

2020

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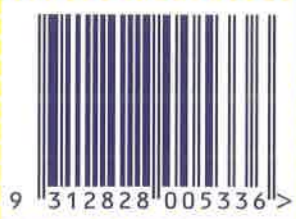
# Sketch Book

**GENUINE DRAWING CARTRIDGE**

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**FRIENDS AND TEAM-MATES:** Tula Foster (left) convinced hockey talent Tomika Speer to become a Lady Bushranger this season. **Photo: CONTRIBUTED**

# Lady Bushies find Speer is on point

**AUSTRALIAN RULES**  
BY ANYA WHITELAW

TOMIKA Speer has long been comfortable running down the sideline with a hockey stick in her hand, but in 2020 she's also proving to be a talent at launching attacks with a Sherrin in hand. The 17-year-old has been a big find for the Bathurst Lady Bushrangers this season as she has shown continued improvement and versatility across the six games she's played in the AFL Central West women's competition. Speer had not intended to be a Lady Bushranger and had never really played Australian rules before, but she is glad that her friend Tula Foster convinced her to attend a pre-season training session. "I'm new to AFL altogether, well I played a little bit for my school in Year 6, but that's it," Speer said. "I played netball in my early primary years, but my Dad got me to switch to hockey and I've been playing hockey since I was about eight. "After lock down my friend Tula asked if I wanted to come to a training and I

said yes because I wanted some fitness. I tried it and I had fun, so she roped me in to playing. "It's so much fun, I love it. Everyone is extremely nice and supportive, they give off such a good energy and that's why I love it so much." While Speer has had to learn skills -kicking, tackling, marking and hand-balling are not part of what she does on the wing playing hockey for St Pat's - the teenager has not found it to be too much of a challenge. It's the same when it comes to filling the different game day roles Lady Bushrangers coach Brian Matheson has given her. "I've felt like it was fairly easy to adjust I guess, I've always been a competitive person," she laughed. "I started in the backs and the last game I played in the forwards for a bit, then someone got injured and I played in the middle. So I've kind of been everywhere. "Last week was very fun because it was more physical, more hands-on." The Lady Bushrangers head into this Saturday's final round match against

Cowra knowing they have already secured a spot in the three-team finals series. With four wins through six rounds they sit second on the ladder and a win over Cowra will keep them there. But more importantly Speer said she and her teammates are hoping for a win to build momentum ahead of the preliminary final. "We are taking it week by week and focusing on the next game, but we are looking at the finals and working on our skills to help us in the finals," she said. "It's about working out plays and how to get the ball off quickly." Opening bounce at Cowra's Muylan Oval will be at 2.30pm on Saturday. As for whether or not Speer will return to play for the Lady Bushrangers again next season, the teenager said it is certainly an option. "I'd like to, it depends how hockey goes as I've been playing hockey as well," she said. "Because of coronavirus the hockey season has been a bit messed up so I've been able to play both this year, I'm thinking maybe next season I'll have to pick one. But I hope I can play again."

Bathurst and Kelso fight for Denison Cup

# Rivlary reigned

**DENISON CUP**  
BY ALEXANDER GRANT

BATHURST High School and Kelso High School may have been denied the chance to take part in this year's As-tley and CKC Cups due to COVID-19 restrictions but staff have given students the chance to take part in a sporting competition this year. The newly created Denison Cup got underway on Thursday morning, pitting the two Bathurst schools against one another across a range of sporting events. Bathurst claimed wins in four of the five events on the opening day but Kelso had a lot to cheer about in their performance in the boys soccer clash.

The game at Proctor Park was a case of how well Kelso could withstand a flurry of attacks from Bathurst - and they proved they were up for the challenge. Kelso came away 1-0 winners despite being well behind on both possession and field position throughout the game. Their defensive line came up trumps on every occasion to thwart many Bathurst High entries into their penalty area across the full hour of the match. A free kick in the 16th minute would be all that separated the two teams. Bathurst threw plenty of bodies forward late in the game, missing an attempt from in front of goal and a



**CLOSE GAME:** Kelso High School beat Bathurst High School 1-0 in their Denison Cup boys soccer clash. **Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT**

contested header within the last 10 minutes. Kelso High coach Jasmine Christie-Johnson said her side had plenty of reasons to be proud of the way they approached the game, both on and off the ball. "Defence and attack were both really good across the park and we had a lot of speed and intensity," she said. "I think our attitude was great and we were really positive on the ball. We wanted to play forward and keep scoring goals even though we were 1-0 up. We didn't want to park the bus, as they say. "They're all dying to play something again during COVID so it's good to be out in the sun again playing some soccer again and enjoying the Denison rivalry. It's really good to see. "Knowing you've beaten Bathurst High adds that extra little bit of sweetness to the victory." However, Bathurst would get their revenge across the rest of the day's action. Bathurst enjoyed two narrow wins in the girls soccer (2-1) and the Hockey (3-2), where a last minute goal got the blue and gold the victory.

But the basketball and netball games were more one-sided affairs as Bathurst came away 54-24 and 56-12 winners respectively. Friday will see debating (9am) and tennis (9.15am) take place before the inaugural rounds out the inaugural cup from 11.30am.

Friday 11th September

# Bathurst High claims first Denison Cup

## DENISON CUP

BATHURST High was crowned the inaugural winner of the Denison Cup on Friday and while the victory over Kelso High did not come in ideal fashion, the new school sporting competition is set to become an annual event.

Kelso was unable to field teams in the two sports scheduled for Friday - tennis and rugby league - ensuring Bathurst High won the newly created competition.

Bathurst High instead contested matches between its own students, but giving students a sporting outlet was one of main objectives of the Denison Cup.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of regular inter-school competitions this year, meaning Bathurst High did not get the chance to face Orange and Dubbo in the Astley Cup and Kelso missed out on doing battle with Cowra and Canobolas in the CKC Cup.

So the Denison Cup was created.

"We were being optimistic about Astley Cup and we kept telling the kids to keep training for it. Then when it was finally canned we thought 'How can we give them something to be a part of?'," Bathurst High sports organiser Lachlan Blaikie said.



**MATE AGAINST MATE:** Bathurst High students played a league match amongst themselves to finish the Denison Cup. Photo: **ANYA WHITELAW**

"So we've done this which has given them the chance to play some sport for the school which they wouldn't have got to do otherwise.

"I think they've all had a lot of fun, there was a lot of spirit and sportsmanship on Thursday across all the sports from both schools."

Blaikie said the schools would look to continue and refine the Denison Cup next year.

"We still need to iron out some of the details on how we are going to score it, whether it's like Astley Cup or we treat it as a standalone event," he said.

"But it is something we'll look to keep doing. We'll probably move it to make it a lead up to Astley Cup, use it as a bit of a practice."

Kelso High's Mick Armstrong is also keen to see the competition continue.

"We only had about two weeks to throw everything together so unfortunately we just didn't have the numbers to play the sports today. But with a bit more time and preparation next year, yeah it would be great to see it continue."

- **ANYA WHITELAW**

## Bathurst High wins the cup



**BATHURST BATTLE:** The Denison Cup drew to a close with Bathurst High students squaring off in a rugby league match.

**WHICH** Denison College campus is better at school sport, Bathurst High or Kelso High?

The answer, at least for 2020, is Bathurst High as it was crowned the inaugural winner of the Denison Cup on Friday. But with the competition likely to become an annual event, Kelso will get a chance for its own bragging rights in the future. |Story see page 31

*Saturday 12th September*

*Saturday 12th September*

## AROUND THE GROUNDS

There were plenty of faces in the crowd at the football on September 5, with photographer Phil Blatch snapping the fans at the rugby league at Jack Arrow Sporting Complex and the rugby union at CSU.

**GOOD TIMES:** The Carter family and their friends enjoyed the footy at St Pat's last weekend.



**GO MUSTARDS:** Da'ydd Francis and Wyan Walmsley were at CSU last Saturday to watch the rugby.



**MATES:** Jason Lowe and Cooper Byrnes enjoying a day out at the rugby.



*Monday 14th September*

# Turnaround time



**WELL DONE:** Pat's White centre Zane Pringle is congratulated by his team-mates after scoring the first of his two tries. Photo: ANYA WHITELAW

## Pat's fight hard but Peschka provides

### UNDER 14S

THEY fought hard to the final whistle, but the under 14s St Pat's White outfit had their season come to an end at the hands of Bloomfield on Saturday as the Tigers won their semi-final 40-14.

Last season as under 13s the Saints defied the odds to be crowned premiers and they were hopeful of making it a Group 10 Junior Rugby League title double with more success in 2020.

But minor premiers Bloomfield, led by inspirational lock Bailey Peschka, were too good in the grand final qualifier at Jack Arrow Oval.

Peschka had scored a hat-trick against Pat's White earlier in the season as the Tigers won their match 28-6 and in Saturday's semi-final he bagged another treble as

well as kicking three conversions.

Two of them came in the opening half as Bloomfield shot out to a 24-4 lead, but his third was the most spectacular. Peschka chipped ahead early in the tackle count, with one hand juggled then controlled the ball, he came within a boot lace of being forced into touch, but he then broke the tackle and ran away to score.

Though the Saints' season came to an end, they did have their highlights in the semi-final. Centre Zane Pringle scored a double while Hayden Selman won the sprint to a Branda grubber to score the Saints' other try.

Branda also booted a 40-20 in the final quarter and Kaedan Swann made big post-contact metres.

— ANYA WHITELAW



**TAG TIME:** Lara Edwards made some crucial plays in defence for Bathurst Panthers in their win over St Pat's. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK



**GAVE IT EVERYTHING:** Tarnya Kelleher was a standout performer in the preliminary final defeat for the St Pat's under 13s on Sunday. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

### LEAGUE TAG

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

WHAT a difference a week can make.

After getting thumped the previous week by St Pat's it was a different story for Bathurst Panthers in Sunday's Group 10 under 13s league tag semi-final as they ran out 22-6 winners over their cross-city rivals.

Panthers learned their lessons, especially in defence, to play an excellent game at Jack Arrow Oval to book their place in the grand final.

Winning coach Anthony Nicol said the girls could hold their heads high with the way they bounced back.

"I'm really chuffed for them, especially coming in off one of our worst games of the season against St Pat's last weekend. They turned it around to put in one of their best games," he said.

"We held the ball a lot better today and our defence was also a lot better. Pat's put 38 points on us last week so to keep them to just six was great to see.

"We played much better as team this week, instead of as individuals. We were letting the ball go, used each other, and that's what helped us get across the line."

The score was still nil-all after the opening quarter of Sunday's game but Pat's had the better of the early chances.

Tahnee Siakisoni and Samantha Hanrahan both made strong runs down the

field but with no end result, as did Evie Scott on the stroke of quarter-time.

Panthers got off to great start in the next term when fullback Abey Carter made a break from her own half and turned on the pace to outrun the Saints chasers, scoring under the posts for a 6-0 lead.

The attacks kept coming from the Panthers following a successful 40-20, on the back of which Sam Whiting scored down the right wing.

The girls in black threatened to run away with the game in the lead up to half-time when Matilda Kemp evaded several attempted tags from 20m out to score between the uprights.

Pat's were caught at times playing too sideways and not enough direct football, but they started to turn it around in the second half.

An intercept from Hanrahan put Pat's supporters in full voice but Lara Edwards was able to keep pace and make a crucial tag.

Pat's got themselves on the board before the last term when fullback Tarnya Kelleher - who had been the best on ground for the Saints throughout the game - found space down the left wing to score a much-deserved try.

But Panthers sealed the deal inside the last 30 seconds of the game when Whiting got on the end of a lucky bounce to score her second try.

Panthers will play minor premiers Orange CYMS in the grand final.

Monday 14th September



REMUNERATION: Former Kelso High teacher Hans Stroeve said he's been blown away by the massive response to the KHS 3D crowdfunding initiative. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

## KHS crowdfunding success

### COMMUNITY

A COMMUNITY crowdfunding drive to reimburse the costs of a 3D reconstruction of the original Kelso High School has seen overwhelming success, with the project now more or less remunerated.

The crowdfunding drive has seen \$11,610 raised to date, which has nearly covered the \$11,000 spent by ex-student Dr John Rouse to start the project and the \$710 spent to source plans for the original school.

Former Kelso High teacher Hans Stroeve said the re-

sponse from the community has been unbelievable.

"Over 80 people have donated to the cause thus far, with individual donations ranging from \$10 to \$2000," Mr Stroeve said.

"It all adds up, and its pretty amazing to see so many people express a fondness to relive their memories via a virtual reconstruction of the school."

Mr Stroeve has seen early drafts of the project, and said ex-Kelso students are in for a spectacular treat.

"It looks amazing, the roof slides away to show the

building's beams, there's people walking up and down one of the quadrangles, I think this will blow people away," he said.

"There's still a lot to do, but we hope to see project reach the light of day within weeks."

Mr Stroeve said any extra donations will contribute to extra features for the project.

To contribute, visit the Kelso High School friends Facebook page or send a donation to account name H Stroeve, account number 68521 and BSB 882000.

- SAM BOLT

# Defence is key for Panthers

### UNDER 16S

BY ANYA WHITELAW

DEFENCE is something that Bathurst Panthers under 16s coach John Griffiths has focused on at training this season and on Saturday he was mighty glad about it.

It was defence that booked his Panthers a spot in the Group 10 Junior Rugby League grand final.

As the undefeated minor premiers, Bathurst Panthers were hot favourites to win their semi-final against St Pat's at Jack Arrow Oval and book a place in the decider.

But the Saints dominated possession which meant the Panthers had to draw on everything that they had been practising in defence to emerge 24-6 victors.

"There was a little bit of pressure there, they knew that they were undefeated but could be straight out the back door after one game," Griffiths said.

"We made a lot of errors, I think the percentage would have been 65-35, we spent long periods defending. I think we completed six-seven sets, that's about it.

"We'd get a little half break then we'd go wide and they'd try to pass it when they were tackled or they'd lose it in a play the ball getting up, knock it on at dummy half or kick it out on the full - just silly little things.

"But defence, that's been our game plan all year, defend and get to our kick. We were throwing silly passes and tried to go around them,

but when we held the ball we scored."

It was Panthers lock Tom Lemmich who scored the opening try of the must-win match to make it 4-0 at quarter-time and while the Saints pressed hard for an equaliser, Griffiths' side held strong.

The margin increased to 10 points in the second quarter as Panthers five-eighth Roman Hunt-Cameron crossed and team-mate Jackson Carter added the extras.

At that stage the Saints were still in the contest, but after the half-time break Panthers were finally able to string some sets together and as a result, they took control of the game.

"We actually held the ball in that third quarter and we got out to 20-0, we also got to



OFFLOAD: Bathurst Panther Samuel Kelly is lifted off his feet in a tackle but gets the ball away to team-mate Riley Langford. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK 091220cuf6s9

give everyone a run because I have nine reserves."

Hooker Andrew Bonham, prop Tallis Tobin and second rower Logan Duffy all scored second half tries for Panthers while Pat's managed to get on the board thanks to Tyler Sharwood.

Griffiths praised the efforts of Tobin in leading Panthers' pack, while he also paid tribute to the performance of the Saints.

"Tallis Tobin was unbelievable - every run he made

10-20 metres and there were a couple of runs where he made 40 metres," the coach said. "As a front rower, I only brought him off for three minutes, so it was a huge effort.

"All credit to Pat's too, they were tough, they came out wanting to win.

"They were very physical, which is what you want going into a grand final. You don't want to go in there on the back of an easy game."

Panthers will meet Bloomfield in this Saturday's grand final after the Tigers posted a 28-24 win over Cowra.

"We've got to be way better for the grand final, we've got to be 40-50 percent better. We know we can tackle, we've just got to get our work with the ball right," Griffiths said.

Tuesday 15th September

Three children, three grand finals

# Siblings succeed

## RUGBY LEAGUE

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

IT'S a joy for any parent to see their child reach the grand final of their competition.

So you can imagine the joy of Mick and Karen Carter after their three kids all reached Group 10 Junior Rugby League deciders this weekend.

Riley (under 11s), Abbey (under 13s league tag) and Jackson (under 16s) will all line up for their respective Bathurst Panthers sides looking to end their year on the best note possible.

While it's difficult to ascertain whether such a scenario has happened before at the club, it's a special moment for the Carter family.

Mick Carter said he couldn't be prouder of the way his children and their teams have played this year.

"It's an incredible feeling for Karen and myself. It wasn't until they pulled the three of them aside for a photo after the games that I realised how significant it was," he said.

"It's an awesome effort on their behalf. The three of them have three incredible coaches who have put the time in to help them get where they are. It's been a great team effort and a special moment for them all. We're really looking forward to Saturday.

"They do a lot of hard work and extra training themselves behind the scenes.



**A FAMILY AFFAIR:** Bathurst Panthers' Riley (11), Jackson (16) and Abbey Carter (13) are preparing for grand finals. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

They've usually got a footy in their hands every day of the week, even outside of when they're practicing."

All three of the Carter kids have enjoyed a spectacular year of football to date.

Both the boys are hoping to cap off unbeaten seasons while Abbey Carter's under 13s are chasing an upset win over CYMS.

The grand finals pit some of the Panthers teams against clubs they're yet to face

ing great.

"Abbey's team lost in the last round to Pat's before they beat them on Sunday. They'll play CYMS, who they also haven't played yet due to that snowed out round.

"Based on results that CYMS team look like a classy side but if the girls turn up like they did on the weekend they can give it a great crack."

However, Jackson's 16s come up against a very familiar opponent in Bloomfield.

These two Panthers and Bloomfield teams have been regular opponents in finals series over the years and Carter is expecting another great game between the clubs.

"Jackson's 16s have gone through undefeated as well but that's the Panthers side I previously had, and they've been in this situation before where they've fallen at the final hurdle," he said.

"They were probably ex-

pecting to play Cowra but they fell to Bloomfield on the weekend. They've met in grand finals a couple of times and they'll be expecting another tough game again."

Under 11s boys play 9am on Saturday at Jack Arrow Oval and under 16s kick-off at 3pm.

On Sunday St Pat's under 11s league tag side face Mudgee at 10am and Panthers under 13s girls face CYMS at 11am.

## Cold Chisel's out a victory

### TENNIS TALK

COLD Chisel was certainly running hot at the Eglinton Tennis Complex on Saturday.

Captain 'iron lady' Allyson Schumacher and her Team Cold Chisel side of Matt Tree, 'rocket' Rod Schumacher, Caitlin Spears, Andrew Tree, Graeme Stapleton and Jake Arnold pulled off a miraculous victory in downing Judy Smith's Team Warumpi of Matt Gibson, Percy Raveneau, Sarah Trec, Jason Honeyman, Robert Mack, Stacey Markwick and David Bant eight sets all, 70 games to 68.

Captain Schumacher was running hot as she only conceded four games across her four sets, and was the only player of the 14 who took to the court to win all of her sets.

This was a truly inspirational performance from Schumacher and was in no small way responsible for steering her side to a gutsy victory.



**ROCKETING ALONG:** Rod 'rocket' Schumacher combined with his wife Allyson to win their sets 6-1, 6-0.

The husband and wife duo of the 'iron lady' and the 'rocket' were in electrifying form for Team Chisel, carving up their opponents in fine style 6-1, 6-0.

Matt Tree and Spears were in fine touch, playing some very crafty tennis, while Andrew Tree and Stapleton battled on gamely all day to frustrate their opposition.

Eglinton young gun Jake Arnold, playing in his first competition at the club, produced some very promising tennis and will definitely improve with more match play. Arnold is out of the Eglinton Tennis Academy which is guided by head coach Rod Schumacher.

Schumacher has the uncanny knack of grooming his young guns into good quality club players.

The second match saw 'slugger' John Bullock's Team Wham of George Collins, Garth Hindmarch, Rebekka Fischer, Cal Hobson, Kathy

Wilkinson and Sebastian Honeyman win for the third week in a row.

