

Media Alert

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M.E. Lyons YMCA/ Anderson Barracudas Swim Team Wins State Championship

For the second consecutive year, the M.E. Lyons YMCA/Anderson Barracuda swim team came home with a first place trophy at the Ohio Swimming Open Water State Championships. Nearly 400 swimmers from Northern Kentucky and Ohio (south of Cleveland) participated in the races.

In addition to the overall championship, Molly Hazelbaker, 14, a freshman at Turpin High School, placed first in the 13/14 age division. Anita Beck, 19, a recent graduate of Anderson High School, placed first in the 15 and over division. The team's 13/14 girls division and 15 and over girls division also placed first in relay competitions.

The Anderson swim team has had great success in training athletes to compete at their very best. Two current M.E. Lyons YMCA/Anderson Barracudas members – Nathan Butler, a 2008 Turpin High School graduate, and Kasey Carpenter, a 2006 Christian Hills Academy High School graduate –qualified for Olympic Trials.

With more than 83,000 members across the Tri-State, the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati has grown to operate 111 program child care, CincyAfterSchool, and 21st Century Community Learning sites in addition to its 17 branches and summer camp locations. The Association is the largest non-governmental, non-profit community services organization in this area that is committed to helping everyone reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind, and body – regardless of their ability to pay. Each year tens of thousands of people from children to seniors are able to participate in YMCA programs and services because of financial assistance, including health and wellness, active older adult programs, youth and teen camp, swimming and water safety lessons, teen achievers, college readiness, and job preparedness. In 2007, nearly 10,000 kids participated with YMCA scholarships. The annual Strong Kids Campaign helps make that possible.

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