

## **Whittle swims to 6th place at Zones**

By Democrat sports staff  
Daily Democrat

Matt Whittle of the Woodland Swim Team finished in the top 10 in two events and in the top 20 in all five at the Western Zone Swim Meet in Fresno earlier this week.

Whittle, 10, finished sixth in the 50-meter breaststroke, ninth in the 100 breaststroke, 11th in the 50 butterfly, 11th in the 50 backstroke and 20th in the 200 individual medley.

Woodland Swim Team coach Bret Williams said 30 to 40 swimmers qualified for each event. Of those swimmers, Whittle qualified for the final race in the 50 breast and was the alternate for the final in the 100 breast. The eight fastest swimmers from the qualifying heats advanced to the finals.

The meet was comprised of 17 all-star teams from 13 western states. Whittle represented Sierra Nevada swimming, which placed seventh overall at the Zones.

The Zone meet wraps up the long-course season for Woodland. They will start the short-course season Sept. 1 with the Tom McCracken Labor Day Invitational at the Chuck Brooks Swim Center in Woodland. The three-day meet will run through that Sunday..