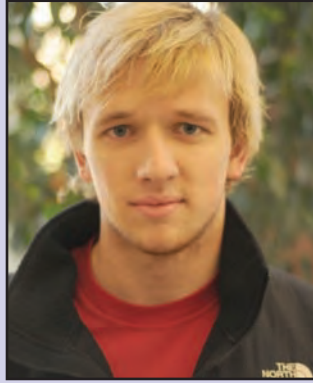




# Athletes of the Week



## Michael Smigelski

*Southington High School boys swimming*

**Class:** Senior  
**Reason:** Won four individual races and as a member of four relays to help the Knights to a pair of wins.

Mike Smigelski doesn't spend too much time in the pool. Sure, he practices. He competes in more varsity races than anyone else, but spends little time in the water. His races are over too fast.

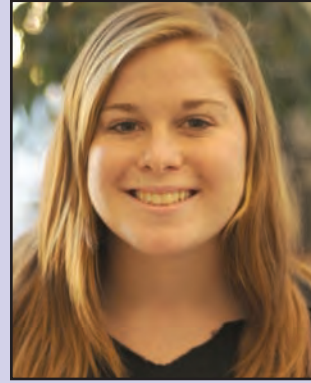
The Knights won twice last week, and Smigelski was a big reason. He won four individual races and four relays. His margin of victory was more than five seconds per race, but that's nothing new.

"You put him in the anchor for a relay, and that's it. You put him out front, and you know you're going to get a lead," said Coach Evan Tuttle. "That's pivotal in those races, and it's something that Mike's been able to do for us consistently for a number of years now."

Tuttle put his star in 'a class above the rest,' and few coaches disagree. Smigelski has qualified for states in just about every event. He's a sure win, but doesn't like to take credit.

"One person doesn't win a meet," he said. "We have so many guys this year and so many more people that are putting in the effort. I definitely don't look at it as if I'm the one winning the meet. I'm just a small piece of this puzzle that we have. I take a lot of pride, but it's all up to them. They won the meet. I just helped."

We disagree.  
*For her outstanding athletic accomplishments, Smigelski is our highlighted female athlete of the week.*



## Susie Marcoux

*Southington High School boys swimming*

**Class:** Junior  
**Reason:** Competed in three individual races and two relays to help the Knights win twice last week.

Susie Marcoux reached over her shoulder and dragged herself across the pool. The crowd was screaming. Her teammates were waving her on. Marcoux was in third place in the backstroke, but she was beating everybody from East Hartford.

It's nothing new for Marcoux. Coaches have to take her into consideration when they fill out their line-ups. Boys have to check their egos when they line up against the Southington

girl. For three years, Marcoux has proven that she's just one of the boys.

"She's become a fixture in our program, and people know that she's here to compete," said Blue Knight swim coach Evan Tuttle. "They know what she can do, and her work ethic is unmatched by almost anybody else. She turns in an incredible workout. It shows in the meets, and she's become someone that we can depend upon."

In two contests last

week, Marcoux battled in five events. She placed third in the 100 backstroke, fourth in the 500 freestyle, and swam the first leg in the 200 medley relay where Southington claimed second place.

"It's her consistency," said Tuttle. "We've been looking for those rocks. We've been looking for consistent swimmers, and that's what Susie has been."

*For her outstanding athletic accomplishments, Marcoux is our highlighted female athlete of the week.*

### TOP MALE PERFORMANCES

• **Alex Borofsky, SHS boys basketball team:**  
 Scored 43 points in two games last week with 17 rebounds, 7 steals, and a pair of blocked shots.

• **Austin Sullivan, SHS wrestling team:**  
 Took just 10 seconds to score a pin during a 40-21 victory over Newington on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

### TOP FEMALE PERFORMANCES

• **Erika Florian, SHS ski racing team:**  
 Completed two runs at Mt. Southington in 51.19 seconds to place fourth out of 89 skiers at a CISL race.

• **Danielle Charamut, SHS girls basketball team:**  
 Scored 20 points in two games last week, including 13 points in a 44-36 win over Simsbury on Jan. 17.

## The week ahead in Southington sports

*Unforeseen schedule changes or weather conditions may cause a change in the schedule. You may call (860) 628-3229, ext. 425 to check the status of a contest. For afternoon contests, call after 1:30 p.m. and for evening contests, call after 4:30 p.m.*

### FRIDAY

Boys Basketball at Newington (FR-3:45, JV-5:30, V-7:00). Boys Swimming and Diving at Plainville (VIJV-4:00). Girls Basketball vs. Newington (FR-3:45, JV-5:30, V-7:00).

### SATURDAY

Ice Hockey at Newington-Berlin (V-8:30 @ Newington Arena). Wrestling at Mass-Conn Fusion (V-7:00 @ SHS).

### MONDAY

Ski Racing at Team CT Shootout (V-4:00 @ Mt. Southington ski area).

### TUESDAY

Boys Basketball vs. Conard (JV-5:30, V-7:00). Girls Basketball at Conard (JV-5:30, V-7:00).

### WEDNESDAY

Ice Hockey at Rocky Hill-RHAM-Middletown (V-Champions Skating Center, Cromwell). Boys Swimming vs. Farmington (VIJV-3:45 @ Southington YMCA). Wrestling vs. Farmington (JV-5:00, V-6:00). Ski Racing at CISL race (V-4:45 @ Mt. Southington ski area).

### THURSDAY

Girls Gymnastics at Wethersfield (V-5:30 @ Silas Dean Middle School, Wethersfield).

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