

Sports

SHORTS

Vol 2 Issue 2 July 2002

NSW DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION



INSIDE THIS ISSUE ...

bad sports

DEALING WITH BAD BEHAVIOUR

michael milton

HERO OF THE MOUNTAIN

young gun

SPORTS TRAINEE SUCCESS STORY



© Copyright
NSW Department of Sport and Recreation
ISSN 1446-2206

Sportshorts is produced by the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation three times each year.

Reproduction of material is permitted with written permission from the Department.

For additional copies of Sportshorts or to be taken off the mailing list, email sportshorts@dsr.nsw.gov.au or contact the Department on (02) 9006 3700.

Sportshorts feedback is welcomed.
Email sportshorts@dsr.nsw.gov.au or fax (02) 9006 3883.

Production Sportshorts is written, designed and produced by the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation's Corporate Communications and Media Unit, with the help of departmental staff.

Editorial Shannon Dixon and Cindy Sciberras
Phone (02) 9006 3700 Fax (02) 9006 3800
Email sportshorts@dsr.nsw.gov.au

Advertising Sean Farrar
Phone (02) 9006 3858 or 0411 042 936
Email sfarrar@dsr.nsw.gov.au

Design and production Jacqui Maddren

NSW Department of Sport and Recreation
6 Figtree Drive Homebush Bay NSW 2127
Locked Bag 1422 Concord West DC NSW 2138
phone (02) 9006 3700
fax (02) 9006 3883
email info@dsr.nsw.gov.au
web www.dsr.nsw.gov.au



Our cover image this issue features Michael Milton at the 2002 Salt Lake City Paralympic Games. Photography by Serena Ovens.



For a venue that can play any position on your team ...
think the **Novotel Sydney Olympic Park.**

Ideally located amongst world class sporting venues, offering your sport the perfect vehicle for:

- Sports Business Related Conferences & Seminars
- Sporting Team Camps
- Team Building Sessions
- Event Accommodation

Providing:

- Expert Understanding of Sporting Groups' Needs
- A Wide Choice of Dining
- Residential Conference Packages
- Accommodation, Meeting Space, Catering
- Team Building from \$150 per person per day

Phone (02) 8762 1149 Quote SPORTSHORTS

So much sporting expertise!

Phone 61 2 8762 1111

Fax 61 2 8762 1211

Email sales@novotelhb.com.au

www.accorhotels.com.au

So much to offer your sporting organisation!



**SYDNEY
OLYMPIC PARK**



CONTENTS

MESSAGE From the Director-General ...

Sports fever has hit town. And it's no surprise considering the calibre of events in 2002.

The Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Soccer World Cup and the Commonwealth Games are just some events we're enjoying. Aside from providing great sporting spectacles, the events have also generated a wave of positive sporting enthusiasm for us to capitalise on.

Many winter sports reported this exact result following Salt Lake City and we're sure to see the same trend for other sports as the year goes on.

Speaking of major sporting events, securing the 2003 Rugby World Cup was a major achievement for Australia. The tournament is ranked as one of the world's top four sports events and NSW is set to be a major beneficiary.

Sydney will host the opening ceremony and all the major finals, as well as matches being played in regional centres like Gosford and Wollongong. The event is expected to contribute \$300m to the NSW economy, create and support 1800 jobs and bring tens of thousands of visitors to our state.

On a financial note of another type, the recent state budget produced some positive results for sport and recreation. Highlights included an extra \$800,000 for regional sports facilities, a \$60,000 increase for the Country Athletes Scheme and an additional \$140,000 for the Regional Academies of Sport.

In this Winter edition of Sportshorts, you'll enjoy our story on Michael Milton, the Jindabyne based Paralympian who won a staggering four gold medals at the Salt Lake City Games. We also profile Jamie Hardy – a terrific success story from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traineeship scheme.

Leading sports officials present their view on the issue of conflict in our Getting Tough on Conflict in Sport report. You'll also get the latest on Active Search, the new sports facilities at Homebush, the Sun-Herald City to Surf and more.

Enjoy Sportshorts.

Brendan O'Reilly
Director-General

STOP PRESS – OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

Young people are being offered the chance to trek to a remote village in Nepal and help rebuild a school as part of the **Nepal Adventure Challenge**. The Duke of Edinburgh Award, in partnership with World Expeditions, is offering 30 young people the opportunity to take part in the challenge. It's open to young people aged 18 to 25 already involved in the Award or who would like to become involved. **For more information ☎ (02) 9006 3862.**



FEATURES

- 4 Michael Milton
- 6 Conflict in sport
- 8 Opportunity knocks in Brewarrina
- 10 Getting active starts at your computer
- 11 Insurance update
- 12 World conference – women in sport
- 14 New home for emerging sports
- 15 City to Surf

REGULARS

- 15 Child protection update
- 16 Stats chat
- 16 What's new
- 17 Q&A with the industry
- 18 From around NSW

michael milton

THE HERO OF THE

As the snowfields of Mt Kosciuszko come alive, a local and international hero has slipped back into town for the upcoming season. Michael Milton won four gold medals at the 2002 Winter Paralympic Games, creating Paralympic history and adding to an already impressive collection of achievements.

He spends the Australian winter in Jindabyne. Sportshorts caught up with him to find out more about this super athlete.



MOUNTAIN RETURNS

by Shannon Dixon

Michael Milton began skiing at just three years of age. With parents who were keen skiers and owners of a ski business, taking to the slopes came naturally for Michael.

He was identified as talented at a young age and it wasn't long before he was competing on the international circuit as an above the leg amputee in alpine events. At a mere 14 years, Michael first represented Australia at the 1988 Innsbruck Paralympics, finishing well in the slalom, giant slalom and the downhill.

After his first taste of major competition, Michael went from strength to strength. In the next two Paralympic Games, he won six medals including two gold, and along the way picked up a host of other records and achievements at World Championships.

Michael retired after the 1996 World Championships but made a comeback in 2000. And what a comeback it was — no less than triple gold at the 2000 World Championships.

Following this, all his focus shifted to the VIII Winter Paralympic Games in Salt Lake City.

"I had never won all four events in one week at a major meet. It was my goal to do it at Salt Lake City, but I wasn't sure how realistic I was being.