They are looking the team to beat in this competition after a thrilling victory over Team The Eagles of David Craft, Bryan Reiri, Dave Smith, Barry Lindsay, Russell Welsh, Andrew Howarth and Peter Deacon nine sets to seven.

However, it may not of been the case if The Eagles' Smith did not have to forfeit one set due to a pulled hamstring. Smith, son of Bathurst tennis greats Jack and Naomi Smith, was in great touch prior to his injury, winning two of his sets 6-0, 7-6 against Bullock and Hindmarch.

— JOHN BULLOCK

Thursday 17th September

# Another Giant fight with Orange awaits

## YOUTH GIRLS

FOR the third time in as many years the AFL Central West youth girls grand final will be a battle between the Bathurst Giants and Orange Tigers and once again those in the charcoal and orange are determined to be the victors.

Since the inaugural competition in 2018 the Giants have lost just three matches - one against the Bushrangers and the other two at the hands of the Tigers.

One of those defeats against the Tigers came in the grand final two years ago, while in 2019 the Giants went through the season undefeated, beating Orange 9-8-62 to 2-4-16 on grand final day.

This year the Giants, under the guidance of coach Katie Kennedy, assistant coach Jayarna Kay and manager Elise Gullifer, lost just one game on the way to the minor premiers.

It came at the hands of the Tigers.

But Kennedy pointed out her side led that match until an injury rattled the playing group and they won their two other meetings with the Tigers in convincing fashion, 6-6-42 to 2-5-17 and 5-2-32 to 1-3-9.

"We went straight through to the grand final which is very exciting. We hadn't lost a game until the last round when we were a bit under staffed and had a pretty scary injury in the last quarter which shook the girls a little bit and the win kind of slipped away from us," she said.

"It will be interesting I think because they [Tigers] were the ones who beat us in the last round. I think our girls will be pretty keen to go back and get one up on them."



**CHASING GLORY:** The Bathurst Giants youth girls are chasing back-to-back premierships. They play Orange Tigers in Sunday's decider. Photo: MY ACTION IMAGES, PETER YANDLE

This year's Giants side features a number of players from the 2019 premiership outfit as well as some new faces. The new faces also include Kennedy as coach.

"I have enjoyed it, it's a lot different to playing. You're watching the game and you're busting to get out there and show them how to do it, but you've got to stay on the sideline and yell out and direct. It's a whole different ball game being a coach," Kennedy, who skips the Giants' women's side, said.

"Their team work is amazing, they clicked so well at the start of the season and they've just gotten better and better. Even in such a small amount of time, just watching them out there helping each other is just incredible, to still be in juniors and work that well as a team is just amazing."

Two of the on-field leaders for youth girls this season have been captain Zoe Peters and Bridget Warne.

They have been regulars in the women's outfit and the experience they have gained testing themselves against older rivals has benefited not only them, but their youth team-mates as well.

"Those girls are just amaz-

ing and can definitely hold their own against some of the older ladies. Both of their leadership is second to none, they are bloody amazing and they really enjoy helping out the younger girls," Kennedy said.

"I know Bridget has been helping out in the under 14s and trying to get those girls up and playing in our youth girls team and Zoe, just her guidance on the field is amazing, she is a bloody superstar."

But just as the Giants have star players, so too do the Orange Tigers.

How the Giants stack up against one of them - defender Elizabeth Gibson - will be a key factor in Sunday's grand final.

"They'll be tough to beat, they've got a couple of really good girls that just know the game really well," Kennedy said. "Elizabeth Gibson in their back line is great, it is so hard to get the ball past her because she is just so good."

"It should be a really good contest, I'm excited, and hopefully the girls can come away with a win."

Opening bounce in the grand final is 12.30pm Sunday at George Park 1.

- ANYA WHITELAW



**ONE JOB LEFT:** The under 17 Bathurst Giants have dominated in 2020, but must beat the Tigers on Sunday to be crowned champions. Photo: MY ACTION IMAGES, PETER YANDLE

## Midfield magic is key for under 17s

### UNDER 17S

BY ANYA WHITELAW

A DOMINANT midfield and strong ruckmen - they were key in the Bathurst Giants qualifying for the AFL Central West under 17s grand final and what coach Brad Broes hopes can now lead them to premiership glory.

The Giants finished eight points clear of their grand final rivals Orange in the minor premierships, while their percentage was a massive 388.66 compared to the Tigers' 54.73.

Broes was clear in identifying why the Giants' record to date has been so impressive.

"Our midfield has been our backbone really, a lot of our success this year has been due to that," he said.

"A lot of our structure is based around that midfield with Hayden Goodsell and Daniel Belfanti in the ruck."

"It's not an area we try to rely on, but a lot of what we have achieved has been down to the hard work of those blokes then getting the forwards to convert that."

Still, Broes is acutely aware that everything his side has done this season will count

for little if they can not convert it into a premiership this Sunday at George Park 1.

The Giants are the hot favourites and their most recent match against the Tigers was a commanding 10-3-63 to 0-3-3 victory.

But they are not unbeatable as the Tigers showed in round five when beating the Bathurst outfit by two points.

"There was only the one loss, it was a little hard to take because it was by two points," Broes said.

"It was just one of those days, it was a miserable day in the mud. A couple of things didn't go our way with a couple of the boys not being able to play then a couple of injuries."

"My word there's a rivalry between us and Orange, it's been a really good rivalry we've had with them the last couple of years. They're a good side, a tough side and I know we beat them pretty easy last week, but I'm not expecting anything like that this week, that's for sure."

"I've seen teams go through undefeated, flog everyone throughout the year and then lose the big dance. I certainly don't want

that to happen to my boys."

Along with assistant Peter Hunt, who Broes says has been 'exceptional', the coach has stressed to his players there is no room for complacency.

But both Broes and Hunt do take confidence from the leadership shown by four of their players who have also been regulars in the men's tier one side.

"We've had four first graders this year - Zac Yandle, Liam Cooke, Rocco Yates and Cooper Brien, they've all done super jobs," Broes said.

"They've experienced that higher, tougher standard and they've brought that experience back with them to under 17s and that's really showed. All four of them are leaders of their area."

"It's always good to have a home ground advantage in your corner on grand final day, it's a ground we know quite well and we play well there. But it all depends how we approach the day, if we turn up switched on then happy days, if not then it could be tough."

Opening bounce in Sunday's grand final is at 2.30pm Sunday at George Park 1.

Friday 18th September

# Form is on Bathurst's side

## AUSTRALIAN RULES

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

IT'S all about peaking at the right time of the season - just ask the Bathurst Bushrangers.

Their under 12s and 14s sides head into this Sunday's grand finals against the Orange Tigers each on an impressive winning run over the past month.

While they both had their stumbles earlier in the season the Bushrangers teams in the two youngest competitive age groups have proven incredibly hard to contain.

The Tigers may be the minor premiers in both competitions though recent form suggests the Bushrangers will be the teams to beat on the last day of the season at George Park 1.

Bushrangers' under 14s are on a five-game winning streak heading into the big day and the latest of those wins came against their grand final opponents.

Coach Steve Grundy said his team have been superb through the whole season, though lately they've really started to piece everything together.

"We started with a big loss and it looked like it was going to be a tough season for them but we've recruited well through the season and our players have continued to improve with every game. We've got some great momentum going into the weekend," he said.

"I've had some fantastic



**ONE GAME LEFT:** The Bathurst Bushrangers under 14s (pictured) and 12s teams are in great form ahead of grand finals. They both play against Orange Tigers this Sunday. **Photo: CONTRIBUTED**

young players come over from other sports. A big positive is seeing how many players have come across to give something new a go and really excel at it."

Once those new to the game got to grips with the intricacies of the sport then there was no looking back for the Bushrangers.

"I myself as a kid came over to the game from soccer and basketball and those skills translate over. If you can run, catch and kick then all you have to do is refine that," Grundy said.

"They're great tacklers and very aggressive on the footy. It's become a trademark of our play this year. We're a real contested ball team and if we can get the ball in that forward 50 more often than not then we're going to score."

It would have been hard for the Bushrangers to imagine playing grand final football after their 66-point loss to rivals Bathurst Giants back in round one, where they failed to score a single point.

But the recruitment and commitment to practice has put the Bushrangers into title hopefuls.

Over their last two games they've kept their opponents to just a single goal each while kicking 15 of their own across that same time span.

"We probably played by far our best game of the season last week," Grundy said.

"I said after the game it's all well and good to do that but it won't count for

much if we can't do it again this weekend. We're keen to try and go even better and we're confident we can get the result."

Alex Sparks' under 12s side also boasted limited Aussie rules experience coming into 2020 but they quickly took a liking to the game.

The team lost three competitive games to start the season and once they got their first win against the Bathurst Giants there was no looking back.

They went on to win their next four games to climb their way up the ladder and finish the year in second place.

Not a single win this year could be considered a blow-out in favour of the Bushies. They've had to work hard for every minute of their matches to take the points.

Sparks said the team have learned the ropes of AFL in impression fashion.

"It's great to see them have a bit of fun and make it into

so many players rock up to training. The more they practice as a team the more they bring it on game day.

Everyone's got a really great attitude, and with an under 12s side you can't ask for much more than that."

It's a great turnaround season for the Bushrangers under 12s and 14s who missed out on last year's grand final day.

The under 12s clash starts from 9.30am while the under 14s game follows at 11am.

## Lady Bushies are in reach of fifth finale

### WOMEN

THEY'VE been dealt some big blows with injuries to key players, but the Bathurst Lady Bushrangers are on the cusp of their fifth AFL Central West grand final appearance in six years.

This Saturday the Lady Bushrangers will host the preliminary final at George Park, the victor to go on and play the Bathurst Giants in the grand final.

Naturally the Lady Bushrangers are intent on being the outfit that advances, but that they've reached this stage is itself an impressive achievement.

Since round two they've been without captain Amelia Wright and former premier-ship-winning skipper Kelsey Richards due to injury. Full forward Steph Taylor played

to a lot of other teams in the comp," he said.

"They are just really well structured and their best players are really skilful. They play straight down the corridor and they've got a couple of very tall players."

In the absence of Harrison-Brown, Tomika Speer gets the job of marking key Dubbo forward Lauren Hazell. She will be supported by back line Matheson says has been 'outstanding'.

However, the real key lies with how Lady Bushrangers on-ballers Keeghan Tucker, Beth Durham, Lucy Thompson, Sonia Lang perform.

"If we can control it out of the centre, that will go a long way to us winning the game," Matheson said.

Opening bounce on Saturday is 12.30pm.

— ANYA WHITELAW



**SINK THE BOOT IN:** Angela Evans and her Lady Bushrangers team-mates are vying for a spot in the AFL Central West women's grand final. **Photo: PHIL BLATCH**

Finals 18th 11am



# Hope to carry derby form into a decider

## LEAGUE TAG UNDER 13S

THERE'S nothing like a derby victory to fill a side with confidence ahead of a grand final.

The Bathurst Panthers under 13s league tag side are ready for a big test against minor premiers Orange CYMS this Sunday, with the two sides coming together for the first time this year on the last day of the season.

Panthers' huge second quarter took them to a 22-6 win over St Pat's last week and coach Anthony Nicol said that was a great perfor-

mance at the right time of the year.

"This is probably the best we've ever felt going into a game. Training on Tuesday was really positive and all the girls came to it feeling really good. It's a great way to be as we get ready for Sunday," he said.

"I think the girls definitely feel happy with what they've already achieved this year, especially last week, but they're not feeling like they're done yet though. They want to go out and prove a point in this game."

The result was a huge



**WE'RE READY:** The Bathurst Panthers under 13s are excited for a grand final meeting with Orange CYMS this Sunday. Photo: CONTRIBUTED

turnaround from a week earlier where they thrashed them in one of their

most disappointing games of the season. CYMS are undoubtedly

played each other yet. They know how good CYMS are but they want to show what they're capable of, and go out on a high note by playing the best that they can," he said.

"Anything can happen on the day so we can only control what we can control so we'll see what happens from there."

If Panthers can recapture the fast-paced gameplay they brought in the first half of their game against Pat's then they will be in with a great shot.

Kick-off is at 11am.

—ALEXANDER GRANT

This is probably the best we've ever felt going into a game.

Anthony Nicol

These teams haven't

# Group of mates aim for grand final glory

## UNDER 11S

GOOD mates who are all talented and ready to work for each other - that is why Bathurst Panthers under 11s coach Zaria Griffiths thinks her side will be crowned Group 10 Junior Rugby League champions this Saturday.

They are ingredients which have already served her young Panthers well as Griffiths' under 11s have conquered all who have come before them so far this season.

The won six consecutive games on their way to being the undefeated minor premiers and in last Saturday's semi-final against Lithgow Storm, they scored seven tries in a 40-12 win.

"It's pretty good to be undefeated and hopefully we can bring it home on Saturday," Griffiths said.

"But looking at them, I don't think they feel any pressure. It is probably there under the surface but they seem pretty calm on the outside, they are pretty good side all-round and I think they can do it.

"The message for Saturday is just to have fun, I think a team of mates will beat a team of talents any day and they're all friends and they all get along. I think that will get them over the line in the end."

Having run water last season, 2020 is Griffiths' first in charge as a coach. It is a role the Western Rams women's tackle representative is enjoying.

"It's good fun coaching these ones, there's some pretty good talent there. It's good trying to help them better themselves, it's good to have that sort of stuff going on," she said.

Griffiths has the assistance of her father John as manag-



**AIMING FOR PERFECTION:** The under 11 Bathurst Panthers are one win away from making it an unbeaten season. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

er. He also coaches the under 16s Panthers side which is aiming for an undefeated premiership of their own come Saturday.

"I think there will be some bragging rights if my side wins and his doesn't, but it would be good to see them both win, they're both undefeated at the moment," Zaria Griffiths laughed.

While Griffiths has faith in her Panthers, she also knows that their rivals on Saturday - the Cowra Magpies - will not be easy to beat.

The format of the under 11s draw means the Panthers have not met the Magpies this season, but a look at Cowra's record gives an indication of what to expect.

They placed second in the minor premiership with just the one loss while they boast the best attacking and defensive record in the competition.

The Magpies booked their spot in the decider with a 28-12 win over Orange CYMS Green.

"I don't know too much about them, just that they beat the same teams we've beaten," Griffiths said of Cowra. "So we'll just stick to what we have been doing, I think it's been working



A team of mates will beat a team of talents any day and they're all friends and they all get along.

Zaria Griffiths

for us."

What has been working for Panthers is the combination of their mateship and talent.

The coach knows it is not just her starting players, but every single member of the squad who can be relied upon to do a job in attack and defence.

"We've got a pretty good whole 20, I don't doubt anybody when I put them on. They are all at the same sort of level and it's good to have a bench like that," she said.

"Everyone has their own ability which really helps, our bench is just as good as our starting side."

The under 11s grand final will kick off at 9am at Jack Arrow Oval on Saturday.

—ANYA WHITELAW



**IN REACH OF GLORY:** The Bathurst Panthers under 16s are in reach of an undefeated premiership season. They play Bloomfield in Saturday's grand final. Photo: ASTRID MAITLAND-DUFFY

# Panthers possess host of motivators

## UNDER 16S

BY ANYA WHITELAW

FINISHING the season undefeated, winning in their last year of Group 10 Junior Rugby League, avenging past grand final defeats and beating a familiar foe.

The under 16 Bathurst Panthers have no shortage of motivating factors for this Saturday's grand final against the Bloomfield Tigers.

A bulk of the Panthers squad who will be in action at Jack Arrow Oval have been team-mates since under 10s and they'd love a title success story to mark their final match in juniors together.

That they are facing a group of Bloomfield Tigers they have done battle with on grand final day before adds to their desire.

"They played in them in the grand final as under 10s, that was their first grand final and now they are playing them in their last one as juniors," Panthers coach John Griffiths said.

"They got beat by Bloomfield as under 10s, got beaten as under 11s by them and we beat them in under 12s - so yeah, we need a bit

of revenge.

"A lot of those kids are the same, so it's good to finish against them."

The last two seasons these Panthers have made it all the way to grand final day only to lose to the Cowra Magpies.

They were defeats which stung, but Griffiths knows avoiding that feeling of disappointment is another factor which will drive his side on.

"I think the pressure is on them, they're as nervous as all hell. They lost the grand final when they were minor premiers last year, so that's eating at them, but I think it makes them hungrier," the coach said.

"They know what it feels like to lose and they don't want to lose."

"So yes they're nervous, but it's a good nervous. I think, a controlled nervous. They know they can beat them, they have just got to turn up with the right attitude and mindset to do it."

The Panthers have met Bloomfield just once this season, beating them 16-6 on the way to an undefeated minor premiership.

Panthers beat St Pat's 24-6

in last Saturday's semi-final to now to be one win from a perfect season, while the Tigers booked their spot in the decider on the back of a 28-24 win over Cowra.

Griffiths knows his side must improve their completion rate to take the final step as when the Panthers enjoy good possession, they can convert that into points.

"They're a threat, they're probably the hardest game we've had. We won that 16-6, we won our other games comfortably but that was a tight one the whole way through," Griffiths said.

"If we get the ball work right I think we should win, but we're not going to count our chickens.

"We've got a good six, seven, one and nine and they've been it from under 10s, they've been our spine. They've played together a long time and know what each other do.

"The boys on the bench do their job when they go on too, it's pretty rewarding actually to take one off and put one on who does the same job. It makes it easier."

The match kicks off at 3pm Saturday at Jack Arrow Oval.

# The Saints love a road trip

**HOCKEY**  
BY ANYA WHITELAW

LITHGOW Panthers will be on home turf come this Saturday's women's Premier League Hockey grand final, but that doesn't trouble St Pat's one bit - in fact the Saints love a road trip.

Though facing the Panthers on their home turf is a prospect many premier league outfits find daunting, Saints coach Ben Weal feels it is not as big as an advantage as it appears.

He thinks the Lithgow turf suits the style of hockey his side likes to play and also points to the Saints' impressive record when playing away from home this season.

"Our away record this year has been good, we've scored 12 away goals and have none against. Travelling this year has not been an issue for us," Weal said.

"So I'm happy to be playing here, I think it's probably the best surface in the league, the ball moves fast, it's true. So that surface will suit us more than the Orange surface, you can go there with the confidence that it's going



**AIMING FOR GLORY:** St Pat's will meet Lithgow Panthers in this Saturday's women's Premier League Hockey grand final. **Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT**

to be a fast game and conducive to a good skill level." of Panthers supporters cheering on the home side, while the Saints have also won matches at Lithgow in the past.

The restrictions in place due to COVID-19 means neutralises it a bit because we've had some really good results down there in finals, which is a positive. "The last time we won a grand final was beating Panthers in Lithgow and the previous time we played Panthers in Lithgow in a grand final we won as well."

The Saints will be aiming for their eighth women's crown on Saturday, having previously won four consecutive titles between 2003-06, picking up another in 2009, plus finding success in 2013 and 2018.

As Weal pointed out that 2018 win came at Lithgow against the Panthers and seven members of that side who won 5-2 - Maddy Boyce, Amy Glenn, Lucy Weal, Mish Somers, Jodi Webb, Paityn Simpson and Lilli-Rai Campbell - will line up again this Saturday.

Campbell has been in brilliant form in goals this season and was particularly impressive in the 2-0 preliminary final win over Confederates. It was her fifth clean sheet of the season and Weal sees her as being a key figure in the decider.

"She made not only absolutely amazing first saves last weekend, but second, third and fourth saves," Weal said.

"Really to go all the way you need to have a really good goalkeeper and we are very fortunate to have that."

The decider starts at 1.30pm.

# Job ready thanks to PCYC

**PCYC**  
BY JACINTA CARROLL

KELSO High students are among the latest to 'rise up' and graduate from the PCYC's Fit 2 Learn program, which they have been undertaking through their school studies for the past two months.

