

SWIM SEASONS





Kara Graham

Senior Associate Editor

Tupelo swim team has swam into another excellent season. Tupelo showed out at Oxford with many of the members placing in the top three. Brooks Johnson placed 1st in both the Boys 100 Butterfly and Boys 100 Freestyle. The girls team brought home the gold with Willa Martin, Autumn Swinney, Reagan Thomas, Kinslee Carter, and Gabby Griffin placing 1st in a variety of events. Many of these swimmers work long hours at practice to accomplish these feats.

“You get there, you get in the water, you swim straight on for like, two and a half hours. It's a lot of hard work and it's fun,” Hopson Daughdrill said.

Tupelo hosted the Tupelo invitational for Pack the TAC. Many people in the community showed up for the event to support the wave.

“Swimming is a big sport here. A lot of people don't realize that a lot of people don't realize how exciting swimming can be and how much fun it can be,” Coach Josh Daniel said.

Both groups showed their strokes and brought home over 22 awards ranging from 1st to 3rd place. The boys placed 3rd overall with a hard fought score of 107 points while the girls won first with a final score of 159 points. Tupelo hosted another invitational with both boys and girls winning first place both brought home a combined 27 awards ranging from 1st to 3rd. For many members of the team swim has been a part of their lived since they were little.

“When I was around seven or eight we used to go to a lot of swim lessons, and then [my parents] wanted me to be on the swim team,” Kinslee Carter said.

Swim team members are also making a splash outside of the TAC with Caption Elise Waters (12) being named a State Farm Scholar Athlete. Tupelo took the show on the road with 29 members being qualified to compete in the North half Championship in Cleveland MS. The Wave swam their way to second place to earn their spot in the State Championships. Brooks Johnson, Autumn Swinney, and Willa Martin were all named state champs. Both the girls and boys teams earned second overall. Swim has taught many members valuable lessons they can use beyond their time on the team.

“[Swim] humbled me a lot. I know you can't always win,” Reagan Thomas said.