCAA Division 1 level collegiate swimming. Anyone thinking this meet is not fast or only for new swimmers is sadly mistaken. There have been and still are some great swims at this meet! Gotta love it! And our Channel Cats swam fast too.

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Jr. Champs (Cont.)

This years' Channel Cat team nabbed 96 new best times including a bunch of new BB times. That means they have qualified for new or additional events in the IES Short Course Champs meet. **Matt Lanzara** was the Channel Cat standout in this area. He not only had all best times (7 for 7) but 4 were BB times! Matt was second in the high point running as well for the 9-10 boys. Way to go Matt! **Claire Megna** also had a fantastic meet. Claire was on fire with 11 best times out of 11 swims, two of which were BB times. Woo-woo that's nice swimming Claire! We also had some notable times drops from a few people including **Cheyenne Griffith** who dropped 11 seconds in her 500yd free (a new BB time). Wow girl, what did you eat for breakfast?! **Emma Pope** dropped almost 10 seconds in her 500yd free (and got a BB time in a different event) and **Brayden Vickerman** dropped 9 ½ in his 200yd free. Well done Cats.

This being a Championship meet, we had prelims and finals. Nine Channel Cats came back in the evening to compete in finals. Those swimmers were **Adin and Delaney Anderson, Esteli Garcia, Cheyenne and JaZee Griffith, Claire Megna, Lindsay Nelson, Emma Pope and Brayden Vickerman**. Although 10 years and under do not get to swim finals, Our amazing young ones scored lots of points and got awards as well. **Morgan Dooley** and **Kjerstyn Jordheim** were our dynamic duo of 8 & under girls. **Skyler Younkin, Ryan Monrean and Jesse Fink** were our force in the 8 & under boys, **Victoria Heard** and **Justyne Fink** were top finishers in the 9-10yr old girls and **Jeff Kern** and **Matt Lanzara** put our 9-10yr old boys on the map with top finishes. Nice job everyone!

The top times list is as follows:

11 best times: Claire Magna

8 best times: Emma Pope.

7 best times: JaZee Griffith, Kjerstyn Jordheim, Matt Lanzara and Lindsay Nelson

5 best times: Jeff Kern, Victoria Heard, Cheyenne Griffith and Justyne Fink.

4 best times: Morgan Dooley and Kelly Makela.

3 best times or less: Skyler Younkin, Brayden Vickerman, Hilary Petersen, Adin Anderson, Ryan Monrean, Esteli Garcia and Jesse Fink; Delaney Anderson.

Coach Jen was very proud and pleased with our Junior Champ Swimmers! Stay healthy and work hard!!

Way To Go, High School Boys!

Several of our Channel Cat boys participated on their high school swim teams this past winter season. They were all outstanding assets to their teams. The Richland High School team placed 5th (out of 40 teams) at the 4A State Meet in February, and the Hanford High team placed 14th (out of 34 teams) in the 3A meet. **The following current and former Channel Cats represented their schools at the State meets:**

Richland High School (4A)

Andrew Blanchard

Eric Blanchard

Nick Connors

Eric David

Tyler Pickett

Nathaniel Weinman

Alden Welsch

Alternates: Taylor Armstrong, Ryan Francis

Hanford High School (3A)

Joseph Hendry

Andrew Peacock

Robbie Pfaff

Jeevan Philip

Sean Stephens

Danny Tixier

Team Manager: Jordan Hendry



The Richland High School Boys' 4A Swim Team took FIRST PLACE at the District Championships!

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From Our President

Channel Cats Families –

Congratulations Channel Cats in winning the IES Short Course Championships. Good luck in the coming weeks at Senior Championships and Age Group Sectionals.

