



Forest Ridge Fighting Fish 2009 Summer in Review

It was another great season for the 2009 Forest Ridge Fighting Fish! Over 65 swimmers represented Forest Ridge this year on the Fighting Fish swim team.

Coaches Becca Albers and Grace Graham, along with assistant Michael Harper led the team to a **7th place finish** at the Miami Valley Swimming Association Championship Meet on July 25, 2009. Despite cold temperatures in the morning (and many evenings!) the kids worked hard and swam well all season.

The Fighting Fish hit the road three times this summer to Oakwood, Wilmington and Beavercreek to compete with the Oakwood Dolphins, Clinton County Barracudas and the Greene Valley Swim Club Gators. Our season culminated back in Wilmington to compete in the MVSA Championship meet held at Wilmington College. The FRFF hosted home meets versus the Waynesville Blue Dolphins, the Wayne Wahoos (Huber Heights), the Clinton County Barracudas and the Yellow Springs Sea Dogs.

The team enjoyed socializing after meets at places like McDonald's, Taco Bell and Marion's Pizza. The team hosted a Parent Meeting and Season kick-off picnic at the pool before the first meet. Other special events the team participated in were the Fourth of July pool party and another pool and pizza party to celebrate the end of the season. The team showed their spirit at the MVSA championships by wearing tie-dyed t-shirts they made. Thank you to Julia Burns for all your help on tie-dye t-shirt day. The team also enjoyed a wonderful breakfast after the mock-championship swim meet.

Fundraising News:

Since the swim team is self-supporting through registration fees and fundraising efforts we spent much of the summer raising money. Through the concession stand sales at our home meets, the 4th of July Party and the Raft Party our fundraising efforts were a complete success. We met all the team's expenses of coaches' salaries, purchase of new equipment or maintenance of existing equipment, ribbons, and awards. This year the swim team bought a grill to use for the concession stand. As always, a big thanks to those who do the hard work of setting up, manning and taking down the concessions at all the home meets. Thank you to Laurie Gilmore for running the concession stand this year. Also, thanks to Amy Gilmore for all the help she gave her mom.

A special thank you goes out to the 2008 swim team committee: Chairperson: Angie Knick; Treasurer: Debbie Kessler; Secretary: Karla Herman; Concessions: Laurie Gilmore; Awards/Ribbons/Scorekeeper: Ellie Monger; Referee: Karen Graham; Equipment Manager: Ken Kessler; Records: Lisa Weems and Ellie Monger. Please consider volunteering on the swim team committee for 2010. Positions that are open include: Concession stand co-manager, Equipment manager, Duty Roster manager and Records. The team cannot survive without dedicated volunteers like you!

Championships: Wittenberg University, Springfield July 26

A complete list of results can be found at www.mvsaohio.org. Extra congratulations to Trevor Monger for finishing first in the 11-12 boys 100 AND 50 Meter Freestyle. Trevor also broke three team records this season 50 Free at 30.05 seconds, 100 Free 108.38 seconds, and the 50 fly at 33.04 seconds. Who will break the records next year??

Start planning now for next summer! Check your email for swim team updates. If you would like to receive information about the swim team please write to kjherman@sbcglobal.net. The team is hoping to have a fundraiser at Chick-fil-A this winter. Dates and details will be sent to the team email distribution list and published in the Murmurs. Swim team fees for 2010 will be for FRA members: \$50 for 1 swimmer, \$90 for 2 and \$120 for 3 or more.

A hearty thanks to the coaches, swimmers, and parents for all their hard work! We are looking forward to another great season in the summer of 2010!

Swimmers! Ask your friends to join the team in 2010. The more swimmers there are - the more events the team can compete in - which results in more points for the team. Be on the lookout in your March and April 2010 Murmurs for more information about the 2010 swim team and our May Sign-up Day at the pool. Go Fighting Fish!