

# LAC fairs well at big meet

**BY STEVE GAMEL**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lakeside Aquatics Club had a huge showing at the Bill Nixon Memorial Long Course A Invitational -- held June 25-27 -- and as a result posted 38 Top 3 finishes.

The event is a major milestone in the long-course season of Texas' young swimmers and featured some of the fastest swimmers from several southern states and other countries. Many swimmers for LAC were trying to qualify for the state championship meet (TAGS), Sectionals and Junior Nationals.

"This was the greatest meet

in our team's history," head coach Mike Yearwood said. "We have never had more swimmers in Finals at any meet. We have swimmers ranked in the TOP 10 in the United States after this meet. We had swimmers that made National standards, Sectional standards, and qualified for the Texas State Championships (TAGS) at this meet. We had numerous meet and team records broken by our swimmers at this meet. The spirit and camaraderie that was shown at this meet by Lakeside Aquatic Club was unmatched. Heat after heat after heat saw LAC coming in first place."

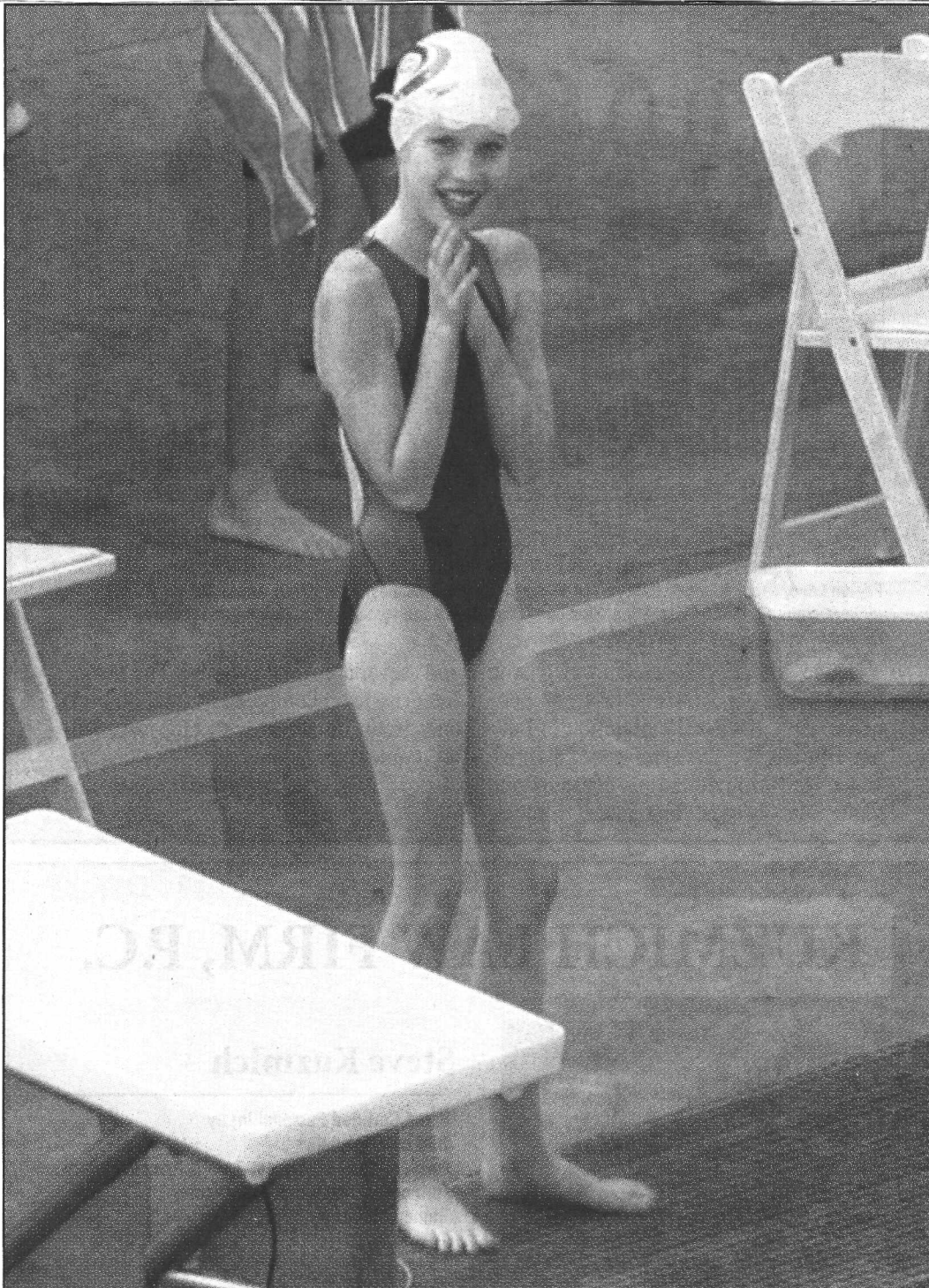
LAC is one of the fastest

growing teams in the country and the largest in North Texas with close to 600 swimmers. LAC has locations in Keller, Flower Mound, The Colony and Denton. In this one event, the team posted 20 first place finishes, seven second place honors and 11 finished third in various events.

Some of the key performers included Brendan Feehery. Feehery, 12, won six events -- including the 100 freestyle, 400 freestyle, 50 backstroke, 100 backstroke and 200 Individual Medley -- and set meet records in all of them. He won the High Point Award for 11-12 boys and set three team records in the 100 breaststroke, 400 free and 200 IM while qualifying for nine events at TAGS.

Carly Straight, 12, finished first in the 50, 100, 200 and 400 freestyle events. All were meet records, with the 100 thru 400 being LAC team records. She also finished third in the 100 backstroke, 100 fly and fourth in the 50 fly. All seven events were TAGS times and personal best times. She was second overall for individual points in the 11-12 age group.

Raleigh Thornton, 12 of Highland Village, finaled in all seven of her events. Some of those highlights included finishing second in the 50 free and 50 fly and in the 200 IM. She finished third in the 200 backstroke and fourth in the 100 backstroke along with a sixth place spot in the 100 freestyle and eighth in the 100 breaststroke. She qualified for TAGS in the 200 back.



LAC Swimmer Kiley Vandevier before their recent meet.

COURTESY PHOTO