

Boys Varsity Swimming 2011
Friday, February 18 @ Suffield
Andover 126 – Suffield 60

After three weeks without a dual meet, the boys in blue were looking forward to racing again when they traveled to Suffield, CT last Friday night. Traffic conditions made the trip less than ideal, and after 2.5 hours on a bus and just under 30 minutes to warm up, Andover resumed its dual meet season with a 120-66 win over host Suffield Academy.

Suffield always fields competitive teams, and its relays in particular have garnered top honors at New England's several times over the last few years. Andover knew that the home team would come out strongly in the first event, and the 200 Medley relay ended up as one of the more hotly contested races of the night. With three teams within a second of each other, Andover managed to record a remarkable 1-2 in the event, with Conor Deveney '11, co-captain Matt Mahoney '11, co-captain Ben Morris '11 and Alex Nanda '11 finishing in 1:40.03 just ahead of Derrick Choi '12, Didi Peng '12, Cameron Phillips '11 and Jun Oh '12 in 1:40.65.

Alex Smachlo '11 and Joe Faller '14 stayed ahead of Suffield's Jensen to record another 1-2 finish in the 200 Freestyle, with Smachlo winning in 1:50.18. Oh, venturing away from his traditional middle-distance events, managed to win the 200 IM in 1:59.69, even though he was suffering from a cold and not feeling his best. Andrew Yang '14 and Raphael Grandeau '11 completed the sweep for Andover.

The 50 Freestyle completed Andover's domination of the first half of the meet, with Nanda pulling away from Suffield's top two sprinters Tritschler and Magoo to win the sprint event in 22.46. Tommy Kramer '11 won the diving event with an excellent 240.20.

When swimming resumed, Morris extended Andover's winning streak, leading a sweep of the Fly event in 56.09, just ahead of Cameron Phillips '11 in 56.13 and Andrew Xuan '13 in 56.55. Jon Leung recorded his best-ever 100 Freestyle, breaking the 49 barrier in 48.92. Deveney and Michael Camarda '14 completed the sweep for Phillips Academy.

The middle distance event showed Suffield recording its first win of the evening, with Lombardo coming back strong in the last 200 yards to narrowly beat Yang 5:07.41 to 5:07.70, with Lorenzo Conte '12 finishing third in 5:13.49. Suffield made it two wins in a row with a decisive 1:29.51 in the 200 Freestyle relay, more than 1.5 seconds ahead of Andover's squad of Nanda, Phillips, Smachlo and Deveney.

The 100 Backstroke was dominated by Choi in 54.46, his best official time ever, with Grandeau finishing third in 57.70. Mahoney led his fellow Breaststroker Andrew Wilson '12 to a 1-2 finish in the last individual event in 1:01.40, while Wilson dropped two seconds off his best official time in the event. In the last relay, Andover finished 1-2 with times of 3:25.72 and 3:27.62, with the victory going to the team of Leung, Conte, Smachlo and Deveney.

Andover will host Exeter on Wednesday, February 23 at 3:30 pm for its traditional end-of-season dual meet contest that started back in 1920.

Full league results are available at www.nepssa.org. For results, write-ups, and a historical perspective of swimming at Andover from 1912 to the present day, visit www.andoveraquatics.net.