

The Meadowbrook Woods Sporting Times

26 June 2010

Olsen Smashes Record at Wellington; Pink Panther Diamond Missing!

After recently completing another rigorous academic year at Benton Middle School, 14-year-old Kevin Olsen may have thought he was finished with the history books for a couple of months. Little did he know that he was about to *make* history!

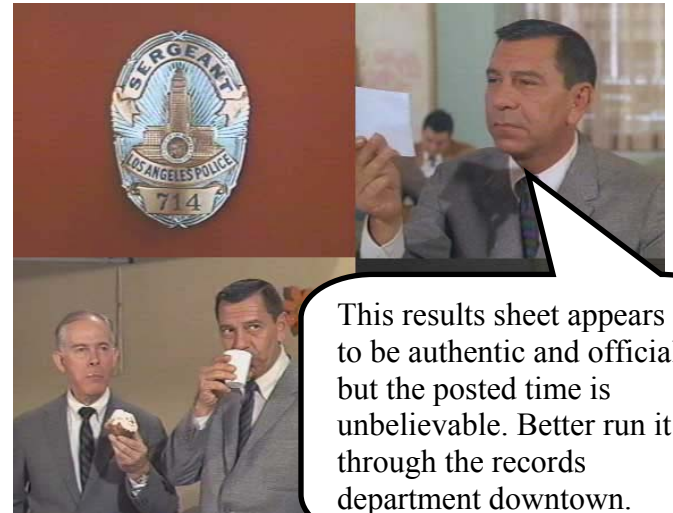
Olsen had truly remarkable day as the annual summer-swim season kicked off at Wellington last Saturday. He set a new club record in the 14U 50m Backstroke (33.77s) that was set way back on July 9, 2005 by Eric Sargent. Let's just say that puts him in pretty good company, but Olsen wasn't nearly finished and went on win the 100IM (1:15.31) and 50m Butterfly (32.91s) events. He also teamed up with Sean Rouffia, Michael Weiser, and Tanner Curry to win the 200m IM Relay (2:22.89) which was less than a half-second off the team record set last year.

While the Makos came up just short on paper (WST 2606 – MBW 2330), it was a symbolic victory as they challenged the Dolphins all morning long. Amidst the ensuing chaos and general hoopla, the Pink Panther Diamond was reported missing. It is believed that a member of the secret group known as "Kaos" made off with the gem whose current owner is the international pop star - Xania. A group of notable law enforcement officials from all around America has been assembled in an effort to investigate irregularities, restore law and order, and find the missing diamond. Led by the honorable Buford T. Justice, this elite group is making some interesting observations. Let's check on their progress...

Both clubs enter week two seeking their first victory of the 2010 campaign. Bridlewood fell to Kingsbrooke last week by a score of 2806-2407.

Prologue by Chief Inspector Dreyfus

It was a perfect day for a swim meet - warm, sunny conditions, clear skies, 90°F; a large crowd on hand at Wellington to watch two cross-town rivals going toe-to-toe. Of course the usual subplots were in play. For starters, the Makos' first-year coach was going against her longtime friend and mentor who coaches Wellington. Then there was the good natured bantering between swimmers on each club that may know each other from school or other activities. I had been invited by the mayor of Manassas to attend and view from the box seats. For a fan of the sporting life such as me, the excitement was nearly unbearable. Suddenly, there was quite a commotion at the scorer's table and the priceless diamond was reported missing.



After a quick bite of breakfast at the concession stand, Sergeants Gannon and Friday got right to work at Clerk-of-the-Course. Friday later confirmed that Olsen's swim in the 50m Backstroke event was indeed a club record.

Becket...Jade Beckett
...yep...she's a fast one.



Friday and Gannon study results sheets at Wellington. With a speedy group of swimmers on the scene, everyone is a suspect. The detectives are particularly interested in the girls' 8U 100m freestyle relay squads (Jade Beckett, Bailey Case, Rachel Meltzer, Claire-Aiden Cudahy, Chloe Ouelette, Emily Heisen, and Abigail Lee) who placed 1st and 3rd in the event and are believed to have an affinity for fine jewelry.



Policewoman Dorothy Miller delivers the good news to Detective Friday regarding the first place finish for the 18U boys' medley relay team. Sean Gambarani, Eric Koob, Trevor Heckman, and Joshua Feshari put up 47-team points and finished at 2:15.67 in the event. Feshari, Heckman and Gambarani later teamed with Philip Heil to win the 200m freestyle relay (1:55.50).

Was it six swimmers or only five?



From left to right, Lieutenant Bressler and Captain McKay confer with Inspector Harry Callahan of the San Francisco Police Department in reference to the boys' 12U Backstroke group. The Makos actually ended up with seven swimmers in the top ten in this event. Led by Matthew Healey who captured 1st place in (38.29s), Liam Turner, David Bennett, Colin Turner, Daniel Smith, Joshua Ogden and Walker Landry all swam a crisp pace. Great work boys!



