



SOUTHERN ZONE MICROPHONE



SOUTHERN ZONE AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP MEET ISSUE FOUR MONDAY, AUG 4, 2025

For Maci Columbia: Zones is Family

For North Carolina's Maci Columbia, 18, the SZAG Championship has been a family affair. This is Maci's second time swimming in the meet as an Adapted Swimmer, but her parents are also immersed in the Zone structure. Mother, Lori, has been a chaperone for both years, and father, Shawn, is a coach on the staff and has attended Zones many times over the past 25 years.

"The respect shown between the coaches, the

athletes and the officials at this meet has been amazing," said Coach Columbia. "It gets better every year."

Lori Columbia first attended the Zone Meet the last time it was held in Orlando. "It's nice to see the kids from different teams coming together as one, unified group. It's nice to see them so supportive of one another," Lori commented.

"Last year we were at a Y Meet and NCS Exec Director Amy Faulk told us about

para swimming and it led us to contact Rayleen Soderstrom, SZ Disability Coordinator, and applying for the NCS Zone Team. It has opened up a lot of doors for Maci who now plans to pursue para swimming in the future." Lori mentions proudly. Maci will be attending the Fred Lamback Para Swimming Open in Cummings, Georgia in October.

Maci has been quite industrious in high school as well having completed her Asso-

ciates Degree for college and she will be entering the Physical Therapy Assistants program at Guilford Tech in Greensboro, NC this Fall.

"No matter how many setbacks you have, there's always a good comeback," Maci says with tenacity.

"I have loved this year and having all of the swimmers cheering at the end of the lanes and all the "swoosh" cheers. Never compare yourself to others. Everyone is a bit different."



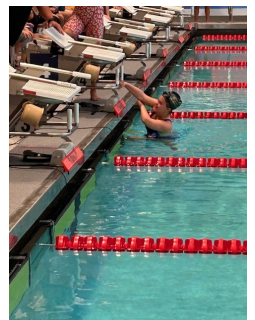
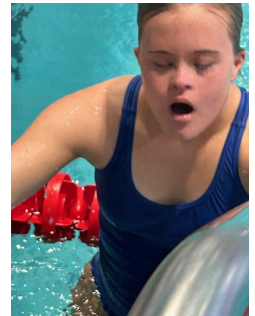
Claire Gunter (12) has lots of thoughts

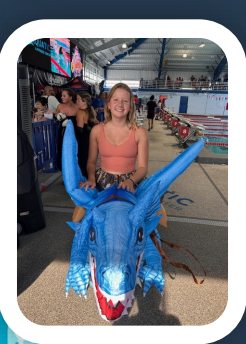
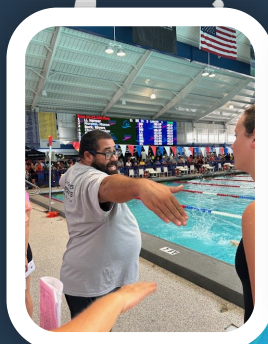
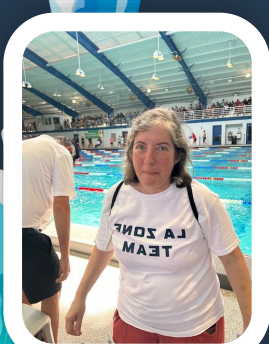
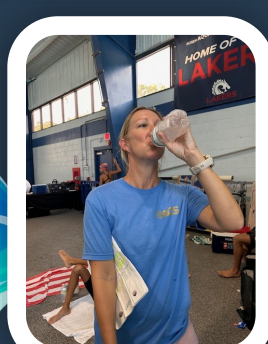
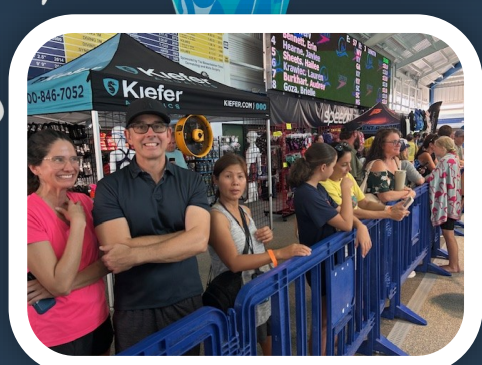
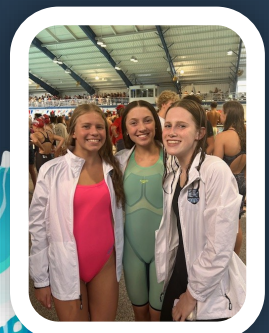
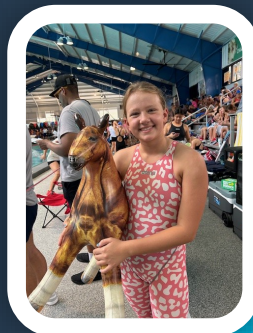
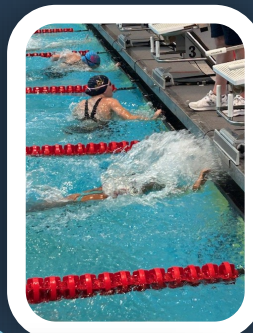
Claire Gunter, 12 years of age from Stuart, Florida, has lots to say about her Florida teammates. "They're funny, crazy and insane!" The first-time Zone Teamer calls out her teammates in a complimentary manner insisting that they are helping to motivate her to do her best by cheering and getting behind her in every race.

