

# HIGH SCHOOLS

## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY SWIMMING OUTLOOKS

### ANNAPOLIS

**NICKNAME:** Panthers  
**COACH:** Emily Coleman, 2nd year  
**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A Central  
**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 4th in county meet  
**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 9th in county meet

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Charlie Melesh (So., 200 free, 200 IM, 500 free); Tucker Scherger (Sr., 100 back, 100 fly); Dillon Scherger (Sr., 100 back, 100 fly)

**TOP RETURNING GIRLS:** Kelsey Swensen (Jr., 200 free, 500 free); Kaitlyn Kliewer (Jr., 200 IM, 100 breast); Allie Gehring (Jr., 100 fly, 200 free); Annie Bukowski (Sr., 100 free, 100 back)

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Nicholas Wentworth (Fr., 100 back, 100 free); Dylan Davis (Fr., 200 IM, 500 free)

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Nicole Kliewer (Fr., 100 back, 200 IM); Rachel Davis (Fr., 100 breast, 100 free)

**OUTLOOK:** Coleman has a boys squad with a lot more depth than last year's team, which could breed better results for the Panthers. After only having 13 boys last year, the Panthers will have 23 this season. One of those 23, Melesh, medalled twice at the state meet last year and should be one of the county's finest. Coleman thinks that Davis can be a replica of Melesh, which would give the Panthers quite the 1-2 punch.

"Having two Charlies on the team gives the team a little more excitement," Coleman said.

The co-captain Scherger twins will also keep Annapolis competitive in the 100 backstroke and 100 butterfly.

The girls team consists of only one senior, meaning that the junior trio of Swensen, Kliewer and Gehring will be depended on to lead the team. "I'm expecting the eleventh graders to step up and take charge this year," Coleman said.

### ARCHBISHOP SPALDING

**NICKNAME:** Cavaliers

**COACH:** Peter Davis (Boys) and Kristen Koehler (Girls), 4th year

**LEAGUE:** MIAA B Conference

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 6-4, 5th in county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 9-1, B Conference champions

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Lindsey Magaw (Sr., 200 free, 500 free); Colleen Miller (Jr., 50 free, 100 free, 100 back); Patti Schult (Jr., 100 fly, 500 free); Rachel Harbarger (Jr., 200 IM, 100 breast)

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Meghan Petersen (Fr., 100 breast), Erika Koenig (Fr., 100 back)

**OUTLOOK:** The girls will look to repeat as B Conference champions behind the efforts of returnees Magaw, Miller and Schult. Although the team lost Donna Healy to graduation (she swam the 200- and 100- freestyle and competed at Nationals last year), Koehler is confident that Petersen can help fill her void. Koehler called Petersen her most versatile swimmer and one who can anchor relays in addition to excelling at individual events.

The Cavaliers will also be toughened and tested by their strength of schedule, as they'll compete in four meets against teams from the A Conference.

### ARUNDEL

**NICKNAME:** Wildcats

**COACH:** David Fusick, 2nd year

**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A Central

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 5-5, 6th in county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 6-4, 7th at county meet (tied with Northeast)

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Josh Driscoll (Sr., 500 free, 200 IM); Sam Edgerly (Sr., 100 fly, 200 IM); James Pokodner (So., 100 breast, 100 free)

**TOP RETURNING GIRLS:** Lauren Wallis (So., 100 breast, 100 free); Katelyn Kesecker (So., 100 breast, 200 IM); Amanda Hachey (Sr., 100 breast, 50 free); Alexa Poynter (Sr., 50 free, 100 free); Anna Williams (Sr., 100 back, 200 IM)

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Tim Deklau (Sr., 200 free, 500 free); Greg Hoge (Sr., 200 IM, 100 breast); Josh Malamud (Sr., 50 free, 100 free)

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Jamie Fowler (Sr., 200 free, 500 free); Sydney Keer (So., 100 breast, 200 IM); Lisa Deklau (Fr., 200 IM, 100 back); Chanel Vanzant (Fr., 50 free, 100 breast)

**OUTLOOK:** Fusick leads Arundel into its second season with great expectations. He has set his season goal for wins at seven to eight for both the boys and girls teams, and he thinks he has the swimmers that can take him there.

