

PREP ROUNDUP



File photo by Mark Justesen

Homestead competes at WIAA Div. 1 state swimming and diving meet

WAUKESHA — Homestead sent two athletes to the WIAA Div. 1 girls state swimming and diving championships Saturday at Waukesha South High School.

Senior diver Lauren Van Vooren took her turn first, sitting on the edge of medal consideration throughout the meet before finishing in eighth place with a score of 407.25 points. Germantown senior Kristina Wittmann took first place with 461.80 points, while Van Vooren finished 20 points behind Arrowhead's Annie Frederickson for the final medal, as the senior scored 427.00.

Van Vooren was just two points behind Frederickson after the preliminary round and moved up to seventh after the semifinals, just four points out of the final awards position.

Homestead sophomore Amy Hu competed in the 100-yard breaststroke, taking 14th place with a time of 1 minute, 6.15 seconds.

Brookfield East senior Lucy Thomas won the race with a state meet record time of 58.89 seconds, breaking her own record which she set last year.

Homestead senior Lauren Van Vooren dives at a meet during the season. On Saturday, she took eighth at the WIAA Div. 1 state meet.



Submitted photo

Grafton seniors Libby Michel, left, and Maranda Uttke, right, pose with their first-place medals after taking first place in their respective events Friday at the WIAA Div. 2 state championship meet.

Grafton: Duo goes out as state champions

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up on the podium was really special, just being able to feel the excitement in the pool and get my motivation up for the rest of my races that night."

As for the race itself, Michel was closer to the state record of 2:03.00 set by Shorewood's Rachel Munson than Bloom was to winning the race.

"I was pretty happy with my performance in that race," she said about her championship swim. "I really just went into this meet wanting to have fun and to just be grateful that I've had this opportunity to race at my last state meet."

That was the second of four events for Michel. She was back in the water a few events later to swim the 500 freestyle. The University of Cincinnati recruit was back on the podium after that race, taking third with a time of 4:57.87. She battled Whitefish Bay senior Casey Stephens for second place in that event, with her Ozaukee Aquatics teammate holding her off with a time of 4:56.60.

"My 500 went really well and I was happy

with getting third, behind one of my club teammates, Casey Stephens," Michel said. "It was a lot of fun being able to swim and race next to her. We really pushed each other and we were both really happy with our times in that race."

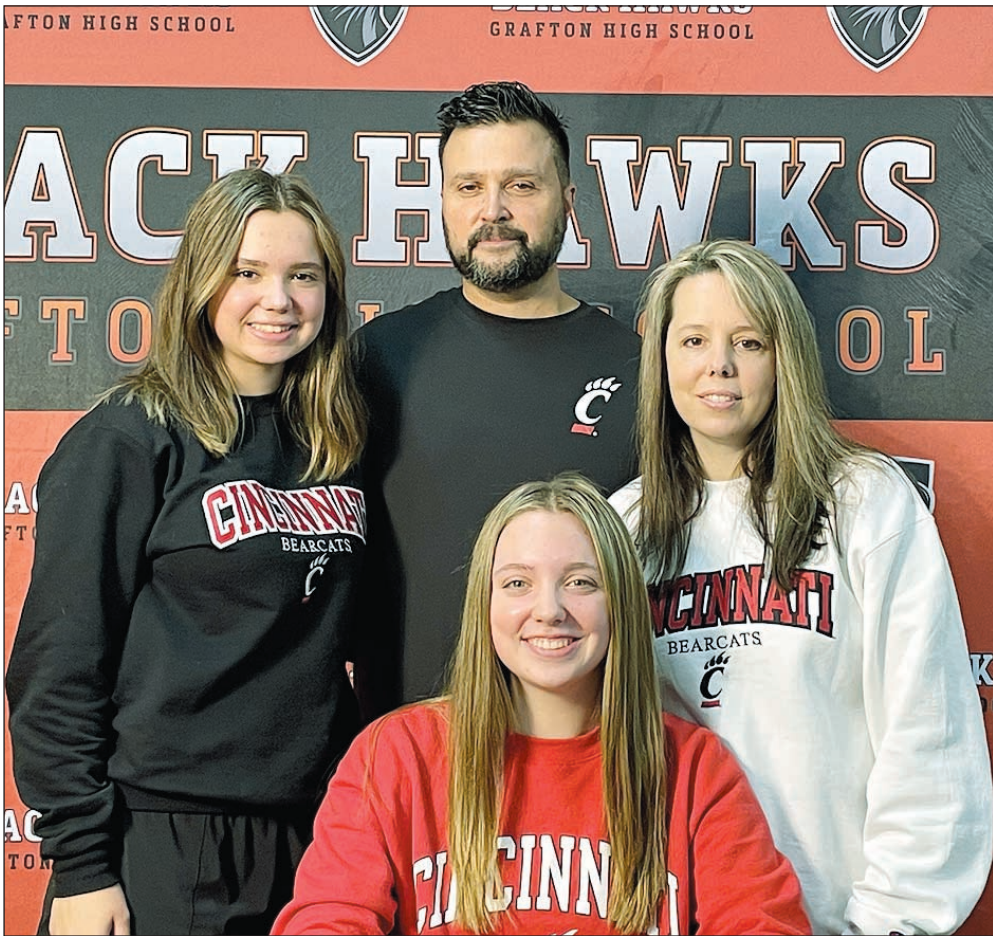
Michel had one more swim in her prep career, and that came in the 200 free relay, along with her sister, Lola, and the Grimms.

They took 13th place with a time of 1:43.07, but it was about more than where they finished.

"I went into it just trying to have fun on my last race of the night," Libby Michel explained. "I think I ended my High School Swim career off well with that relay finish."

Halle Grimm then finished her time in black and orange in the 100 backstroke, posting a solid time of 58.22 to take eighth place.

As a team, Grafton finished in 12th place with 75 points. Edgewood won the team championship in commanding fashion, scoring 350 points. North Shore Conference champion Whitefish Bay claimed second place, with 167 points, edging out Ashwaubenon (166 points) for silver.



Submitted photo

Grafton senior Michel commits to Bearcats

Grafton High School swimming standout Libby Michel, seated in the middle, committed to the University of Cincinnati during a recent ceremony. The Black Hawks' senior won the WIAA Div. 2 state championship in the 200-yard individual medley over the weekend. She is shown, standing from left, with her sister Lola, father Alec and mother Nicky.



File photo by Mark Justesen

Grafton senior Maranda Uttke performs a dive earlier in the season. On Friday, she won the WIAA Div. 2 state diving championship at Waukesha South High School.

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