

AWESOME ALIA

Alia Atkinson won her first gold medal at a European meet Saturday night at the 48th Sette Colli International Open Swimming Trophy Meet.

The two-time Jamaican Olympian won the 50-meter breaststroke in a career-best 31.06, moving her into seventh place in the world rankings, her highest career ranking.

Less than 24 hours after breaking 1:10 in the 100-meter breaststroke for the first time in her career with a best time of 1:09.91, the South Florida Aquatic Club (SOFLO) swimmer came back to top an international field in Rome.

SOFLO is the only United States team competing in the three-day meet that concludes on Sunday.

Atkinson, 22, was seeded first in the 50m event after the morning prelims in 31.54 ahead of Germany's Sarah Poewe (31.88) and Dorothea Brandt (31.91).

In the finals, Brandt was second in 31.68 and Natasha Waitzer was third in 31.69.

Atkinson's previous career-best was 31.95.

The Jamaica Sports Woman of the Year runner-up has won her share of medals and broken meet records at the Central American and Caribbean Games and other meets and won a NCAA title her senior year at Texas A&M, but never won a gold medal overseas.

Alia Atkinson of the South Florida Aquatic Club won her second medal on the final day of the 48th Sette Colli International Open Swimming Trophy Meet in Rome, Italy.

Atkinson, 22, seeded eighth going into the 200-meter breaststroke, turned it on in the final 50 meters of the championship final to take the bronze medal.





The two-time Jamaican Olympian out-touched Finland's Jenna Laukkanen, 2:29.57 to 2:29.89 for third place. She had qualified eighth in morning prelims in 2:33.03. Her career-best is 2:29.53

Atkinson, ranked seventh in the world, also won a gold medal in the 50-meter breaststroke.

During the three-day meet, Atkinson also turned in two career-best times in the 50-meter breaststroke in 31.06 and 100-meter breaststroke in 1:09.91, the first time she cracked 1:10.

100 METERS BREASTSTROKE – NEW NATIONAL RECORD







WR	1'04.45	HARDY Jessica A	USA	1987	Federal Way	04/08/2009
ER	1'05.41	EFIMOVA Yuliya	RUS	1992	Roma	28/07/2009
IR	1'06.86	SCARCELLA Iliaria	ITA	1993	Pescara	28/05/2009
CR	1'05.34	JONES Leisel	AUS	1985		06/06/2008

Pos	Crs Lane	Nome & Cognome Name & Surname	Naz Nat	Anno Born	Societa' Team	50 m	Arrivo Final
1	6	Rikke Moller PEDERSEN		1989	Danimarca	32.62	1'08.32
2	5	Sarah POEWE		1983	Germania	32.02	1'08.76
3	7	Sara EL BEKRI		1987	Lagardère Paris Racing - Fra	33.10	1'09.37
4	4	Chiara BOGGIATTO		1986	Italia	32.67	1'09.46
5	9	Alia ATKINSON		1988	Coral Springs - Usa	33.69	1'09.91
6	2	Laura SIMON		1994	Germania	33.57	1'10.16
7	8	Nicol VALENTINI		1989	Aurelia Unicusano	33.15	1'10.43
DSQ	3	Jenna LAUKKANEN		1995	Finlandia	33.03	DSQ

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50 METERS BREASTSTROKE – NEW NATIONAL RECORD








WR	29.80	HARDY Jessica A	USA	1987	Federal Way	04/08/2009
ER	30.09	EFIMOVA Yuliya	RUS	1992	Roma	02/08/2009
IR	31.08	PANARA Roberta	ITA	1984	Riccione	05/03/2009
CR	30.82	JONES Leisel	AUS	1985		07/06/2008

Pos	Crs Lane	Nome & Cognome Name & Surname	Naz Nat	Anno Born	Societa' Team	Arrivo Final
1	5	Alia ATKINSON		1988	Coral Springs - Usa	31.06
2	4	Dorothea BRANDT		1984	Germania	31.68
3	7	Natasha WAITZER		1987	Australia	31.69
4	3	Rikke Moller PEDERSEN		1989	Danimarca	32.04
5	6	Sarah POEWE		1983	Germania	32.14
6	8	Laura SIMON		1994	Germania	32.36
7	2	Martina CARRARO		1993	Genova Nuoto	32.42
8	9	Nicol VALENTINI		1989	Aurelia Unicusano	32.92

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200 METERS BREASTSTROKE – NATIONAL PREVIOUSLY IS 2:29:53

WR	2'20.12	PIERSE Annamay	CAN	1983	Roma	30/07/2009
ER	2'21.62	HIGL Nadja	SRB	1987	Roma	31/07/2009
IR	2'23.32	SCARCELLA Iliaria	ITA	1993	Roma	30/07/2009
CR	2'21.81	JONES Leisel	AUS	1985		08/06/2008

Pos	Crs Lane	Nome & Cognome Name & Surname	Naz Nat	Anno Born	Societa' Team	50 m	100 m	150 m	Arrivo Final
1	5	Rikke Moller PEDERSEN		1989	Danimarca	33.38	1'11.48	1'49.22	2'26.20
2	6	Chiara BOGGIATTO		1986	Italia	34.07	1'11.32	1'49.83	2'28.38
3	9	Alia ATKINSON		1988	Coral Springs - Usa	34.47	1'12.57	1'52.31	2'29.57
4	3	Jenna LAUKKANEN		1995	Finlandia	34.47	1'12.95	1'51.08	2'29.89
5	4	Sarah POEWE		1983	Germania	33.56	1'11.70	1'50.25	2'30.04
6	2	Elisa CELLI		1990	Pol Comunale Riccione	35.02	1'13.06	1'51.70	2'30.89
7	7	Laura SIMON		1994	Germania	34.26	1'11.92	1'50.87	2'31.18
8	8	Francesca FANGIO		1995	Nuoto Livorno	35.14	1'13.40	1'54.19	2'32.99