

■ SPORTS

Stingrays enter swimmer in International Meet

The Tahlequah Boys & Girls Club's USA Swim team, the Tahlequah Stingrays, will head for Rochester, Mich., April 13-15, for their first international swim meet.

The meet is sponsored by the Greater Toledo Aquatic Club, and is the 4th annual GTAC Disability Open. This meet is open to swimmers, from all nations, with a disability. Swimmers from the United States must meet specific times

and be an active member of USA Swimming to qualify.

Jordan Robertson, 15, will represent both Tahlequah and the Stingrays at this meet. Robertson will swim in two events—50-meter freestyle and 50-meter backstroke. Both events will take place on Saturday morning. If he places in the top eight, he will complete again in the finals on Saturday evening.

Robertson is a dynamic young

man who has been swimming with the Stingrays since the team's inception.

Robertson attends Tahlequah Middle School as an 8th grader. Kelly and Mark Robertson, Jordan's parents, are highly supportive of their son, the Stingrays swim program, and Boys & Girls Club, as well as the local business community.

According to his coaches, Bob Bradshaw, Gregg Woitte and

Dawson Davis, Robertson is a very determined swimmer. He works hard during practice and is always willing to learn new techniques to improve his stroke and speed.

"We expect great things in the future from Jordan. He is an inspiration to his community and his team," says Coach Bradshaw.

Robertson does love another sport besides swimming, and that is bowling.

On a few occasions he has been late for practice because he was finishing a game at the bowling alley. Jordan has also competed in the Special Olympics program.

The USA Swimming program provides opportunities for athletes with disabilities to compete with other athletes at any USA-sponsored meet. Robertson has competed in more than 10 swim meets in the tri-state area over the past

year and a half. He was voted the Most Improved Swimmer, in his age group, for the 2005-2006 Stingrays season and was awarded a medal.

"We are proud to have Jordan represent us in such an important swimming event," says Janice Randall, of the Tahlequah Boys & Girls Club. "Jordan is happy and always respectful, he has the qualities we look for in our athletes," says Coach Bradshaw.