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“I love the swim meets because at the meets, you get to put to the test everything you’ve been training for.”

-Mark Bernstein, 11

“We had a close team. Most people are coming back so hopefully we will be better next year.”

-Alphonse Harris, 11

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Colin Hanner, 10, takes off with the sound of the buzzer. Hanner was the team’s most improved swimmer. His strengths included both backstroke and freestyle.

BOYS DIVING

GMC: Lavardo Pennerman- 1st place
Matthew Dimasso- 4th place
Brian Ruff- 5th place

Sectionals: Lavardo Pennerman- 5th place
Matthew Dimasso- 8th place
Brian Ruff- 9th place

Districts: Lavardo Pennerman- 8th Place
Matthew Dimasso- 15th Place
Brian Ruff- 16th place

MVP: Lavardo Pennerman

MAKING THEIR WAY TO GREATNESS

Boys swimming, diving dominate their pool

By: Katie Hellman, Christy Miller

The boys swim team freestyled their way to districts after a hard season of training. The boys swept up their eleventh GMC title, raced through sectionals, and placed 12th in the district tournament.

Led by Coach Dan Carl, the boys had a tough season, with only three returning seniors. However, they put their skills to the test and ended with an amazing record, the underclassmen and returning seniors quick to fill the empty space. John Wilkes, 12, was key in bringing the team to victory.

“Adrenaline is a big part of swimming,” said Wilkes.

Nothing brought more excitement than the GMC tournament.

“This is our last chance to really be a team, because at the sectional, district, and state levels, it’s really more of an individual thing,” said Jason Kao, 10.

The boys managed to pull out their eleventh GMC title in a row, proving once again that they had serious talent not only as individuals but as a team as well.

The JV boys were coached by Dave Linesch and assisted by alumni swimmer, Joe Krone. The JV team, though small, put up a good fight and learned a lot.

“Dave and Joe are a good team. They are both very knowledgeable about swimming and are always willing to help,” said Scott Wright, 9.

In addition to the boys swimming, the boys diving contributed to the success of the program.

The boys diving team had a strong season, adding points to the boys swimming scores to create a combined score each meet. Lavardo Pennerman, 12, was an important member to the team. He put a lot of work into the season, ending with an eighth place finish at districts.

“Diving is a lot of mental work. It’s tough, but once you get that part down, it’s okay,” said Pennerman.

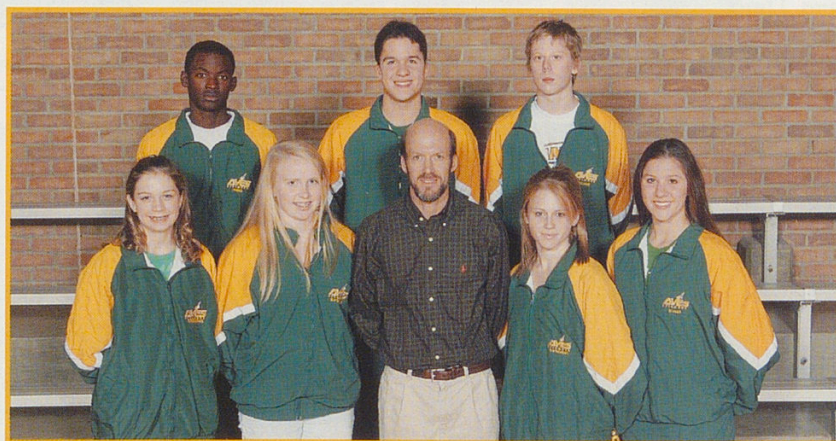
Matthew Dimasso, 10, another important team member, scheduled his life around diving.

“My entire schedule revolved around how much time I could get into the pool. It is so important to me, I want to get into college by diving. I don’t mind working hard to get there,” said Dimasso.

This dedication shown by members of the teams were apparent in the success in the water.



Lavardo Pennerman, 12, steadies himself before diving into the water. Pennerman held the record for highest score in the men’s 100 meter diving in the GMC. His hard work paid off in competitions throughout the season.



Row 1: Anne Roessler, 9, Christen Corcoran, 9, Coach Phipps, Sarah McMillen, 10, and Stephanie Dimasso, 12. Row 2: Lavardo Pennerman, 12, Matthew Dimasso, 10, and Brian Ruff, 11.