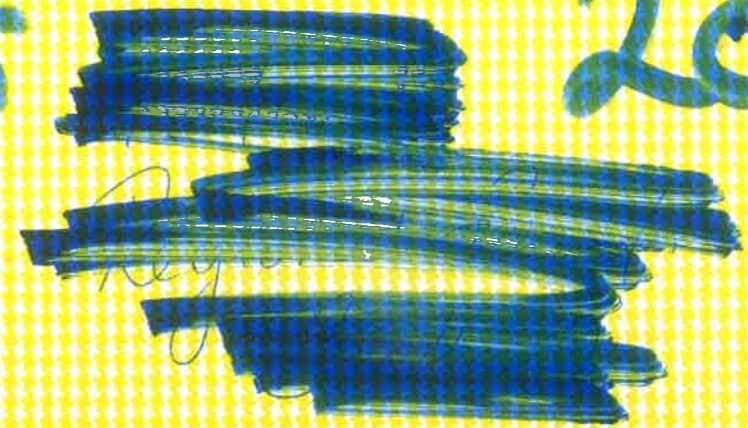


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ESSELTE

Ready for Interaction

COMMUNITY
BY GRAEME BRIGHT,
BATHURST EAST ROTARY

BATHURST East Rotary has established an Interact Club with students from Denison College Kelso High Campus.

The induction of office bearers and new members took place at Bathurst RSL with guests and parents of the inductees in attendance.

Guests included assistant district governor Miles Hedge from the Rotary Club of Blayney, district youth director Debbie Schache from the Rotary Club of Bathurst Daybreak and Denison College Kelso Campus principal Mick Sloan.

Mr Sloan told the gathering how proud he was of this group of students, all of whom also belong to the Circus Surreal program. He said he loved the connection with Rotary because of what the students will learn from the ideals of Rotary.

Assistant governor Miles Hedge spoke of the 112-year history of Rotary and the motto of "Service above self".

He said there were 460,000 young people in 20,000 Inter-



JOIN THE CLUB: Students from Denison College Kelso High Campus gathered recently for the induction of office bearers and members of the Interact Club.

act clubs around the world. All are sponsored by Rotary.

He also pointed out that links have already been forged with the Interact club of Hawaii. In fact, when Circus Surreal tours Hawaii next year, the Interactors will be home hosted through this link.

After being inducted as Interact Club president,

Dayna Willott talked about future plans for the club, in particular mentioning that the junior circus program in Hawaii was struggling to maintain funds, and that the club members had decided to undertake fundraising activities to support the Hawaiian students.

Dayna also expressed a desire for the Interact Club

to help organise a ball in Bathurst to recognise the contribution made by volunteers in Bathurst who give up their time for the benefit of the community.

JOIN THE CLUB

- Treasurer: Ethan Hamer, Jackson Howle.
- Members: Claire Sheehan, Charlotte Cosgrove, Bridget Annand, Emma Constant, Jasmine Morris, Liam Smith, Lucy Butler, Ben Howle, Curtis Parrington, Jake Parker, Rosie Forsyth, Tia Muggleton, Hannah Talbot.



SNAPSHOT: Kelso High circus performers Bridget Annand and Lucy Butler in lantern costumes for Light the Night in Macchattie Park on Saturday.

Western Advocate Monday 30th October

Western Advocate 31st October
Tuesday

Lifelong skills on offer for students

EDUCATION

BY BRADLEY JURD

BATHURST Youth Council, in conjunction with TAFE Western Bathurst, hosted a workshop to help prepare and teach students valuable life skills on Wednesday.

Titled 'How to Adult', workshops were held at the Bathurst campus and taught Bathurst High and MacKillop College students how to take care of a car, to make basic meals, to become more resilient, to prepare a resume and make cover letters and to plan a post-school pathway.

Youth councillor Sarah Cheesman was involved with the planning of the workshop.

"We all had to brainstorm events and I thought of things that not everyone wouldn't have learned about at school," she said.

"We had a lot of interest for the idea, a lot of inquiries.

"I didn't have an opportunity like this at school. I did



HOW TO ADULT: TAFE NSW Bathurst lecturers Brett Dinger and John Ewing show Bathurst High Campus students how to properly look after a car. **Photo: BRADLEY JURD**

food technology at school, but some people miss."

She said the workshops were very beneficial.

"I just bought my first car. Having that knowledge when it comes to caring for the car is valuable," she said.

"I know what to do and it's good to be independent."

Other TAFE campuses

have shown interest and the council hopes to instigate up to two workshops a year.

Student engagement officer Angela Trevor-Jones said the workshops will be hugely beneficial.

"It's something they don't get an opportunity to learn about at school," she said.

"It's an opportunity to

learn how to be an adult in a learning environment and experience what it's like to be at TAFE.

"I heard about the idea as I'm a part of the Bathurst youth network, supporting young people in Bathurst.

"We thought TAFE would be the perfect place to hold the workshops."

Green mash Mudgee in short space of time

CRICKET

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

IT TOOK Bathurst Under 14s Green just 35 overs across the space of two innings to see off a visiting Mudgee side on Sunday.

Bathurst rebounded from the Mitchell Cricket Council round one loss to Orange in emphatic fashion, chasing down Mudgee's total of 48 in a hurry.

Opener Blake Kreuzberger almost reeled in the Mudgee target on his own with an unbeaten knock of 39 at Morse Park.

Just five runs from other Bathurst batsmen and five Mudgee sundries made up the rest of the hosts' reply.

"We chased Mudgee's score in 10.1 overs. After the loss in round one I set the boys a challenge to chase down the total before first drinks, which is at 17 overs," Bathurst coach Clint Bryant said.

"We had a bit of luck with one dropped catch but after that we started to kick in to gear.

"We worked hard on making sure we didn't lose wickets cheaply after the first game. In that time between the first round match and now we had six boys play for Mitchell and two players score centuries for their local clubs.

"Mudgee had two Mitchell players and they were obviously the big wickets. We managed to get them out quickly."

Bathurst thrust themselves into the box seat when they removed Mudgee's Mitchell representatives, Fergus Ferguson (7) and captain Oscar Mahon (12), cheaply.

At that point Mudgee were

“

Mudgee had two Mitchell players and they were obviously the big wickets. We managed to get them out quickly.

Clint Bryant

in serious trouble at 4-28 and they would lose their next three wickets for three runs.

Sean Donato claimed enviable figures of 3-3 off his three overs for Bathurst, taking apart the Mudgee tail order with a hat trick.

Jacob Ryan wasn't far behind with his 3-6 coming from five overs. Only two of those runs came from an opponents' bat.

Dominic Lynn (10 not out) was the only other Mudgee batsman to reach double figures.

Mudgee lost their last three wickets without adding to their score.

Kreuzberger was relentless in the run chase for Bathurst as he hit four boundaries.

Mudgee claimed three dismissals but there wasn't going to be any stopping Bathurst from taking their first win of the season.

"Orange was just our first game of the season and it's not fair to read much into that game," Bryant said.

"We've got Bathurst Yellow next in the derby. That will be one we've got to be ready for because they'll be coming in off two wins."

The Bathurst derby will be November 26.



DOMINANT: Tom Judge comes in to bowl for the Bathurst Under 14s Green side in their big win over Mudgee on Sunday. **Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK**

Western Advocate Thursday 2nd November

Western Advocate Wednesday 8th November

NEW ARRIVALS

westernadvocate.com.au



LITTLE BOY: Danielle Cockerill and Will Maloney became parents when Henry William was born on October 23. 102517cbab1a



A GIRL: Tempany Goodfellow and Mack Miller welcomed Zoe May Miller on October 27. She is a sister for Zaylee. 103017cbab1



IT'S A BOY: Jess and Chris Bennett welcomed Lachlan Jacob on November 3. He is a brother for Winston and Victoria. 110617cbab1a



BABY OF THE WEEK: Kylie and Cameron Neville were blessed with the birth of their second child, daughter Georgia Grace Neville, on October 30. She is a sister for Charlotte. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK 110117cbab2

OUR NEW ARRIVALS

The Bathurst region has a number of new little faces. Proud parents across the city and surrounds have welcomed some new bubs into their homes – and their hearts. It's always an exciting time.



ADORABLE: Tiffany and Shane Sharman are parents to baby girl Dixie-Ann Elizabeth Sharman, born on October 30. She is a sister for Ryker and Bryce. 103017cbab3a



CUTE: Louise and Corey Hemopo welcomed Penelope Jean Hemopo on October 28. She is a sister for Evie and Mitch. 103017cbab2a



BLESSED: Alexandra Hemming and Josh Fleming welcomed twin boys on October 20. 110117cbab1



BUNDLE OF JOY: Jess Fiedler and Michael Gafa welcomed their first child, son Charlie James Gafa on November 4. 110617cbab2



FUN NIGHT OUT: Jordan Peterson, Amanda Peterson and Linda Lea caught up on the night. 110417rfs5

CAPTAIN CALLS IT A DAY

COLIN Humphries was recently recognised for his 25 years of service at the captain at Perthville/Georges Plains Rural Fire Brigade. Members past and present came together for the celebration in his honour.

*Western Advocate
Monday
13th November*



AT THE SHOWGROUND: Daniel Luther and Lucy Goodfellow at the Long Track Masters event, Bathurst Showground.

LONG TRACK SOCIALS

Bathurst Showground hosted the Australian Long Track Masters on Saturday night with thousands attending the event. The Long Track attracted 180 competitors in 106 races, held over 12 hours.



CHEERING: Denison College Kelso campus Year 12 student Emily Geerkens was happy to finish up her exams. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK 110717chsckhs1

Pens down for our HSC students

HSC EXAMS

YEAR 12 students across Bathurst can enjoy a well-deserved sleep in on Wednesday now that the Higher School Certificate exams are over.

The final three exams were held on Tuesday, they being design and technology, retail

services and drama.

Denison College Kelso campus had four students sitting the very last exam, drama, on Tuesday.

Student Emily Geerkens had six days between her last two exams and said the break gave her plenty of time to study.

"It was pretty good. I was pretty prepared from all the study I did," she said.

"I'm a creative person, so I like all of the creative stuff."

The drama exam had two essay questions to answer, with one and a half hours to complete them.

Her exam results will com-

bine with the results from an individual project, conducted last term, to give Emily an overall mark for the subject.

Emily was feeling relieved after her exam, particularly given she already has her plans for next year set in stone.

She will be moving to

Sydney to attend Excelsia College, where she will study a Bachelor of Music.

The HSC results will be released on Thursday, December 14, with the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) released at 9am the following day.

- RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN

Western Advocate Wednesday 8th November

3RD BATHURST (ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL) SCOUT GROUP MENTIONED IN PARLIAMENT

LAST WEEK I brought the Parliament's attention to the 3rd Bathurst (All Saints Cathedral) Scout Group's 85th anniversary.

I was delighted to attend the recent celebrations, marking such a significant milestone. Scouting in the Bathurst community

has earned great respect for its core values and the leadership skills that it brings. The organisation helps our younger people flourish and become an integral part of the community through developing areas of personal growth and leadership.

