

Our Athletes

# Six Southington skiers advance to shootouts



JOHN GORALSKI

Erika Florian attacks the slopes at Mt. Southington during a CT Ski Racing League (CISL) race on Thursday, Jan. 19.

By JOHN GORALSKI  
SPORTS WRITER

For the third straight race, Southington skiers were battling the established programs in the team rankings. For the third straight time, a handful of Knights challenged the top of the individual rankings.

## Ski Racing

On Thursday, Jan. 19, Southington's boys elbowed their way into the center of the pack while the girls qualified eight skiers in conditions that eliminated four teams. Coach Sean Florian is getting used to his skiers challenging difficult courses...and the weather.

"This race was tough. It was a tougher conditions. It was a little bit soft, and the snow was a little bit grabby,"

said the coach. "Everybody was crashing."

Once again, the Florians led the way with Austin (48.41) finishing third in the boys race and his sister Erika (51.19) finishing third in the girls race.

With his seventh place finish, Robert Chambers (50.0) grabbed his third top 10 finish, while Christa Case (55.27) battled her way into the top 25 of the girls race.

On the other hand, it was Southington's depth that anchored the team results.

"What was good was that our No. 5 and No. 6 guys actually skied a lot faster than before," said the coach. "That helped pull us up, and we still managed to finish fifth as a team in the boys race."

Sebastian Doughty (52.82), Stephen Peccerillo (55.8), and Eric Flood (58.99) scored for the boys. Brian Chambers (53.28) overcame

a small fall to score for the boys. Zach Palmer (60.55), Austin Gentile (61.4), and Mike Schmidt (64.05) contributed.

Southington (319.3) trailed Glastonbury (301.45) by almost 18 seconds in the standings but finished fifth out of 12 teams. Ryan Carney was the only Knights to face disqualification on the challenging course, but even that showed future promise for the Knights.

"Actually, Ryan did well," Coach Florian said. "He skied awesome, but we put him on some race skis. He crashed both runs because he wasn't used to going so fast."

In the girls race, Southington qualified all 10 skiers despite a course that disqualified 25 boys, 13 girls, and four teams.

"Christa and Rebecca

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# Boys swimming: Blue Knights edge Newington

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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."

Southington swimmers won all but one race, but Newington placed second in all but one event and claimed eight of the 11 third place finishes. Both teams scrambled for four of the fourth place finishes, while Southington fought for a trio of fifth place finishes.

"We knew that we had the standouts, and we were going to take firsts," said Tuttle. "But if you take first, fifth, and sixth in every race, you'd lose that meet. It's the

battles into the wall for second, third, and fourth. We won those battles today."

Including Smigelski, six Knights claimed multiple races with wins in individual events and relays. Bryan Adie claimed the top finish in the 200 individual medley (2:22.25). Cooney won the 50 freestyle (24.46) and qualified for the postseason with a win in the 100 backstroke (1:01.21). Matt Duszak claimed the 100 breaststroke (1:08.78), and Kiveliyk paced the 100 butterfly (59.37)

Joe Taglia teamed up with Cooney, Matt Duszak, and Kiveliyk for a victory in the 200 medley relay (1:52.25), while Dylan Figueiredo partnered with Adie, Taglia, and Smigelski

for a 200 freestyle relay (1:39.45) win.

Even in the race that the Knights lost, the 500 freestyle, Southington swimmers claimed second, third, and fourth. Smigelski called it a team victory.

"I think we wouldn't have won if it wasn't for someone like Adam Sokolowski in the B-relay in the last relay. He proved that the B or C relay in every event matters. If it wasn't for those guys winning second or third, we wouldn't have won," said Smigelski. "This was a big test of our team and our character."

The victory came on the heels of a lopsided, 96-69

win over East Hartford. Southington swept past the Hornets with wins in all but one race. Smigelski paced the Knights with wins in the 50 freestyle (22.72), the 100 freestyle (50.53), and a pair of relays. Kiveliyk won the 100 butterfly (1:01.69). Mac Golos (2:06.53) claimed his first varsity win with a victory in the 200 freestyle. Adie claimed the 200 IM (2:22.06), and Cooney won the 100 backstroke (1:05.69).

Southington took a 52-point lead before surrendering the points in the final two races. The Knights exploded out of the gates after a long layoff and that was what their coach was

looking for.

"With two weeks off, I was hoping to be able to fine tune some strokes and come in strong, but you never know. It's kind of like starting your season over with your first meet," said Tuttle. "There were best times all around. The kids swam great. They were excited. It was like they didn't miss a beat."

Now, the Knights are 4-0 with the toughest meets ahead of them. Southington will take to the road against

Simsbury and Plainville before facing a powerhouse schedule to end the season. Based on last week, Tuttle has raised expectations.

"I have incredibly high expectations for this team, but kids that I thought would take longer to develop are stepping up and putting in times that I didn't think I'd see until the end of the year or maybe next year," said the coach. "Expectations are being met. They're being exceeded, so I guess I have to raise that bar."

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**TOWN OF SOUTHINGTON**

**OFFICE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR**

**SECOND INSTALLMENT TAXES**

Real Estate and Personal Property Second Installment taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2010 are due and payable January 1, 2012. Final date to pay without penalty is February 1, 2012.

Supplemental Auto Taxes are due January 1, 2012 – Final date to pay without penalty is February 1, 2012.

**INTEREST RATE**

If payment is not made within one month of the due date, the installment due will become delinquent and will immediately be subject to 3% interest. From then on, additional interest of 1-1/2% per month (18% annually) will be added to the 3%. The minimum interest charge is \$2.00.

**TAX OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. during January

Taxpayers are encouraged to mail their tax payments to the Tax Collector, Town of Southington, PO Box 579, Southington, CT 06489. If a payment receipt is requested, please enclose both the second payment and payment receipt copies and a self-addressed stamped envelope.

**PROPERTY TRANSFERS**

Any person who has purchased real estate property after the October 1, 2010 assessment date and has assumed the payment of taxes that will become due January 1, 2012 should contact the Tax Office if they do not have a second installment copy of the real estate tax bill; (860) 276-6259. It is the taxpayer's responsibility to make sure the tax is paid since failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax and/or interest. Connecticut State Statute 12-70 / 12-130.

**NOTE:**

Any questions pertaining to assessments, veteran exemptions, elderly exemptions or disability should be directed to the Department of Assessors (860) 276-6205.

Marilyn Dorau, CCMC  
Tax Collector  
Town of Southington