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## Aquajets swimmer Rachel Bootsma achieves U.S. Olympic Trial qualifying time

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Six members of the Eden Prairie-based Aquajets Swim Team competed in the 2008 Junior National Swim Meet during the week of March 17th in Orlando, Fla.

The Junior Nationals brings together the top 18-and-under swimmers from throughout the U.S. All participants must achieve a qualifying time standard.

Katie Bootsma (15), Rachel Bootsma (14), Van Donkersgoed (14), Taylor Foster (15), Nicki Solberg (17) and Stephanie Solfelt (17) achieved qualifying times and participated along with 1,400 swimmers.

Rachel Bootsma broke five state records and Donkersgoed shattered two state marks.

Rachel Bootsma achieved an Olympic Trial qualifying time in the 100-meter backstroke. She also won the 50 backstroke.

Rachel Bootsma will compete in the U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials June 29 to July 6 in Omaha, Neb.

Top two finishers in each event will make the U.S. Olympic team.

"It is an unbelievable accomplishment to achieve a qualifying time at only age 14 like Rachel Bootsma did," said Aquajets head coach Kate Lundsten.

Aquajets swimmers excelled at the 13-and-over Minnesota State Swim Championships March 13-16 at the University of Minnesota.

Thirty Aquajets swimmers achieved state qualifying times.

Aquajets swimmers won eight individual events and three relays.

Katie Bootsma won the 100 backstroke in her age group. Rachel Bootsma claimed a state record in the 200 individual medley.

Meghan Cummings placed first in the 100 freestyle. Donkersgoed won the 200 IM.

Mitchell Foster finished first in the 200 backstroke and Solfelt was a winner in the 100 backstroke.

Connor Weisse placed first in the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke events.

Rachel Bootsma, Cummings, Julia Withers and Bailey Brown combined to win the 200 medley relay.

Cummings, Withers, Brown and Rachel Bootsma took first in the 200 freestyle relay.

Member of the winning 200 medley relay were Weisse, Foster, Michael Solfelt and Eric Sirjord.

Aquajets swimmers participated and won the state age group championships title March 7-9 in Rochester.

Aquajets swimmers broke nine state records in the meet.

Bryce Boston set a record in the 100 butterfly with a time of 56.95 seconds. He competed in the 11-12 age group.

Olivia Anderson broke records in the 50 and 100 breaststroke events with respective times of 32.32 and 1:10.77.

Anderson, Courtney Evensen, Kaia Grobe and Bre Thorne posted state record times in the 200 freestyle and

200 medley relay events.

The 400 medley relay of Evensen, Kendal Jacobus, Emma Paulson and Kira Zubar won with a record time.

Evensen, Katie Hickey, Jacobus and Paulson set a record in the 200 medley relay.

Evensen, Carolyn Kane, Paulson and Zubar broke a state record in the 200 freestyle relay.

Another state mark was broken in the 400 freestyle relay with a cast of Evensen, Jacobus, Paulson and Zubar.

Winning a state championship was the 10-and-under boys 200 freestyle relay of Will Holmgren, Mac Brown, Charlie Markusen and Spencer Sathre.

Individual state champions were Alyssa Phelps (50 breaststroke), Toad Lively (50 backstroke, 50 breaststroke, 50 butterfly), Spencer Sathre (50 and 100 butterfly), Thorne (100 butterfly), Anderson (50 and 100 breaststroke) and Boston (50 and 100 butterfly, 50 and 100 backstroke, 200 IM).

-Compiled by Greg Kleven

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