In my speech, special mention was made to a number of members of the 3rd Bathurst (All Saints Cathedral) Scout Group, including: leader in charge Sandie Thomas; chair Rory Hock; treasurer Meegan Meekin; secretary Ann Louise Hardy; committee

members Sam Higgins, Keith Worthington, Peter Brady, Leanne Upton and David McInroy; section leaders of the joey mob Jacinta Heaton, Kristal Thomas, Sophia Kersten and Rebecca Robinson-Carroll.

I also mentioned section leaders of the cub pack Rochelle Dawes, Paul Hennessy and Tom Christie; section leaders of the scout group Simon Fraser, Steven Fry, Corey Belan, Greg Nichols and Geordie Mulholland; and section leaders of the venturer unit Gary Jonassen and Chris Worthington.



▲ Andrew cutting the birthday cake with Sarah Hardie, Bailey Fraser and Lachie McGuire.

Mad Hatter of Mayfield

OVER 380 PEOPLE visited Mayfield Garden on Sunday, 10 September to be entertained by the incredible Cirkus Surreal performing 'The Mad Hatter of Mayfield' in Mayfield's magical, enchanting amphitheatre.

The weather gods had been prayed to, as it was a sunny and successful day.

Over \$5,500 was raised for Cirkus Surreal to continue funding interstate and international tours, creating extraordinary costumes

by Director Stephanie Brown, plus new equipment and other expenses to be covered.

The talented and fascinating crew wowed the audience with tissue and hoop performances and bending their bodies in ways we didn't know our bodies could go, as well as trapeze, flamingo stilt walkers, a cube thrower, and a tweedle dee and tweedle dumb using the diabolo!

Mayfield had the guests' tummies full, with a pop-up food and beverage

stall serving produce grown on site, and local wine and beer too.

The purpose of the circus program is to develop resilience in the students of Kelso High Campus.

To provide a framework for the development of life-long learning skills associated with living a healthy and productive life – we believe the Cirkus Surreal team inspired many kids who came to watch the 'Alice in Wonderland' inspired day.

Images – Supplied by Mayfield Garden



*Bathurst City Life
14th - 20th September*



HEALTHY LIFESTYLES: Guests Rikka Lamb-Lane and Nathan Hindmarsh with Jake Callaghan at the educational event.

Supporting healthy students

EDUCATION

FORMER NRL star Nathan Hindmarsh was in Kelso this week, speaking with school students about the importance of making good decisions about their health.

Hindmarsh was joined by Rikka Lamb-Lane, a young Aboriginal woman from

Goodooga who currently works for the Wellington Aboriginal Community Health Service, and an impressive role model having represented her country in both Oz Tag and Netball.

The event, organised by Bathurst Young Mob provided students from across

all schools with information about health services available and hear about the importance of nutrition and fitness, mental health and general health.

Kelso High students were joined by students from Blayney High School and Stannies.



SNAPSHOT: Bathurst Green's Justin Stephenson just hangs on to this catch during Sunday's under 14s derby against Bathurst Yellow.

Western Advocate Saturday 25th November



GROUP: Dave Mitchell, Danielle Patterson, Sam Patterson and Christine Porter after the round the Central West Interclub MBXC Interclub Series at Clandulla earlier this year.

Porter claims masters title

CYCLING

SHE may have not have won any of her six races, but on Sunday Bathurst mountain biker Christine Porter finished 16 points ahead of fellow local rider Danielle Patterson to win the Central West Interclub Mountain Bike XC Interclub Series female masters category.

Races were held at Rydal, Bathurst, Clandulla, Hawkesbury Heights, Geurie and Lake Canobolas (Sunday's location) and while Porter didn't win any of those meetings, she only missed out on the podium twice.

With Patterson not com-

peting at each race, it was enough for Porter to claim victory overall.

"I'm particularly happy as it was against Danielle," she laughed.

"I've been gloating a bit considering how she beats me a lot."

Recent rainfall helped dampen out the dusty track, ahead of the two day meeting on Saturday and Sunday.

"The trails were magic. It was dusty beforehand and there was not much grip," Patterson said.

"The rain was fantastic to ride on. I was in my element, flowing and fast. At the top, it

was like a roller coaster.

"I raced all six races, so it was good to get to know the local rivals.

"To have an event series in the Central West helps build the strength of all the local clubs."

Over all categories, Western Sydney Mountain Bike Club won the series, ahead of Orange Mountain Bike Club.

Bathurst riders Jarrod Bell finished second in the men's open category.

Daniel Watson took out the final podium place in third, after only competing in three of the six races.

— BRADLEY JURD

*Wednesday 29th November
Western Advocate*

Greens prevail in derby meeting

Kruezberger's ton a highlight in victory

CRICKET

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

THE depth of Bathurst's under 14s talent was on display at George Park in Sunday's Mitchell Cricket Council derby clash.

Bathurst is the only city in any junior Mitchell competition this season to field two teams in one competition and on the weekend they got the opportunity to face one another.

Bathurst Green were always going to be a tough assignment for the Yellow development side, and the more experienced squad came away with a 201 run win.

Blake Kruezberger (104) and Hamish Siegert (52) put on a devastating first wicket partnership for Green, paving the way for a total of 257 from their 50 overs.

Aiden Stait, Calvin Windus and Harry Noonan each picked up a pair of wickets.

Yellow's chase never got going against a ruthless Green attack.

Jacob Ryan finished with 3-4 from his seven overs. Sean Donato (2-6) was also on fire with the ball.

Tom Siede top scored with 14.

"It was always going to be tough for the Yellow boys. Our guys are very experienced now," Green coach Clint Bryant.

"We went out there aiming to put together a very strong total. The hardest part was getting them to focus on playing cricket instead of playing against their mates.

"I think our openers were out there for 31 overs. It was a big effort from them. They're both very good cricketers and it's great to see them put on a stand like that.

"We've got a really strong bowling lineup, and actually have four of the Mitchell bowlers. Sean Donato had a hat trick last match and he was really good again in this game."

It was a valuable day of learning for the Bathurst Yellow side who had little to lose going up against their slightly more experienced rivals.

Yellow already have wins over Lithgow and Mudgee to their name, meaning the loss on Sunday has done little to hurt their semi-final chances.

The tough matchups continue for Yellow when they host Orange on December 10 while Green travel to Blue Mountains on December 17.



HARD TO CONTAIN: Jacob Ryan finished with figures of 3-4 in Bathurst Under 14s Green's win over Bathurst Yellow. **Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT**



GRITTY EFFORT: Opener Tom Siede top scored on a tough day for Bathurst Yellow with 14 runs. **Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT**

Mitchell 14s need a win in season finale

CRICKET

THE Western Zone under 14s Inter Council season all boils down to this Sunday's match between Mitchell and Lachlan in Bathurst. If hosts Mitchell can get the win over Lachlan then both councils, plus remaining contender Macquarie, will finish the season with two victories each. Mitchell will be driven to make that happen after going down to Lachlan on their turf last month. The team is dominated by Bathurst talent. Three players from the Bathurst Under

14s Green Mitchell Cricket Council competition side will be making their debuts at Western level this Sunday: Sean Donato, Justin Stephenson and Blake Kruezberger. "We'll also have an Orange lad Nick Murphy coming into the team. He scored 122 against Lithgow on the weekend," Mitchell coach Clint Bryant said. "If there's one thing I've noticed about our Mitchell team it's that we're not reliant on just a couple of players but in Lachlan and Macquarie there's usually two or three guys who they're



LAST CHANGE: Jacob Ryan will lead the bowling charge for Mitchell Cricket Council. **Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT**

consistent runs over the Inter council season along with opener Mikey McNamara. Mac Webster boasts a

five-for to his name from Lachlan's opening win of the season against Macquarie. Bryant is hopeful his side can learn their lessons from a five wicket loss to Lachlan last month.

"I think there were more positives than negatives to come out of that game. The bowling effort probably slipped away in our final overs and we struggled to pick up runs, but to be fair the pitch was a little damp," he said.

"Any one of our players are capable of standing up and winning it for us. It's just

that none of them have quite managed to fire yet. Hopefully they can here in the last match."

The 12s and 16s will also be playing matches in Bathurst this Sunday.

It's a dead rubber for the Mitchell 16s, who are already guaranteed the title, but they'll be eager to go through undefeated.

For the under 12s crew it's their second last opportunity for a win this season.

The games will be taken place across the Sportsground, Morse Park 1 and 2. **- ALEXANDER GRANT**

Western Advocate Wednesday 29th November

Western Advocate Saturday 2nd December



STAR TURN: Featured dancer Lily Cole of Denison College Bathurst High Campus during the iconic Schools Spectacular finale. Photos: SUPPLIED



GET SET: Dancer Mia Ryan of the Denison College Kelso High Campus prepares her make-up.



CLASSICAL: Lily Cole of Denison College Bathurst High Campus in Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet 2.



GRACE: Featured dancer Lily Cole of Denison College Bathurst High Campus was part of the ballet.

SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR

Young performers from Bathurst Public, Eglinton Public and the Bathurst High and Kelso High campuses of Denison College were among the 5700 young participants in the 2017 Schools Spectacular last weekend.



UNITY: Tyson Rice of the Denison College Kelso High Campus in A Moment to Unite.



FUN: Bathurst Public School performers Charlotte Graham, Ainsley Douglas, Tyler Johnson and Aislinn McBurney.

Western Advocate Saturday 2nd December



LADIES IN RED: Bathurst High dancers Libbee Pratzky, Elise Fowler, Bethany Sargeant, Jane Sheather, Olivia Turnbull and Emma Brennan-Newton at the Schools Spectacular.

Students' spectacular show

EDUCATION

STUDENTS from four Bathurst region public schools will share their talents with a national audience when the 2017 Schools Spectacular is broadcast on Channel 7 later this month.

Students from Eglinton Public, Bathurst Public and the Bathurst High and Kelso High campuses of Denison College were among the 5700 performers who took part in the Schools Spectacular at Sydney's Qudos Bank Arena last weekend.

And they will be able to relive the excitement of the show when Channel 7 puts

“Vitality of these young performers is pure joy.”

Creative director Sonja Sjolander

a special screening of the performance to air at 7pm on Saturday, December 16.

Shot with 15 cameras from throughout Qudos Bank Arena, the telecast of the whole show will offer unparalleled appreciation of the talents of

the performers.

“It really is a must-see,” creative director Sonja Sjolander said.

“There is a reason that audiences, whether in the arena or watching on television, have so much anticipation for the Schools Spectacular each year.

“The vitality of these outstanding young performers is pure joy.

“Schools Spectacular has something for everybody.

“While it was electric in the arena, on television the show offers a completely different dimension of enjoyment.”

More photos, page 9



O'Connor's prize a highlight

MARTIAL ARTS

NAZ O'Connor's champion of champions triumph in sword combat was the highlight for the Hickey's Precision Martial Arts contingent at the recent International Sports Karate Association's (ISKA) National Championships.

O'Connor added to his first place in sword combat, second in point sparring and third in kata by taking the highly sought after champion of champions prize.

The 16-strong team - ranging from six to 40-year-old - picked up 10 first placings.

The strong collection of

“We had lots of fantastic results.”
Taylor Hickey

results for the Bathurst group saw them finish seventh in the point score out of 40 teams.

“We had lots of fantastic results, which is a reflection of the team's hard work and dedication,” coach Taylor Hickey said.

