

Hi Ms. Ruprecht, *May 1st, 2006*

Thanks a lot for sending me the newsletter. Looks like everything is going pretty well for the APGA kids at Northview! How are you doing? I hope well. I am really enjoying my time off right now. I wrote my last exam on April 7 (I know - really early, huh?), so now I can just focus on swimming. The school year was a good one - exactly what I was after - just an introduction to university life. I have been accepted to the University of Victoria, so that's where I'm heading next year. I think taking more courses and living on campus will have me feeling more like a university student. Swimming is also going really well. I'm training better than I ever have and the next meet we're gearing up for is a Grand Prix meet in Ann Arbor, Michigan. After that (which is in about 3 weeks), our next big competition is summer nationals in Montreal at the end of July. So it looks like it'll be an exciting summer. I'm really looking forward to it all. Anyway, thanks again for forwarding me the newsletter. It's always nice to get an update. I will try and stop by sometime soon.

-Matt



Hey Ms. Ruprecht, *Thurs, 06 Oct 2005*

How are you? Sorry it's taken me a while to respond, but I've been a little busy. Thanks a lot for the e-mail, though. It was great to hear from you and get a little update on what's new at APGA.

Anyway, I am at York (which I think you knew). I'm taking 2 classes - intro. to sociology and a humanities course on males and females in the west. Originally I was taking a third one on microbiology, but I wasn't enjoying it and the Prof couldn't really speak English anyway, so that made it hard. The biggest factor was the fact that he wasn't willing to bend for swimming. I went up to him within the first 2 weeks of class and just informed him of who I was, that I am a swimmer etc. I tried to give him a competition schedule (which I thought was a good idea) but he refused it. I then tried to ask him when the test dates would be and he said he didn't know, but if I missed I was basically screwed. And then he walked off. I just figured I didn't need the extra stress. And the 2 classes I'm taking now seem to be going smoothly. So school is good.



I've been swimming for almost a month now. Had a 3 week break after Canada Games, which didn't go so well. The day we landed in Regina I got sick and had to miss the opening ceremonies. And my first race was the day after, so it was a bit of a mess. Added a considerable amount of time in all my races, but under the circumstances, I

guess it was ok. I was 4th in the 800 free, 5th in the 1500 free, and 6th in the 400 IM. Had I gone close to my best times, I would have medaled in all 3 races. It was a fun experience in all, though. I met a lot of other good swimmers and enjoyed it. During the 3 weeks I had off, I basically just stayed at the cottage. Very relaxing, I must say.

Missing it now 😊. But I'm excited about this swim season. We're training very hard and I feel good about it. Our first big meet is in Victoria for Commonwealth Games Trials in late November. I hope to get a good look at the university in Victoria because as of now, that looks like the best place for me to go next year. I'll consider some schools in the US, but for now, Victoria looks best.

I better get going. I hope to come in for a visit sometime soon. And I would offer you some advice with the loud grade 9's if I knew some, but I don't. I never understood them when I was there.

Hope to hear from you soon,
-Matt
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