Ten students participated in Fit 2 Learn, completing the job ready program which teaches them about applying for a job, attending interviews as well as preparing a resume for prospective employers.

The students also obtained a White Card and a first aid certificate during the course.

Fit 2 Learn is one of many programs on offer under the RISEUP umbrella, a program initiated by NSW Police Commissioner Mick Fuller, just on two years ago.

Commissioner Fuller is the first police commissioner in 80 years to list youth as their top priority - and two years on, those on the ground say the program is changing lives, often igniting the spark in the students for what they want to do in the future.

Senior Constable Rikki Bowden, from the Youth and Crime Prevention Command said the skills and qualifications the students gained through Fit 2 Learn enable them to start applying for jobs like apprenticeships, which many of them want to



**GRADUATION:** Students from Kelso High pictured with mentors from the PCYC.



**FIT 2 LEARN:** Students from Kelso High at their Fit 2 Learn graduation at the PCYC, Bathurst, last week.



**GREAT DAY:** Principal of Kelso High, Mick Sloan, with some of the students who graduated from Fit 2 Learn.

do. She said the program encourages participants to explore their strengths in building respectful relationships within the school environment whilst also developing emotional intelligence skills preparing them for future employment.

"When asked what they got out of the program the young people made comments about getting their White Card and first aid certificate and learning the skills they needed to get a job. "The job ready course was

a big plus for them all. They also spoke about improving their communication skills and spoke highly of the support provided by staff during the program," she said. Both Bathurst High and Kelso high have been part of the Fit 2 Learn Program run

through the PCYC during the past few years. The program targets both boys and girls to inspire them both at school and in their learning by building soft skills and life connection skills, through positive relationships with staff at

Bathurst PCYC. Students involved in the program have demonstrated increased school attendance rates, decreased social anxiety at school and improved confidence to engage in daily conversations with peers, adults and school leaders.

Monday 21st September

# 'It's the best feeling in the world': Tobin

## RUGBY LEAGUE

BIG effort, big metres, big minutes, big impact and a very big reward.

Bathurst Panthers' Tallis Tobin was named best on ground in Saturday's under 16s Group 10 Junior Rugby League grand final for his inspirational effort in the front row against Bloomfield Tigers.

Just as the amount of post-contact metres he made in the semi-final win against St Pat's a week earlier were critical, so too were his barnstorming runs against Bloomfield in the decider at

Jack Arrow Oval.

The energy he put into his hit-ups helped Panthers get out of their half when Bloomfield pressured, they drove his side closer to the try line and they certainly inspired.

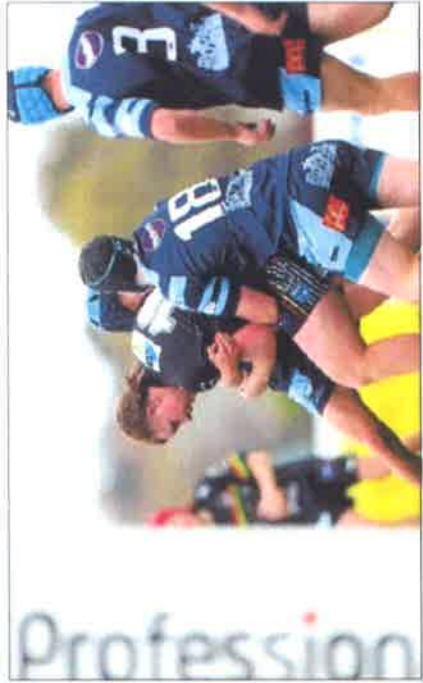
Often he took multiple carries in a set and while there were times Tobin was sucking in the air after an effort, he stayed on the field and he'd back up his offensive runs with some big hits in defence.

He was rewarded for hitting the line hard with a try in the first half, but after full-time came even bigger moments.

He got to celebrate a grand final success with a bunch

of mates he has played with since under 10s and he was named best on ground.

**HUGE WORK RATE:** Bathurst Panthers prop Tallis Tobin was named best of ground in the under 16s grand final.



"It feels awesome, it's been a long time, we've been put away the last couple of years in the grand final, so it feels awesome to win my last junior game," he said.

"To win with these guys is awesome, there's no better bunch of guys to do it.

"Best on ground, yeah, it's awesome, it's the best feeling in the world I think."

While Panthers scored the first three tries of the contest and ultimately emerged 34-10 winners, Tobin admitted he was concerned when Bloomfield lifted in the second quarter.

He responded by getting the ball in hand and charging at the Tigers' defence. The effort told, but Tobin kept working until the final whistle.

"I was very nervous, bloody nervous, they were on fire for a bit there. But we defended well and put them away," he said. "There was not much left in the tank at all, I was just counting the seconds down I think."

While he is unsure what next season will bring, Tobin hopes his Panthers mates will join him in under 18s.

- ANYA WHITELAW

# St Pat's are stopped



**NOT TO BE:** A great season for St Pat's has come to an end at the hand of Dubbo CYMS. Photo: NICK GUTHRIE

## RUGBY LEAGUE BY NICK GUTHRIE

IN FINALS football the smallest decisions can make all the difference and that was the case at Spooner Oval on Sunday when two moments of real quality from Braye Porter helped send Dubbo CYMS through to the Western Youth League decider.

CYMS defeated Bathurst St Pat's 22-18 in an enthralling semi-final battle, and while there wasn't a bad player for CYMS it was five-eighth Porter who took the game by the scruff of the neck in the final quarter.

With his side leading by just two and coming out of its own half with 10 minutes to go, Porter opted to run the ball from first receiver back towards the ruck and popped a short ball to flying fullback Noah Ryan, who burst into the clear before being hauled down 10m out from the line.

A few plays later on the final tackle Porter

opted not to kick and run back against the angle again, where he found halves partner Fletcher Haycock, who put Michael Freeman over wide out.

Porter then nailed the conversion to put his side up by eight points and while Pat's hit back in the final minute the damage had been done.

"They capitalised on the mistakes," Pat's coach Kev Grimshaw said.

"The first quarter, I thought, we were all over the top of them. We kicked and chased well, and we were well in control of the game but then dropping the ball on the first tackle, I think it was four times dropped on the first or second tackle, and they punished us."

Haycock had earlier also shown real intelligence when kicking early in the set to set-up a Will Malloy try and that came in a second quarter period where CYMS really stamped its authority on the game.

After CYMS made an error off the kick-off

Pat's prop Tom Rodham, a standout for his side on the day, crashed over from close range to score the first points.

More errors crept in but CYMS captain Joe Yeo soon took control, first darting over from dummyhalf to get his side on the board before throwing a lovely flat pass from close range to allow prop Charlie Holman to barge over.

Porter's conversions made it 12-6 at the first break and then the Fishies produced smart wet weather footy in the second term while Pat's continually coughed up possession.

After leading 16-6 at the main break CYMS had to face a spirited Pat's onslaught in the third term but a converted try for Tyler Colley was all the Bathurst side had to show for its efforts.

Colley put Josh Belfanti over early in the fourth to set-up a grandstand finish but then Porter put his stamp on things.

*Monday 21st September*

*Monday 21st September*

Panthers finish as undefeated premiers

# VERY SWEET 16

**RUGBY LEAGUE**  
BY ANYA WHITELAW

THEY first came together as under 10s who were still learning about football, but on Saturday as a group of talented under 16 Bathurst Panthers they showcased all the skills as they sealed an undefeated premier-ship campaign.

Panthers beat long-time rivals Bloomfield Tigers 34-10 in the under 16s grand final at Jack Arrow Oval, making it a very memorable way to end their time in the Group 10 Junior Rugby League ranks.

It was Bloomfield who beat them all those years ago in the under 10s grand final, but this time Panthers scored the first 18 points of the match and went on with the job from there.

"They really deserve it. I don't think they could have asked for anything else," Panthers coach John Griffiths said.

Having lost to Cowra on grand final the past two years and heading into Saturday's decider undefeated in season 2020, there was certainly pressure on the shoulders of the Panthers players.

But as Griffiths put them through their paces in the pre-match warm-up, he got an inkling that his side would get the fairy tale finish to juniors they so badly wanted.

"In the warm up they weren't nervous, all they wanted to do was get out there and



**FITTING FINALE:** These Panthers marked their last year as juniors by going undefeated. They beat Bloomfield in the decider. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

I thought it was either going to go one way or the other. But when we started it was good," the coach said.

"I had that little gut feeling we'd do it, but you can never be too sure.

"The second quarter we got away from what we should be doing and got back into that having to defend again style of footy. They were coming back at us, but just that half-time helped us to regroup."

The first quarter it was all Panthers as Bloomfield made an error on their first set - putting their kick out on the full - and hardly saw any possession after that point.

After that mistake with the kick, Bloomfield knocked on a Panthers' bomb to give the hosts repeat sets and they took full advantage as Logan Duffy crossed between the sticks.

Five minutes later Panthers forced a line drop out

and it got worse for Bloomfield as they were then penalised for having players in front of the kicker.

Again the mistake was punished, this time Tallis Tobin steaming onto an inside ball from hooker Andrew Bonham and crashing over. It was one of many highlights for the prop who was named best on ground.

Just before quarter-time Sam Kelly dived over in the left corner for Panthers' third

began the second stanza by busting through three tackles to score in the right corner Bloomfield had a sniff at 20-10.

However, that was to be as close as Bloomfield got to the minor premiers.

A piece of individual brilliance from Carter - stepping his way through Bloomfield's on-line defence then diving over - swung momentum back in Panthers' favour.

The set finished with a try to fullback Riley Robinson.

A Carter penalty goal saw Panthers leading 20-6 at half-time, but when Williams

## UNDER 13S LEAGUE TAG

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

SPEED, skills and teamwork.

ORANGE CYMS had it all in spades during their Group 10 Junior Rugby League under 13s league tag grand final win over Bathurst Panthers on Sunday as they ran out 44-4 winners at Jack Arrow Oval.

It was a game not punctuated by any poor play from Panthers but a wealth of fast play down both edges from a CYMS side filled with talent.

Centre and captain Ava Cole led by example with a hat-trick while speedster fullback Mya Symmons and the elusive Keeley Thornhill each scored a brace.

"It's a thrill. They're a great bunch of girls who play touch footy and league tag together and a very competitive group," CYMS coach Jayce Barrett said.

"I would have been happy with a win - big or small - as long as they got the job done. They knew what they had to do.

"Mya was great at the back, Lily Golding was good in the middle as well as our halves. It was a great game for every-

one across the park."

Panthers coach Anthony Nicol was proud of the way his team fought in the face of quality opposition.

"I think in the first half they were a little bit disappointed because it wasn't going the way they wanted to, so they went out there still wanting to have fun," he said.

"They said 'Hang on, we've made the grand final, let's go out there and enjoy ourselves' and they did.

"CYMS know what they're doing. I believe they've been together for quite some time and they deserved everything they got today."

It only took CYMS three minutes to open the scoring when Cole got on the end of a nice piece of team play down the left wing.

Panthers almost responded straight away when Sam Whiting snagged an intercept but the team couldn't convert on the chance.

By the end of the first quarter it was already 12-0 thanks to Luella Maunder's big run out of her own half and Symmons' fast break down the left wing.

At the start of the second term CYMS' Thornhill threw

a dummy cand when several Panthers players bought it she was able to weave through to the try line.

Symmons then once again showed how dangerous she could be with even a tiny amount of space to run, going 70 metres down the field for her second try and take CYMS to a 20-0 half-time lead.

Cole found a line break and ran out of her own half to score, evading a bold chase down effort from Abbey Carter.

Panthers got on the board when Kali Thackery scooped up a poor CYMS kick and ran 40m for the try line, but Chloe Marsh and Haylee Besant's tries took Orange to a 34-4 lead at the last break.

Cole then completed her hat-trick and another great piece of footwork from Thornhill completed the rout.

Symmons was named played of the match.

**ORANGE CYMS 44 (Ava Cole 3, Mya Symmons 2, Keeley Thornhill 2, Luella Maunder, Chloe Marsh, Haylee Besant tries; Layla Barrett 2 conversions) defeated BATHURST PANTHERS 4 (Kali Thackery)**



**CYMS-ATIONAL:** Lara Edwards and the Bathurst Panthers were no match for a classy Orange CYMS outfit in Sunday's 44-4 grand final loss. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

# CYMS run riot in a dominant victory

Monday 21st September

Tuesday 22nd September

# Giants tame the 17 Tigers

## Yates helps to inspire Bathurst side to a premiership success

**UNDER 17S**

**BY ANYA WHITELAW**

THEY started slowly, they lost their skipper and vice-captain to injury, but when the under 17 Bathurst Giants clicked into gear in Sunday's AFL Central West grand final they were just too good for the Orange Tigers.

The Giants rallied on George Park 1 to come away with a 7-11-53 to 2-3-15 victory over the Orange Tigers as they finished their impressive season 2020 campaign as premiers.

The Brad Broes coached Giants lost just one game on their way to the grand final, while their attacking and defensive records were far su-

perior to that of their rivals.

But when the Tigers walked off the field at quarter-time with a two-point lead, Broes was nervous.

"We were down by two points at the first quarter break then we seemed to click into gear and ended up coming out to lead by almost 30 points at half-time," he said.

"They were just a bit jittery to start I suppose. They copped a bit of a spray at quarter-time and everything worked from there.

"I was nervous, I had it in my head that that this was not how it was supposed to go, that's not how it's supposed to start."

By half-time the Giants



**CHAMPIONS:** The under 17 Bathurst Giants are premiers of their division for season 2020. **Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK**

looked in control as they held a 5-4-34 to 1-2-8 lead, but there were still nervous moments for the coach as injury forced two of his star players to join him on the sideline.

"We lost Zac Yandle, he has been our main man obviously through the middle all year, he had a crook knee, and then Liam Cooke hurt his ankle," Broes said.

which kind of sucked. Zac came off for good during the second quarter and Liam came off in the third quarter, so we lost two of our main people in the space of two quarters.

"We had to nominate another on-field captain so we put the band on Rocco Yates and he ended up coming out with the best on ground. I played him through the middle through the entire game."

With Yates stepping up and the rest of the Giants all working hard to fill their roles, the hosts held a 27-point lead heading into the final quarter.

The Giants continued to impress in that last term as they held the Tigers scoreless

and emerged 38-point victors. Tim Currie and Cooper Brien both finished with a pair of majors while Lachlan Macauley, Calvin Windus and Cooper Traves also kicked goals in the win.

"I am so proud of those bunch of guys, they had the top spot all year but we were playing the only team which had beaten us throughout the year," Broes said.

"They knew Orange would go into it ready to fire and they rose to that challenge. It was a great way to send out our graduates from junior footy, there are a lot of guys who are done with junior footy now."

**BATHURST GIANTS 7-11-53 defeated ORANGE TIGERS 2-3-15**

*Wednesday 23rd September*

**WE ARE THE WINNERS:** Bathurst Bushrangers' under 14s side bolted out of the gates after half-time to easily win their grand final over Orange Tigers.

## Title-winning second half play

**UNDER 14S**

THAT'S a second half Bathurst Bushrangers' under 14s won't forget in a hurry.

Bushrangers blew their grand final game against the Orange Tigers open on Sunday when they came onto the field after half-time, kicking five answered goals to win 6-5-41 to 1-3-9 at George Park 1.

Once the Bushrangers came to grips with the awful weather they found their groove, capping off a dominant end to the season.

Coach Steve Grundy said the team came to life after half-time break when they became hungrier for the ball.

"We hadn't dropped a game since round three so it was a really great way to finish the year off," he said.

"It was anyone's game until half-time. We

were just struggling to get our hands on the ball and Orange were a little better at the contest. We only had a one-point lead at half-time.

"Then we really made an effort to win those contested possessions, and upped our tackling intensity when we got the ball forward. That's when we started to pull away.

"We blew them away in the third quarter after we kicked an early goal and from there we never took the foot off the pedal.

"Our mantra all year has been to try and get better with every game and I think we saved our best performance for the last game of the season."

**BATHURST BUSHRANGERS 6-5-41 defeated ORANGE TIGERS 1-3-9**

**- ALEXANDER GRANT**



# Flying under rivals' radars

## TENNIS TALK

THE tall poppy players - they know who they are - week in week out continue to produce that champagne tennis.

But as we all know it's not all about the big gun players to win the big matches and go on to win that coveted grand final trophy.

In actual fact there has been more grand final wins with the bottom half of the side excelling to take out that coveted trophy.

Let's mention a few of some of those players that have produced that form:

**REBEKHA FICHER** - A good steady player that rallies hard all day.

**CAL HOBSON** - More speed around the court then Kingston Town. A true goer.

**KATH WILKINSON** - Consistent as they come, gives 110 per cent on the court.

**SEBASTIAN HONEYMAN** - A real trier who gives his best week in week out.

**DAN McLEAY** - Has the

ability to upset the big gun players.

**STACEY MARKWICK** - If the chips are down watch out.

**DAVID BANT** - A good steady player who can rally all day.

**DAISEY HOSKINS** - Has been a big improver, watch out in further matches.

**MADDI HONEYMAN** - A true goer that gives her all.

**ROBERT MACK** - Has a big serve and can win the big points if given room to move.

**CAITLIN SPEIRS** - Improving in each game, and will upset the big guns when the pressure is on.

**ANDREW TREE** - A good steady player who reads the play well.

**GRAEME STAPLETON** - Stumpy is a tennis player that if you were in the trenches you would like him right beside you.

**RUSSEL WELSH** - Speed to burn and a real trier on the court.



**ALWAYS READY:** Stacey Markwick has been a strong performer in the Eglinton Tennis Club's competitions.

**ANDREW HOWARTH** - Has a good steady game that gives his all in his matches.

**PETER DEACON** - A good net player who can hit top gear if given room to move.

Meanwhile, the captains of each side have had there say in the bookies 2-1 outlook for Slugger's side to win:

**JUDY SMITH** - Sluggers' side no hope.

**ROBERT MACK** - He may have been Bathurst junior champion back in 1926, but Slugger's team could not beat the time of day.

**IRON LADY SCHUMACHER** - 2-1, should be 100-1, although could firm to 50-1 with his trump card.

**ANDREW HOWARTH** - Good luck. You will need it.

- **JOHN BULLOCK**



**STRENGTH IN NUMBERS:** Kelso High Campus Year 12 students create the number '20' in the school's gymnasium.  
Photo: SAM BOLT

Friday 25th September

# Pursuing club's first senior title defence

## AUSTRALIAN RULES

WHEN Bathurst Giants last played a senior women's AFL Central West grand final against the Dubbo Demons it didn't pan out as they had hoped.

They get the chance to turn the tables this Saturday.

The minor premiers and defending champions have the chance to get revenge for 2018's disappointment when they go into this weekend's decider against the Demons as favourites.

Coach Liz Kennedy said the club's excellent season as a whole has come on the

back of a positive culture. "They're still nervous. They know they've got a job to do, but they're excited to make the grand final again. It's been such an amazing year for the club," she said.

"There's been an amazing culture at the club this year. The women's team has always had a great culture and we've seen a lot of that flow into the men's side. It's great to be around."

In the latest clash against the Demons the Giants got off to a slow start but recovered to claim a 13-point win.

They'll be favoured to



**CHANGE IT UP:** Katie Kennedy (centre) during the 2018 grand final presentation. Kennedy and her side are looking to avoid the same result from that day in this year's decider. **Photo: PHIL BLATCH**

make that happen again but the grand final day cranks up the pressure on all sides.

their third straight grand final, looking to build on an impressive mark they've left on the women's game since they first joined the scene. Kennedy said that's come down to a lot of hard work from everyone involved.

"I really have to give Katie [Kennedy, daughter and captain] credit for getting these girls to enjoy the game. She has really been instrumental in getting the Giants to where they are. I say that proudly as a mum and a coach," she said.