“Coming away with seventh out of 40 teams was a really good result.”

“We had a really good run the last time we competed in October so the team worked hard to go well again.”

Keelan Ruston-Walkom (kata, sparring, sword combat), Jaiden Gunning (kata, weapons), Kobe Vella (point sparring), Felicity Vella (sumo) and Adan Coello (self defence) all picked up wins for the Precision Martial Arts team.

Beau Blattman, Kiara Blattman, Olivia Duffey, Amber Gay, Tanya Vella, Reubin Delaney, Michaela Doungmanee and Jacob McGovern all found top three results.

- ALEXANDER GRANT

TOP THREES GALORE: The Precision Martial Arts team display their prizes from the recent International Sports Karate Association's (ISKA) National Championships.

Western Advocate Tuesday 5th December

ARTISAN MARKETS

The community was out and about at the Bathurst Artisan Markets on Saturday, browsing some of the best local wares and enjoying live music.

The markets are held three times a year, on a Saturday, from 9am to 1pm at the Bathurst Library's forecourt.



FAMILY: Both Mimi and Billy Taylor were out and about at the Bathurst Artisan Markets on the weekend. 120217pbarti5



ON SALE These little goodies were up for grabs at the Bathurst Artisan Markets on Saturday. 120217pbarti6

Western Advocate 6th December

Cadets' SES training for emergencies

EMERGENCY SERVICES

WRECKED cars, rescues and emergency situations, it has been an intensive week for these State Emergency Service (SES) cadets from Denison College.

A position as an SES cadet is so highly-sought after that just 24 of the 85 applicants across the college were accepted.

The college has been taking part in the SES cadetships for the past four years and Kelso High teacher Paul Purser said the program has been a benefit for the students.

Students have undertaken training at their school as well as at the SES Bathurst unit and finally at Chifley Dam for flood rescue and search scenarios this Friday.

On Wednesday, cadets took turns in helping to cut up a car using rescue equipment with the help of SES volunteers.

“In terms of looking at a car and what it's like being smashed, it's quite confronting,” Mr Purser said.



HANDS-ON TRAINING: SES cadets from Denison College Jay Tangye, Samantha Beale-Callaghan and Lucy Butler. Photo: MADINE MORTON 120617/mmses2

Western Advocate Thursday 7th December

Bathurst rivals now unite for league tag

LEAGUE TAG

BY ANYA WHITELOW

IT IS no secret that St Pat's and Bathurst Panthers have a fierce rivalry when it comes to Group 10 Rugby League, but for now at least the two clubs are forming a united front.

The Bathurst rivals are both keen to see an under 18s women's league tag competition added to the Group 10 senior premierships already contested for 2018.

It was the Saints - winners of this year's open league tag grand final - who proposed the expansion of the women's involvement at the recent Group 10 annual general meeting.

The blue and whites have the numbers to field an under 18s side and were hoping others would be receptive to doing the same.

Bathurst Panthers president Dennis Comerford admits he was not initially a fan of the idea, but has since changed his mind. Now he sees it as something which could be a successful endeavour.

"At the AGM there probably wasn't a real lot of support for it, I think a lot of clubs were thinking about starting another hour earlier on Sunday, and I was one of those, I won't deny that," he said.

"But after a bit of thought, from our club's perspective, we've decided to give it a crack. Emma Duke, who plays in our women's league tag side, she coaches our under 16s, she was pretty confident we'd have the numbers to put together an under 18s side for next year and has put her hand up to coach them."

At AGM it was decided that if clubs could form an under 18s league tag outfit, that they sort out games between themselves. It would be on a non-competitive basis, acting like exhibition matches.

But after Comerford spoke to St Pat's Graeme Ward, both feel the concept deserves better than sporadic games and no premierships.

They are pushing for other Group 10 clubs to join them in making a proper under 18s women's league tag premierships.

"I think if we are going to go down that line, we've got to do it properly and run it along the same line as we run the under 18s," Comerford said. "We need to fully integrate those girls into the clubs.

"If we could get five out of the nine clubs get teams, we could run a full on competi-



NEW COMPETITION: St Pat's has proposed the formation of an under 18s league tag competition to its fellow Group 10 clubs. **Photo: PHIL BLATCH**

tion. Even if it's four clubs, they could play finals the same as the blokes do and go on to play a grand final on grand final day.

"This is how league tag started out with only a few clubs being in it, and look at what it is now.

"If clubs want to be fair dinkum about it and give it crack, if they get word out now, they might attract the numbers to do it. We hope we can make a fist of it."

Based on the under 16s league tag gala days staged this year, the Bathurst clubs feel forming an under 18s competition is feasible.

It would help juniors better transition to the senior competition and in turn, make for

a healthy future for the senior league.

"The age difference can be a bit intimidating, even in the men's it's intimidating," Comerford said.

"With the young girls now, the concept of league tag has only been with them for 12 months. They've got to have a career path as well and some who played under 16s this season, while they can play women's league tag, they probably feel they are not up to the standard of that competition.

"But they still want to play the game, and by having something at an under 18s level, it keeps them involved and interested. We should encourage all clubs to get behind this."

Close contest going into two-day games



NEXT CHAPTER: Mark Day and Bathurst City are looking to open their BDCA two-day season with a win. **Photo: PHIL BLATCH**

CRICKET

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

IS IT safe to put the umbrella away yet?

Bathurst City and ORC certainly hope so as they each hope to move to a positive win-loss record following their Bathurst District Cricket Association first grade two-day fixture.

Redbacks captain Matt Willis said the rain has put more importance than ever on the two-day games.

"This is where you win comps because there's a lot of points up for grabs," he said.

"The competition's close at the moment and that's a good thing because it means the best teams over the two-day games will be the ones making the semi-finals."

Unlike last season, where St Pat's Old Boys were already hard pressed for a finals spot at the halfway mark, this time around the competition is so close it has the potential to completely shift on its head in the space of two matches.

Struggles with numbers has been a theme for the Redbacks over the opening half of the competition.

“

The competition's very close at the moment and that's a good thing because it means the best teams over the two-day games will be the ones making the semi-finals.

Matt Willis

Willis is hopeful this game will be the last time his club are forced to bring up a handful of second grade players.

"We're using all three subs up but it is what it is. We'll have a red hot team together for the second week," he said.

"Joey Coughlan, Greg Adams and Trent Hemsforth are away but they'll all be back for the second day.

"We were always aiming to try and stay in the top four before Christmas because with all the social events the guys have had we

knew we'd be struggling in some games.

"The boys are very organised though and we know what our numbers will be like for the rest of the year."

George Park has been sparingly used over the course of the BDCA first grade season, with the round one match between Redbacks and ORC the only game played there thus far.

"I think the pitch will be brilliant with the rain we've had. Sometimes you need that little bit of water in the deck," Willis said.

"That might spice it up a bit and make it come up a treat."

In the previous meeting between the two clubs in round one Redbacks claimed a comfortable six wicket win at George Park.

Willis said it will be a tough task trying to make it two from two over the Tigers this season.

"ORC are a very dangerous team with some dangerous bats. Some days they turn up, others they don't, but when it's against us they often do," he said.

"With a few of the boys in our team being ORC juniors I know they look forward to playing against us."

(Standing): Lucy Butler, Bella O'Mally, Jo Murphy, Marty Ryan, Kylie Ryan and Lisa Sargent. (Sitting): Ginger Ryan and Archer Ryan



Dazzling on the Inside despite dreary weather on the Outside

While the weather was inclement, it sure didn't dampen the spirits of the staff at Inside Outside Bathurst Interiors Heating and Caravans, who staged an open day and attracted plenty of attendees on a wet and wild Saturday last weekend.



Above: Sam Egan, Andrew Colley, Bronwyn Colley, Eva Colley and Chris Shearman (Carillon Junior Theatrical Society)
Below: Bill Deratas (Royal Flair), Marty Ryan and Chris Kent



SAM BOLT

The open day was attended by industry experts such as Royal Flair's Bill Deratas and Lopi's Chris Kent, and was a well-utilised opportunity for Inside Outside to show off their well-designed interior settings, spacious caravans and homely heating options.

Also featured was a barbeque staged by the Carillon Junior Theatrical Society, which was raising funds to help its growing bunch of talented young performers, while Nic from Moubar Vintage provided hot drinks throughout the day.

Since opening in June 2016, Inside Outside has been a thriving local business in the Bathurst community, and its well-attended open day, despite the adverse weather, is supportive of this fact.

Inside Outside is located at 15 Lambert Street, with information at inoutbathurst.com.au



Schools Spectacular stars to burst onto screens

BATHURST STUDENTS WHO starred in the triumph of the 2017 Schools Spectacular recently are set to shine again.

This time they will delight upwards of a million viewers as their amazing performances are beamed across Australia on the Seven Network in the prime time slot of 7pm on Saturday, 16 December.

Shot last weekend with 15 cameras at vantage points throughout Qudos Bank Arena at Sydney Olympic Park, the telecast of the whole show will offer unparalleled appreciation of the enormous talents of the more than 5700 stars of the show.

"It really is a must-see," says Creative Director Sonja Sjolander.

"There is a reason that audiences, whether in the arena or watching on television, have so much anticipation for the Schools Spectacular each year.



"While it was electric in the arena, on television the show offers a completely different dimension of enjoyment.

"It has been magnificently captured by our partners Chief Entertainment for the Seven Network and I'm confident viewers will be thrilled by what they see."

Ms Sjolander said it will be a chance for the thousands of singers, dancers, musicians, circus performers, actors, stage and production crew and teachers and school staff who made Schools Spectacular 2017 the "biggest and best show ever" to own the moment with family and friends.



Bathurst City Life 7-13/12 December



FIRST CHILD: Sunny Gill and Gurvinder Kaur welcomed their first daughter, Inayat Kaur Gill, on December 4. 120617cbab1

*Western Advocate
Tuesday 12th December*

Bathurst City Life 7-13 December



ALL SMILES: SES cadets Zailie Albon and Lucinda Begg. 120617nmse6

CADETS' SES TRAINING

THE chance to get hands-on with training during a State Emergency Service (SES) cadetship was too good to refuse for these Denison College students. The week-long training involved 24 students and a variety of different scenarios.



BROKEN: SES cadet Jay Tangye helping to cut up a wrecked car. Photos: NADINE MORTON 120617nmse3



JAWS OF LIFE: SES cadets Sebastian Veilande and Jay Tangye during rescue training. 120617nmse7



EXPERT ADVICE: Fire and Rescue NSW senior firefighter Brad McWilliams with SES cadets Isabelle Barnden-Northey and Dylan Potter. 120617nmse4



ON THE PULSE: SES cadets Bridget Hoban and Toufca Makhoul testing out the ambulance equipment. 120617nmse8



WATCHING OVER: SES cadets Jay Tangye, Samantha Beale-Callaghan and Lucy Butler during the training. 120617nmse2



LUNCH: SES cadets Joubert Du Plessis, Dylan Potter and Sebastian Veilande stopped for a break. 120617nmse10



TRAINING: SES Bathurst Unit's David Chemello and cadet Matthew Bignell. 120617nmse1



LEARNING: SES cadets Jed Powell, Bridget Hoban and Marina Kamilic were able to check out the inside of an ambulance. 120617nmse9



THEY WERE THERE: SES cadets Isabelle Barnden-Northey and Dylan Potter enjoyed the training. 120617nmse5

Saturday 9th December 2017

Inaugural cup win belongs to Bathurst



THE PRIZE: Captains Tom Judge (Kelso High School) and Charlie Hutchings (Bathurst High School) with the Junior Denison College Cup. Bathurst High School claimed a 40-run win in the inaugural fixture. **Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK 121317crkctcup3**

CRICKET

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

BATHURST High School claimed bragging rights over Kelso High School in Tuesday's inaugural edition of the Junior Denison College Cup at Brooke Moore Oval.

