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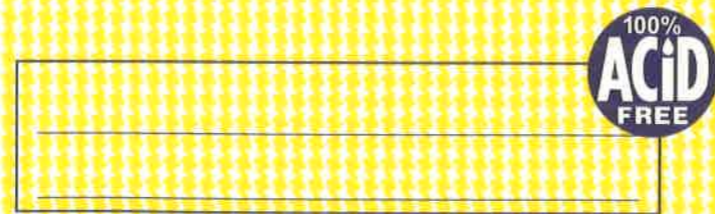
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Sketch Book

GENUINE DRAWING CARTRIDGE

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No. 533



Eight Bathurst swimmers in state titles

A strong squad

SWIMMING

BY BRADLEY JURD

AFTER months of preparation, Bathurst Swim Club's eight best swimmers will head to Sydney for their biggest challenge of the year - the NSW Senior State Age Championships.

Held across six days from December 12-17, the eight swimmers - Caleb Cashman, Bronte Cullen-Ward, Liam Deegan, Violet Henson, Tyler Johnson, Will Kelly, Lillian Milgate and Sienna Whalan - will compete in at least two events, with Johnson the busiest of the swimmers being entered in eight different events.

Bathurst Swim Club coach Josh Stapley said he's really happy with the local representation that will be competing at the state championships.

"I'm really happy with that. That's a really big star-list for us, for a senior state age championship and that's with a couple that couldn't qualify or chose not to go," he said.

"The standouts for me in the squad is Tyler Johnson, who has a huge program of six individual races and two relays. He's racing on almost every day up there, which is massive for the club to have someone qualify for so many events.

"The other one that is looking good is Sienna Whalan, who is chasing her national times at state and is looking



STATE: Back: Tyler Johnson, Bronte Cullen-Ward, Will Kelly and Caleb Cashman. Front: Sienna Whalan, Liam Deegan and Violet Henson.

a good shot at making the finals.

"They'll have heats through the day and finals at night and Sienna is looking quite highly seeded for her breaststroke event that she's swimming as an individual and looking a really good shot at making the finals for some of those races, which is a huge exciting thing."

Johnson, who has a hectic schedule ahead of him at the state titles, is competing

in the under 15s 50 metre freestyle, 100 metre butterfly, 100 metre breaststroke, 100 metre backstroke, 200 metre breaststroke, 200 metre individual medley, the medley relay and freestyle relay.

As he's competing in so many events, he's understandably confident of picking up a couple of medals at the state titles.

"I'm pretty confident I'll get a few medals and I'm pretty confident I'll get into

the finals for a couple," he said.

"I'm just hoping for a lot of PB mostly, to get a national time."

Johnson said he and the other swimmers competing at the state titles have been well prepared with recent carnivals at Lithgow, Mudgee and Dubbo.

He also said looking after himself as been a helpful preparation.

"Lots of relaxing and

training. I've been trying to eat the best as I can," he said.

"Those carnivals have prepared me not only in my race strategy and race confidence, but also to get some good times as well."

The NSW Senior State Age Championships will be held at the Sydney Aquatic Centre at Olympic Park from Saturday to next Thursday and to view results, visit Swimming NSW's website at www.nswswimming.org.au.



Lillian Milgate

Friday 11th December

Hartas call-up reward for a great run of form

Bathurst dance taking next steps



REP CALL UP: Tyler Horton has been called into Bathurst's Rod Hartas Shield match against Mudgee on Sunday. Photo: CARLA FREEDMAN

CRICKET

BY BRADLEY JURD

TYLER Horton has been rewarded for his great run of form, being called into Bathurst's Rod Hartas Shield match against Mudgee on Sunday.

Horton, who plays his club cricket for Centennials Bulls in the Bathurst Orange Inter District Cricket competition, played a crucial part in his team's win on Saturday against Bathurst City.

He strolled to the crease with Bulls at 6-86 in pursuit of Redback's 184, which isn't the friendliest scenario for a number eight batsman, but

his team to its maiden win of the season.

Horton is one of three players that have come into the squad, including Justin Stephenson and Brad Rayner, with Hugh Parsons, Mark Day and Jacob Ryan all dropping out of the squad due to unavailability.

Bathurst skipper Andrew Brown said while they might miss their three players, particularly that of Redback talent Day, he believes the three replacing them will perform well.

"We might miss him but in saying that, Tyler is going pretty good at the moment. He's steered his team to a

66

... Tyler is going pretty good at the moment. He's steered his team to a win last round

Andrew Bornw

Blake Aubin can definitely be key, being one of the form bats in the competition. Bowling wise, probably young Tom Lynch and Kurt Toole with a bit more experience."

Bathurst come into the

six-wicket win over Blue Mountains at the Sports-ground last month.

Blue Mountains had been dismissed for just 86, with this Sunday's unavailable Parsons taking three wickets, while fellow absentee Ryan took two.

Ben Cant opened the batting for Bathurst and hit 32 - the highest score of the day for the hosts, as they caught the visitor's total in just 21 overs.

Heading into the match against Mudgee, Brown said the team is unfamiliar to him.

"We played them last year but we don't really know too much about them," he said.

"It depends on who they've

there are a couple of good players from Mudgee, it just depends if they play or not."

While there's still a round to go after Sunday's game, a win for Bathurst this weekend will all but secure the team's place in the final next February.

In the other match on Sunday, Blue Mountains host Gulgong at Peter Carroll Field in Leura and a win for the visitors will definitely secure Bathurst's spot in the final.

BATHURST XI: Andrew Brown (captain), Blake Aubin, Kurt Toole, Tom Siede, Tom Judge, Tom Lynch, Justin Stephenson, Brad Rayner, Hamish Siegert, Ben Cant, Ethan Muller, Tyler

ENTERTAINMENT

BY JACINTA CARROLL

TWO Bathurst dancers have enjoyed success in an annual dance festival.

Mia Ryan, 16, and Lily Cole, 17, have won a secondment and intensive respectively after the final round of *Sharp Short Dance*.

Sharp Short Dance, an annual dance festival that showcases the work of young Australian dancers and choreographers, was held online this year due to COVID-19.

Mia was awarded a secondment with the innovative and immersive dance company Twisted Element for her work, 'Life Satisfaction'.

'Life Satisfaction' is described as a contemporary dance piece inspired by obsessive compulsive disorder and the desire for satisfaction or perfection.

Mia attends Kelso High and has been a featured dance ensemble member at Schools Spectacular.

Lily was awarded a Summer Intensive at the Academy of Music and Performing Arts (Sydney) for her work, 'In My Dreams', which she says is about not giving into society's pressures and fol-



TALENT: Mia Ryan and Lily Cole impressed in the Sydney Short Dance 2020.

lowing your own path.

Lily attended Bathurst High and was a member of Sydney Dance Company's 2019 Youth Ensemble.

She also travelled to the United States in 2019 to attend the prestigious Joffrey Ballet School's Summer Intensive program for jazz/contemporary.

Sharp Short Dance provides an opportunity for dancers and choreographers aged 21 years and under to show their works to a panel of industry professionals

and win highly sought-after industry secondments with major professional dance companies.

This year's judging panel was comprised of some of the industry's most respected names, including Omer Backley-Astrach (Sydney Dance Company pre-professional year co-ordinator), Shaun Parker (artistic director of Shaun Parker and Company), Clancy (founder and director of the Wagana Dance Emma Saunders (FORM/

Tuesday 15th December

Kelso High volleyballers medal at state

SERVING IT UP!

VOLLEYBALL

BY ANYA WHITELAW

TWO gold medals, a bronze and a most valuable player award - Kelso High School's volleyball teams ended a trying year in a very positive fashion.

While the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of the state championships and knockout plus the highly anticipated Australian Volleyball Schools Cups, Kelso still had an opportunity to play at the NSW Schools Cup.

Held at Homebush over four days last week, Kelso entered three teams - the Year 10 boys, Year 11 boys and a senior girls outfit consisting of Year 11 players.

The senior girls took out the open honours division, beating Santa Sabina in three sets in the gold medal match.

While Santa Sabina had gotten the better of Kelso the previous day - their only loss of the tournament - in the decider it was a very different story.

"They came back the next day and basically obliterated them in the grand final. In the last set they got a little bit closer, but our girls really did win that convincingly," Kelso coach Jerry Sheader said.

"It was a particularly good effort because our captain Maddie Vallis, who of course was out injured, she was down there with a broken ankle watching from the sidelines. So while missing her



SENIOR SUCCESS: The Kelso High senior girls volleyball team won gold in the open honours division at the NSW Schools Cup. Photo: CONTRIBUTED

strength and still managing to come top of the schools - that's open honours so that's everyone - it shows those girls are really strong.

"Their ability to stay focused under pressure and not implode, I'm really proud of their efforts."

Outside hitter Lily Grimmond was named most valuable player of the grand final while Sheader also gave praise to Lillee Pratsky, who found herself filling

the key defensive libero role when Vallis' absence forced a reshuffle.

"Lillee, she really stepped up, she's always been with us on the bench and she stepped up into a really crucial position and she just played so well," he enthused. "We needed her and she was there."

The Year 11 boys team had trained twice weekly for two months in the build up to the tournament and that dedica-

tion paid off as they picked up a division one bronze with a three sets win over Ryde in the medal match.

"That was really impressive, those kids have been training all year for this - they have got four state players and trained heavily, so that was a massive effort," Sheader said.

"They've got Hayden James who's an ex-Kelso High student, who trains and coaches them. He's a very

experienced player and a very experienced coach, he also coaches a national junior side.

"So they've a really good guy on the bench there who can see things, identify them and fix them quickly.

"They only got one a game a day so it was a little bit hard for them to find their rhythm ... so they started off a little bit slow but then they had a very strong run and only just got beaten to miss out on the

gold medal match."

While the Year 10 boys side had a limited build up, Sheader saying "They are sort of a fun team who got together in the last three weeks," they won their division two gold medal game 3-1 against Fort Street High.

"The Year 10 boys played really well throughout the week, they're a little bit less developed than our other two sides, they don't train as much," he said.

Tuesday 15th December

Carollers come together to embrace the festive season

It was a perfect evening and the perfect way to celebrate Christmas when the Mitchell Conservatorium hosted Carols by Candlelight on Sunday night.

OUT AND ABOUT

CAROLS By Candlelight is a Bathurst Christmas tradition and while they looked a little different this year, it was still a chance for the community to come together to celebrate the season.

Hosted each year by the Mitchell Conservatorium, this year's carols were held at Tremain's Mill on Sunday evening instead of the usual venue in Machattie Park.

COVID restrictions limited the event to just 400 people but many more tuned in to a live stream of the entertainment.

Talented performers from the conservatorium led audience members both at the venue and those at home through a playlist of everyone's favourite Christmas carols on a night of fantastic family fun.



Louise and Henry Hoskin.



Elijah, Kylie and Audrey Wilson.



Fergus, Richard and Sophie McFarland.



Peter, Amanda and Diane Carter with David Abernethy.



The Potts family and friends.

Wednesday 15th December



INCLUSIVE: Kelso High Campus teacher Richard McFarlane is championing a support group for LGBTQI+ students. Photo: SAM BOLT

LGBTQI support group making a difference

EDUCATION
BY SAM BOLT

FOR the past few years, a Denison College Kelso High Campus teacher has been championing a weekly support group for students who identify as LGBTQI+.

Richard McFarlane, who has taught PD/Health/PE [and mathematics] at Kelso High since the early 2000s, saw the need for an avenue for students having issues with gender identity and understanding their emotions.

"A few years ago, there was an increase in students having issues with gender

and sexuality, which led to a series of discussions with students on how Kelso High could provide better support for those who identify as LGBTQI+," Mr McFarlane said.

"It was through one of those conversations where I raised the idea of a support group, and a number of students were receptive of the idea, so we went from there."

The group meets on a weekly basis, and the idea has since spread to Kelso High's sister campus, Bathurst High.

"At any particular time, we'd get anywhere between

5 to 12 students turn up, and a good 20 to 25 students have attended the support group on and off over the last few years," Mr McFarlane said.

"We've set the group up as a safe place for students to talk about gender and sexuality, and the key purpose of the group is to help students understand what they're experiencing is normal."

"We talk about the use of names and pronouns [he, she, them, they] to ensure they're comfortable with how people address them, how their emotions are part of being human, but really, it's a chance for students to simply

have constructive conversations with each other."

From the perspective of an educator, Mr McFarlane said an understanding of LGBTQI+ culture is essential to enhancing the wellbeing of a secondary school environment.

"Teenage years are difficult enough for students at the best of times but for those who identify as LGBTQI+, the challenge is often greater," he said.

"We're a school with a strong focus on providing a comfortable environment for all students, and this was a gap in the provision of our

wellbeing services that we're proud to be addressing."

"There's a lot for us as teachers to learn from these students and their experiences as well, as it'll only help us improve our approach to fostering a school environment where everyone can feel included."

In addition to his role as a PD/Health/PE teacher, Mr McFarlane has regularly served as a year advisor over the years.

Students involved in the LGBTQI+ support group were invited to contribute to the story, but respectfully declined.



THE ANCHOR: Bathurst's Hugh Taylor made 65 opening the batting for the Central West under 14s, helping them to a commanding win over Western Plains. Photo: CARLA FREEDMAN

Bathurst's 14s fire for Central West

CRICKET
BY ANYA WHITELAW

THEY'VE had an undefeated start to their representative season as Bathurst District Junior Cricket Association under 14s and now they shape as key figures for Central West.

Seven members of the Bathurst under 14s outfit which went three-from-three in the Max Shepherd Shield and is undefeated in the 2020-21 Central West Cricket Council competition are now seeking success in the New South Wales Youth Championship.

Connor Brown, Hugh Taylor, Rupert Begg, Ruben Newton, Charlie Rendell, Mark Sheather and Murray Staines helped the Central West under 14s begin their bid with a bonus-point win on Sunday.

They crushed Country rivals Western Plains by 126 runs.

It was Brown and Taylor who laid the foundation for the success early on as they put on 83 runs opening the batting for Central West.

Brown made 24 of those while Taylor went on to anchor the innings in his three-

hour stand at the crease, scoring 65 runs.

Rendell contributed a handy 15 off 20 late in the innings as Central West reached 8-184 off their 50 overs.

Western Plains' chase got off to a horror start as they found themselves at 3-8, Begg the early destroyer as he snared two wickets while Brown was involved in producing a run-out.

From there Western Plains wickets continued to fall, Central West needing only 29.4 overs to have them all out for just 58.

Begg finished with figures of 2-4 off four overs, Taylor took 1-4 off two while Staines, Rendell and Sheather were all economical.

The under 14s were not the only Bathurst juniors to impress in the opening round of Youth Championships either as both the under 13s and under 15s posted wins in their games against Western Plains as well.

Cooper Stephen was the star for the under 13s as his four-wicket haul paved the way for a six-wicket victory.

One of five Bathurst players in the under 13s outfit

- Gilby Glawson, Liam King, Jayden Brasier, and Blayde Burke the others - Stephen was superb when introduced into the attack.

He triggered a top order collapse, Western Plains losing three wickets in the space of 10 runs to find themselves at 4-49.

From then on Western Plains struggled to form partnerships and were all out for 110, Stephen having taken 4-18 off seven overs.

Stephen (12) and Glawson (13) both contributed to the chase, Central West hitting the winning runs on the first ball of the 29th over.

In the under 15s match an impressive 101 from Orange opener Charlie Tink paved the way for Central West's 42-run win, but Bathurst District's representatives played a role as well.

After Central West made 7-219, Eli Morris was the main destroyer with the ball as he took 3-21 off his five overs.

Quick Liam Cain took 1-39 off nine and helped pull off a run-out and Jayden Spackman took 1-23 off four. Seth Norris and Mitch Wallace were also part of the victorious side.

High achiever wins Kelso's decade prize

ACHIEVER

A DOCTOR based in inner west Sydney with an extensive CV has become the latest to join an exclusive club of former Kelso High School students.

Dr Cameron Korb-Wells - who applied for a job at Bathurst Base Hospital before he'd even received his HSC results - is the latest recipient of the Kelso High Decade Award.

The award recognises a student who completed their secondary education at Kelso more than 10 years ago and has gone on to achieve outstanding success or to have excelled in their chosen field.

This was the 24th year of the award and previous winners include a genetic researcher, actress, international architect and film-maker.

The young Cameron was already saying that he wanted to be a doctor and find a cure for cancer when he was in primary school.

He began year seven at Kelso High in 1998 and was always a high achiever.



GREAT EXPECTATIONS: Kelso High School Decade Award winner Dr Cameron Korb-Wells knew he wanted to be a doctor when he was in primary school.

Throughout his secondary schooling, Cameron earned many high distinctions and distinctions in a wide range of mathematics, English, science, economics and computing competitions.

He took part in work experience in general prac-

tice, surgery, pharmacy, radiology and physiotherapy and applied for a job at Bathurst Base while waiting for his Higher School Certificate results.

Having finished as dux of the school, he enrolled as an undergraduate in 2004 in a

new curriculum path offered by the University of NSW which involved working with patients from day one.

He was awarded his Bachelor of Science (Medicine) Honours Class 1 from UNSW in 2007 and this was soon followed by a Bachelor of Medi-

cine and Bachelor of Surgery (Honours Class II) in 2009.

In 2013, Dr Korb-Wells was awarded his third degree, a Master of Public Health and Master of Health Management.

He took on the role of assistant secretary/treasurer of the Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation in 2015 and, in 2017, became a councillor with the Australian Medical Association NSW Council.

Dr Korb-Wells was also the clinical superintendent of medicine at Concord Repatriation General Hospital, as well as honorary medical officer geriatrician for Western NSW Local Health District.

In 2018, while still based out of Concord Repatriation General Hospital, Dr Korb-Wells added the roles of staff specialist geriatrician, acting deputy director, medical services and acting medical director, National Centre for Veterans' Healthcare to an already full CV.

International media executive Owen Franks was last year's Kelso High Decade Award winner.

Wednesday 16th December



AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD WINNERS 2021

Bathurst's Australia Day Awards have recognised the work and achievements of individuals and groups at Tuesday's Awards Ceremony at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre.

Mayor of Bathurst City Bobby Bourke said it was an honour to be able to thank this year's award recipients for their hard work and dedication to the Bathurst community.

"Congratulations to all of our Australia Day Award recipients for 2021 and thank you for your hard work and contribution to the Bathurst community."
 "It's wonderful to be able to recognise the achievements of those within our community on this day."
 The following awards were presented:

Recognition of the Youth Council 2019-2020

Being part of the Youth Council involves attending regular meetings, voicing ideas, developing, and working on projects, promoting the work of the Youth Council, and assisting with the running of Youth Council events. The 2019-2020 group were faced with challenges and restrictions enforced by COVID-19 and the majority of their events were cancelled. In light of this they were still able to use their creative skills and deliver new ways to engage the community.

2019-2020 members:

- Angus Cooke
- Benjamin Davis
- Bethany Donaldson
- Bonnie-Skye Wright
- Grace Lynch
- Jack Lynch
- Jennessa Egginis
- Joshua Borland
- Maddison Sufong
- Natalia Burgess
- Nyoaki Pearce
- Travis Barrie
- Tristen West
- Zoe Peters

The Jo Ross Memorial Award - Greening Bathurst

This award is made to an

individual, group or institution in recognition of their ongoing efforts to improve the local environment.

Congratulations Tracey Sorensen for being the 2021 recipient of this award (pictured below).

Australia Day Medallion

The Australia Day Achievement Medallion Program is a new award introduced in 2021. This program recognises members of the public whose hard work and contributions have shaped and benefited the Bathurst Community. The bushfires, drought and COVID-19

due to COVID-19, these include:

- Youth Awards Award
- Event of the Year (Community and Destination)
- Bathurst Regional National Trust Heritage Award
- The Citizen of the Year for 2020 Bob Cassidy and Young Citizen of the Year 2020 Natalia Burgess will also hold their title for another 12 months.
- The annual Citizenship ceremony also took place on Australia Day acknowledging new Australian citizens in the region.

ABOVE: Awards Pictures
 BELOW: Citizenship images. Pictured with Mayor Bobby Bourke, Australia Day Ambassador Lindy Hou OAM, and Paul Toole MP.



Awards for diligent guides

Girls honoured for superb citizenship

COMMUNITY

A HOST of Bathurst Guides have been acknowledged for their achievements across 2020 through the successful completion of their Baden-Powell [BP] award.

