

# Boys swim team finishes first in home opener



*Louisburg senior Cole Brown swims the breaststroke during last Monday's home meet in Osawatomie. The Miami County finished first out of six teams.*

OSAWATOMIE – It was certainly a successful home opener for the Osawatomie-Paola-Louisburg boys swim team last Monday in Osawatomie.

The Miami County team finished first in the team standings with 278 points, out of six teams. Topeka-Hayden was second with 205.

In all, the OZ-PA0-LOU team won five events and captured several top five finishes.

“It was extremely satisfying to win at home and put forth a solid team effort,” coach Mary Argeropoulos said.

They started on a strong note with a win in the 200-yard medley relay. Brayton Brueggen, Braden Branine, Remington Rice and Cooper Hipp took first going away in 1 minute and 59.53 seconds.

Brueggen later went on to win the 200 freestyle in 2:14 and Luke Hebert was second. Cole Brown followed it up with a victory in the 200 individual medley in 2:26.



***Louisburg junior Brayton Brueggen swims the freestyle last Monday in Osawatomie.***

Rice finished runner-up in the 50 freestyle in 25.46, while Hipp and Sam Johnson were fourth and fifth, respectively.

Johnson went on to win the 100 butterfly in 1:03, Rice was second at 1:08 and Drake Burdine was fourth. Burdine also took second in the 100 backstroke in 1:22.

Brown and Hipp finished second and third, respectively, in the 100 freestyle and Drake Baus took fifth. Branine later took third in the 100 breaststroke in 1:14.

In the relays, Johnson, Burdine, Hebert and Rice won the 400 freestyle in 4:03, while the team of Hipp, Brueggen, Hebert and Johnson took second in the 200 freestyle in 1:44. Baus, Colton Prettyman, Evan Retinger and Brown were third in the 200 freestyle.

It has been a successful year so far for the Miami County team as they have three of the top times in the state according to the Kansas State High School Activities Association.



***Louisburg senior Remington Rice swims the butterfly last Monday in Osawatomie.***

The 400 freestyle relay has the 14th best time in the state, while 200 freestyle relay and 200 medley really are currently 20th in Class 5-1A.

OZ-PAO-LOU are coming off a pair of outings where it had success on the road.

On Dec. 8, the team traveled to Topeka for the Hayden Invitational and left with a third place team finish with 274 points. Washburn Rural won with 468 and Piper was second with 350.

The 200 freestyle relay highlighted the meet with a second place finish as the team of Rice, Hebert, Hipp and Johnson recorded a time of 1:43.

Brueggen took fourth in the 500-yard freestyle and fifth in the 100 backstroke. Brueggen also helped the 200 medley relay of Brown, Rice and Johnson to a fourth place finish.

Brown also took fifth in the 200 individual medley and helped Baus, Hipp and Brueggen to a fourth place finish in the 400 freestyle relay.

The team is back in action at home on Jan. 19 for its first action in 2022.