BHS claimed a 40-run win in the new annual contest, which pits the top year seven, eight and nine students from each campus against one another.

The match was dominated by strong bowling from both schools. Bathurst put on 1-151 before holding Kelso to 7-111 in their 15 overs.

Great efforts with the willow from Bathurst's lower order batsmen Corey Mark (33 not out) and Mitch Lefevre (28) proved the difference.

Bathurst coach Paul Abbott said both schools made a great account of themselves. "Denison College was the winner today. It was a great day of cricket from both schools and the boys had a great time out there," he said.

"We get a lot of junior kids trying out for the open cricket team but a lot of them

don't get the opportunity to play in that side until years 10 or 11 so this gives our younger players a chance to represent their school.

"All the way through organising this game we had a great deal of support from both schools, and thanks must go to the principals for helping to get this day up and running.

"There was some great performances from both teams and their bowlers did a really great job early on. We were stuck at 0-10 after eight overs. They really had us clamped down."

Nash Hutchings (24) and Aiden Stait (16) helped dig Bathurst out of early trouble.

Kelso's opening bowlers Tait Borgstahl (1-16) and Justin Stephenson (0-8) gave Bathurst few opportunities to get momentum going.

Bathurst's middle order failed to individually get out of single figures before Mark and Lefevre rescued the innings.

"We were at 7-79 in the 22nd over but then Corey and Mitch batted through to the 35th over," Abbott said.

"With the ball I thought young Tim Currie was impressive with 2-6 from his four overs.

He came in with the game in the balance and he did the job.

"Nash Hutchings and his leg spin was valuable. He got one wicket and was unlucky not to get more. Our opening bowlers Charlie Hutchings and Aiden Stait clamped Kelso down well."

Kelso's top three batsmen Tom Judge (28), Tait Borgstahl (30) and Tom Rodham (23) all made great starts but the Bathurst bowling attack stepped up during the final 15 overs to halt the momentum.

The Kelso boys only managed to add 31 runs in that window.

"We were on top for a moment there but we let the opportunity get away," Kelso coach David Amaral said.

"Bathurst's bowling really tightened up between the 20th and 30th overs and when we were bowling that was the period where we let them get away. That's where the game was won and lost.

"It's the 10th anniversary of the Denison College system and while our opens kids get the chance to play for Western our juniors don't get the opportunity so that's why this

*Western Advocate Friday
15th December*

NEWS HSC 2017

Happy to put the stress and study behind them for now

KELSO HIGH

AS IT did last year, Kelso High had three Band 6 achievers in this year's batch of HSC students.

Although some students felt as though they could have done better, Kelso High principal Mick Sloan said he was really pleased with all the students who sat their exams.

"Thirteen years of school doesn't boil down to the one moment," he said. "I'm extremely proud of this year group and of all of the students at Kelso High."

After expecting to get a Band 6 in health, Amy Dickson said she was impressed with her top mark in biology.

"I'm pretty happy with my results considering I just waffled through it," she said.

Some students at Kelso High had already been accepted into university, which only eased the stress. For one, however, it made her work harder.

"I had already been accepted to study a music degree at Excelsia, but that only made me study more," Emily Geerkens said.

"I don't think I would have got the results I did if I didn't get accepted early."

Student Mark Day will travel overseas to play cricket before his studies continue.

"I will be going to India and the UK for cricket before uni, where I will study a double degree in exercise and sport science, and sports management at Canberra," he said.

After obsessing over a career in law since an early age, one Kelso High student is on her way to take on that profession.

"I have always wanted to do law, and I have been accepted into UNSW to study a degree in law," Susannah Winkelman said.

Lachlan Smith said the HSC was very stressful, but after 13 years of school, he is on his way to study a degree in medicine at a Sydney university.

"It is very rewarding to see all the years at school pay off," he said.

"Life is unpredictable; who knows what life has in store."

Caroline Harvey, meanwhile, will take a gap year before she focuses on a degree in psychology.

"I'm excited to go anywhere and be anyone," she said.

The three Band 6s went to Bud Lambeth in earth and environmental science, Elizabeth Talbot for music, and Amy Dickson for biology.

- JAY-ANNA MOBBS



Melissa Barnett, Jiann Mobbs and Hans Stroeve



Residents running their own stalls for community garage sale

SAM BOLT

BATHURST RESIDENTS WERE given the unique opportunity last Sunday to stage their own stall to peddle some of their unwanted wares as part of the Mount Panorama Community Garage Sale.

Stall managers took advantage of the wealth of room available at the Mount's pit area, with a jumping castle and face painting stall to keep the kids entertained.

*Bathurst City Life
14-20 December*

Two titles won at Melbourne campaign

Double the glory

VOLLEYBALL

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

THE Kelso High School squad has enjoyed its most successful Australian Schools Volleyball Cup campaign to date, returning from Melbourne with two team gold medals.

The Year 8 division one girls Denison College and Year 10 division one boys Kelso High teams produced sublime volleyball when it mattered most to win the gold, while Harriet Fitzsimons and Deua Berry were named respective MVPs in the finals.

The boys team won 19 straight sets to start their campaign and kept their momentum going into the final when took out the title 25-23, 21-25, 15-11 against Brighton.

"They're the team who placed sixth in honours last year so we brought them back to division one this time and I think this result indicates that they've found their place," Kelso High School volleyball coach Jerry Sheader said of the winning boys side.

"They didn't lose a set until the second last game. They were incredible to watch."

The victorious Kelso girls team narrowly qualified for the championship pools and then scraped into the top four.

They knocked over Monbulk 26-24, 25-18 in the semi-final and then rolled



WHAT A WIN: The Year 8 division one girls Denison College side claimed a hard fought gold medal at the Australian Schools Volleyball Cup.

Benowa 25-14, 25-16 in the final.

"They lost their first game, drew the second then went on to win every game after that all the way to the final. They just kept going from strength to strength and it was an amazing run," Sheader said.

"Our opening pool was really strong. The top three went on to beat the top teams in all of the other pools. Every game was a big battle.

"I was so impressed because from the second set of that second game their strength as a unit grew. When someone had a bad year point they all came together to give support."

Berry's performance was the last for him in Kelso colours, as he prepares to leave Bathurst on a scholarship to the Australian Institute of Sport next year.

"It's really the start of the beginning for him now. He's

heading off to Lake Ginninderra and has an amazing opportunity to take his game to new places," Sheader said.

"He'll have the chance to work towards something like a scholarship in the US if he maintains this level of ability. He's got a big future in the game."

The next best result for the school was a silver in the Year 8 Boys Division two competition.

Kelso's Year 7 division

two teams finished fifth and 11th. The second of the Year 8 Denison College teams finished in 11th in division three. The Year 10 division three girls and boys were fourth and fifth respectively.

"I think the surprise packet was the division two boys team in year eight, who got the silver medal. Two of them got asked to stay back for the Australian junior camp over the week and the team were a force to be reckoned with,"

Sheader said.

"I think the most important thing for us is that all our teams train together. Our Year 10 teams play our years 8's and our A teams play against the B teams.

"Without that our teams wouldn't be pushing each other as hard."

Tyler Pears, Hamish Alexander, Macson Alexander and Berry stayed back in Melbourne as part of the Australian junior camp.

The 2017 Kelso High School Decade Award

THIS IS NOW the 21st year of the Kelso High Campus Decade Award. It recognises a student who has completed their secondary education at Kelso High School more than 10 years ago, and has gone on to achieve outstanding success or has excelled in their chosen field.

This year's recipient is Michael Fitzpatrick.

Michael attended Kelso High from 1986 to the start of 1990. His interest in music, and its production began in the FM studio that existed in the old pre-fire Kelso High. Many a Friday lunchtime was spent in Quadrange 2 listening to Michael's choice of music.

Following two stints of work experience in Year 10, Michael began doing shifts as an on-air presenter while still at school.

Michael left school soon after starting Year 11 to take up a radio technician apprenticeship with 2BS.

During his time at 2BS, Michael was an integral part of the Commercial Radio Awards won in both on-air and technical categories. While at 2BS he completed a Bachelor of Communications in Media, Theatre and Broadcast Journalism at CSU. He stayed at 2BS for close to seven years.

In 1997, he took up the position of Music Director at MTV Australia. This quickly changed with him also adding TV Presenter to his resume.

Michael's other TV credits include Australian drama's *Heartbreak High* and *G.P.* - both seen in 31 countries, making him an international TV star.

In mid 1998, Michael became a radio presenter with Triple M Sydney and Brisbane. In 2001, he became

Assistant Content Director at Triple M Melbourne. 2004 he moved on to become Program Manager for Triple M Sydney.

This didn't mean that Michael was no longer heard on radio (as those who taught Michael know how hard it is to keep him quiet). Michael anchored The Cage breakfast show on Triple M Melbourne, Sydney & Adelaide with James Brayshaw, Peter Berner, Brigitte Duclos and Matt Parkinson from January 2002 until November 2007.

Since 2014 he has been the Head of Content for Triple M Australia wide. This involves content creation, talent development and music format strategy for the Triple M network across Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.



Bathurst City Life 14-20 December

Western Advocate Friday 15th December



A weapon of maths instruction: 'Stroevey' calls time at Kelso High

2018 at Denison College of Secondary Education: Kelso High Campus will mark a very significant change to the school's teaching staff, as for the first time in four decades, Mr Hans Stroeve will no longer feature amongst them.

SAM BOLT

After almost 40 years as a charismatic mathematics teacher at Kelso High, 'Stroevey' (as he is collectively known to the school's community) has decided to call time on an illustrious career, with this week serving as his last.

There is enough to say about Stroevey's storied career as a teacher to write a whole book (even a trilogy!), but for a man who is as outstandingly humble as he is, it is certain he would just like to be remembered as that man who utilised his 'superpower,' teaching maths to teenagers.

Arriving as a fresh faced teaching graduate in 1979, Kelso High has been Stroevey's home away from home ever since, where he has dedicated his career to helping students unravel their hidden talents, and the

incredible impression he has left upon so many of his students, both past and present, is testament to his generous and remarkable character.

Kelso High has also been a family affair for Stroevey, as it is where he met his wife Wendy, and where their sons, Alex and Evan, both saw out their secondary education.

Aside from teaching, Stroevey

has been held in high regard for his humanitarian work while at Kelso High, having run plenty of initiatives to raise money for World Vision throughout the years, and having staged numerous trivia nights at the school, stumping attendees with a zany array of questions.

He was also instrumental in introducing the Kelso High Decade Award, which is awarded each year to a former student who has gone on to achieve a substantial amount of success in their chosen career.