The BP Award, one of the highest youth awards achievable in the Guides and Girl Scouts movement, is bestowed upon guides over the age of 10 who successfully complete three challenges in six assessment areas: promise and law, outdoors, service, guiding traditions, world guiding and patrol systems.

The junior equivalent of the award, for Guides between the ages of seven and 10, requires the completion of two challenges in the above categories.

Bathurst Guides acting district manager Lesley Buchan said although Guides had to adopt different approaches to their assessments throughout 2020, several youth members achieved the peak award for their age group.

"Emily Parsons and Jasmyn Nankervis completed the BP Award after they moved into the Senior Guides earlier this year." Ms

“These awards teach the girls to challenge themselves, to use their time wisely, practice leadership skills, and work with others to achieve the goals they have set themselves,” Ms Buchan said. The Guides were unable to hold biscuit stalls or sell them door to door throughout 2020 due to COVID-19. The biscuit sales raise funds towards new equipment, camps, outings and learning programs. If you have queries about joining Bathurst Guides as a youth member or as a leader, please contact Kellick 6337 4161 or kellickguider@gmail.com. For Bathurst Guide Hall enquiries, contact 0498441553.

Bathurst Guides acting district manager Lesley Buchan

Buchan said. "Their awards were presented in front of their families at the unit's end of year pool party."

"In addition, Charlotte McCurley achieved the Junior BP Award while she was a member of 2a Waratah Junior Guides at the beginning of the year, and she has since moved on to the 2c Guides 10+."

Senior Guide Sarah Howes received the Queen's Guide Award in September, which is the peak achievement award for youth members of Guides Australia.

Ms Buchan said Guides awards provide incentives for girls between the ages of seven and 17 to understand the importance of leadership, citizenship and serving the community.



DISTINGUISHED: (left) Jasmyn Nankervis and Emily Parsons [front] with their BP Award certificates and fellow Senior Guides Chloe, Hannah and Isabelle; [right] Charlotte McCurley with her Junior BP Award certificate.



IN THE SWIM: Ryan Ridley, Sarah Russell and Ella Hope at the pool on Australia Day. 012621cpool6

AUSTRALIA DAY FUN

The Bathurst community came together on Tuesday to celebrate Australia Day. Bathurst activities included the official citizenship ceremony, presentation of achievement medallions, a triathlon and free entry to the pool.

Monday 25th January 2021

A champagne start to year

TENNIS TALK

THE first round of this year's Eglinton Tennis Club's summer competition was full of thrills and spills, and most of all, full of champagne moments that the players are renowned for.

While the temperature hit 34 degrees, it didn't stop the players serving aces and giving their all at the biggest little club in the west.

The first match was a thriller with captain 'iron lady' Allyson Schumacher and her Team Wilson troops of Matt Tree, Dave Smith, Caitlin Spears and Andrew Howarth winning over Russell Welsh's Team Vermont of Rod Schumacher, Bryan Reiri, Jason Honeyman and Peter Deacon seven sets to five.

Allyson Schumacher didn't hold back and let loose with her bullet-like forehand and skilful net play to do the damage in her 6-2, 6-4 sets wins.

Team Wilson's number one player Tree was in blistering form, blowing his opposition off the court with his cannonball forehand and powerful, big serve. Tree's 6-4, 6-1, 6-3 set wins were quite impressive.

Smith was also in good touch for Team Wilson and sent out a sound warning to his rivals that he is not to be taken lightly after his impressive 6-2, 6-1, 6-1 set wins.

Howarth battled on gamely all day and although winning only one set (6-3), is on the improve.

Captain 'iron lady' believes the win was a really gutsy team effort.

"We are not get too carried away with the win as it is only the first round. There are a lot of good sides in this competition who can really turn it on," Schumacher said.

Team Vermont captain Welsh had only one word to say: "Outclassed".

The second match was a



GOODBYE: Work will soon start on a new clubhouse for the Eglinton Tennis Club to replace this current structure.

one-sided affair with Team Dunlop's Jason Molkenntin, Brook Lynch, Andrew Tree, Rob Mack and David Bant winning over Kath Wilkinson's Team Slazenger of Dave Craft, John Bullock, Les Moulds and Sebastian Honeyman eight sets to four.

Winning captain Andrew Tree was pleased how well his side adapted to the hot

conditions.

"It was a true team effort. Any win's a good win, especially against 'slugger' Bullock," Tree said.

Losing Team Slazenger captain Wilkinson wasn't too troubled by the result.

"It's only early, don't worry 'slugger' hasn't played his trump card yet," she said.

— JOHN BULLOCK

Thursday 28th January

Friday 29th January

AUSTRALIA DAY FUN

The Bathurst community came together on Tuesday to celebrate Australia Day. Bathurst activities included the official citizenship ceremony, presentation of achievement medallions, a triathlon and free entry to the pool.



WE WERE THERE: Anna Blackie and James Kelly were keeping an eye on proceedings. 012621ctrisoc6



CELEBRATION: Paul, Max and Cathy Bloomfield with Sonia Bayada following the triathlon. Photos: CHRIS SEABROOK 012621ctrisoc10



ALL SMILES: Monique O'Rourke with Dave Prior at the Australia Day triathlon. 012621ctrisoc5



FINISH LINE: Kate Malligan, Jack Reen and Jenelle Starkey after the Australia Day triathlon. 012621ctrisoc14



AUSTRALIA DAY: Cameron Ross, Molly McCloskey and Lachlan Ross (Orange) had a great time at the triathlon. 012621ctrisoc9

Saturday 30th January

A trip down memory lane for former KHS students and teachers

THERE were tears, laughs and plenty of applause as former students and teachers of Kelso High School took a trip down memory lane on Sunday.

The much awaited 3D reconstruction of the old school, destroyed by fire in 2005, was launched at the Bathurst RSL Club.

Former students Dr John Rouse and Nick Drengenberg came up with the concept of a 3D reconstruction last year, and began working with retired Kelso High teacher Hans Stroeve, making the dream a reality.

Former Kelso High student and now staff member Damien Allan was among the crowd at the morning launch and recalled his time at the old school fondly.

Mr Allan said with its three level library, court yards and other facilities Kelso High was literally the best school to go to.

"It really was amazing, the library was phenomenal." Mr Allan said the 3D reconstruction of the school was really impressive and commended everyone involved.

He said Hans Stroeve had



MEMORY LANE: Nick Drengenberg, John Rouse and Hans Stroeve at the 3D Kelso High School launch. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK 013121c3dkhs1

put in a phenomenal effort. "He is a man who has dedicated his life to the school," he said.

Cr Graeme Hanger, who

taught at the school from 1991 to 2016 said he wasn't surprised to see such a big crowd attending the launch.

"If you have an associa-

tion with Kelso High School, it's in your DNA," he said, adding the 3D reconstruction "was fantastic." Nick Drengenberg, one of the former students who came up with the concept, said so many people had really fond memories of the old school, but there weren't a lot of visual memories for people to look back on. The reconstruction can be seen at 3dwalkabout.com.au/kelso.

Monday 1st February

A century stand

CRICKET

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

BATHURST'S under 14s timed their game to perfection on Sunday as they won their Central West Cricket Council clash against Mudjee by 186 runs just as the rain came bucketing down at Morse Park.

The hosts' emphatic victory came on the back of a century stand between Hugh Taylor (71) and Mac Hutchings (62) for the second wicket, which helped propel Bathurst to 9-232 at the end of their 50 overs.

Rain threatened to bring the game to an early end at the change of innings but it stayed away long enough for Bathurst to roll their opponents for just 46 runs in the space of 23 overs.

The undefeated Bathurst side now need just one win from their remaining games against Orange (this Sunday, away) and Dubbo (home, February 14) to lock in a home grand final.

Coach Greg Innes said the team put together a complete performance in testing conditions.

"The rain played a bit of havoc but we got through it alright and played pretty well. We took all our catches, had a couple of runouts and the boys were great in the field," he said.

"Hugh and Mac did a great day with their second wicket partnership of 115 and the rest of the boys chipped in.



HUGE PARTNERSHIP: Hugh Taylor and Mac Hutchings were unstoppable in Sunday's win over Mudjee. **Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK**

"We made it to lunch and not to take Mudjee lightly on 91 for the opening wicket. Hutchings made the most of his jump up the order, impressing in his first appearance at the crease this season.

"They ran well and they batted sensibly," Innes said. "The wicket was popping a little, but it wasn't doing a

clash against Orange to put

bit when we had first use of it. I must admit that a bit of water did get on it during the day, which helped us in the end, because we bowled fairly tight."

Taylor was the best of the bowlers with 3-16.

Blayde Burke took 2-12 while Mark Sheather (1-3),

Charlie Rendall (1-4) and Cooper Stephen (1-5) were ultra-economical.

Meanwhile, the Bathurst under 12s scored a vital win in their clash against Mudjee at Brooke Moore Oval.

The win sees Bathurst draw level in the battle for second spot with Dubbo.

The favourites are bested

TENNIS TALK

WITH regular Team Slazenger captain Kath Wilkin-son out due to the new roster system the captaincy was handed down to Slugger John Bullock to tackle Iron Lady Scumacher's Team Wil-son in what was the highlight match in round two.

Wilkinson gave strict in-structions to slugger that fortune favours the brave.

Well it did, as stand in captain slugger Bullock and his troops of Dave Craft, Bailey Honeyman, Les Moulds and Sebastian Honeyman stormed home to beat the tall poppy side and hot fa-vourites in this years sum-mer competition of Allyson Schumacher, George Collins, Dave Smith, Dan McLeay and Andrew Tree eight sets to four.

No doubt the star players in this match were Slaz-enger's Dave Craft and Bailey Honeyman.

Of the 10 players to take



PERFECT DAY: Bailey Honeyman (pictured) and Dave Craft didn't drop any of their sets on Saturday.

to the court both Craft and Honeyman were the only two players to win all of their four sets, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2, 6-0, respectively.

This was an impressive display of tennis from the pair who know how to match it with the tall poppy players.

Les Moulds turned back the clock winning three sets 6-2, 6-2, 6-4.

Moulds was in good touch with his crafty net skills do- ing the damage for his oppo- nents.

Slugger Bullock and Dave Craft won both their ones and twos sets 6-3, 6-4 over the well fancied pair of Je-orge Collins and Dave Smith. Winning stand in captain Slugger Bullock believes his side may not be a tall poppy side but will give the more fancied sides a run for there money.

"I'm sick and tired of the critics saying we are has-beens. We just proved it today after beating the hot

favourites that we can mix it with the best, the critics have no idea what there talking about," Bullock said.

Losing captain of Team Wilson Iron Lady Allyson Schumacher believes it was just one of those days where everything went wrong.

"We were beaten by a bet-ter side on the day," Schu-macher said.

Club committeeman Graeme Stapleton was amazed how well Slugger Bullocks tactics prevailed in winning this match.

"I don't know how slug-ger does it, he just seems to pull that magic rabbit out of the hat and play his famous trump card to win the big matches," Stapleton said.

- JOHN BULLOCK

Wednesday 3rd February

Thursday 4th February



TOP EFFORT: The Western Region Academy of Sport under 18s graduate girls basketball team that won the Coastal Classic on the weekend. Photo: BATHURST GOLDMINERS FACEBOOK PAGE

Bathurst talents feature in WRAS final win

BASKETBALL
BY BRADLEY JURD

66

They went through undefeated and they really gelled amazingly.

Dan George

"They went through undefeated and they really gelled amazingly," George's father Dan George said.

"They had some fun with it but when it came down to it, the whole squad was just impressive the whole way through. They were dominant and won the final by 50-odd points."

WRAS also sent three other teams: an under 18s graduate men's division team to and

an under 16s men's and women's division two team.

The under 18s team featured the likes of Bathurst Goldminers' Cooper Traves, Zeb Kongormanyi and Clayton Allen (who played up an age), with the team winning two matches and losing two.

The under 16s girls was the only other team to make a grand final, which they lost to Central Coast Rebels, with the squad featuring Goldminers' Piper Kildea and Ruby Griffin. The team won four of its six matches over the weekend.

The under 16s WRAS boys unfortunately lost all four games in a team featuring Will Burton, Kal Traves and Jake White.

Hannah Lepaio and Jess McGrath were the coaches at the tournament, while Bathurst referee Kyle Allen featured at the tournament on the weekend.

Friday 5th February

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reminder of what we all lost at Kelso High

RE: A Trip Down Memory Lane For Former KHS Students And Teachers (February 1).

Huge congratulations and thanks are due to Dr John Rouse, Hans Stroeve and Nick Drenenberg for bringing their 3D virtual reconstruction of the burnt Kelso High School building to fruition.

The virtual walk-through reminds us of what an architecturally significant, totally integrated education building it was, and how aesthetically pleasing it was too.

No congratulations and thanks are due, however, to the NSW Government, its Education Department, and their public-private partnership partners St Hilliers who, in the process of rebuilding the school in 2006, chose to demolish the four home science classrooms and the agriculture laboratory which came through the fire unscathed.

The demolition of these rooms displayed a total lack of awareness of the significance of the building, and a disregard for the heritage that the surviving buildings represented.

In my opinion, their demolition amounted to an act of heritage vandalism.

Had they been left, these surviving rooms could have served as still-useful facilities for the school, and a permanent example of

the rest of the wonderful building that can now only be visited through the brilliant 3D reconstruction.

John Payne, Kelso

Small problem with highway plan

RE: Another Small Step On A long Journey For Highway Users, editorial (January 30).

Yes, small is the operative word.

One tunnel under Blackheath will make a small bit of difference to getting perishables to market faster and people to the big smoke quicker. Small.

However, another tunnel under the next township (Medlow Bath) would improve that time considerably.

That would give us about 25 to 30 minutes of 80 to 100 kilometres per hour motorway, thus avoiding the stop-start ride full of traffic lights, schools, pedestrians and all the other hold-ups.

Why does the mob who build our roads always think small? And plan small? And do small?

RJ Spooner, Hartley

Delving into history's page

RE: Remembering Hill End Woman Bertha's Service On the Other Side Of The

World (August 4).

Annie Bertha Parry was my grandfather's sister.

Like Annie, my grandfather - a doctor, Dr Edward Lloyd Parry - served in World War One in Egypt.

Only as a retired pharmacist have I had the time, and the interest, to investigate their background and involvement in World War One.

Gail van Zeist, Shepparton, Victoria

From Facebook: Decisions need to be made about former TAFE site

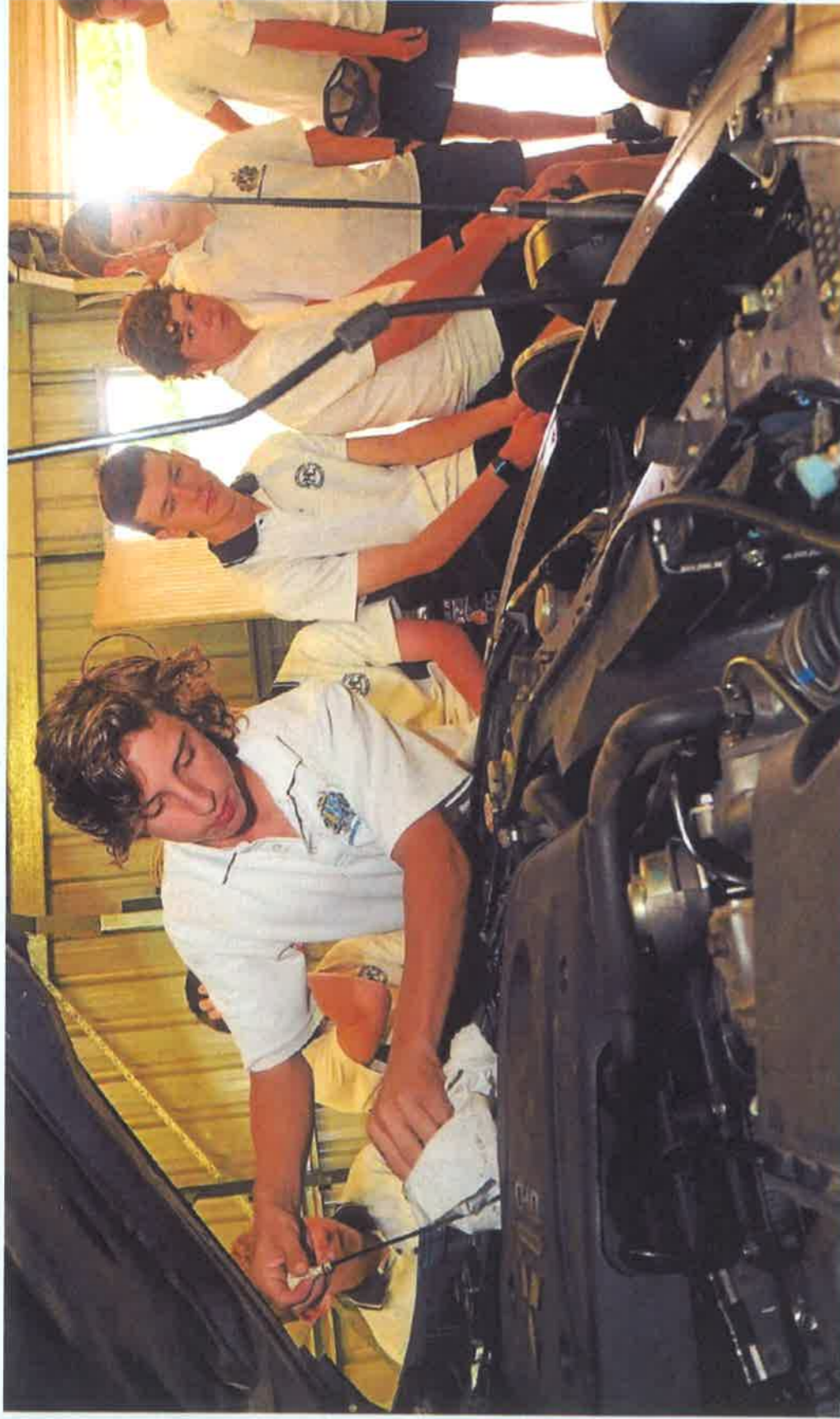
Chontelle Burns: Why can't we use it to store more of the museum items or items brought in, leased from overseas for the museum? Back when the museum was about to open, I was one of a few competition finalists who got to go in there and see all the fossils and minerals they had stored there, ready to take the place of those on display, after they rotated them every so often. Why can't it be renovated even to become an extension of the museum and then we could even have other different exhibits, or just simply display all of the specimens all at once? It would be amazing to have something that wasn't more apartments, or shops.

In a new world of learning

STAGE 5 students at Denison College are among the first in the state to access cross-campus study, opening up the range of elective subjects available to them.

Year 9 and 10 students are now able to choose electives at both Bathurst and Kelso High campuses. Denison College's Kristie Anderson said the students in both years have "hit the ground running."

Full story page 5



CROSS-CAMPUS STUDY: Year 9 automotive student Cohen Cowley checks the oil while his Denison College classmates watch on. **Photo: SAM BOLT**

Saturday 6th February

More subjects for students

EDUCATION

BY JACINTA CARROLL

STAGE 5 students at Denison College are among the first in the state to access cross-campus study, opening up the range of elective subjects available to them.

Year 9 and 10 students are now able to choose electives at both Bathurst High and Kelso High campuses, with

52 students among the first cohort.

Kristie Anderson, Principal Instructional Leader of Denison College of Secondary Education, said very few other schools, if any have been able to offer cross campus lessons to Stage Five students.

"For us to have capabilities to offer such a broad curriculum to Years 9 and 10 stu-

dents is incredibly unique," she said.

Ms Anderson said Bathurst and Kelso High have been sharing courses for many years, with over 250 students in senior school now accessing subjects at both locations.

Given the success of the program, Ms Anderson said the college management team wanted to do more for

other students.

She said in addition to offering students more choice in their elective subjects, cross-campus study also helps them develop life skills which they will use well beyond school.

"They are branching out socially, meeting new people and learning how to adjust to two campuses," she said. She said the uptake in the

first year for Stage 5 was 50 students, which she said was impressive given it is a pioneering group.

She said the students are doing incredibly well.

"They've really hit the ground running," she said.

Michael Feening, Denison College Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning, said it was fantastic the students had access to broader curricu-

lum.

Mr Feening said the cross-campus study gives students the opportunity to choose an elective they wouldn't be able to do on their home campus.

He said the cross campus study option was a great opportunity for students in Year 9 and 10 at Denison College.

"They are really engaging in their learning," he said.

Stapleton adds all-round skill to Western

CRICKET

LAST month she was a member of the Western side which ended an eight-year drought at the Country Cricket NSW Girls Under 16s Championships, but now Chloe Stapleton is aiming to help end another wait.