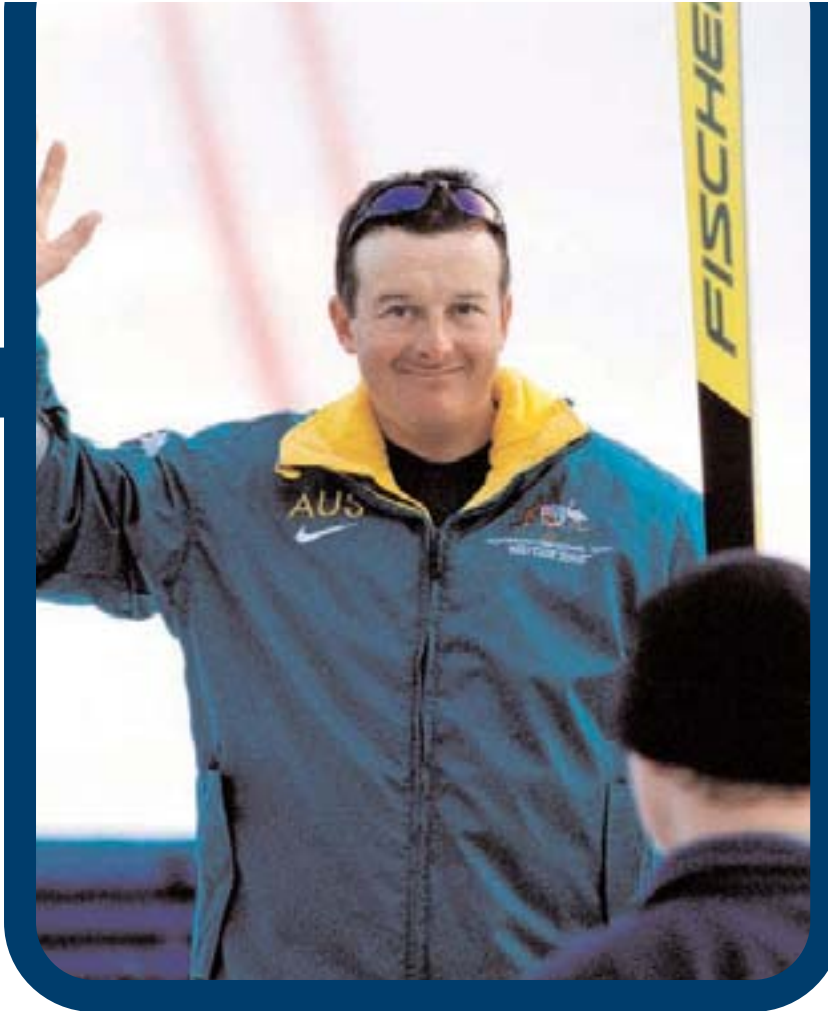
"Everything I did during the lead up to the Games was geared towards achieving my goal. I wanted to become the very best skier I could and fulfil a ten year dream.

"I think the main reason that I was successful at the Games was due to my preparation.

"My coach Steve Graham and I had a different training focus to most of the competitors. We tried to peak for the event and actually didn't go to the last World Cup race to make sure that my preparation was specific for Salt Lake City."

The Graham-Milton strategy paid off. Michael Milton made Paralympic history with four gold medals in a clean sweep of alpine events — downhill, Super-G, giant slalom and slalom.

"Throughout the Games I tried to keep a lid on all of my emotions, but I tell you when I won that fourth event it was just the best feeling of my life."



PHOTOGRAPHY BY SERENA OVENIES

Not surprisingly, Milton rates his Salt Lake City performance as his greatest achievement and says life hasn't quite been the same since. "I certainly get a lot more attention than before. More people know me and I get lots of requests for appearances and public speaking, which is something I'm really enjoying."

According to those who know him, it's not just his skiing performances that set Michael apart. He was voted onto the International Paralympic Committee following Salt Lake City, one of only three athletes elected by the 500 athletes from 36 countries who competed at the Games.

"Michael is an elite athlete in every sense of the word," says Steve Gibb, General Manager of the Jindabyne Winter Academy of Sport and Recreation, who has known Michael since he was young. "He's a role model, not only because of his unbelievable achievements but also his dedication.

"Michael has been based at the Academy and coached on our able-bodied and disabled development programs for many years. He just offers so much to up-and-coming young skiers through both his experience and personal qualities," said Mr Gibb.

Skiing takes up most of Michael's year, but he does try to make time for his other great passion — cycling. Only last year Michael completed a trip from Brisbane to Sydney and this year he cycled from Canberra to the Great Ocean Road. "My cycling trips really give me time to relax and be outdoors in warm weather. I enjoy the physical exertion and being able to hang out in t-shirt and shorts all day!"

"Public speaking commitments have also kept me quite busy since my return from Salt Lake City. It's a great opportunity to travel and meet people, as well as talk about athletes with disabilities and the Paralympic movement."

This year, Michael Milton will be based at Jindabyne, training and continuing with his busy schedule. His next big goal is to make an attempt on the world speed skiing record, currently set at 186km per hour. Unfathomable to most of us, Michael's goal is to crack the 200km per hour mark.

As for the future, well Michael is just taking in the moment. It's been a long road to success, so it's time to enjoy it.

JINDABYNE WINTER ACADEMY OF SPORT AND RECREATION – WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

Michael Milton was just nine years of age when he was identified through the Talent Identification Program run at the Winter Academy of Sport and Recreation at Jindabyne.

The Academy has been involved in assisting many Winter Olympians and Paralympians, just like Michael Milton, and continues to run similar programs for budding young skiers.

☎ 1800 817 937 or (02) 6456 2242

Visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au (follow the links through holidays and Winter Academy)



GETTING TOUGH ON **conflict** IN SPORT

A teenage rugby player punches a referee in the head during a junior match when he is marched back 10m after questioning a penalty. A referee quits in disgust following sideline abuse about his rulings.

These incidents follow the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics study which shows there has been a slight fall in the number of people involved in sport as coaches, referees and officials – people who are vital to the running of any sporting match.

Craig Davis, a former AFL player and now General Manager of Umpiring for the AFL NSW/ACT Commission and Deputy Chair of the NSW Sports Federation, says despite high emotions surrounding your average sporting match, conflict can be prevented through education.

He says a key problem area is anger directed against umpires over the rules. "All referees, umpires and officials are making decisions about participants who don't know the rules," says Davis. "Ask any player to read the rule book from cover to cover and you will find that they don't know all the rules – because rules change."

The AFL has launched a new initiative – a one page brochure issued to every player and coach called Spirit of the Law. The brochure highlights the major rules which govern the game and highlights any recent rule changes. Davis says the aim is to try and build empathy between the officials and the player.



"People are on the sidelines yelling and screaming but they don't see the right decision being made, they see things through rose coloured glasses."

"We encourage all umpires and officials to play the game and we encourage people who play the game to umpire to cut down on conflict in the field."

Davis doesn't believe there has necessarily been an increase in conflict in sport – but rather a greater focus on the problem and a willingness to look for strategies to resolve it.

The Queensland Government and AFL have just released a booklet called We're not playing for Sheep Stations aimed at educating parents of junior players about how to behave at



sporting matches. It is designed to promote responsible parent behaviour and decrease unacceptable conduct and verbal abuse of umpires, officials and players. It will be implemented statewide.

Says AFL Queensland Training Manager Ross Allen: "Our main aim is to provide children with a quality sporting environment and if that means guiding the mums and dads as well, then that's what we will do."

Test cricket umpire Simon Taufel says the problem of conflict has to be tackled if sports want to keep their volunteer officials. "The number one reason umpires give for leaving cricket is the aggro they get off players and parents," he said.

This year for the first time the Australian Cricket Board will use some of its contracted test umpires, like Taufel, to contribute their expertise to training and development courses to be held in all states for umpires and scorers. Conflict resolution will be one of the hot topics. "When I talk to cricket umpires and people involved in cricket, one of the main things they ask is how to handle sledging and conflict situations," Taufel says. "They want to be able to handle these situations confidently and calmly.

"Listening, empathy, tone of voice and understanding are all strategies to help take the emotion out of a situation and help you control it."