Gunter has already paired up with her Florida teammates Lily Light and Braelyn McCall and is quickly adding to her entourage of friends. And that's just here at Zones. Back home in Stuart, Florida, she gets tons of support from her coaches, Mike and Justin.

When asked what she has enjoyed the most at her first Zone Meet, Claire quickly pointed to all the team gear she has received. She mentioned that the t-shirts were her favorites.

Later in the evening, Claire went on to win the Adapted 100m Butterfly event in a solo swimming performance with the crowd behind her 100 percent! When she gets back to her Treasure Cove Aquatics coaches and teammates, she's going to have a lot more thoughts to share.





ZONE SPLASH PAGE



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Southern Zone Age Group Championship

MEET RESULTS

EVENT 49—13-14 GIRLS 200M BACKSTROKE

1.	Charlotte Good	SC	2:20.95
2.	Eleanor Donovan	NC	2:23.07
3.	Sydney Pyles	KY	2:24.08
4.	Ana Perdue	NC	2:25.03
5.	Carrigan Burks	GA	2:25.07
6.	Lucy Hefner	NC	2:25.44
7.	Gia Euseppi	FG	2:26.47
8.	Kate Bitnerowska	WT	2:28.42

EVENT 50 — 13-14 BOYS 200M BACKSTROKE

1.	Stokes Oxrieder	NC	2:13.32
2.	Slater Spencer	NC	2:14.00
3.	Edmond Reynolds	STX	2:14.13
4.	Porter DeBruin	FL	2:14.66
5.	Jason Pron	NC	2:14.76
6.	Harrison Smith	NC	2:15.96
7.	Graham Brewer	GA	2:16.64
8.	Ivan Maslianyi	FL	2:18.73

EVENT 51 — 11-12 GIRLS 100M BACKSTROKE

1.	Penelope Chao	NC	1:08.85
2.	Gwen Fox	FL	1:09.67
3.	Ashley Lotano	FG	1:09.94
4.	Camelia Moore	GA	1:10.15
5.	Claire Liu	KY	1:11.07
6.	Sara Stigall	GA	1:11.14
7.	Gia Saragossi	NC	1:11.37
8.	Claire Higgins	NC	1:12.31

EVENT 52 — 11-12 BOYS 100M BACKSTROKE

1.	Alex Kirsling	STX	1:04.32
2.	Bowen Hallenborg	NC	1:05.97
3.	Calan Buss	SC	1:06.19
4.	Nate Smith	NC	1:06.33
5.	Tony Machavariani	NC	1:07.50
6.	Janiel Espinosa	FG	1:07.55
7.	Keaton Hubbard	FG	1:07.73
8.	Robert Knyazev	FG	1:08.77

EVENT 53 — 13-14 GIRLS 100M FREESTYLE

1.	Kate Whatley	SES	58.54
2.	Kelah Holliman	SES	59.30
3.	Chander Daigle	NC	59.71
4.	Anne Russell	SES	59.83
5.	Amelia Peterson	NC	1:00.25
6.	Denise Paul	FL	1:00.62
7.	Emma Scoggin	SES	1:01.07
8.	Livy Rogers	STX	1:01.76





