

Andover Pushes Defending Eastern Champions to the Limit

Peddie Hands Andover First Loss Since 2009

To begin the 2014 campaign, the Andover Boys' Varsity Swimming and Diving Team traveled to Suffield for simultaneous dual meets against Suffield and Peddie. A program with an international reputation, Peddie has dominated Eastern swimming during the last ten years, and the Andover Boys' were excited to see how they matched up.

In the meet's first event, Andover's "A" 200 Medley Relay of co-captain Tim Wynter '14, Scott Simpson '14, Alex Li '15, and Michael Camarda '14 set the tone for the season in the opening event by swimming a remarkable 1:36.61, which not only shattered the Suffield pool record but was also the 5th fastest performance in school history and the 12th fastest in New England history. The "B" relay of Charlee Van Eijk '14, Andrew Yang '14, Chris Li '15, and Christian Alberga '17 was fourth in 1:46.20. Andover 8; Peddie 6.

In the 200 Freestyle, co-captain Joe Faller '14 swam an impressively paced 1:45.40 for the win, followed by Marcello Rossi '16 in 1:49.74 for third. Travis Bouscaren '14 swam 1:55.09 for sixth. Andover 17; Peddie 13.

The Peddie assault began in the 200 IM when Patrick Park placed first (1:56.04) and Thomas Ferry placed second (1:58.74). Simpson was third in 2:02.15 while Darren Ty '16 was fourth in a personal best of 2:04.22, and Yang was fifth in 2:05.51. Andover 23; Peddie 23.

No surprise, the 50 Freestyle was extremely close with only seven one-hundredths of a second separating the top three swimmers: Peddie's Joshua Daniel in 21.57, Camarda in 21.60, and Peddie's Sean Han in 21.64. Alberga was fourth in 22.49--just .06 ahead of a Peddie swimmer, and David Cao '14 was sixth in 22.97. Andover 29; Peddie 33

In the diving event, rookie Jack Belluche '16 won the event with 171.35 points. Thomas Bakken '14 was second with 129.55 points, and Graham Johns '14 was third with 127.35 points. Andover 42; Peddie 33

Returning to the swimming events, Peddie's Park swam faster than the New England record to win the 100 Butterfly in a blistering 49.09. Wynter was second in a very fast 52.51 while Alex Li was third in a personal best 53.32, and Chris Li was fifth in 55.41. Andover 50; Peddie 41

Andover went second and third in the 100 Freestyle with Faller in 48.61 and Camarda in 49.65. Cao was sixth in 50.70. Andover 57; Peddie 50

The 500 Freestyle saw Bouscaren place second with a 5:05.47; Rossi was fourth with a 5:10.75; and Choi was fifth with a 5:21.78. Andover 64; Peddie 59

Park led off the Peddie 200 Freestyle Relay in a ridiculously fast 20.56, and Peddie won the event in 1:26.02, the third fastest time in New England history. Faller, Alberga, Alex Li, and Cao swam a respectable 1:30.22 for second, and Yang, Chris Li, Xue, and Rossi swam 1:33.73 for fourth. Andover 68; Peddie 69

In the 100 Backstroke, Wynter won his first event of the day, cruising to a 52.30, just shy of the pool record. Ty was second in a personal best 56.13, and Van Eijk was fourth in 58.25. Andover 80; Peddie 73

The 100 Breaststroke saw another close race. Peddie's Thomas Ferry won in 1:00.70, and Peddie's Jared Fitzgerald out-touched Simpson for second, 1:02.01 to 1:02.07. Jonathan Xue '17 swam 1:05.05 for fifth, and Yang swam 1:05.30 for sixth. Andover 84; Peddie 85

Whichever team won the 400 Freestyle Relay would win the meet. Peddie led off with Park, whose 45.61 created what appeared to be an insurmountable lead, and Andover's "A" relay never recovered, despite a great lead-off split from Faller in 47.93. Bouscaren, Wynter, and Camarda joined to go 3:16.12 for second while Alex Li, Ty, Cao, and Simpson swam 3:22.65 for third. Andover 90; Peddie 93.

While Andover departed the pool with various explanations for its loss to this strong group of swimmers from Peddie, more importantly, the Boys recognize the various opportunities lost in the pool this afternoon. Despite a 13-0 advantage in diving, Andover fell just short of achieving the upset.