"Mick Sloan has been fantastic. He's the one

who has come up with the plans and the structures. My role as coach has been more with the people skills. We've both worked really hard to get proper training plans together.

"Mick and Katie have taken the bulls by the horns in trying to steer women's AFL into a strong position.

"There's probably six players in the team new to the game this year and they've embraced it."

The women's grand final at George Park 2 gets underway from 12.30pm.

— ALEXANDER GRANT



**TITLE HUNTERS:** The CSU Mungals are eager to extend their stranglehold on the Mid West League league tag premierships. To do so they must beat a talented Cargo Heelers outfit. **Photo: ANYA WHITELAW**

## Mungals want to extend a league tag reign

### LEAGUE TAG

BY ANYA WHITELAW

WITH five consecutive premierships the CSU Mungals have been the undoubted queens of the Mid West League league tag competition, but come this Saturday they will need to be at their best to extend that reign.

It is because there is a new contender keen to sit on the throne - the Cargo Blue Heelers.

The Heelers won the 2018 and 2019 Woodbridge Cup league tag premierships and when it was decided that competition would not proceed this season due to COVID-19, Cargo made the switch to the Mid West League in search of more glory.

CSU was the only team to defeat Cargo during the regular season, the Mungals prevailing 18-14 in their round four clash.

But in the major semi-final the Mungals

were below their best and Cargo exploited their errors to win 32-14 and be the first side to advance to the grand final.

It was a loss that hurt the Mungals. But they responded by beating the Orange Barbarians 28-0 in the preliminary final and remain in the hunt to extend their remarkable record of winning every premierships since the Mid West introduced league tag in 2015.

Lily Walsh, who was part of last season's premierships winning CSU Yellow side, said she and her team-mates are determined to prove they're still number one.

"It was a lot tougher this year having more teams in the comp, especially Cargo given they've played together for so long. They are very good team, it shows on the field, but we have a very good team too and we have beat them before and I'm sure we can do it again," she said.

"Definitely we want to prove something. We had that extra game last weekend which helped a lot and we showed that we do want to win the competition after having that poor performance at Cargo."

Walsh feels the key to beating Cargo will be to target the edges with their fleet-footed backs, but knows that the Mungals' have talent across all positions.

"I feel like they have a few main names, players they rely on a lot, whereas we can rely on our team as a whole, we all work together. It's not just about a few players, we have a lot of good girls on the bench who can easily be rotated," she said.

"I feel like there is a lot of pressure because we have a lot of third year girls who haven't won a grand final before, they really want to win in their last year with the Mungals."

Kick-off is at 1.30pm at Carrington Park.

*Saturday 25th September*

*Friday 25th September*



**PINK MAID:** Findlay Webb, Blake Brown and Jayden Yandle.

## YEAR 12 CELEBRATION

Denison College Kelso High Campus' Year 12 got into the spirit of their final week of schooling last Thursday sporting costumes representing iconic elements of pop culture.



**AVENGERS ASSEMBLED:** Tom Rodham [Hulk], Isobel Fitzpatrick [Captain Marvel], Jayden Jenkins [Captain America], Matt Banks [Deadpool], Jett Connell [Spider-Man] and Elouise Clark [Thor]. Photos: SAM BOLT



**BANANAS IN PYJAMAS:** Kayla Pett [B1] and Laura Risch [B2].



**GOTH GUYS:** Afo Toetu u, Issiah Wegener, Nathan Hodgson, Braith Newstead, Ethan McKenzie and Trent Simonsen.



**NOT IN KANSAS ANYMORE:** Coby Winter, Laura Shearman, Georgie Hayes and Jiann Mobbs.



**HAWAII FIVE-0:** Ben Comenzuji, Jaylyn Hands and Madison Jolly.



**TRADIES:** Maygan Keen, Brianna Urquhart, Kairissa Mackay and Amber Bennett.



**HIPPIES:** Renae Dukes and Taya Patching.



**MAGICAL:** Melissa Barnett, Breanna Stapleton, Juliah Iapson and Ingrid Gokcimen.



**THE FEDS:** Josh Forde, Michael Clarke and Cody Goodlet.

Monday 28th September





IMPRESSIVE: Tamsyn McCabe showing off her skills during the Bathurst PCYC school holiday activities on Monday. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

# Something for every kid at PCYC

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

THE school holidays are here again, which means it's time for parents to find things to keep their kids entertained while away from school.

As always, the Bathurst PCYC is ready to help with a full program of activities, which manager David

Hitchick said has a lot of variety.

"It's a really good sample of activities people can do down here at PCYC, we give them a taste of our gymnas-

tics, our circus, our parkour, our cheerleading, boxing, some fitness, tumbling, ball games, we've even got

some frisbee golf this time around," he said.

"We roll through different activities everyday, so the kids get to have a really good experience of things."

The school holiday program has morning and afternoon sessions and it is up to parents to decide if they want

their child to do a full or half day at the club.

Due to the pandemic, the club has limited the number of places available and it is essential to book in advance by calling the club.

Mr Hitchick said there are measures in place to ensure everyone is safe.

"We're attempting to do social distancing in all things, but what we do is split the kids up into age groups and then they stay separate with their age group for the day, so they're only operating in a group of about 15 kids at any one time."

- RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN



GET INVOLVED: Chloe Stapleton, Gemma Beecham, Nikera Hann, Amy Corbett, Ashleigh Halloran and Ruby Masman can't wait for the bumper Wednesday girls' cricket carnival days at Police Paddock to start. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

## Blasters, Thunder and a whole lot of cricket

### CRICKET

BY ANYA WHITELAW

THUNDER is ready to strike at Police Paddock and you better watch out for Blaster guns as well.

Come October 28 the Bathurst District Junior Cricket Association will deliver packed Wednesday afternoons of girls' and women's cricket at Police Paddock.

It will begin with Junior Blaster clinics for those aged five to seven plus the first girls-only Master Blaster games for seven to nine-year-olds.

The Girls Thunder League (10-14 years) games run after that before the evening concludes with social women's eight-a-side games.

These packed afternoons of cricket are designed to see more females of all ages get

involved with the sport.

"What we want to do is get the Junior Blaster and Master Blaster girls here, the Thunder girls the same afternoon and then go straight into to the women's," BDJCA president Steve Cain said.

"It's all fully run by the association and they get the shirts, all the gear is supplied, they get everything and it's all fully insured."

While Junior Blaster and Master Blaster programs have run in Bathurst in past seasons, this will mark the first time there is a girls-only option. The association hopes that will boost participation levels.

"Master Blaster really got the girls going last season ... but what we are doing this season is having a girls only Master Blaster. Really when they are starting, most of the girls are a lot more comfortable playing against girls," Cain said. "This gets them into it, they

are all in a group together, they don't have to be associated with any clubs."

The Twenty20 Thunder League has been running for five years and a number of those who participated have now gone on to higher levels of cricket. It's a path Cain would like to see even more girls take in the coming years.

"We've got seven or eight girls all up in the NSW Cricket Academy. These guys have finished with the Thunder stuff and gone to the next level which is the NSW Academy and full-on Saturday games, they're getting trained with a view of going on to the WBBL," he said.

The Wednesday cricket carnival afternoons will commence October 28. Junior Blasters and Master Blasters run 3.45pm-4.30pm, Girls Thunder League 4pm-5.30pm and the women's social cricket from 5.30pm-7pm.

To sign up visit [www.playcricket.com.au/](http://www.playcricket.com.au/)

Tuesday 29th September

Saturday 3rd October

# Mungals magic: CSU's extra-time finale win



**ALL SMILES:** The CSU Mungals celebrate their extra-time grand final victory over the Cargo Heelers on Saturday. Photo: JOHN FITZGERALD

## LEAGUE TAG

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

THIS year's Mid West league tag grand final will be one worth bookmarking in the pages of the competition's history after CSU Mungals achieved a memorable 22-20 extra-time victory over the Cargo Heelers on Saturday.

A Claudia McLaren try and crucial conversion from best-on-ground winner Bronte Emmanuel ensured the Mungals would continue their title-winning run in the competition - by far their hardest earned to date.

CSU has taken out every edition of the Mid West Cup's league tag competition since its inception, proving to be a

powerhouse side year in and year out.

But they didn't have it all their own way this year.

Both clubs enjoyed solid recruitment from Group 10 clubs and during a high quality season it felt inevitable that the two clubs would meet on the last day of the 2020 competition.

The Heelers gave the Mungals a huge wake up call with a 32-14 victory in the major semi-final, forcing CSU to take the longer path through to the grand final.

A lack of enthusiasm was something the Mungals lacked in that game - and the CSU girls certainly brought a much greater amount of that into Saturday's finale.

The CSU squad were dilled in from the early minutes of the grand final, letting the Heelers know that this time around it was going to be a much tougher affair.

CSU didn't waste time getting on the scoreboard in the grand final as a try from Emanuel, converted by Issy Hunt, took the Bathurst side out to a 6-0 lead.

Sarah Archer got the scores back level in the second quarter with a converted try, and it would be the only other score before the main break.

Defence was a big asset for both teams as their attacking opportunities continued to reap no rewards.

That changed early in the

third term when Lily Phillips' try took CSU back out to 12-6 lead, and another four pointer from Jenn Kimbel really started to apply the pressure to Cargo.

The Heelers switched on for the final quarter as tries for Tayla Press and Molly Holswell levelled the scores at 16-all when the full-time whistle sounded.

Cargo looked destined for the title when Sami Laing's try gave them a 20-16 lead but CSU responded through McLaren.

Emmanuel's successful conversion on the bell clinched the title.

McLaren's try was a great way to cap off a rare grand final double, having taken the

Bathurst Bulldogs to Westfund Ferguson premiership glory earlier in the day.

The Mungoes premiership runs dates back to 2015, where they took down the Wallerawang Warriors on their home turf, and ever since then the uni side have dominated the competition.

In the run since the grand final that started it all, CSU have bested the Warriors again and even enjoyed several all-CSU finales - such has been their dominance in the Mid West Cup.

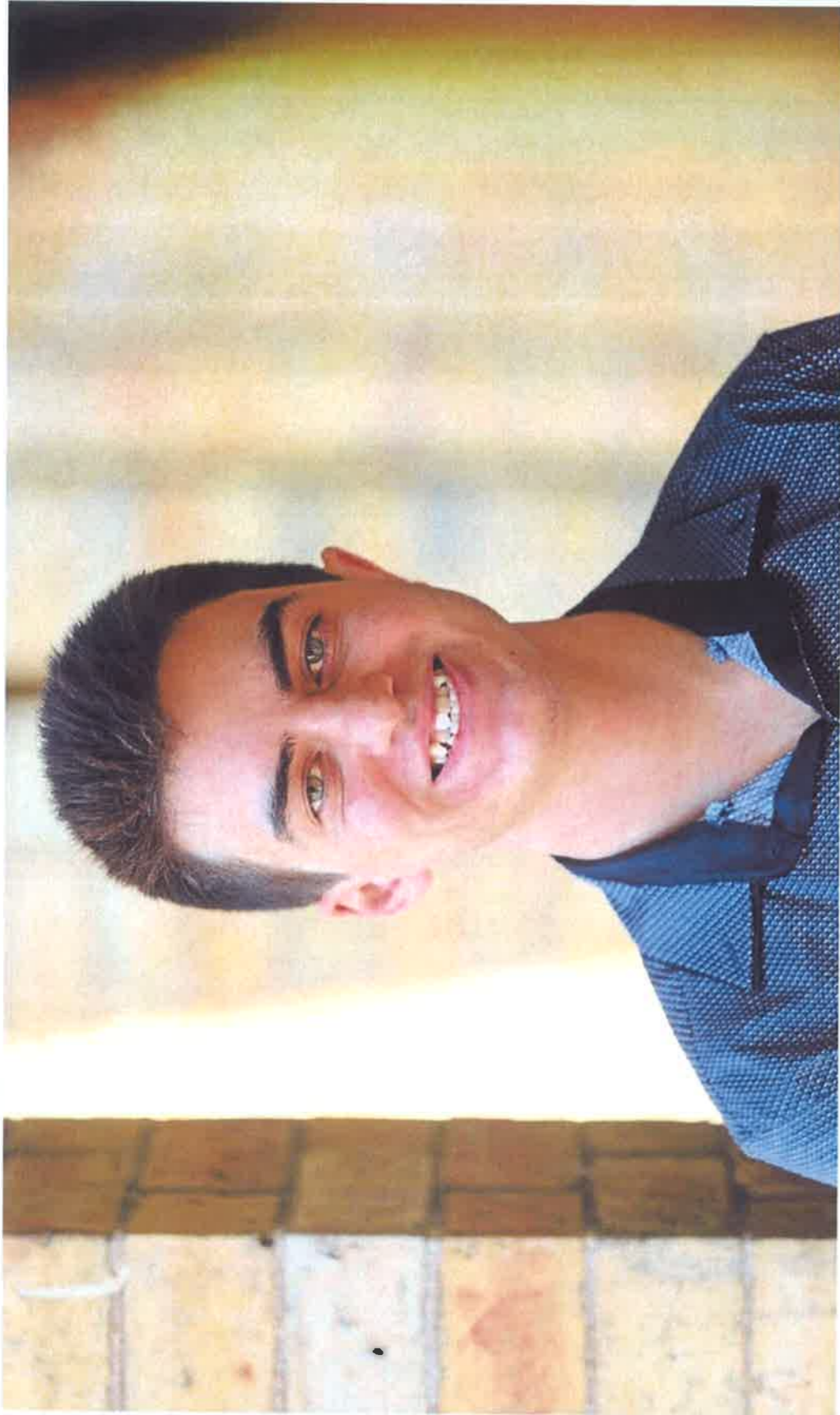
But the Heelers, who came within mere minutes of ending that premiership run, have given the uni women a reminder that they'll be back for more in 2021.

## Younger voice in the race

He's young, he's passionate, he's motivated, and he might just be the next face to join Bathurst Regional Council. Zac Belmonte, 19, has launched his campaign for the 2021 local government election, hoping to drum up enough support to give young people a voice on council.

He's one of three new candidates to emerge with 11 months to go.

| Full story page 7



NEW CANDIDATE: Zac Belmonte is hoping to be elected to Bathurst Regional Council in the 2021 local government election. Photo: PHIL BLATICH

# Eyes locked on council job

## COUNCIL

BY RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN

AT JUST 19 years old, Zac Belmonte is making the commitment to serve as a Bathurst Regional councillor.

The Kelso High School graduate has registered as an independent ungrouped candidate for the 2021 local government election, running on a platform of four key issues: water security, roads development, a post-COVID economic plan, and strategic growth and development.

He will turn 20 years old just weeks before the September 4 election, making him one of the youngest candidates to run for council.

Mr Belmonte believes council needs some younger voices to better represent the community it serves, and he assures he has the motivation, interest and experience to deliver as a councillor.

"I'd like to see this town thrive. I do, despite my young age, have a proven record of leadership," he said.

"I represented Bathurst

at the NSW Constitutional Convention, I served as president of Young Australia for one year and last year, I represented the Central West at the United Nations Young Leaders Summit."

Mr Belmonte is one of three fresh faces to come forward for the 2021 election. The others, Stuart Pearson and Bob Singleton, have nominated the go-kart track as a key election issue, but you won't find the newest candidate doing the same.

"I don't see that issue relevant to the town."

part of council discussions into the future is water.

Mr Belmonte said it is a key issue for him and he is in favour of permanent water conserving measures being imposed, raising the Chifley Dam wall and introducing water tank subsidies for all eligible residential and commercial developments.

He has information on this and his other policy ideas on his new campaign website, zacbelmonte.com.

He is encouraging residents to connect with him

via his website or Facebook page, and hopes his polices will give people the confidence to vote for him.

"I believe I bring the vision and ideas that has often lacked in the chambers of Bathurst [council]," he said.

"When you look at my policies for water, roads and strategic development, they're all universal and they'll all make Bathurst a better place, they will facilitate future growth and ensure that our resources are met in the future."

## Talented trio of Giants get

YOUNG GUNS: Bathurst Giants juniors Will Sloan (under 14s), Zac Yandle (under 17s) and Koby Collins (under 12s) all won league best and fairest awards. Photos: KATIE HAVERCROFT PHOTOGRAPHY/PETER YANDLE, MY ACTION IMAGES



Friday 9th October

Monday 5th October

# Games wicket women play

GONE are the days where girls had to play in the boys' cricket comp on a Saturday.

Bathurst District Junior Cricket Association Stephen Cain says Bathurst District Junior cricket under 14s have one all girls under 14s team, the Bushrangers, who play against the boys.

"Last year we started the women's comp and we had probably 30 women come down and play and I think their ages ranged from 14 to 63, it was so much fun," Matthew said.

Crickets NSW Cricket Manager Central West Matthew Tabernor said it was great to see the city embrace female cricket programs and implement a full female cricket pathway.

"This is the first time this has happened in the Central West and it is good to see Bathurst lead the way as they have a rich history of female cricket that has spanned many decades," Matthew said.

"This is a true testament to the many volunteers in Bathurst cricket to make cricket accessible for all people in Bathurst and provide pro-



**OFF THE BAT:** From left, Girls cricket; Chloe Stapleton, Gemma Beecham, Nikera Hann, Amy Corbett, Ashleigh Halloran and Ruby Masman.

grams to cater for boys and girls of all ages."

The female cricket pathway in Bathurst starts with Woolworths Master Blasters for girls aged 6 to 10, Thunder Girls Cricket league for females aged 10-13 and Women's Social Cricket for

women aged 13 and above is a first in the Central West region and is a culmination of a working partnership between the volunteers at Bathurst cricket and Cricket NSW.

Bathurst has a rich history of female cricket with

current NSW Breakers and Sydney Sixers player Lisa Griffith starting her career in Bathurst.

No experience is required as all formats have been designed to cater for players of all abilities and experience. All equipment is supplied.

Wednesday is female cricket day in Bathurst with all games on Wednesday afternoon at Police Paddock Fields, starting October 28. Junior Blasters and Master Blasters run from 3.45pm-4.30pm, Girls Thunder League 4pm-5.30pm and the

women's social cricket from 5.30pm-7pm. All girls' cricket leagues provide fun and competitive cricket competition; games are completed in two hours with participation and enjoyment the key focus. For more information, phone Stephen 0405 030 032.

Wednesday 14th October

## A Wham bam at Eglinton

### TENNIS TALK

EGLINTON Tennis Club players beware because Team Wham is in hot form and has winning the grand final trophy in mind.

John 'slugger' Bullock's Team Wham of Kyrgios Collins, Garth Hindmarch, Rebecca Fischer, Kathy Wilkinson, Toko Tari and Sebastian Honeyman have sent out a sound warning to their rivals with a hot performance on Saturday.

Team Wham's 11 sets to five victory over Robert Mack's Team ACDC of Rod Schumacher, Jason Molken-tin, Brian Dwyer, Sarah Tree, Robert Mack, Daisy Hoskins and Maddi Honeyman left the critics with nothing to say but 'How do they do it?'

With six rounds now played to mark the halfway point in this competition, Team Wham have won six out of six which is quite a remarkable performance.

Team Wham captain slug-



**ON FIRE:** Toko Tari won all of his four sets for Team Wham in Saturday's latest round of the Eglinton competition.

Schumacher's Team Cold Chisel side of Matt Tree, Brook Lynch, Caitlin Spears, Andrew Tree, Graeme Stapleton and Travis Simpson 10 sets to six.

The star player in this match was Deacon of The Eagles who won all of his four sets 6-2, 6-2, 6-1. Craft and Reiri continued their unbeaten record in the

ones and twos for Team The Eagles, winning their sets 7-6, 7-5. The pair will be a force to be reckoned with come finals time.

Well folks another great round of tennis at the biggest little club in the west, until we meet again it's slugger Bullock signing off.

Good hitting.

—JOHN BULLOCK

## Bathurst under 16s to start its season

### CRICKET

BATHURST'S under 16s team will get its Mitchell Cricket Council season underway this Sunday, when it travels away to play the Blue Mountains.

