

Thursday, December 27, 2012

SCENE AT THE CROSSROADS

Here's three splashy cheers for these very special swimmers

Dana Martin was once again "Johnny-on-the-spot," emailing me the results of the Special Olympians' Dec. 16 State Swim Meet in Columbus immediately upon her return.



Bev DeWitt

What's neat about these results is the fact that several of these extraordinary athletes earned more than one award for being so skillful in the pool, as you will notice as you continue reading.

Gold medalists were **Arielle Brown, Branyon Heffley, Gary Manning, William Norris, Amy Smolko, Frank Zachlin** and **Nate Zatezalo**. Silvers were won by **Meghan Drops, Sarah Greene, Branyon Heffley, Corrie Miller, Liz Mulhan, Jessie Wilson** and **Frank Zachlin**. Bringing home bronze were **Sarah Greene, Lisa Skinner** and **Amy Smith**. Fourth-place finishers were **Arielle Brown, Theresa Buzzelli, William Norris, Lisa Skinner** and **Nate Zatezalo**; fifth-place earned by **Jacob D'Orazio** and sixth-placers were **Theresa Buzzelli, Corrie Miller** and **Jessie Wilson**.

High fives to all of you, gals and guys! It's amazing how the majority of you fine athletes participate year-round in the various sporting events. I'm sure each of you have your favorites, yet no matter what, you still give your very best competing in all of them. I compliment you on the stamina and the enthusiasm you display throughout the entire year!

Here's also a round of applause from Dana and the athletes for the dedicated coaches: **Laura Brown, Debbie Yarwood** and **Joe and Tammie Costa**. And, of course, a loud one to the members of the Strongsville City Club for continuing to be the main sponsor for all of the Special Olympic teams throughout the year.

The next sport on the SO schedule is basketball, beginning Jan. 6. If anyone's interested, give Dana a jingle at 440-572-1353, OK?