The Kelso High all-rounder has been named in the Western schools team which will compete at the New South Wales CHS Girls Cricket Championships in Bathurst next week.

Western has not won that tournament since 2012, but it is hoped the improve-

ment shown by the squad last year when placing sixth is a sign that better things could come.

Stapleton brings good experience to the side as not only did she find success at the under 16s country titles last month, but she backed up to play at the under 19 championships as well.

She plays junior club cricket for Rugby Union in the under 15s-opens competition, while Stapleton has also so experience playing at the senior level in Bathurst as a member of the Bushrangers' president's cup side.

The Year 10 student also lined up in Western's team at last year's NSW CHS Championships.

"Chloe, she was in the Western side last year, she's in the Kelso High School girls team and she does a lot of cricket outside of school also," championship manager and Kelso High teacher David Amaral said.

"She's a good batter and a good bowler.

"Last year Sydney North won it and Western came in sixth place, so middle of the table. I'm not sure what their expectation is this year, but

last time Western won it was in 2012, so fingers crossed we can do well this year."

Western, which has claimed the CHS honours 12 times since 1977, will have the advantage of playing on familiar wickets as Bathurst hosts the tournament for the second consecutive year. It's something no other city has done over the past 44 years.

It means Bathurst could be playing host to a future state or Australian star given the likes of Lisa Griffith, Alex and Kate Blackwell, Belinda Clarke, Nicola Carey and Ash Gardner have played at pre-

vious CHS championships. "It's coming to Bathurst for the second time in two years, but normally doesn't come back but because of COVID they decided to have it in Bathurst again," Amaral said.

"It's going to be quality cricketers, a quality carnival and some of the girls from across all these regions are contracted to the Sydney Sixers and Sydney Thunder.

"There's a lot of potential that could come out of this carnival and there are a lot of pathways for players to go to."

Western is one of 10 teams

who will compete at the carnival. They will play a pair of Twenty20 matches on both Monday and Tuesday, followed by a 50-over fixture on Wednesday.

Results from those games will determine which teams will play for the title on Thursday and who will contest classification matches. They will be 50-over format.

Western begins its campaign 9.30am Monday at the Sportsground against Sydney East before meeting Riverina at the same venue from 1.20pm.

— ANYA WHITELAW

Saturday 13th February

Saints down CYMS in the nines finale

Pat's strike back

LEAGUE TAG

BY ANYA WHITELAW

WHEN St Pat's belted out 'Oh when the Saints go marching in' at Jack Arrow Oval on Saturday afternoon, it was not only the fact that they had won the inaugural Bathurst Nines league tag crown which put passion into the song.

It was because the team they beat 4-0 in that decider - Dubbo CYMS - was the outfit which had ended the Saints' remarkable winning streak 17 months earlier.

Pat's had won every game - pre-season, regular season and post-season - in brilliant run from 2017 until Dubbo CYMS beat them 24-10 in the 2019 Western Premiers Challenge.

It was a defeat the Saints remembered and were happy to avenge.

"They got us in the Premiers Challenge so it was good, I think they had a few out, but it was still good to win," Pat's coach Mick Armstrong said.

"We only had one training run before that, so we're lucky we have a good squad. We were missing a couple of players, but the girls we did have came here and put it together on the day."

The Saints went undefeated through their three pool games then beat Bathurst Panthers 14-0 in the semi-final to go into the decider as the favourites.

But Dubbo CYMS, who



GUN: Pat's fullback Erin Naden was named the league tag Bathurst Nines player of the tournament. **Photo:** CHRIS SEABROOK

had earlier lost 8-0 to Pat's and needed a buzzer-beater to down Mudgee in their semi-final, fought hard in the finale.

It took a Sarah Watterson try with 1:28 left on the clock - an effort which came after earlier copping a knee to the face when diving on a loose ball - to decide the contest.

"I always thought we had them defensively, I didn't think they were going to score and I just knew that the Saints had chances go begging before Watterson finally sealed the deal.

In the third minute Paige Hay threw a pass over the heads of CYMS' right edge defenders into the arms of Morrison, who then ran away to score under the sticks. It was only then it was ruled the pass had travelled forward.

Hay again showed attacking spark just before half-time when slicing through CYMS' defence, but her

60-metre run was halted with a brilliant diving tag from Nic Grose.

Another desperate diving tag - this time from Finnara Tyson - denied Danielle Fisher as the clock ticked down in the second half. But when CYMS made an error just out from their line in the dying minutes, Watterson pounced to nab the match-winner.

Though coming up short, CYMS were still happy with their efforts at the tournament.

"It was a very tight one. I think it was a good hit-out for the girls, you know there were nerves towards the end, but in games like that the girls stand up and really push each other," Kaitlyn Mason said.

"We had a few girls who had to work, so we chucked a few girls in there from juniors and a few from Macquarie, so it was really good."

Women leading the charge

TENNIS TALK

WHEN it comes down to tennis at the biggest little club in the west in previous competitions everything seems to be based around the men to bring home the bacon to win that coveted grand final trophy.

Well that is certainly not the case, as the majority of grand final winning sides have had women in the side.

This year's 2021 summer competition is no exception as four women out of 28 players in this year's competition hold that vital key to steering their respective sides to take that golden grand final trophy.

There is only one side out of the five sides in this year's summer competition that does not have a lady-player in their side, so you can count them out of the running to win the big one.

These four ladies are a real force in this competition. Let's have a look at their

form and how they will be a dominant force in this competition:

Allyson Schumacher

The number one ladies player in this competition who can wear you down with her blistering forehand and uncanny net play doing the damage.

Schumacher is not called the Iron lady for nothing, Allyson is as tough as nails and rallies behind her players to lift them over the line to win the big matches.

The Iron Lady is a huge threat to upset the big gun players in this competition.

Kath Wilkinson

A real goer who gives 110 per cent on the tennis court. Wilkinson upsets her opponents with her consistent style of play. If given room to move on the court Wilkinson will strike like a rattlesnake. If the chips are down Wilkinson will always dig deep to ensure that a win is not out of reach. A danger player who will win more than lose



KEY PLAYER: Stacey Markwick has played in many grand finals and has the game to unsettle the big gun players in the competition. **Photo:** FILE

matches in this competition.

Stacy Markwick

This lady is no stranger to pressure tennis. Markwick has played in many grand finals and has the game to unsettle the big gun players. The tactics displayed on the court by Markwick can be impressive if her opponents show lack of commitment. A big danger player that will

not be intimidated.

Maddie Honeyman

One of the Eglinton's most promising young guns to come out of head coach Rod Schumacher's Eglinton Tennis Academy. Honeyman has good court craft skills and hits the ball with plenty of purpose. This young gun is not to be underestimated.

— JOHN BULLOCK

Thursday 11th February

Monday 15th February



ACADEMIC SUCCESS: Craig Peterson, Michael Sloan (Kelso High), Kristie Anderson, Jenny Roberts (CSU) and Ken Barwick (Bathurst High).

Celebrating academic excellence

EDUCATION

DENISON College started the school year on a high, celebrating the academic prowess of its top students.

Every year, the college hosts its annual awards evening, acknowledging the achievements of elite students.

Kristie Anderson, Principal Instructional Leader at Denison College, said the evening, held at Charles Sturt University, was a very prestigious event where the Denison College community take a moment to reflect on the achievements of the college's "extraordinary

young people."

Ms Anderson said she was proud to see the students celebrate their intelligence, hard work and tenacity.

"I know from experience that young people with grit and desire are truly the most extraordinary people on the planet. But I know

that achievement, skill and ambition are something that gets awoken in us and the fire needs to be kept fuelled," she said.

Principal of Kelso High, Michael Sloan, said the evening was an uplifting way to start off the school year, and a chance to recognise the

phenomenal talents of students attending the college. Ken Barwick, principal of Bathurst High School, agreed saying it was fantastic to recognise the hard work of students in what was a particularly difficult year. "These students are the best of the best," he said.

Watterson's double helps Pat's succeed

LEAGUE TAG

BY ANYA WHITELAW

SHE scored St Pat's last try of 2020 before COVID-19 shut down play and on Saturday morning as the blue and whites finally returned to action, Sarah Watterson again got her name on the scoresheet.

Prior to Saturday's Bathurst Nines tournament at Jack Arrow Oval, St Pat's had not played a game since the Western League Tag Challenge in March last year.

They made the decider of that tournament where they went down 8-4 to West Belconnen, Watterson scoring the Saints' only try.

Though there have been some personnel changes at St Pat's since then - Oberon sisters Shannon and Danielle Fisher amongst the new faces - the core remains the same.

It was that experienced core who helped the Saints begin their Bathurst Nines campaign with a 20-0 win over Bathurst Panthers, with Watterson bagging a double.

Bronte Emanuel scored the first try after 90 seconds and when Watterson broke away down the right wing five minutes in, the Saints pushed out to an 8-0 lead.

A Meredith Jones special two minutes later - she shimmied through Panthers' defence on the halfway line and ran away to score between the sticks - followed by a Darcie Morrison conversion, made it 14-0 at the break.

Morrison came close to picking up a try in the opening stages of the second half when she grubbered close to the line then dived on the ball, but she was ruled to have been tagged in the process.

But moments later when Emily Rhynehart spotted an overlap on the right and kicked to exploit the space, Watterson caught the ball and went over for her second. That made it 20-0.

While the Saints were certainly class, their young Panthers rivals did not lack effort.

Experienced halfback Jess Hotham steered the side around well, Jacinta Windsor produced some nice defensive tags and Madison Marmion - who starred for the under 18 Panorama Platypi last season - showed good spark in attack.

Wednesday 10th February

Monday 15 February

Saints coaches prepare for new season

Back in business

RUGBY LEAGUE
BY ALEXANDER GRANT

ST PAT'S will have an almost unchanged lineup across their coaching staff for their 2021 Group 10 competitions - hoping consistency in leadership pays off.

The sole change comes in the boys under 18s role where Darren Small steps up after coaching the 2020 under 16s side, while Zac Merritt (premier league), Tyson Medlyn (first division), Mick Armstrong (senior league tag) and Meredith Jones (under 18s league tag) all return to their same positions.

All grades have been busy getting into the swing of pre-season, especially the two men's senior sides who have several events to target across the next month and a half.

"It's exciting. We've been getting good numbers to training, with a good mix of the younger and older fellas. Everyone's loving throwing the footy around again," Merritt said.

"I think the first few weeks back felt weird, after losing last season with COVID, but we've been back into the swing of things after Australia Day and the feeling is starting to come back that footy's just around the corner.

"We have the nines this weekend, and we're taking a strong squad into that, and then the Bathurst Knockout which we'll be targeting as well.



KEEN TO START: Meredith Jones, Mick Armstrong, Tyson Medlyn, Zac Merritt, Gary Goldsmith and Darren Small. **Photo:** ALEXANDER GRANT

"Following that we also have the Forbes trial. We're keeping it nice and simple as we build into the season."

Merritt said it's great to see last year's coaching staff remain almost identical to the 2020 collective.

"We have the exact same lineup as last year except in the 18s where Daz is taking over. We're happy to keep things the same as we build into the season and everyone knows what our expectations

are as a club," he said.

"We had a massive pre-season at the start of last year before COVID happened but our 18s had a great year. They just missed out on the final of the Western Youth League. We'll all hopefully be there or thereabouts this year."

Small takes the place of the 2019 premiers-ship-winning coach Kev Grimshaw.

The under 18s were one of the lucky sides who still got to enjoy a taste of rugby

league action in last year's COVID-affected season, producing a big winning run through the Western Youth League before having their campaign stopped by Dubbo CYMS.

The new Saints mentor will still be working with many players he's had plenty of experience with in under 16s, but he's keen to see what they can bring to the table in a new age group.

"It's big shoes to fill with

the coaching this team has had in the past. We have a good young squad and we should hopefully go alright," Small said.

"A lot of the senior group went on to reserve grade and first grade from last year's team. We'll see what we've got for this year but at this stage it looks like we're still going to have a good squad.

"At the moment we're still seeing who's who, where everyone wants to play and

where we can fit people in. We've had a couple of guys come across from rugby."

"Some of the younger guys from 18s last year are back again and we've had a lot of our 16s step up as well."

St Pat's have put the call out to any juniors interested in playing under 18s to take part in Tuesday and Thursday training sessions at 6.30pm at Jack Arrow Sporting Complex during the pre-season.

Mammoth winning margin

SWIMMING
BY ALEXANDER GRANT

BATHURST Swim Club head coach Josh Stapley had high expectations from his team at the weekend's Mountains And Plains Swimming Carnival but what his squad achieved... Well, it blew him out of the water.

His team not only claimed the Mountains And Plains champion club honours at Lithgow, but did so with a winning margin unlike any seen before in recent times.

The 2,000 point margin between Bathurst and the other clubs came with some big exclamation points, including eight age champion awards, a stack of personal best times and several new regional records.

Stapley said the weekend was a shining moment for the club and will be a great meeting to look back on in the future.

"I think it's the biggest margin any club has won at MPS. We went back a few years and couldn't find any margin like that. Yes, we took a big team of 55 swimmers there, but at the end of the day they've still got to back that up with their performances in the water," he said.

"Our guys certainly had to bring it in the pool with some results and they didn't disappoint. That showed in the amount of age champions we had at the end of the day."

Bathurst's list of age champions was made up of Lyn-dall Pechers (8s girls), Tom Hamer (9s boys), Nate Bren-



SUPREME: Bathurst Swim Club were outstanding at the Mountains and Plains Championships over the weekend, taking out the champion club crown by a comfortable margin. **Photo:** CONTRIBUTED

as well.

"We ended up finding a PB roughly every one in two races ... and claimed four records across the weekend."

Those record swims went to Jack Mulligan (boys 12s 50 metre backstroke, 34.54).

bests in every event they entered: Hadlie Henson (nine from nine), Madelene Groves (seven), Emily Saint (six) and Ben Roffe (four).

Many club members will now set their sights on the Country Championships this weekend.

Stapley said there should be more memorable performances still to come.

"We're off the NSW Country and lots of our swimmers are lining up their form with where we are in our training bloc, so I think everyone who put in good performances on the weekend have still got a lot more to give," Stapley said.

"It's looking really exciting for us with around 20 of our swimmers off to the championships."

Brooklyn Whalan (girls 10s 100m butterfly, 1:24.44),

Tyler Johnson (boys 15s 100 backstroke, 1:05.99) and Sienna Whalan (girls 14s 50m breaststroke, 37.14).

Several Bathurst swimmers also found personal

The big benefits of sports

LOCAL ECONOMY
BY ANDREW LOTHERINGTON

ELITE sporting competitions being held in Bathurst will once again boost the local economy with businesses set to benefit from the influx of visitors.

While the recent NSW Combined High School's (CHS) Girls Cricket Championships has highlighted the best talent from across the state, with players travelling from all corners of NSW, it has also highlighted the benefits that sporting competitions bring to Bathurst.

With 10 teams competing in the Championships, approximately 120 girls along with family and friends, coaches and support staff have resulted in a flood of visitors to Bathurst, and Championship Co-Manager, David Amaral, said it was great for the city:

"It's fantastic to be able to host the tournament in Bathurst for the second year in a row because local businesses can really benefit," he said.

"The games are held across four days, so for many



ECONOMY BOOST: Western Schools Sports Coordinator Peter Ipkendanz, Championship Manager Graeme Hanger, Test Cricketer Norma Johnston, Championship Manager David Amaral and CHS Cricket Convener Damian Toohey.

families it's almost like a little holiday away, and they all ways go back and tell people how great Bathurst and the region is.

"The motels and accommodation, the restaurants

and cafes, the stores and sporting facilities," he said. "You are roughly talking about \$140 per person, per overnight stay, so for this tournament alone you are looking in the vicinity of \$125,000 being spent

of \$125,000 being spent

in town." Local businesses will benefit further with the Bathurst Cup set to be held at Proctor Park this weekend.

79 teams are expected for the annual boys soccer carnival, while on March 6 and 7 approximately 73 girls teams will visit Bathurst to compete in the Proctor Park Challenge.

Bathurst District Football Secretary and treasurer Grant Foster said the competition provides an excellent opportunity for local teams to compete against some of the best from across the state.

"The competitions bring the highest level of football to Bathurst," he said.

"Bathurst now has a strong reputation for excellence in hosting these kinds of carnivals and the Proctor Park Complex is recognised as excellent and one of the best in the state."

The soccer carnivals are expected to bring 10,000 visitors to Bathurst across the two weekends, providing a potential \$2 million boost to the local economy which is still recovering from the COVID pandemic.



TALENT: WRAS netballers Samantha Hanrahan, Sarah Dickerson, Bronte Cullen-Ward, Taliyaha Chatfield, Hope Coombes, Abigail Williams.

Friday 19th February

Thursday 18th February

A Diamond experiential for Bathurst netballers

NETBALL

LEARNING from a coach who helped the Australian Diamonds - it was an opportunity that seven of Bathurst's most talented young netballers embraced this week.

on what she has already achieved, including being named the WRAS netballer of the month last July.

After being sidelined for much of last season due to COVID-19 restrictions, the session at Wellington

of Sport Speed Australia running the squad through some speed and agility lessons as well.

But on Wednesday it got even better in a training session at Wellington. It

represent the WRAS at the 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games at Maitland Basketball Stadium and later in the year will travel to Orange for the Greater Bank Academy Challenge.

Taliyaha Chatfield, Hope Coombes, Abigail Williams, Bronte Cullen-Ward, Sarah Dickerson, Samantha Hanrahan, Taliyaha Chatfield, Hope Coombes, Abigail Williams.



FULL CIRCLE: Kristie Anderson is back in Bathurst, as Principal Instructional Leader, of Denison College.

Saturday 20th February

BACKWHERE IT ALL STARTED

Kristie Anderson is Denison College's new Principal Instructional Leader, and she's delighted to be back in the city where her own journey in education began.

BY JACINTA CARROLL

KRISTIE Anderson has undeniable links to education in Bathurst, so it's no surprise she has returned to where it all began to take up her new role as Principal Instructional Leader of Denison College.

Kristie attended Bathurst High, and returned again for her first job after graduating from Charles Sturt University at the end of 2004.

She worked at the school for seven years before taking a job at Orange High, where she remained for 10 years.

In that time she has been Head of English, Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning and Curriculum Advisor to name just a few of her roles, but said her new position is the most exciting yet, especially as Denison College is the first school in the state to have

a Principal Instructional Leader.

Ms Anderson said the role is about striving for excellence within the college, through best practice.

She will be working shoulder to shoulder with Ken Barwick (from Bathurst High) and Michael Sloan (Kelso High).

Ms Anderson said she counted herself "very lucky to be feeling that wonderful emotion of 'coming home'."

She spoke of her own educational experience at the High Achievers evening for Denison College held earlier this month.

"I was a student at Eglinton Public School during the 80s, and a Bathurst High girl for the 90s with lots of Kelso High friends.

Since then I have worked in pubs, clubs, cafes, restaurants, hardware stores and service station.

"I didn't answer my calling until a little bit later and then earned a double degree here



It is also a feeling of great responsibility and I have a legacy to think about, as I see myself in our students.

Kristie Anderson

at Bathurst CSU in early 2000s," she said.

She said she absolutely adores being a high school teacher, and coming back full circle.

"It is a complex and overwhelming lovely feeling to walk with so many memories through my working days.

"It is also a feeling of great responsibility

and I have a legacy to think about, as I see myself in our students," she said.

She said working with teenagers is an amazing job, describing her charges as an outstanding group of kids.

"Teenagers are complex, simple, wonderful people, and a joy, most of the time," she said.

She is equally excited about working with principals Ken Barwick and Michael Sloan, who bring with them many years of experience as educators.

"I am so lucky to have a senior executive with such highly experienced staff."

"And they have really taken me under their wing," she said.

Splitting her time between both campuses, Ms Anderson said while new to the role, she has spent time at both Kelso and Bathurst High campuses and is impressed with what she has seen.

"There is an incredible level of unity across the college. What has also struck me is the level of care for the students.

"They (the staff) are really willing to listen, and engage in the important conversations.

"It's kids first," she said.

Excitement's growing for a new season of basketball

BASKETBALL

IN 2020 we only got one round of Western Junior League basketball underway before COVID-19 shutdowns brought the competition to a standstill, never to resume.

This weekend sees the next edition get underway and - fingers crossed - the Bathurst Goldminers will enjoy a full three rounds of action and a complete finals series.