The squad features a few players that featured for the Bathurst under 14s team in the final of the 2019-20 season against Orange, including the likes of Liam Cain and Seth Norris, however, a number of players have been retained from the under 16s team from last year.

Some of those players that have been retained includes Hayden Goodsell, Lewis Schoenmaker, Flynn Taylor and last year's captain Calvin Windus.

The under 16s match will be the first match for any of the three Bathurst junior representative teams, with the under 14s and the under 12s starting their season on



Calvin Windus

Sunday, November 1.

Sunday's under 16s match will get underway from 10am.

**BATHURST UNDER 16s SQUAD:** Liam Cain, Kynan Coombes, Hayden Goodsell, Cody Hall, Eli Morris, Zane Newham, Seth Norris, Angus Parsons, Lewis Schoenmaker, Jayden Spackman, Robert Spillane, Flynn Taylor, Mitchell Wallace, Calvin Windus. Coach: Craig Windus

Thursday 18th October

# Students ready for the HSC

They are the cohort studying Year 12 in the most uncertain times imaginable. But this group of Year 12 students said they are ready and prepared for the Higher School Certificate to start, and are looking forward to the future ahead.

Students from Bathurst will join thousands of others across the state sitting their first HSC exam on Tuesday.

| Story page 6.



READY FOR EXAMS: Jayden Jenkins, Melissa Barnett, Breanna Stapleton and Laura Sennett, from Kelso High, are ready for the HSC.

# Students ready to sit HSC

## EDUCATION

BY JACINTA CARROLL

THIS year has been uncertain for everyone, but for the class of 2020, the HSC has come with its own set of hurdles.

Lockdowns and home-schooling are just some of the obstacles they've overcome, despite this students at Kelso High say they

are ready for their exams and feeling good about them.

Breanna Stapleton, said she is not as stressed as she thought she would be. She said she has done a lot of prep work, and she's "feeling pretty confident."

While she has already been accepted into the University of Wollongong to study a Bachelor of Communication / Media she said she

still wants to achieve the best mark she can in the exams.

She said it was a hard year for everyone. "Especially during lockdown," she said.

Laura Sennett agreed it was tough going, but said the cohort were lucky to have amazing teachers who went above and beyond to get the students through.

"Learning on-line was

hard, it was a struggle to stay focused," Laura said.

Despite this, Laura has also been accepted in the University of Wollongong, where she will study journalism, though she is deferring her enrollment for 12 months, to work locally and get some cash behind her.

For Melissa Barnett, who has been accepted into the University of Wollongong, to

start social science / primary education, she said the hardest thing about 2020 was staying connected.

"Without that social interaction it was hard," she said. Fellow student Jayden Jenkins said overall he was feeling confident about starting the exams on Tuesday.

"I feel better about some subjects than others" he said.

Like the girls, Jayden

already knows what he is doing next year, he has been accepted into the Army, and moves to Wagga Wagga in March to start his training. He said he was interested in the Army because it was something that was exciting and different.

All students thanked their teachers describing them as "amazing" and giving everyone the support they needed.

Thursday 22nd October

## TENNIS TALK

TEAM ACDC captain Robert Mack and his troops of Rod Schumacher, Jason Molkentin, Brian Dwyer, Bailey Honeyman, Russell Welsh and Maddi Honeyman had smiles on their faces as wide as the Grand Canyon, and sent out a sound warning to their arch rival sides.

No doubt the team will be a force to be reckoned with come finals time after storming home to capture a most impressive victory over Team Warumpi 12 sets to four.

Captain Mack was inspirational in his sides victory, being one of three players of all the 14 players to take to the court to win all of his four sets 6-3, 6-3, 6-3, 6-1.

Russell Welsh and Maddie Honeyman were the other two players to shine for Team ACDC, winning all their four sets 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4, respectively.

Captain Mack was as happy as a guy eating a hot pie



WINNER: Team ACDC's Bailey Honeyman was on the winning team, defeating Team Warumpi 12 sets to four.

and tomato sauce on a cold winter's day.

"We really hit our straps today and played as a team, not as individuals as we have in the past," Mack said.

Team Warumpi losing captain Judy Smith had only six words to say.

"Out played, out gunned, out smarted," she said.

The second match was a boilover as Team Cold Chisel, captained by the "Iron Lady" Allyson Schumacher, caused the upset of the round beating the hot favourites and leaders of the competition

Team Wham, captained by Slugger John Bullock, nine sets to seven.

The star player in this match was no doubt Andrew Tree of Team Cold Chisel, whom of all the fourteen players to take to the court was the only player to win all of his four sets, 6-4, -6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

It was a match winning performance from the young

gun who is peaking at just the right time with the finals just around the corner.

Schumacher said she always believed it would take a good side to beat Slugger Bullocks Team Wham.

"We knew we were in for a fight against Sluggers' side, but I guess you could say Sluggers' trump card was trumped," Schumacher said.

Bullock was gracious in defeat.

"We were beaten by a better team on the day," he said.

The bookies new market is as follows: Sluggers' Team Wham 2-1, Iron Lady's Team Cold Chisel 5-1, Macks' ACDC 10-1, Howarths' Team The Eagles 20-1 and Smiths' Team Warumpi 50-1.

- JOHN BULLOCK

# Borgstahl snares a five-for

## CRICKET

BY ANYA WHITELAW

through the hands of the cover fielder, but Tait had run in from deep cover and was able to grab the ricochet. ORC had already made a good start to defending its 171-run total, with the first four Stannies wickets gone in the space of 10 runs.

When the Borgstahl brothers combined it made it 5-26. "I've been playing for a couple of seasons now, I followed my older brother into it. I started off at soccer and then Tait needed help with his team so I decided I'd play cricket," Cooper Borgstahl said.

"Yeah he took a catch, he just happened to be there and he caught it."

He went on to take the next four wickets and was at one stage on a hat-trick. While not able to pull that off, he still held his nerve in his final over to notch up the impressive feat.

"I was the fourth one to go in to bowl and I didn't get any wickets in my first over. I was a bit nervous I didn't want to ruin it for the team," he said.

"I was on a hat-trick but I didn't get that though. I just bowled it too far to leg and he was able to leave it.

"The last wicket I think it was just a mistake he made, he tried to hit me far and he's missed it and it's gone straight into his stumps.

"I got hit for two fours from and then I got him out. I think he tried to hit me for another four but I got him.

"I'm definitely not the best batsman, but the bowling for

through the hands of the cover fielder, but Tait had run in from deep cover and was able to grab the ricochet. ORC had already made a good start to defending its 171-run total, with the first four Stannies wickets gone in the space of 10 runs.

When the Borgstahl brothers combined it made it 5-26. "I've been playing for a couple of seasons now, I followed my older brother into it. I started off at soccer and then Tait needed help with his team so I decided I'd play cricket," Cooper Borgstahl said.

"Yeah he took a catch, he just happened to be there and he caught it."

He went on to take the next four wickets and was at one stage on a hat-trick. While not able to pull that off, he still held his nerve in his final over to notch up the impressive feat.

"I was the fourth one to go in to bowl and I didn't get any wickets in my first over. I was a bit nervous I didn't want to ruin it for the team," he said.

"I was on a hat-trick but I didn't get that though. I just bowled it too far to leg and he was able to leave it.

"The last wicket I think it was just a mistake he made, he tried to hit me far and he's missed it and it's gone straight into his stumps.

"I got hit for two fours from and then I got him out. I think he tried to hit me for another four but I got him.

"I'm definitely not the best batsman, but the bowling for



**HIGH FIVE:** ORC junior Cooper Borgstahl claimed an impressive 5-11 in his first game of the season for the Tigers. It came in the under 15s-opens match against Stannies 15s. **Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK**

me is good."

As well as having his brother there to enjoy the moment, Borgstahl's Mum and Dad were both there too. His father Kelsy was very proud and also praised the more experienced members of the ORC side for giving Cooper the chance to claim five wickets and aiding his development.

"The team was definitely behind him, once he got four they were all working hard to help him get the five,"

he said.

"Because the team is opens there are quite a few good players in it like Jacob Ryan, Justin [Stephenson], [Tom] Judgey, they're all rep players.

"They're trying to take a back seat and I guess foster some of the junior guys in the team and getting them to do a bit more. They are a good bunch of kids and a good team."

Borgstahl's coach Matt Ryan said he was delighted

to see the young talent bag a five-wicket haul. It's ORC's first in the under 15s-opens grade in two seasons, with Jacob Ryan having done it twice in 2018-19.

"There's nothing better than seeing a young kid like Coop with a smile from one ear to the other after achieving a rare five-for in the first game of the season," the coach said.

"What also makes this special is he's the youngest son with a commanding 70-run win.

The next assignment for Borgstahl and his fellow Tigers is taking on the talented Scots All Saints' College Opens this Saturday.

SASC began their season with a commanding 70-run win.

Platypi must beat Cougars to stay alive

# It's crunch time

**RUGBY LEAGUE**  
BY ANYA WHITELAW

THEY are athletic, enthusiastic and many of them have already won premierships this year, but the Panorama Platypi know their Women's Western Rugby League semi-final aspirations hinge on posting a win this Saturday.

The new-look Platypi have endured a tough start to the new season as they fell to defending champions Orange Vipers 36-10 in round one then went down to a strong Woodbridge Cup outfit 34-8.

But those two games have allowed those new to the sport - more than half of Kevin Grimshaw's squad - to get a better grasp of the fundamentals.

Grimshaw can certainly see the raw athletic ability in his new recruits, players like Maddie Reilly who starred on the wing for CSU's North Cup premiership winning rugby union outfit.

Erin Naden, who has won multiple league tag titles with St Pat's, brings plenty of attacking flair to the unit given her speed and ability to exploit gaps in a defensive line.

He also has a handful of the AFL Central West premiership winning Bathurst Giants outfit in Katie Kennedy, Elise Gullifer, Aimee Schmidt and Chelsea Gibbs.

Gibbs certainly impressed him in her debut match against Woodbridge.



**STEP UP:** Meredith Jones and her Panorama team-mates know it's a must-win match against the Cougars Saturday. Photo: JOHN FITZGERALD

"She hasn't played before and I give her the number 8 jumper, front row straight off the bat, and she did real well," he said.

"Even when there were two and three in the tackle she was off-loading the ball, none of them went to ground either. She came up to me after and said she absolutely loved it."

Still, when the Platypi host the Castlereagh Cougars at Jack Arrow Oval on Saturday

with that real well. If we are going backwards all the time we can't change momentum, we can't go in their and whack 'em and slow the play down.

"I'm happy with our attitude and our performances I've been happy with, but we need to tighten up defensively because we've got some really good attacking players."

The Platypi will be boosted by the inclusion of five-year-old eighth Bronte Emanuel this

this game if we want to play the semis," Grimshaw said.

"If we want to make the semi-finals this is it, we've got to win this game. The next two games, if we can win them, I think we're a chance of making the top four."

The action on Saturday

begins at 9am with the under 13s development squad, with the under 14s (10am), under 16s (11.20am), under 18s (12.40pm) and opens (2pm) to follow at Jack Arrow Oval.

Panorama falls to undefeated Cougars

# Defence a positive for 16s

Monday 26th October

**RUGBY LEAGUE**  
BY ANYA WHITELAW

THEY might have cost themselves with handling errors, but the defensive effort from the Panorama Platypi under 16s in Saturday's 18-4 loss to the Castlereagh Cougars made coach Mick Roels proud.

Hosting the undefeated Cougars at Jack Arrow Oval in round three of the Western Women's Rugby League competition, Panorama pulled off solid hits and beautiful covering tackles as well as showing determination on their own line.

They were efforts which frustrated Panorama and Roels admitted contributed to his side's large count of knock-ons in the wet conditions. But they were efforts which were still worthy of praise.

"We are defending well, just can't hold the ball. That has been the case in the three games we've played," Roels said.

"They defend set after set after set on their own line,

then when they get the ball back they are just fatigued."

Fullback Charlie Fox and lock Annie Craig both got through a mountain of defensive work as well as being two of the biggest contributors to the running metres earned by Panorama, while centre Paige Lowe pulled off more than one try-saver.

But Cougars still managed to find space on the edges which they exploited.

Cougars centre Charlotte Eather scored after four minutes when the visitors created an overlap on the left wing, while in the second quarter after Panorama had failed to find touch with a penalty kick, five-eighth Shakaye Walker scooted down the right flank to cross.

That made it 8-0 at half-time and when Eather nabbed her second just before three-quarter-time as she worked a nice wrap-around play, the visitors pushed further ahead.

With eight minutes left Panorama finally got on the board as Fox made a strong

run, drew in the Cougars defence, and got an off-load away to Rani Johnson.

That made it 12-4, but the Cougars had the final say when Walker scored with 35 seconds left on the clock. Ashanti Pennell iced the win by kicking the conversion.

"It just took that long for us to start the game, it was gone before we could make any difference. But I'm really proud of the girls, they are putting in every week in defence and that's the biggest part of this, if you can't tackle you are going to be left behind," Roels said.

"It's just our ball work that let us down and it's funny because that is what we practice at training.

"Take nothing away from Castlereagh, those girls have improved out of sight from last year when we put 40 on them to this week when they beat us."

**CASTLEREAGH COUGARS 18**  
(Charlotte Eather 2, Shakaye Walker 2 tries; Ashanti Pennell goal) defeated **PANORAMA PLATYPI 4** (Rani Johnson try)



**BIG PERFORMERS:** Cougars centre Charlotte Eather stops Panorama fullback Charlie Fox. Both were amongst the standout performers for their team. **Photo: PHIL BLATCH**

# Platypi 14s packed with emerging talent

**RUGBY LEAGUE**

A TRY with just over a minute of play gone - it was a perfect way for the under 14 Panorama Platypi to start their Western Women's Rugby League match against Castlereagh and from there it got a lot better.

The young Platypi went on to post their first win of the season at Jack Arrow Oval on Saturday, downing the Cougars 28-6 in a performance that showcased some of the emerging female league talents in the region.

As is needed in all quality league teams, the Platypi 14s



**STRONG PERFORMER:** Platypi hooker Jemmia Luck made a truck load of tackles and good metres in attack in Saturday's match. **Photo: ANYA WHITELAW**

chase paid off. Hanrahan's conversion attempt struck the post but got a favourable deflection to make it 6-0 at quarter-time.

Early the second quarter the Cougars had a sniff when Gallen beat a number of defenders down the left wing, but Leven came flying across in cover and pulled off a brilliant tackle to force her into touch.

That effort lifted her side and by half-time they'd pushed out to a 22-0 lead as Leven, Carter and Vesna Ryan-Vranic all crossed.

One minute into the

second half Craig crashed over between the sticks for Cougars as she got a reward for her impressive work rate, Thurston converting to make it 22-6.

But the hosts had the final say as second-tower Mary Maher scored and Hanrahan booted her fourth conversion in the third quarter.

**PANORAMA PLATYPI 28** (Faith Ryder, Abbey Carter, Jade Leven, Vesna Ryan-Vranic, Mary Maher tries; Sam Hanrahan 4 goals) defeated **CASTLEREAGH COUGARS 6** (Ella Hanney try; Mikiela Thurston goal)

- ANYA WHITELAW

Wednesday 28th October



# Western Advocate

KEEPING BATHURST INFORMED SINCE 1848

NEWS

**WE'RE BACK IN BUSINESS**



P3

NEWS

**FRIENDS UP FOR A FIGHT**



P4

SPORT

**RETURN TO THE COURT**



P16



HOPEFUL: Some of the members of Bathurst Kart Club near the site for the go-kart track. They hope council will stand by its decision. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK 102720cgokarts

# WAIT GAME

## 'Fingers crossed and wishful thinking' for club on day of vote

GO-KART TRACK

BY RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN

MEMBERS of the Bathurst Kart Club will be watching Thursday's extraordinary meeting, hoping the vote will help them realise a dream they've held for years.

On October 21, Bathurst

Regional Council resolved to source a \$2.25 million loan to help fund construction of the go-kart track at Mount Panorama.

However, a rescission motion was lodged the next morning challenging that decision, and council will meet on Thursday at 2.30pm

to vote as to whether they will uphold or reverse that decision.

For the kart club, it's just another delay in a very long battle for a circuit.

President Mark Dunbar hopes that Thursday's meeting will see the funding plans go ahead, as it will finally

allow the project to be delivered, a project he says is "the missing link in motor sport" at Mount Panorama.

"It gives us a start and I think [the mayoral minute] showed great leadership by a mayor to move forward with it, instead of it being bashed from pillar to post," he said.

"If the vote goes to start the track we'll be partying like it's 1999 on Thursday afternoon. We're all fingers crossed and wishful thinking."

Last week, mayor Bobby Bourke and deputy mayor Ian North voted in favour of the funding arrangement, along with councillors War-

ren Aubin, Alex Christian and Graeme Hanger.

Councillors John Fry, Jess Jennings, Monica Morse and Jacqui Rudge voted against it.

If those four vote the same way, they will need to convince one other councillor to change their mind.

| To page 4

**Club hopes vote will support funding plan**  
| From page 1

Mr Dunbar said the club will continue looking for other avenues to fund the track if the original decision is reversed.

"If it doesn't go our way, they've accepted our lease, the council in their wisdom has renewed our lease; we'll keep applying for grants and we'll do as much work as we can in kind to get this project under way," he said.

"And the Bathurst Kart Club would like to thank Bathurst Regional Council, councillors and the staff for the help they've given the club over the last eight years to get this far."

Mr Dunbar said the club understands there are concerns in the community, but the process had been followed in the same way it has for other sporting infrastructure, and now it's about finding the money to make the plans a reality.

"We are a community club and we understand the concerns, but as far as I know the council quite often borrow money for sporting clubs to get them ahead, hence why we're very excited about it all happening for us," he said.

# Call for extension

**RUGBY LEAGUE**  
BY ANYA WHITELAW

IN THE three seasons Mick Roels has been involved with the Western Women's Rugby League competition as a Platypi coach he has been pleased to witness the increased skill levels, but he says it's now time to push for more.

Roels believes the best way to continue to foster the female talent within the region is to increase the length of the WWRL season.

He feels having just five rounds then a final series is not an ideal time-span if the WWRL wants to further develop, attract new players and retain those already involved.

Rather than having the WWRL later in the year after the completion of league tag premiership across Western Division, Roels also suggests it could be staged first.

"I'm hoping we can try and convince them to do a home and away season next year, but that way they can get into a bit of a groove, now it's like AFL this year and a couple of they just get into the groove and then it's over," he said.

"We need to get to that point because we need something for the girls to want to do.

"As for when are we going to do it? I reckon we do it at the start of March, get in before all the other sports start. If we run it March to May, that gives us a home and away season and then finals.

"Then they could play semi-final hopes alive. game if they are to keep their at Jack Arrow Oval.

His side must win that host the Midwest Brumbies season and hope it will come chasing their first win of the Roels' under 16s are still takes so much more time."

"It's a lot of changes and it them awhile to learn. love the contact, but it takes new ones from soccer - they AFL this year and a couple of

"We've got girls here from that way they can get into a and away season next year, he said.

"I'm hoping we can try and convince them to do a home and away season next year, but that way they can get into a bit of a groove, now it's like AFL this year and a couple of they just get into the groove and then it's over," he said.

"We need to get to that point because we need something for the girls to want to do.

"As for when are we going to do it? I reckon we do it at the start of March, get in before all the other sports start. If we run it March to May, that gives us a home and away season and then finals.



