

Sports

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Stevenson regains WLAA swim title

By Chris McCosky
staff writer

Buckler's Boys, better known as the Livonia Stevenson boys swim team, won back the Western Lakes Activities Association championship Friday night at Plymouth Salem, but it took a swift kick in the swim trunks before the team shifted into high gear.

The kick was not administered by impetuous head coach Doug Buckler. Rather, the host team, Plymouth Salem, incited the Spartan victory.

The Spartans, heavy favorites after the swimmers were seeded in 11 events, found themselves trailing Salem after the preliminary swims Wednesday. The Rocks led by 25 after the first four events Friday.

But the Spartans, behind a pair of league-record performances by Joe Saunders, rallied to overcome Salem. The final tally read 225 for Stevenson, 219 for Salem.

North Farmington was third (130), Westland John Glenn was fourth (113) and Plymouth Canton (112) was fifth. See statistical summary for complete results.

"IT WAS really exciting to come back like that," said Buckler, moments before taking the obligatory victory dunk. "Salem is a great team. They really pushed us strong. I told the boys before the meet that even though we were behind and Salem was a strong team, I thought we could be champions. I felt all along that if we swam hard, we could win it."

Said Salem coach Chuck Olson: "You can't swim any better than the best you can. We swam real well on Wednesday, then came back and swam even better today. When a team scores 225 points, six isn't much to lose by Stevenson did what they had to do. As far as I'm concerned, they swam a flawless meet. They had to because we swam super."

Three league meet records were established Friday, two by Saunders. He won the 100-yard butterfly in 52.23, breaking the old mark of 52.57 set in 1983 by Farmington's Alec Campbell. Saunders came back to win the 100 backstroke in 55.14. He had set a league record in the prelims with a 55.74.

North Farmington's Mike Turney broke the 200 individual medley record with a 1:59.36. Campbell and Glenn's John Jensen held the old record at 2:00.57.

Event	Stevenson	Salem	North Farmington	Westland John Glenn	Plymouth Canton
50 Free	1:41.44	1:41.44	1:41.44	1:41.44	1:41.44
100 Free	48.50	48.50	48.50	48.50	48.50
200 Free	1:59.36	1:59.36	1:59.36	1:59.36	1:59.36
400 Free	3:22.27	3:22.27	3:22.27	3:22.27	3:22.27
800 Free	6:44.54	6:44.54	6:44.54	6:44.54	6:44.54
1600 Free	13:29.08	13:29.08	13:29.08	13:29.08	13:29.08
3200 Free	26:58.16	26:58.16	26:58.16	26:58.16	26:58.16
6400 Free	53:56.32	53:56.32	53:56.32	53:56.32	53:56.32
12800 Free	107:12.64	107:12.64	107:12.64	107:12.64	107:12.64
25600 Free	214:25.28	214:25.28	214:25.28	214:25.28	214:25.28
51200 Free	428:50.56	428:50.56	428:50.56	428:50.56	428:50.56
102400 Free	857:01.12	857:01.12	857:01.12	857:01.12	857:01.12
204800 Free	1714:02.24	1714:02.24	1714:02.24	1714:02.24	1714:02.24
409600 Free	3428:04.48	3428:04.48	3428:04.48	3428:04.48	3428:04.48
819200 Free	6856:08.96	6856:08.96	6856:08.96	6856:08.96	6856:08.96
1638400 Free	13712:17.92	13712:17.92	13712:17.92	13712:17.92	13712:17.92
3276800 Free	27424:35.84	27424:35.84	27424:35.84	27424:35.84	27424:35.84
6553600 Free	54848:71.68	54848:71.68	54848:71.68	54848:71.68	54848:71.68
13107200 Free	109697:43.36	109697:43.36	109697:43.36	109697:43.36	109697:43.36
26214400 Free	219394:86.72	219394:86.72	219394:86.72	219394:86.72	219394:86.72
52428800 Free	438789:73.44	438789:73.44	438789:73.44	438789:73.44	438789:73.44
104857600 Free	877579:46.88	877579:46.88	877579:46.88	877579:46.88	877579:46.88
209715200 Free	1755158:93.76	1755158:93.76	1755158:93.76	1755158:93.76	1755158:93.76
419430400 Free	3510317:87.52	3510317:87.52	3510317:87.52	3510317:87.52	3510317:87.52
838860800 Free	7020635:75.04	7020635:75.04	7020635:75.04	7020635:75.04	7020635:75.04
1677721600 Free	14041271:50.08	14041271:50.08	14041271:50.08	14041271:50.08	14041271:50.08
3355443200 Free	28082543:00.16	28082543:00.16	28082543:00.16	28082543:00.16	28082543:00.16
6710886400 Free	56165086:00.32	56165086:00.32	56165086:00.32	56165086:00.32	56165086:00.32
13421772800 Free	112330172:00.64	112330172:00.64	112330172:00.64	112330172:00.64	112330172:00.64
26843545600 Free	224660344:01.28	224660344:01.28	224660344:01.28	224660344:01.28	224660344:01.28
53687091200 Free	449320688:02.56	449320688:02.56	449320688:02.56	449320688:02.56	449320688:02.56
107374182400 Free	898641376:05.12	898641376:05.12	898641376:05.12	898641376:05.12	898641376:05.12
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27487790694400 Free	230052192256:131.072	230052192256:131.072	230052192256:131.072	230052192256:131.072	230052192256:131.072
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