Southern Zone Age Group Championship

MEET RESULTS

EVENT 54—13-14 BOYS 100M FREESTYLE

1.	Ean Harrison	GA	53.92
2.	Kevin Mulligan	STX	54.06
3.	Drew Bedsole	SES	54.29
4.	Louie Koslin	SES	55.76
5.	Ryan Rivera	LA	55.88
6.	Chase Gray	NC	56.30
7.	Davis Miller	NC	56.35
8.	Malcolm McCown	STX	56.72

EVENT 55 — 11-12 GIRLS 100M FREESTYLE

1.	Vivian Hughes	FL	1:00.74
2.	Abi Cowart	STX	1:01.27
3.	Ashley Lotano	FG	1:02.17
4.	Millie Conner	SC	1:02.24
5.	Greta Hockett	NC	1:02.48
6.	Sara Stigall	GA	1:03.52
7.	Quinn Fleming	GA	1:03.51
8.	Braelyn McCall	FL	1:04.18

EVENT 56 — 11-12 BOYS 100M FREESTYLE

1.	Alex Kirsling	STX	57.72
2.	Liam Wang	FL	57.84
3.	Calan Buss	SC	57.88
4.	Cole Bathurst	FL	58.76
5.	Robert Knyazev	FG	59.56
6.	Cole Johnson	NC	1:00.04
7.	Michael White	NC	1:00.51
8.	Maverick McMeeking	FL	1:00.59

EVENT 57 — 13-14 GIRLS 200M INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

1.	Charissa Higgs	STX	2:24.32
2.	Sarah Harter	NC	2:27.76
3.	Charlotte Good	SC	2:27.78
4.	Sydney Pyles	KY	2:28.44
5.	Julia Mules	SE	2:29.84
6.	Brenna Kagels	FL	2:30.25
7.	Mckenzie Baur	FG	2:30.89
8.	Ellie Wells	SC	2:31.89

EVENT 58 — 13-14 BOYS 200M INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

1.	Edmond Reynolds	STX	2:09.99
2.	Andrew Kruger	KY	2:11.65
3.	Steven Zhou-He	NC	2:12.81
4.	Nikolay Chernev	GA	2:14.27
5.	Parker Hightower	SC	2:16.76
6.	Chase Gray	NC	2:17.30
7.	Jacob Su	NC	2:17.46
8.	Cal Lockett	STX	2:17.58



JOIN US IN 2026 BACK HERE IN
ORLANDO FOR THE SZAG CHAMPIONSHIP
JULY 29 - AUGUST 1, 2026



qz

Southern Zone Age Group Championship

MEET RESULTS

EVENT 59—11-12 GIRLS 200M INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

1	Penelope Chao	NC	2:29.40
2	Claire Liu	KY	2:30.59
3	Katharine Cramer	SC	2:32.08
4	Camelia Moore	GA	2:32.39
5	Ellen Layton	NC	2:33.08
6	Sarah Fiama	FL	2:33.21
7	Collins Kim	NC	2:35.49
8	Tessa Jeltema	NC	2:39.10

EVENT 60 — 11-12 BOYS 200M INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

1.	Alex Kirsling	STX	2:22.20
2.	Benett Christel	FL	2:23.83
3.	Tony Machavariani	NC	2:25.99
4.	Caden Normand	NC	2:26.27
5.	Cole Bathurst	FL	2:27.34
6.	John Kucek	GA	2:27.52
7.	Walker Pridgen	SE	2:30.83
8.	Cole Johnson	NC	2:31.59

EVENT 61 — 13-14 GIRLS 100M BUTTERFLY

1.	Chandler Daigle	NC	1:04.09
2.	Liana Marek	STX	1:04.27
3.	Araiya Ferron	STX	1:04.44
4.	Anne Russell	SES	1:04.56
5.	Cadence Smith	SC	1:05.65
6.	Phoebe Stanco	STX	1:05.85
7.	Sutton Alexander	SC	1:06.31
8.	June Gospodarek	NC	1:08.01

