

Swimmers tested by Brentwood and Franklin

'Give more when you feel like giving up.'-Martina McBride

by Kristen Lang , *Smoke Signal* Staff Writer

Ready to swim their hearts out, Riverdale's Water Warriors went up against two teams: Brentwood High School and Franklin High School. Before the meet, coaches talked about the strategies of each team and what team member could possibly swim in an event, to get prepared.

Franklin and Brentwood were very tough teams to compete against. The Warriors with their heads held high, accepted their loss to the Franklin Rebels.

For a Warrior, walking into the home of a Patriot can cause anxiety. Not because of lack of self-confidence or school spirit. The 40 year old rivalry runs through the veins of the neighboring schools in Murfreesboro. Seeing their pool, being so similar and inviting, makes the Warriors fueled up and ready to fight.

Senior Amber Castleman says, "Swimming is a very tough sport. The beginning number of people on the team always decreases by the end of the season. You have to be willing to do things that your mind and body tell you that you are not capable of doing, and prove yourself wrong. That's the whole reason why I love swimming and I'm really going to miss it next year."

Knowing that the Patriots could have an advantage in this meet, the Warriors let nothing get in their way of fighting back. Despite all of the Warrior's passion, the Oakland Patriots were victorious.

Surprisingly, Oakland Patriot Ashley Roland crossed over to the Warrior side of the pool and congratulated every Warrior she could and she shook all of the coach's hands. Even though the rivalry has existed for 40 years, excellent sportsmanship is still seen.