Over at Netball NSW, Umpire Development Officer Carol Phillips says the sport has used a number of strategies to deal with conflict. When new rules are implemented umpires are asked to spend extra time explaining them to players.

A rule has been introduced at the state age competitions which ensures all players must play at least 30% of all games. While this rule has been contentious in itself, its aim is to prevent teams from adopting a "win at all cost" approach and sidelining their second best players.

Netball NSW has also recently appointed additional staff to regional areas to help up-skill country coaches and umpires. The

Victorian Government is also about to release a code of conduct for spectators, players, officials and clubs to help control "aggressive parents" at junior sports.

The NSW Department of Sport and Recreation is conducting a course on conflict for sporting organisations:

Conflict and sport presented by Craig Davis
August 7, Sydney
☎ (02) 9454 0222 for more information.

The Australian Sports Commission is also conducting the **Fair Go For Officials forums**. For more information visit <http://www.officiatingaus.org/fgforums.htm>



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS IN

brewarrin

by Cindy Sciberras

The outback town of Brewarrina has gotten much more from a sport and recreation traineeship than an employment opportunity for one of its youth. In just seven months trainee Jamie Hardy - with the help of community mentors - has succeeded in creating a whole range of ongoing sporting opportunities for young people as well as adults.

Twenty year old Jamie is one of eight Aboriginal people offered a sports traineeship in the west and north west of the state last year – which combines formal training with practical work experience, and aims to lead to a full time job.

Jamie has set up a regular touch football competition on Monday nights with 102 registered players. He has an under 15 boy's cricket team entered into a western regional town round robin and helps organise gala days for families showcasing a range of sports.

With another trainee in neighbouring Bourke, inter-town sporting matches are now a regular feature. And in his spare time Jamie runs a disco for young people and helps out at the cinema.

NSW Department of Sport and Recreation Western Region Director Paul Conlon says while the Department has tried to introduce sporting opportunities into towns like Brewarrina in the past, what was needed was for someone local to take the ball and run with it, so to speak.

"Twelve months ago if we were to run a touch football competition in Brewarrina the residents would have played the game and gone home," says Conlon. "Now they are staying, running the canteen and refereeing for other teams. They realise they've got responsibilities if they want sport to flourish in the town."

"Jamie is not just introducing sport – he is helping reignite community spirit."

Jamie is well supported by Brewarrina Shire Council, where his traineeship is based. He works with another youth worker and reports to the Youth Centre Supervisor, Harry Hart, who is full of praise for the young man's enthusiasm.

"Jamie comes from a big family here, many of whom are involved in sport, and he gets good family support. So when he puts something on people are there. Because of his nature he gets people to follow him," Harry said. "He has put together committees for sport made up of young people – and those committees are there to help him. We didn't have this before."



PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF THE MANDY DAILY

Outstanding trainee, Jamie Hardy

a



Jamie (right) offers coaching tips in athletics

Harry says the town's isolation is its biggest problem. "When young people have nothing to do they get bored. When something is created and they participate it helps enormously with all sorts of social problems. You see the personal development of all these kids coming through the sporting programs."

Jamie has always loved sport, representing the far west in a range of activities including tennis, soccer, athletics, swimming and his great love basketball. The opportunity to gain a traineeship in the field was a dream come true. "Before, there was just nothing in the town sports-wise – even at the youth centre it was pretty dull," says Jamie. "It was sad seeing the kids sitting around and doing nothing."

As well as providing regular sporting activities for his town, Jamie also hopes he can help give some of the talented athletes a better sporting chance. "During a recent visit to Sydney Olympic Park, I saw some of the kids playing basketball," said Jamie. "It just killed me knowing I didn't have the chance to go further with the sport."

"I'd love to start up kids' basketball and get some games away in some sort of round robin."

"Hopefully there may be a selector there and they'll pick up some of these talented kids out here in Brewarrina."

NSW Minister for Sport and Recreation Morris Iemma said the traineeships are a great start for the eight Aboriginal participants and he was impressed at the impact they were already having on physical activity opportunities in the far west and north west of the state.

The traineeships have been funded by the State Government and are a cooperative arrangement between the Department of Sport and Recreation and the Murdi Paaki Regional Council.

Training to date has included qualifications in coaching a number of sports including AFL, rugby league and touch football; how to organise traditional Indigenous games and computer skills.

Trainees have been placed in Brewarrina, Bourke, Broken Hill, Coonamble, Dareton, Goodooga, Menindee and Lightning Ridge.



Western Region trainees



\$2.2 MILLION TO SPORTS FACILITIES

\$2.2 million in funding has been allocated to projects to be administered under the 2001/02 Regional Sports Facility Program (RSFP). Here's a brief profile of three projects funded that were the result of fantastic community efforts.

Kendall Swimming Pool Complex \$100,000

Since the river baths were dismantled many years ago, residents of Kendall have had to travel to the next town to access swimming facilities. RSFP funding has been a major boost to the much needed Kendall Swimming Pool Complex.

The new facility will include a 25m pool, a toddler pool, recreational pool, amenities building and car parking. It will be used for recreational swimming, fitness classes, carnivals and learn to swim lessons.

Dubbo Regional Tennis Complex \$150,000

The current tennis facilities in the busy town of Dubbo are small and over-utilised. RSFP funding towards a brand new tennis complex, complete with 12 synthetic grass courts, will vastly improve community opportunities.

Once completed, the new complex will enable Dubbo to host major tournaments, as well as provide residents of all ages with competitions, social activities, school sport and coaching.

Howlong and District Swimming Pool \$100,000

Aquatic activities in Howlong are centred around a swimming hole in the Murray River. Community concerns over safety have led to a push for the Howlong and District Swimming Pool.

RSFP funding, together with community resources, will go towards a 25 metre pool, toddler's pool, amenities block, fencing and landscaping. The new complex will be used by the community for a wide range of aquatic and community activities.

getting active

STARTS AT YOUR COMPUTER

In the first four months of this year, over 17,000 searches were conducted on Active Search. What sport or activity are people looking for? Sportshorts looks at the profile and patterns of Active Search users.

Active Search is an online directory of sport and physical activity providers in NSW, available through the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation's web site.

First launched in December 2001, Active Search is one of the biggest online sporting directories in Australia, linking some 12,000 sport and recreation providers to the community.

While the Department continues to promote Active Search and, importantly, builds and updates the organisations listed, plenty of people are using the free service.

Over four months, from mid January to mid May 2002, over 17,000 people visited www.dsr.nsw.gov.au and used Active Search to find a sport and recreation option.

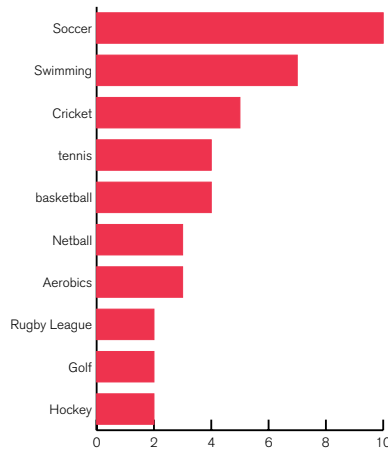
Here's a look at what they searched for and where.



