

4.14.03

Today is the first day of competition and it has been incredible! This morning in prelims our whole team swam exceptionally well. We started off with outstanding swim by Elizabeth Reynolds (hint hint me!!) in the 500 free. We also had two others swim this event and one, John Scott, will be swimming in finals in about 5 minutes. **Go Penguin!!** Following the 500 our two backstrokers dropped time and Ceyhan Gular, a Turkish foreign exchange student, is in finals tonight. The 200 I.M. is one of our team's strongest events today. Three out of the five swimmers made it back to swim tonight. Out of which, was our only girl to final today (but she isn't the only girl who will final from our team this meet, let me tell ya!!). Along with this we had two 50 freestylers both drop time. Our most exciting event today was definitely our mens 200-medley relay who are seated first for finals tonight, **GO BOYS!!!!!!** That pretty much sums up the morning session, and y'all can tell how awesome it has been for our team already (and its only the first day).

Tonight, as we all know, was opening ceremonies. This is the second best part of the meet (closely following swimming fast). Our team, Competitive Swim Alabama, represented respect and had to dress in yellow. Our boys dress in black suits with yellow ties and shoes, they were so cute! We wore black dresses with yellow boas and gloves, we didn't look to shabby ourselves!! As we talked with different team before the ceremony started, we realized the diversity of the different teams. For example, we, being from Alabama, chose to say "y'all" when, on the other hand, those from say...Wisconsin chose "yous guys". Yet, we enjoy talking with these different teams because they are different from our small southeastern section (who all chose to say "y'all").

We are looking forward to the rest of the week, and some more fast swims! Good luck y'all!!!!

Elizabeth Reynolds & Aimee Hukill

Competitive Swim Alabama/Montgomery YMCA Barracudas