There never will be another teacher at Kelso High quite like Hans 'Stroevey' Stroeve, and his exemplary generosity and willingness to see students from all walks of life unlock their full potential is something any budding young teacher on the verge of their education career should look up to.

*Bathurst City Life
14-20 December*

Aussie selection

VOLLEYBALL BY ANYA WHITELAW

W.A. 20/12/17



AIMING HIGH: Deua Berry, pictured in action for NSW, is one of three Kelso High School players to be named in 2018 Australian Volleyball boys squads. Photo: ROGUE GUN PHOTOGRAPHY

scholarship, Sheader had special praise.

"Deua's picked a position [libero] where lack of height will never be a hindrance, if anything it will be an advantage. He's slightly smaller so his agility stays with him, your centre of gravity is slightly lower when defending in the back court," he said.

"He's in a perfect position to take his volleyball career as high as he wants now that he's been asked to train with the youth development program with the AIS."

Berry himself is excited about what lies ahead next year after what has been an impressive 2017.

He attended the International Volleyball Federation youth championships in Thailand and at the recent Australian Schools Volleyball Cup, he won a gold medal and was named most valuable player in the final.

"Thailand, it was good fun and good experience really, travelling overseas. I learned heaps," the 16-year-old said.

"It's going to be a big change. I'm excited and nervous because it is going to be tough and challenging, but I'll give it my best and get through it. I'll get positives out of it."

"They have a really good system down there which enables us to keep our school work and volleyball going well. They say school first and volleyball second."

Berry thanked both Sheader and Hayden James for aiding in his development.

A TRIO of Kelso High School's talented volleyballers will take the next step towards national representation next year after being selected as members of Volleyball Australia squads.

Year 10 talent Deua Berry has been named in the Pre-Year 8 Youth Squad, while Year 8 duo Hamish Alexander and Tyler Pears form part of the 54-member Youth Squad.

Given over 7,000 athletes were scouted Australia-wide by the national junior men's development program and less than two percent were named in one of the two squads highlights the talent and potential of the trio.

Their selection in the squads was announced on Monday after spending a week in Bendigo at an Australian junior camp.

Kelso High coach Jerry Sheader was delighted to see three of his squad members given the opportunity to further develop, labelling their selections as an "incredible achievement".

"Tyler is natural athlete who can also jump really, really high and Hamish is not only a natural athlete, but he's really big," he said.

"He's six-foot but he's got the longest arms ... in volleyball it's not about how tall you are, it's about how high you can reach."

As for Berry, who will also attend school at Lake Ginninderra College next year after being given an Australian Institute of Sport



SEEING WHAT'S ON OFFER: Cherelyn and Hannah Chapman were among the attendees at the TAFE open day. 011618ctafe3



WORKING HARD: Tourism/Hospitality teacher Robin Ward at the TAFE NSW Bathurst open day. 011618ctafe5



FINDING OUT MORE: Beverley and Opal Trist went to the TAFE open day together. 011618ctafe4a

OUT AND ABOUT

JANUARY has been an exciting time in Bathurst. TAFE NSW opened its doors in Bathurst for an open day, while junior athletes went to Bathurst Aquatic Centre for qualifying swim meet.



STAFF SUPPORT: Librarian Peter Nakitch, librarian technician Ellen Mumford and head teacher of Community Services-Welfare Alison Shurmer at TAFE's open day. 011618ctafe6



HELPING HAND: Director of VET delivery Andrew Crowley, college team leader Felicity Baker and teacher Bridget Thomas were ready to help people at the TAFE NSW open day in Bathurst. Photos: CHRIS SEABROOK 011618ctafe2



ATHLETES: Patrick Saint, 13, Tyler Johnson, 12, Mitch England, 11, and Thomas Press, 13, at the swim meet. 012118cswmrs11



HAPPY: Molly McCrossin, 15, Mercede Cornelius-Feltus, 13, and Francesca Chitukdza, 11, at the Aquatic Centre. 012118cswmrs10



FRIENDS: Emilee Curran, 14, Taylah Wade, 14, and Bridget Warne, 14, at the pool. 012118cswmrs9



ALL SMILES: Jeremy's first day in Year 2, Katelyn's first day of high school and Nikola's first day in Year 4. Photo: PATRICIA HOLMAN



SCHOOL'S BACK: Sophie (Year 5), Tash (Year 7) and Josh (Year 2) headed back to school this week. Photo: KRISTY DOLBEL

*Western Advocate
Thursday 25th January*

Western Advocate Thursday 25th January

He's a man of the decade

EDUCATION

MICHAEL Fitzpatrick has been named the latest winner of the Kelso High Campus Decade Award.

Mr Fitzpatrick was at the school from 1986 to 1990 and has gone on to have a successful career in the radio industry.

The Kelso High Campus Decade Award recognises a student who completed their secondary education at Kelso High Campus more than 10 years ago and has achieved outstanding suc-

cess in their chosen field.

Previous winners have included an international architect, a Paralympic gold medallist, a film director, environmentalist and lawyer.

Mr Fitzpatrick's interest in music and its production began in the FM studio that existed in the old pre-fire Kelso High and many a Friday lunchtime was spent in quadrangle two listening to his choice of music.

He left school in year 11 to become a radio technician apprentice at 2BS and com-



Michael Fitzpatrick

pleted a Bachelor of Communications at CSU during his time at the station.

He spent seven years at

2BS and, just before he left, was involved in the foundation of B-Rock 99.3 FM.

Mr Fitzpatrick became the music director at MTV Australia in 1997 and soon added television to his resume, making appearances in Australian dramas *Heartbreak High* and *G.P.* and on Channel Ten's *Joker Poker* and Channel Nine's *Hole in the Wall*.

A number of other opportunities followed as he was a presenter with Triple M Sydney and Melbourne,

assistant content director at Triple M Melbourne and program manager for Triple M Sydney.

He anchored *The Cage* breakfast show on Triple M Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide with James Brayshaw, Peter Berner, Brigitte Duclos and Matt Parkinson from January 2002 until November 2007.

He was also named in Cleo's top 50 Most Eligible Bachelors list twice, in 2003 and 2005.

Mr Fitzpatrick became

content manager for the Southern Cross Austereo organisation in 2009 and has been head of content for Triple M Australia-wide since 2014, which involves content creation, talent development and creating the music format strategy for the Triple M network across Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.

He was recently invited to present at the International Radiodays Conference in Dublin, Ireland, where he joined radio CEOs from around the world.

Western Times Thursday 21st December

Western Advocate Thursday 1st February



SPIN TIME: Bathurst Yellow's Calvin Windus in action in his side's last match against Orange under 14s in December. **Photo:** ALEXANDER GRANT

Yellow back, going for top four position

CRICKET

BY BRADLEY JURD

WITH all four junior teams back in action for Bathurst in Mitchell Cricket Council on Sunday, Bathurst Yellow under 14s co-coach Craig Windus is expecting his side to be back to full strength against Blue Mountains.

Like all four of Bathurst's junior teams, Yellow has not played since before Christmas, which saw a 58-run loss to Orange in its last game.

Windus, who coaches the team alongside Bill Hall, said his team is training well, ahead of Sunday's clash in Bathurst against Blue Mountains at Morse Park 2.

"We expect to be back to full strength on Sunday. The boys will train on Friday. They've been going well and a few of them have been

playing Presidents Cup," he said.

"It would be a good win to get and would guarantee us a place in the semis. Whether we play against Bathurst [Green] or Orange, we'll have to wait for other results."

In Yellow's only lost, the team was missing skipper Angus Parsons and top bowler Alastair Crane-French.

The team dropped plenty of catches, with Windus knowing that could have dramatically changed the game if the team took those catches.

While the team will welcome back Parsons, Crane-French will not return after he moved to Tasmania.

"He's a big loss. He bowled line length really well," Windus said.

He said Blue Mountains may be disadvantaged, as

they are not accustomed to playing on turf.

"Blue Mountains, they play on AstroTurf. They like to hit the ball quickly. Their weakness will be not being used to turf," he said.

"We'll make them work hard. If we bowl line length, we could get another win."

"We tend to bat and bowl pretty consistently."

"I'm more than happy with how the team is going, coming out of under 12s."

Elsewhere on Sunday, Bathurst Green will play Lithgow at Morse Park 1.

The under 12s and 16s Bathurst teams will also play Lithgow at home, with the games played at George Park and the Bathurst Sports-ground respectively.

It is the final round of competition before finals.

Games start at 10am.

Fantastic upgrade to library

Did you know last year, 152,102 people walked through the door of Bathurst Library?

DAVE RANKINE

This week, the Library reopened after an extensive refurbishment and the results are simply amazing.

Bathurst Regional Council and the NSW Government jointly funded the \$600,000 upgrade turning the Library into a bright, vibrant, interactive and connected space – sure to be the envy of most libraries across the state.

At the reopening on Tuesday, Bathurst Mayor Graeme Hanger told gathered media more than 280,000 loans were made during 2017, a staggering number considering our population.

"Bathurst Library is known to be one of the busiest in the state," he beamed.

"People are still borrowing books and electronic material and our library

is a welcome hub for many.

"This wonderful upgrade will make the library even more inviting for the community and I am so proud of what the library team has achieved with the revamp," he added.

800 people came through the doors on Monday (the library's first day back) and manager Patou Clerc told Bathurst City Life she simply loves the brightness, openness, new furniture and colours in the library.

"It is wonderful to welcome people through the doors to borrow a book, get connected to the internet, or simply sit and read.

"We have about 80,000 books, magazines and electronic resources in our library and they are here for our community to enjoy," she said.

Local member, Paul Toole, said the NSW Government was proud to invest \$200,000 towards the redevelopment.

"It is a modern facility we can all enjoy," he enthused.



*Bathurst City Life
1-7 February 2018*

Australia Day Awards Ceremony Recognises Bathurst's Finest

A large gathering of the Bathurst community converged on the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre on Australia Day for a special ceremony to recognise the outstanding achievements of exemplary citizens.

SAM BOLT

The awards ceremony featured the recognition of Bathurst's Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year, as well as the announcement of the recipients of the Bathurst Youth Arts Award, Community Event of the Year, Destination Event of the Year and the Jo Ross Memorial Award for excellence in environmental work.

Citizen of the Year Vicki Wilson, who was recognised for her incredible work with the Bathurst Agricultural, Horticultural and Pastoral Association and her generous support and sponsorship of a significant number of organisations in the Bathurst region, considered it a great honour to be named Citizen of the Year.

"I always want to get involved in things that will value the Bathurst community," Mrs Wilson said.

Young Citizen of the Year Caroline Harvey was recognised for her exemplary involvement in student leadership and community events, while Youth Arts Award winner Will Hazzard was commended for his extraordinary achievements

in visual arts, which has seen his artworks receive several awards and exhibitions throughout New South Wales.

Community Event of the Year was awarded to the Rockley Mill and Stables Museum (RMSM) for their successful re-enactment of the 'Rockley Game,' a specialised game of cricket originating in Rockley in the late 1800s to suit women.

"This award is a great deal of encouragement for the effort that went into the reconstruction," RMSM committee member Deidre Robertson said.

The 'Rockley Game' is to become a yearly event due to popular demand.

Destination Event of the Year went to the Mount Panorama Punish for its overwhelmingly popular turnout of support in its debut year.