Newcomers on both the boys and girls sides will help the Wildcats.

For the boys, Deklau is a versatile swimmer that will compete in the distance freestyle events. For the girls, Fowler should serve that same role, although Fusick said that both she and Deklau could compete in any event and easily come out on top.

"Their strokes are just perfect, and they're really in shape, and I can guarantee that both will go to states and place," Fusick said.

### BROADNECK

**NICKNAME:** Bruins

**COACH:** Colleen Parr Winans, 1st year

**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A North

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 8-0, 3rd in county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 8-0, 3rd in county meet

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Doug McWhorter (Jr., 50 free, 100 free, 200 free); Taylor Smith (So., 500 free, 200 free); Patrick O'Hara (Sr., 100 breast)

**TOP RETURNING GIRLS:** Lauren Armstrong (Sr., 100 back, 200 free); Emilee Young (Sr., 500 free); Daniele Felton (Sr., 100 breast); Allyce McWhorter (Sr., 100 breast)

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Alex Cartron (Fr.); Gabe Cox (Fr.)

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Bethany Moore (Jr.); Mileika Miki (Sr.); Mallory Gibson (Jr.); Brittany Newman (So.)

**OUTLOOK:** Winans has a boys squad with a lot more depth than last year's team, which could breed better results for the Panthers. After only having 13 boys last year, the Panthers will have 23 this season. One of those 23, Melesh, medalled twice at the state meet last year and should be one of the county's finest. Coleman thinks that Davis can be a replica of Melesh, which would give the Panthers quite the 1-2 punch.

"Having two Charlies on the team gives the team a little more excitement," Coleman said.

The co-captain Scherger twins will also keep Annapolis competitive in the 100 backstroke and 100 butterfly.

The girls team consists of only one senior, meaning that the junior trio of Swensen, Kliewer and Gehring will be depended on to lead the team. "I'm expecting the eleventh graders to step up and take charge this year," Coleman said.

### TOP 5

Top 5 Capital-Gazette Newspapers' boys and girls swim teams:

#### BOYS

1. SOUTH RIVER
2. SEVERNA PARK
3. BROADNECK
4. ST. MARY'S
5. ANNAPOLIS

#### GIRLS

1. SEVERNA PARK
2. SOUTH RIVER
3. BROADNECK
4. CHESAPEAKE
5. SEVERN

(Fr., ); Chesley Owens (Fr., )

**OUTLOOK:** Winans, an assistant coach for the Bruins last year, takes over at the helm, and she fields a strong squad, one which is capable of being among the tops in the county.

The boys team is led by McWhorter and Smith, who both also swim year round for the Naval Academy Aquatic Club. O'Hara, who placed fourth in the state in the 100 breaststroke last year, also will be a top competitor.

The girls will try and improve on their second-place county finish from a year ago behind the efforts of Armstrong, Young and Felton.

Winans is excited about her newcomers, especially the Robichaud brothers and thinks she has a complete and versatile squad.

### CHESAPEAKE

**NICKNAME:** Cougars

**COACH:** Luke Page, 2nd year

**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A North

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 6-4, 5th in county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 7-3, 4th in county meet

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Andrew Butts (Sr., 500 free, 100 back); Matt Gressitt (So., 100 fly, 100 breast); Mike Virtue (So., 100 free); Nick Hardesty (Jr., 50 free, 100 breast)

**TOP RETURNING GIRLS:** Kate-Lynn Hutchinson (Sr., 100 back, 200 free, 500 free); Brittny Lenz (So., 100 fly, 100 free, 200 IM); Samantha Mulvey (Jr., 50 free, 100 free); Samantha Wood (Jr., 200 IM, 500 free)

