The Sports Union hosted the EAUC Cluster Games from the 26th to the 28th April. Events included American Football, Ten Pin Bowling, Squash and Surfriding. The Relaxed & Flexible Games, as they were dubbed, attracted more than 150 students from nine university campuses from across NSW. Each competition was run in conjunction with its respective club on campus.

American Football - The University’s American Football club showed determination and perseverance in getting the sport up and running on campus and included in the Cluster Games. The event attracted 4 teams each with approximately 22 players. Although new on the scene, the Newcastle University “Thunder” put in a great effort to make its way into the finals against Sydney University. Sydney’s experience showed throughout the game, but the Thunder fought back hard only to be denied Gold by one point.

Ten Pin Bowling - This event attracted players ranging from the social bowlers to the elite.

As Ten Pin Bowling is not a recognised event in the range of sports contested at the national university level, this event was aimed at people having fun as well as promoting an opportunity for inter-university competition for disabled athletes. Newcastle took out Bronze in the Individuals, and Silver and Bronze in the Teams events.

Squash - The championships helped profile our recently refurbished Squash and Tennis Pavilion and confirmed the strong standing of Newcastle University squash teams in inter-university competitions. The Newcastle University team of Paul McGillicuddy, Sean Teh, Lyndon Bell, Russell Crosbie and Steven Mills played well to reach the finals against UNSW. It was a close contest with the match undecided until the last set with Newcastle taking out Silver.

Surfriding - Always very popular with competitors, this event tested their skills and prowess, making for some exciting viewing.

The University Surfriders are currently the National University Champions, and, from the way they surfed, it was easy to see why. Our team gave it all they had and their dedication paid off with Newcastle taking out Gold in the Women’s event, Bronze in the Men’s individuals, Gold and Silver in the Malibu and Bronze in the Body Board event. The Sports Union’s own Chris Tola showed he still has what it takes, to bring home Gold in the Masters Event.

The Cluster Games turned out to be a great success. The weather was brilliant, the competition fierce but friendly, and the social side a lot of fun. Feedback from both spectators and competitors indicated that they enjoyed their visit and are keen to return. The Cluster Games have proven to be a great opportunity for our University to showcase the sporting talents of our students and to prepare for the upcoming Australian University Games.
STUDENTS SERVING US PROUD

WINDSURFING
Michael Lancey competed at the National University (and Open) Championships on 14-21 April held at Hamilton Island. Michael competed in several disciplines including slalom, freestyle and marathon. He managed some difficult sailing conditions to be placed 2nd in the University students category and 4th overall. Michael has recently been named ‘Youth Sailor of the Year’ by the Yachting Association of NSW.

ORIENTEERING
Robert Preston was selected in the Australian Orienteering Team for the World Cup Series held in Canberra between 21-23 April. Robert finished 26th - a great effort considering the races were contested by over 15 nations including Norway, Sweden and Great Britain. Robert is currently placed 5th in the 2000 QANTAS National Orienteering League. Robert hopes to represent Australia in more World Cup races and we wish him all the best in achieving his goal.

ARCHERY
Newcastle University’s Archery Club had an excellent time recently at the EAUC Archery Championships held on Sunday 9th May, hosted by the Central Coast Campus. The venue was ideal and the weather provided perfect conditions for the day’s events. Archers from many universities including Sydney, UNSW and CSU Mitchell gave their best to ensure the competition was tough but friendly. Our Archery team served us proud with Joe Kelly taking out 1st place in the Male Novice category with 816 points. This proved to be our strongest category with John Winota placed fifth on 713 points, Miika Langille eighth on 600 points, Adam Coy ninth on 559 points and Adam Evans tenth on 439 points. Our archers put in a fantastic effort to come a close second overall.

BRENNBALL
On Saturday 1st April, the Nordic Students Association organised an informal game of “Brennball”. This is a Swedish simplified version of Baseball, where the focus is on fun. Still the event turned out to be quite competitive with the 10 teams fighting bravely through round robin stages. The group winners then played each other in the final. The Swede’s experience paid off in the end amidst allegations of match fixing and refereee bribery! The day turned out to be a great success and crowd pleaser. We surely haven’t seen the last of “Brennball” at Newcastle.

WATERSKI
The Waterski club recently hosted its own Waterski competition - the Carnage Cup. Skiers from Queensland, Victoria, Wollongong, Macquarie, NSW and RMIT Universities all competed. The hosts turned out to also be the victors, taking out the Men’s team and the Overall team event. A fantastic effort by Jen Newton saw the club gain first place in the Women’s team event. The crowd support and the skills of the participants helped make this year’s Carnage Cup one of the best.

WATERPOLO
Four members of the University Waterpolo team Kyle Jones, Joel Wales, Phil Reid and Ross Wales competed with their local club, the Lake Macquarie Dolphins, in the Men’s A Grade final of the Newcastle waterpolo competition on Sunday 9th April. The team defeated Central Newcastle in a fast paced, exciting game. With scores tied at the final whistle, the game went into extra time with Central taking an early lead. The Dolphins left their comeback until the last two minutes to level the scores once again. A critical goal, set up by Phil Reid, saw the Dolphins go on to win the game and their first premiership in over nine years. The four University boys all played an intergral part in the team’s 10-9 win.

