

2000 Australian University Games

Newcastle University – Australian University Men’s Touch and Women’s Tennis Champions

90 Newcastle University athletes and 5 officials travelled down to Ballarat to compete in the 2000 Australian University Games, held from 2 - 6 October.

Miserable weather conditions met the students and continued over the week, but the cold, windy and wet weather did not deter our Women’s Tennis and Men’s Touch Teams from winning Australian University Titles.

Newcastle’s medal tally was boosted when our Men’s Double Scull consisting of **David Hanson** and **Stuart McLeod** won bronze, the first medal

for University rowing since 1997 and only the second rowing medal in over 20 years. **Nicole Williams** had a successful run in 1500 metres winning the bronze. Newcastle University finished the week with 2 gold, and 2 bronze medals – a tremendous effort taking into consideration the small size of the team.

Ten Newcastle University students were rewarded for their successes being selected in the prestigious Australian University Green and Gold Merit teams. Congratulations to the whole Newcastle team placing 16th in the field of over 50 universities,

beating many of the larger universities.

The team spirit of the Newcastle athletes was exceptional; this was shown when **Brooke Playford** competed in the final of the 50m breaststroke where all of the Newcastle team travelled to the Aquatic Centre to cheer Brooke to her 6th placing. This support was continued during the week with all athletes taking the time to support fellow students in various sports.

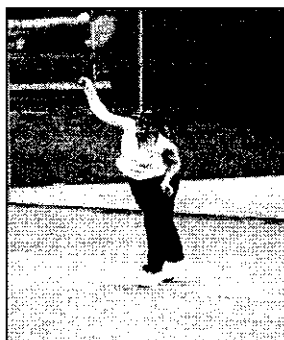


Final Team Placings

• Athletics – 6 competitors	<i>overall placing – 16th</i>
• Badminton Men’s – 4 competitors	<i>overall placing – 7th</i>
• Badminton Women’s – 4 competitors	<i>overall placing – 7th</i>
• Basketball Men’s – 7 competitors	<i>overall placing – 15th</i>
• Basketball Women’s – 9 competitors	<i>overall placing – 16th</i>
• Soccer Men’s – 18 competitors	<i>overall placing – 6th</i>
• Swimming – 1 competitor	<i>no overall results noted</i>
• Tennis Men’s – 6 competitors	<i>overall placing – 9th</i>
• Tennis Women’s – 4 competitors	<i>overall placing – 1st</i>
• Touch Men’s – 9 competitors	<i>overall placing – 1st</i>
• Touch Mixed – 8 competitors	<i>overall placing – 6th</i>

Green and Gold Teams

• Basketball Men’s -	Matt Streatfield
• Soccer Men’s -	Martin Smith
• Soccer Men’s -	Kurt O’Brien
• Tennis Women’s -	Jenny-Anne Fetch
• Tennis Women’s -	Kim Whitty
• Touch Men’s -	Pete Sanders
• Touch Men’s -	Aaron Bolte
• Touch Men’s -	Toby Brown
• Touch Mixed -	Luke Wolfenden
• Touch Mixed -	Jarrold Wynn



Hunter Paralympians go for GOLD!

Congratulations to Heath Francis and Gemma Dashwood on their medal winning performances at the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney. Heath won a Gold medal in the 400m men’s track event, 4x100m and 4x400m relay. He also took Silver in the 200m. Gemma won a Gold medal in the 400m freestyle and a Silver in the 200m individual medley swim. Congratulations also to Alicia Jenkins on a fantastic effort in her swim.



Campus Scamper

The Sports Union's annual Campus Scamper was run under glorious skies around the University of Newcastle. The event attracted over 200 athletes (ranging from the serious to the social), who completed the five-kilometre run or a three-kilometre walk around the University's picturesque campus.

Last year's winner, **Andrew McLeod**, defended his "1st Male Runner Home" title winning the run in a time of 17.34 minutes, closely followed by **Malcolm Roberts** in a time of 17.40 minutes. Andrew completed the double by being the first student with Malcolm the first staff member home. **Megan Evan's** also defended her "1st Woman Runner Home" title winning comfortably over **Nicole Williams**.

The event formed part of the point score for the Residential Colleges with International House being the first team home. The overall winner of the Intercollegiate Trophy for 2000 was *Evatt House*.

