

# NEW BEGINNINGS

Boys water polo team excels through difficulty

By: Samantha Kahn

**T**he boys water polo team experienced a roller coaster of emotions. The season started off a little rough, when there was a change of coaches after the first game. Terry McMillen took over as head coach and really helped everyone. With a new coach and senior leadership, the boys were able to turn their season around.

"We started the season off rough, but with the help of our upperclassmen we ended the season with a bang," said **Michael Yellig, 10**.

There were many bonding opportunities for the team. Pasta parties and weekends spent away for tournaments were just a few examples of how this team became close. They all enjoyed their time spent together in and out of the pool.

"It was a good way to make close friends and have fun playing a great game," said **Max Kielcz, 12**.

Senior leadership was vital to the team's

success. The underclassmen were also very important. **Colin Hanner, 10**, was a major contributor on the team. For his outstanding efforts, **Hanner** received the 'rookie of the year' award.

"Joining the water polo team my freshman year was really good. It taught me a lot of dedication and gave me a chance to meet a lot of new people," said **Scott Wright, 9**.

Every team played one another several times because not every school had a water polo team. The boys took on Mason four times during the regular season and then both teams met again in tournaments and regionals. It was always a close and intense meeting between the two.

A rocky start did not discourage the boys. They stuck through it and worked together.

"This season was challenging and rough for the whole team, but that's what we like, the challenge," said **Ian Campbell, 10**.

“If you try hard and give what you can, things will fall into place.”  
-**Brian McMillen, 12**



“We were a very young team, the oldest players on the team helped the young and inexperienced.”  
-**Derek Bahler, 12**



“Being a rookie on the water polo team this year was great.”  
-**Colin Hanner, 10**



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-**IAN CAMPBELL, 10**

## BOYS WATER POLO

Final Record: 6-17-1 JV: 1-1-3

Mason 10-5	Princeton 15-18	Sylvania 2-11	Milford 5-8	*Milford 6-18	Mason 5-4	*Mason 6-6	Mason 9-16	*JV scores
Mason 10-9								
Upper Arlington 4-6	Glen Oak 19-12	Milford 6-10	*Princeton 7-5	Napoleon 7-12	St. Francis Tournament 0-4-1	Packer Invitational 5th place	*Princeton 9-9	Mason Tournament 2nd place

MVP:  
Alan Kelpé

Leadership Award:  
John Wilkes

Spirit Award:  
Derek Bahler

110% Award:  
Andrew Wittkugel

Rookie of the Year:  
Colin Hanner

All State  
Honorable Mention:  
Alan Kelpé

