



## The Tidal Wave

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17 July 2017  
Volume 1, Issue 3

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## Hello from the Coaches

### Coach Jim, President, Head Coach Report

Head Coach/President report

It is hard to believe our first year as a club is coming to a close. It has been a very eventful year. I want to thank all the parents, especially the original board members for all the extra work they have put in this year to get us going. I have learned a lot of things this year and am excited to take the lessons learned to make us a better organization next year.

As a club we will be setting next year's budget and organizing the end of the year events. The coaching staff will be busy attending championship meets as well as evaluating swimmers for squad move ups. Furthermore we will be working on setting next year's swim meet schedule.

I also wanted to take this time to thank Jonathan Merkley for everything he has offered the club this year. As most of you know Jonathan will be leaving us to return to school next year. He will be tough to replace. Jonathan was Bobby's and my go-to guy this year. He was always there when we needed him. The swimmers really enjoyed working with him. We wish him luck on his new adventures, but we are truly going to miss his presence at the pool.

Senior Squad Report:

We have had a great month of swimming this month.



Photo by Karie Lippert

A small group of swimmers went to Bend for the Sun Country Open. We swam against some really tough competition there. The kids showed great spirit and competed well.

The next weekend we took a bus trip to McMinnville where we swam against McMinnville Swim Club and Chehalim Swim Club. The kids swam incredibly, with many best times and new swim cuts as well.

We are going to end the season with Fernanda Rodriguez swimming at the Senior Sectional Meet and Hannah Walker swimming at the State Meet.

Finally, Hannah and Fernanda will be traveling to Senior Zones in Clovis California to swim against some of the fastest swimmers in the West Coast.

The final meet for the rest of the squad will be at the Bend Open. August 11-13.

Jim

## Hello from the Coaches

### Coach Bobby

As I ponder all the different things I would like to write about in this article, many ideas come to mind. I could write about the recent success of our Swim Meets & Water Polo Tournaments that we had in June. I could write about the upcoming State Championships and the over 20 DDAC athletes who will be competing against the best swimmers in the State representing our team. I could also write about the excitement I feel for the next Short Course Yard season and some new faces of leadership within our DDAC Board. The only thing I really want to write about though is Coach Jonathan.

Jonathan Merkley has been tremendous for aquatics in our community of David Douglas. Jonathan was a longtime member of the David Douglas Swim Club when he was in his years of youth, and he became a great leader of the High



Photo by Tim Cowley

School Aquatic programs. A couple years ago, I was in need of help with the DDHS Water Polo team. The team had a lot of players and I was the only coach. Fortunately, Jonathan was in need of a break from his schooling and he was willing to volunteer to help with the high school water polo team. His passion to help and coach the youth of our community in the aquatic sports was very evident from day one. The high school water polo players had great respect for him because of his knowledge and passion, and he grew a further interest in coaching by wanting to involve himself at the age group level with swimming.

When Jonathan began coaching with Mt. Hood Aquatics his brief coaching experience from the high school water polo supplied him with the confidence that he was able to express to his athletes. He has been an integral part to the many successes of the local youth of our community, and he has created countless meaningful and lifetime relationships with the many athletes he was able to coach. His deep passion for David Douglas enabled him to be the perfect person to bring back David Douglas Aquatics Club and have the positive energy to make us such a thriving program.

Thank you, Jonathan, for everything you have done for David Douglas Aquatics. There is a long list of items that you do every day to make our program what it is, and you are going to be impossible to replace. You have left a very big footprint on our club and we are forever grateful that you were a part of DDAC and the DDHS Swim & Water Polo programs.

Good Bye & Good Luck, We will miss you!

