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## **Vollmer leads Granbury girls to narrow title win**

**By Avery Holton**

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On paper, Mansfield had the championship.

On a chart that Granbury coach Robert Laura plotted for a District 4-5A coaches meeting two weeks ago, the Lady Tigers held a three-point advantage over his Lady Pirates.

But when Mansfield lost its second-place finish in the 200-yard medley relay by disqualification Saturday, all of Laura's plotting went down the drain, and Granbury surfaced with a one-point victory at Wilkerson-Greines Activity Center in Fort Worth.

The Lady Pirates, led by Olympic gold medalist Dana Vollmer, edged the Lady Tigers 82-81 for their second straight district title despite moving up to Class 5A this season.

Mansfield easily captured the boys team title, with 144 points to finish well ahead of North Crowley (69) and Granbury (44).

"After that disqualification, I thought we had a good shot at winning it by five points," said Laura, in his fourth year at Granbury. "We'd swam here before and knew the judges could be extremely serious, but Mansfield hadn't been here this year. I think that played to our favor."

So did Vollmer's record-shattering day. The senior bettered the 50-yard freestyle state record with a time of 23.15 seconds in the opening leg of her team's 200-yard freestyle relay. And she set Fort Worth school district pool records in the 100-yard butterfly and 200-yard freestyle, events in which she's ranked 15th in the world.

Vollmer's 1:49.23 in the 200 free sliced nearly two seconds off last year's record of 1:51.34 set by Lamar's Codie Hansen.

But it was her team's strong final event, the 400-yard freestyle, that helped the Lady Pirates to its fourth-ever district title.

After trailing Summit by as much as 5.45 seconds, and Mansfield by nearly nine seconds, Granbury got a strong finishing push from freshman Seabre Pope to finish in 4:00.98, 19-hundredths of a second behind second-place Summit.

Had Pope failed with her late push, Granbury could have finished fourth and lost the district title by a single point.

### **IN THE KNOW**

#### **Top individuals**

Granbury's Dana Vollmer was named the Female Swimmer of the Meet. ... North Crowley freshman Francisco Nieves and Mansfield's Nick Barkley were named Male Swimmers of the Meet. ... Nieves won four gold medals and narrowly missed the FWISD record with a 22.45 in the 50-yard freestyle.