

THE TALLYHO TIMES

"IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME"

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Friday Activities

After a week of hard practices, a record number of Foxes saw Despicable Me (no relation to any Fox) on Friday afternoon. Much later, long after all the nondespicable Foxes were in bed, one of Tallyho's greatest mysteries was finally resolved: Who does all the "decorating" on Friday night? For unknown reasons, Christo finally signed his work after 25 years. You would expect the Foxes to be thrilled to own the work of a world-renowned artist. Yet Foxes have resorted in the past to drastic methods to avoid Christo turning their lawns into a canvas. For example, the Gemunders first cut down all their trees and later sold their treeless lot. (Andrew keeps returning probably for the Den's trees.) The Feldmans and McCafferys sold their wooded lots. The Cochran's just switched their address. This year, the McCafferys successfully tried something new -- build a new structure to take the brunt of the decorating.

Divisionals

Christo's work inspired the Foxes to one of their hottest performances ever on a blistering hot day. 17 out of 37 Foxes earned all best times. Winston Liu, Chris Verboncoeur and Alex Zhang

were 4 for 4 in best times. Samantha Danshes and Mei Mei Zuo were 3 for 3. Sydney Feyerick led the skulk with a 3 second drop in the back. Reid Bacon, Chris Cochran, Cate McCaffery and Will and David Mishkin also dropped lots of time. With best times, the Foxes repeatedly moved up their seeds despite some stiff competition. In the 92 races, Foxes moved up 27 times and held seed in 51 races. Lawrence Redmond started the roll by going from 7th to 4th in the 50 Free. Shortly thereafter (it was Glenwood's announcer), Reid Bacon dropped 2 seconds to move up from 8th to 5th. Seeded first in the back, Chris Verboncoeur didn't move up at all. He did drop more than a second to go under a minute for the first time and break his own team record. After the break, a week of the Greg Breaststroke School paid off. First, Will Mishkin dropped 2 seconds to go from 11th to 7th. In the next heat, Kyle Barclay broke a team record (belonging to Chris Verboncoeur of course). Next, Lexi Cochran got her first all-star nominating time and moved up from 5th to 3rd. With a little sibling rivalry, big brother Chris also got an all-star nominating time and finished 3rd (having been seeded 7th.) And he did it

without goggles. Then, Alex Zhang moved up from 5th to 2nd by dropping a second. The breaststroke ended with Chris Verboncoeur facing off against one of the best breaststrokers in the County. Chris dropped a second and half to break a 20-year-old team record. Chris now holds all 5 15-18 team records. Officially, Chris lost by a hundredth of a second. Traditionalists longed for 1960s place judges and Yahoo Sports screamed for Instant Replay. The roll continued through the butterfly. David Mishkin dropped more than 2 seconds in the 1st fly event. Like the breast, Chris Verboncoeur was the grand finale of the fly. He dropped a second to break 26 and another of his records. In the very next event, Kyle Barclay, Andy Rothstein, Alex Zhang and Ben Long Zuo dropped an unbelievable 4 seconds in the relay to almost catch an impressive Woodcliffe team. They did beat the team record which belonged to a very strong team of Chris Verboncoeur, Greg Reutershan, David Iselin and Daniel Salcetti. Chris had 4 of his records broken at Divisionals which is more than most Foxes have ever had. 2 of course were broken by . . . Chris who added 3 records to his list. Richard was so inspired that he tried to race

(with a little encouragement from Cynthia). The Foxes celebrated their great swimming at the Bacon-decorated Cal Tort where Cameron Barclay did his best imitation of Andy Rothstein at the movies. The Foxes kept celebrating through the evening as they watched Night in the Museum 2 at the Twomey Theater. A parade of Fox Heroes came through to say good bye to Chris who of course was AWOL.

Banquet

The Foxes finished their cruise of the Greek Isles at the Cochran Banquet. Chris actually showed – surprising all and “*delighting*” the 15-18 women. The Karners and Ashley were also present, making Foxes long for 2008. Each Fox deservedly was honored (and sometimes embarrassed -- undeservedly of course). Gaby Pilarski and Cyrus Safiran were recognized for their effort. Avikar Perival and Mei Mei Zuo received the Coaches Award. And Andy Rosenthal won the Spirit Award. Lisa Deng and Andy Rothstein scored the most points. The Foxes said good bye to Chris Verboncoeur and Dayu and congratulated high school graduates Molly Kiniry and Conway Xu. The Foxes also said good bye to Chris. Many say that it should have happened at the 2009 Banquet. Chris has been on the team for 20 of the Foxes’ 40 years (depending on whether you count this year). Chris received a Glass Picture Book signed by

all those Fox Heroes who paraded in all week. Andrew must have signed multiple times. The Foxes teared up at the 3 Rosenthal slide shows. Mrs. Chase actually showed up proving that Chris doesn’t take after his mother. The coaches talked as fast as the Foxes swim so that the Foxes actually got to dance with Glide. Cameron Barclay and Nick Shawley queued it out for best 8&under male dancer.

All-Stars

The Foxes sent 4 relay teams and 6 individuals to the All-Star meet. All-Star Relays started with the 13-14 Free Relay (Rachel Caplan, Lisa Deng, Brian Tsau and Alex Zhang) which got a best time and finished 7th. The Foxes’ highest finish (6th) belonged to the 11-12 Free Relay and 9-10 Medley (Kyle Barclay, Will Mishkin, Lawrence Redmond, and Ian Rosenthal). In the 11-12 relay, Chris Cochran, Samantha Danshes, Andy Rothstein and Connie Xu dropped time and moved up a place. Poor coaching advice led Chris Verboncoeur to show up a little late for a fast meet. Superman Dayu changed in a phone booth to fill in. He joined Kyle Barclay, Andy Rothstein, Josh Wolfson and Alex Zhang to finish 8th in the crescendo. Sunday’s meet opened with the melodious singing of the Foxes’ own Anya Vinogradsky. Mei Mei Zuo kicked off the Foxes just as beautiful swimming with a 10 place in the free (and 13th in the back). Next Lisa Deng

finished 12th in the IM (and later 13th in the IM). Having finished 2nd in the back at 6, the now ancient 7 Phoebe Bacon won the back with a blazing start. (Later she finished fourth in the fly). Outside smoke, Anya Vinogradsky moved all the way from 8th to 2nd in the breast. Still seething from Divisionals, Yahoo is calling for an investigation. Shortly thereafter (couldn’t tell if it was the Mohican announcer and couldn’t read the scoreboard), Kyle Barclay moved up from 9th to 3rd in the breast. Later he went from 14th to 8th in the fly. In his final race as a Fox, Chris won the butterfly. Earlier, he came in 3rd in the IM in a season best time. Chris, Kyle and Phoebe (2) each reset team records. In total, 24 out of the 100 records were broken in a very fast year. Fans expect the Verboncoeurs to pay for the new board.

Chris

Despite the endless “rag” remarks at the Banquet, the Times is remarkably gentle on Chris. We will miss his endless supply of material.

Upcoming Events

Hopefully all Foxes will swim this winter as the Foxes skyrocketed to D Division for 2011. Fox Parents are lined up to announce the Mohican Meet which thankfully will take place at the Den.