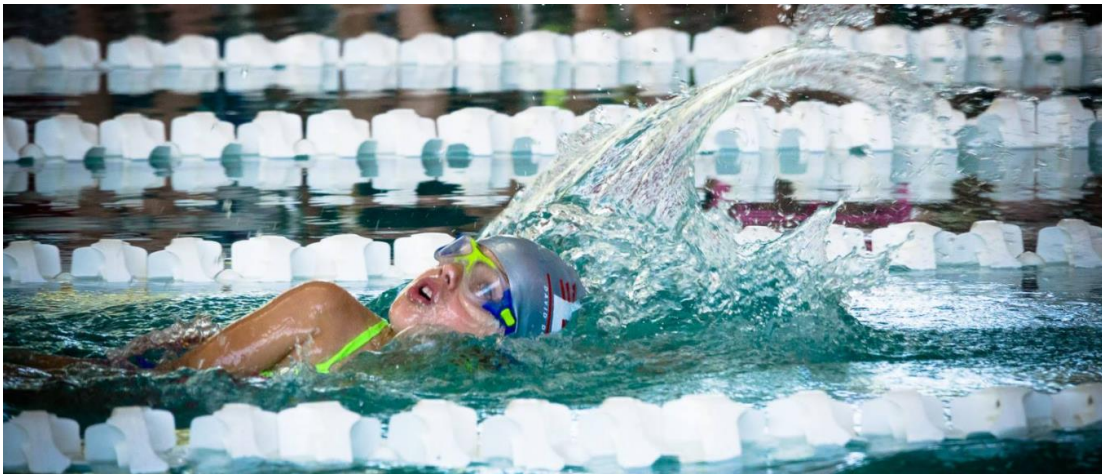


Photo by Tim Cowley

# Hello from the Coaches



Photo by Tim Cowley

## Coach Jonathan

As many of you know by now I will no longer be a part of DDAC after the start of August. I am leaving to go back to school and continue my college education. I want to start by saying thank you everyone for my time here. Thank you for welcoming me into the fold and, parents, thank you for trusting me with the well-being and growth of your children. I have been honored to help bring back the old David Douglas Swim Club and take the beginning steps towards creating a dominant aquatics program.

For those of you interested in what I'm doing, this fall I'm attending Mercyhurst University in Erie Pennsylvania. While there I'll be completing a pre-PA undergraduate degree, and I plan to play water polo for their school team. It's going to be a lot of fun and I'm very excited for the coming years, but I will very much miss coaching here at David Douglas.

Leaving this program, the facility, and all the great people that make it work will be one of the hardest things I've ever done. After two years of coaching I think I kinda like these kids and it is going to be hard to not be there for them as they continue to grow, as athlete and as people. Hopefully during my time here I was able to help with that growth, and ideally, I was able to leave behind more than just swimming knowledge. While this is a goodbye, it is also a see you later. I'll be back to check in because I'm way too invested in these kids. I can't wait to see how much they grow and improve after I'm gone.

The old DDSC has helped me become who I am today and I am sure that the new club is doing that now. If you only have one takeaway, let it be to never say "I cannot". You are stronger than you feel, smarter than you think, and if you believe in yourself you will accomplish greatness, whether that lies in, or out, of the water. Everybody around you in life will try to set limits on you. There is no need for you to do that as well. I think these words are summed up in one really good phrase that I know you've all heard, so **never, never, never give up!**

## Upcoming Meets

Senior Sectionals – MHCC	July 20-23, 2017
11 & Over State Champs	July 27-30, 2017
Senior Zones	August 1-5, 2017
Bend Swim Meet	August 11-13, 2017

For more information on each meet, please see the **Events** tab on our website: <https://www.teamunify.com/orddsc>

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## Upcoming Water Polo

No matches! See you next season!

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## Swim Camp

Coach Bobby will be hosting a swim camp for all DDAC squads and swimmers on **September 5, 6 and 8, from 5:30-7:00**. Each day will have a different focus, such as strokes, dives and turns. No sign-up, just drop in!



# Board Member Elections

July is the month when we elect new members to our DDAC Board. This year, we are electing two positions: Vice President and Member Representative. We have two wonderful swim parents running for these positions, and I would like to introduce them to you.



Anna Schwam, running for Vice President

“I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Anna Schwam and I am the mother of two great daughters, Julie and Cailin Schwam on the Gold and Bronze squad respectively. When I was 11 years old I joined a swim team and it was one of the best experiences of my youth. I love watching my daughters enjoy the sport I love. It has been amazing to watch the growth of our DDAC swim team over the last year and I am excited to be given the opportunity to aid the team in the position of Vice President.”



Amanda Smith, running for Member Representative

“I’m a mom of two very active children who participate in different sports. Most evenings you will find me at the DDAC pool sitting at the top of the bleachers connecting with other swim parents and watching the performance of my swimmer, Mia Smith, who swims on the Gold squad. I have been a part of the swim world since my daughter began swimming in 2012. In October 2016, Mia became a member of the DDAC swim team. Since that time I have had the opportunity to volunteer in multiple swim meets and build relationships with many of the swimmers and their families. The warm welcome that we received from the DDAC community has encouraged me to give back to DDAC and to you, the members, by volunteering to fill the role as the Member Representative if approved. Thank you for your consideration.”

Please note that ballots **must be returned by US Mail** (they are already stamped) and **postmarked by July 31, 2017**.

# Treasurer's Corner

A note from Valerie

**\$0 Dues for August.** Please note: if you attend a meet in July you will still owe those meet fees in August! Please still view your invoices.