The excitement levels are that extra bit higher than normal across the Goldminers teams this year.

As restrictions took away opportunities for them to travel and play basketball in 2020 there's even more determination than usual for the Bathurst club to come out of the blocks firing in a new season.

The opening round of the under 12s to 18s competition will see the Goldminers teams doing some travelling south as they journey to stadiums in Leeton, Narrandera, West Wyalong and Griffith.

Bathurst Goldminers D-League representative Roxy George is part of the under 16s squad this season.

The city's had a strong history in the 18s and 16s age groups in recent years and George will hope that can continue.

"A lot of our team moved up from last year but most of our side are top age with a few bottom age players," she said.

"Everyone's really excited to get back on the court for it. Training's been going well. We've been running through our plays, doing a lot of fitness and working on our skills.

"We'll have four games there. We've played against those teams before and we know how a lot of them play."

George's father, Dan, said it's a big relief for all the kids involved to have competitive basketball back on their radars.

"We only had that one round last year before it all went downhill. It's great for the kids to have an avenue to test themselves out again," he said.

"The Western Junior League is a great concept too. The third round will be at the end of March, so it's fairly compacted, but it will be exciting headed away to the Riverina with all the squads this weekend."

Bathurst has a team involved in every age group once again this season, showcasing the city's depth across the junior talent pool.

Games get underway at the various venues from 8am on Saturday.

- ALEXANDER GRANT

Western finishes their tournament with win



STRONG CONCLUSION: Western ended their campaign on a high note with wins in both their 40 over matches. Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT

CRICKET

BY ALEXANDER GRANT

IT WAS a rough ride through the Twenty20 games for Western during the NSW CHS Girls Cricket Championships this week at Bathurst but the hosts came out determined to end things on their terms.

Western unleashed their shackles across their 40 over matches on Wednesday and Thursday, winning their clashes with North Coast and North West.

At Brooke Moore Oval on Wednesday Western made their way to 4-217 before they bowled out North Coast for 153, then the next day at George Park 2 they put on

173 against North West and stopped their opponents on 113.

The wins were brilliant bounce back performances from Western after they suffered a tough draw across their four Twenty20 losses earlier in the week.

Western got off to a promising start in Thursday's closing game when opener Maddy Spence scored 40.

Caitlin Keen (18) made a quick contribution before Dolbel got her innings rolling with three straight boundaries.

That set her tone for her big day with the bat, eventually making her way to an unbeaten 50, and put together an unbroken 61-run partner-

ship with Montana Griffith (24) for the seventh wicket.

North West opener Claire McGuirk was unstoppable but Western had no trouble taking down the rest of their order.

Deni Baker (12) put on a 52-run stand alongside McGuirk but the former's dismissal would spell the beginning of the end for North West.

McGuirk was eventually dismissed for 78 runs when judged LBW from a Marites Woods.

North West would only put on four more runs for the remaining three wickets, losing their last six wickets for 10 runs.

Caitlin Keen claimed 2-11

from her six overs and Amelia Orth finished on 2-6 from her three overs.

Alex Morley cleaned up the tail with 2-1.

Western coach Rachel McCann said the team can be proud of the way they applied the lessons they'd learned from their defeats.

"The girls were unlucky with the tough draw and were unlucky on the first day with that close loss they had, so it was nice for them to put some things into action and see them come off," she said.

"Taking those two key wickets today [of McGuirk and Baker] were essential to stopping the momentum they were building. Otherwise it could have easily gone

North West's way.

"Our tail wagged well with Ellen Dolbel getting her 50, and those contributions at the end helped to tip the scales our way."

McCann also said it was a great way for the team's graduating players to round out their time with Western.

"Katie Letcher, our captain and wicket keeper, had her last year and we'll also miss the amazing fielding of Tes Woods, from Parkes," she said.

"Caitlin Keen, who has opened our bowling for some time, will also be leaving. There's a lot of great girls coming through in years nine, 10 and 11 to help fill those spots."

Saturday
20th February



FAMILY OUTING: Brandon, Michelle, Kaitlin and Cassandra Kilby. Photos: PHIL BLATCH



STALL: Cath Bush and Belinda Head.



BRIGHT FUTURE: Craig Petersen, President of the NSW Secondary Principals Council, said curriculum changes were a step in the right direction.

Curriculum changes seen as a positive step

EDUCATION

THERE are growing concerns about changes to the current NSW secondary schools curriculum.

Education groups including Gifted NSW are worried that the changes will disadvantage accelerated students.

The proposed changes have been recommended following the NSW Education Standards Authority's (NESA) review into the NSW curriculum and has three key aims including streamlining the HSC, focusing on key content, and untimed syllabuses.

Craig Petersen, President of the NSW Secondary Principals Council, said that while concerns had been raised, the changes were a step in the right direction for students education.

"There has been a degree of dissatisfaction with the current curriculum meeting the needs of students," he said.

"It really hasn't changed for almost 30 years and the challenge is making sure the changes meet the needs of students now and into the future.

"Recommendations will allow for a diverse range

of students, increasing opportunities for VET courses and being more inclusive for those with disabilities and students who may need mental health support."

While the curriculum changes are aimed at allowing teachers more freedom to teach students individually at a pace that suits their rate of learning, Gifted NSW President Melinda Gindy, said while the changes were well overdue, she was concerned the changes would have a negative effect on gifted students.

"All students have a right to relevant education based

on their readiness to learn," she said.

"What is not clear is how the changes will engage gifted and high potential students in rigorous and relevant content at the depth, complexity and pace they deserve.

"Decisions made now are fundamental to the issues of equity and excellence for all students, not just students who are falling behind."

Mr Petersen said he understood the concerns but that the proposed changes were aimed at ensuring each child remained interested in learning, progressed at a lev-

el that was reflective of their knowledge, and encouraged all students to improve.

"The curriculum is quite cluttered with a lot for teachers and students to get through, so it is about enabling easier and more efficient learning," he said.

"The new curriculum will look at core skills and learnings, highlight those and work less essential concepts around those, allowing everyone to learn at a more individual pace."

Other changes to the curriculum include streamlining the HSC and increasing the recognition of VET courses.

Bowlers have field day as Bathurst wins final



WINNING A FIELD DAY: Bathurst's under 14s came out on top over Orange in a grand final dominated by the bowlers. Photo: CONTRIBUTED

CRICKET

ALEXANDER GRANT

NA bowling-friendly Morse park wicket it was always going to take something special to stop Bathurst's under 14s back in their Central West Cricket Council grand final. And once Bathurst found their momentum in the world Orange didn't stand a chance.

Bathurst took out the decider by 66 runs, hitting a hard earned 8-125 on a deteriorating wicket before rolling Orange for 59 in the 29th over to complete a near-perfect season's play.

Orange had scored an upset win over Bathurst in their

had learned their lessons from that slip up, especially in the field.

Bathurst claimed every catch that came their way in Orange's innings and their bowlers were on fire from the opening overs.

The wickets were shared around through Cooper Stephen (2-4), Rupert Begg (2-6), Mark Sheather (2-7) and Charlie Rendall (2-7).

Murray Staines (1-1) and Mac Hutchings (1-9) claimed the other dismissals.

Hugh Taylor (32) and Connor Brown's (27) opening stand would also prove vital for Bathurst.

Winning coach Greg Innes said his side certainly saved

the most important day of the season.

"People were saying to me that the earlier loss to Orange might not have been the worst thing. I don't like losing any games but it might have been a necessary wake up call for them," he said.

"I think they were confident without being overconfident. I said to them if they played to the best of their ability, which they did. The batting might not have been all there but I put that down to the wicket a bit."

If there was ever a toss to win this season it was during the grand final and Innes said that was one big step towards victory.

under prepared. It had been prepared for the girls CHS Championships but there hadn't been much done since then," he said.

"We won the toss and we were always going to bat, because I believe getting runs on the board is the best thing you can do in a grand final.

"Hughie and Connor put on 59 but then we fell away, losing three wickets in one over, but Ruben Newton hit 30 and Mark Sheather got 16. We got to 125, which I thought was worth somewhere around 180 on that wicket."

Bathurst put on 53 runs over their last three wickets to put the pressure on Orange's batsmen

Only one Orange player, Hayden Griffith (20), would finish in double figures.

Bathurst cleaned up Orange's last four wickets at the cost of only two runs.

"The wicket was only getting worse towards the end of our innings, which made me happy, and our guys came out fired up and bowling sensationally," Innes said.

"We had them 5-26 at drinks and from there it was a matter of keeping the foot on the throat, which they did for the first time this year.

"There were six catches given and six taken, which was fantastic. Orange were never going to get those runs as long as they didn't let them go."

Tree's troops are just tops

TENNIS TALK

WHEN they talked about tree tops at the Eglinton Tennis Club on Saturday they weren't talking about foliage.

Captain Andrew Tree and his troops of George Collins, Brook Lynch, Stacey Markwick and David Bant were tops when they showed true grit in winning their summer competition clash seven sets to five over Brian Dwyer's outfit of Matt Tree, Garth Hindmarch, Caitlin Spears and Judy Smith.

Captain Tree believes he has the side to go all the way to win the grand final.

"My side are a committed side full of passion which the other sides don't have. Watch out you tall poppy sides we're coming to get you," Tree said.

Dwyer was gracious in defeat but wasn't too concerned. He believes his side was a little unlucky and will bounce back.

"The match could have gone either way but as they



SUCCESS: Captain Andrew Tree was in good touch in the latest round of Eglinton's summer competition.

say in tennis, you can only play as well as your opponent lets you play," he said.

The star players in this match were no doubt Lynch and Andrew Tree. They were the only two players to win all of their four sets.

Lynch in particular was very impressive, turning back the clock to win his sets in brilliant fashion 6-4, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0. With the finals looming, he will be a force to be reckoned with.

Tree was in hot form, winning his sets 6-3, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5 as he showed he could lead his side to glory.

Collins was also running hot, winning three of his sets 6-4, 6-3, 6-0. His cannonball serve and powerful forehand was damaging.

The second match saw John 'slugger' Bullock's side of Dave Craft, Bailey Honeyman, Les Moulds and Kath Wilkinson win a thriller over Jason Honeyman's side of Bryan Reiri, Russell Welsh

eyman was not a happy chap after the match.

"In tennis you have good days and bad days, and today just wasn't our day. Again, 'slugger' Bullock played his trump card to perfection to bury us," he said.

Well folks that's another champagne round of tennis done. Good hitting.

- JOHN BULLOCK

and Peter Deacon eight sets to four, 58 games to 55, but with the handicap difference, Bullock's side won by one game.

Bullock felt that his side played the better, smarter tennis with less unforced errors than their opponents. "A truly gutsy performance from my side," Bullock said.

Losing captain Jason Hon-

Whalan to take on best

Bathurst Swim Club member
Sienna Whalan qualifies for junior nationals

BY
ALEXANDER GRANT

Bathurst Swim Club will
receive representation in the
spotlight thanks to
Whalan's outstand-
ing 100m breaststroke
performance at the NSW Country
Championships at Sydney
Park Aquatic Centre
this weekend.

Sienna, 14, battled hard
throughout the heat for a bronze
medal in the 14 years girls
breaststroke final but
eventually swam a
time of 1:18.40, putting her
in the 1:18.80 qualifying
time necessary to reach
the nationals.

Whalan's breaststroke star led
the Bathurst in their
first NSW Country
Championships perfor-

Sienna came away with
one gold, six silver, six
bronze in the 7 finals appear-



AMAZING: Sienna Whalan, pictured with her bronze medal from the NSW Country Championships, has qualified for the 100m breaststroke at junior nationals.

ances and 42 personal bests
in a showcase of how far
the club has come over the
past season.

Stapley said Whalan's
qualifying performance
is a huge moment in the
club's history.

"It's been a long road. We
came so close to getting to
nationals before COVID shut
us down and I guarantee we

would have achieved that
qualifying time if not for the
lockdown," he said.

"Then the times obviously
get faster as you age up so
we have to begin the chase
all over again. Sienna's been
agonisingly close on two
separate occasions, coming
within .3 of a second over the
last two months."

| To Page 22

T. Hursley 25th February

Golden times at Sydney for club

SWIMMING

FROM back page

Jack Mulligan claimed
two of the team's gold
medals, winning the men's
10-12 200m and 400m free-
style finals.

The other gold medal went
the way of Brooklyn Whalan,
who won the women's 10
100m butterfly final.

Stapley said the highlights
started to take place from the
earliest stages of the meeting.

"It was a really successful
weekend, our most success-
ful Country Champs that
we've ever had. It was in the
first race of the day we man-
aged to achieve a place in the
finals and that really set the
tone for the rest of the meet-
ing," he said.

"After Sienna got her
national qualifying time
things just started to roll on
from there. We ended up
with three golds, six silvers,
six bronze, 17 top fives,
27 top tens and 42 PBs for
the weekend.

"One of the big stars in that
regard was Jack Mulligan,
who medalled in a great deal
of his events, with two of the
gold medals going to him,
and he almost PB'd in every
single race he went in.

"We had an exciting
moment on day one with
two medley relay teams in
the same event for the first
time ever.

"Our 'A' team took our
first medal in that event and
backed it up with another
medal in the freestyle relay
the following day."

Mulligan, Oliver Hamer,
Kosema Finau and Brodie
Cashman earned bronze
in the freestyle relay while
Mulligan, Cashman, Finau
and Logan Johnson won the
medley relay silver.

- ALEXANDER GRANT

Our under 15 stars to play home nationals



STATE REPS: The Bathurst Hockey Association has representatives in both under 15s and under 18s NSW teams. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

HOCKEY

BY ANYA WHITELAW

BATHURST has hosted many
big hockey events on the
fields of the Cooke Hockey
Complex over the years, but
come this April the venue
will stage a national champi-
onships for the first time.

Under 15 teams from
across the country will con-
verge on Bathurst for the
April 9-15 event and even
better is the ranks of the New
South Wales representatives
include those who call the
Cooke Hockey Complex
home turf.

Lily Kable has been select-
ed in the NSW girls number
one side, while in the NSW
Blues' outfit are Tayla Grab-

ham, Macey Fulton and
Maggie Thompson.

The Bestwick family are
in for big weekend with
Ollie - who plays his club
hockey for the North West
Sydney Association - in the
NSW boys number one side,
Kent the assistant coach of
the NSW girls number one
team and Melissa the tour-
nament manager.

Kent Bestwick, who is also
president of the Bathurst
Hockey Association, is deli-
ghted to see the city both
host a national event and be
represented so strongly.

"It's massive, it's the first
time it's ever happened out
this way. We've never had
a nationals out this way,"
he said.

"To have it in your home
town and be part of it as well
as being president of the
association has been real-
ly good.

"To have this many kids
representing their home
town at nationals is great.

"You can't buy this stuff
and I'm happy for all the kids,
I don't think they realise how
big it is at the moment. They
won't realise it I think until
all the teams get here for it."

At the same time the under
15s are playing at the Cooke
Hockey Complex, the NSW
under 18s representative
side will be in Launceston
(April 8-16) and Bathurst has
representation there too.

Fletcher Norris is in the
NSW Blues boys under 18s

team and Millie Fulton the
NSW Blues girls side.

Having seven Bathurst
players across those state
squad is again something
Bestwick is proud of.

"The girls are really strong
at the moment and to have
two boys get in state teams
- I think we had five or six
go down to the trials - that's
pretty good too," he said.

"Our retention rate is
pretty poor with with hockey
with all the other sports that
are on - we lose players left,
right and centre - so it's good
to see that all these girls play
league tag and touch footy
and that, but they still love
their hockey and still play."

As for whether or not any
of Bathurst's under 15 play-

ers will be crowned a nation-
al champion on their home
turf, Bestwick is not sure.

Given state and national
titles were cancelled in 2020
due to COVID-19, it is hard to
gauge which teams deserve
favouritism.

"This is probably a sec-
ond-year build for all the
states. I was involved three
years ago at Narellan and
they were all top age, but we
didn't have it last year so a lot
of kids might have fallen out
of the pathway," he said.

"But the standard still
should be good. There's only
one team that's not coming,
that's the Northern Territory
boys' team. But everyone
else is coming so it should be
really interesting."

Schumacher's side soaring

TENNIS TALK

IT WAS a day to remember for captain Iron Lady Allyson Schumacher as she steered her side of George Collins, Dave Smith, Dan McLeay and Andrew Howarth to a brilliant victory over Russell Welsh's side of Rod Schumacher, Jason Honeyman, Toko Tari and Peter Deacon, eight sets to four.

On what was a perfect day for tennis, the Iron Lady and her troops looked impressive, playing some very exciting tennis and sent out a sound warning to the tall poppy sides that they will not be intimidated and that they can go all the way to take that coveted grand final crown.

The star players in this match were no doubt Iron Lady Allyson Schumacher and Dave Smith. Schumacher won all of her four sets 6-3, 6-3, 7-5, 6-0 in stylish fashion. Smith too was in brilliant form and turned back the clock winning his

four sets 7-5, 6-0, 6-2, 6-1.

Eglinton's young gun and nationally ranked player George Collins hit the ball with plenty of purpose, leaving his opponents in all sorts of strife, winning his three sets 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.

Captain Schumacher was pleased with how well her side adapted to her opponents' on court crafty tactics.

"It was a truly inspiring victory from my side who always believe that fortune favours the brave, and it did in this match," Schumacher said.

Losing captain Russell Welsh had only one word to say: "outclassed".

The second match saw Andrew Tree's troops of Jason Honeyman, Stewart Palmer, Stacey Markwick and David Bant win over Kath Wilkin-son's side of Slugger John Bullock, Garth Hindmarch, Bailey Honeyman, Les Moulds and Sebastian Honeyman seven sets to five.



WON THREE SETS: George Collins was once again on fire during Saturday's Eglinton Tennis Club action.

This match had no standout player but some entertaining tennis was played.

Winning captain Andrew Tree was happy to take the points.

"It was a good, gutsy win," he said.

Losing stand-in captain Slugger John Bullock was gracious in defeat.

"Beaten by a better side on

the day," he said.

Players are reminded that the annual City versus County cup challenge against the Northbridge Tennis Club will go ahead on March 27. Eglinton will be putting in their strongest line up of players to tackle the city lads in the history of the event, so keep posted for further details.

— JOHN BULLOCK

Thursday 4th March

Acts of comedy mystery

Carillon Junior Theatrical Society [CJTS] performers will convene at Keystone this weekend for three public performances of two comedic murder mysteries. Each performance will be brought to life by groups of junior and high school actors respectively. The event will feature music from Liam Gildea, and provide a fun occasion for the whole family.

| Full story, page 5



DRESSED TO IMPRESS: Carillon Junior Theatrical Society primary school performers on stage at Keystone. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

Thursday 4th March

Murder mystery showcase

ENTERTAINMENT

BY SAM BOLT

A HOST of Bathurst's talented young theatre performers will take the stage at Keystone this weekend as part of Carillon Junior Theatrical Society's [CJTS] murder mystery showcase.

The CJTS performers will bring two thought-provoking murder mysteries to life:

Murder at the Music Hall [performed by junior members] and *The Scramblings at Spriggly Torch* [performed by high school members].

CJTS director Bronwyn Colley said the two performances will provide audiences with intriguing mysteries to mull over.

"Both plays are highly comedic, and are sure to provide plenty of entertainment

value for audiences," Ms Colley said.

"The kids have worked very hard to bring the plays to life, and they will portray a colourful host of rather distinct characters."

The event will feature musical accompaniments from Liam Gildea, who Ms Colley said is a prominent member of CJTS' musical theatre component.

"Liam will be starring in our upcoming production of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* later in the year, so it'll be a great chance to see him in action," Ms Colley said.

Ms Colley said it'll be great to see CJTS members back performing for an audience again after a year of disruption due to COVID restrictions.

"They did one round of

performances near the end of last year but due to COVID rules, they were only able to perform for their parents," she said.

"The kids always love performing at Keystone, and can't wait to invite the public back."

The event will run for three showings this week: Friday and Saturday from 6pm and Sunday from 11am for a mat-

inee performance.

"We encourage audience members to bring their own nibbles, and drinks will be available from the bar," Ms Colley said.

Admission costs \$22 for adults, \$18 for concession/pensioners and \$10 for students under 18. Children under five get in for free.

For more information, visit the CJTS Facebook page.



NEXT STAGE: Jono Limbrick and Roxy George have made the cut for their respective Combined High Schools sides. **Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT**

Bathurst pair book a place in CHS squads

BASKETBALL
BY ALEXANDER GRANT

TWO of Bathurst's brightest junior basketball prospects will get their first taste of Combined High Schools representative action this year as Jono Limbrick and Roxy George earned their places in the squads following recent trials.

