

Freshmen star for Cougars, Lions in pool

Written by Jim Ecker

Tuesday, 03 September 2013 22:02 - Last Updated Tuesday, 03 September 2013 23:29



Brooke Timmerman, a talented freshman, drives 20 miles every day from Atkins to Cedar Rapids so she can attend Kennedy High School and swim for the Cougars.

Jennifer Jenks, another freshman, has been known as "Stephanie's Little Sister" much of her life, but she's another talented member of the family and a top-notch swimmer for the Linn-Mar Lions.

The two ninth graders grabbed the headlines Tuesday night as Kennedy trimmed Linn-Mar, 110-76, in a Mississippi Valley Conference meet at the Kennedy pool.

Timmerman lives in the Benton Community school district, but the Bobcats do not have a swimming team. She has a school driver's permit and happily commutes to northeast Cedar Rapids every day, although she's still getting accustomed to a bigger school.

"It's scary," she said. "There are so many people and it's hard to get through the halls. I avoid crowds of people and take the back route."

Timmerman took the front route in the pool Tuesday and captured the 200 individual medley and 100 breaststroke. She also swam on the triumphant 200 medley relay.

Jenks won three events for Linn-Mar. She took the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke and swam a

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strong anchor on the victorious 400 freestyle relay.



Jennifer Jenks is proud of her sister, who won the state cross country title last fall as a freshman and is one of the top young triathletes in the country, but Jennifer would like to establish her own identity in sports.

"Yeah, it is hard following in her footsteps sometimes," Jennifer said. "You hear about her all the time. I want to be known, too."

Stephanie Jenks was a double-winner for the Lions on Tuesday, claiming the 100 freestyle and swimming the first leg of the 400 freestyle relay.

Like her sister, Jennifer also competes in triathlons. And like her sister, she's also an accomplished runner, although both girls are skipping the cross country season this fall.

"She's good at running — better than me at running, I guess — and I'm better at swimming, but it kind of evens it out," said Jennifer. "It makes it fun."

The Jenks sisters bear a striking facial similarity, but Jennifer is a little taller. "People mistake her for me, or me for her sometimes," said Jennifer.

Kennedy and Linn-Mar split the 12 events, but the Cougars won the meet with superior depth. Timmerman set the pace in the breaststroke, which is her speciality. She won youth titles in the breaststroke and looked strong Tuesday.

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"I was 7 when I joined my first swim team," she said.

She's liked the sport from an early age.



"I like how everyone is a family when you're on a team," she said. "And I like practices, because you can push yourself and you feel good afterwards."

Timmerman is glad to be a new member of the Kennedy swimming family, because it's helped her adjust to the new school. "I didn't know anyone until I started swimming," she said. "I have a lot of close friends now."

Taylor Golden, Kirsten Siebenga and Sam Jacobsen were double-winners for Kennedy. Kelly W
ingerson
won two events for Linn-Mar.

KENNEDY 110, LINN-MAR 76

200 MEDLEY RELAY

1. Kennedy (Maddie Bagby, Brooke Timmerman, Taylor Golden, Kirsten Siebenga) 1:55.92

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2. Linn-Mar (Jen Jenks, Paige Broghammer, Samantha Fitzgerald, Kelly Wingerson) 1:56.37

3. Kennedy (Kennedy Smith, Larkyn Aldrich, Michele Wasta, Brooke Harris) 1:59.93

200 FREESTYLE

1. Sam Jacobsen (CRK) 2:00.40

2. Stephanie Jenks (LM) 2:01.34

3. Lydia Yang (CRK) 2:07.77

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

1. Brooke Timmerman (CRK) 2:19.04

2. Samantha Fitzgerald (LM) 2:23.23

3. Taylor Golden (CRK) 2:30.21

50 FREESTYLE

1. Jen Jenks (LM) 24.69

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2. Kirsten Siebenga (CRK) 25.91

3. Hannah Botkin (CRK) 25.96

DIVING

1. Alyssa Deuso (LM) 189.35

2. Mikaela Lengwin (LM) 186.05

3. Courtney Fisher (CRK) 170.95

100 BUTTERFLY

1. Michele Wasta (CRK) 1:04.16

2. Samantha Fitzgerald (LM) 1:04.24

3. Taylor Golden (CRK) 1:06.32

100 FREESTYLE

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1. Stephanie Jenks (LM) 56.72

2. Kirsten Siebenga (CRK) 57.60

3. Hannah Botkin (CRK) 57.71

500 FREESTYLE

1. Kelly Wingerson (LM) 5:44.42

2. Katie Ferguson (CRK) 5:44.61

3. Abby Krueger (CRK) 5:50.49

200 FREESTYLE RELAY

1. Kennedy (Hannah Botkin, Sam Jacobsen, Lydia Yang, Kirsten Siebenga) 1:42.80

2. Linn-Mar (Stephanie Jenks, Paige Broghammer, Kelly Wingerson, Samantha Fitzgerald)
1:45.95

3. Kennedy (Brooke Timmerman, Brooke Harris, Megan Berst, Michele Wasta) 1:48.46

100 BACKSTROKE

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1. Jen Jenks (LM) 1:00.92

2. Sam Jacobsen (CRK) 1:03.70

3. Maddie Bagby (CRK) 1:06.91

100 BREASTSTROKE

1. Brooke Timmerman (CRK) 1:09.86

2. Larkyn Aldrich (CRK) 1:15.68

3. Paige Broghammer (LM) 1:15.95

400 FREESTYLE RELAY

1. Linn-Mar (Stephanie Jenks, Hailey Harms, Kelly Wingerson, Jen Jenks) 3:46.26

2. Kennedy (Hannah Botkin, Lydia Yang, Maddie Bagby, Sam Jacobsen) 3:50.52

3. Kennedy (Katie Ferguson, Taylor Golden, Abby Krueger, Megan Berst) 4:08.17