Thank you families for paying your dues consistently every month!

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## Who Needs A Break???



Photo by Tim Cowley

I'm guessing we all do, swimmers and parents alike! Starting Friday, August 11, kids will have **NO PRACTICE** (swimming and water polo) until we resume in Short Course season on Monday, September 11, 2017. This is a perfect time to do something fun other than swim! (Although can we ever really keep our kids out of the water?? Nope!)

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Photo by Time Cowley

# DDAC End-of-year Celebration at Oaks Park!

To celebrate the end of Long Course season, we are going to play out of the pool at Oaks Park on **Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:45pm**

- Ride bracelets will be \$5.00 for swimmers, \$10.50 for non-swimmers.
- We will meet at the admissions entrance at 4:45pm to purchase the ride bracelets.
- For those who do not want to ride the rides, there is no admission fee.
- We will have some space in the picnic area where families can eat and relax. While this is not a potluck, please feel free to bring dinner for your family. Mostly, the kids will want to run around and play!
- We will need a count of all the swimmers who are attending, so keep an eye out for an email about signing up for this event on our website (like you would sign up for a meet).



10-unders at the Dalles meet

Photo by Bobby DeRoest



# July and August Birthdays

Happy birthday to our swimmers!

Hai Le	July 2	Bronze I
Ja'lan Abdullah	July 3	Bronze I
Jim Bowe	July 6	Coach
Ricky Do	July 8	Silver I
Abel Grigoras	July 8	Silver II
Anna Dinsmore	July 14	Silver I
Chase Ewell	July 19	Silver II
Bobby DeRoest	July 26	Coach
Rae Dodson	July 26	Silver II
Cailin Schwam	July 27	Bronze I
Kevin Nguyen	July 28	Bronze I
Alicia Vuong	July 28	Senior
Sierra Bui	July 30	Gold
Hoang Brendan Huynh	July 30	Bronze I
Connor Williams	July 31	Bronze I
Justin Nguyen	August 1	Silver I
Eduardo Olmos	August 3	Senior
Alyssa Siripatrappa	August 3	Silver I
Zachary Young	August 3	Silver I
Amir Hossein Mahdi	August 4	Senior
Sofia Mindra	August 4	Bronze II
Makayla Smith	August 7	Senior
Mia Smith	August 8	Gold
Emma Watkins	August 11	Bronze I
Tavaris DeRoest	August 12	Silver II
Nina Phan	August 18	Bronze I
Andrew Yelton	August 18	Silver I
Frances Nguyen-LeGallo	August 22	Silver II
McKenzie Lang	August 25	Gold
Mason Hanks	August 28	Silver I

# Things to Remember

- Oaks Park celebration party on Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:45pm
- No practice Aug. 11-Sept. 11
- Don't forget to vote! Board member election ballots must be postmarked by July 31
- Looking ahead... there will be a mandatory general membership meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2017, from 6:00-7:00. Please plan on attending!

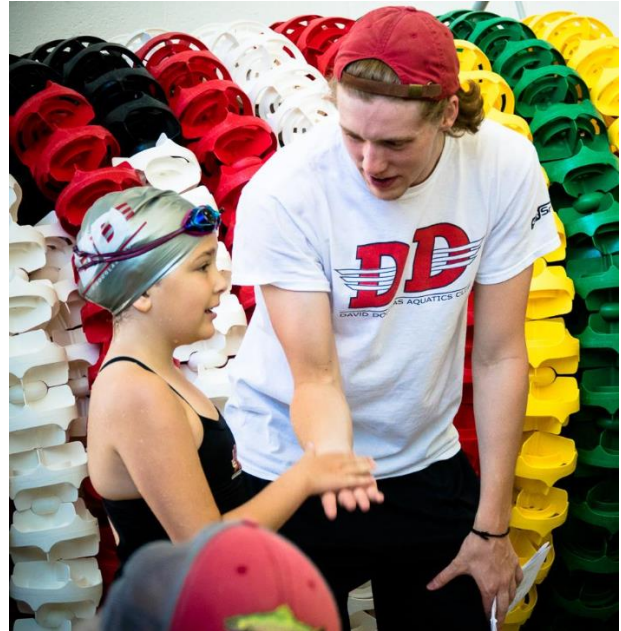


Practicing out at the MHCC long course pool

Photo by Jim Bowe

Good-bye, Jonathan!

We will miss you so much!!!



Photos by Tim Cowley



Thank you for your dedication to the team  
and your commitment to our kids.

Good luck at Mercyhurst University!



# Contacts

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Photo by Tim Cowley

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