Limbrick, 17, qualified for the CHS team for the second year running, though he didn't get the opportunity for match time due to COVID-19 cancellations, and George, 15, will be joining the girls side for the first time.

Limbrick and George, who play in the Western Junior League for the Lithgow Lazers under 18s and Bathurst Goldminers under 16s respectively, succeeded in the trials held alongside the opening round of the WJL in West Wyalong.

The Bathurst duo were the only players from the city who trialled, while the rest of their teams will be made up of players from Lithgow, Orange, Dubbo and West Wyalong.

The NSW CHS Secondary Basketball Boys Championships will be held in Tamworth across April 20 to 22

while the Girls Championships will follow at Maitland from May 4 to 6.

Having made the cut for the previous year's team Limbrick had CHS representation of his list of achievable goals in 2021.

"There were a few familiar faces so I had a general idea of what it would be like. It was a tiring day and a lot of people weren't able to keep on training for the solid six hours," he said.

"We went over fundamentals, because our coach is big on that, so we spent a lot of time on our shooting form. Then we did specific spots

and ran through our plays. I felt pretty confident since I made the team last year.

"After COVID, for me, it was just about getting back into the hang of it with basketball trials and local comps starting up again. I felt like I've improved, and I've done a lot of Zoom sessions with a guy who used to live in Lithgow but now lives in Germany, Darreon Tolliver."

George gained selection in the team automatically as the 10 players who turned up to the trials were all guaranteed a place.

However, George said the CHS team that's come to-

gether boasts a lot of talent.

"We did a lot of drills and fitness training and it was great to play as a team," she said.

"There were only 10 of us at the trials, so it turned pretty much into a training session instead, but it was still tough and everyone in that team is still very experienced. Every in that team is very strong.

George has been keeping a busy schedule lately, having also taken part in state trials for the under 16s team last weekend.

Bathurst hosts part of the second WJL round this weekend.

Five Bathurst athletes go to next stage

ATHLETICS

FIVE Bathurst Little Athletics members will be dialling up the extra hours in their training over the next few weeks after they learned of their qualification to the U13-U17 Little Athletics NSW Youth State Championships.

Aaron Houston, Kobe Borgstahl, Ashley Mullins, Thalia Ruming and Hollie Ruming will give Bathurst great representation at the event in Sydney Olympic Park held across March 27 and 28.

Houston qualified for the under 17s boys 3,000 metres and the multi class 800m.

Borgstahl made the under 13s boys triple jump and 100m, Hollie Ruming will participate in the 14s girls shot put and javelin, Mullins in the 13s girls discus and Thalia Ruming in the 17s discus.

"These kids all submitted their times or distances and they were selected as being one of the top two kids in the region or one of the next eight best in the state," Bathurst Little Athletics vice-president Mike Curtin said.

"It's terrific because we tend to lose numbers from



THE NEXT STAGE: Kobe Borgstahl is one of five Bathurst Little Athletics members who have qualified for the U13-U17 Little Athletics NSW Youth State Championships.

when you get to under 13s you're coming up against those who are taking athletics that little more seriously. We had an expectation we'd see higher representation."

Bathurst Little Athletics members also took part in the recent Zone Scamper, giving younger athletes the chance to face new opposition.

"It's an opportunity to give our three to eight-year-olds a taste of competition outside of club night," Curtin said.

"We were really fortunate this year to have our zone scamper up in Oberon, which meant we were well represented. I'd say around a third of participants were Bathurst kids."

"The pleasing thing in the results was that we've got a lot of promising athletes coming through the system. It's a fun, non-pressured environment created by the zone. And instead of competing against other athletes from Bathurst they get the chance to compete against athletes from places like Katoomba, Glenbrook or Bilpin. It opens up the Little Athletics family."

-ALEXANDER GRANT

under 13s and up. There's probably only a dozen to 20 athletes who are above 13 so

Saturday 6th March



INSPIRING: Joanna Prior and her three-year-old daughter Evelyn admiring the International Women's Day display in Kings Parade. **Photo: PHIL BLATCH**

A line-up of Bathurst's inspirational women

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
BY RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN

THE contributions of 12 local women were publicly acknowledged in a special International Women's Day tribute on Monday.

A display of purple corflutes was set up in Kings Parade, featuring full-size pictures of Bathurst women and their thoughts on International Women's Day.

Represented in the display are:

- Anna Blackie (Triathlete)
- Marie Bourke (Advocate for women, volunteer

- counsellor, and support for women exiting the justice system)
- Selina Brandy (Works with Relationships Australia and is a strong Aboriginal role model)
- Tracey Callinan (Executive Director of Arts Out West)
- Laura Cole (Former youth deputy mayor and community activist)
- Karen Golland (Local Artists)
- Dr Jane Lawrence (One of the first female doctors to practice in Bathurst)
- Carole McDiarmid (Former director of school education)

- Zoe Peters (School Captain, youth mayor and sporting figure)
 - Beth Pratley (Musical Director of Panorama Chorus)
 - Kirstyn Schumacher (Works at S & S electrical)
 - Kathy Sloan (One of the founders and secretary of Bathurst AFL Giants football club)
- They were chosen by a panel that included councillors, council staff and representatives from community organisations.
- The panel selected women from a diverse cross section of the community, who

work in areas such as health, creative industries, sport, have helped build inclusive workplaces or work in traditionally male-dominated industries.

Mrs McDiarmid said it was a surprise to be nominated for the International Women's Day initiative, given that she has been retired for some time.

It's not the first time she's been acknowledged in this way. She was also included in the Bathurst 200 Peoplescape for the city's bicentenary celebrations in 2015.

Mrs McDiarmid appreciated both initiatives, particu-

larly how the International Women's Day installation presented local women who could be role models for others in the community.

"It's a wonderful idea and it's great to be part of something that showcases women," she said.

The theme for International Women's Day 2021 was *Choose to Challenge*.

The women are all pictured with their hands raised to show they're joining in and are committed to choosing to challenge and call out inequality.

The installation will remain in place until March 12.



CLEANING UP AUSTRALIA: Girl Guides in action during this year's Clean Up Australia Day.

Guides support the clean-up

COMMUNITY

BATHURST Girl Guides took part in Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday, March 7.

The girls cleaned up Peace/ Bicentennial Park, around the river, Lions Berry Park, around the hockey complex and nearby parks and streets.

Most of what was picked up was single use plastic which led to discussion be-

tween members about how to reduce their own environmental footprint.

Clean Up Australia Day was started thirty years ago, by an "average Australian bloke" who had a simple idea to make a difference in his own backyard has now become the nation's largest community-based environmental event.

Today the focus is as much

on preventing rubbish entering our environment as it is removing what has already accumulated.

Clean Up Australia Day is just one of many events Girl Guides are involved in. They invite anyone interested in joining the group as either a Girl Guide or leader do phone 6337 4161 or email BathurstDM@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au

Friday 12th March



LEARN

2021 TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Student names supplied at schools' discretion

Wattle Flat Public School



Sirtesser Lucas and Cohen Kitley.

Hill End Public School



Tobias English.

Rockley Public School



Back: Terence and Lila.
Front: Edward and Indiana.

Sofala Public School



Chloe.

Denison College - Bathurst High Campus



Back: School Leaders; Alannah Baldwin, Sophie Thomas, Will Hope, Levi Letcher Jasmine Kenney and Maddison Clary.
Front: Johnny Mocaraka, Aiden Stait, Charlie Hutchings, Zoe Peters, Molly Dowling and Taleiha Gorman.

Denison College - Kelso High Campus



Back: School Captains; Bryce Howell and Kurt Hernandez, Prefect/Aboriginal Representative Council: Bailey Honeyman.
Front: Prefect: Emilee Curran, School Captains Isabella Bracken and Elly Rudd, Prefects; Maddison Sufong and Tatiana Bosma.



Denison College

OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

BATHURST HIGH CAMPUS | KELSO HIGH CAMPUS

Denison College of Secondary Education

Bathurst and Kelso High Campuses

We are really proud of all our amazing student leaders and are excited about what they will achieve in 2021 and beyond.



FRAN76089P

Bathurst day 13th March

Having made her Macquarie main, Olivia's quest will continue

MACKILLOP College student Olivia Ditchfield will travel to Narramine later this month as she seeks to go further in the Lions Youth of the Year Quest.

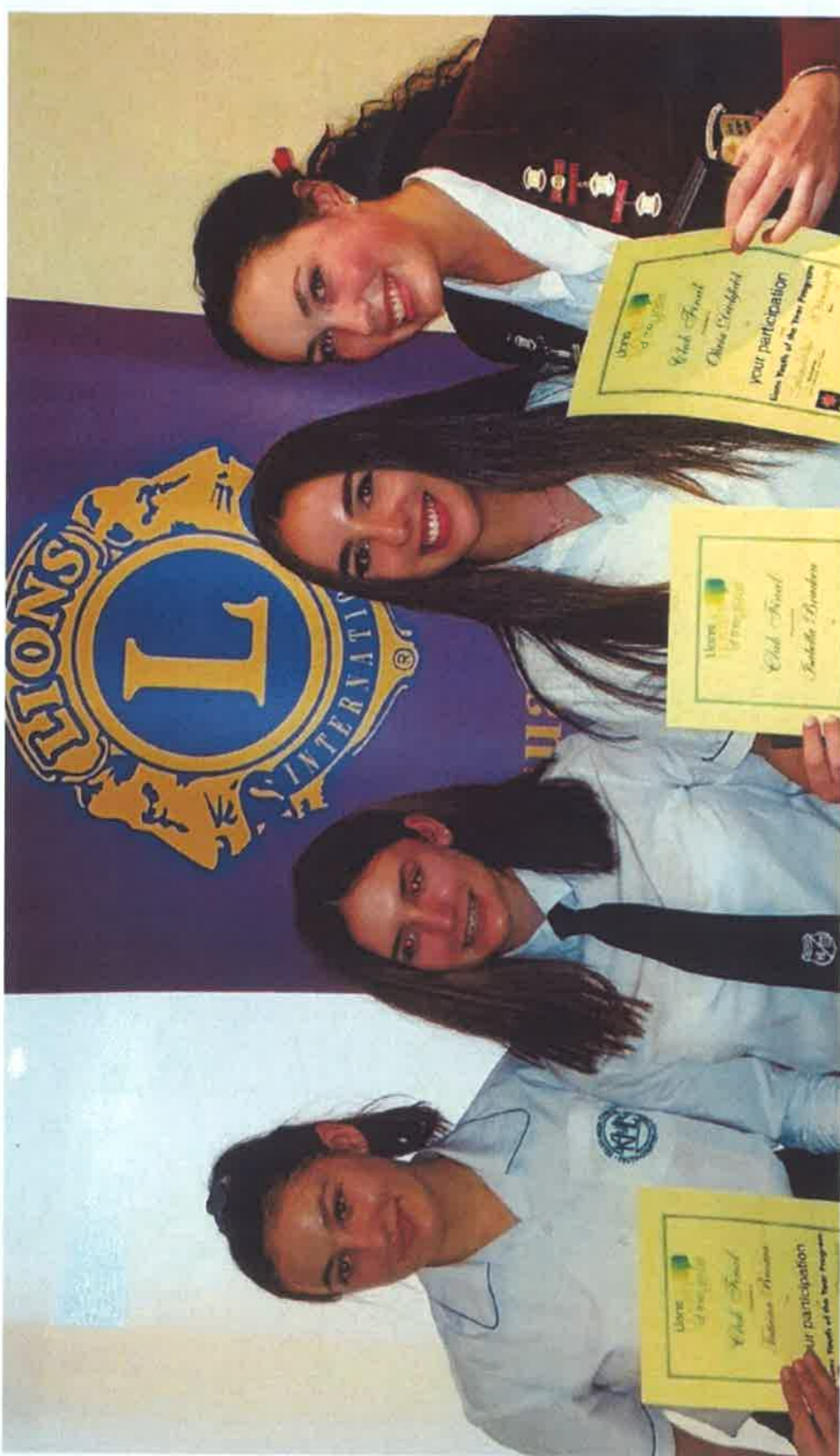
Olivia was chosen as the Macquarie Lions' representative when the club held its round of the quest at the Bathurst RSL recently.

"Four students representing Oberon High School, Kelso Campus of Denison College and MacKillop College spent the morning having personal interviews with the judges Dr Donald Alexander from CSU, Marion Kennedy for the sponsor NAB and Denise Hourigan, a retired health professional," event co-ordinator Graham Carter said.

The four students taking part were Olivia, Bella Bracken, Daria Olney and Tatiana Bosma.

In the afternoon, Mr Carter said "each candidate gave a five minute prepared speech about something that interested or impressed them before answering two unseen impromptu questions".

"The morning interview made up 70 per cent of



SMILES: Lions Youth of the Year Quest participants Tatiana Bosma, Daria Olney, Bella Bracken and Olivia Ditchfield.

each student's score, with the public speaking section making up the remainder," he said.

Mr Carter said all four stu-

dents impressed the judges

"with their personality, lively interest in the world, their desire to improve the world and their ability to communicate their ideas".

trict level, where she will be assessed against a candidate chosen by the Bathurst Lions Club along with four or five others from across

our district," Mr Carter said. "This will be held in Narramine on March 20 as part of the District Lions Meeting."

VOLLEYBALL
BY BRADLEY JURD

AFTER some fierce competition against some of the best volleyballers in the state, five Kelso High Campus have come up short in the NSW CHS Boys Volleyball Championships last week.

Competing at the championships in Thornleigh from March 9-11, Kelso students Kurt Hernandez (captain), Jordan Ashcroft, Jakob Lambertson, Jamie Browne and Tyler Pears all featured in the Western side that finished third.

After the competition, Hernandez was also selected for the NSW CHS team will contest the all schools titles

later this year.

For the five Kelso students, who are all in year 12, it was the last time they pull on a Western jersey for volleyball.

"Yeah, it's the last time for Western. It was fun to do well and come away with third to finish well," Browne said.

"We played pretty well, a lot better than what we expected, so full credit to the boys. The team chemistry was good considering some guys in the team hadn't played in a tournament like this before. We didn't expect to finish that high."

Sydney North would win the entire competition, however, Browne said the Western team gave the winners its toughest game.

“The team chemistry was good considering some guys in the team hadn't played in a tournament like this before.
”

Jamie Browne

"We had a close game with them and it was probably their closest game in the tournament," he said.

"Maybe with a bit more development, experience

and training we might've won it."

Western would finish third out of 10 competing teams, with its nine-man squad also featuring players from Cowra High School, Orange High School and Canobolas Rural Technology High School.

For Browne, it was the first time he's represented Western for volleyball, while it was the fourth time for Hernandez, the third time for Pears and Ashcroft and the second time for Lambertson.

Hernandez, who has been selected in the NSW CHS team for the third time, is excited to once again take on the challenge of the all schools titles.

"I'm excited to play again

and I'm very keen to play for NSW CHS again, especially last year when we didn't play because of COVID," he said.

"It'll be a fun last time to play for them.

"Most of the guys I've played with in the state team before, so I'm use to them."

Hernandez was also selected alongside teammate Ashcroft for the all-star east versus west match, which was played during the championships at Thornleigh.

Ashcroft received the most valuable player award alongside Browne, who also received the coach's award.

A number of Kelso girls will feature in the female equivalent tournament next week in Armidale.



TOP EFFORT: Kelso High reps Kurt Hernandez, Jordan Ashcroft, Tyler Pears and Jamie Browne. Absent: Jakob Lambertson. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK

Five Kelso players star in a third place finish

Saturday 13th March

Wednesday 17th March

Husband and wife will battle in finale

TENNIS TALK

THIS year's grand final to be held at the Eglinton Complex this Saturday will be an all family affair as the Iron lady Allyson Schumacher and her troops and her husband Rod and his brigade go head-to-head in what could be a very fiery encounter.

They have over the years had some keen tussles with no love between them on the tennis court.

Former club selector Slugger John Bullock believes this year's grand final will not just be like any other grand final, it will be full of thrills and spills, dummy spits and most of all full of champagne tennis from both sides...

TEAM WILSON: They go in full of running.

Number one player and nationally ranked player Jorge Collins is the key player

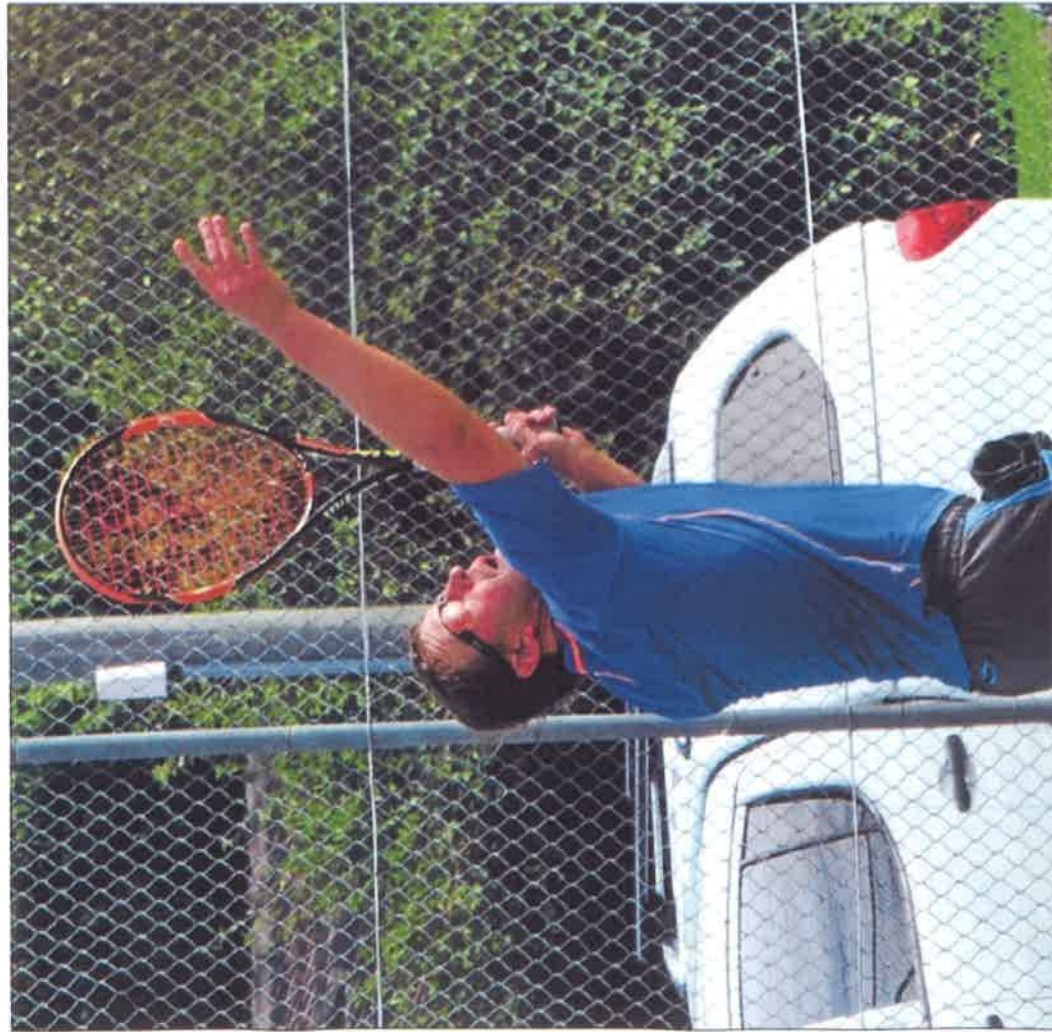
cracking. A big server who can play good steady tennis. If given room to move he can change this match.

Captain Russell Welsh is peaking just at the right time. Has speed to burn around the court and handy court craft skills.

Peter Deacon is the dark horse player who is underrated. Consistent as they come who will just plug away in this final. A danger player.

The 12 player team for our annual cup challenge match against the Northbridge club has been finalized: Dave Craft, Jason Molkenin, Matt Tree, John Bullock, Allyson Schumacher, Percy Ravenau, Bryan Reiri, Garth Hindmarch, Brian Dwyer, Jason Honeyman, Bailey Honeyman, Kevin Tree and Andrew Tree.

—JOHN BULLOCK



BRAGGING RIGHTS: Husband and wife, Rod (pictured) and Allyson Schumacher will be on opposite teams for this Saturday's final.