"It was fantastic to see so many people embrace a different use for the track as there's more to Mount Panorama than just motor-racing," event organiser Stephen Jackson said.

Congratulations to all the award recipients and here's to another year of strong community spirit.

All white everything!

In 2017, 250 guests travelled to Mayfield to celebrate its inaugural White Party and what fun was had! Bigger and better, this year's White Party will be held on Saturday, 24 February, from 6pm till 10pm.

Guests will be greeted with a Mayfield speciality champagne cocktail as they wander along the bloomin' hydrangea walk, to make their way to the Alley of London Plane trees. Awaiting them will be long, elegant, white, communal tables, not to mention the spectacular backdrop – the Obelisk and Pond.

"You won't be able to put down the camera with roving entertainment in beautifully designed

- White Party Ticket only \$145
- White Party Ticket + Oberon Transfer \$165
- White Party Ticket + Bathurst Transfer \$175

For more information, visit mayfieldgarden.com.au/whatson, or follow @mayfieldgarden on Facebook or call 6336 3131.

elegant costumes made 100% out of Mayfield flowers," says Mayfield's Meg McKenna.

"2018's party will deliver more performances in the Water Garden, but you'll have to attend to find out more," she enthused.

"The food served will be our premium signature 'Communal Feast', showcasing our paddock and garden to plate menu on offer. Premium local wine, sparkling wine, cider and beer is all included in the ticket price."

Transfers from Oberon and Bathurst will make it a smooth ride so you can enjoy all the night has to offer. Purchase from mayfieldgarden.com.au/whatson



Encouraging young women to get into rugby union

SAM BOLT

THE NEXT GENERATION of possible women's rugby stars were invited along to Anne Ashwood Park over the weekend for a Come Try Day featuring a host of experienced coaches.

The Come Try Day was lead by Mandy Scott, who has had plenty of years experience playing rugby union, having represented Central West and Country rugby union sides throughout her years involved with the sport.

Two local rising stars in the sport aided Scott in running drills for the girls

on the day: Jakiya Whitfield (U18 Australian Rugby 7s representative) and Teagan Miller (Central West Rugby and U17 NSW Rugby 7s representative).

It was a fun day out for everyone involved, and it served as a great opportunity to unearth new talent with a keen interest in rugby union. Those who decide to continue with the sport will go on to participate in women's rugby gala days on Sundays, to be held in towns such as Orange, Mudgee, Wellington and Parkes.



Racing at Lake Camobolas Orange



Come and join the Bathurst Dragon Boat Club

The Bathurst Pan Dragons club is looking for new members. The club has been operating since 2011 and despite being a small club, it punches above its weight.

LOUISE LINKE

The club has paddled in Hawaii, Wellington NZ, Hobart, the Hawkesbury and Kumanurra. Members have combined with other teams to win gold at the Australian Masters and National titles. This year the club is off to paddle the Huon River in Tasmania and Broome later in 2018.

Whilst some paddlers choose to compete in events, other members just come along to paddle socially to get some exercise.

After a busy day at work, paddling out on Chifley Dam with its gorgeous scenery is a fantastic way to wind down and definitely worth the effort.

Dragon boating has 10-20 paddlers in a boat.

Anyone over the age of 12 years can paddle. Caitlin, along with her brother and mum, has been paddling with the club for the last two years.

"I love dragon boating because it's a different sport to what you can generally do in rural NSW and it gives you the option to either paddle socially or be more competitive if you choose," she said.

No experience is necessary, just be prepared to do some exercise and have some fun.

Lynn, who has joined the club recently, commented it's without a doubt the best sport she has participated in.

"You don't have to worry about fitness; it doesn't take long to get fit once you are paddling regularly," she enthused.

Details can be found on the Bathurst Dragon Boat Facebook page or website at bathurstpandragons.org.au.

Images - Laurence Outim.



Caitlin Waldron at Chifley Dam Bathurst

Bathurst City Life 8-14 February '18



SWEET MOMENTS: Kelso High students Michaela Doungmanee, 13, and Liam Smith, 15, have had a busy week taking orders for Valentine's Day. **Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK 021318cvalsday1**

Love is in the air for school fundraiser

COMMUNITY

LOVE is in the air this Valentine's Day at Denison College Kelso High Campus.

The love-filled day has inspired an initiative of the Student Representative Council (SRC) to sell Valentine's Day items to students for their special someone.

Heart-shaped helium balloons, love lolly bags, roses and love poems were among the items available.

On Valentine's Day, members of the SRC will deliver the purchases to students who had items bought for them.

Year 8 student Michaela

Doungmanee has been among the SRC members taking bookings from students across all years.

"The love lolly bags are popular because a lot of people like food," she said.

Michaela said the poems have also been well received by students.

"One of the Year 9 or Year 10 [students] will come into the class. We'll play the ukulele as the person reads out the poem," she said.

The SRC initiative is now in its third year and all funds raised will go to the school's World Vision sponsor child.

— NADINE MORTON



HARD WORK PAYS OFF: The Bathurst City Amateur Swim Club team celebrates its Mountains and Plains overall champion award.

Bathurst team earns club champions title

SWIMMING

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

BATHURST City Amateur Swim Club's Mountains and Plains Summer Championships campaign can be deemed a major success thanks to the team claiming the overall club champion award at the Grenfell event.

A large team of 44 competitors travelled to the weekend's racing determined to help the Bathurst club stand above the rest, and they would come home with plenty of reasons to celebrate.

Rachael Staines (Women's), Molly McCrossin (girls

16 years), Bridget Warne (girls 14 years), Austin Letran (boys 14 years), Thomas Press (boys 13 years) and Zephir Valsain (boys 10 years) all won their respective age champion titles.

Press also was named open age champion while Ben Roffe and Emily Press were awarded the distance champion trophies.

"The whole coaching staff are proud of what they have achieved. To have this sort of improvement across the club is amazing," BCASC coach Steve Howell said.

"More kids have signed up to the club and we're seeing

many more of them heading off to these carnivals. This was one of our target meetings for the season and we were thrilled with the numbers.

"One of the most outstanding things was seeing how our little kids performed. We had some of our youngest kids going into events like the 400 metres and 800m. One of them even did the 4x100 IM.

"Myself and the other coaches Josh, Cynthia and Phoebe are so proud. We'd love to celebrate but we've got the NSW Country Championships coming up so there's still work to do."

Among the younger entrants making big statements in the pool was Emily Saint, 8, who won all five of her events. Fellow eight-year-old swimmer Benjamin Reynolds smashed his 50m personal best time by 5.25 seconds.

Mccrossin, 15, only missed out on victory in two of her 12 events.

The biggest personal best improvement of the meeting belonged to Hudson Peisley, 10, who shaved 21 seconds off his 200m IM to place third in his age group.

Oscar Simeonidis, 11, lowered his 100m freestyle

mark by 6.21 seconds, Sienna Whalan, 11, took 8.45 seconds off her previous best 100m breaststroke time to win the event and Joshua Whittingham, 14, placed first in the 50m butterfly after removing 4.67 seconds from his PB.

In one of the biggest individual results for the BCASC squad multi-class swimmer Abbey May Brown, 16, qualified for National Age Championships in her 200m freestyle event.

The NSW Country Championships will be held at Sydney Olympic Park over February 23-25.

Wednesday 14th February Western Advocate

Khanacross putting young drivers to test



KICKING UP DUST: Izak Berrisford takes a Hyundai Excel for a spin during the most recent Khanacross round. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

MOTOR SPORT

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

BATHURST Light Car Club's Khanacross events are giving the region's juniors the opportunity to advance their driving skills at a young age.

Khanacross pits drivers over a small course against the clock, often on dirt, in a test of handling and braking skills.

Among those taking part is Izak Berrisford, 15.

Berrisford said he's enjoyed the challenge over the past few years.

"We go there once a month or so. I got involved in it through my step dad, and going up there helps you drive better and get your

skills ready for the road," he said.

"In Motokhana and Khanacross you do a set of different courses in a time trial. It's been great fun.

"I've been doing it since I was about 12 and a half years old, so nearly two and a half years now. I feel like I'm getting much better."

Harrison Field, 14, was having a blast steering his Daihatsu Charade around the course recently.

Field also got into the sport from a young age and has loved every minute of it since he first got behind the wheel.

"This will be my third year," he said.

"Trying to keep the car under control while driving it as



Harrison Field

fast as you can is what makes it fun.

"We do two runs on one course then they change it up. You do about four or five courses over the day."

The event has become

somewhat of a family affair for Field.

"My dad works as a mechanic at Windsor's Automotive and Matt Windsor talked him into getting us involved in it. We all signed up together and me and my sister started driving in this at the same time.

"I do a couple of the other events with the Bathurst Light Car Club.

"Since I started to learn how to drive I feel like I've gotten a little bit quicker and quicker every time."

In Sunday's event Field finished fourth overall while Berrisford was ninth.

Field started his day in great form by topping the time sheets on the opening

run of the first course. He was also on fire over the third course where he had the second fastest time.

The race for a podium in Berrisford's class was intense and he narrowly missed out in fifth spot.

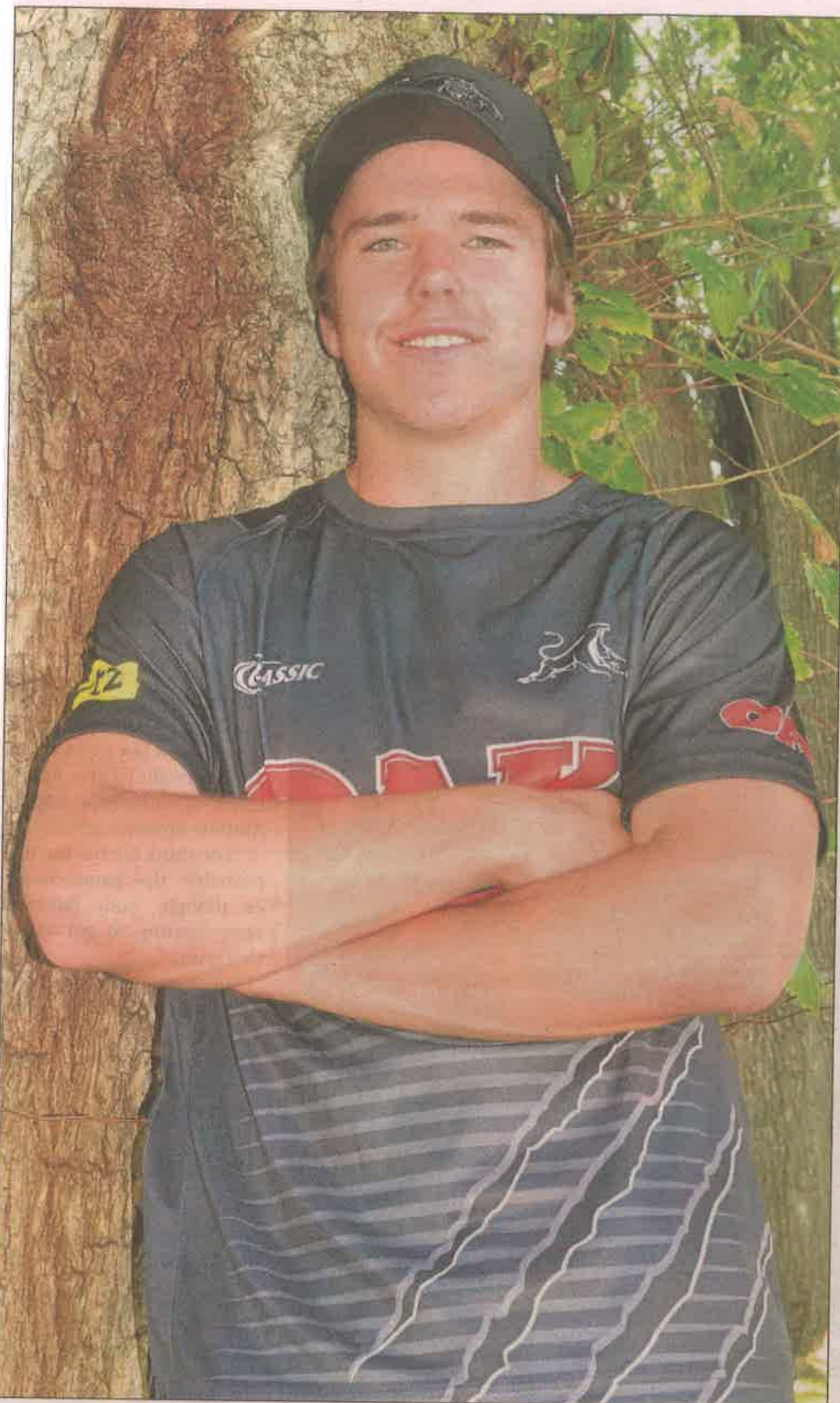
Field and Berrisford finished 1-2 in the junior classification.