EVENT 62 — 13-14 BOYS 100M BUTTERFLY

1.	Andrew Kruger	KY	58.49
2.	Steven Zhou-He	NC	58.78
3.	Joaquin Seay	STX	59.07
4.	Parker Hightower	SC	59.30
5.	Artem Muzhev	FG	59.77
6.	Drew Bedsole	SES	1:00.22
7.	Nikolay Chernev	GA	1:00.51
8.	Davis Miller	NC	1:01.21

EVENT 63 — 11-12 GIRLS 50M BUTTERFLY

1.	Millie Conner	SC	28.82
2.	Eden Grizzard	GA	29.26
3.	Greta Hockett	NC	29.32
4.	Junie Densberger	FL	30.05
5.	Ellen Layton	NC	30.10
6.	Claire Higgins	NC	30.20
7.	Collins Kim	NC	30.65
8.	Elle Lourie	SES	30.73

EVENT 64 — 11-12 BOYS 50M BUTTERFLY

1.	Bennett Christel	FL	28.35
2.	Janiel Espinosa	FG	28.59
3.	Ian Lin	NC	28.89
4.	Tony Machavariani	NC	29.03
5.	Aiden Childs	FL	29.07
6.	Liam Wang	FL	29.22
7.	Calan Buss	SC	29.50
8.	Matheus Polli	FG	29.67

EVENT 65—13-14 MIXED 200M FREESTYLE RELAY

1.	SOUTHEASTERN-A	SES	1:43.57
2.	GEORGIA-A	GA	1:44.92
3.	NORTH CAROLINA-A	NC	1:45.17
4.	SOUTH TEXAS-A	STX	1:45.38
5.	NORTH CAROLINA-B	NC	1:46.05
6.	SOUTHEASTERN-B	SES	1:46.09
7.	FLORIDA-A	FL	1:46.63
8.	SOUTH CAROLINA-A	SC	1:47.22

EVENT 66 — 11-12 MIXED 200M FREESTYLE RELAY

1.	NORTH CAROLINA-A	NC	1:49.98
2.	FLORIDA-A	FL	1:50.10
3.	SOUTH TEXAS-A	STX	1:50.52
4.	NORTH CAROLINA-B	NC	1:51.13
5.	FLORIDA GOLD-A	FG	1:51.29
6.	SOUTH CAROLINA-A	SC	1:51.43
7.	SOUTHEASTERN-A	SES	1:53.21
8.	FLORIDA-B	FL	1:54.30



OFFICIAL'S CORNER

Blue Ribbon Roster














GARY SANDERSON
PETER SODERSTROM
RAYLEEN SODERSTROM
QUINN SAMPSON
DANA WONE
JOE GLENNON
DAVID HUDSON
MARIE WEFERLING
PHAT THABANE
DEANNA CALDERONE-KAUFMAN
REBECCA FRIEDMAN
ROBYN GILLESPIE
JOHN FOX
ALLEN WONE
DEBRA HANLEY
KANDI PESTER
NATASHA DMITROVA
VANYA CHERNEVA
JON DENEAU
TARA KURILCHICK
BILLY BREWSTER
BRAD CHRISTEL
JAMES CHRISTOPHER
LUIS GOMEZ-GALINDO
MARY SCHMIDT-OWENS
MASON WARD
MICHAEL BERGER
RAISSA FERRON
SHERWIN WANG

*Thank you all
for your time!*

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK



FINAL TEAM STANDINGS

1	 NORTH CAROLINA	3,035.5
2	 FLORIDA	2,172.5
3	 SOUTH TEXAS	1,522.5
4	 SOUTHEASTERN	1,429
5	 GEORGIA	1,407
6	 SOUTH CAROLINA	1,232
7	 FLORIDA GOLD COAST	1,192.5
8	 KENTUCKY	727
9	 LOUISIANA	174
10	 MISSISSIPPI	125
11	 BORDER	91
12	 WEST TEXAS	24
13	 WEST VIRGINIA	18