Thursday 18th March

A King of MX qualifier to be hosted at Mount



BRING IT ON: Panorama Motorcycle Club's Max and Jett Carter, Flynn Beard and Lily Kovac. Dylan McNabb is at the back. Photo: BRADLEY JURD

MOTOR SPORT

FOLLOWING hot on the heels of the Bathurst 500, Autofest and NSW Hillclimb in recent weeks, Mount Panorama will again be buzzing with the sound of engines, this time of the motorcycle nature.

The Panorama Motorcycle Club will be hosting a qualifying round of the King of MX - the official NSW motocross state titles - on Saturday and Sunday.

Over 250 competitors from across the state are expected to compete in what is the third of five qualifiers, with the finals to be held at Cessnock on the June long weekend.

Panorama Motorcycle

Club president Bruce Morgan said the Bathurst round is the only round to be held in the Central West.

"Bathurst and the Central West have some extremely talented riders taking part in this series," he said.

"It is a wonderful opportunity for locals to show their skills on their home track and for riders from all over NSW to experience racing at Mount Panorama."

Men, women and children will be competing across several classes - including a number of local Panorama Motorcycle Club members - to earn themselves a place in the King of MX finals and Morgan said some classes are already full.

“

Bathurst and the Central West have some extremely talented riders taking part in this series.

Panorama Motor Cycle Club president Bruce Morgan

"We are also expecting a good turn out of for nippers (four to seven-year-olds) for this event, particularly as they are able to take part for free," he said.

The southern qualifier has already been held at Tantawanglo, near Bega, on February 13-14, on the same days Moree hosted the northern qualifier.

Bathurst is hosting the Central West qualifier this weekend before Wagga Wagga hosts the Riverina qualifier on April 17-18.

The final qualifier will be held in the south-west Sydney semi-rural suburb of Oakdale on May 15-16, before the finals on June 12-14 at Cessnock.

Spectators will be welcome at the event in accordance with the club's COVID-Safe plan and all attendees are encouraged to keep safe and observe social distanc-

ing.

Club members and volunteers have been working hard over the past few weeks to make sure both the track and the Panorama Motorcycle Club's club house are ready to host the King of MX qualifier across both Saturday and Sunday.

Canteen facilities will be available across the weekend, with proceeds supporting the Panorama Motorcycle Club and its operations.

To keep up to date on Bathurst King of MX qualifier this weekend, visit the King of MX's Facebook page @KingAndQueenOfMX or the Panorama Motorcycle Club's Facebook page @PanoramaMCC.

Saturday 20th March

Real life skills for students

STRIPPING the cylinder head is now all part of the lesson for automotive students at Kelso High, who are working on getting broken down cars back up and running.

Bathurst Towing has donated an old Nissan Pulsar to the group, who are working to get it back to running order, and teacher Phill Schmarr is confident they'll do it.

Story page 4



GREAT EXPERIENCE: Lachlan Elliott-Smith and Jamie Wright, Year 9, working on the engine of the donated car, with teacher Phill Schmarr.

Students hone their skills

EDUCATION

BY JACINTA CARROLL

STRIPPING the cylinder head is now all part of the lesson for automotive students at Denison College Kelso High campus, who are working on getting broken down cars back up and running as part of their learning.

Bathurst Towing has donated an old Nissan Pulsar to

the group, who are stripping down the motor and getting it back to running order.

Automotive teacher, Phil Schmarr said the students were gifted the car thanks to a contact at the school who knew staff at Bathurst Towing.

He said the car broke down between Sydney and Bathurst, and the owner decided they had spent enough

on it, and told Bathurst Towing to keep it.

Knowing the students could work on the car as part of their studies Bathurst Towing delivered the car to Kelso High and last week the students have started to work their magic.

Mr Schmarr said the boys had already started to dismantle the engine and were loving the experience they

were gaining.

He said normally the students only work on single cylinder engines like lawn mowers, and this was a great opportunity to expand their learning with a bigger engine.

Mr Schmarr said he normally has to scour junk yards and rubbish piles to find broken down lawn mowers for the students to work on, so having the car donated

was fantastic.

"It was junk week in Orange last week and I scavenged across the city looking for mowers," he laughed.

"This is a great opportunity for the students."

With a contact in karting and access to a race car, Mr Schmarr said the ultimate goal is to get the students working up at the track at some point.

He said the students are really embracing their studies and the feedback about the course was fantastic.

He thanked Bathurst Towing for the donation and said the class aim to have the motor up and running again.

"And I think they're going to do it," he said.

Jake Whieldon, from Year 9, said working on a car engine was great.

Tennis contest making a return

Northbridge and Eglinton meet again

TENNIS

BY JOHN BULLOCK

DUE to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 the annual cup challenge had to be put on hold but this year's match between the highly respected Northbridge Tennis Club and the Eglinton Tennis Club has been given the green light to go ahead.

And the Eglinton side have put together their strongest line up of players to tackle the city boys in the history of the event.

cup challenge in the history of the event, and I believe my trump card will pull us through to our side winning this year's event," he said.

Captain-coach of the Northbridge side Clive Wilkinson believes his side will let their rackets do the talking in this year's event.

"Over the years of our cup challenge the players on both sides have shown so much passion and commitment in making this event a real winner, with the match always played in the true spirit of the

Monday 22nd March

Friday 26th March



HARD TO CONTAIN: Justin Stephenson, Tait Borgstahl and Jacob Ryan have been a crucial part of ORC's path to this weekend's Bathurst District Cricket Association second grade grand final. Photo: ALEXANDER GRANT

Rising bowling trio hunts second grade title

CRICKET
BY ALEXANDER GRANT

ORC will be looking to lay the groundwork for a successful return to the Bathurst Orange Inter District Cricket association in 2021-22 by ending their current season on the highest note possible.

The Tigers take on St Pat's Old Boys White in this weekend's Bathurst District Cricket Association second grade grand final at Morse Park 1, looking to prove that they're more than ready to take the step up in competition come the end of the year.

And leading the charge for ORC are their lethal junior bowling triple threat of Justin Stephenson, Tait Borgstahl and Jacob Ryan.

The three bowlers have been long-time Kelso High School mates and are now forging a new devastating partnership with the

minor premier ORC squad - one that's seen the Tigers drop just one match on their way to the decider.

Borgstahl leads the team in wickets with 22 at an average of just 7.55 while Ryan and Stephenson have 15 and 14 scalps for the season respectively.

"This is a good bunch of boys who competitive and fun to play with, so what more could you ask for?" Borgstahl said.

"It's great having the old boys in there to pass a bit of knowledge down to us younger fellas and that's stuff that we can hopefully pass on ourselves as the years go by.

"It's great bowling with these two guys and there's great competition between the three of us."

ORC's brilliant season with the ball extends to efforts from Joe Lemmich (14 wickets) and Alex Kinghorne (6.1 average).

Borgstahl has great memories of the last time ORC and SPOB White met this season.

His 4-16 was a highlight in the Tigers' 70-run success back in January.

He hopes this Saturday and Sunday's clash produces more good times.

"It'll be a great game and it's sure to be competitive. It'll likely come down to the wire," he said.

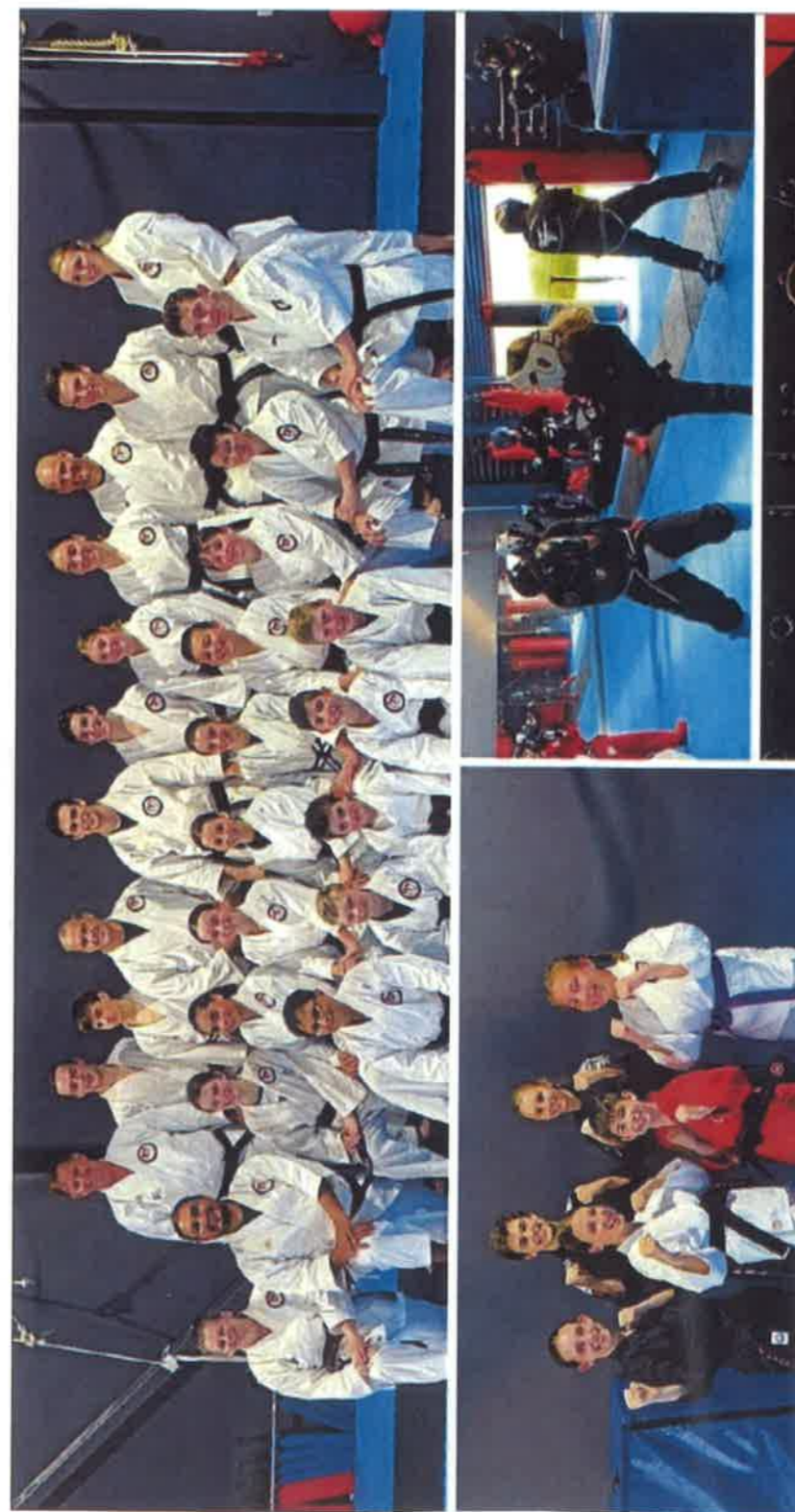
"We beat them last time we played and hopefully we can continue that on."

Following this weekend ORC will look ahead to the next BOIDC competition.

Stephenson, Borgstahl and Ryan have all indicated that they'll be keen to take the step up.

"We'll hopefully get some of the old fellas back who have left the club," Borgstahl said.

"It will be great to get that original ORC team back together."



Thursday 1st April

Saturday 27th March

George's hard work reflected in ranking

CROSSFIT

SHE'S one of the fittest 15-year-old girls on the planet and Roxy George is not done yet.

The Bathurst teenager and CrossFit 2795 athlete has powered through four gruelling workouts over the past three weeks competing in the annual CrossFit Open.

To give you an idea of how much she powered, she is currently ranked the second fittest girl in the 14 to 15-year-old age group in Australia, third for the Oceania region and 27th world wide.

Her division in the CrossFit Open attracted 1,273 athletes from countries such as Brazil, Canada, Norway, Mexico, Iceland, Spain and Venezuela plus the United States of America and Great Britain.

"She got a bit of a taste of it last year, she was bottom age of that 14-15 years group, and now she's come through with a bit more confidence with 12 months of training under her belt," Dan George, Roxy's father and CrossFit 2795 trainer said.

"That's really sky rocketed her and put her into a really good position.

"She now goes into an age qualifier which will be the second round and top 10 percent in your age and from there the top 20 gets an invite to the CrossFit Games, so this will be the final hurdle."

Roxy George has competed in online CrossFit competitions before, but now as a 15-year-old she sits at the top of her age bracket.

She has also put a huge amount of hours into training to help improve her fitness, strength and gymnastic abilities.

"She's really put the work in, it was exciting to see over the last 12 months. In that time she has been



WORKING HARD: Roxy George has a world ranking of 27 for 14 to 15-year-old girls after powering through three weeks of the the CrossFit Open. **Photo: CROSSFIT 2795**

the strength improvements she has made, she's had that great experience already with the competition side of things and can definitely work, that's not a problem," Dan George said.

"I knew she'd get into that top 10 percent, but to sit as high as she did was a real credit to her.

"Now things suit her a little more, things are a little bit heavier and the skills are bit higher. She can do the gymnastics stuff and do it well."

The time-capped workouts George has completed thus far have involved skills such as weight lifting, pull-ups, burpees and rowing.

"The first two weeks were more about work capacity, there was a bit of skill-based stuff in there," Dan George explained.

"The third workout, that was definitely the separator with a lot more gymnastics work with toes-to-bar, chest-to-bar pull ups and muscle ups then it finished off with a max lift and she did really well.

"That was a little complex of a dead lift, two cleans and a jerk, an overhead movement. It was really cool, the place was buzzing during that one she threw up 65

kilos on that one.

"That's a bit over body weight so it's definitely a good way to finish coming into the next five weeks of training for her."

While she is looking forward to her age qualifier on May 8-9, Roxy George's efforts have also earned her an invite to the Oceania showcase event, the Torian Pro. That will be held in Brisbane at the end of May.

Then there's her representative basketball commitments to factor into her sporting schedule.

"To fit everything in with her basketball, it's pretty crazy the amount of time she's putting in. She travels to Lithgow Monday mornings at 5.30 to do a bit of a skills session up there with one of the basketballers," Dan George said.

"So that starts the week and in the gym it's a good a five plus hours a week.

"Even the week leading into the age qualifier she's got CHS basketball in Maitland, she'll come back and we'll have to try and get the five to six workouts in as well as the last stage of the Western Junior League basketball here in Bathurst."

- ANYA WHITELAW

Panthers win under 18s carnival

Blayney Success

RUGBY LEAGUE BY BRADLEY JURD

WITH the start of the Group 10 competition less than two weeks away, Bathurst Panthers under 18s has won its one and only pre-season hit-out at the Blayney Bears Under 18s Carnival on Sunday.

After defeating Orange Hawks and Dubbo Macquarie Raiders in the group stage, Panthers progressed to the final against Macquarie, with the Bathurst club proving its class with a comfortable 22-6 win in chilly conditions at the King George Oval.

While Panthers coach Mick Carter said his team didn't know too much about Macquarie, he said the earlier group stage match against them gave them a good understanding of the squad for the final.

"We didn't know a lot about them but it was good we got them in round two, having played them earlier in the day," he said.

"They were a big physical side. I'm very proud of all the Panther boys for how they stood and aimed up. We got a few injuries through the day but I can't fault anyone really.

"If I think hard about it, we maybe had six errors through the day that cost us or lead to points against us, but it was still a good performance."

Carter found it difficult to single out a player who played the best at the tour-

namment, rather he focused on the ability of his players as a team.

"I was very impressed with all the boys. I couldn't really point my finger on one person that stood out," he said.

"That's the great thing about the side, that it is a great side that can potentially give this competition a real shake up. I can replace a quality front rower with another front rower or a back rower or an outside back.

"That's the luxury I've got at the moment, baring injuries. Everyone that went on that field did their job."

Carter believes the win at the Blayney pre-season competition gives the club a good indication of where it's at almost two weeks from the start of the Group 10 competition.

"I think that gives us an indication of where we're at," he said.

"I think a few of our boys

thought they were possibly underdone, but I think they surprised themselves with how fit they are.

"I was very proud of the whole effort but I think we gave a silly penalties and a bit of back chat which invited the opposition down the field and that's when they scored.

"In our first game we beat Hawks 14-4, only the one try against us. The next game was against Dubbo and we

conceded one try too, but the tries we conceded were from silly penalties, us inviting them down the field."

For the injuries some of the under 18s players picked up, Carter believes they will be sorted by the first game of the season in the local derby against St Pat's.

"I'm little bit concerned about a couple of injuries," he said.

"We do have this weekend coming up off and by next



WINNERS: The Bathurst Panthers under 18s squad that won at Blayney on Sunday. **Photo: CONTRIBUTED**

weekend for round one in the local derby against St Pat's they'll be right. Time will tell.

"I took 19 players and by the end I was down to 16. Everyone stood up and could certainly hold their heads high."

Panthers will clash with St Pat's in its first Group 10 under 18s match of the new season at the Jack Arrow Sporting Complex on April 25.

Wednesday 14th April

Bringing the kids together

The Bathurst Youth Council has come up with two fun activities to cater to and celebrate their peers in the coming days. It's all part of the city's Youth Week celebrations, which start on Friday. Kids and teenagers are invited to attend these free events, to be hosted at the Kelso Community Hub and the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum.

| Full story page 4



FITNESS FUN: Bathurst Youth Council's Ashley Maalouf, Zoe Peters, Joshua Borland, Rosie O'Leary, Loukia Robson and Harry Lew.

Activities for kids, by kids

YOUTH WEEK

BY RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN

THE time has come for Bathurst to celebrate the future leaders of its community: young people.

In celebration of Youth Week, the Bathurst Youth Council has come up with two activities for their peers to enjoy.

They are designed to ac-

knowledge their contribution to the community.

The first day of Youth Week falls in the autumn school holidays, providing a perfect opportunity for kids and teenagers to attend the youth council's first event on Friday at the Kelso Community Hub.

Called Fitness for Fun, the event will include a free barbecue lunch, followed by fun

and fitness-related activities organised and run in collaboration with Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

It's an all-ages event and free to attend. There is no need to book in advance.

Fitness for Fun runs from 12pm to 3pm on Friday at the Kelso Community Hub, located at 24 Bonnor Street.

"We encourage everyone to come, it's for all ages, and

we're all really excited to be able to cater to everyone at the Kelso Community Hub," youth mayor Zoe Peters said.

The youth council's second event will be held on Friday, April 23.

Young people can take a spooky tour of the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum after dark, where they'll hear stories and scary facts about dinosaurs and creatures that

existed more than 230 million years ago.

Numbers are limited for this event. Although it's a free event, bookings need to be made by Wednesday by calling 6333 6523.

The event includes a pizza dinner, and attendees are asked to bring along torches.

The tour starts at 6.30pm. Miss Peters hopes the two events will be well attended.

"I think both events will really demonstrate what we want to do, and that's to include anyone and everyone and get all demographics to enjoy Youth Week," she said.

Youth Week began as a NSW Government initiative in 1989, and after becoming a huge success among communities across the state, became a national event in 2000.

Thursday 15th April

Great tennis in first round

TENNIS TALK

THE dummy spits, thrills and spills and some champagne tennis was flowing at the Eglinton Tennis Court on Saturday in the opening round of this year's autumn competition.

All players looked sharp in round one, giving the crowd some explosive tennis.

The 'Slugger' John Bullock-captained Team Laver featuring Jason Molkenntin, 'Iron Lady' Allyson Schumacher, Andrew Tree, Kevin Tree, Russell Welsh and Stacey Markwick scored a win over Team Roach featuring Matt Tree, Bryan Reiri, Fred Kentwell, Bailey Honeyman, Daisey Hoskins and Andrew Howarth.

Team Laver would win 12 sets to four, 88 games to 49.

The father and son duo of Kevin and Andrew Tree played some smart tennis leaving their opponents backpeddling, with one of there sets score being 6-0.

They are normally arch rivals, but not in this competition as 'Iron Lady' Schumacher and 'Slugger' Bullock teamed up, and didn't they turn it on as they captivated the crowd with brilliant tennis winning both their sets 6-3, 6-0.

Both 'Slugger' and the 'Iron Lady' were both a real force in the competition and were not to be underestimated in there matches.

Markwick and Molkenntin were also looking good, playing some entertaining tennis.

Winning captain 'Slugger' Bullock believes his sides win was an inspiring victory but he was not happy with the new handicap system in this competition.

However, he believes that will be sorted out next week on the tennis court.

"Lets not get too carried away as it is only the first round but it was a good start. My side are ready for what ever the other sides throw at



SHOT: Andrew Tree in action at the Eglinton Tennis Court. Photo: CONTRIBUTED

us," he said.