Top 10 activities

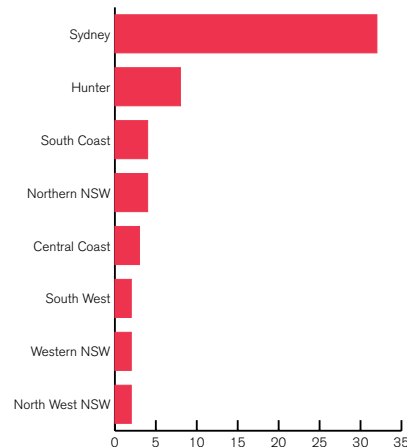
Active Search allows users to key in an activity. Here are the top 10 words users typed into Active Search.

(Other words accounted for 58% of searches).



Searches by area

Active Search allows users to search in specific areas of NSW. Here is the breakdown of searches by area. (44% of people searched all of NSW.)



Top three activities by area

All of NSW (default)

1. soccer
2. swimming
3. cricket

Central Coast

1. soccer
2. swimming
3. netball

Hunter

1. soccer
2. netball
3. cricket

North West NSW

1. soccer
2. tennis
3. cricket

Northern NSW

1. soccer
2. tennis
3. cricket

South West NSW

1. cricket
2. soccer
3. netball

South Coast/Snowy Mountains

1. soccer
2. netball
3. swimming

Sydney

1. soccer
2. swimming
3. tennis

Western NSW

1. netball
2. rugby league
3. swimming

Top keyword searches by month

January, February and March

(results all the same)

1. soccer
2. swimming
3. cricket

April

1. soccer
2. swimming
3. aerobics

May

1. tennis
2. futsal
3. soccer

SPORTS **insurance** UPDATE

Insurance issues remain high on the agenda for the general community and sport and recreation industry. While organisations continue to battle with insurance cost and cover, Government, industry and the community are taking major steps to improve the situation.

One of the most significant moves forward has been the NSW Civil Liability Act. In early June, the NSW Upper House passed the Bill released by Premier Carr in May.

Sports Minister Morris Iemma explains that the Act makes important changes to the law in respect of civil actions for damages.

“The new Act is designed to contain the cost of claims and to deliver predictability for the pricing of insurance products.”

“It also makes people more responsible for their own actions.”

“It’s an important development for everyone feeling the brunt of the insurance crisis, including sport and recreation groups,” said Minister Iemma.

A Pricewaterhouse Coopers commissioned study shows the Government’s reforms will enable insurance premiums to fall, including a likely 12% reduction on public liability. Given that the Act is retrospective from 20 March 2002, insurance companies are now being called on to price their policies rationally.

Minister Iemma says the changes don’t stop there. Stage two reforms are planned to be introduced during the Spring Parliamentary session. “The Government will pursue broad ranging reforms to the law of negligence as part of stage two.”

“Key features will include waivers and voluntary assumption of risk legislation. This will allow self assumption of risk for people who choose to take part in inherently risky activities.

“In addition, establishing a realistic duty of care and drug and alcohol being taken into account in assessing negligence.

“There will also be protection for volunteers from being sued under ‘good samaritan’ legislation.”

“Overall, stage two will be complex requiring extensive community consultation and careful analysis. But the result will be significant for the community,” said Minister Iemma.

In other developments, the Commonwealth Government introduced legislation to amend the Trade Practices Act in late June. Individuals can now waive their right to sue when undertaking risky recreational activities. These measures will assist operators of businesses such as adventure tourism and sports, who are currently prevented from relying on waivers.

The insurance industry has also announced the Public Liability Insurance Information Line (phone 1300 363 683) to assist organisations trying to obtain cover.

Sport and recreation organisations are also encouraged to consider pooling of insurances. Pooling is when a national or state body negotiates group insurance cover for its affiliated clubs, associations and member groups. This can result in a more competitive policy price. Contact your industry body for more details, or visit www.ica.com.au.

The Department of Sport and Recreation’s It’s Your Business resource has also had an overwhelmingly positive response. Developed to assist organisations with their risk management, legal and financial



responsibilities, It’s Your Business sales have been strong. Directors of state sporting organisations have also been attending a series of It’s Your Business workshops.

For information on insurance or It’s Your Business ☎ (02) 9006 3700 or visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

FROM SOCCER TO SELF-DETERMINATION LESSONS FROM KENYA TO WOMEN OF THE WORLD



Beldine Lilian Achieng (left) inspired delegates at the world conference on women in sport

It was 17 year old Kenyan Beldine Lilian Achieng who stole the hearts and minds of the 550 delegates from 97 countries attending the World Conference on Women in Sport, held in Canada in May.

Her story, which begins with a soccer ball made out of scraps from the local tip, poignantly demonstrated a key theme of the conference – that sport can change the lives of individuals, communities and nations.

Beldine and her friends hailed from extreme poverty in Mathare, one of Kenya's most sprawling slums situated right near a garbage tip. Sewerage services and water supply are non-existent, let alone infrastructure or equipment for sport.

Not to be deterred from their goal of starting a football competition, the young people created soccer balls from old plastic bags and string salvaged from the tip.

The "soccer balls" were soon so popular among neighbouring communities they were able to produce and sell them. Income generated was put back into community initiatives.

The football competition evolved into a grass roots, community development project which provides girls and boys with opportunities to play sport in exchange for community health and education services, such as cleaning up the environment or educating their peers about the dangers of AIDS.

Run completely by youth the program builds self-esteem, creates a sense of personal and social responsibility and volunteerism and develops leadership skills in some of the most underprivileged children in the world.

The Department of Sport and Recreation's representative at the conference, Jeanette Webb, says: "What struck me was that this amazing project came out of what we would consider to be very dire circumstances.

WOMEN'S SPORTS ADMINISTRATION

Twenty three women from the north coast and north west regions of NSW have received a scholarship under the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation's Women's Sport Administration Scholarships.

The women, who come from a range of sports, schools and local government, will take part in an intensive training course aimed at developing their skills and confidence in sports administration and management.

For the past two years, the scholarships have been specifically offered in regional areas of NSW, where the imbalance of female administrators is particularly evident.

Also announced were the recipients of the Department's Women's International Travel Scholarships. These included:

- Melanie Morson
Sutherland Leisure Centre
- Ann Mitchell
Sydney University Women's Sport Association
- Deborah Fox
Head Coach Women's Rowing NSWIS

Each received \$3,000 to assist them attend an overseas conference or forum.

Details on the scholarships are available from the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation
☎ 13 13 02 or www.dsr.nsw.gov.au
(under Grants and Financial Assistance)

sport

"It has enabled young people to be involved in healthy activity, build confidence and self esteem, have some self-determination and provide gainful employment.

"It left conference delegates believing that with imagination and persistence, anything is possible."

Jeanette learned that on a world stage, the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation stood out for its innovative programs. She was able to showcase departmental initiatives including the It's Your Business resource, Gender Equity Guidelines, Childcare Guidelines, Safe Sports Facilities Checklist, Women's Scholarship Program and Active Search.

The Department's programs generated interest from many countries, including Canada, that are traditionally seen as being highly advanced in sport and recreation programs.

Jeanette was also able to bring back information and ideas which are relevant to sport and recreation in NSW, such as reducing harassment and abuse in sport.

Jeanette said the challenge now is to keep NSW at the forefront of development for women in sport.