ADAPTED SWIMMER RESULTS

EVENT 111—11-12G 200M FREE

1. Lydia Higgs STX 2:54.78
2. Claire Gunter FL 5:01.57

EVENT 111—13-14G 200M FREE

1. Lily Light FL 2:46.32
2. Maci Columbia NC 2:47.46
3. Kate Alexander STX 3:11.98

EVENT 112 —13-14B 200M FREE

1. Oliver Coombes FL 2:31.13
2. Logan Stephenson FL 3:14.70
3. Jayden Garcia BD 3:20.73
4. Sam Friedman FL 4:37.15

EVENT 115 — MIXED 13-14 100 BRST

1. Chloe Lavergne NC 1:25.67
2. Maci Columbia NC 1:45.42

EVENT 119 — MIXED 13-14 100 BACK

1. Chloe Lavergne NC 1:18.19
2. Oliver Coombes FL 1:21.73
3. Maci Columbia NC 1:26.32
4. Lily Light FL 1:30.86
5. Landon Baker WT 1:34.06
6. Jayden Garcia BD 1:39.38
7. Logan Stephenson FL 1:54.38

EVENT 121 — 11-12G 50 BACK

1. Lydia Higgs STX 44.00

EVENT 131 — 11-12G 100M FLY

1. Claire Gunter FL 2:30.07

EVENT 133 — 11-12G 50M FREE

1. Lydia Higgs STX 35.88
2. Claire Gunter FL 1:06.15

EVENT 133 — 13-14G 50M FREE

1. Lily Light FL 33.54
2. Maci Columbia NC 35.10
3. Kate Alexander STX 38.57

EVENT 134 — 13-14B 50M FREE

1. Oliver Coombes FL 31.80
2. Logan Stephenson FL 37.99
3. Landon Baker WT 38.52
4. Jayden Garcia BD 40.34
5. Sam Friedman FL 53.05

EVENT 137 —13-14G 200M BRST

1. Chloe Lavergne NC 3:01.70

EVENT 149-MIXED 13-14 200BK

1. Maci Columbia NC 3:04.36
2. Jayden Garcia BD 3:30.44

EVENT 151—11-12G 100M BACK

1. Lydia Higgs STX 1:33.74
2. Claire Gunter FL 2:59.86

EVENT 153-11-12G 100M FREE

1. Claire Gunter FL 2:26.19

EVENT 153-13-14G 100M FREE

1. Chloe Lavergne NC 1:10.46
2. Lily Light FL 1:17.16
3. Maci Columbia NC 1:19.48
4. Kate Alexander STX 1:32.02

EVENT 154-11-14 BOYS 100M FREE

1. Oliver Coombes FL 1:10.17
2. Landon Baker WT 1:22.73
3. Logan Stephenson FL 1:23.71
4. Jayden Garcia BD 1:24.52
5. Sam Friedman FL 2:16.16

EVENT 157—13-14G 200M IM

1. Chloe Lavergne NC 2:41.63
2. Kate Alexander STX 3:59.30

EVENT 161—13-14G 100M FLY

1. Lily Light FL 1:36.66

EVENT 163—13-14B 100M FLY

1. Oliver Coombes FL 1:21.73
2. Landon Baker WT 1:42.66
3. Logan Stephenson FL 2:28.20
4. Sam Friedman FL 3:01.86



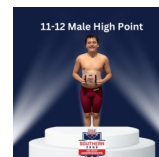
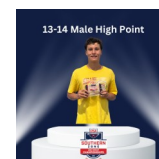
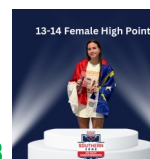
HIGH POINT WINNERS

13-14 Girls
1. CHANDLER DAIGLE—NC-90
2. CHARISSA HIGGS-STX-85
3. LIANA MAREK-STX-81

13-14 Boys
1. ANDREW KRUGER-KY-117
2. EDMOND REYNOLDS-STX-108
3. NIKOLAY CHERNEV-GA-84

11-12 Girls
1. MILLIE CONNER-SC-104
2. PENELOPE CHAO-NC-98
3. VIVIAN HUGHES-FL-89,5

11-12 Boys
1. ALEX KIRSING-STX-120
2. CALAN BUSS-SC-97
3. COLE BATHURST-FL-85
3. JANIEL ESPINOSA-FG-85



GEORGIA STAFF



Below Left to Right: Simon Roberts, Lydia Scharff, Faith Ozel, Noah Ayers, and Steph McCormick. Upper Left: Head Coach Dennis Lugemwa. Not pictured: Allison Hunter and Bobby Hammond.