Losing captain Matt Tree was a gut-wrenching at his team's loss.

"We never looked like winning, old 'Slugger' and his troops were just to good on the day," he admitted.

Well folks what a cracking start to this year's autumn competition.

There's not enough focus

on the hard work both Libby and Graeme Stapleton do in preparing the meals for all the players each Saturday.

It is such a big job and full credit goes out to Libby and Stumpy for doing an absolute fantastic job in making sure all the players are fed each week.

Bravo guys. Good hitting.

- JOHN BULLOCK



FLAME BURNS BRIGHT FOR CENTRAL WEST'S FEMALE BASKETBALLERS

A slam dunk for basketball in the Central West, female basketballers have trained with and learnt from Australia's best at the Brydens Sydney Flames' Her Flame Burns Bright basketball clinic at Bathurst earlier this week.

Her Flame Burns Bright featured a junior clinic, a clinic and leadership program presented by Australian Opal Lauren Polson. The aim of the program is to increase female participation and retention in regional NSW. The program, supported by NSW Government, will be delivered in 10 locations over the next three years to more than 2,000 female basketballers and coaches. NSW Upper House MP Farraway said the Her Flame Burns Bright program would play a role in nurturing and bringing future athletes to the region.

environment. "You can't be what you can't see and this program will inspire our female players and invigorate women's basketball throughout the Central West." Karen Dalton General Manager of the Brydens Sydney Uni Flames said we are really excited to be launching the program in Bathurst and to have the opportunity of bringing our Opals and Flames role models to regional NSW. "We would like to thank

the NSW government for their support in enabling us to reach and impact our young regional female basketballers." Minister for Sport Geoff Lee said the NSW Government was committed to supporting the drive for change in women's sport through programs like Her Flame Burns Bright. "The NSW Government is breaking down barriers in women's sport," Mr Lee said. "We are proud to support innovative programs like Her Flame Burns Bright which

are getting more women and girls involved in sport, both on and off the field." Her Flame Burns Bright supports the NSW Government's vision for the future of women's sport. The Her Sport Her Way strategy aims to increase female participation, invest in female-friendly facilities, maximise investment and increase the number of women in leadership. For further information on Her Sport Her Way visit: <https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/hersportherway>

*Bathurst City Life
7-12 April.*

BathurstCity Life

Issue 362 - 21 April 2021



YOUTH WEEK 2021

Youth week focuses on supporting young people's participation in the planning and delivery of all National Youth Week activities Promote positive images of young people by showcasing their talents, achievements and contributions to the community. (Story continued on pg 2).

with youths who share the same interest. So here's is to being more, creating more and being together more than ever.

❖ **Joshua Borland**
Youth Week to me is a celebration, to celebrate the commonality we all have. A celebration where people of all genders, race and religion can come together and celebrate the gift of youth. It is a chance to have opinions in events while also raising awareness of issues that greatly affect young people. In 2021, the theme is "Together more than ever" and after a tough year of 2020 filled with isolation and lack of support, the youth need to be together, for each other and continue being that reliant support system we all need.

❖ **George Butler**
Youth Week is a time for younger members of society to have an

❖ **Loukia Robson**
Youth Week is an opportunity for myself and my fellow youth to connect with our community. It allows us to build relationships and participate in activities in the community organised by our fellow youth. The theme of "Together more than ever" for this year's Youth Week embraces these opportunities while acknowledging the struggles we all experienced due to COVID-19.

❖ **Maddison Suffong**
Youth Week is a time of opportunity to explore our younger community and their values. It enables us to recognise the importance of our youth as they continue to inspire and adapt to the world we live in. It is organised by young people, for young people. This year's theme "Together more than ever" allows us to reflect on the

people within our community the opportunity to express their feelings on issues that directly affect our youth. Youth Week brings young people together, forging connections and promoting the voice of the youth. I feel this year's theme, "Together more than ever", highlights the importance of youth involvement to create a positive impact as a community for our community.

❖ **Travis Barrie**
To me, Youth Week is the opportunity for young people to express their creativity and views, act on issues and activities that affect their lives, and to get involved within the community. Given the past year of restrictions and limitations to socialising and gatherings, Youth Week is a great time to participate in events and activities for the better of yourself and the community.

shape the future of our community.
❖ **Stella Hall**
"Together more than ever" means to me that this is the opportunity to network and discuss issues that directly face the youth. To advocate for us and enforce change for us. To first improve the present to ensure a better future together.

❖ **Bert Davis**
As a youth advocate for the Bathurst Regional Youth Council, Youth Week is important for not only myself but for all of the youth and is a great opportunity for the youth to voice their own opinion. The theme "Together more than ever" is so empowering for young people to work together. Youth Week is important to me because young people can act on the issues that are specific to them and is the best way to get first hand experience to help tackle them.

*Bathurst
City Life
21 April*

FESTIVAL OF SMALL HALLS THIS WEDNESDAY IN PORTLAND



The old Portland Cement Works was the beating heart of Portland for nearly 100 years, and after a brief rest it is coming alive again hosting all manner of community events.

If the workers of the cement works were told people would want to get married in the old Powerhouse or visit for markets or community events in years to come, they would never have believed it! After just a few short years, the Foundations has become a magnet for arts, cultural and community events as the space is reimagined.

Festival of Small Halls Portland will be supported by local act Ron van der Zwaag. Ron serves up melodic slices of country-tinged folk-pop with strong hooks and bittersweet lyrics. Unpolished nuggets collected from stolen moments in a back room.

Ron van der Zwaag has been recording his original songs at home as solo projects since 2007

and shares them on online platforms, (Soundcloud, Youtube, Bandcamp etc.)

He sings and plays all the instruments, guitar, keyboards, percussion and ukulele.

Over the past 4 years or so Ron has been performing his original material in his local Bathurst region whenever he can. Mostly street performance, but also the odd appearance playing markets, cafes and pubs. His songs are a mix of folk/pop and country/pop tunes featuring lyrics that are often frivolous, but always grownup.

Although Bathurst based, Ron developed a connection with Portland from 2014 to 2018 when he taught music at the local school.

At the 2018 Gulgong Folk Festival he was offered a Sunday

morning bracket at the Gulgong Opera House after being spotted busking in the street. He was on the bill at the following year's 2019 Gulgong Folk Festival and was well received by those who attended his performances.

He'll be playing later this year at the 2021 Northern Beaches Music Festival in November.

The Portland Cement Works stands on land traditionally owned by the Wiradjuri people.

Festival of Small Halls rolls into Portland on Wednesday, 14 April 2021 with Bobby Alu and This Way North.

Doors open 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Tickets available online. BBQ dinner available (vego option) as well as soft drinks for purchase.

Bathurst City Life 14th April



NEXT STEP: Professor Damien Limberger, prospective medical student TJ Henderson and his mother Cath Henderson in Bathurst last month.

Finding out more about medicine

EDUCATION

AN UPCOMING online information night about an undergraduate entry degree in medicine will follow an in-person session that was held in Bathurst last month.

The Charles Sturt University and Western Sydney University Joint Program in

Medicine delivers the Doctor of Medicine, a five-year undergraduate entry degree that aims to prepare graduates for a career in that field.

The online information night, on Tuesday, May 4, will be for prospective students and their parents, as well as careers advisers.

The Doctor of Medicine is being taught at the Charles Sturt School of Rural Medicine in Orange.

"With the first cohort of student doctors recently welcomed to begin their five-year journey training for careers in rural and regional medicine, the Joint Program

in Medicine also looks to the prospective 2022 cohort and beyond," Dean of Rural Medicine in the Charles Sturt School of Rural Medicine, Professor Lesley Forster, said.

She said the information night "will include key course information, entry requirements, application pro-

cess, scholarships and more, including the opportunity to meet our School of Rural Medicine team and some of our new students".

The 2021 medicine students were selected from more than 800 applications. | Visit engage.csu.edu.au/medicine-info-nights to book a place.

Western Advocate 29th April

Smiling faces at this year's Royal Bathurst Show

After the cancellation of last year's show, many smiling faces were captured this year by Western Advocate photographer Chris Seabrook.

SHOWTIME
BY AMY REES

After the Covid-19 leading to the cancellation of the Bathurst Royal Show in 2020, this year's event attracted a large number of smiling faces.

Between thrilling rides, fun games, tasty food and exciting live action, there was something for everyone. Locals won awards at the exhibits and parents put in huge amounts of time to prepare for the best dressed competitions at the horse shows.

Footy fans from the Panthers versus Manly RL match also checked things out post-match.

Western Advocate photographer Chris Seabrook captured a few happy faces.



RIDES: Donna and Andrew Graham. 050121cshowsoc2



FAMILY TIME: Jason and Nicole Pears with Dillon (12) and Reece (8). 050121cshowsoc5

Thursday 13th May

George wins coach's award at CHS titles

Western successes

BASKETBALL
BY BRADLEY JURD

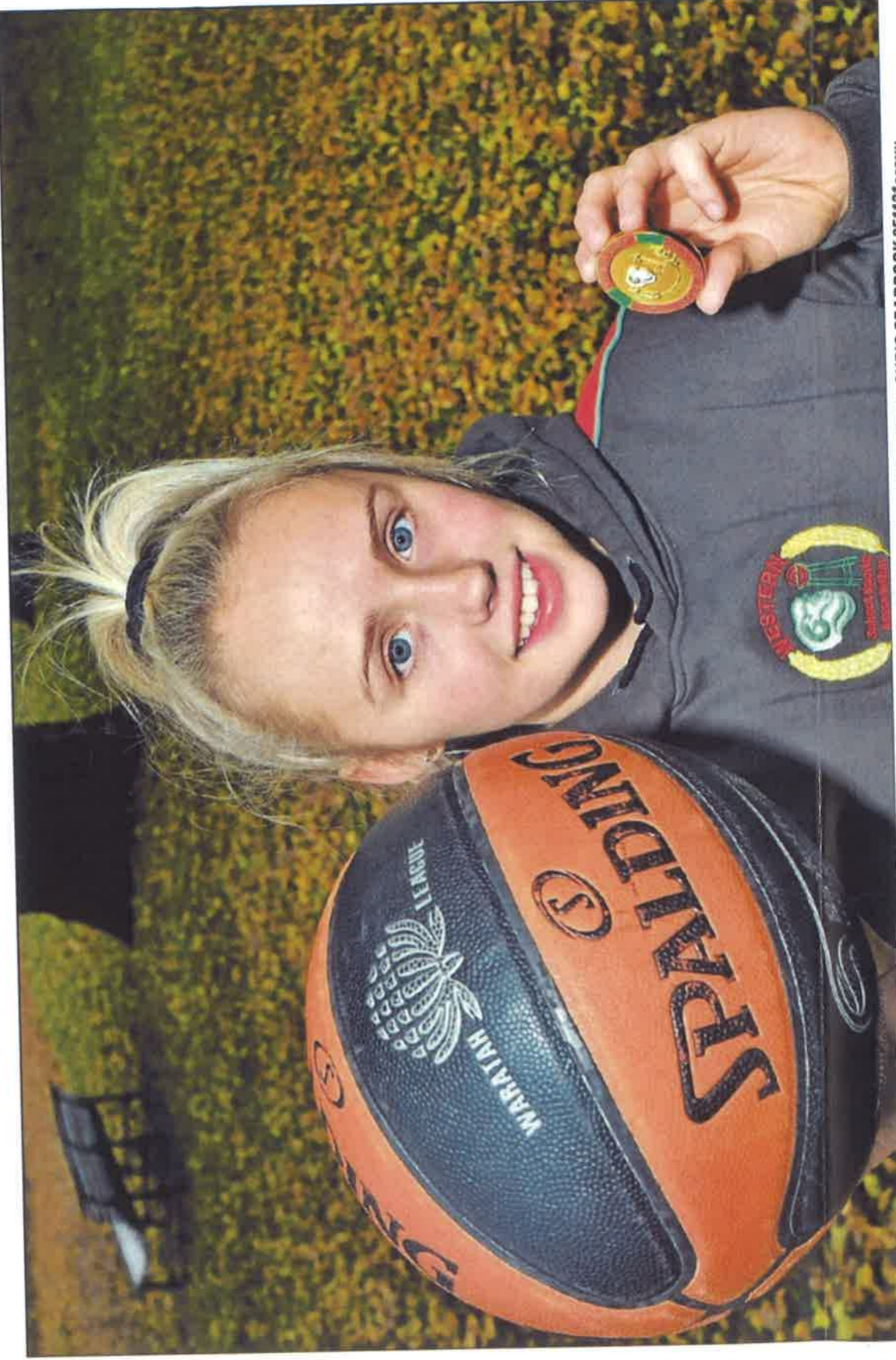
SHE may be younger than a majority of her teammates, but Bathurst basketballer Roxy George showed her talent at the NSW Combined High Schools Girls Basketball Championships last week to be named Western's coach's player.

George, a 15-year-old year 10 student at Kelso High Campus, was the only Bathurst player in a Western team that featured basketballers from West Wyalong, Lithgow and Orange.

And while a majority of her teammates and opponents at the three-day carnival in Maitland, that run from May 4-6, were several years older than her, she managed to impress at the tournament, as Western ultimately finished seventh.

"The coach said the award was for the consistency of how I played and how I was always being able to help out when needed," George explained.

"I was very happy with it but I wasn't expecting it, especially as there was an under 18s state age player in



MEDAL: Roxy George has received the Western coach's award after the NSW CHS Championships. Photo: CHRIS SEABROOK 051121croxy

able to compete at that level. week, compared to Western played together with each Championships after defeat

A big year ahead



BETTER TIMES: Kobe Borgstahl runs through the new Bathurst Little Athletics timing system. Photo: **BRADLEY JURD**



TEAM: Bathurst Little Athletics members Carla Grimm, Amali Locke, Lily Dawson, Will Curtin, Dylan Ruming, Hayden Grimm and Byron Rosier.

ATHLETICS BY BRADLEY JURD

WITH the Olympics set to be held in July and August this year, incoming Bathurst Little Athletics president Mike Curtin is expecting a surge in numbers when the new season starts in October.

Bathurst Little Athletics held its annual general meeting on Wednesday, May 5, with Curtin elected the new president.

Curtin wants to make sure Bathurst Little Athletics is prepared for a potential influx of members later this year to coincide with the Olympics that will be in Japan in several months time.

"Being an Olympic year, we're expecting a big summer," he said.

"Generally over the Olympic games this a lot of interest in athletics, so we're expecting to have a bumper athletic season."

Another big decision the new Bathurst Little Athletics committee has already made was the unanimous decision to shift Monday afternoon meetings to Thursday due to the clash with touch football.

"Traditionally little athletics has been on a Monday night but we compete directly with touch football," he said.

"We know there's a lot of people in Bathurst that would love to do athletics but they've also got their touch footy.

"If we can move away from that and to a night that

doesn't compete with touch footy, that would be great. That would open athletics for really good athletes in Bathurst that can't do it."

At the end of last year, the Bathurst Little Athletics acquired a new timing system, which records times more accurately, thanks to a scanning technology that has been built into nine portable poles.

All up, the new timing system can accommodate all individuals in an eight-runner field.

Curtin is hoping to visit local schools in the coming months to show them and discuss the new timing system on offer.

"We are going to have an afternoon in the next few months where we meet with local school sports organisers and principals and show them our new timing systems and how that can make their athletic carnivals run better," he said.

Curtin also paid tribute to former committee member Troy Dalton, had been president for the past three years, as well as Phil Humphreys who served as treasurer for three years.

2021 COMMITTEE: President - Mike Curtin, Vice-President - Kelsey Borgstahl, Secretary - vacant, Treasurer - Alarna Dawson, Registrar - Hayley Wallace, Recording Officer - Angela Richens, Uniform Officer - Marg Hearnden, Age Group Coordinator - Sharon Ruming, General Committee - Brent and Ash Rosier



SHOOSH: Member for Bathurst Paul Toole: "I look forward to our local sports clubs getting behind this initiative and reminding parents and spectators that poor behaviour will not be tolerated."

SHOOSH FOR KIDS THIS WINTER

POOR SPECTATOR BEHAVIOUR at junior sport is set to be addressed throughout the coming winter, with the Shoosh for Kids Winter Awareness Month taking place this May.

I would really encourage local clubs and associations to support this state-wide message, with more than 600 clubs across NSW already committed.

We want to see kids have a positive experience no matter what sport they are participating in.

I look forward to our local sports

clubs getting behind this initiative and reminding parents and spectators that poor behaviour will not be tolerated.

This campaign is timely with the recommencement of winter sport seasons across the State.

With a full season to look forward to this winter, the Shoosh for Kids message is more important than ever.

It's great to see larger crowds and families back at community sport, and we all have a responsibility to ensure it is a fun, safe environment for children.

One of the best ways we can do this is to keep comments positive so that kids want to keep playing and enjoying the benefits that sport offers.

We know that young people thrive with positive adult role models and the Shoosh for Kids initiative reinforces positive, supportive behaviours in sport.

Shoosh for Kids Winter Awareness Month will run from 1 to 31 May 2021, with free resources available to clubs and associations that sign up throughout the campaign.

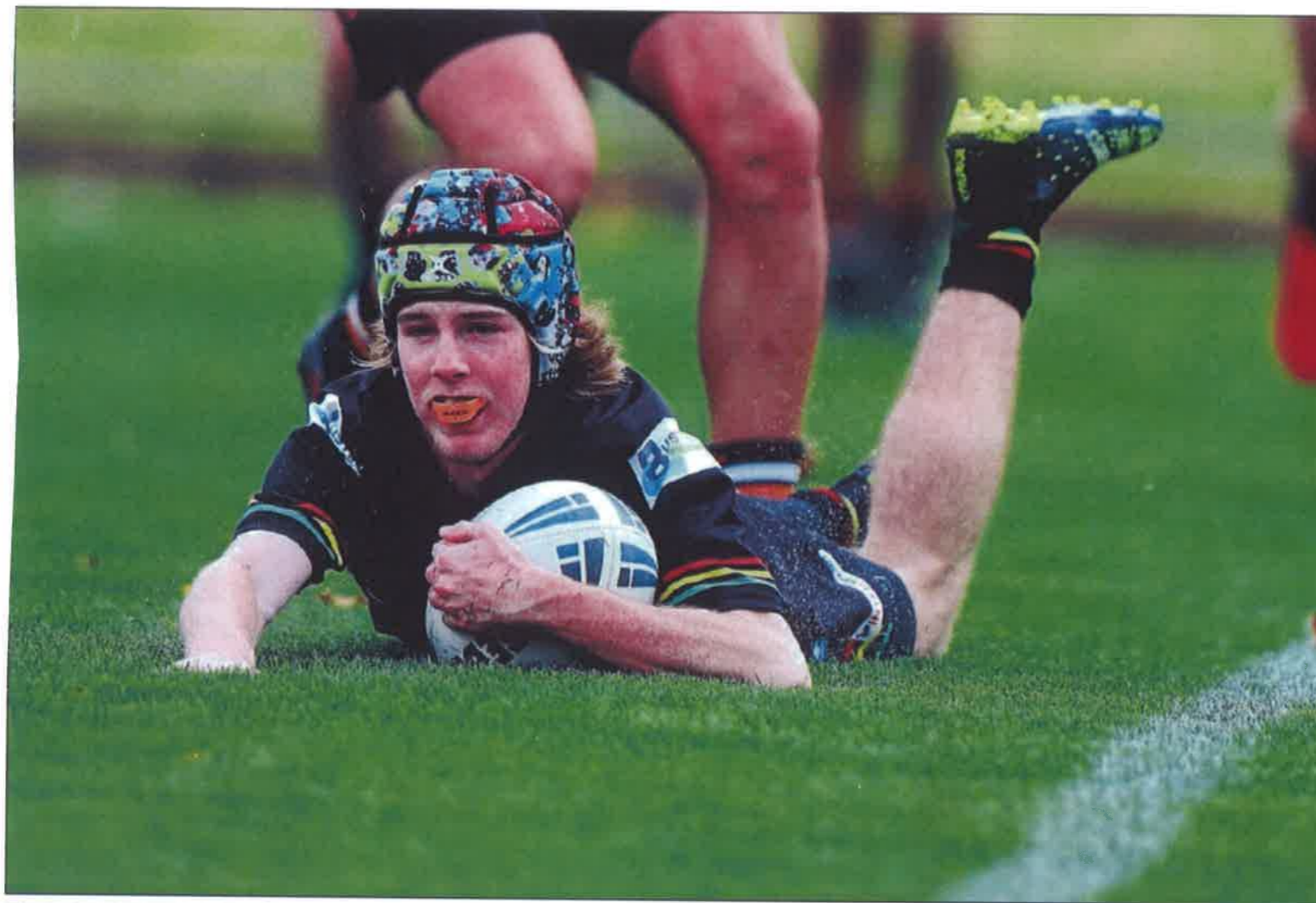
For more information or to sign up, visit: sport.nsw.gov.au/shooshforkids



TOOLE TIME

Bathurst City Life 5th May

Thursday 13th May



TERRIFIC HAT-TRICK: Panthers centre Haydn Edwards scored three tries to help his under 16s to victory over Bloomfield. Photo: PHIL BLATCH

Panthers speedster Edwards bags a treble

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY ANYA WHITELAW

MELBOURNE Storm has Josh Addo-Carr and the Bathurst Panthers under 16s have Haydn Edwards.