"The conference has shown me that NSW has made a significant contribution to the advancement of women and girls in sport and recreation in NSW and Australia," Jeanette said.

"We are now well placed to play an important role in assisting others to improve the lives of women and girls in our own Oceania region."

For further information about the conference visit www.iwg-gti.org or contact Jeanette at jwebb@dsr.nsw.gov.au.

Charmaine Crooks, member of the International Olympic Committee's Athletes Commission presenting at the conference



A NEW home FOR EMERGING SPORTS

A permanent home for the emerging Olympic sports of table tennis, badminton, handball, volleyball, wrestling and judo has been delivered by the State Government.

In May the sports moved into their new facility – the Sydney Indoor Sports Centre – located at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush Bay.

The sports are excited about having an international standard training facility, particularly in the lead up to the Commonwealth Games in Manchester where table tennis, wrestling, judo and badminton will have athletes competing.

Table Tennis NSW spokeswoman Leonie Whiteford said it was a joy to finally have a proper place to train. Prior to this, she said, club members were often forced to hone their skills in a range of small venues including licensed clubs, where they fought with poker machines for space.

Judo NSW spokesman Shane Alvisio concurs. "This is the first time we have ever been able to have a permanent home," Mr Alvisio said. "Instead of being nomads and being ousted from halls by the bigger sports, we now have a centre of excellence."

The venue was officially opened on May 13 by NSW Treasurer Michael Egan, with Australian netballer and State Sports Centre Trust member Liz Ellis and Australian Olympic Committee secretary general Bob Elphinston speaking about the benefits of the new facility.

The \$800,000 Sydney Indoor Sports Centre comprises two freestanding halls – one with taraflex flooring and the other with sprung timber flooring – providing 6300 square metres of floor space.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOB PETERS IMAGING

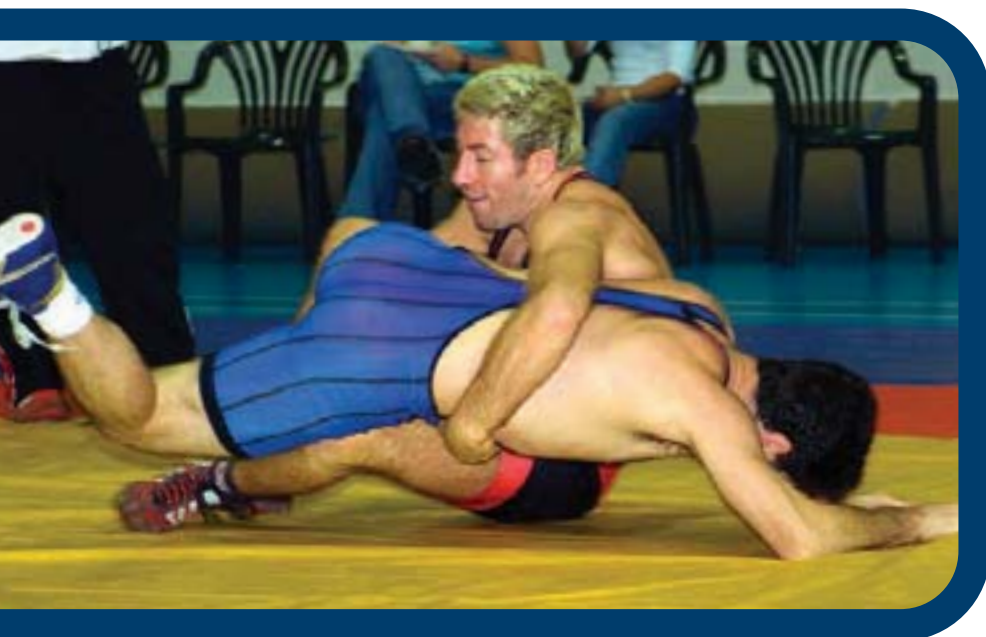
Badminton in action at the centre

A full café service is available at the facility and toilets, change room and showers are all available on site.

The halls will be managed by the State Sports Centre Trust, with the support of the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation, and are also available for use by a range of other sports.

The six sporting bodies will conduct a variety of programs at the new centre ranging from training programs for state representative squads to more participation based activities such as social volleyball.

Bookings and inquiries ☎ (02) 9763 0111
email events@sscby.nsw.gov.au



PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOB PETERS IMAGING

Wrestling at the new Sydney Indoor Sports Centre



PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOB PETERS IMAGING

Official opening of the Centre

city^{TO} surf

PLENTY OF COUNTRY TO CROSS FOR SPONSORED ATHLETES

With over 50,000 people breathing down your neck you've got no choice but to run, and run quickly! That's what twenty eight young athletes from regional and rural NSW will face when they line up in the upcoming Sun-Herald City to Surf.

The talented youngsters have been chosen to represent the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation in the event and will start the race from the front line.

The athletes have been selected as part of the Country Athlete Initiative, a major part of the Department's sponsorship of the City to Surf.

For athletes like Veronica Fardell of Dubbo, being given the opportunity to take part in the race as a sponsored athlete is tremendous reward and encouragement for some excellent distance running in 2002.

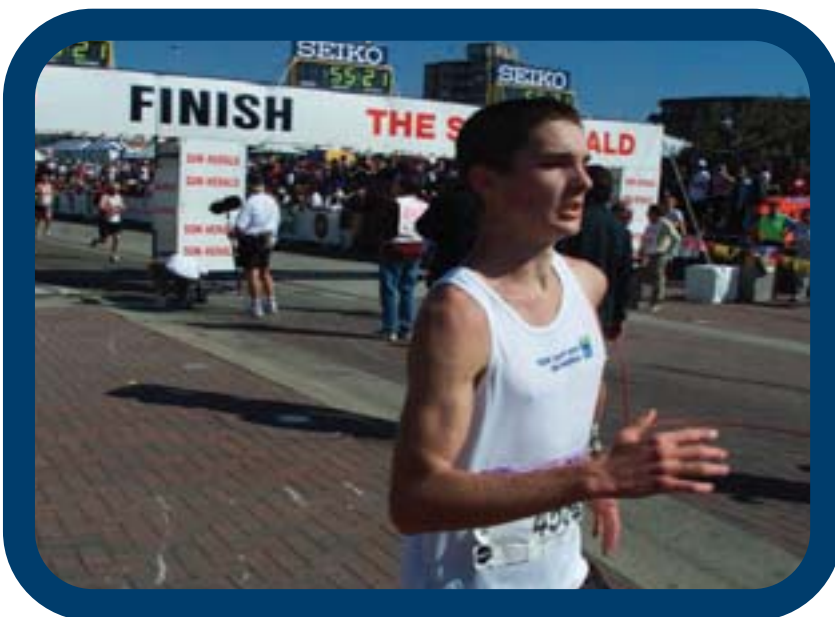
Veronica's athletic achievements include 12th at the Cross Country State Championships in 1999 and making the State Athletics Finals last year. This will be her first ever City to Surf and she can't wait to be a part of the action.

Veronica, who is in year 10 at Dubbo Senior College, cites her sister, pro-triathlete Jane Fardell as one of her role models. Her dream is to also become a pro-triathlete.