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Alex Wilson (Fr., 100 free, 200 free); Matthew Spain (Fr., 50 free); Brian Nelson (Fr., 100 breast)

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Emma Weiss (Fr., 100 back, 100 fly); Aubree Harris (Fr., 100 free, 100 back); Kate Hanold (Fr., 100 free, 100 fly)

**OUTLOOK:** The key on the boys end will be finding somebody to replace the graduated Jon Blanks, who had the third-best butterfly time in the state. Blanks, who now swims at Catawba College in North Carolina, left a void that is likely to be picked up by Butts. "I'm definitely looking to [Butts] for the senior leadership spot," Page said. Gressitt and Virtue will also help lead the Cougars, as they are versatile swimmers who should make states, Page said.

On the girls side, the Cougars feature the versatile Hutchinson, who Page said will be used in almost every event over the course of the season to win points for Chesapeake.

"She's got a great attitude, and she loves to win," Page said. In addition to Hutchinson, the Cougars return 13 letterwinners from last year, giving the team a wealth of depth and experience. Lenz and Mulvey, who both competed at States last year, should boost the Cougars' chances of improving on last season's seven-win season.

### GLEN BURNIE

**NICKNAME:** Gophers

**COACH:** Scott Monroe, 2nd year

**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A North

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 10th at county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 11th at county meet

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Nathan Smiel (Sr., 50 free, 100 fly, relays); Steven Galindo (Sr., 100 breast, 100 back)

**TOP RETURNING GIRLS:** Erica Richards (Sr., 100 breast, 100 free); Cara Shillenn (Soph., 100 fly, 50 free); Marcela Gomez (Sr., 500 free)

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** none

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Elizabeth Smiel (Fr., 100 fly, 50 free)

**OUTLOOK:** Monroe has a combination of leadership with eight seniors and some new, young talent ready to surprise other county opponents.

The freshman class has more swimmers than Monroe expected and he will look to them to set top times and challenge some of the county's heavyweights in the years to come.

"Obviously, we want to improve on last year's finish in the county," Monroe said. "That's a clear goal for this team."

### MEADE

**NICKNAME:** Mustangs

**COACH:** Marquenta Taylor, 2nd year

**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A Central

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 1-7

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 2-8, 10th in county meet

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Alex Craig (Jr.), Javier Gonzalez (So.)

**TOP RETURNING GIRLS:** Emily Gilbertson (Sr.); Leah Whitt (So.), Ursula Santiago (Jr.); Ashley Etgen (Sr.)

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Alex Cartron (Fr.); Gabe Cox (Fr.)

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Bethany Moore (Jr.); Mileika Miki (Sr.); Mallory Gibson (Jr.); Brittany Newman (So.)

### SWIMMERS TO WATCH



Below are 10 swimmers to keep an eye on this season. Statistics are from the 2007-2008 season.

#### BOYS

**JUSTIN VAGTS**  
**Junior, South River**  
 Defending state champion in the 200 and 500 freestyle events

**DANNY QUINN**  
**Senior, St. Mary's**  
 Division I prospect hasn't been beaten in breaststroke for three seasons

**CORT JONES**  
**Junior, South River**  
 Took county titles in 100 and 200 freestyle last winter

**CHARLIE MELESH**  
**Sophomore, Annapolis**  
 Won both 500 freestyle and 200 individual medley events as freshman

**DOUG MCWHORTER**  
**Junior, Broadneck**  
 Medaled in both 200 freestyle and 100 butterfly at 4A/3A states

#### GIRLS

**SARAH LLOYD**  
**Sophomore, Severna Park**  
 Took state title in 100 butterfly with a time of 58.36 seconds

**EMILY LLOYD**  
**Sophomore, Severna Park**  
 Joined sister on state podium with 51.97 clocking at 100 freestyle final

