

YOUTH SWIMMING --- Stingrays swim past Oswego

The Citizen staff report

The Auburn Stingrays hosted the Oswego Dolphins Dec. 4 at the Auburn YMCA-WEIU, registering team wins for all age levels.

Madeline Lentini led the way for the Class E 8-and-under girls relay team with Rachel Pflueger, Claire Alexander and Maeve Smith. Alexander went on to take first in the 50 freestyle. After swimming the backstroke in the relay, Madeline Lentini went on to take first in the 25 butterfly. Molly Rejman took the one won the 25 freestyle and the 25 breaststroke, and Olivia Rejman finished first in the 25 backstroke. Ellie Fraher finished first in the 100 freestyle while Kayley Duffy, Maura Mochler, Pflueger and Rachel Tehan took first in the 100 freestyle relay.

Joshua Whiting, Jack Carbonaro and Maxwell Hayden each led the Class E boys team with two first-place finishes each - Whiting in the 100 freestyle and the 25 breaststroke, Carbonaro in the 50 freestyle and the 25 backstroke, and Hayden in the 25 freestyle and the 25 butterfly. JD Rejman, Matthew Whiting, Jacob Reilly and Alexander Hayden took first in the 100 freestyle relay.

For the Class D 9- to 10-year-old girls, Sydney Murinka, Janessa Brandstetter, Megan Buchner and Amber Connors took first place in the 200 medley relay, starting their team out in the fast lane. Brandstetter went on to take first in the 50 breaststroke. Claire and Alexi Rejmans finished off the day for the Class D team with a first-place finish in the 200 freestyle relay with teammates Gabrielle Wagner and Katie McGrath.

Even without finishes in the relays, the Class D boys managed to win against Oswego with strong swimmers in individual events. Sam Carbonaro had a winning day with three firsts - the 200 freestyle relay, the 50 freestyle, and the 50 breaststroke. Macauley Kolonko took first in the 100 individual medley and 50 backstroke. Preston Smalley won the 100 freestyle.

The winning 200 medley relay team of Cassie Brown, Catherine Moore, Aubrey Connors and Yasmine Smith got the 11- to 12-year-old girls Class C team off to a fast start. Connors kept it going with a first in the 50 butterfly. Brown later took first in the 50 backstroke. Hannah Foster, Brown, Moore and Julia Angotti won the 200 freestyle relay.

Gavin Ellis, Nathaniel Lupo, Nicholas Gavras and Patrick Tehan made up the winning 200 medley relay team for the Class C boys team. Jacob Whiting was a triple winner yet again - in the 200 individual medley, the 50 breaststroke and the 100 freestyle. Teammates Sam Hensel and Tyler Mason both racked up 10 points for their team, taking firsts in two individual events - Hensel in the 200 freestyle and the 50 backstroke, and Mason in the 50 freestyle and the 50 butterfly. Gavin Ellis swam to first place with his teammates Hensel, Mason, and Johnathan Wilkes in the 200 freestyle relay.

Brigid Cotter led the Class B 13- to 14-year-old girls with three first-place finishes - the 50 freestyle, the 100 freestyle and the 100 breaststroke. Freestyler Jenna Page had two firsts in the 200 freestyle and 500 freestyle. Hannah Reilly took first in the 100 butterfly. Alexis Liberatore, Michaela Cool, Vivian Chappell and Maria Wayne were first-place finishers in the 200 freestyle relay.

The Dolphins didn't have any swimming in the Class B boys category, so the Stingrays used the day to make at least one YMCA state qualifying time in every individual event. Zachary Buchberger and Cory Knapp led the team with three first-place finishes each - Buchberger in the 200 freestyle, the 50 freestyle and the 500-yd freestyle, and Knapp in the 200 individual medley, the 100 butterfly and the 100 breaststroke. Nick Radell won the 100 freestyle and the 100 backstroke. Jacob and Joshua Herrick each had two second-place finishes: Jacob in the 200-yd individual medley and the 50-yd freestyle and Josh in the 500-yd freestyle and the 100-yd breaststroke. Nick LaDuca, Neil Boedicker, Jacob Herrick and Joshua Herrick won the 200 freestyle relay.

The 15-and-over Class A girls also swam without competition from the Dolphins. Michaela Elliott, Michelle DeFavero, Tiffani Chehovich and Mary Jane Leja started out with points in the 200 medley relay. Elliott won the 200 individual medley and the 100 backstroke, Chehovich took the 100 butterfly and the 100 breaststroke, and Leja won the 50 freestyle and the 100 freestyle. Molly Blair won the 200 freestyle and Allison White took the 500 freestyle.

The Class A boys were led by seniors Connor Kilmer and Reid Swartz, each with first-place finishes. Connor won the 50 free and the 100 free, and Reid finished first in the 200 free and the 100 backstroke. Matt Leverich swam to first place in the 500 freestyle. Collin Mitchell took first in the 200 IM and Sean Doyle won the 100 breaststroke. Jeremy Sliss took first place in the 100 butterfly and swam with Justin Lyndaker, Collin Mitchell and Trevor Denson in the 400 free relay.

The next home meet for the Stingrays is Jan. 8 against Oneonta. To learn more about the Auburn Stingrays, visit www.auburnstingrays.org or call the YMCA at (315) 253-5304.