The BOD has been busy planning the upcoming May awards banquet and parent meeting. The awards banquet will honor Channel Cat swimmers for their many milestones during the past year. The parent meeting will follow the awards banquet, the meeting will include review and approval of proposed by-law changes, elections of the 2010-2011 BOD positions, and sign-ups for the summer swim meet in Pasco. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Todd Stafek, Todd Schaefer, and I met with the City of Pasco to discuss the current status of the Pasco Memorial Pool. We were very impressed in the progress of the swimming pool(s); it is on track to be ready for our summer meet. Memorial pool now consists of two pools; one is the competitive pool that has been renovated with a new drainage system and increased depth to allow for starts on both ends. It is still a seven lane pool. The second pool is a wading pool that includes slide exits, this pool will be utilized for warm-ups (3 lanes) during the meet. Memorial pool includes a new pool house (closed in bathrooms/changing rooms) and significant increase of deck space around the competitive pool. New pictures will be downloaded to the website.

Chris Musick, President—TCCC Board of Directors

Board of Director Elections

The BOD is currently seeking candidates for all positions to serve on the board during the FY10/11 swim year. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the team and everyone is encouraged to consider running for a position. The elections will be held at the upcoming parent meeting in May and will be effective starting September 2010. If you have any questions regarding specific position duties or would like your name placed on the ballot, please contact Todd Schaefer by email (hschaef@verizon.net) or phone (967-5137).

2010 Channel Cats Awards Banquet

Calling all Channel Cats and their families for:

What: The Annual Channel Cats Awards Banquet

When: Saturday, May 8, 2010, 4-6 p.m.

Where: Columbia Community Church Gymnasium
150 Gage Blvd. Richland, WA 99352

Come and share an afternoon of fun and celebration with other Channel Cats team members and their families. We will also be voting on 2010/2011 board members. Pizza and cake will be provided. **We are asking that each family bring a case of beverages (soda, Gatorade, bottled water, etc.) for the banquet.** Any leftover beverages will be used for our summer meet. See you there!

Coming Soon: Inland Empire SWIMPOSIUM

Don't Miss this year's **IE Swimposium on April 23-24, 2010** at the University of Idaho in Moscow, ID. For further information, click the "Inland Empire Swimposium" event link on our website. There will be something for everyone from USA Swimming:

Jason Lezak for Swimmers!

Matt Hooper for Coaches

Mike Lewellyn for Parents

Dan McAllen and Gloria Schuldt for Officials

Channel Cats Worked Hard to Achieve Their Goals!

Our 2010 Senior Sectional Team

These swimmers have the opportunity to compete at the King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way on March 10-14 with the best Senior swimmers in our Western Region (Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Inland Empire, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Pacific Northwest, Snake River, Utah and Wyoming LSCs).

Andrew Blanchard (15) 100 fly 200 fly	Kristen Bennett (16) 500 free 1000 free 1650 free
Eric Blanchard (17) 200 back	200 IM 400 IM
Nick Connors (16) 500 free 1000 free 1650 free 200 back	Natilee Ruiz (15) 100 free 200 free 500 free 100 back 200 back
Taylor Goodwin (18) 100 breast	100 fly 200 fly 200 IM
Nolan Hill (15) 100 free 200 free	400 IM
Tyler Pickett (17) 200 back 200 breast 200 IM 400 IM	Max Timm-Ballard (14) 100 back 200 back
Danny Tixier (18) 100 free 200 free 100 fly	Tabitha Jones (16) 1650 free
Nathaniel Weinman (17) 200 free 500 free 1000 free 1650 free 200 back	Hailey Murphy (15) 200 fly
	Christine Tixier (17) 100 breast 200 breast
	Stephanie Tixier (15) 50 free 100 free 100 fly 200 fly

Our 2010 Age Group Sectional Team

These swimmers have the opportunity to compete at the King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way on March 18-21 with the best Age Group swimmers in the Northwest Section (Alaska, Hawaii, Inland Empire, Montana, Oregon, Pacific Northwest, Snake River, and Wyoming LSCs).

