

## **Special Edition - Volume 27 of JSR On-Line**

The goal behind the launching of “The Journal of Swimming Research” (JSR) has been to provide a platform for the dissemination of manuscripts that focus on competitive swimming. A personal conversation with Steve Roush, the recently appointed Chief Executive Officer of ASCA, once again confirmed this philosophy. What this fortunately means is that we publish only when we are satisfied that we have enough content for a new volume.

This time, however, it is our contention that the sole manuscript submitted by Professors *David A. Faux and Janet D. Godolphin, of the University of Surrey, in the U.K.*, is important enough to warrant a “Special Issue.”

Simply stated, the manuscript focuses on the way electronic touch pads are programmed to record and display close finishes in the pool, and the sobering fact that there are serious limitations in the way that a fair outcome in close races is currently decided. Not unexpectedly, the manuscript highlights what is probably the most famous finish in recent Olympic history — the final touches of Phelps and Čavić in the 100m Butterfly at the 2008 Beijing Games.

We are fortunate that the authors, professors of mathematics and physics, are also concerned swimming enthusiasts. They have directed their expertise to addressing what you, the reader, will agree is an urgent matter, given the inherent fairness we would like to think is built into our sport.

Our hope is that FINA, U.S. Swimming, and all world-wide governing bodies of swimming will take notice and act accordingly, particularly with the one-year reprieve we have been extended for the Tokyo Olympics.

We wish you sober reading.

Jan Prins  
Editor-in-Chief

### **Sponsor**

The Journal of Swimming Research is sponsored and supported by the American Swimming Coaches Association.

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