**GIVE THEM MORE:** Layla Rumball takes a carry for the under 16 Platypi. Players get just five rounds of football plus finals in the current WWRL format. Photo: PHIL BLATCH



**CRUNCH TIME:** Tiana Monks and her fellow under 16 Platypi must win this Sunday to stay in the finals hunt. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

*Tuesday 29th Oct 2019*

## Goldminers selected in D-League teams

# It's time to play

**BASKETBALL**  
BY ALEXANDER GRANT

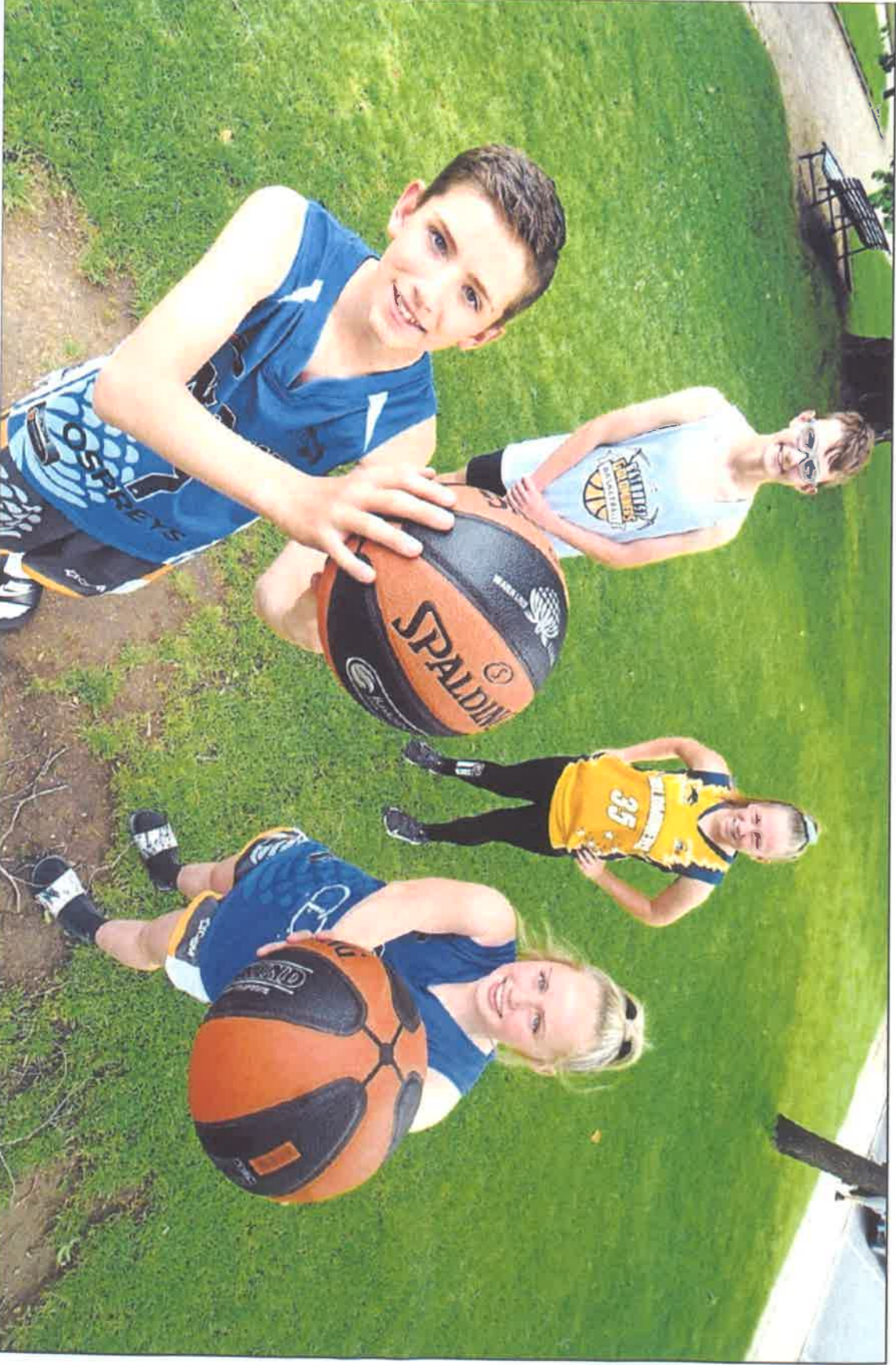
THERE hasn't been a tonne of opportunities for Bathurst basketball representatives to enjoy high-level action in 2020 so when the chance came to trial for D-League several players jumped at the chance.

And now four of them have earned a place in country squads on the back of their efforts.

Roxy George, Riley George, Jett Chantouis and Zara Phillips give Bathurst Goldminers representation across four different teams in the D-League.

On top of that, the George siblings also earned their place in the Basketball NSW Shootout program, aimed at developing bottom-age players who are on the radar for selection in the following season's Australian Junior Country Basketball Cup and East Coast Challenge.

Roxy and Riley George's father, Dan, said the pair had been working hard in the lead up to the trials especially with very little else happening in the way of rep-



**D-LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVES:** Front, Riley (13) and Roxy George (14) Back, Jett Chantouis (13) and Zara Phillips (14) Photo: CHRIS SCARBRON

# White's hoping 9s will lure new rules players



**OTHER CHALLENGE:** After a successful AFL Central West season, the Bathurst Giants will run a six-week AFL 9s competition.

## AUSTRALIAN RULES BY ANYA WHITELAW

WITH more senior teams, and finalists and premier-ship winners plus a number of league best and fairest winners, season 2020 was undoubtedly a success for the sport of Australian rules football in Bathurst. But while the senior and junior teams who represent the Bathurst Giants and Bathurst Bushrangers in the AFL Central West have finished their campaigns, there's now another way to get involved with the sport. It's AFL 9s. Run by the Bathurst Giants, the AFL 9s competition is not just for those familiar

with the sport. As competition co-ordinator Casey White explains, it's also a way for those who have not previously played rules to learn the basics. "AFL 9s is certainly building in popularity, which is exciting. It's great to see people still want to play AFL even out of the season," White said. "It's social, non-contact, fast-paced and with fewer people on the field, everyone is going to get a lot more touches of the footy. "So it's a great one for current players who want to keep the fitness up over the off-season, but also brand-new players who haven't played AFL of any

form before. "It's a really easy way for them to get into the game and learn some of the rules as well as the skills." Aside from a no-tackling rule, there are other aspects which makes AFL 9s a good introduction to the sport. It is played on a rectangular field which is divided into forward, midfield and defensive zones and a turnover occurs when the ball touches the ground - with the exception of shooting for goal or a ball-up - or goes out of bounds. "The forwards will have the forward line to themselves pretty much, so they'll be able to kick bags of goals," White said.

White hopes the the fun, social nature of AFL 9s will not only see first-timers get involved but that some of them will go on the play for one of Bathurst's AFL Central West sides. It would help continue the strong record Bathurst clubs have in the league at both senior and junior level. "It's something that we are trying to do out in the Central West, get more people involved through AFL 9s, and it seems to work in Sydney really well," White said. "I guess it's the adult version of Auskick, Auskick is for the kids who have never played before and AFL 9s is only a six-week season, so it's a really good opportuni-

ty to come along and learn before committing to the next season. "It's open to anyone and everyone, we're still accepting team nominations, they don't need to be involved with the Bathurst Giants club, we're more than happy for people to come along and bring their own teams. "If people don't have a team there is still an opportunity to fill out a registration form and we can put them into a team. Everyone who wants can have a game." The opening round will be played this Friday from 6pm at Learmonth Park. People can sign up via [AFL9s.com.au](http://AFL9s.com.au) or by contacting the Bathurst Giants.

Platypi players want to test the best

# Ready for a fight

## RUGBY LEAGUE BY ANYA WHITELAW

THEY are the minor premiers, they are undefeated and they have the best attacking record in the Western Women's Rugby League opens competition, but that doesn't mean the Orange Vipers intimidate the Panorama Platypi. While the Platypi know the Vipers are a quality outfit and are hot favourites to win this Saturday's sudden-death semi-final at Mudgee, that only fuels their desire to spring an upset. Platypi coach Kevin Grimshaw is hoping that desire to win, the raw talent he has within his squad, plus a bit of luck can see that happen. "I know it's a big task, but if we get a bit of luck go our way we might shock them," he said.

"The pressure is on them, we are going in with no expectations, but we are going in to give it a crack. "We haven't thrown our



**NEVER GIVE UP:** Meredith Jones and her Panorama team-mates are hoping to upset the Orange Vipers in their semi-final. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

Saturday 14th November

Googars aims to win the Tribal League

# Fueled by pride

RUGBY LEAGUE  
BY ANYA WHITELAW

PLAY with pride, play with passion, play to represent the community, play to win - that is the mission for the Wiradjuri Googars in the new Tribal League.

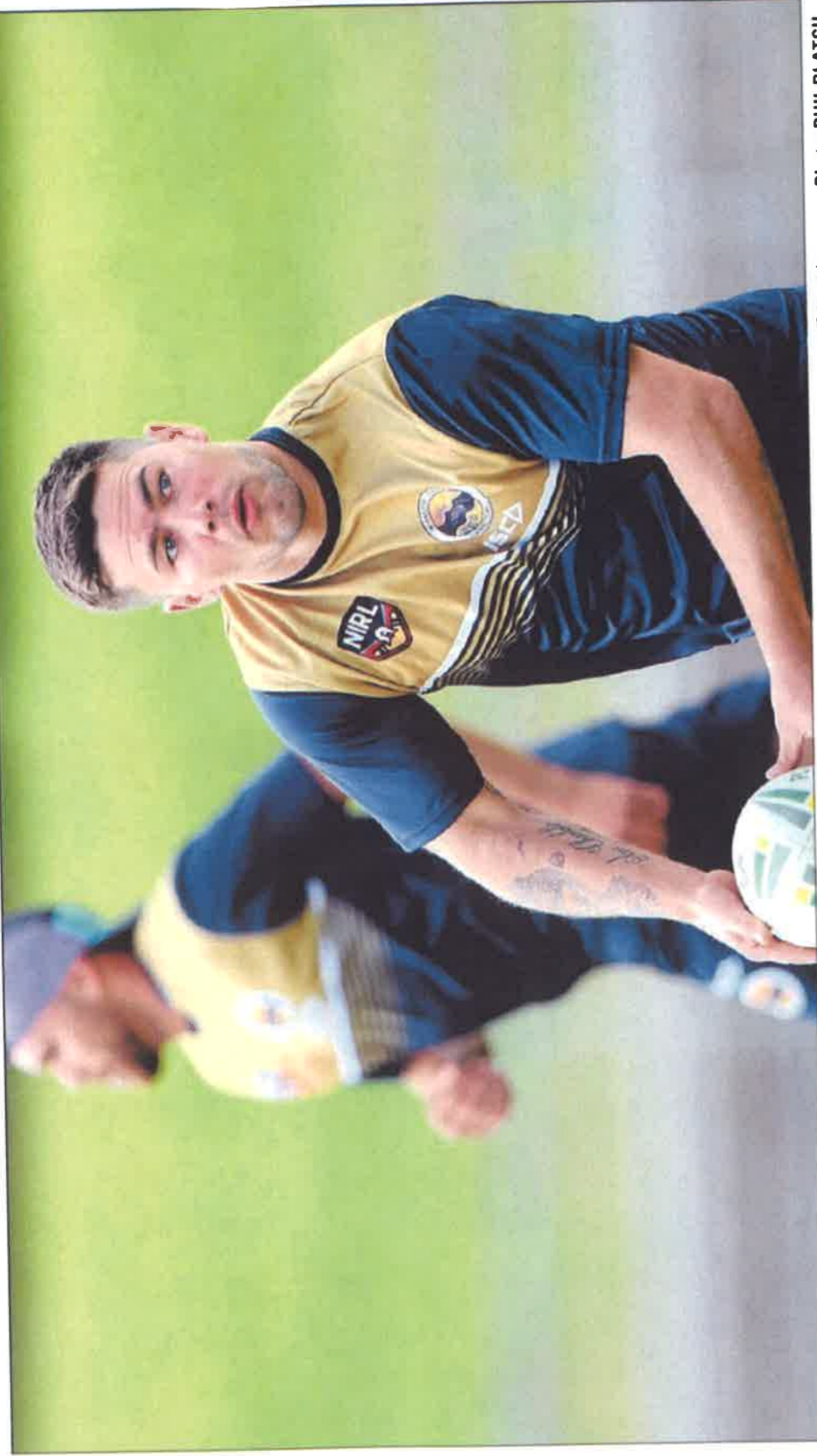
Launched by the National Indigenous Rugby League Administration, the Tribal League will run over three consecutive weekends with the Wiradjuri Googars one of six men's teams fighting it out for a share of a \$100,000 prize pool.

A bulk of the Wiradjuri squad trained at Bathurst's Carrington Park on Saturday morning to prepare for what they expect to be stiff competition.

While there won't be the vast number of players that the annual NSW Koori Knockout - a tournament which had its 50th anniversary edition postponed until 2021 due to COVID-19 - regularly attracts, the teams which have signed up for the Tribal League will be talent packed.

The Wiradjuri Googars will square off against the Newcastle Hawks, Wellington Castlereagh All Blacks, Coastal Connections, Redfern All Blacks and Walgett Aboriginal Connection.

"There are six teams, normally we have 64 teams at the knockout, so you can imagine condensing 64 into six, you've got the best players from the state in six teams,"



IN IT TO WIN IT: Bathurst Panthers talent Blake Lawson is amongst the Wiradjuri squad which is aiming to win the Tribal League. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

Googars spokesperson Roy Ah-See said.

"Pride, passion and commitment for their people, for their community, that's what it is about.

"It's going to awesome, we didn't have the knockout this year so they're dying for rugby league. It's going to be exciting, the boys are really, really keen, you can feel it, once these guys get together you don't have to say anything, you can feel the pas-

sion they have.

"I have to take my hat off to Benny Gunn for backing this, all his resources and sponsors who have helped out, without Benny's support there's a big chance this playing group wouldn't have come together.

"He did that on the provision so we're competitive, we're not just there to make up the sixth team, we're here to win it."

The 30-man squad which

Gunn has put together will be guided by himself and Bathurst Panthers talent Jeremy Gordon, while Kurt Hancock also assisted with the training session at Carrington Park.

The players included Group 10 talents such as Bathurst Panthers' centre Blake Lawson, Group 11 faces like Claude Gordon and a whole host of Peacheys.

"There's a mixture of players from all over the place,

at the end of the day you'll find that a lot of the NRL players come from those communities, the stepping stone is the Group 11s, the Group 10s, the South Coast, North Coast, country rugby league," Ah-See said.

"We've got guys like young Claude Gordon junior, we've got the Peachey boys - Tyrone Peachey, his brother Lachlan Peachey, Derick Peachey, Wade Peachey.

| To page 14



EAGER: Roy Ah-See.

## Googars will play for tribal title win

RUGBY LEAGUE  
| From page 16

"It's a pretty well balanced team, there are not a lot of big egos in the side, which I think is great. What we do off the field will shine on the field."

Tyrone Peachey, the Wellington native who boasts more than 150 NRL games, was not able to attend the training session in Bathurst, but is excited about what lies ahead.

"I've got a few family members who are playing, so it's always good to play with them. It's going to be a good competition I think," he said.

The opening round of the Tribal League will be held at Dubbo's Apex Oval on Saturday, November 7, with the Googars to meet Wellington All Blacks in their first match before playing Coastal Connections later in the afternoon.

A week later at Gosford's Central Coast Stadium they'll meet the Redfern All Blacks and Walgett Aboriginal Connection before facing Newcastle at Campbelltown on November 2 and hopefully contesting the grand final that evening.

"It's a big commitment, it's three weekends. We start at Dubbo then we head up to the Central Coast and end up at Campbelltown, so it is a big commitment from the boys but each one of them put their hand up and said they know what it's going to take," Ah-See said.

"It's about making sure that we play as one side, that we play for our people, our community and represent our people in a positive light. The boys want to win it."

- ANYA WHITELAW

*No salary Paid November*

Borgstahl bags another five-wicket haul

# It's a super over



**CRICKET**  
BY ANYA WHITELAW

ONE over, four wickets then going on to claim his second five-wicket haul in three weeks - Cooper Borgstahl's start to the new Bathurst District Junior Cricket Association season just keeps getting better.

The ORC opens-under 15s bowler was delighted when he took 5-11 in the 2020-21 season opener against Saint Stanislaus' College under 15s, a match which also saw him on a hat-trick on one stage.

In round two against Scots All Saints' College Opens rain made things tougher, ORC coach Matt Ryan saying it was "like bowling with a cake of soap" before the match was abandoned.

But the sun was back out for round three and Borgstahl again did the damage for ORC, this time taking 5-10 off three overs to help the Tigers to a 152-run win.

This time Borgstahl found himself on a hat-trick twice.

"The kids have to bowl stump to stump and that's exactly what he did," Ryan said.

"His first over he went wicket, wicket, so he was on a hat-trick ball after his first two balls, then he went dot ball, dot, and then wicket, wicket again so he was on another hat-trick in the first ball of his second over.

"So he was on a hat-trick twice in seven balls. He just

bowled stump to stump, two of them were bowled and three of them were catches, so he did really well.

"He didn't get a hat-trick, but he picked up his fifth wicket four or five balls later."

Ryan, who was standing at square leg, said both hat-trick deliveries the seamer bowled were good and very watchfully played by the Stannies' batsman who faced.

While those deliveries did not land him another

special bowling moment, Borgstahl's performance was one his coach certainly enjoyed watching.

"They were adamant they were just going to block those hat-trick balls. We had them surrounded and they had to play at them, both times they played defensively and kept it out unfortunately," he said.

"It doesn't matter what the opposition is like, you've got to bowl straight to give yourself a chance and that's what

he did.

"He took a five-for in his first game and then two weeks later he takes another five-for, it's amazing.

"I've seen nothing like it no."

Borgstahl is just the fourth bowler in the opens-15s competition to have claimed two five-wicket hauls in the last decade, joining a list which includes his ORC team-mate Jacob Ryan (2018-19), Aiden Macauley

**DOUBLE UP:** Cooper Borgstahl has taken two five-wicket hauls in three weeks for the ORC opens-under 15s. Photos: ORC FACEBOOK

(2016-17) and Atticus Strong (2014-15).

His average this season stands at a wicket every 3.4 runs while his strike rate is an average 5.3 deliveries per wicket.

"He's easily the leading wicket-taker now in the opens comp and he's younger too, he's only in Year 9 so he's a lot younger than a lot of these other boys who are in Year 11 and 12, he's doing really well," Ryan said.

"We had young Liam Meekin [3-13 off three] bowling from the other end and those two young kids are by no means our strike bowlers either, we have three boys who are playing second grade and are pretty fiery.

"This year is more of those boys taking that back step and letting these kids who are younger step up and take that limelight, they've done it well, they've handled it really well."

## Zoe and Joshua to lead Bathurst Youth Council for 2020-21

ZOE Peters and Joshua Borland will lead the new Bathurst Youth Council after members held their first meeting last week.

New youth mayor Zoe is a student at the Bathurst High Campus of Denison College while deputy mayor Joshua attends St Stanislaus' College.

"It's an absolute privilege just to be on the youth council, amongst 14 of the most amazing young leaders of Bathurst," Zoe said.

"To be elected mayor of such an influential group is beyond incredible and I'm so excited to see where we go and what we can achieve in our coming term."

Other Youth Council members include:

Madison, Sofian, Kyla



Monday 16th November



**ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE:** Bathurst Junior Aboriginal Education Consultative Group's Peter Fitzsimmons with Kelso High Campus students Charlie Dodds and Jayden Thornbury.

## NAIDOC Week gets under way online

### COMMUNITY

NAIDOC Week celebrations have commenced this week with Bathurst Regional Council posting a flag raising ceremony online to mark the occasion.

The video features didgeridoo performances from Bathurst Junior Aboriginal

Education Consultative Group's Peter Fitzsimmons and Kelso High Campus students Charlie Dodds and Jayden Thornbury.