News of the Makos' strong performance last Saturday traveled quickly to Mayberry. Andy and Opey show their delight with Emily Sterling, Rachel Landry, Samantha Townsend, and Elizabeth Healey who crushed their 10U 100m Freestyle Relay seed time by 12-seconds and brought home 47-team points in the event. Peyton Harvey, Brigit Turner, Peyton Whitaker, and Lauren Pion were also impressive and lowered their seed time as well.



Yes sir. I'm goin' clear up to Manassas to cheer for those Makos. That's just what I'm gonna do!

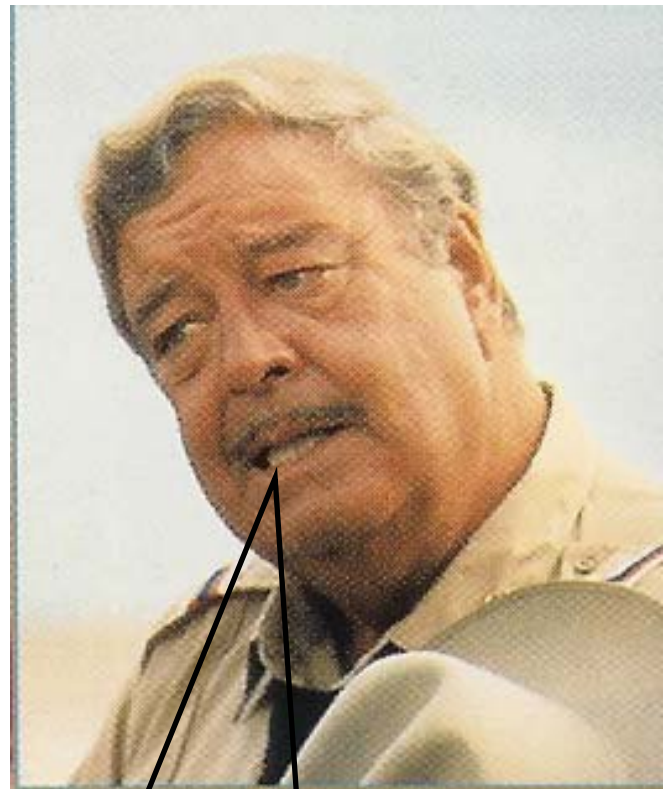


Sherriff Taylor will get an opportunity to see the Makos first hand as the team travels to Bridlewood this week. With warm, summertime temperatures taking hold, everyone is urged to apply sunscreen liberally, drink plenty of fluids, drive safely, and have lots of patience as we move into week number two of this orchestrated chaos known as Summer Swim. Go Makos!

I'll have two Mako Cheeseburgers, fries, and a Diet Pepsi to go. Thank you, nice lady.



One can build up quite an appetite while trying to keep up with swimmers like Brock Cudahy who chipped in 9-team points in the 12U 50m Butterfly and lowered his seed time by nearly 1/2-second.



I must say, Mr. Jared Rouffa, in all my years of pursuit, you are one of the fastest pursuees I have ever pursued.

Sherriff Justice is known for giving his adversaries due respect. He and his colleagues will need to be on their toes this week to keep up with Jared who won the 8U 25m Butterfly last week (26.05s) and lowered his seed time by approximately 3/10 sec.

This Week in Makos History

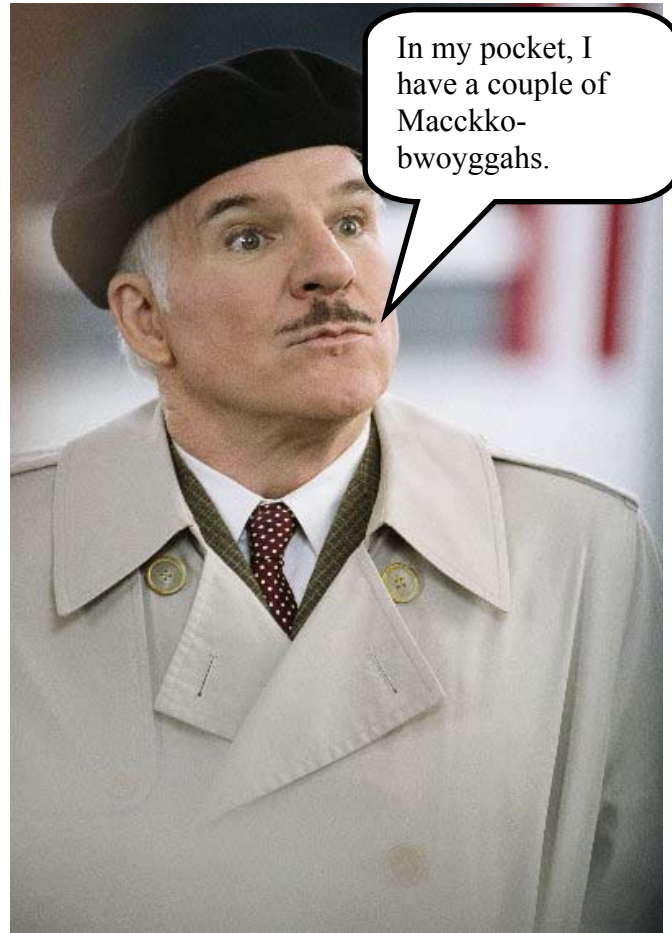
Way back on June 24, 2000, Brandon Czarny set club records in the 14U 50m Freestyle (31.16s), Breaststroke (40.77s), and Butterfly (38.43s) events vs. FAST. On the girls' side that 4th Saturday of June, Kelly Goggins set the 14U 50m Breaststroke record at 40.06s. Almost exactly five years later to the day, Eric Sargent lowered the boys' breaststroke and butterfly records to 36.84s and 31.89s, respectively.