The Sports Union thanks: The Forum, The Crazy Cow Cafe, Pizza Hut - Jesmond, The Bearded Bushman Restaurant and Hudson's New York Bar & Grill for supporting the event by donating prizes.



Students on the Prowl to the Top

Alison McIlveen and **Anika Skillen** have been named in the Sydney Panthers (formally the Sydney Flames) squad for the 2001 season.

Alison was voted Most Valuable Player at the Eastern Australian University Games held in Albury Wodonga earlier this year and also the award for most assists last season when she played in the NSW All Star five.

Anika captained NSW at the under-20 national championships last season before an injury saw her sidelined.



Olympic Torch Relay

President of the Men's Soccer Club, **Michael Kmet**, was one of the fortunate people chosen to carry the Olympic Torch in Cessnock on Wednesday 30th August.

Michael started his leg of the Torch Relay at 9.30am in front of the Cessnock Primary School on Allandale Road, surrounded by hundreds of excited school children and completed his run at the cemetery in much quieter surroundings.

Michael was nominated to carry the torch because of his contribution to University Sport and in particular his contribution to the Soccer Club and the help he has given to International students wanting to play for the club.

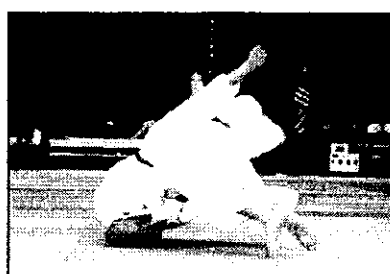


Judo Club Shines

Two members of the University's Judo Club had great success at the NSW International Open Judo Tournament held at the Michael Wendon Sports and Aquatic Centre in Sydney.

Martin Kelly, President of the Judo club, put in a great effort and brought home gold in the over 100 kilogram division. Martin only just missed out on a selection in the Australian Judo team.

Alex Schmidt managed to fight off tough competition to win bronze in the under 81 kilogram division.



Opening of Tennis Shed Extensions

Mr Hugh Floyer, past Treasurer of the Sports Union had the honour of officially opening the Sports Union's Tennis Shed Extensions on Wednesday, 18 October 2000.

Mr Floyer reflected on the history of tennis on campus before declaring the Extensions officially open in front of guests including prominent University staff, local business-people and Sports Union staff.

Please call 4921 8850 to make a booking at the Squash and Tennis Pavilion.

Keep in mind – ½ price squash and tennis court hire before 12.00pm

2000 Blues Dinner

The annual Blues Dinner was held at the University Union on Friday 25 August 2000. This dinner is held to recognise and celebrate outstanding achievements and contributions to sport, whether it be in the capacity of a player or administrator.

BLUES

University Blues are awarded for excellence in sport. Candidates must be enrolled students proceeding towards a degree or a diploma at this University and be nominated by a Sports Union Club, the Sports Union Executive or the Blues Association.

The Blues recipients this year are:

Warwick Crosby - Rugby

Junior Lene - Rugby

Nick Johns - Soccer

Glen Moore - Soccer

Andrew Cairns - Swimming

Gemma Dashwood - Swimming

Alicia Jenkins - Swimming

Glen Sedgman - Swimming

Nikki Searle - Waterpolo

Chris Cockburn - Waterski

Phillip Reid - Waterski



Blues Recipients for 1999

COLOURS

Sports Union Colours may be awarded to ordinary or associate members of the Sports Union who have made an outstanding contribution to the organisation and administration of a Sports Union club over a period of at least three academic years.

Colours recipients for 1999 are:

Gordon Rintoul - Basketball

Alan Knight - Men's Hockey

Katrina Knight - Women's Hockey

Stephen Orford - Mens' Soccer

Snezana Parazenovic - Women's Soccer



Colours Recipients for 1999

SPOTY nominees for 1999



SPORTS PERSON OF THE YEAR

Each year, students of the University with either an outstanding sporting or sports administration record (e.g. refereeing, managing or coaching at a national level) during the previous academic year, are invited to nominate for this award.