A NAIDOC address was delivered by revered local Indigenous educator Laurie Crawford, who declared the occasion "a week of

pride and celebration for all Australians."

"It's a chance for all of us to come together the oldest surviving culture on the planet: the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," Mr Crawford said.

"The NAIDOC theme for 2020- 'always was, always

will be', recognises the fundamental relationship Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people share with this land, and their longevity as the First Nation to occupy this country."

NAIDOC Week was postponed this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Tuesday 10th November*

## BATHURST HIGH GRADUATION | LIFE



**WELL DRESSED:** Gloria Thompson, Emily Barwick, Molly Brown and Libby Ahmad.



**LOOKING GOOD:** Grace Priestly, Liam Kirkland and Jackson Jennings.

*Tuesday 17th November*

*Your Country  
Your Voice*

**RUNS ON THE BOARD FOR BATHURST**

- ✓ \$398,500 for a domestic violence emergency housing
- ✓ \$925,000 for the new Bathurst Animal Rehoming Shelter
- ✓ An extra \$500,000 for Bathurst Aerodrome
- ✓ \$2 million for Bathurst Regional Council's Drought Communities programme

Photo: [unreadable]

ite privilege just to council, amongst 14 amazing young leaders be elected mayor of tial group is beyond I'm so excited to go and what we can coming term."

Back row from left: Jared Bignell, Loukia Robson, Maddison Sufong, George Butler, Joseph O'Neill, Ashley Maalouf, Stella Hall, Rosie O'Leary  
 Front row from left: Harvey Lew, Sabine Fitzpatrick-Trevillion, Zoe Peters, Joshua Borland, Ben Davis, Travis Barrie

*Bathurst  
City  
Life  
18 November*



TOYS GALORE: Five-year-old Melissa Morris and Sarah Morris, six, with Casey's Toys shop assistant Jessica Belmont, showing off some Christmas gift ideas. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

# BUY LOCAL

Residents need to support Bathurst businesses this Christmas

## BUSINESS

BY RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN

GREAT Christmas trade could be the saving grace for some businesses that have faced challenges they never could have anticipated at the start of 2020.

Bathurst residents are be-

ing encouraged more than ever before to support their locals businesses this Christmas, be it while they buy gifts or stock up for Christmas lunch.

Bathurst Business Chamber vice president Stephen Harper wants locals to visit

stores instead of buying

everything online.

"2020 has been a tough year for everybody; some businesses have done pretty well, but retail has done it tough right through," he said.

"We need to #KeepItLocalBx and have all the locals support as many businesses as they can in town during

the Christmas period."

He said Bathurst had some good retailers to choose from when it came to buying gifts.

Among the retailers that will be looking to have a strong Christmas trade is Casey's Toys, a new business in the Bathurst City Centre.

Marketing manager Jodie

Smith said the store has received a lot of support in Bathurst already, and she hopes the support builds in to the Christmas period.

She said the store offers something for all ages, including pre-school-aged toys, wooden toys, board games as big as 5000 pieces,

and collectable LEGO.

Casey's toys employs 12 staff members. Supporting the business not only keeps those locals employed, but also enables Casey's Toys to give back to the community through its donations schedule.

| To page 2

## Businesses in need of Christmas bonus

| From page 1

"We do put back into the community, and the only way to do that is if people can come and support us and shop locally," Ms Smith said.

In addition to supporting businesses through gift buying, people can also visit small retailers for their Christmas meals, including butchers.

"There's a lot of good local butchers, like South Bathurst Butcher and the Keppel Street butcher; all of them have good quality meat, they local after their customers," Mr Harper said.

Christmas could be make

or break for some businesses, making it even more important to have good Christmas trade, which can only happen with local support.

"If businesses are struggling now and they can get good foot traffic through the door, they need a good Christmas to finish the year off and make it viable for them," Mr Harper said.

Another way people can help is by purchasing a Buy Local Gift Card.

Cards can be purchased online or at 11 Bathurst businesses. Visit [www.bathurst-businesshub.com.au/bathurst-buy-local-gift-card](http://www.bathurst-businesshub.com.au/bathurst-buy-local-gift-card) for a list of participating stores.

Monday 16th November

First tournament back and Kelso are...

# Winning already

## VOLLEYBALL

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

IT WAS their first tournament since COVID shutdowns began but the Kelso High School teams showed no signs of rust during a successful Tempe Schools Cup event.

Kelso's open girls team went through the entire tournament unbeaten to claim gold while the open boys side blitzed through the pool stage, only to come undone against a quality Sydney High outfit on their way to a bronze.

The Kelso volleyball squad has been hard at work in training ever since it was announced that in place of the cancelled Australian Schools Volleyball Cup there would be a newly created NSW/ACT Schools Cup to still give players the chance to compete at a high level.

That was the perfect motivator for the school - and the recent event at Homebush was the perfect building block towards it. Kelso coach Jerry Sheader said the teams performed brilliantly after such a long time away from the competitive scene.

"The best thing was just being able to see their faces on the court again because they've been training all year and to go down there and play proper game of volleyball in a stadium was great to see and it was great for them," he said.

"Our boys played really



**MEDALS:** Kelso High School came away with a gold and bronze from the Tempe Schools Cup. **Photos:** KELSO HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

**“**The best thing was just being able to see their faces on the court again because they've been training all year.  
**”**

**Jerry Sheader**

well, coming first in their pool and then losing the crossover game with Sydney High but winning the bronze medal play off.

"The girls went through without losing a set. They were understrength too because their captain, Mady Vallis, hurt her ankle playing rugby league so we had people in different positions. That made things a little more difficult but they still ended up getting the gold medal."

Such success, even down on numbers, should come as no surprise to the girls side who have regularly featured prominently in their AVSC competitions year after year, as well as sending several members into NSW squads. Now the focus shifts firmly towards the NSW/ACT Schools Cup.

While the Tempe Schools Cup success is strong preparation for Kelso it was being treated more as a training exercise for the bigger event

on the horizon.

"Considering the fact they were adjusting to different players and combinations, they did well. It might have actually helped them because they needed to concentrate that extra bit more," Sheader said.

"Obviously we're building up towards the NSW/ACT Schools Cup. That's being held over the same week the Australian Volleyball Schools Cup would have been in, from December 8 to 13.

"As soon as we found out that tournament was confirmed, about four weeks ago, our training really picked up again. Before that it was really hard to train with a lot of enthusiasm."

Kelso will send three volleyball teams to the Cup next month: Year 11 boys and girls teams along with a year 10 boys side.

The year 11 girls will play in honours division while the boys squads will be lining up in division two.

# Records broken at Mudjee

## SWIMMING

BY BRADLEY JURD

IT WAS a swim meet that the Bathurst Swim Club hadn't originally targeted, but Saturday's Mountains and Plains Swimming meeting at Mudjee was a resounding success.

The Bathurst club took 42 swimmers, out-representing all other clubs at the meeting, even beating the numbers of host club Mudjee.

And while Bathurst had the numbers, they still had to back it up in the pool and they did exactly that, with a combined total of 21 first places, 25 second places and 24 third places for a total of 70 placings.

Nine records were also broken by Bathurst swim-

“

I couldn't have been more happier with how the day went.

**Josh Stapley**

there with some good numbers, but getting some good results is great, especially in a pool they're not familiar with and in some quite hot conditions. I was really happy with the effort," he said.

"We broke nine records as well between all our swimmers, which was an absolute coup for us, to roll in and clean up so many po-



**SUCCESS:** Members of the squad that went to Mudjee. **Photo: CONTRIBUTED**

dition positions and shatter some records.

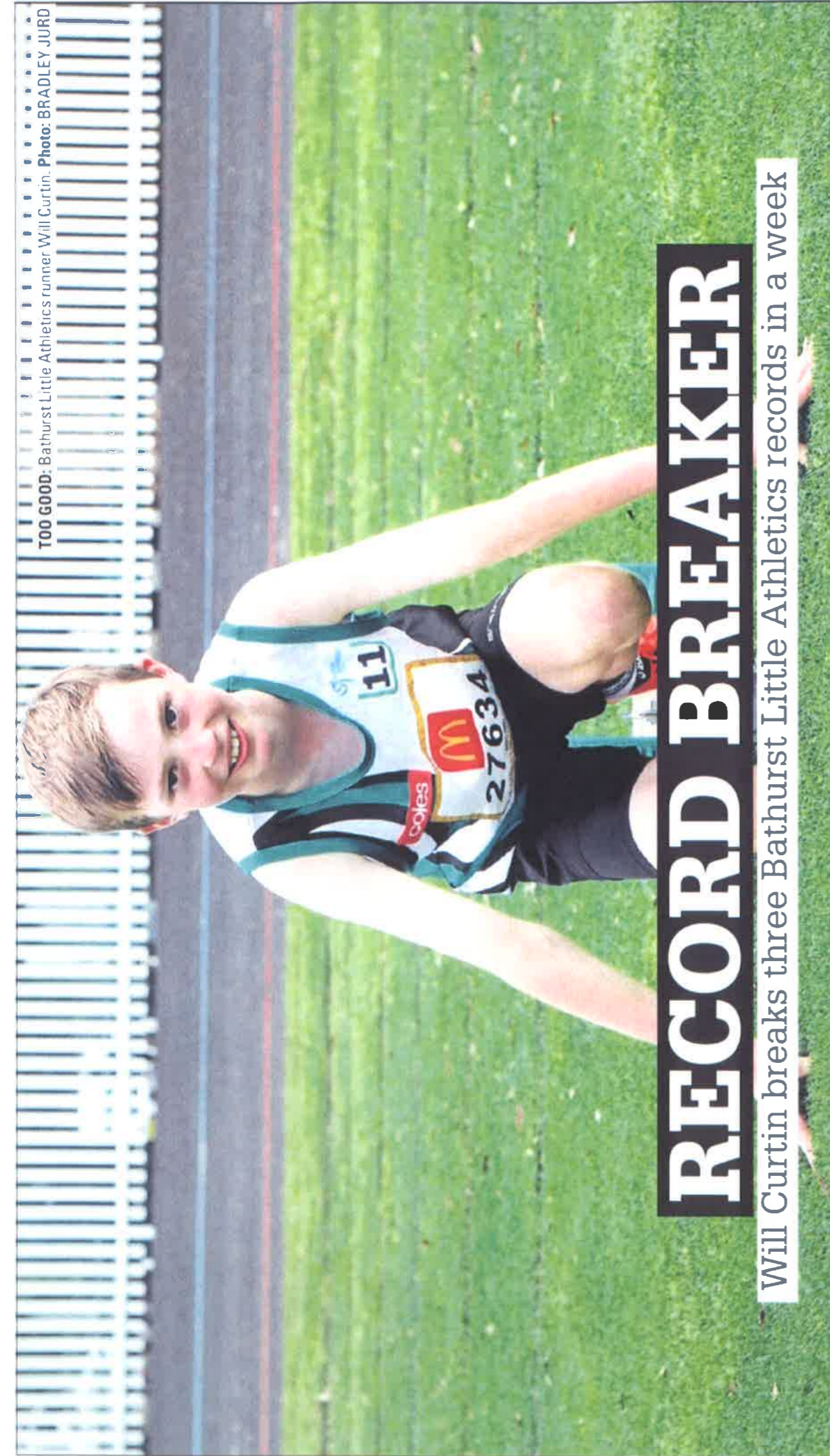
"I couldn't have been more happier with how the day went."

Other clubs that attended the meeting outside of Bathurst and Mudjee included

- Boys 13-year-old 50 metre breaststroke: Caleb Cashman
- Boys 15-year-old and over 50 metre breaststroke: Tyler Johnson
- Girls 13-year-old 50 metre breaststroke: Sienna Whalan
- Boys 13-14-year-old 100 metre breaststroke: Caleb Cashman
- Boys 12-year-old and under 200 metre freestyle: Jack Mulligan
- Boys 11-year-old 50 metre freestyle: Oliver Hamer
- Boys 11-year-old 50 metre backstroke - Oliver Hamer
- Boys 11-12-year-old 100 metre freestyle: Jack Mulligan
- Girls eight-year-old and under 50 metre backstroke: Lyndall Psychers

## RECORD BREAKERS:





# RECORD BREAKER

## Will Curtin breaks three Bathurst Little Athletics records in a week

**RUNNING**  
BY BRADLEY JURD

BATHURST runner Will Curtin was training hard during the coronavirus lockdown and he's received just reward for his work.

Curtin has broken three Bathurst Little Athletic under 11s records in the space of a week - the 200 metre on November 9, before beating the records in both the 100 metres and 400 metres on Monday gone.

He had been working towards breaking the 200 metres record for some time.

"I was trying to break the record because I had

got close to it beforehand," he said.

"It was exciting, very exciting to break it. It's very big for me because the last record I broke [last year] was 29-years-old."

Curtin's time of 28.40 seconds in the under 11s 200 metre broke the previous record of 28.80 seconds that Jason McClements achieved back on March 8, 1983.

His time of 1:06.30 in the 400 metre broke the previous record set in 2011 by 0.09 of a second, while his time of 13.73 seconds in the 100 metres broke the previous record of 13.78 seconds that was set in 2012.

Curtin is currently being coached by Wes Gibson, who has helped with his technique and his speed.

"He's a really good coach. When you're stressed, he'll talk to you and you'll feel a bit better," he said.

"He works on your technique and he's made me faster since he started coaching me."

Thalia Rummung was another member of the Bathurst Little Athletics squad that was able to set a new record, throwing for 9.46 metres in the under 16s shot put.

That beat the old recorded of 9.32 metres set by Caitlin Reeves back October 19,

Levi Whalan, Elijah Wheeler, William Webb

■ UNDER 8s: Eliza Chaplin, Sophia Edwards, Lara Hunt, Jack Humphreys, Tate Jenner, Charlie Smith, Charlie Robinson

■ UNDER 9s: Lydian Rue, Lily Dawson

■ UNDER 10s: Jesse Moorhead, Ella Hodgson, Kayley Jenner, Jacob Blundell

■ UNDER 11s: Chloe Grellman, Sam Rohr

■ UNDER 12s: Kasey Wallace, Carla Grim, Krystian Neal, Dylan Ruming

■ UNDER 13s: Elliah Sampson, Kobe Borgstahl

■ UNDER 14s: Hollie Ruming

It's also been a big past few weeks for a number of different athletes at the club, with a number of personal bests beaten across all age groups.

**ATHLETES ACHIEVING NEW PB'S:**

■ UNDER 6s: Lila Kolkman, Nate Somerville

■ UNDER 7s: Adeliene Maskill, Maison Woolmer,

Wednesday 18th November

## KHS mag hot off the press

AFTER a two year hiatus, Kelso High School's annual magazine, Panorama, is hot off the press. A labour of love by retired teacher Hans Stroeve, who with the help of his wife Wendy, collated the photos and written contributions with Year 9 student Ashleigh Dennis, designing the cover. Mr Stroeve said the overall product "looks amazing."

| Story page 6



GREAT RESULT: Hans Stroeve, with Kelso High School's annual Panorama magazine, hot off the press after a two-year hiatus.

# Yearbook back in business

## EDUCATION

BY JACINTA CARROLL

AFTER a two-year absence, Kelso High School's Panorama Magazine is back, and a sellout success.

A labour of love by retired Kelso High teacher Hans Stroeve, who along with the help of his wife, brought the publication back to life in 2020.

He said in Kelso High School's history, there have only been about five missed publications.

"One of them was the year of fire," he said.

With the magazine now published and distributed, Mr Stroeve said it looks amazing.

Featuring contributions from staff and students it documents school life in

2020, including the experience of remote learning during lockdown, faculty reports and pictorials from the year.

Year 9 student Ashleigh Dennis designed the artwork for the cover, which features Indigenous art.

Mr Stroeve said students invested heavily in bringing the year book back to life.

This year, due to COVID-19, students were away

from the school for weeks, and normal events like athletics carnivals, school camps and excursions didn't take place.

This meant copy for the magazine was more difficult to source.

But Mr Stroeve said the students and staff all stepped up, and contributed.

He said student photographers Chelsie and

Olivia took a lot of pictures, with students also writing articles to be published in the magazine.

Mr Stroeve said the plan for 2021 is to continue publishing with students continuing on in a hands on role.

He said the importance of a school magazine is evident by the number of requests he has from former students for copies of Panorama dating

back decades.

He thanked everyone involved in bring the magazine back to life, including Central Commercial Printers.

"They were so flexible.

"Peter Wright did the printing at CCP, he's a former student here, and they really did a great job.

"Brilliant really."

"It's great to have the magazine back," he said.

*Friday 20th November*

# Kelso High students mark the end of their schooling

Kelso High Campus students celebrated the end of their Higher School Certificate exams with their formal on Friday evening.

IT'S been a year like no other due to the coronavirus pandemic, but students at Kelso High Campus were still able to celebrate the end of 13 long years of schooling.

Only a few months ago, it looked like they wouldn't be able to celebrate the end of the Higher School Certificate exams, but thankfully restrictions were eased.

Students, along with teachers, family and partners, celebrated their graduation on Friday, November 20, with a formal event at Bathurst Goldfields.

Prior to the dinner, students gathered outside the Bathurst Court House to pose for photos with each other, their partners and their family members, with *Western Advocate* photographer Chris Seabrook there to snap photos.



**WE WERE THERE:** Kayla Pett with Laura Risch. 112020ckhsgrad11



**LOOKING GOOD:** Jordan Shirvill with Kayless Grant. 112020ckhsgrad9



**FAMILY:** Andrew, Joshua and Karen Noonan. 112020ckhsgrad8



**DRESSED UP:** Melissa Barnett, Jiann Mobbs and Coby Winter. 112020ckhsgrad6



**FORMAL:** Britney Battersby with Lockie Bemrose. 112020ckhsgrad2

Tuesday 24th November



**FRIENDS:** Casey Thompson with Maygan Keen.  
112020ckhsgrad4



**MOTHER AND DAUGHTER:** Tia Muggleton with her mum Rachel Gunning. Photo:CHRIS SEABROOK 112020ckhsgrad5



**PHOTO TIME:** Lauren Hook with Patrick White.  
112020ckhsgrad7



**OUT AND ABOUT:**  
Meg Brennan with  
Renae Dukes. Photos:  
CHRIS SEABROOK  
112020ckhsgrad17



**FORMAL:** Callum Welsh with Isobel Fitzpatrick. 112020ckhsgrad3



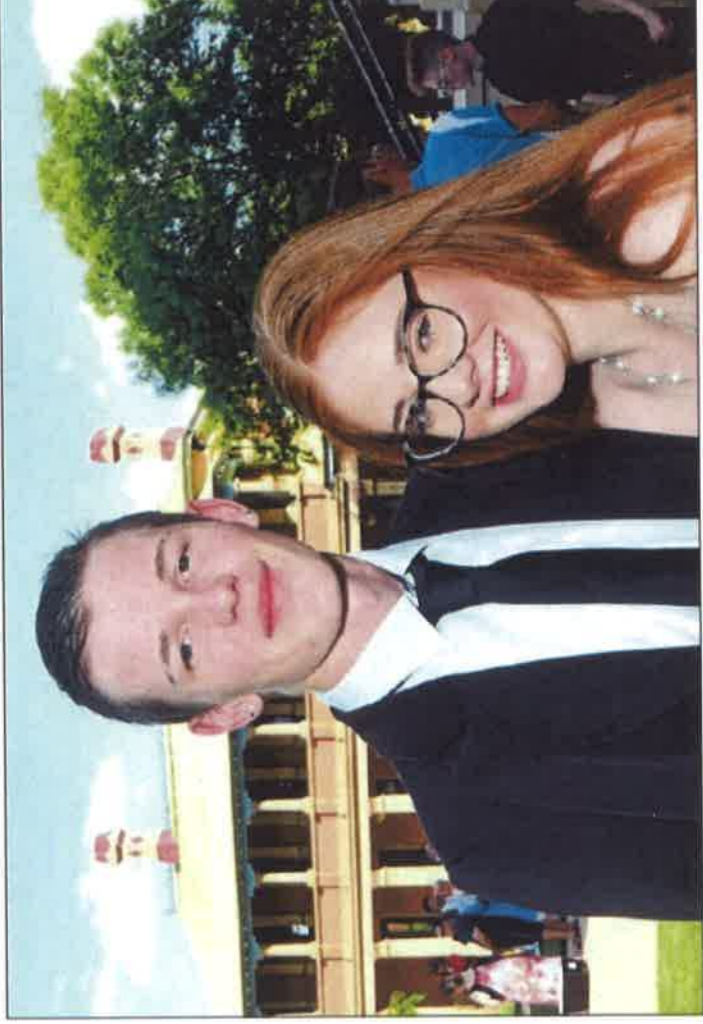
**WE'RE GRADUATING:** Laura Shearman with Maddison Wilson. 112020ckhsgrad10



**GREAT OCCASION:** Elouise Clark with Laura Sennett. 112020ckhsgrad12



**DRESSED UP:** Richard Evans with Natayia Hodges. 112020ckhsgrad1



**FAREWELL:** Blake Brown with Shaya Sargent. 112020ckhsgrad16

*Tuesday 24th November*

# Students' lesson in safety

## ROAD SAFETY

SECONDARY students from across Bathurst heard first hand the very real consequences of youth violence and road accidents, as victims of both relayed their stories of how a split-second decision can change a life forever.

