

Dear Prospective Slugs, Parents, and Supporters;

FIRST!!!! Recruits, make sure that you all apply by November 31. If you miss that date, you can not get into school. You can do it on-line if you have not done so.

We have returned from Speedo Cup and have jumped back into our final 4-5 weeks of hard training. Starting in late December we get into our Power/Speed cycle.(More on that in later newsletters.)

The team was given a couple days rest heading into Speedo Cup. We try to put pressure on the team to swim fast, not by giving them a lot of rest, but by trying to make sure they are in pretty good shape for this time of year. The swimmers responded pretty well. We achieved three additional b-cuts for NCAA's

Lauren Smith 5:03:98 Currently ranked 1st in D.III 500 free
17:34.93 1650 free Currently ranked 2nd in DIII 1650

In addition Lauren broke the school record in the 1000 going out in the 1650, at 10:34.04
Mollie Lewis 1:07.57 Currently ranks in the 100 breast, to go along with her ranking in the 200 breast.

I have included the team scores on the next page. You will notice that the women's team finished ahead of Loyola-Marymount, and Pepperdine University. Both are Division I schools in our conference. Now we have to do it again at conference. Both teams have very strong divers and we will need to swim even better to make up the diving points. Our Divers are also improving at a fast rate, so maybe we can get more help there. We were a little behind University of San Diego, also a Division I school who recently moved to the WAC conference and will not be at our conference championships.

The Men's team finished 6th in a very strong field. The Slug men finished 2 points ahead of UC Davis, which is now a fully funded Division I team. (I should point out that UC Davis did not swim the final night. We knew they were leaving early and made it a point to close the gap. We had a very good third night which included about a dozen swims in the finals and we were able to move ahead of them in the final event). *Success is when preparedness meets opportunity*. We have never finished ahead of UC Davis at Speedo Cup. So, when we they gave us an opportunity, I was glad that we were prepared.

As many of you are aware, it is just now starting to become crunch time. You have to decide how many schools you will apply to, where you might fit into the swim team, if it is a good school, can you afford the schools you want, and is it a place you want to spend the next two to four years. You will be going through what thousands of other high school seniors and transfer students are going through. It is not uncommon to change your mind dozens of times. What you want to do right now is keep your options open. Any schools that you think you may end up at, make sure that you apply. Once you are accepted to various schools (or not) it will help in your decision. Even is the possibility is remote, apply. Many schools are like UCSC. If you miss the application date, then there is not much that can be done.

Since we have quite a few recruits I am asking **that if you do not apply, please drop me a letter or e-mail and let me know**. That way I can take you off our list. I am trying to avoid making cuts next year so that means that I want to communicate with you. It is important that we know how many spots will be available and how many swimmers want those spots. As always, if you have any questions call or e-mail.

Kim Musch
UCSC Swimming and Diving