

Matt Turk
Sports Information Director
Simpson College
701 North C Street
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Phone: (515) 961-1577
Fax: (515) 961-1279
E-Mail: matt.turk@simpson.edu



Feb. 25, 2008

www.simpson.edu/storm

Storm Scoreboard 0-5, 0-3 IIAC

Date	Meet	Time/Result
Oct. 27	at Coe*	L, 133-60
Oct. 27	#Luther*	L, 195-25
Nov. 17	Loras*	L, 110-46
Dec. 8	at Morningside	L, 89-65
Dec. 8	%Neb.-Kearney	L, 104-79
Jan. 12	at Morningside Open	NTS
Feb. 1-2	at IIAC Championships	4th, 166
Feb. 21-23	at Liberal Arts Championships	10th, 130

#at Coe

*IIAC Dual

%at Morningside

Simpson Swimming Season Complete

STORM REWIND: Simpson finished 10th (130) at the Liberal Arts Championships Feb. 21-23 in Elsah, Ill. Luther (1,948) won the meet.

Kirsten Towne (Jr., Gowrie, Iowa, Prairie Valley H.S.) finished 10th in the butterfly (1:06.92), 15th in the 50 freestyle (:26.96), and 15th in the 100 freestyle (:59.77). Her time in the butterfly is a new school record.

Melody Burgus (Jr., Des Moines, Iowa, Hoover H.S.) placed 12th in the 200 freestyle (2:10.19).

Chelsy Croson (Jr., Newton, Iowa, Newton H.S.) was 14th in the 200 breaststroke (2:54.86), and 15th in the 100 breaststroke (1:21.99).

Stacy Sturlaugson (Fr., Crystal, Minn., Robbinsdale Cooper H.S.) was 15th in the 1650 freestyle (24:34.72).

Claudia Swanson (Fr., Fridley, Minn., Fridley H.S.) finished 16th in the 100 butterfly (1:16.55).

The 200 medley relay of Burgus, **Abby Weers** (Fr., Anamosa, Iowa, Anamosa H.S.), Croson, and Towne finished eighth in a time of 2:11.59.

The 400 freestyle relay of Sturlaugson, Burgus, **Jessica Paulsen** (Sr., Salix, Iowa, Westwood H.S.), and Swanson finished eighth (4:30.59).

The 800 freestyle relay of Swanson, Burgus, Paulsen, and Sturlaugson placed eighth (10:07.00)

The 200 freestyle relay of Towne, Weers, Sturlaugson, and Croson came in ninth with a time of 1:58.43.

The 400 medley relay of Paulsen, Weers, Towne, and Croson were ninth as the team posted a time of 4:58.15.

THE COACH: Mark Wagner is in his second season as head coach at Simpson. Wagner came to the Storm from West Des Moines Valley High School. Wagner began his coaching career in 1967 at Valley and from 1967-1986 he served as the head boys and girls swimming coach. After taking a four-year break, Wagner returned to the Tigers' program in 1990 and again served as the head boys and girls swimming coach until 2003. He was the boys swim coach at Valley from 2003-2006.

During his 35-year career on the prep level, Wagner led Valley to three state championships (girls in 1974 and 1975; boys in 1984). He was selected Iowa State Coach of the Year five times (1971, 1973, 1975, 1984, and 2000) and coached 24 individual and relay state champions. His Valley boys and girls teams earned more state runner-up placings than any other team on the high school level. The only active coach that is in the Iowa High School Swimming Coaches Hall of Fame, Wagner saw one of his former swimmers, Craig Oppel, earn an Olympic Gold Medal at the 1988 Seoul Olympic games (4x200m relay). Oppel set a national high school record in the 200 yard freestyle in 1985 that stood for six years. Wagner also served as the Swimming Director for the Iowa Special Olympics from 1974-1994.

Currently Wagner is undergoing treatment for Multiple Myeloma, a cancer of the plasma cell. The plan is for Wagner to return to the program in December.

During his treatment, Amanda Rigg, a former Simpson letterwinner, will run the program as the interim Head Coach. Rigg as a three-year letterwinner for the Storm (2003-06) before graduating in 2007. Rigg was a member of the President's List at Simpson. Since 2005, Rigg has served as an assistant coach for Indianola High School.

You can follow Wagner's progress online at <http://www.caringbridge.org/markwagner1>

2007-2008 Bests	*School Record		
Event	Time	Meet	Name
50 Freestyle	:26.78	Liberal Arts	Kirsten Towne
100 Freestyle	:59.77	Liberal Arts	Kirsten Towne
100 Backstroke	1:17.01	Liberal Arts	Jessica Paulsen
200 Backstroke	2:47.51	IIAC	Jessica Paulsen
100 Breaststroke	1:21.99	Liberal Arts	Chelsey Croson
200 Breaststroke	2:54.56	Liberal Arts	Chelsey Croson
100 Butterfly	1:06.92*	Liberal Arts	Kirsten Towne
100 Freestyle	1:02.47	IIAC	Kirsten Towne
200 Freestyle	2:10.19	Liberal Arts	Melody Burgus
500 Freestyle	5:53.96	Morningside/Kearney	Melody Burgus
1650 Freestyle	20:18.30	IIAC	Melody Burgus
200 IM	2:34.38	Liberal Arts	Melody Burgus
200 Freestyle Relay	1:57.95	IIAC	Towne, Weers, Croson, Burgus
400 Freestyle Relay	4:30.59	Liberal Arts	Sturlaugson, Burgus, Paulsen, Swanson
800 Freestyle Relay	10:07.00	Liberal Arts	Swanson, Burgus, Paulsen, Sturlaugson
200 Medley Relay	2:11.59	Liberal Arts	Burgus, Weers, Croson, Towne
400 Medley Relay	4:58.15	Liberal Arts	Paulsen, Weers, Towne, Croson