The program, No Second Chance, is a unique and revolutionary Youth Safety Campaign with the clear objective of saving teenage lives arising from the tragic consequences of youth violence and road accidents.

Undeniably confronting, it aims to educate young

people, shocking them into making smart decisions regarding their own safety.

Road safety advocate, and owner of Calare Academy of Road Safety, Matt Irvine, said the program was great for starting conversations among young people, with year 11 students from Scots All Saints College, Bathurst High, Kelso High and Canobolas High participating.

He said what made the program so successful was it featured real people, with real stories which had real consequences from a split second decision, which then turned their lives upside down.

Mr Irvine said given the RYDA safe driving course was cancelled earlier this year due to Covid, it was great they were given the opportunity to attend No Second Chance.

He said key speakers Paul Stanley and Matt Speakman, both of whom have paid the ultimate price for other people's bad decisions, are very committed about reducing the disgraceful statistics relating to Australian youth safety. Mr Irvine said the program's message is simple. "Stop and think before you act," he said.



**KEY SPEAKER:** One of the key speakers, Paul Stanley relaying his experience at the No Second Chance program. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

# Stewart serves it up to claim three titles

## TENNIS

MATT Stewart confirmed his status as one of Bathurst's leading young guns when dominating the Bathurst Carillon Tennis Championships, claiming three titles on the weekend.

Stewart let his racket do the talking as he won the open singles, open doubles and mixed doubles in brilliant fashion, leaving the crowd in disbelief with his wide range of mind blowing shots across the round-robin competitions.

Bathurst City players dominated this year's championships by winning all 15 events, but Stewart's effort was the the standout.

Stewart partnered Bathurst City's Alex Mitton to take out the open doubles event, playing some outstanding tennis as they dominated.

Stewart then teamed up with another of Bathurst City's top young guns, Tayla Brasier, in the mixed event.

The event was full of champagne tennis, but Stewart and Brasier served all the aces to take the title in fine style.

Brasier also won the open women's singles final. She was always going to be a threat for the event as her



**TREBLE:** Matt Stewart won three titles at the Bathurst Carillon Tennis Championships - the open singles, open doubles and mixed doubles. **Photo: CONTRIBUTED**

tournaments.

In the open women's doubles it was a sister act as Gabby and Dominique Mitton took the spoils. The Mittons played some very smart tennis and look to be stars of the future, no doubt more club championship success will come.

Other winners were: Dion Killiby (A men's singles); Chris McEwan (B men's singles); Dymity Wheatley (A women's singles); Evelyn Andrews (B women's singles); Alfred and Josh Wong (A men's doubles); McEwan and Leo Mears (B men's

doubles); Rebekha Fisher and Caitlin Spears (A women's doubles); Esther Wong and Anna McPhail (B women's doubles); Kim Heterick and Michael Olsen (A mixed doubles); and Stacey Markwick and Adam Cavanagh (B mixed doubles).

Although not able to pick up a title, Eglinton's John Bullock, Allyson Schumacher, Jorge Collins and Jason Molkenin played some very entertaining tennis.

A huge thank you to co-ordinators Andrew and Fran Mitton.

- JOHN BULLOCK

# Bathurst 14s reach halfway undefeated

## CRICKET

THEY might not have been at their best on Sunday, but the Bathurst District Junior Cricket Association under 14s representative side still managed to extend their unbeaten run this season.

After opening their campaign with a three-from-three record in the Max Shepherd Shield, the under 14s have gone on to win their first three games in the annual Central West Cricket Council competition.

Their latest success was a five-wicket win over Dubbo, that result adding to victories against Mudgee and fierce rivals Orange.

In warm conditions and with a number of players battling illness - including captain Hugh Taylor - it was not the slickest of performances, but coach Greg Innes was still pleased to see them get the win.

"It wasn't our best game but to win when you're not playing at your best, it was still a good effort by the boys," Innes said.

"We'd played them [Dubbo] in the Max Shepherd Shield, they had two sides in our draw and we beat them both fairly convincingly, but what they then did was pick the best out of both sides for this.

"They are not a bad bowling side, they're not a bad little side and have got a couple of good cricketers."

With Taylor, who not only shares wicket-keeping duties with Connor Brown but is Bathurst's sole spin option, only able to field for a minimal period, Innes had "a bit of rejigging to do".

Bathurst won the toss and elected to field first. They did a reasonable job in restricting their rivals as 14 from opener Angus Boland was the top score from the hosts.



**STRONG START:** The Bathurst District under 14s have gone undefeated so far this summer. They currently lead their division in the Central West Cricket Council competition. **Photo: CONTRIBUTED**

Though giving away 36 extras, Bathurst still managed to have Dubbo all out in the 37th over.

Mark Sheather (2-10 off seven overs) and Mac Hutchings (2-21 off 7.6) were the most successful of the Bathurst bowlers.

"We got them out for 102 which was really good, we fielded good, caught well and bowled okay," Innes said.

"So I was happy to get them out, but then we had to rejig our batting order a bit as a couple of other kids had been crook during the week too ... we didn't get the runs in the end until the 48th over.

"Hugh ended coming on after about 35 overs and fielded, but he still couldn't bat until number six. He was seven not out when we passed it and I think they said he slept all the way home and slept all day Monday."

Brown made 17 opening the batting and Murray Staines put on 20 to have the chase on track before Taylor and Rueben Newton (20 not out) steered their side home.

It means Bathurst currently holds a four-point buffer over Orange on the competition ladder.

Meanwhile, Jayden Brasier provided a highlight for the

Bathurst under 12s side even though they went down to Dubbo, scoring an impressive 89.

Dubbo batted first and showed their quality as they put on 224 runs for the loss of four wickets from their 40 overs.

Needing to score at more than five runs an over for victory proved too big task for Bathurst, but Brasier made sure his side went down fighting.

Coming in at number four as Bathurst found itself in trouble at 2-3, he went on to occupy the crease for more than two hours.

Brasier faced 120 deliveries, 10 of which he sent to the boundary on his way to an impressive 89.

He and Callum Munns (nine) put on 80 runs for the fourth wicket and while Bathurst managed to bat out its 40 overs, it fell 85 runs short.

Still, the under 12s are sitting in second place on the ladder behind Orange and are in contention for the final.

The under 14s and under 12s will resume their Central West Cricket Council campaign on January 31 when hosting Mudgee.

- ANYA WHITE LAW

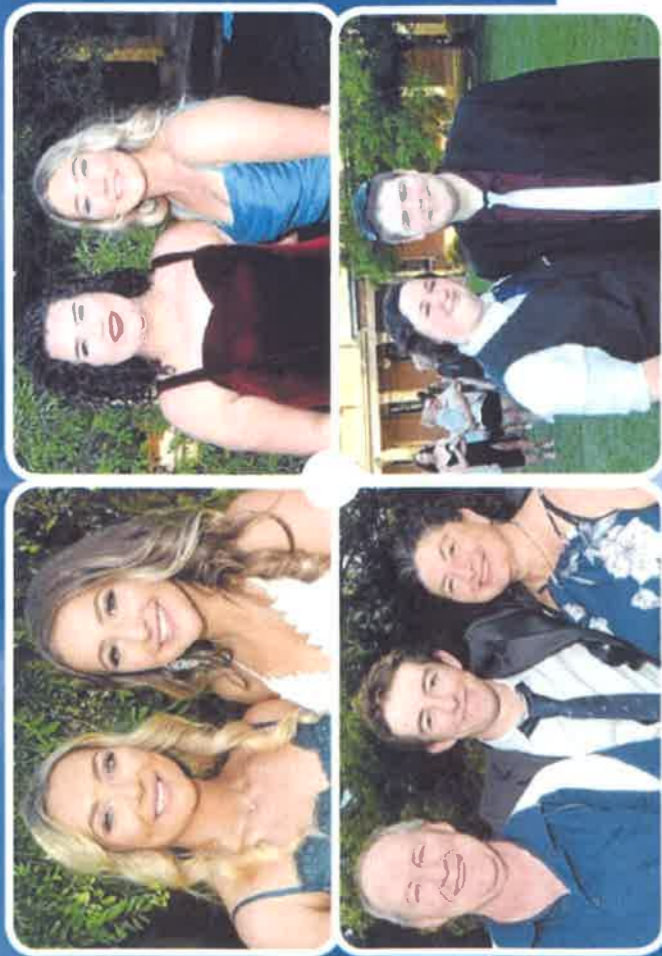
# Bathurst OUT AND ABOUT

DO YOU HAVE A SOCIAL FUNCTION COMING UP  
YOU'D LIKE INCLUDED IN THE PAPER?

To book a photographer\* phone editorial on **6331 2611**  
or email your function photos and details to  
**eve.capper@fairfaxmedia.com.au**  
\*subject to availability

WESTERN  
**Times**  
Western Advocate

PM0759898



Monday 30th November



**DELIVERY FIRED:** Jacob Ryan in action for Bathurst in their game against Blue Mountains. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

## Trophy defence is off to winning beginning

### CRICKET

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

SUNDAY might not have been the most clinical day of cricket for Bathurst's Rod Hartas Trophy side but a solid day in the field paved the way for the defending champions' round one victory.

Bathurst claimed a six wicket victory over Blue Mountains as they chased down the target of 87 in the space of 21 overs, with a couple of stumbles along the way.

But the young Bathurst squad never looked in serious danger during the chase.

Bathurst's Ben Cant (32) scored just shy of a run a ball in his strong stint as opening batsman while Hugh Parsons was on the money with the ball in hand as he claimed 3-18 off his seven overs.

Winning co-captain Andrew Brown said with such a young Bathurst team at his disposal it's almost worth changing things up to try and develop junior talent as much as possible.

"We want to give everyone a bit of experience and exposure to high level cricket," he said.

"This team's actually younger than our St Pat's

team. They've all got a lot of potential and were picked in this team for a reason. We just want to send them on the right path.

"Everyone chipped in with a wicket today. Hugh was probably the pick of the bowlers but everyone played some sort of part in the game, which was really good to see."

Bathurst got the day off to a great start by removing opener Max Bragg (6) off the bowling of Tom Lynch, then Parsons removed Blue Mountains captain Tom Tziavaras for a golden duck.

Remaining opener Aaron

Long (16) tried his best to hang around for a long time while others fell around him but his demise left the visitors in an awkward spot at 5-40.

If not for the efforts further down the order of Michael Emmanuel (24) then the situation could have been even more dire for Blue Mountains.

Jack Bragg (10) was the only other player for Blue Mountains to record double figures in an innings dominated by the whole Bathurst attack.

All five bowlers picked up at least one wicket.

Jacob Ryan (2-25) was the other Bathurst bowler to pick up more than one wicket.

Cant got the Bathurst chase off to a great start, seeing to ball well and working deliveries to all corners of the ground.

Bathurst had a few hiccups along the way as some impatience crept into the batting order but Tom Judge (20), Ethan Muller (11) and Hamish Siegert (10) got the hosts home.

Jack Bragg was a bright spot in an otherwise dismal day for Blue Mountains as he finished with 3-21 from his full compliment of 10 overs.

Tuesday 1st December

# Bathurst chase timed well at colts carnival



**GOOD KNOCK:** Bathurst captain Ethan Muller made a measured 45 in Sunday's colts match against Chairman's XI. **Photo: RILEY KRAUSE**

## CRICKET

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

THEY were under pressure at various stages during their chase but Bathurst managed to get the job done in Sunday's Western Zone Cricket Colts Carnival clash against the Chairman's XI.

Saturday's long-awaited clash with Orange wasn't to be, thanks to the intervention of rain, so Bathurst turned up the next day hoping to make the most of their remaining day at Jack Brabham Oval.

And they were definitely in for a challenging chase after the Chairman's XI boys made their way to 9-174 off their 50 overs.

Bathurst's chase was an

up and down affair - leaving them with more than 60 runs to get off their last 10 overs - but the young side showed plenty of confidence down the home stretch to take the win.

"We always had wickets in hand but it was a bit worrying in the middle when things were going a little bit slow. They managed to pick up the pace over the last 10 overs to get us over the line," he said.

"After 40 overs we were only on 110 chasing 175.

"It was even conditions for both teams and it was pretty slow going for everyone out there. It was hard to get a flow of runs."

That made the Chairman's

XI effort better than it might seem on paper.

And when Bathurst opener Nash Hutchings fell early during the chase it meant the team had to switch on.

Remaining opener Hamish Siegert (32) and captain Ethan Muller (45) played a measured innings to keep Bathurst on track after Cooper Brien's (14) wicket, but the required run rate was beginning to creep upwards.

That's when Tom Siede (33) and Fletcher Norris (27) stepped in to almost take Bathurst all the way to the target with a brilliant performance under pressure, with the needed run rate going at over a run a ball.

Their efforts gave Tom

Judge (1 not out) and Tom Lynch (1 not out) several overs in hand to pick up the two necessary run for victory.

Luke McDean was the pick of the Chairman's XI bowlers with an excellent 2-16 from five overs.

Shubham Sharma proved hard to get away, with 0-3 from four overs.

Earlier in the day Bathurst's bowlers all made a contribution towards keeping the Chairman's XI short of the 200 mark.

"It was all sort of shared around with the ball. Angus Parsons took two wickets, so did Tom Lynch, and there was a run out as well," Bryant said.

"It was a great all-round

bowling performance from all the boys today."

In the day's other game defending champions Orange once again proved too strong for their opponents at the colts carnival, besting Dubbo by 25 runs.

Dubbo were their own worst enemies in the field.

Their 36 extras was a greater tally than any of the individual scores from the Orange order.

Dubbo captain Tom Coady (50) tried his best to steer his team down the right path but he received little support in the pursuit of 144.

A Western squad will be selected in the coming weeks for the Country Colts Carnival in January.

## Cold Chisel aims to dig in

### TENNIS TALK

TEAM Wham are full of confidence and Team Cold Chisel are ready to dig in - this Saturday's Eglinton Tennis Club spring competition grand final is shaping to be a fiery contest.

Wham captain John 'slugger' Bullock and Cold Chisel captain Allyson 'Iron Lady' Schumacher have had many keen tussles over the years and there will be no love lost between the pair.

Cold Chisel will go into the grand final as the underdogs and have sent out a sound warning that they will not be intimidated.

"They may well be the hot favourites, but as everyone knows odds-on favourites do get beaten, so anything can happen in this years big one," Schumacher said.

However, Bullock believes his side has the big gun players to win the grand final.

"It's just a matter of how far we will win by. I have giv-

en my side strict instructions on when and how my trump card will destroy Team Chisel," a confident Bullock said.

### TEAM WHAM

George Collins is a nationally ranked, top young gun who is no doubt the danger player in this grand final. If totally focused, he will have his opponents in panic mode.

Garth Hindmarch is a good net player with excellent court craft skills, while captain John 'slugger' Bullock has a record in grand finals that everyone would love.

Rebekka Fisher is a good steady player who is primed for this final while Cal Hobson has more pace than Winx and can mix it with the best.

Kath Wilkinson is consistent as they come and a real goer on the court who gives 110 percent, then there is young gun Sebastian Honeyman who loves the pressure of grand final matches.

### TEAM COLD CHISEL



**THREAT:** Grace Schumacher is hoping Team Cold Chisel can spring a grand final upset over Team Wham.

Grace Schumacher is a nationally ranked young gun who is in blistering form and can carve up opponents if given room to move while her mother Allyson Schumacher, well they don't call her the 'iron lady' for nothing. She is as tough as they come, has a wide range of powerful shots and is the player who can lead the side to an upset win.

Matt Tree is a big hitter of the ball who is in hot form while his brother Andrew Tree is a player with plenty of potential who can worry the big guns.

Caitlin Spears is an improved young gun who has all the shots, Toko Tari is a real trooper who is in good form, while David Bant never stops trying in his matches.

Tuesday 8th December

Thursday 10th December

Platypi award their best for season 2020

# A fantastic Fox

## RUGBY LEAGUE

BY ANYA WHITELAW

MOVING from fullback into the second row - it's by no means an easy task for a footballer, but when Charlie-Mai Fox was given such a challenge this season she embraced it.

Fox's high work rate and physicality added starch to the under 16 Panorama Platypi's defensive line which had been missing in their opening games of the 2020 Western Women's Rugby League campaign.

It also saw her named best and fairest for the 16 Platypi, nudging out Lauren Roels for the award decided by votes from opposition coaches.

"I had her at fullback for the first three games, she'd played there for the past two seasons," Platypi 16s coach Mick Roels said.

"I wanted to fix up a few issues with our line defence so they weren't getting through all the time, so I put her into the second row and moved Paige [Lowe] to fullback. That made a big difference because Charlie was making those same tackles up in defence rather than doing them one-on-one behind the line. "It's the mental ability that she has, she's a competitor. When you're a competitor you'll do everything you can, you'll put your body on the line."

Fox was just one of the players acknowledged for their efforts this season when



**FOX ON THE RUN:** Charlie-Mai Fox was a star in both attack and defence for the under 16 Panorama Platypi this season. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

the Panorama Platypi held their presentation day.

In the under 13s development side which was formed for the first time this year, Tameika Clarke was named best and fairest, while Mary Maher's efforts in the second row saw her get the nod for the under 14s' top gong.

Having been joint under 18s best and fairest for the league, it was no surprise Madison Marmion picked up that award on a club level.

For the Platypi opens side which fell one win short of a grand final appearance, playmaker Emma Miller took out best and fairest honours.

Opens coach Kevin Grimshaw said Miller's work in the halves was impressive as she showed the experience of having played in previous WWRL campaigns.

"She was very good, she held the team together I think," he said.

"I was very happy with the

way she went and the way she handled herself in a pretty inexperienced side and she's a lovely girl too. She's got the respect of the girls as well which is important."

Grimshaw, who coached a Platypi side for the first time this season, said he was impressed with the overall standard of his squad and believes it will only get better as the talented juniors progress to the senior ranks.

"I really enjoyed it actual-

ly, their skill levels are pretty good, their attitude was excellent and their commitment was excellent as well," he said.

"I couldn't ask anything more of them and I think the standard is only going to get better, the football is only going to get better with the development of all the girls that are coming from the 14s right through."

Having been involved with the club since its inception,

Roels is also excited to see the continued development of the Platypi players.

"Their skill development is amazing, they pick it up so quick. It seems to be that way for the girls, their hand-eye co-ordination is a little bit better than the boys, and they want to learn," he said.

"They are looking at a second round of games so we have a home and away season for next year, if they do that they'll only get better."

*Friday 11th December*