

The Cougar Invitational featured five of the top 13 girls swimming teams in the state, and it was Cedar Falls that showed why it is top-ranked Saturday at the Kennedy pool.

Cedar Falls cruised to first place with 580 points and fifth-ranked Johnston easily took second with 470 points in a star-studded field of teams and individuals.

The real fun came from two Metro teams. No. 7 Linn-Mar and No. 9 Kennedy battled for third throughout the day. Linn-Mar had a 12-point lead going into the final event of the day, the 400 freestyle relay. Despite finishing fifth in the event, the Lions were able to hang onto third place by two points over the Cougars, who finished third in the relay.

The teams gave an indication of how close it would be when Linn-Mar took second to Kennedy's third in the first event of the day, the 200 medley relay.

The event was one of three top three finishes for Kennedy senior Lexi Scharmer, who got the only individual win for a Metro individual by besting teammate Jordan Muir in the 100 butterfly. Scharmer anchored an intense 400 freestyle relay to close out the day.

Lions 3rd, Kennedy 4th in loaded Cougar meet
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