

NOMAD Captures another BRSC Title

Lake Norman Herald Weekly, April 10th – 16th, pg. 32

In what is becoming an all too familiar story, Swim NOMAD won its 17th consecutive Blue Ridge Short Course championship March 27-29 at the Mecklenburg County Aquatic Center. NOMAD held off 17 teams from the Blue Ridge Swim League to win the title. “We continued to win at this level because we have great depth,” said NOMAD head coach and owner Steve Billings. “We are one of the larger clubs in North Carolina, and that strength showed at the Blue Ridge Championships.” Five swimmers from the Huntersville based squad finished in the top three of their age groups’ scoring leaders. NOMAD’s Christina Lappin and Markus Wennborg were the High Point Scorer MVP trophy winners, while Hunter Lane finished second. Chris Tilque and Sadie Calhoun were third in their age groups. Lappin racked up 160 points in the girls 10-and-under competition with victories in eight different events. Wennborg won the 25-yard freestyle, breaststroke and butterfly races, posting 60 points in the 8-and-under boys division. Lane (boys 10-and-under) accumulated 131 points with four victories and three runner-up finishes. Tilque (boys 15-18 years old) and Calhoun (girls 8-and-under) finished with 112 and 49 points, respectively. Haley Carter, Molly Sanborn and Gabby Mondelli also won events. Carter – a standout girl’s swimmer at Hopewell High School – took the 100 and 200 breaststroke races in the 15-18 age group. Sanborn (girls 13-14) finished first in the 1,650 freestyle event. Mondelli (girls 15-18) also posted the top time in the 1,650 freestyle race. NOMAD’s 10-and-under girls relay teams won both the 200 medley and freestyle races. The boy’s 10-and-under squad was the 200 freestyle champion, while the 13-14 year old girls squad finished first in the 400 freestyle relay. “This season, our younger kids really stepped up,” said Billings. “We haven’t had the strength in the older age groups like we have in the past, but we are building the program at the younger age groups to provide a solid foundation, and those kids really swam well.” The Blue Ridge Swim League is a USA Swimming-sanctioned event in 25-yard pool competition. NOMAD began training for its summer long course season (50-meter pool competition) this month.

Its first meet is scheduled for May 1-2 at Huntersville Family Fitness and Aquatics. □