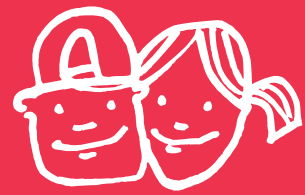
The athlete squad will be based at the Department's Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation from August 8 to 11.

During their stay they will meet race favourites and Australian running legends including Olympian Kyle Vander-Kyup, see some of Sydney's most popular sights and learn about what it takes to prepare for a major event such as the 2002 Sun-Herald City to Surf.

The NSW Department of Sport and Recreation is proud to be continuing its support of The Sun-Herald City to Surf in 2002. For more information on the race, check details in the Sun-Herald each Sunday.



NSW Department of Sport and Recreation sponsored athlete crossing the finish line of last year's race



CHILD PROTECTION UPDATE

By David Rees
Employment Screening Coordinator
NSW Department of Sport and Recreation

QUICK REFERENCE CHECKLIST

There are a number of steps you need to take to create a safe environment for children and young people to enjoy sport and recreation. Use this checklist* to assist your organisation.

- Establish a child protection policy (template available at www.dsr.nsw.gov.au)
- Ensure all employees and members are aware of your policy and procedures
- Identify child related employment positions (paid and unpaid)
- Establish record keeping procedures for information gathered as part of the Working with Children Check
- Report any relevant completed disciplinary proceedings against an employee to the Commission for Children and Young People
- Nominate a child protection officer (roles available at www.dsr.nsw.gov.au)
- Raise staff awareness about child protection
- Register with the Department of Sport and Recreation to get an Employer ID Number
- Keep records secure and treat information as highly sensitive
- Have all staff working with children sign a Prohibited Employment Declaration
- Add information to recruitment packages for identified child related positions (paid)
- Have prospective paid staff sign the Prohibited Employment Declaration and Working with Children Check Consent forms
- Screen preferred applicants for new employment (paid)
- Conduct structured referee checks on preferred applicants

* Refer to this checklist in conjunction with the Guidelines for Sporting Organisations to fully understand your child protection responsibilities. Call the Child Protection Infoline 1300 366 407 for more information.



STATS CHAT

By Rosemary Perry
Manager of Organisation Performance
NSW Department of Sport and Recreation

BEHIND THE SCENES

We know that one in four people in NSW play organised sport. But how many people work behind the scenes in 'non-playing' roles?

One in twelve people in NSW are involved in a 'non-playing' role in an organised sport or physical activity.*

That means over 400,000 people in NSW devote their spare time being a coach, a referee, a committee member or in another support role.

A third of these people are involved in more than just one role – that makes nearly 600,000 'non-playing' roles in NSW.

90% of the roles do not attract any payment.

'Non-playing' roles in organised sport (NSW)

committee member or administrator	30%
coach, instructor or teacher	27%
scorer or timekeeper	20%
referee or umpire	15%
other	8%

* aged 15 years and over. Year ending April 2001

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Catalogue No. 6285.0 "Involvement in Organised Sport and Physical Activities" 2001 survey.

WHAT'S new



New edition of Get that Grant

A new edition of the Department's popular publication Get that Grant has been released. The revised edition features up-to-date information on grants available to assist with the development of sport, recreation and physical activity.

☎ 13 13 02
or simply log on to www.dsr.nsw.gov.au
and follow the e-update link.

NICAN conference

Putting Recreation Back Into Sport is the theme of the National Information Communication Awareness Network (NICAN) conference to be held at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation from September 13 to 15, 2002. The conference aims to assist sport and recreation organisations provide opportunities for people with a disability.

☎ (freecall) 1800 806 769



Jarvis Walker weighs in with sponsorship for kids' fishing clinics

Australia's largest distributor of fishing tackle and accessories is the Department's newest partner. Jarvis Walker have weighed in to support popular learning based kids fishing clinics at Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre. Trevor Maundrell, National Sales Manager for Jarvis Walker says "it's great to be associated with the Department on this initiative". Jarvis Walker joins Fisheries NSW in supporting these clinics, which the Department hopes to expand to Centres around NSW in the future.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHN VEAGE, THE LEADER

Minister for Sport and Recreation Morris Iemma has had a busy few months announcing grants for sport and recreation facilities around NSW. The Minister (left) is pictured here with Ian McManus MP (right) and members of the Bonnet Bay Soccer club. The club received a \$10,000 grant to build storage areas and a referee's room at its home ground.

Q&A

WITH THE INDUSTRY

Q. What is fitnessnsw?

A. **fitnessnsw** is the peak industry body for the health and fitness industry in NSW. The fitness industry comprises over 400 facilities, around 4,000 registered fitness professionals and almost 500,000 people participating in a wide range of environments, from personal training at the local oval, through to aqua classes in a heated pool to large groups in a group cycling program.

Q. What is the role of fitnessnsw

A. **fitnessnsw** was established to raise the professional standards of the fitness industry and ultimately to assist the community to achieve improved health and lifestyles.

We've had some great achievements, such as NSW being the first state to include professional insurance cover with fitness professional registration. Our initiative went Australia wide and is now being trialled in the UK.

In the last two years our focus has shifted to health. The health benefits of participation in regular physical activity are enormous and our industry has the facilities, equipment and the trained staff to help make a healthy and active lifestyle an enjoyable and achievable reality.

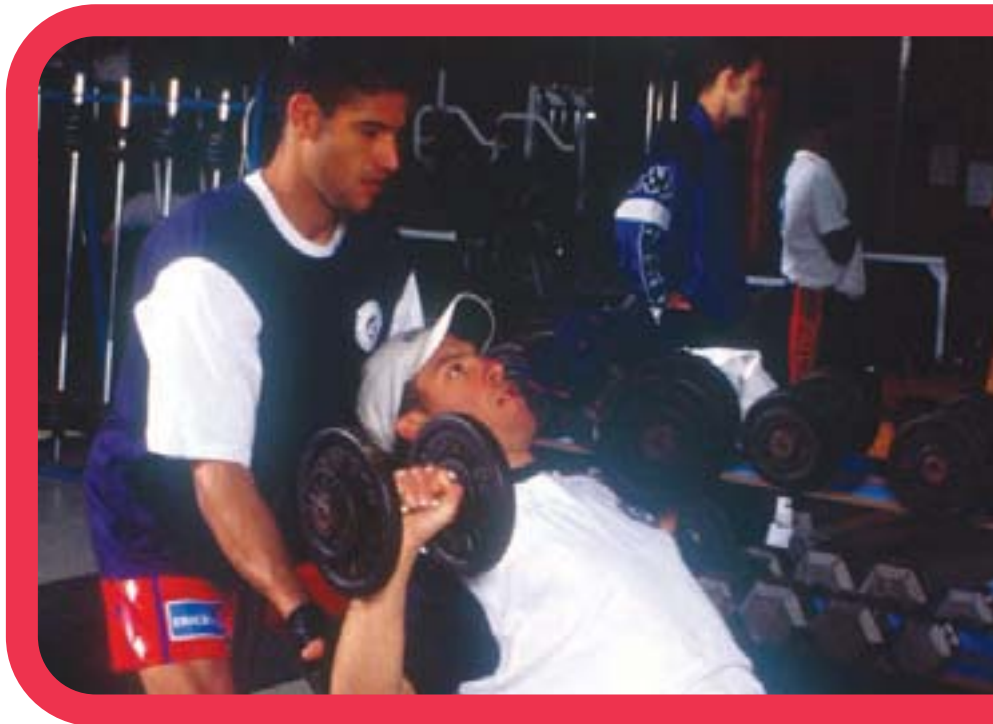
Q. There has been much discussion about the Code of Practice. What is it all about?

