

RUCHTI SPARKLES

Germany School student exhibit great form at Nasa Junior and Masters Championships

By OSCAR PILIPILI

Lucia Ruchti of Germany School exhibited great form after she clocked one minute 39.76 seconds to win girls' nine-year-olds 100m individual medley during Nasa Junior and Masters Championships at Aga Khan High.

Ruchti took the lead at the first turn in the 25m long pool and was unchallenged at halfway mark and swimming like an eel she maintained the lead to claim the event.

Her closest challenger Leila Abdulrazak of Makini School finished second in 1:44.92 while Bubbles' Laniha Salim came in bronze positions in 1:51.53.

Ruchti words: "I expected to win this event and I'm glad to have achieved the goal. I hope to win more races here and emerge the best swimmer in my category."

MAKINI GLORY

Ashley Kagwima of Hydra Swim Academy won the first race of the day when she clocked 2:11.23 in girls' under-6 100m individual medley. Rebecca Nanjala of Makini claimed silver after she clocked 2:18.06 followed by Chebet Kimeto of Bubbles in 2:32.52.

Makini was in limelight again after Christine Wairimu clinched her first gold of the Championships

winning girls' seven olds 100m individual medley race in 1:56.73.

Regina Gichovi of Loreto Convent Valley Road put up spirited fight to claim silver in 1:59.45 while Turi Kiburi of Makini touched the wall in 2:02.78 to bag bronze.

"I feel encouraged for winning gold and I hope to maintain my form and bag many medals in the event," quipped Wairimu.

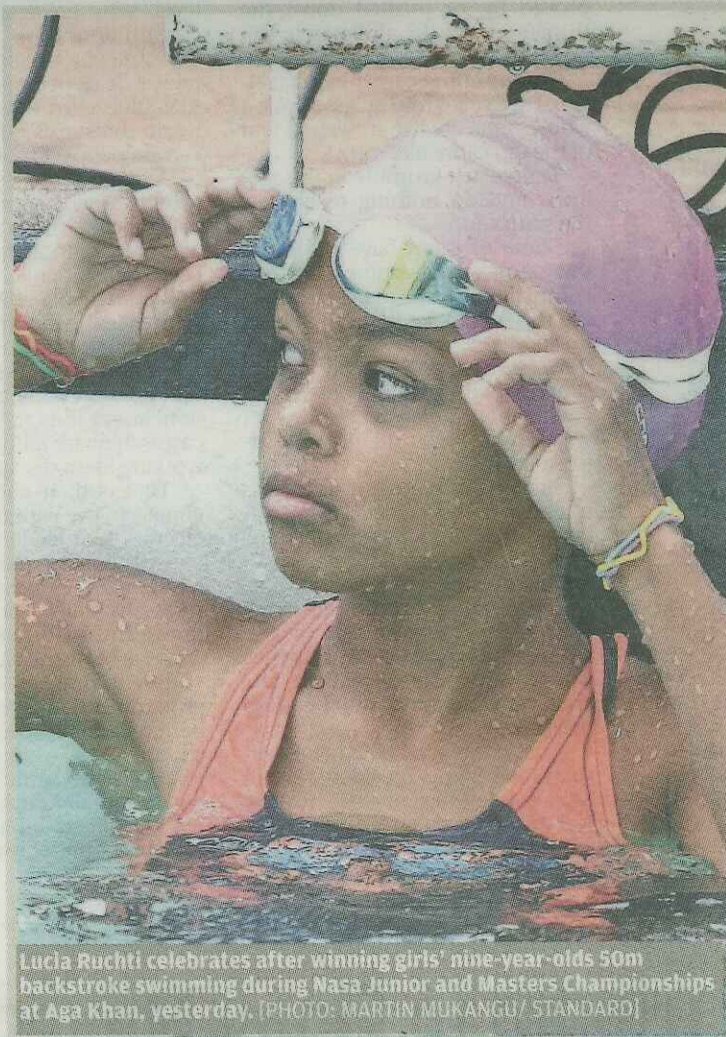
TOP FOUR

Boys' seven year olds category was dominated with swimmers from Makini School who occupied the top four positions during the Championships yesterday.

Karanja Njoroge led the pack when he registered 1:57.46 to bag gold followed by Maina Njoroge (1:59.16), Michael Michuki (2:07.86) and Ishaq Bashir (2:13.90). Aden Githae of African Swimming Academy was the best placed non Makini swimmer in the event after he finished fifth in 2:17.90.

Victoria Okumu of Braeside reigned supreme in girls' eight year olds category after she won 100m individual contest in 1:34.34 to bag gold.

Radina Buzukova of Germany School finished in runner-up position in 1:46.12 while Ahura Ambala of Bubbles bagged bronze in 1:52.73. The competition continues today.



Lucia Ruchti celebrates after winning girls' nine-year-olds 50m backstroke swimming during Nasa Junior and Masters Championships at Aga Khan, yesterday. (PHOTO: MARTIN MUKANGU/STANDARD)