The finalists this year were:

Kevin Gaidies - Wheelchair athlete

Glen Moore - Soccer

Justin Norris - Swimming

Nikki Searle - Waterpolo

Chris Cockburn - Waterski

Phillip Reid - Waterski

The recipient for 1999 is Stockton boy and commerce student, **Justin Norris**. Justin's father accepted the award on his behalf due to Justin's training commitments for the 2000 Olympics. See "Stop Press" column for Justin's Olympic results

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE RECIPIENTS AND NOMINEES

Ultimate Frisbee High Flyer

During the month of August, **Andrew Pennington**, a member of the Sports Union Ultimate frisbee club, was fortunate enough to compete in the Ultimate Frisbee World Championships. The tournament was held in Heilbronn, Germany from 5 - 12 August, and is one of the biggest sporting competitions outside of the Olympics, with around 1,000 athletes competing in five divisions - Open Womens', Masters', Co-ed and Juniors.

Australia had two teams contesting the Open and Women's divisions. Six days of hard fought, but spirited games saw Australia eventually placed 6th in Open and Womens'.

In the Open division, the first two day's competition was to decide which teams would move into the pool with the top eight. Australia defeated Slovakia, Ireland and the Netherlands to move through to the top pool, only sustaining one loss to the

2nd seeded Japanese team. The final five days were very hard fought and close, with Australia eventually beating Japan to challenge for 5th position but losing to Great Britain in this play-off to finish 6th.





News and Events

Successful Regatta for Boat Club

The 2000 Australian Universities Rowing Championships, known as the Inter Varsity Regatta, was one of the most successful for Newcastle University Boat Club in the last 25 years. The team consisted of **Lauren O'Donnell, Miriam Pepper, Katie Connor, Virginia Crawler, Stuart McLeod** and **David Hanson**. They competed in the Women's Elite Coxed Four, Double Scull and Coxless Pair and the Men's Elite Double Scull and Single Scull. The Men's Double Scull edged out much favoured rivals to snatch the bronze medal - Newcastle University's second rowing medal in 20 years.

This year's regatta was held on the 1956 Olympic course on Lake Wendouree in the centre of Ballarat. The conditions on the first two days of competition were atrocious with strong winds buffeting the course and challenging the best crews just to finish.

The men's double scull recorded a win in their heat to progress directly through to the final. The women's four, double and pair and men's single all progressed through to the repechage. Thursday's winds were the strongest of the week and the women's four were unlucky not to make the semi finals after another crew collided with them only 300 metres from the line. This was a commendable performance from the crew who raced for the first time at this regatta.

The women's double finished fourth in their repechage to secure a place in the B final and Stuart progressed through to the A final of the men's

single scull with an impressive repechage victory.

Finals day brought relatively calm conditions and the first event of the day, the men's double scull, provided real cause for celebration in the NUBC camp. After a slow start the experienced duo found themselves closing on the field with 500m to go and proceeded to row through their larger and more experienced competitors to take the bronze medal. This success was repeated an hour later when the women's double scull rowed a brilliant race to take first place in the B final.



Sports Union Runners-Up for Hunter Sporting Award

The Sports Union was recently nominated for the "Successful Promotion of a Sporting Event" for the Hunter Branch of the Australian Society of Sports Administrators for its staging of Newcastle's first ever Night Surfing competition. The Competition was held as part of the Sports Union's hosting of the Australian University Championships for Surfing and was held at Newcastle Beach on Wednesday 3rd July.

The Sports Union came in runners-up to the Northern New South Wales Soccer Federation's co-ordination of a national womens soccer competition.

STOP PRESS

A World Cup Soccer Championship was held at No.1 oval on Sunday 22nd October. Results from the day long event were:

Singapore	GOLD
Norway	SILVER
Africa United	BRONZE

Norway were the inaugural winners last year and put up quite a battle only to be beaten in extra time

Blues recipient and University Rugby Club member, **Warwick Crosby** has been selected in the Australian Barbarians Rugby Union Team. Keeping with tradition, Warwick will wear socks in the Rugby Club colours in a forthcoming tour of Malaysia.

Commerce student, **Justin Norris** captured the hearts of Novacastrians with a heroic swim at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. Justin took out bronze in the 200m Individual Medley final and made it into the 400m Individual Medley Final. Justin took nearly a second off his personal best time in the 200m Butterfly

As this is the final edition of Backpage for 2000, the Sports Union and editorial staff take this opportunity to thank all contributors for their input over the year and to wish all students the very best in their exams. Good Luck.

Sports Union

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