**BRIANNA GRIFFIN**  
**Sophomore, South River**  
 Took county title at 100 breaststroke as freshman

**CAROLINE BURNS**  
**Junior, Severn**  
 Led Admirals to runner-up in IAAM with 2nd place showing at 100 backstroke

**MARY KAY HARRIS**  
**Junior, South River**  
 Top returning swimmer in 4A/3A state 50 freestyle event after 2nd place finish

#### NORTHEAST

**NICKNAME:** Eagles

**COACH:** Maureen McArdle, 1st year

**LEAGUE:** Class 3A/2A Central

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 9th county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 7th county meet (tied with Arundel)

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Marshal Golden (Jr., butterfly, medley); Mark Paul Bois (Sr., freestyle and breaststroke)

**TOP RETURNING GIRLS:** Elise Rubin (Sr., backstroke, freestyle); Rachael Miller (Sr., butterfly, backstroke); Melanee McKenzie (Sr., butterfly); Jamie Meirick Jr., breaststroke, freestyle); Samantha Raeke (Jr., butterfly, distance); Christine Basile (Jr., breaststroke, freestyle).

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Gavin Grimm (So., freestyle, distance); Alexx Bois (Jr., freestyle); Joe Rosenthal (Jr., freestyle, distance).

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Kelsey Bromwell (Fr., backstroke, freestyle); Taylor Jackson (Fr., distance, medley); Carly Seyback (Fr., freestyle).

**OUTLOOK:** First-year head coach Maureen McArdle leads a team with strong young swimmers that hopes to join the county elite after adding former ACC champion Bill Morin to its coaching staff as an assistant. "We're very excited about this season," said McArdle, who has four seniors returning to lead the squad. "We've had a great turnout to fill the roster with some strong young swimmers that will help us develop a very competitive team over the next couple of years."

Bois, Ruden and Miller are team captains, while Golden is expected to be a strong all-around performer for Northeast.

#### NORTH COUNTY

**NICKNAME:** Knights

**COACH:** Jennifer Mermod, 2nd year

**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A North

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 4-6, 10th at county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 3-6-1, 6th at county meet

**TOP BOYS RETURNERS:** Chris de la Garza (Sr., 100 fly, 200 IM); Eric Stinchcomb (Sr., 50 free)

**TOP GIRLS RETURNERS:** Erin Harrington (Sr., 100 fly, 500 free); Holly Morrison (Sr., 100 free)

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Mike Schmidt (Jr., 100 breast, 100 back)

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Jenn Brodie (Sr., 100 breast), Jesse Jones (Fr., 100 freestyle)

**OUTLOOK:** Mermod returns for her second season leading the Knights with a strong group of seniors leading the way and a solid group of underclassmen adding depth in several events.

"I'm extremely pleased with the turnout,"

she said. "The talent of the seniors will be an extremely useful tool to train these upcoming stars."

#### OLD MILL

**NICKNAME:** Patriots

**COACH:** Ellen Hays, 2nd year

**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A North

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 5-5, 7th at county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 6-4, 5th at county meet

**TOP RETURNING BOYS:** Jonathan Reddick (Jr., sprint freestyle); Eric Belton (Jr., back stroke, mid-distance freestyle); Colin Whitaker (So., freestyle, medley).

**TOP RETURNING GIRLS:** Amy Baker (Sr., freestyle); Alex Holmes (Jr., backstroke, freestyle); Laura Squire (So., butterfly, medley).

**TOP NEWCOMING BOYS:** William Houston (Sr., freestyle); Zach Campbell (Fr., backstroke, medley).

**TOP NEWCOMING GIRLS:** Jenna Carr (So., freestyle, medley); Mikaela Greer (Fr., freestyle, medley).

**OUTLOOK:** With its first season as a varsity behind it, Old Mill had a turnout that was good enough to be more selective, which Hays thinks will motivate her swimmers.

"I think all of our swimmers are continuing to improve and we expect many of them to qualify for the states, both individually and with their relays," she said.

