

PHILADELPHIA CATHOLIC LEAGUE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

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Wood girls drown PCL title drought

Vikings win first championship since 1991

BY KAREN SANGILLO
THE INTELLIGENCER

PHILADELPHIA — The Archbishop Wood girls swim team broke a 17-year drought, winning the

Philadelphia Catholic League championship Sunday at LaSalle University's Kirk Natatorium.

The Vikings won their only other PCL title in 1991.

"That's a long time," senior captain Bridget Gannon said. "It feels so great to win one, and to win it my senior year is just amazing. This was our last chance. Everyone swam so well and we were really excited for the meet. We knew if we came in here and swam strong that we'd be the team to beat.

We didn't really feel much pressure; we knew what we could do, so it was just a matter of us doing it."

Wood's win broke Archbishop Ryan's five-year win streak.

"We beat Ryan in our dual meet, but we knew we couldn't take them lightly," senior captain Rachael Gniass said. "We had to come back and swim well here. We've seen Ryan's depth; we know what they can do. This was just a great way to finish the season. I think the seniors really appreciate

what it means to finally beat Ryan." Three swimmers took first place in individual events.

Taylor Kane won the 200-yard freestyle in 1 minute, 59.28 seconds and the 500 freestyle (5:17.95). Grace Cochrane won the 200 butterfly (1:00.87) and Christina Rios won the 100 freestyle (56.16).

Wood also finished first in the 400 freestyle relay, with the team of Amy Finn, Cochrane, Kane and Rios clocking in at 3:49.89.

Also for the Vikings, Finn was second in the 200 freestyle (2:05.45) and third in the 500 freestyle (5:40.71). Emily Smith was second in the 100 freestyle (57.72) and third in the 200 freestyle (2:10.09). Rios was second in the 100 backstroke (1:01.59) and Cochrane was third in the 200 individual medley (2:18.90).

The team of Rios, Alyse Davis, Bridget Kerins and Gannon finished second in the 200 medley relay.

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Wood

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(1:57.68) and the 200 freestyle relay of Smith, Cochrane, Kane and Gannon took third (1:46.60).

"This is unbelievable," Wood coach Charlie Stillwell said. "It was all the girls. I was lucky enough to be the one to tell them what to swim, but they did it all themselves. I'm so proud of them."

Greg Oprendeck was the top individual finisher for the Wood boys, taking 11th in both the 200 individual medley (2:13.27) and 100 breaststroke (1:09.16). Wood's 200 freestyle relay of David Keller, Oprendeck, Gary

Bone and Andrew Gniass finished seventh (1:42.03).

PHILADELPHIA CATHOLIC LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Girls

Team results

1. Archbishop Wood, 694 points; 2. Cardinal O'Hara, 571; 3. Archbishop Ryan, 563; 4. Archbishop Carroll, 324; 5. St. Hubert, 274; 6. Little Flower, 161; 7. Archbishop Prendergast, 144.

Individual results

200-yard medley relay: 1. Ryan, 1:56.37; 2. Wood (Christina Rios, Alyse Davis, Bridget Kerins, Bridget Gannon), 1:57.68; 3. Carroll, 2:01.52; 200 freestyle: 1. Taylor Kane, Wood, 1:59.28; 2. Amy Finn, Wood, 2:05.45; 3. Emily Smith, Wood, 2:08.97; 200 individual medley: 1. Sara Kuhn, Ryan, 2:16.24; 2. Kelly Fleagle, O'Hara, 2:17.34; 3. Grace Cochrane, Wood, 2:18.90; 50 freestyle: 1. Katie Erikson, O'Hara, 25.91; 2. Megan Corliss, Carroll, 26.07; 3. Allison Chiaradio, Ryan, 26.66; 100 butterfly: 1. Cochrane, Wood, 1:00.87; 2. Mollie Walsh, Carroll, 1:03.20; 3. Bridget Hennessy, Ryan, 1:04.22; 100-yard freestyle: 1. Rios, Wood, 56.16; 2. Smith, Wood, 57.72; 3. Erikson, O'Hara, 58.58; 500 freestyle: 1. Kane, Wood, 5:17.95; 2. Hennessy,

Ryan, 5:25.72; 3. Finn, Wood, 5:40.71; 200 freestyle relay: 1. O'Hara, 1:45.16; 2. Carroll, 1:45.20; 3. Wood (Smith, Cochrane, Kane, Gannon), 1:46.60; 100 backstroke: 1. Kulin, Ryan, 1:00.69; 2. Rios, Wood, 1:01.59; 3. Samartha Greiner, O'Hara, 1:07.08; 100 breaststroke: 1. Fleagle, O'Hara, 1:13.27; 2. Kelsey Homont, St. Hubert, 1:13.62; 3. Julienne Staskel, Ryan, 1:13.88; 400 freestyle relay: 1. Wood (Finn, Cochrane, Kane, Rios), 3:49.89; 2. O'Hara, 3:52.12; 3. Ryan, 3:56.93.

Boys

Team results

1. LaSalle, 965 points; 2. St. Joe's Prep, 625.5; 3. Archbishop Ryan, 294.5; 4. Father Judge, 285; 5. Monsignor Bonner, 253; 6. Roman Catholic, 230; 7. Cardinal O'Hara, 185; 8. Archbishop Carroll, 170; 9. Archbishop Wood, 94.

Individual results

200-yard medley relay: 1. LaSalle, 1:37.94; 2. St. Joe's Prep, 1:41.16; 3. Father Judge, 1:44.22; 200 freestyle: 1. Ted Walker, LaSalle, 2:45.23; 2. Michael McGee, LaSalle, 1:47.82; 3. Andrew Gogola, St. Joe's Prep, 1:49.36; 200 individual medley: 1. Greg Mahon, St. Joe's Prep, 1:56.91; 2. Greg Woods, LaSalle, 2:00.40; 3. Andrew Gillespie, Roman Catholic, 2:01.99; 50 freestyle: 1. James Mahoney, LaSalle, 21.75; 2. Andrew Sideras, LaSalle, 22.21; 3. Todd Domanski, LaSalle, 22.23; 100 butterfly: 1.

Phil Letcavage, LaSalle, 53.92; 2. Andrew Kelly, St. Joe's Prep, 54.00; 3. Andrew Speese, LaSalle, 54.25; 100-yard freestyle: 1. Walker, LaSalle, 47.10; 2. Sideras, LaSalle, 48.97; 3. Gogola, St. Joe's Prep, 49.83; 500 freestyle: 1. McGee, LaSalle, 4:54.44; 2. Tom O'Neill, LaSalle, 4:59.87; 3. Brandon Rapone, Ryan, 5:00.15; 200 freestyle relay: 1. LaSalle, 1:26.61; 2. St. Joe's Prep, 1:31.60; 3. O'Hara, 1:34.68; 100 backstroke: 1. Mahon, St. Joe's Prep, 53.06; 2. Gillespie, Roman Catholic, 53.24; 3. Pat McDevitt, Bonner, 55.76; 100 breaststroke: 1. Blaise Szyzko, LaSalle, 59.77; 2. Greg Woods, LaSalle, 1:00.84; 3. Michael Maerz, Carroll, 1:03.64; 400 freestyle relay: 1. LaSalle, 3:15.06; 2. St. Joe's Prep, 3:22.11; 3. Bonner, 3:24.33.