

## Andover Opens Season With Win Against Choate (1-0)

7 January 2012

The Andover Boys's Varsity Swimming and Diving Team opened its 100<sup>th</sup> season with many strong performances against perennial powerhouse Choate.

In the meet's opening event, Andover scored first and second in the 200 Medley Relay with two impressive times: 1:38.64 and 1:40.44. The winning team included two swimmers new to Andover, Tim Wynter '14 and Eric Benca '12, and the "C" relay, which went 1:48.71, included four varsity rookies: Connor Fraser '13, Alex Li '15, David Cho '14, and David Cao '14.

In the 200 Freestyle, Jun Oh '12 and rookie Heson Oh '14 earned first and second with 1:44.17 and 1:52.21, respectively, and rookie Chris Li '15 came in sixth with 2:01.17. Choate's Matt Heise '12 sparked a run for the Boars with a win in the 200 IM with Andover's Andrew Yang '14 (2:05.63), Justin Wang '13 (2:10.42), and Alex Li '15 (2:15.24) following in second, fourth, and sixth. Choate's Alex Poltash '12 won the 50 Freestyle, yet Andover compensated by earning second, third, and fourth: Michael Camarda '14 (22.81), Captain Derrick Choi '12 (23.08), and Eric Benca '12 (23.66). In the non-scoring exhibition heat, Andover's Didi Peng '12 and David Cao '14 both had great times in 23.06 and 23.07.

In the diving event, Andover's Sam Berner placed fourth, and as the meet returned to swimming, Andover led Choate 39-38.

Tim Wynter '14, David Cho '14, and Andrew Xuan '15 placed first, second, and fourth in the 100 Butterfly with times of 54.63, 56.72, and 58.68. The 100 Freestyle followed with another Poltash victory, but Andover again compensated by finishing second, third, and fifth: Michael Camarda '14 in a best time of 48.62, Joe Faller '14 in 49.35, and Chris Li '15 in 54.09.

By earning a twenty-point advantage in the 500 Freestyle and 200 Freestyle Relay, Andover created a comfortable lead. In the 500, Jun Oh '12 earned his second victory of the day (4:40.57) followed by Heson Oh '14 (5:10.02) and Connor Fraser '13 (5:12.66). Entering the final three events, Andover led 84 to 55.

No doubt, the race of the day pitted Tim Wynter '14 against Choate's Heise '12 in the 100 Backstroke. At the 50, Heise held the lead, 25.54 to 25.95, yet Wynter displayed an impressive second half to win 52.93 to Heise's 53.05. These performances would have scored fourth and fifth at last year's New England championship meet. Connor Fraser '13 placed fourth today in a personal best of 59.97.

The second best race of the day had Didi Peng '12 against Andrew Wilson '12 in the 100 Breaststroke, which Peng won in 1:01.22 to Wilson's 1:01.88. These times would have placed fifth and sixth at last year's championships. Justin Wang '13 was fifth in 1:07.95. In the final event of the day, the 400 Freestyle Relay, Andover again placed first and second with times of 3:20.42 and 3:22.03.

With several best times and great races today in the midst of starting winter term and heavy training, the Andover Boys's Varsity Swimming and Diving Team is off to a good start and looks forward to its next competition: next week at Loomis.