

Eaton Eagles Swim Team

By P.L. Scholl

The Eaton Eagles are preparing to dive into the 2013-2014 winter swim season, which runs from November 1st to February 21st. On December 4th, they will host their first meet against Valley View, Miami Valley, and Tri-Village.

"The meet should be a good test for us," said Head Coach Dave Montgomery. "There will be some tough competition, but we have a strong team with 13 boys and 12 girls." With those numbers, Montgomery hopes to field at least three relays for both groups.

Montgomery, who has been the assistant coach for the past six years, is excited to now step into the role as head coach. He certainly is not shy about setting tough goals. He would love to see his swimmers break 90 percent of the team records and earn at least a second place finish for both the girls and boys at the SWBL meet. In addition, he hopes to have at least eight swimmers advance to the district meet.

However, Montgomery does not emphasize placement goals. Instead, he prefers that swimmers focus on individual times.

"If a swimmer is taking time off each swim, he or she is going in the right direction," Montgomery explained. "Then, the placement goals for the events will take care of themselves."

Many of the Eaton Eagles share their coach's goals and excitement for the coming season. Sophomore Mason McCargish explained that having Montgomery step up as head coach will benefit the team.

"The consistency helps," said McCargish, "because the coach can get to know the swimmer." He added that Montgomery has even coached many of the swimmers in his role as an assistant coach for the Preble County Stingrays.

For the coming season, McCargish hopes to make the cut for state in the 100 butterfly. The qualifying times vary from year to year but are based on the top 24 swimmers in the state. Last year, McCargish placed 27th.

Junior Drew Pool hopes to join McCargish at state. For the past two years, he has competed at districts, missing state by 2 seconds as a freshman and by 3 seconds as a sophomore. In addition, Pool admits that he would love to see at least one relay team make it to district or state.

Junior Brooklyn Montgomery, who already holds five records for the Eagles, plans to continue the tradition by breaking even more records this year. In addition, she would love to make it to districts in the 500 freestyle. Of course, this year is special because she is counting on her coach and father, Dave Montgomery, to get her there.

"Sometimes it's hard when your coach is your dad," she said, "but he really knows what he's doing."

To track the team results throughout the 2013-2014 season visit their website at https://www.teamunify.com/Home.jsp?_tabid_=0&team=rechsehsoh.