A. Nearly every industry has some basic standards for good business practice and fair trading. The Fitness Industry Code of Practice was established to promote physical and financial safety for consumers of fitness services. The Code requires a range of good business practices including:

- everyone that provides fitness advice or service should be a registered fitness professional
- pre-exercise screening be completed by each new member
- a range of payment alternatives be offered to prospective members
- effective dispute resolution processes are in place.

The Code was launched in 1998 and since then over 130 fitness centres have become signatories and comply with strict guidelines.

In this edition, Sportshorts talks to Ian Grainger, Chief Executive of fitnessnsw.



fitnessnsw is the peak body for the health and fitness industry of NSW

Q. How do consumers know their centre complies with the Code?

A. **fitnessnsw** encourages every consumer to ask if the centre meets the Code of Practice and if the fitness instructor has current registration. Don't be shy, it's your life and your choice!

fitnessnsw member facilities can be contacted through our web site www.fitnessnsw.com.au. They can also be identified by a fitnessnsw membership sign on the door, a membership certificate or Department of Fair Trading Code Compliance certificate that should be prominently displayed. fitnessnsw member centres should also have an information

leaflet available on the front counter titled "This centre works out with the NSW Code of Practice".

Registered fitness professionals will also be proud to show you their certificate or ID card.

For more information ☎ (02) 9460 6200

FROM AROUND

NSW

From Around NSW is a regular Sportshorts feature, profiling the activities of the Department of Sport and Recreation's regions across NSW.

Central Coast

In a first for the Central Coast area, the Department has teamed up with The Children's Hospital Institute of Sports Medicine (CHISM) to present the Level 1 certificate in Children's Health and Physical Activity. Fitness leaders, coaches, teachers and child care workers were among those who took part. A Level 2 certificate course will be run later this year.

Fishing has certainly lived up to its name as our most popular recreation activity. Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre's holiday fishing camps have filled quickly. Run in conjunction with NSW Fisheries, the camps allow young people to learn the basics, fish in different environments and even take part in a night fishing expedition.

The Aboriginal community, together with government agencies, took part in a forum in June to discuss how sport and recreation can be used to strengthen and develop communities. The forum was well received and has produced a 12 month action plan for developing Aboriginal sport and recreation.

Hunter

Following the success of this year's Masters Games in the Hunter, the inaugural Trans Tasman Masters Games will now be held in the region from March 22 to 29 next year. The Games are backed by the State Government and will involve 43 sports and 6000 competitors. For more information phone 4974 8777.

The Adventure Plus Program – a partnership between Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre and Newcastle City Church's CityCare – has been launched. It will target teenagers with activities that build personal worth and resistance to peer pressure. Myuna Bay will provide challenges in the outdoor environment, such as ropes courses.

The Hunter Region Organisation of Councils Sport and Recreation Conference – Managing the Risk – was held in the Hunter Valley in July to explore issues relating to the use of volunteers. The Department will give a presentation based on its latest risk management resource, It's Your Business.

The Festival of Sport was held again during the July school holidays. The two week event included a huge variety of sport related activities for the region's young people providing positive activities for the school break. This year the festival included activities for adults too, including a coaching forum and swimming competition.

North Coast

More than 150 girls from the Far North Coast got to try a range of football codes as part of a recent Girls Football Festival in Ballina. The North Coast regional office teamed up with development officers from Touch, Australian Rules, Rugby Union, Rugby League and Soccer to provide basic skills and loads of fun.

Teachers on the North Coast are gearing up for a busy time with a range of sport and recreation programs being organised by the Department to meet their training needs. Courses will provide key skills in athletics, gymnastics, CPR, taping and working with people with a disability.

Australian representative netballer Sharon Finnan will conduct a region-wide netball tour for up-and-coming Aboriginal netballers. Sharon will run day and evening clinics in Port Macquarie, Macksville, Lismore and Tweed Heads.

Weekend camps for families who care for children with a disability are being held at Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre during the winter. Kids will get to try a range of activities including canoeing, sailing, archery, bike riding and grass skiing while carers will get a well deserved break.

North West

The Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre has a Work for the Dole group undertaking horticultural and landscaping projects within the Centre. The group varies from five to twelve participants and works four days a week.

The Keepit Small Schools Program for years K-6 gets underway in June. Schools include Carinda, Quambone, Gwabegar, Pilliga, Mara Creek, Belatta and Bonshaw. Three of these schools have less than 10 students.

The second Athletics School Challenge was held in Narrabri at the end of May. Teams from Coonabarabran and Calrossy High Schools won the junior and senior girls divisions respectively, while Farrer Agricultural High took out the junior boys title and Oxley High the senior boys. All will be invited to compete at the State Championships held later this year.



Don't wait 'til summer to become a qualified swimming instructor

Budding swimming instructors are encouraged to undertake an Austswim training course over the winter months so they are qualified for the 2002/03 summer period.

"The demand and opportunities for qualified swimming instructors in NSW continues to remain high," says Austswim Executive Director Michael Collings. "We recommend instructors undertake a course now to ensure plenty of time to complete all the requirements and be able to take advantage of the employment opportunities."

For more information, ☎ 1300 130 675 or visit www.austswimnsw.com.au



Riverina

The sixth annual Indigenous Youth Athletics Carnival, was held at the West End Oval in Griffith recently. The carnival involved more than 150 athletes from as far away as Wentworth, Dubbo and Sydney. Athletes were aged from 8 to 18 years and ranged from first time athletes to those with experience. Collectively they took part in 200 track and field events.

Ninety athletes with a disability took part in soccer, softball, swimming and athletics at a Special Olympics come-and-try day at Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre. As a result, five athletes were selected to take part in a state softball carnival in Sydney. The carnival was a trial for selection in the NSW softball team for the national championships to be held at Narrabeen in September.

Riverina development staff are running coach development opportunities for small rural communities which often miss out due to a lack of numbers. So far 80 coaches have taken part from the sports of soccer, netball and basketball gaining a level one qualification or equivalent.

South Coast

Hundreds of budding young skiers are hitting the slopes down at the Snowy. The Jindabyne Winter Academy of Sport and Recreation's popular ski camps are underway. General Manager Steve Gibb says the camps are as popular as ever with hundreds of children from all over NSW involved in ski, snowboard and cross country ski programs.

Together with Wollongong City Council, the Department is delivering a free Sports Administration Program to local clubs and associations. The six week program covers a range of management topics including sponsorship, risk management and volunteer management. The first session held in June was well received, with over 60 people attending.

The Berry Sport and Recreation Centre has successfully run the first in a series of programs for people with a disability. A combination of day visits and weekend camps are on offer for people with a disability, their families, siblings and carers.

Sydney

A special exercise program has been devised to give older adults in the Leichhardt community from Spanish and Italian backgrounds the opportunity to try new activities and help improve their health and fitness. The six week program offers a range of activities including latin dancing, tai chi and bocce. In Ryde, the Armenian community is being targeted with a similar program.