Robert Dean (161.81) finished Sunday's racing with a comfortable overall win, dominating the G-Rear wheel drive specials class.

Alan Paul (173.76) was second overall and Aden Hadley (174.31) won an intense battle for the final podium spot over Field (175.70).

Theo Poteris (187.03) rounded out the top five.

Cosgrove begins Harold Matthews tilt



Enjoying time at Panthers

RUGBY LEAGUE
BY ALEXANDER GRANT

ST PAT'S junior Ash Cosgrove has enjoyed a winning start to his Harold Matthews season for the Penrith Panthers and as a bonus picked up a try on debut.

The centre and his Panthers side stormed to a 22-0 victory over the Balmain Tigers on Saturday and the Bathurst talent is hoping there's more good times to come over the next two months of the under 16s competition.

Panthers went into the break up only 6-0 in Saturday's season opener and desperately needed some spark.

The team came to life in the second half, spurred on by Cosgrove's try early in the new period.

Saturday marked the beginning of a busy schedule for Cosgrove, who heads up to training once a week for the Panthers, and will return to Group 10 Pat's junior league immediately after the

“It's a completely different experience playing on the NRL field.”

Ash Cosgrove

Harold Matthews competition concludes.

Cosgrove has already enjoyed a strong share of representative football experience, including last year's under 15s Greater Western Rugby League side and Group 10 teams.

It's been a long road to get to the final Penrith squad and Cosgrove said it's rewarding to have finally played on the Panthers Stadium turf.

“It's a completely different experience playing on the NRL field. They're all really good people up there and they take great care of you.

There's really good facilities too,” he said.

“I got invited to a development camp last year. Then the recruitment manager, after the camp, gave me his card and told me to give him a ring. I went back up and offered me a contract.

“The first cut was at 80, then it was to 46 and then down to 24 and that's the final team we've got now.

“We have Raiders this weekend at Canberra. We don't know too much about the other teams but Parramatta always has a strong team.”

Parramatta await the Panthers at St Marys Stadium following Penrith's trip to Canberra.

There's little room for error in the under 16s competition with just nine rounds of games before the finals in April.

Cosgrove is joined in the Panthers side by fellow Central West talent Liam Kennedy, from Orange.



SNAPSHOT: Representatives from the Dancin' Divas Pole Studio at the Cupid's Undie Run last weekend. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

IMPRESSIVE: Ash Cosgrove has got his Harold Matthews season of rugby league off to a winning start with the Penrith Panthers. Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT

Western Advocate Friday 16th February

*Western Advocate Thursday
22nd February*



ALL SMILES: Niamh McAdam, Lydia Nicholls and Phoebe Dawson at the high achiever awards. 020618pbaward5



HAPPY DAYS: Wendy Murphy, Jay Webber and Caitlin Doolan during the Denison College event. 020618pbaward2



SCHOOL PALS: Maddy Masters and Khynea Brown at the high school event. 020618pbaward6



GREAT EVENING: Leah Barber, Luisa Simeonidis and Aidan McBurney were among the crowds. Photos: PHIL BLATCH 020618pbaward7

THE HIGH ACHIEVERS

DENISON College's high achievers reception was held recently with 53 students in Years 10, 11 and 12 recognised for their efforts. High achievement is based on rankings in core subjects or upon achieving Band 6 in the HSC.



THEY WERE THERE: Mark and Marianne Dege on the night. 020618pbaward4



ON THE BEAT: September Fools duo of Tamika Kennedy and Josie Hall entertained the crowds. 020618pbaward1



IN SUPPORT: Denison College principal Craig Petersen and Penny Packham were there. 020618pbaward8



CATCH UPS: Geoff Lin, Rameez Merchant and Marcus Dege on the night. 020618pbaward3



Students on show

STUDENTS FROM KELSO High School's show cattle program were at Crookwell Show on the weekend.

Cattle paraders and steer competition participants competed on Sunday morning. Congratulations to Chloe Hawkins, who placed fourth in the over 14s class at her first show, while Rayleigh Sericchi placed 5th.

In the open steer competition, the school's Limousin calf placed first and in the Schools competition, the Charolais placed first and went on to win Champion Steer, while Simmental/Charolais placed second in the schools competition.

The students are doing an amazing job and a big thanks to Mr Kelly for his support.

Images: Kelso High School



Western Advocate Friday 16th February

Bathurst City Inf 15-2/February

Five Bathurst players at championships

Chasing the cup

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY NICK MCGRATH

RAMS under 16s coach Kurt Hancock has had his "socks knocked off" in the lead-up to Saturday's opening round of the Andrew Johns Cup at Mudgee.

The Bathurst-based Western mentor believes the Rams junior representative program continues to go from strength to strength and says there's little reason why this group of players can't achieve the same sort of success as the 2017 team during the country championship.

Western won last year's under 16s championship after the 2016 group made the final in Tamworth, falling agonisingly short of the crown that year.

Hancock confirmed his squad on Monday ahead of the seven week championship tilt, with players from Bourke to Oberon making up the 18-strong line-up skippered by Bathurst Panthers prodigy Noah Griffiths, last year's Australian Schoolboys under 15s halfback currently linked with the Melbourne Storm.

Along with Griffiths the side also contains Bathurst players Tyler Colley, Blake Martin, Rowan Hamer and Jayden Fisher.

The 2018 under 16s Rams heads into Saturday's opener on the back of a bumper, two-day camp at Lake Burdendong and Hancock says this outfit has the potential



LEADING THE WAY: Bathurst's Noah Griffiths will captain the Western Rams under 16s at the Andrew Johns Cup. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

to continue Western's recent purple patch at the championship, starting with the Penrith Panthers development squad at Glen Willow.

"If we keep improving on it, everybody knows the Western Rams are a force now with our junior program," Hancock said.

"It's already getting recognition with Charlie Staines, Riley Cheshire, Joey Hobby ... we did a count on the weekend, there's close to

20 players down in the Sydney system.

"It's a great pathway for bush kids. It's really pleasing."

The side will be without Wellington's Rylee Blackhall and Forbes gun Jack Hartwig for round one, with both selected to play for the NSW under 16s Koori side in the lead-up to Saturday's Charity Shield at Mudgee.

No players from last year's under 16s championship winning Rams side were el-

igible for selection this year, due to being top age players in 2017.

But Hancock said this "very talented", entirely new group still had high expectations.

"From our trial form and the way we've trained, the way we went at camp last weekend, they should be right up there," he said.

At first glance, the experienced mentor says his side's most obvious trait was its

speed - across the park, too.

"Our biggest asset we have is our speed. From our backs to our backrowers, they all move really well. They're great athletes," he said, before turning his attention to Saturday's opponent, Penrith.

"Being from western Sydney, they'll be big, fast, they'll have a strong forward pack with plenty of size.

"If we can hang with them for the first 20 minutes then hopefully our footy sense

and speed kicks in."

Western takes on Penrith's Development squad from 2pm on Saturday.

WESTERN: 1 Tyler Colley, 2 Aiden Nunn, 3 Noah Ryan, 4 Mason Pollock, 5 Cody Crisp, 6 Cody Lawson, 7 Noah Griffiths, 8 Harry Sullivan, 9 Josh Dominello, 10 Charlie Holman, 11 Blake Martin, 12 Marlin Pollock, 13 Jack Smith; **Bench:** 14 Elijah Colliss, 15 Thomas Phillips, 16 Rowan Hamer, 17 Jayden Fisher, 18 Cooper Monk.

Kelso High students meet league stars

RUGBY LEAGUE

GAZ, Finchy and Brandy.

Three greats of rugby league, who have collectively won grand finals, stared in State of Origin and representative Australia.

And you know what? They were all in Bathurst on Thursday.

Mark Gasnier, Brett Finch and Greg Alexander, alongside Fox League hosts Jessica Yates and James Rochford, were in Bathurst as a part of Fox Sports' Full-On Footy Tour.

While they discussed their careers and goal-setting with students from Kelso High students, the players also participated in a footy coaching clinic, sharing their knowledge and skills with Eglinton Junior Rugby League Club.

Alexander, a Penrith Panthers legend and grand final win his club, understands how special an opportunity like Thursday was for many rural kids, who may not usually get the opportunity to see their stars and attend NRL matches.

"The fact that they don't get a chance to go to the footy as much as city kids, so any chance is great," he said.

"Today we spoke more about dreams and aspirations," he said.

"It wasn't necessarily about rugby league but I enjoyed it. The footy clinic was a great opportunity to pass on some tips.

"It's always good to come out to country areas. Being a Penrith boy, I've done this for the past 25 years, making country trips. I know just how many great fans of the game live out here."

As well as commentating for Fox Sports, Alexander sits on the Penrith Panthers' board of directors so he is fully aware of the strong re-



ON SHOW: Kelso High Campus students with former National Rugby League players Brett Finch and Mark Gasnier, on their trip to the school on Thursday. Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT

lationship the Panthers have with Bathurst and the Central West.

He said it's a great initiative and hopes more NRL clubs can embrace a relationship with a rural area.

"It's a great partnership Panthers have got with some of our country centres, hosting regular clinics and training sessions here. I think that will help Country Rugby League and country boys can see a pathway into the NRL," he said.

"There's been a debate about Country Rugby League and the strength of it for a decade now, that Country Rugby League is not what it used to be and it certainly needs some help.

"Hopefully through the help of clubs, not just Penrith, but all the clubs in Sydney can adopt areas in the country and provide some assistance that Country Rugby League needs."

He said the more clubs that come out to help Country Rugby League areas the better.

