

The Chatty Cats

IES Jr. Championships February 10-12 Moscow, Idaho

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Championship season started off with the IES Jr. Champs February 10-12 in Moscow, Idaho. Twenty-eight of our Channel Cat teammates attended and... Wow the magic moments that came out of that meet were incredible!!! This is one of my most favorite meets and this is why: because magic moments like this happen...

Twelve new BB time standards were met allowing Claire Megna, Porter Withers, Brady Meyers, Daniel Dohnalek, Ryan Barnard, Aidan Pollick and Jack Elliott to have more races at or go to Short Course Champs! That folks is just the start. Then we have the Cats that took out a few meet records. Yes...that was plural.

Porter Withers rocked the meet with two new Champs meet records in his 6 for 6 (all best times) swims. Actually he broke 3, but in one race his second place finish meant the title went to someone else. Still, he broke the record and had some amazing swims! Did I mention he broke :30 seconds in the 50 free earning a big candy at our banquet? Did I mention he dropped 8 seconds in the 100yd fly in prelims then went 3 seconds faster in finals to end up a half a second off and AGS cut?! That was just amazing! And to top it

off he reeled in 2 first place finishes as well. Nice meet Porter!!

Ryan Monrean (aka Ryno) did some damage in the scoring and record-breaking arena as well. Ryan had an amazing 8 out of 8 best times. Three (3) swims were record breakers one of which (the 25yd free) was also an IES record! Ryno was also a part of the boys 12 & Under 200 free relay that broke the meet record as well. A second place stole a record from him, but WOW! Ryan did come away with 4 first place finishes too. That's some fantastic swimming!! I repeat...magical moments.

Congrats to Ryan Barnard, Jack Elliott and Nathanael Jo who joined Ryan on that record-breaking relay!! Way to go boys!

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Inside Story Headline

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In addition, Claire and Daniel Dohnalek were on fire with 9 out of 10 best times! Claire grabbed 4 more BB times and Daniel earned 2. Both of these Cats battled their way to multiple finals races including 2 victories for each of them. Worthy of mention was Claire's 200yd breaststroke swim (actually finish) that made Coach Karen scream with joy. She startled me into taking an early split for another swimmer but luckily I know math. Disney fireworks hold nothing on Coach Karen's shriek of happiness! J Claire came from behind on the last 25yds to overtake the leader and win that race!! That took guts and determination to swim that hard on the last length of a 200yd swim. Wow that was fun to see. Nice job you two!! Great swimming!

Not to slight Brady Meyers who had a great meet as well. Six best times 2 BB cuts, multiple finals races and 2 second place finishes... he and Daniel tore up the 13-14 boys competition. Great meet Brady!!

Other swimmers who managed all best times or close were Teagan Baumann (7/8), Kayla Burck (3/3), Olivia Gillett 6/6) and Broden and Karma Johnson (7/8).

Worthy of mention is Ryan Barnard's swims. After a difficult 500yd free Friday night which was SO close to a best time, Ryan rested up to come back and nab his 7 best times but he was SO close to making them all. Ryan is a great role model for 'tough swims makes tougher swimmers'. Way to go Ryan. Proud of you and how well you did!

Also, JaZee Griffith made finals and earned point for the team in 7 out of 8 of her events with 6 being best times. That and her awesome "cheerleading" for teammates were worthy of mention too. Nice job JaZee.

Oh the magic!

I also want to recognize some swimmers who competed as Channel Cats for their first meet... and it was a Champs meet too. Welcome and congrats to Chloe Carr, Daisa Damerow and Chamie Leonard. Hope you enjoyed yourselves!

Finally the best times list:

9 best times: Daniel Dohnalek and Claire Megna.

8 best times: Ryan Monrean.

7 best times: Karma and Broden Johnson, Teagan Baumann and Ryan Barnard.

6 best times: Olivia Gillett, JaZee Griffith, Nathanael Jo, Chamie Leonard, Brady Meyers and Porter Withers.

5 best times: Emma Pearson, Luc Johnson, Chloe Carr and Austin Beierle-Miller.

4 best times: Jack Elliott, Emma Hagner, Bryn McGinnis and Austin Vo.

3 best times or less: Hilary and Tori Petersen, Aidan Pollick (3 BB times), Chloe Smart and Kayla Burck; Mackenzie Suing and Daisa Damerow.

The coaching staff was so proud and so pleased with everyone's swims!!! Our small numbers made some big waves at the meet and we took 4th place overall!! We look forward to Short Course Champs and then The American Short Course Champs for some of our older swimmers in Texas. We are off to a great start. Let the magic moments continue!!!



Hailey Rankin
Junior
Prosser High
School
2A High School
State Swim
2nd Place 100 Fly
2nd Place 500 Free



April Birthdays

- 2nd Mackenzie Hale (13)
 8th Inthat Boonpongmanee (11)
 10th Mylie Oberg (16)
 11th Ben Douglas (11)
 14th Natilee Ruiz (18)
 16th Maeve Fogle (14), Yifeng Quan (12)
 24th Ashton Pollick (16)
 30th Franny Ello (11)



May Birthdays

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2nd Jenacie Jones (15) | 18th Natalie Badgley (12),
Ryan Shiplet (15) |
| 3rd Katie Schroder (13),
Mackenzie Suing (12) | 19th Ryan Monrean (9) |
| 5th Lisa Bratton (16),
Maggie Kleist (17) | 22nd Corey Bradshaw (16),
Aletha Kleis (14) |
| 8th Kelsey Olsen (14) | 23rd Andrew Peacock (18),
Andrew Um (14) |
| 10th Jeff Kern (13) | 25th Amira Lisle (17) |
| 12th Skyler Younkin (11) | 27th Courtney Schreiner (13) |
| 14th Allyson Fuller (16) | 29th Luc Johnson (7) |