On Saturday as the Panthers faced Group 10 Junior Rugby League rivals Bloomfield Tigers in a top of the table battle, Edwards' blistering speed proved decisive.

Just as Addo-Carr has terrorised rival NRL teams with his brilliant turn of speed out wide, the pace of the the Bathurst Panthers centre helped him to three tries.

Those tries helped Panthers to a 32-8 victory and they now stand alone as the only undefeated team in the under 16s competition.

Edwards scored his first try with the game just over three minutes old, hitting a nice ball from fullback Ronan Hunt-Cameron and slic-

ing through Bloomfield's right-edge defence.

From the following kick-off Panthers knocked-on which put Bloomfield into attack. The Tigers forced three consecutive line drop-outs before they finally cracked the hosts' defence, second rower Ethan Young squaring it up at 4-all.

But three minutes out from half-time Panthers were back in front and it was Edwards who scored. This time he capitalised on a nice string of passes started by hooker Cruz Farrar. Tim Babbage booted the conversion to make it 10-6.

Edwards had his hat-trick 11 minutes into the second half.

Fellow centre Blake Powyer forced an error with a good kick chase to put Panthers in attacking position and when Hunt-Cameron rolled a kick in goal at the end of the resulting set, Edwards' pace saw him win the race to

ground the ball.

Bloomfield came up with a response 15 minutes from time when a brilliant offload from hooker Tye King put Riley Hinkley over. That made it 14-8.

But the Tigers' hopes of a successful fight back quickly faded as Panthers ran in three tries in the final 12 minutes of the match to claim top spot on the ladder.

Prop Nash Chatfield grabbed the first with a barnstorming run that saw him palm off a number of defenders, while some smart work out of dummy half saw second rower Gabe Langdon get on the scoresheet.

The win was sealed with a Powyer try. **BATHURST PANTHERS 32 (Haydn Edwards 3, Nash Chatfield, Gabe Langdon, Blake Powyer; Tim Babbage 3, Ronan Hunt-Cameron goals) defeated BLOOMFIELD TIGERS 8 (Ethan Young, Riley Hinkley tries)**

LEAGUE TAG

BY ANYA WHITELAW

THEY are key members of a St Pat's side which is an undisputed juggernaut of Group 10 league tag, now they are aiming to extend a Western dominance.

This Saturday star Saints playmaker Mish Somers will lead a Group 10 side featuring fellow Pat's talents Erin Naden, Bronte Emmanuel, Meredith Jones, Paige Hay and Hannah Kelly into battle against Group 11.

While that clash won't be part of a Western cluster representative carnival as has been the case in years past - Group 10 being a seven-time winner of that title - Somers' side is still hungry to extend their run over Group 11.

When last meeting in 2019, the Somers coached Group 10 outfit posted a 24-6 win over Group 11. The year before they they beat their Western rivals 8-4.

The COVID-19 pandemic meant neither Group 10 or Group 11 league tag competitions went ahead last season and as such, there was no representative fixture either.

That the 2021 Group 10 premiership is only in its infancy did add a degree of difficulty for selectors, but the side Somers will lead into battle at Lithgow on Saturday features eight members of the 2019 outfit.

"It's looking good, a lot of the girls have played before so they are used to playing



STAR SAINT:

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Western Advocate Thursday 20th May

Saturday



under 16s to victory over Bloomfield. Photo: PHIL

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20th May

Pat's stars aiming to find Group 10 glory

Saintly presence

LEAGUE TAG
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STAR SAINTS: Pat's talents Erin Naden, Bronte Emmanuel, Meredith Jones, Mish Somers, Paige Hay and Hannah Kelly will represent Group 10.

that next level of league tag and there are some good combinations there at the moment," Somers said.

"It was really hard to pick actually because you had to look and see who was still about and who wasn't and only playing three rounds of the normal season has made it difficult, but relying on Mark Jazprizza the assistant coach and Sophie Stammers did a bit of work from Blayney as well, we've finally

got a squad together.

"There's a lot of speed, we have a lot of young players with speed, but I think Group 11 will be pretty similar.

"But the girls are pretty keen, you never want to lose to Group 11, so they are pretty fired up. Not having any footy last year or any rep or anything, they are really keen to get out on the paddock on Saturday."

Forming the core of the outfit are the Saints. They

have played an integral role in seeing the blue and whites win 40 consecutive Group 10 club games and will be vital in the bid to beat Group 11.

Skipper Somers brings a strong kicking game and along with Emmanuel, are expected to orchestrate much of Group 10's attack.

Hannah Kelly, who won a Group 11 title with Parkes in 2018, not only brings a strong defensive game but a good combination with another

ex-Spacecat in Paige Hay.

Then there's the likes of Naden and Jones, players make more yards and notch up more line breaks between them than entire teams with regularity on Sundays.

"It makes a big difference as obviously we don't have to work on those little things. We have Bronte and myself in the halves, we play with each other week-in and week-out so we are used to each other and know each other's roles,"

Somers said.

"In the forwards Hannah Kelly comes back into the rep side after a few years away, she's been playing some really good tag, and her and Paige Hay will link up in the middle. Obviously Erin Naden at the back and Meredith's speed through the middle, you can't not have those two in your side."

Kick-off on Saturday is 12.30pm at Tony Luchetti Sportsground.

Saturday 22nd May.



BRILLIANT DISPLAY: Group 10 winger Jess Pearson scores one of her four first half tries in Saturday's clash with Group 11. Her efforts helped Group 10 extend their Western region winning streak. **Photo: PHIL BLATCH**

Pearson posts fab four to extend run

LEAGUE TAG
BY ANYA WHITELAW

FOUR tries in one half of league tag - it was a performance which put a huge grin on the face of Jess Pearson and helped Group 10 make it eight Western championship victories in a row.

The Orange Hawks youngster used her blistering pace and ability to finish to help her Group 10 outfit blow away Group 11 in their clash at Lithgow's Tony Luchetti field on Saturday, the girls in blue winning 44-4.

"I don't think I've scored four before in a game, I think four is the most for me," Pearson said after her player-of-the-match performance.

"It was pretty good, they are a good group of girls. This is my second year with them, they are all very experienced and it's good to play with them.

"It's pretty good to play for Group 10, I love it."

While Pearson provided the finishing touches and two of her tries were efforts from range, she paid credit to two of her team-mates in helping her to one of the more memorable moments

in her league tag career.

"There is just a good connection there with me and my centre Abby Stammers and the halfback Bronte [Emmanuel] - it's just that really good connection that helps," she said.

That combination with St Pat's talent Emmanuel was evident early as Pearson scored the first of her tries when the game was just 45 seconds old.

Group 10 created an overlap on the left edge with Emmanuel's long ball then picking out a flying Pearson.

She had her second with a tick over seven minutes gone when chasing through a Mish Somers kick which bounced awkwardly for the Group 11 defence. After pouncing on the loose ball her explosive speed left her rivals no chance of making a tag.

By the 10 minute mark Group 10's lead had pushed out to 14-0, Meredith Jones showing some nice footwork as she stepped her way over.

Group 11 was not without its bright moments during the opening half - fullback India Draper twice sliced through Group 10's defence with only desperate diving

tags by the cover defence denying her.

Maddi Chapman also had a line break to her credit, but it was Group 10 who were in control as Pearson kept the points coming.

The winger had her hat-trick in the 16th minute, turning two Group 11 defenders inside out on a 50-metre run.

Three minutes out from the break she was in again, this time set up with some sharp work from centre Stammers.

Somers' conversion made it 26-0 and Group 10 was well on its way to another Western crown.

By three-quarter-time the host's advantage had blown out to 44 points as Somers scored from a nice individual effort and her St Pat's club-mate Erin Naden crossed twice in three minutes.

The final quarter of the game was Group 11's best and after a rare handling error from Group 10, they finally got on the board thanks to Maddison McGuinness.

GROUP 10 44 (Jess Pearson 4, Erin Naden 2, Mish Somers, Meredith Jones tries; Mish Somers 6 goals) defeated GROUP 11 4 (Maddison McGuinness)

Somers praises her disciplined troops



ANOTHER SUCCESS: St Pat's club-mates Meredith Jones, Hannah Kelly, Paige Hay, Mish Somers, Erin Naden and Bronte Emmanuel were part of the successful Group 10 side. **Photo: PHIL BLATCH**

LEAGUE TAG
BY ANYA WHITELAW

GOOD discipline, strong defence, plus a quick, classy attack - they are qualities which have served Group 10 well since the formation its representative league tag side and qualities which were evident on Saturday as they clinched yet another Western crown.

A Group 10 representative league tag side was formed for the first time in 2013, posting a 30-0 win over Woodbridge Cup.

The following year saw players from those two competitions meet again, but this time they were playing for a Western championship. Bathurst Panthers star Claire Woolmington scored the only try of the clash to hand Group 10 a 6-0 win.

Since then more league tag sides have contested the Western championship - Group 11 and Castlereagh-Barwon joining in - but Group 10 has maintained its stranglehold on the title.

The closest they have come to defeat was in 2018 when being pushed in an 8-4 triumph over Group 11.

Their latest success was a 44-4 triumph

over Group 11 at Lithgow's Tony Luchetti Sportsground on Saturday. Mish Somers, who captained-coached the victors, was delighted.

"Eight in a row now, the girls played awesome, the discipline on the field was really good and it was a really good game," Somers, who plays her club tag for St Pat's, said.

"We defended really hard, I think we put them under a fair bit of pressure which allowed us to have a lot of ball. The girls were smart with it, didn't push the pass and we were able to put together a few sets and put a few points on the board.

"It was really nice to play with this bunch of girls, there's a good mix of youth and experience and the young girls who made their debut today were just fantastic."

The pace of Orange Hawks winger Jess Pearson did plenty of damage as she scored four tries for Group 10. Pat's duo Meredith Jones and Erin Naden also crossed for tries as though showed their speed and evasion skills.

"Jess had a blinder. Abby Stammers gave her some really nice ball outside, but she

had to run 20-50 metres to get to the line. She has got some skill that kid and I think she'll go pretty far," Somers said.

"The Pat's girls all had a good game. I thought Paige [Hay] was really good for us defensively wise and she took some of those really hard runs in the middle of the game and just kept us on the front foot.

"Bronte was also good on the left-hand side where a lot of those points were scored, but it was just a good team effort and that everyone pulled their weight is why we won so well."

Though Group 11 was outclassed, Somers feels that future clashes between the two Groups could be closer once the young talents who are her rivals gain more experience.

"They are very young so I can definitely see potential there. They've got pretty good speed across the board, they just need to work out how to use it," she said.

"They came out hard in that second half too, we probably took our foot off a little bit towards the end, but to score that amount of points in 50 minutes is very good, I am very, very happy."

Monday 24th May

Tuesday 25th May

Too classy again

VOLLEYBALL

BY ALEXANDER GRANT



TOP STUFF: Western successfully defended their title at the CHS Girls Volleyball Championships. Photo: CONTRIBUTED

THE pressure was on Western to deliver the goods during the recent NSW CHS Girls Volleyball Championships considering a near-identical team took out the previous edition in 2019 with an undefeated record.

However, raging favourites Western made lightning strike twice as they claimed the 2021 title - once again without dropping a match.

Western's dominance across the three-day competition in Armidale saw them take up half of the 10-strong CHS representative team selected at the tournament's conclusion, with Zara Sheader, Tegan Bush (Bathurst High School), Lily Grimmond, Madelynn Vallis and Harriet Fitzsimmons (Kelso High School) all making the cut.

Morgan Murphy (Bathurst HS), Amy Parker (Kelso HS) and Kara Hinderager (Cowra High School) also played a vital part in Western's nine straight wins, including the 22-20, 21-15 win over Sydney North in the gold medal game.

Western also mirrored another aspect of their 2019 championship by dropping just a single set across the entire tournament.

Western CHS coach Jerry Sheader said his side being able to defend their crown in such fashion was a pleasure to watch.

"Having five girls in the CHS side is brilliant, so is going through the tournament with just one lost set. That's exactly what they did, pretty much as the same team, when they were in year 10," he said.

"That means they've played 20 games at CHS level and never lost, which I think is pretty incredible for that level of the sport. It shows how strong these girls are."

The girls in red and

green have now won four titles across CHS girls volleyball's history.

Western also won the tournament in 2010, with a team that had previously been coached by Sheader, and had their only other win back in 1993.

This time around the Western squad blitzed everyone before them, right up until day three where Sydney North took a set off them, but Western got the job done

quicker in the grand final later in the day against the same opponent.

"We weren't really tested over the first two days then on day three we played both second and third place from the last carnival. That's when things started to get a bit tougher," Sheader said.

"One of the things about these girls is that there's no weak points. For instance, every time they turn up to serve there's a good server.

None of the other teams ever get a time where the pressure is off.

"We have two outsider hitters who have been playing together for a long time, and that's a key position. All five of those girls who made the CHS state team have been playing state netball outside of the school system for at least three years.

"They're coming from a great base even though they couldn't play during COV-

ID. The Sydney teams they played this year have been part of a state league, which we haven't had access because we're too far away."

The lone non-Bathurst representative in the Western team, Hinderager, was named the team's most valuable player for the tournament.

The girls' success adds to the Western boys' bronze medal finish in their tournament earlier in the year.

Thursday 27th May

Monday 7th June.



SPECIAL: The 'Banha Belong' mural spans two walls at the Kelso Community Club and celebrates Wiradyuri culture. Photo: **RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN**

Students' own touch on Kelso hub

COMMUNITY

STUDENTS from Denison College Kelso High campus have contributed to a new mural at the Kelso Community Hub.

The mural spans two walls and features the words 'Banha Belong', with 'Banha' being Wiradyuri for 'truly'.

The project is a collaboration between the school, Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council and Bathurst Regional Council.

Local street artist and muralist Sven Rogers led the project, offering up the artistic direction and helping the students to complete the

work over four two-hour sessions.

He said the design of the mural was "selected to speak to the indigenous community and the wider community in Kelso", and the project creates a sense of pride in the facility among its young users.

"The community hub really does belong to these kids. I don't know if they feel that, but there has been a shift," Mr Rogers said.

"... Since the creation of the mural, there has been no case of graffiti at the Kelso Community Hub that I know of, so it has led to a better

— **RACHEL CHAMBERLAIN**

STARS OF BATHURST

More than 360 guests attended Bathurst Goldfields on Saturday for the 2021 Stars of Bathurst Dance for Cancer event. With \$57,852 already raised in the lead-up to the event, contributions from guests saw the final figure reach \$103,811.



RED CARPET: Geoff and Liz Purcell.



ELTON ENTHUSIASTS: Stars of Bathurst Dance for Cancer co-MC Andy Wheeler with performer Peter Heffernan. Photos: **CHRIS SEABROOK**



WE WERE THERE: Elise Woods, Emily Rynhart and Bethany Windsor.



IN FOCUS: [Back] Amanda Matters with Sharon Ejiofor; [front] Sue Duchna] with Helena McKinnon-Braith.



GUESTS: Claire Golding with Hannah English.

Western Times Thursday 3rd June.



WORKING TOGETHER: The more experienced members of the Group 10 Referees Association helped juniors work on their skills at a training session in Bathurst.

Halsey's part of a junior injection of referees

RYAN WHITELAW

STUART HALSEY SCORED some crucial, pressure tries the back of his quick thinking and vision while playing in the centres for St Pat's, but it's Stuart Halsey is putting those skills to use in a different way. His ability to read play and be decisive is seeing him rise through the ranks as a member of the Group 10 Referees Association. Halsey is now in his third year of refereeing and is one of a growing group of juniors who are showing interest in officiating. "It's an injection of enthusiastic juniors into the Group 10 Referees Association president Nathan Blanchard has welcomed. "It's very good that they've been able to get on the board," he said.

"Our numbers were down last year obviously due to COVID but this year we are back up around 115 members and a lot of those are junior referees, in the seniors you are probably only looking at about 30. "They're loving the learning, a few of these young guys just can't get enough, they absolutely enjoy it. "So we've got young guys like Stu who are just coming along leaps and bounds. Stu has come into seniors this year, he's kicking butt basically. He actually did his first under 18s line the Sunday just gone, Hawks and Mudjee. Three send offs in the game, it opened his eyes up to a few things I'm sure, but he loved it." In order to help develop new referees, the association has staged training sessions with a focus on juniors at both Bathurst and Orange.

It was the idea of association treasurer Rebecca Rogers, with the mantra to keep things simple. Despite the cold and wet weather, good numbers turned out to work on areas of officiating such as whistles, running the line as a touch judge and positioning. It's hoped that these training sessions can see more juniors follow in the footsteps of Halsey and find themselves with appointments in senior games. It will also help ensure there are enough officials to cover games in future seasons. "Numbers around Bathurst aren't that bad, you are always looking for more referees because you can never have enough of them, but I think in the Bathurst area we are looking at between 30 and 40 junior referees," Blanchard said. "Mudjee have done a good recruitment drive this year, they had 28 put through a new course only a month ago."

Monday 14th June

Bathurst teams excel at state titles

Successful quest

NETBALL
BY ALEXANDER GRANT

BATHURST'S under 17s and 15s teams went off to the Netball NSW Senior State Titles on the weekend with big expectations on their shoulders for their respective division two campaigns.

And they still managed to live up to those expectations.

The under 17s squad finished runners-up in their competition with a record of 15 wins, one draw and a loss, and were just a single point behind the champion Wagga Wagga side.

Bathurst inflicted the only loss of the tournament on Wagga but defeat against Lakeside would ultimately cost the girls in blue and gold the top prize.

The under 15s weren't far away from the top of the ladder in their title pursuit, returning home in fourth place.

Under 17s coach Trish Williams said there was plenty of praise for her team from all corners.

"We had a player end up with concussion and unfortunately we lost the next game by three but we regrouped. We did a lot of work on mental toughness and teambuilding and we were able to execute really well."

"I took 12 players down because we had a couple of niggling injuries in the team and that paid off."

"We had great feedback from the other coaches,



and when we beat Wagga who were a fit and dynamic team - it was great catching up with their coach because she's the coach of Southern Academy. They said we executed really well."

"We had a game plan. We stuck to it. We didn't have to make many adjustments."

Bathurst's 17s got their tournament off to a great start with a 20-19 win over Lakeside and picked up big wins over Blacktown (26-20) and Inner Western Suburbs

(19-15) later in the day. Their 23-21 success over Wagga shot them to the top of the ladder and the overall win was still in their sights after a 23-all draw with Maitland.

Bathurst went down 18-15 in the following game to Lakeside but they would maintain a perfect run from that point on, winning their next eight matches.

The most entertaining of those victories came in a tough 24-22 win over major

Central West rivals Orange. "We worked hard on finishing off our games. When the last three minutes arrived we'd turn the motor up and push through," Williams said.

"It's a great result for the Central West and especially good for regional netball, with Wagga winning as well. It just shows that we're right up there with some of the best teams."

"I'm hoping that we'll continue to have a lot of players

coming through the try out again for the 17s next year as well."

Meanwhile, the under 15s ended their competition with a record of nine wins, five losses and a draw. Bathurst picked up a six game unbeaten run during the opening day's play and were able to finish their competition on a high after a tough stretch over the middle.

Some of the highlights for the Bathurst juniors includ-

ed a 22-19 win over Nambucca Valley, a tough 20-all draw with Muswellbrook and a 16-14 win over Lismore.

Like their 17s counterparts, the Bathurst 15s also claimed a win over Orange, 23-14.

Wagga Wagga also claimed the spoils in the under 15s division two competition, winning 14 of their 15 matches. Eastwood and Dubbo finished second and third, while Bathurst's win over Nambucca decided fourth place.

Wednesday 16th June