"I think that helps the kids identify with so Sydney clubs," Alexander said.

"The more the [NRL players'] faces are seen and games that come out here,

“

It's always good to come out to country areas ... I know just how many great fans of the game live out here.

Former NRL player Greg Alexander

that will strengthen the game out here."

Kelso High students were also treated to the cool and calm commentary skills of school captain Jay Webber.

With the footage of the match-equalling try from the 2015 NRL grand final between Brisbane Broncos and North Queensland Cowboys playing, Webber called the try in cool and confident as Kyle Fedt placed the ball done for a four-pointer.

"Try. Three letters, four points," Webber said.

Alexander liked his confidence.

"I might pass it on to Andrew Voss or Warren Smith," he said.

- BRADLEY JURD

Western Advocate Thursday 22nd February

Western Advocate Friday 23rd February

Fox stars on show at Kelso

A NUMBER of former NRL stars were in Bathurst on Thursday as Kelso High students and Eglinton Junior Rugby League Club players had a chance to meet some of their footy idols. Mark Gasnier, Brett Finch and Greg Alexander were in the city as a part of Fox Sports' Full-On Footy Tour, which is visiting locations throughout NSW and Queensland.

| Full story, sport



VISIT: Kelso High's Madeleine Howle, Claire Sheehan and Jay Webber with former NRL stars Mark Gasnier and Brett Finch. Photo: ALEX GRANT

*Western Advocate Friday
23rd February*

Western comfortable in win over Panthers

RUGBY LEAGUE
BY NICK MCGRATH

AFTER his side completed a comfortable, if not comprehensive 24-4 opening round win in the Andrew Johns Cup, Western under 16s coach Kurt Hancock talked up the Rams' effort.

The defending champions, Western was at times scrappy in its execution and, Hancock admits, drifted sideways in attack for most of the match against the Penrith Panthers under 15s at Glen Willow on Saturday.

But in terms of heart, Western had, to borrow a line from Gene Hackman in the wonderful NFL movie *The Replacements*, miles and miles of it.

"To be able to be a bit off and still win 24-4, it's a good sign," Hancock said on Saturday.

"They just give you the best effort every time they go. If they're a bit off or not, they'll give you that. I'm really pleased."

No one more than young hooker Josh Dominello gave more effort for the green and white jumper.

He personified it.

The diminutive rake punched well above his weight against the powerful pack of the western Sydney giants, bagging a try for his efforts with a sneaky dart out of acting half.

Not once did he, or back-up hooker Elijah Colliss, take a backward step.

"We've got two nines that are exactly the same, we played with that today and it didn't quite work. Our attack was a bit sideways, all over the shop, we couldn't get those boys going direct," Hancock admitted.

"But young Josh Dominello, he's a terrior, he gives you everything. You know what you're going to get with Josh."

"I know he had a stint with the Raiders, he's come back and you can see the difference."

"He's a good little talent, if they can look past his size."

The Rams built up a 24-0 lead thanks to tries from Aiden Nunn, Harry Sullivan, Dominello and Jayden Fisher - the left boot of gun fullback Tyler Colley nailing four conversions - before the visitors nabbed a late consolation try through big prop Lachy Whitehouse.

Nunn's four-pointer opened the scoring, the Blayney flier latching on to a pass from gun half Noah Griffiths, who was also sensational for the Rams.

The 2017 Australian Schoolboys under 15s No.7, whenever Griffiths ran the ball he tore Penrith to shreds.

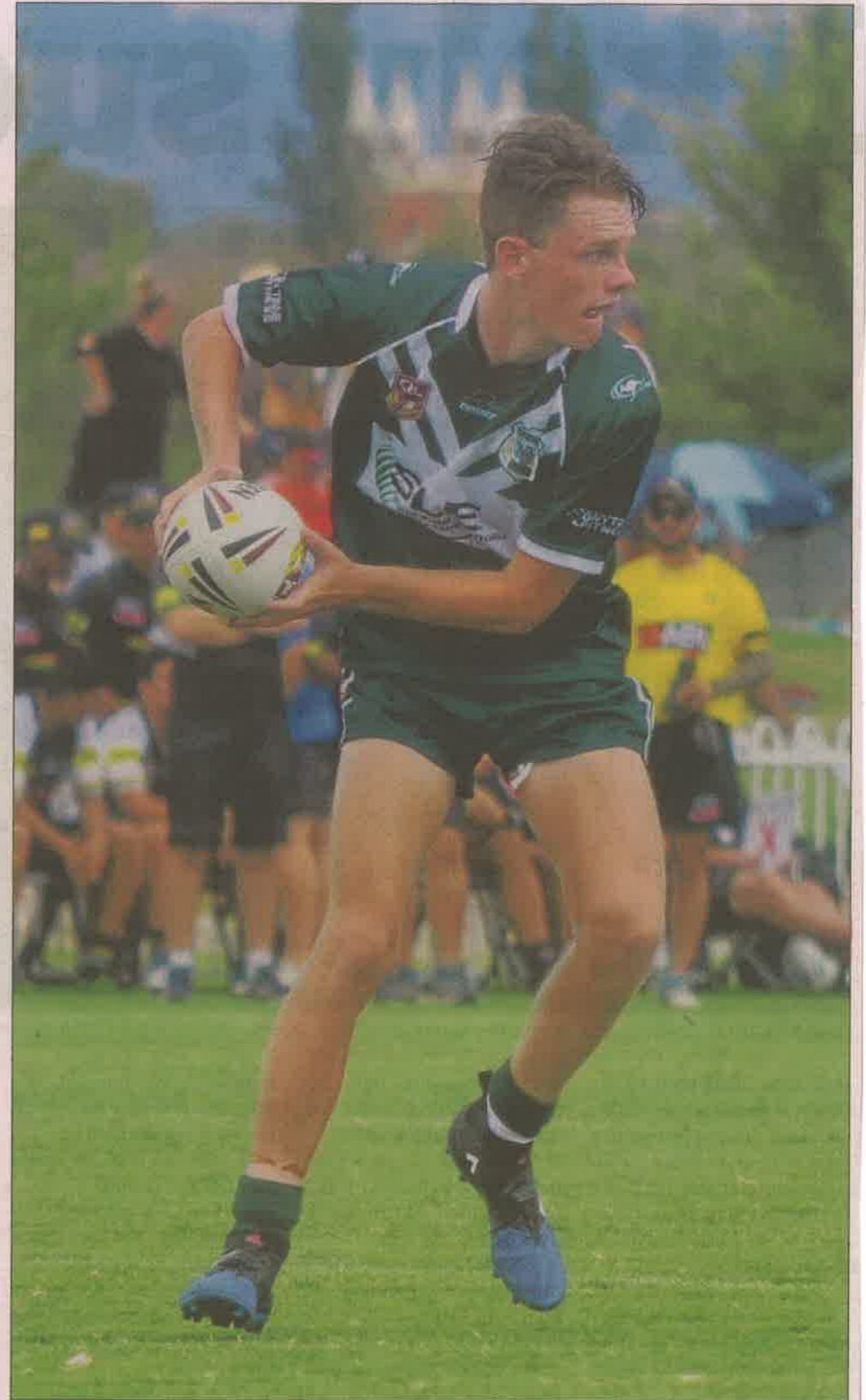
But as Hancock mentioned earlier, his side's attack was a touch off in the championship opener.

"We were clunky today, but (Penrith) is a tough group," he said.

"I thought last week at camp might have taken the edge off them, but it's funny, I can afford to do that with the football side I've got."

"They were just a bit over keen and just forgot a bit of the structure and tried to make a difference individually rather than help each other."

Bloomfield brothers Mason and Marlin Pollack were brilliant for the Rams in the 20-point win, as well, while, for the Panthers, Byron Aiopolotea and John Sagaga showed flashes of brilliance and power.



TOO GOOD: Western powered to a 24-4 win in its country championship opener at Mudgee, downing a young Penrith outfit. Photos: NICK MCGRATH

Western Advocate Monday 26th February

Mum's Life with Nicole Dicker from mummacakes.com.au



Will you dress up, or dress down?

Last week I met with a dear friend of mine for a catch up and coffee before community yoga in the park. After chatting about our children and our school holiday adventures, we turned to how she was feeling because a couple of years ago she diagnosed with neurofibromatosis (NF).

She is a Bathurst mum just like you and I, but she is suffering with this horrible condition which causes benign tumours to grow on nerves throughout her body.

NF is a term for three disorders: NF1, NF2 and Schwannomatosis. It is estimated more than 10,000 Australians currently living with the disorder. The tumours are benign, however they can turn malignant and can lead to blindness, bone abnormalities, deafness, disfigurement and learning disabilities while also affecting major organs.

NF does not discriminate between race, gender or ethnicity, and while half the affected people inherit the condition,

new cases can arise spontaneously through a mutation in the NF genes.

NF1 is the most common disorder and symptoms can range from mild to debilitating. Meanwhile, NF2 and Schwannomatosis are rarer, affecting one in 30,000 people. NF2 can lead to tumours on both auditory nerves and can result in deafness and problems with balance, tumours on the spinal cord, and tumours causing pressure on parts of the brain. Schwannomatosis causes tumours in the brain and spine, and chronic disabling pain.

Unfortunately, there is still no cure.

The Children's Tumour Foundation of Australia funds critical research into NF and provides support to children, their families and adults diagnosed with the disorder. The Foundation is dedicated to finding effective treatments for people living with NF.

Have you heard of the "Cupid's Undie Run"??

It was created to raise funds and awareness for NF. Funds raised during the run event go towards sustaining vital support services for people living with the condition, and to promote world-class research as they work towards developments in treatment and finding a cure for NF.

So this brings me back to my original question...will you dress up, or dress down?

The Cupid's Undie Run is a 1.5km run held in Bathurst on Sunday, 18 February 2018. The run takes place in February to coincide with Valentine's Day and encourages everyone to run in their bedroom-best to raise money for the

Children's Tumour Foundation of Australia.

Bathurst is one of 17 cities in Australia hosting this wonderful charity run. The Cupid's Undie Run will take place in Bathurst at Machattie Park at 10am, then the post run celebrations will be held at The Oxford Hotel.

The cost is \$60 per person.

Come on!! Join Our Team!! If you would like to join in and #daretobare (or dress up) for this wonderful cause please join the 'Bathurst City Life Cupids' team. Simply visit cupidsundierun.com.au and register under our team name (Bathurst City Life Cupids).

The first 2000 registrations will receive a free BONDOS t-shirt and undies and a temporary tattoo (which you pick up from the venue on the day). If you don't want to run it's okay, you can still donate and support our team by visiting the Cupid's Undie Run website.

Personally I wouldn't be comfortable running around in my undies, but it's okay

I would love you to join me on team 'Bathurst City Life Cupids' - we can celebrate our achievement of raising vital funds for NF together at the Ox afterwards!

Go here to join our crew cupidsundierun2018.everydayhero.com.au/bathurstcitylifecupids

because participants are encouraged to dress up or dress down (phew!).

You can chuck on a t-shirt, a tutu and fairy wings, a super hero costume, or anything else to make you feel comfortable while still standing out. Cupid's Undie Run is all about putting the FUN back in fun run, so be bold and join in!

Love

Mumma Cxx



Bathurst City Life 15-21 February