

# Eagles, Raptors tie for fourth in 4A

## Broomfield's Dobie 2nd in butterfly, 3rd in 200 IM

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Sunday, February 15, 2009

LOVELAND -- Kia Dobie didn't leave the Mountain View Aquatic Center Saturday a two-time state champion. The Broomfield senior, however, did exit the pool pleased with her career.

"I went in there and did my best," she said. "And that's all I really could have hoped for."

Dobie went into Saturday's Class 4A state meet trying to add a second title to the 500 freestyle championship she won her freshman year. But she didn't miss winning the 200 individual medley and 100 butterfly for lack of trying.

Instead, finishing third and second in the races respectively was more a symptom of the tough competition.

In the medley -- the stronger of Dobie's two races -- she was edged in the final two laps by Rock Canyon's Kirsten Milberg (4A Swimmer of the Year) and Wheat Ridge's Kaitlyn Hack. But the Broomfield swimmer's 2:06.63 was only six-tenths of a second off the title.

In the butterfly, she was a little further off Rock Canyon's Taylor Curado. Dobie finished with a :57.88, nearly a second off Curado. But the Rock Canyon swimmer was in tip-top form for state - setting the butterfly state record in the preliminaries with a 56.36.

"She the best flyer in the state," Dobie said.

The Broomfield senior had the top individual performances, but she wasn't the only local swimmer to set the water on fire.

The Eagles had perhaps the most pronounced meet as a team, collecting a program-best six championship places and tying Silver Creek for fourth place as a team. Each local school finished with 150 points, while Rock Canyon won the 4A title with 417 points.

After Dobie, Katalena Laufasa-Duncan had the next most productive day for the Eagles, finishing fourth in the 200 freestyle and third in the 100 backstroke. But it was Bethany Bates who had the most pronounced meet outside of Broomfield.

The Silver Creek sophomore collected two places, setting herself up as a prime contender in at least one race in years to come.

While Bates held her own in the 200 freestyle to finish fourth, it was her swim in the 500 freestyle that turned heads. Cheyenne Mountain's Ashley Forsyth won the race with a 5:12.80, but Bates set herself up for a big run next year with a third-place finish.

"The girl who won the 500 is in my grade," she said. "So, it should continue to be an exciting race."

Local teams also pushed the field in the relay, particularly the 200 individual medley and 200 freestyle relay.

Broomfield's medley relay (Laufasa-Duncan, Heather Shaver, Dobie and Meghan Maroze) collected third with a time of 1:51.16. And Niwot's 200 freestyle team (Kaley Wheless, Laura Farrar, Caroline Joyce and Alexa Sanders) were nearly state champions. While fast, the Cougars' 1:41.90 was three-seconds off title winner Rock Canyon.