Lisa Bratton (13) 200 free 500 free 100 back 200 back 100 fly 200 fly 200 IM 400 IM	Katelyn McLaughlin (14) 100 breast	Mackenzie Ruby (15) 100 back 200 back 200 fly 200 IM 400 IM
Micah Cruz (14) 100 breast 200 breast	Alexis Murphy (12) 50 breast	Claire Schaefer (9) 100 fly
Ryan Francis (14) 100 back 200 back 200 breast	Megan O'Leary (15) 200 free 100 back 200 back 200 IM	Katie Schroder (10) 100 breast
Scott Francis (11) 50 free 100 free 500 free 50 back 100 back 50 fly 100 fly 100 IM 200 IM	Sarah Olsen (15) 1650 free 100 fly 200 fly	Max Timm-Ballard (14) 100 back 200 back 200 fly 500 free
Mackenzie Gant (16) 100 back 200 back 100 fly 200 fly 200 IM 400 IM	Meghan Pickett (18) 1650 free 100 fly 200 fly	Lisa Tixier (14) 200 back 200 breast 200 IM 400 IM
Luke Jackson (11) 50 back 100 back 50 fly 100 fly 100 IM	Ashton Pollick (13) 50 free 100 free 200 free 500 free 100 back 200 back 100 fly 200 fly 200 IM 400 IM	Nicole Weinman (15) 200 free 500 free 1650 free
Tori Jones (17) 200 back	Hailey Rankin (15) 100 fly 200 fly 100 breast 200 breast 200 IM 400 IM	William Wertz (13) 50 free 100 free 200 free 100 back 200 back 200 IM
	Hanna Rankin (17) 100 back 200 back	Cole Westendorf (10) 50 back 100 back 50 fly
		Skyler Younkin (8) 50 back 50 fly





Meet Maria Tartakovsky

Maria (Blue at Kia Ora) is 13 years old and an 8th-grader at Carmichael Middle School. She lives in Richland and has been a Channel Cat for 6 months. When Maria is not swimming, she can be found hanging out with her friends!

Favorite stroke: Breast stroke

Favorite event: 100 breast

Favorite meet: Octoberfest because it was my first meet as a Channel Cat.

Favorite swim meet snack: Trail mix

Swimming goal for this year: Swim the 100 fly.

Favorite quote from a coach: "The most important part of breast stroke is the glide, not the kick."

Favorite book: Twilight

Favorite movie: "Disturbia"



Meet Curly Fries (a.k.a. Emma Pope!)

Emma (Blue at Kia Ora) is 11 years old and a 6th grader at McFarland Middle School. She lives in Othello and has been a Channel Cat for 1½ years. In her spare time, Emma likes to read, play piano, do some archery and hang out with her friends. She also likes to Facebook!

Favorite stroke: Backstroke

Favorite event: 100 IM

Favorite meet: Jr. Champs in Moscow. It's a nice small meet so you have a better chance of placing in an event and then going to Finals.

Favorite swim meet snack: Poppy seed muffins!!

Proudest swim moments: Getting my first BB time and my first time swimming in Finals.

Swimming goal for this year: To become a Bronze swimmer.

Favorite advice from Coach Karen: "You know what to do!"

Favorite books: Witch and Wizard by James Patterson
Skulduggery Pleasant by Derek Landy
The Alchemyst series by Michael Scott

Favorite movie: "Mamma Mia"

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Providing athletes with the environment to realize their potential and learn skills that will enable success in swimming and in life.

Spring Plant and Color Bowl Sale

Spring is just around the corner, so it's time for our last fundraiser of the year. Please note that it's your last chance to raise money to pay your dues offset. Each year, we sell bedding plants from Sunwest Growers in Sunnyside. The plants are beautiful, easy to sell, and the same prices as last year! It is a simple process: **families submit their orders to Jennifer Stephens (967-0839 or kissee-stephens@pocketinet.com) by April 6.** The flowers will arrive on May 6, the Thursday before Mother's Day.

One nice change this year is that you may turn in your checks (please have customers make them out to Tri-City Channel Cats) when you pick up your order. It is still a good idea to collect payments when customers place orders, so you don't have to contact them twice. You are welcome to turn in your checks early if you prefer. Please compile all the individuals orders you receive onto one order form. You will keep the individual order forms so you will know what your customers ordered. The order form and additional information about this fundraiser are available in the "News" section of our website under "Plant Sale Information." Contact Jennifer Stephens if you have any questions.