Sixteen years ago this Saturday, Joshua Feshari was two-days old. Feshari was part of the Makos' 14U 200 Medley Relay squad that shattered the team record last year vs. Ridgewood (2:22.44). Happy birthday, Joshua!

Yes ma'am. Let me get this straight. You say the swimmer left the starting blocks at approximately 9:30am and arrived at the other end in 26.05-seconds. Excuse me ma'am, but that's nearly impossible for an 8-year old child.



In my pocket, I have a couple of Macckko-bwoyggahs.



Inspector Clouseau was detained at Washington Dulles International Airport and was unable to witness first-hand Clayton Bellamy's (see photo below) 1st place swim in the 10U 25m Butterfly event in which he lowered his seed time by 2-sec. Bellamy and butterfly colleagues Sam Case and Cody Bennett (both of whom lowered their seed times as well) will be back in action this week. Could these three have heisted the Pink Panther Diamond?

In his usual needling way of extracting the truth from witnesses (in this case a timer), Lieutenant Columbo of the Los Angeles Police Department inquires about Aidan-Claire Cudahy's first place finish in the 25m Butterfly. We can assure the lieutenant that yes; she is just...that...fast.



Chief, she missed it by *that* much.



Agent Maxwell Smart briefs his chief in the “cone of silence” regarding Taylor Tolson’s exciting effort in the 12U 50m Backstroke in which she came within an eyelash (0.03s) of 2nd place in what would prove to be one of the closest races of the day.

Below, Max and Agent 99 can hardly believe their ears as they review clips from the 12U 50m Breaststroke in which MBW’s Hunter Herbert won by just 0.3s over Wellington’s Matthew Donaldson. Great effort, Hunter.



It’s always a “scene” when the 18U crowd hits the water – splashes can be very large. Above, Detective Friday got a little too close to the pool during the boys’ 50m backstroke in which Eric Koob, Sean Gambarani, and Trevor Heckman placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, respectively. Nicely done, gentlemen.



Led by Sheriff Matt Dillon and Miss Kitty, all the citizens of Dodge City say “Go Makos.”

Faces in the Crowd



Race-day officials thoroughly checked the pool area for the Pink Panther Diamond, but it wasn't to be found. While they were unable to locate the diamond, they were quite successful in making the meet go smoothly. Hats off to you gentlemen.



With coaches Eric, Tess and Rachel (standing from left to right) at the helm, the Makos are learning the basics of good stroke technique but also appear to be having quite a lot of fun. They'll likely swim away with memories that will last a lifetime. Hotdog \$2.00; candy - \$0.50; soda - \$0.75... coaches leading a pre-meet pep rally...priceless!



The sun shown brightly on the Makos' Michael Weiser, Tanner Curry, Sabrina Townsend, Matthew Healey, and Taylor Tolson last Saturday at Wellington. Weiser shaved 3/10-sec off his 50m freestyle in route to a 1st place finish (30.01s). Curry placed 2nd in the 14U 50m Breaststroke (42.06s). Townsend sawed 8-sec off her personal best 50m Breaststroke and won the event at 47.25s. Healey looked sharp and chipped in a win in the 12U Backstroke event (39.29s). Eleven-year-old Tolson is continuing to make big gains in multiple strokes. She had a breakout swim at Wellington in the 12U 100IM event in which she lowered her seed time by amazing 36-seconds! Note to coaches – Whatever you're doing, keep doing it.



With a strong showing last week at Wellington, the Makos appear to have their ducks in a row and will be taking on the Bridlewaves this Saturday.

Diamonds in the Rough



Photos courtesy of Amy Olsen