A new initiative which aims to break down the barriers between police and the community through sport is proving a success. Sydney region has so far organised two touch football games between Bankstown Police and local young people. The third match is planned for the end of July.

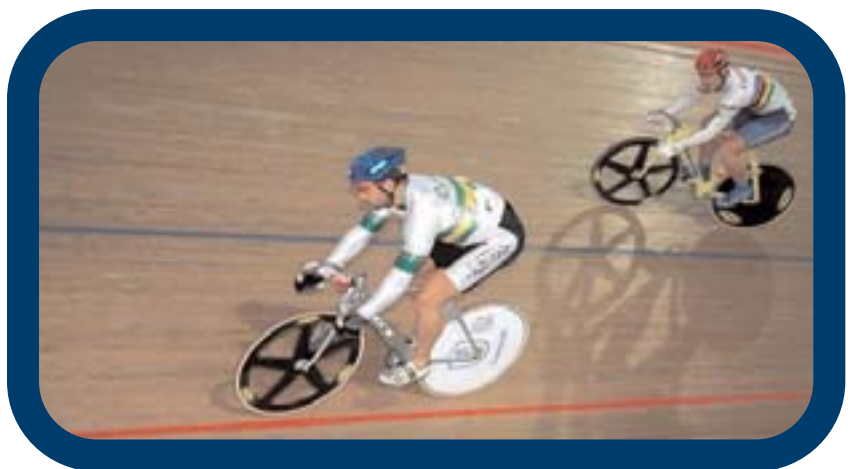
The Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation is taking sports science knowledge around the state. So far this year the specially equipped mobile sports testing unit has visited areas including the Far West towns of Cobar, Broken Hill, Bourke and Nyngan and plan to visit south west Sydney, the northern inland and the south east of the state later in the year.

Western

Athletics NSW and the Department will deliver IGA Team Athletics to schools and community groups in the Far West in June. IGA Team Athletics introduces athletics in a team-based context, using modified equipment and encourages everyone to participate. The tour will take in Menindee, Broken Hill, Wilcannia, Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, Goodooga, Walgett, Coonamble, Gulargambone, Gilgandra and Wellington and it is hoped that more than 2300 children will take part.

240 children from 10 schools took part in the annual Primary School Challenge in Cobar recently. The Challenge provides isolated primary schools with an opportunity to be involved in interschool sporting competition. Nyngan Primary took first place in netball and Cobar Primary first in rugby league.

The Department in conjunction with Murdi Paaki Regional Council helped the National Aboriginal Sports Corporation of Australia conduct the annual Outback Sports Tour. The tour provided young people with an opportunity to take part in a range of sporting activities and learn from Aboriginal role models including Olympian Kyle Vander-Kuyp.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY DELLY CARR

The Dunc Gray Velodrome hosted round two of the 2002 UCI Track World Cup recently. Over 100 riders from countries around the world took part in the event, which is committed to be held at the venue for the next seven years. Australia topped the medal table with five gold and four silver medals. Pictured is NSW rider Sean Eadie who won gold in the sprint against reigning world champion Arnaud Tournant.

NSW DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION

Central Office

6 Figtree Drive
Homebush Bay NSW 2127
Locked Bag 1422
Concord West DC NSW 2138
Tel.: (02) 9006 3700
Fax: (02) 9006 3800
TTY: (02) 9006 3701
info@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Properties and Grants

1 Burwood Rd (PO Box 2225)
Burwood NSW 2134
Tel: (02) 8745 3300
Fax: (02) 8745 3388
info@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Central Coast Region

Regional Office

Ourimbah Campus,
University of Newcastle
Brush Rd, Ourimbah NSW 2258
Tel: (02) 4362 3184
Fax: (02) 4362 2910
gosford@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre

c/o Post Office
Brooklyn NSW 2083
Tel.: (02) 4349 0600
Fax: (02) 4379 1201
Freecall: 1800 644 049
brokenbay@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Milson Island Sport and Recreation Centre

PMB 11
Brooklyn NSW 2083
Tel: (02) 9985 9261
Fax: (02) 9985 9360
milsonisland@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Hunter Region

Regional Office

State Government Offices
117 Bull St, (PO Box 5164)
Newcastle West NSW 2302
Tel: (02) 4926 1633
Fax: (02) 4929 4397
newcastle@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre

Main Rd (PO Box 5037)
Dora Creek NSW 2264
Tel: (02) 4973 3301
Fax: (02) 4970 5014
Freecall: 1800 654 422
myunabay@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Point Wolstoncroft Sport and Recreation Centre

Kanangra Drive
Gwandalan NSW 2259
Tel: (02) 4976 1666 or 4976 1230
Fax: (02) 4976 2705
Freecall: 1800 819 244
ptwolstoncroft@dssr.nsw.gov.au

North Coast Region

Regional Office and Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre

Pacific Parade (PO Box 121)
Lennox Head NSW 2478
Tel: (02) 6687 7168
Fax: (02) 6687 7920
Toll free: 1800 655 248
ainsworth@dssr.nsw.gov.au

North West Region

Regional Office

Level 1 Noel Park House
155 Marius St (PO Box 532)
Tamworth NSW 2340
Tel: (02) 6766 1200
Fax: (02) 6766 7459
tamworth@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre

Fitness Camp Rd, (c/o Post Office)
Gunnedah NSW 2380
Tel: (02) 6769 7603
Fax: (02) 6769 7585
Freecall: 1800 644 105
keepit@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Riverina Region

Regional Office and Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre

1980 Sturt Hwy, Borambola
via Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
Tel: (02) 6928 4300
Fax: (02) 6928 4384
Freecall: 1800 810 890
riverina@dssr.nsw.gov.au

South Coast Region

Regional Office

84 Crown St, Wollongong NSW 2500
PO Box 307
Wollongong East NSW 2520
Tel: (02) 4228 5355
Fax: (02) 4228 5399
wollongong@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Berry Sport and Recreation Centre

660 Coolangatta Rd
Berry NSW 2535
PO Box 185, Berry NSW 2535
Tel: (02) 4464 1406
Fax: (02) 4464 2270
Freecall: 1800 811 387
berry@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Winter Academy of Sport and Recreation

The Barry Way (PO Box 514)
Jindabyne NSW 2627
Tel: (02) 6456 2242
Fax: (02) 6456 2917
Freecall: 1800 817 937
jindabyne@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Sydney Region

Regional Office

6 Figtree Drive
Homebush Bay NSW 2127
Tel: (02) 9006 3700
Fax: (02) 9006 3800

Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation

Wakehurst Parkway (PO Box 57)
Narrabeen NSW 2101
Tel: (02) 9454 0222
Fax: (02) 9454 0133
sydneyacademy@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Western Region

Regional Office

Cnr McNamara and Byng Sts
(PO Box 381) Orange NSW 2800
Tel: (02) 6362 6623
Fax: (02) 6362 3264
orange@dssr.nsw.gov.au

Lake Burrendong Sport and Recreation Centre

Tara Road
Lake Burrendong NSW 2820
(c/o Post Office, Mumbil NSW
2820)
Tel: (02) 6846 7403
Fax: (02) 6846 7597
Freecall: 1800 815 892
burrendong@dssr.nsw.gov.au