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NEAL J. DICKINSON SCHOLARSHIPS

Students who are members of a Sports Union club have the opportunity each year of gaining a Neal J. Dickinson grant. The purpose of the grant is to sponsor those student club members who actively participate in the organisation and operation of a Sports Union club to develop and expand their knowledge in any sports related area. Principally these are in the fields of sports administration, coaching, umpiring and injury management, so they, in turn, can better assist the sporting clubs on campus.

The Department of Sport and Recreation will run a number of courses in the coming months. Courses include First Aid, Sports Strapping, Sports Massage and Sports Trainer Level 1. If you are interested in the courses on offer from Sports and Recreation, please call into our office and pick up a brochure or call 4921 6960.

UNIVERSITY STEP TEAM

WORLD CHAMPIONS

On Sunday 4th June the university step team of Sam Martin, Kathryn Wheatley, Nicole Wheatley, Kristy De Lore, Karen Grigg and Leanne Grigg were crowned World Step Aerobic Champions. The elite step team which is based at the Forum, represented Australia in the world championships held in Brussels, Belgium and beat 18 other nations to claim the title. Congratulations girls on an outstanding effort!

IN MEMORIAM

Steve Rogers and Mark Charles tragically lost their lives on 10 June 2000 in Kanangra Boyd National Park.

STEVEN ROGERS
Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental Engineering with First Class Honours.
- Recipient of the University of Newcastle Frank Henderson Scholarship in Engineering in 1993.
- President of the Sports Union's Mountaineering Club.

Mountaineer, engineer, golfer, musician, philosopher and good mate.

MARK TIMOTHY CHARLES
Bachelor of Mathematics/Bachelor of Science (1997).
Bachelor of Mathematics with First Class Honours (1998).
- Placed on the Dean's Commendation List, Science and Mathematics 1996.
- Recipient of Mathematics Prize in 300 Level Mathematics 1996.

- Recipient of University of Newcastle Honours Scholarship in Mathematics 1997.
- Recipient of University of Newcastle Postgraduate Research Scholarship 1998 to undertake Master of Engineering (Research).
- Permitted to transfer to Doctor of Philosophy candidature from Semester 1 1998.
- Sports Union Delegate, Mountaineering Club.

Mountaineer, scientist, rugby player, Christian and good mate.

Reprinted from the program of the Memorial Service held in the Griffis Duncan Theatre on Friday 23rd June.

TENNIS COURTS GET A FACELIFT

The University synthetic grass tennis courts are currently being resurfaced. The surface while not being overly worn after 8 years, has suffered considerable damage along court line seams. The new surfaces, together with the addition of toilets to the tennis shed and landscape improvements to the court surrounds, have restored the tennis complex to a very high standard.

So come along and have a game on the new courts. Why not take advantage of our great offer of half price tennis and squash court hire for all games played before 12.00pm. Call 4921 8850 to make a booking.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Sports Union held its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 3 May. The meeting was well attended with good representation from university sporting clubs and interested others. The results of the election for office bearers for 2000 saw Dr. Ian Webster return as President, and Trevor John retain his position as Honorary Secretary. Long standing Honorary Treasurer Hugh Floyer stood down and Professor Scott Holmes was elected to the position. Mr. Floyer has made a tremendous contribution to the Sports Union over the past 20 years and we wish him all the best for the future.
NEWS FLASH

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

An EXCITING NEW Dance class starts on Thursday 3rd August. This class will comprise many different styles including Jazz, Modern and Contemporary. So if you want to be the next Fred Astaire or maybe you just want to be able to look cool on the dance floor, give us a call and sign up now!

BLUES DINNER 2000

The Sports Union’s Annual Blues Dinner will be held at the University Union, Friday 25 August 2000. Tickets will be available by calling 4921 6960.

Expression of Interest

If you’re interested in entering a team in either the World Cup Soccer or World Cup Rugby Championships to be held early Second Semester, please contact the Sports Union on 4921 6960 for details.

The Sports Union recently said goodbye to one of its “family” members Margaret Heron. Margaret, who recently retired from the University, had worked for the Sports Union for more than 30 years. Over that time she carried out an unusual variety of tasks including caterer, decorator, accommodation organiser and ticket seller. There were only four Sports Union clubs when Margaret began in 1967 compared to the thirty four we have now. Members and staff of the Sports Union wish Margaret all the best for the future and thank her for her wonderful contribution to the University.

Congratulations to Justin Norris. Justin recently secured his place at the 2000 Olympics with an amazing comeback to take out first place in the national men’s 400m individual medley swim and the 200m butterfly at the recent trials in Sydney.

Congratulations go to Chris Cockburn of the Water Ski Club on his wonderful effort at the recent National Waterski Championships. Chris was placed second in both the slalom and jump events. He then went on to successfully defend his national trick title.

Congratulations to Andrew Pennington of the Ultimate Frisbee club who was recently selected in the Australian Ultimate Frisbee men’s team. Andrew hopes to compete in the Frisbee World Championships to be held in August in Germany.

Congratulations to wheelchair athlete Kevin Gaides. Kevin has travelled back home to Canada to train and trial for the upcoming Para Olympics. Kevin’s events include road race and middle distance track.

STOP PRESS

Contribution deadline: Next issue: No. 3 28 July

Contributions are welcome. Please send articles, results, fixture listings, clearly labelled photos to: Sports Union
The University of Newcastle
Enquiries: 02 4921 6960
Fax: 02 4921 6996
Email: sports-union@newcastle.edu.au

Sporting Facilities:
02 4921 6963
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02 4921 8850

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