

MEMO

To: Mike Riggle

Fr: Jenn Nimke

Re: Students and Staff Who Excel

Date: January, 14 2013

At the meeting on January 14, 2013, we will honor the GBS girls swimming and diving team of Amanda Browder, Bailey Moynihan, Katie Iida, Sarah Grieve, Niki Wells, Kelly Cordes, Kimmy Durkin, Katie Wells and Olivia Smoliga for their 4th place finish during the state meet the weekend of November 16-18.

GBS qualified four events for the finals and earned state championships in every event. Additionally, GBS set state records in these events.

Smoliga became the first American girls' high school swimmer ever to swim under 22 seconds in the 50 freestyle, and her time of 21.99 was not only a new IHSA state record but also a national record. Her state championship swim in the 100 backstroke also set a new state and national record with a time of 51.43.

The GBS 200 freestyle relay team of Smoliga, Moynihan, Niki Wells, and Katie Wells earned a 1st place state medal and also set a new IHSA state record with a time of 1:32.98. The GBS 400 freestyle relay team of Katie Wells, Cordes, Moynihan and Smoliga also swam to a state championship 1st place finish in a state record time of 3:24.50.

Also, it should be noted that following the state meet Smoliga traveled to Istanbul, Turkey to represent the United States in the FINA Short Course World Swimming Championships.

On December 13, after qualifying 7th for the 100M Backstroke final, Smoliga beat second place Mie Oestergaard Nielsen of Denmark by nearly half a second with a time of 56.64 seconds and earned the title of world champion. She is now the second-fastest American, behind only Natalie Coughlin (55.97), and ahead of USA Olympian Missy Franklin (56.73), according to the Chicago Tribune.

Smoliga also earned a bronze medal in the USA's 4x100 Medley Relay Team, which finished third behind Denmark and Australia, a silver medal in the 50M Backstroke final and broke the American record in the 50M Backstroke with her time of 26.13