Short Course Champs

Well the Channel Cats are rivaling Disney in the magic moments department these days!! Our team competed at the IES Short Course Champs February 24-26, 2012 in Walla Walla and man oh man, did they put on a show!! Coming from a very successful showing at the IES Jr. Champs meet, Jeff Kern kept the fireworks going as he swam 13 best times out of 13 races, added 3 new Age Group Sectional cuts to the mix and even broke a milestone 1:00 in the 100yd free-style!! Most kids attending Jr Champs are just trying to make some SC Champs times, Jeff made multiple finals at Champs!! Wow Jeff, that's fantastic swimming!

But the magic continues...Corey Bradshaw impressively went 11 out of 11 for his swims and nabbed himself 3 new Zone cuts. Lauren Hall followed his lead with 11 out of 13 swims but the two she missed were tenths away from being best times!! Lauren had one amazing 200yd backstroke swim surprising herself in finals after dropping 2 seconds in prelims with just missing AGS and dropping another 5 seconds!! It was a beautiful swim!! Congrats you two on some great swimming!

Speaking of new AG Sectional and Zone cuts (Both AGS and SR Zones), we had a slew of Cats make new qualifying times. Jeff Kern led with 3 new AGS times, Cole Westendorf added a couple new cuts, Alyssa Musick, Megan Gelston, Vanessa Whattam, Emma Pope, Alexis Murphy, James Bennett, Mackenzie Schroder, Marcia Kim and Claire Schaefer all qualified as well. Porter Withers had an amazing 100yd fly swim that would have qualified him as well but for a false start that held him out. I am sorry if this is painful for him to read but I have to mention that Porter swam this at Jr. Champs going in at a 1:14 for 100yd fly. In prelims he swam a 1:12 and came back in finals to go a 1:09! That was all some great swimming there, but his prelim swim at Champs was a 1:06!!!! That is incredible and worth taking the time to mention. In the Zones categories, Ryan Shiplet made his first Zones qualifying time as did Jeevan Philip, Alyssa Musick and Lauren Hall. Congrats Channel Cats on these big, magic moments!! (sorry if I missed anyone in this list).

We also had 2 high point winners: Ryan Monrean nabbed the honors for the boys 8 & under division and Skyler Younkin nabbed the boys 10 & under award. (Alyssa Musick was only 2 pts away from the honor for 13-14 girls too).

The magic continues with the breaking some milestone swims too. Marcia Kim broke :30 in the 50yd free and Jeff Kern, Mackenzie Hale and Cheyenne Griffith broke 1:00 in the 100yd free. Big candy bars for you four at the banquet!! Woo-hoo!



Short Course Champs Continued

A couple of swimmers had some good time drops worthy of mentioning. Karl Kintner-Meyer had a great meet and dropped 70 seconds in his mile as well as 10 and 20 (500yd free) seconds in two other races. Nice swimming Karl! James Bennett also dropped over 70 seconds in his mile! Emma Pope dropped 13 and 18 seconds in a couple of her races as well. In the 500yd freestyle race alone, Marcia Kim dropped 20 seconds, Addison Pollick dropped 15 seconds, Mackenzie Hale dropped 9, Porter Withers dropped 10, Cole Westendorf dropped 15, JaZee Griffith dropped 12, Luis Hernandez-Mejia dropped a whopping 1 minute 17 seconds!, Scott Francis dropped 9, Mackenzie Schroder dropped 11 and William Wertz dropped 30 seconds. Wow Channel Cats, Way to start strong!! This is just the tip of the iceberg too. We had a lot of very good time drops at this meet. One more worth mentioning was Emma Pope's 200yd fly. Emma dropped 4 seconds in prelims and came back at finals to drop another incredible 9 seconds to qualify her (first time) for Age Group Sectionals. Magic moments right here people. I am telling you... The coaches were very pleased!! Emma Pickett dropped 27 seconds in her 200yd breaststroke on the last day of the meet when everyone was feeling the effects of poor air circulation. That takes some toughness Emma, nice swim girl!

And finally the best times list is as follows:

13 best times: Jeff Kern (13/13)

11 best times: Corey Bradshaw (11/11) and Lauren Hall (11/13).

10 best times: Mackenzie Hale and Alyssa Musick.

9 best times: Megan Gelston (9/9), Luis Hernandez-Mejia (9/10) and Cole Westendorf.

8 best times: Breann Bell (8/9), Karl Kintner-Meyer (8/8) and Katie Schroder (8/9).

7 best times: Marcia Kim, Emma Pope, McKenzie Schroder, Ryan Shippet, Lisa Tixier, Brayden Vickerman (7/8) and William Wertz.

6 best times: James Bennett, Scott Francis, Cheyenne Griffith, Kelly Makela and Claire Schaefer.

5 best times: Morgan Dooley, Kjerstyn Jordheim, Ryan Monrean, Brady Meyers, Jeevan Philip, Ashton Pollick, Max Timm-Ballard and Vanessa Whattam. solidified first place by about 300 points to continue the tradition. Whew and Yay! The coaches were very pleased and are now excited to see what comes with the next couple of meets to finish up the 2012 short course season. Nice swimming team!! Go Cats!