Hays believes Reddick will be difficult to top in the sprint freestyle events, while Habib and Walker should score in most of their meets.

Seniors Baker and Neiss will be a big part of the girl's team, while newcomers Carr and Greer continue to improve for the Patriots.

#### SEVERN

**NICKNAME:** Admirals

**COACH:** Tom Heslin, 22nd year (Boys) and Carolyn Cosentino, 2nd year (Girls)

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 4-3, 4-1 MIAA B Conference; B Conference runner-up

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 6-3; 6-1 IAAM B Conference; B Conference runner-up

**TOP BOYS RETURNERS:** Alex Bertrand (100 Free, 100 back); AJ Bruninga (200 IM, 100 fly); Davis Brown (200 free, 500 free); Brian McGarvey (breaststroke); Spencer Martel (freestyle, breaststroke)

**TOP GIRLS RETURNERS:** Caroline Burns (Jr., backstroke, medley); Kendall Farnham (So., 200 free, butterfly); Monica D'Ambrogi (Sr., freestyle, medley); Ellie Winchester (Sr., freestyle).

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Steven Sexaur (Backstroke); George Schuh (Free); Jeff Watson (Free)

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Sarah Bouchard (Fr., breaststroke); Tahni Pierzga (Jr., freestyle, backstroke).

**OUTLOOK:** A veteran squad returns for the MIAA and IAAM B Conference runners-up from last season.

Bertrand leads the way for the boys after taking the B Conference title in the 100 backstroke and second in the 100 freestyle and breaststroke races last year.

"We return 13 swimmers from last year's team, so I think our depth and experience will be a positive factor," Heslin said. "Two teams (Gilman and St. Paul's) move down to the B Conference from the A, so I think the infusion of stronger competition in the league will bring out the best in our swimmers."

For the girls, co-captains Mimi Brown, Emily Kraynak, Emily Viohl and Burns provide good leadership for a team that hopes to continue to challenge with St. Mary's and Spalding for the top spot in the B Conference.

"We've had more time in the pool and are swimming better than we were last year," Cosentino said. "The girls are working hard and showing a lot of progress."

#### SEVERNA PARK

**NICKNAME:** Falcons

**COACH:** Mike McTammany, 1st year.

**LEAGUE:** Class 4A/3A North

**LAST YEAR'S BOYS RECORD:** 10-0, 2nd at county meet

**LAST YEAR'S GIRLS RECORD:** 10-0, 1st at county meet; 4A/3A North region champions; 4A/3A state champions

**TOP BOYS RETURNERS:** Josh Heying (Sr., freestyle); Zach Griffin (Jr., freestyle); Kevin Heying (So., butterfly, medley); Brennan Knight (Jr., freestyle, butterfly); Kyle VanDillen (So., freestyle, breaststroke).

**TOP GIRLS RETURNERS:** Emily Lloyd (So., freestyle, backstroke); Sarah Lloyd (So., butterfly, breaststroke); Katherine Kline (So., freestyle, medley); Laura Beigel (Jr., breaststroke, medley); Melissa Cropper (So., backstroke, medley); Valerie Cosgrove (So., breaststroke, butterfly); Mary Miller (So., backstroke).

**TOP BOYS NEWCOMERS:** Colin Heil (Fr., freestyle, backstroke); Jared Griffin (So., breaststroke); Matt Ragan (Fr., backstroke); Sean Brant (Fr., breaststroke); Chris Praley (Fr., butterfly, medley).

**TOP GIRLS NEWCOMERS:** Katie Blunt (Fr., breaststroke); Allie Cahill (Fr., freestyle); Leah Hayes (So., freestyle); Colleen Finnegan (Fr., backstroke); Kelsey Urban (Fr., backstroke, medley); Sarah Howard (Fr., butterfly).

**OUTLOOK:** McTammany, an 18-year veteran of the Severn River Swim Club and SPY swimming, inherits a talented team that won the girls county,