

GirlsSwimmingPreviews

Archbishop Wood

- **Coach:** Charlie Stillwell (10th year)
- **Last year's record:** 6-1, Philadelphia Catholic League runner-up
- **Key losses:** Monica Cymmerman, freestyle; Megan Gannon, freestyle; Liz Gnias, backstroke; Christie Morley, breaststroke/individual medley; Sharon Racine, freestyle; Jessica Rios, backstroke/freestyle

- **Key returnees:** Megen Donovan, senior, freestyle/breaststroke (Towson University); Jaclyn Smith, senior, freestyle; Christina Rios, junior, backstroke; Amy Finn, junior, butterfly/freestyle; Alyse Davis, sophomore, individual medley/breaststroke

- **Others to watch:** Bridger Kerins, freshman, butterfly/individual medley; Emily Smith, freshman, freestyle

- **Strengths:** The Lady Vikings' roster boasts 30 swimmers and will certainly benefit from all the advantages of a large team. They will have no trouble filling lanes and scoring important points throughout the lineup. "Our top swimmers are the best in the league and our depth will be outstanding," said coach Charlie Stillwell, who is confident a talented freshman class and an experienced team of upperclassman will replace last year's graduates.

Senior Megen Donovan, the defending league champion in the 500 freestyle and the 100 breaststroke, will again be a force to recon with. Senior Jaclyn Smith and junior Christina Rios are also defending league champions in the 200 freestyle and 100 backstroke, respectively.

Stillwell praised junior Amy Finn as

one of the best distance freestyle swimmers in the league and will count on the versatility of sophomore Alyse Davis to score big points.

- **Outlook:** "Placing second in the league last year was a big step in the right direction for our team," he said. "I look for our team to breakout this year, with a great chance at first place. Look for them to do big things."

ARCHBISHOP WOOD

Coach: Charlie Stillwell (10th year)

2005-06 record: 6-1 (6-1 PCL)

Key performers: Alyse Davis (So., all strokes); Megen Donovan (Sr., freestyle, breaststroke); Amy Finn (Jr., butterfly, freestyle); Bridget Kerins (Fr., butterfly, IM); Christina Rios (Jr., backstroke); Jaclyn Smith (Sr., freestyle).

Coach's quote: "Placing second in the league last year was a big step in the right direction for our team. Our seniors from last year will be replaced by incoming freshmen and the gained experience from our returning swimmers. I look for our team to break out this year, with a great chance at first place."

A Closer Capsules of all the area teams Look

Archbishop Wood

Coach: Charlie Stillwell (10th year)

Last year's record: 6-1

Swimmers to watch: Sr. Jaclyn Smith (backstroke, IM); Sr. Megen Donovan (breaststroke, distances); Jr. Christina Rios (sprints, backstroke).

The season: "Placing second in the league last year was a big step in the right direction for our team," said Stilwell. "I look for our team to breakout this year, with a great chance at first place."

Gwynedd-Mercy Academy at North Penn Tuesday, Dec. 12, 3:45 p.m.

A rare meeting between the Catholic Academies League and the Suburban One League. The Maidens have the depth advantage but the Monarchs have some talented swimmers which should make for some exciting races. The diving competition, with NP's Katie Detweiler going against GMA's Julia Rothwell, fifth in Class AA at districts, should be interesting.

Central Bucks East at Hatboro-Horsham Tuesday, Dec. 19, 3:45 p.m.

This is always a close meet decided by only a few points and there is no reason to think this one will be any different. The freestyle relays should be especially competitive. The winner will be poised to challenge Souderton for the SOL Continental title.

Peddie School at Germantown Academy Wednesday, Jan. 10, 4 p.m.

There are few teams in the country that can give the Patriots a battle in a dual meet, but one of them might be Peddie School, which finished second to GA at the Eastern champi-

5

Can't-Miss Meets

onships last year. What it means is that coach Dick Shoulberg will probably have to put his best swimmers in the lineup at their best events to ensure victory, which should be a treat for the fans.

Archbishop Ryan at Archbishop Wood (at Klinger Middle School) Wednesday, Jan 10, 6 p.m.

The Ragdolls defeated the Vikings for the Philadelphia Catholic League championship last year. Ryan is always strong but Wood has some high-level performers like Towson-signee Megen Donovan and Jaclyn Smith. This will be a good preview of the league meet as one would think if Wood is going to beat Ryan it would be at their own pool.

North Penn at Souderton Monday, Jan. 29, 3:30 p.m.

When the teams met last year, six pool records were set at North Penn's pool. The level of competition here for a duel meet should be amazingly high and it would not be a shock if some Souderton pool records fell. Possibly the two top teams in the entire Suburban One League facing each other as well as a local rivalry.