

COLLEGE SPORT



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Wellington schools snap up Maadi gold

ROWING

THE St Pat's Town rowing team scaled the Maadi mountain at Lake Karapiro on Saturday. Town recorded their first gold at a Maadi regatta when Daniel Ward and Josh Ngaia combined to win the under-16 double sculls. It was the high point of a big tournament week for the school. Town also retained their national futsal title, the softball team was the runner-up in the national championships, the cricket first XI qualified for the final of the regional Gillette Cup tournament and the senior volleyball side recorded a top 10 finish in division I. It was a good Maadi in general for Wellington schools, with the Wellington College winning gold in the under-16 coxed quad. Maadi golds have been rare gems. It was the first time for years that Wellington schools had won two golds at a Maadi regatta and there had been just five A final wins in the previous 10 years. The seven medals this year also equalled the 2014 return, which had been the best for at least a decade.



The St Pat's Town crew of Daniel Ward (stroke) and Josh Ngaia won gold in the under-16 double sculls at the Maadi Cup regatta at Lake Karapiro.

Photo: ROB BRISTOW/WWW.ROWINGIMAGES.COM

There is no shortage of competition at Maadi, which this year attracted 2196 rowers, from 122 schools. Ward and Ngaia had won bronze in the under-15 division at the 2014 regatta but another podium finish had been looking unlikely. The crew had finished fifth in the A final at the North Island championships a fortnight earlier, were beaten in their quarter-final at Maadi and qualified seventh for the final when fourth in their semi-final. As a result, Ward and Ngaia had started to think that their best chance of a medal lay with the under-16 quad, which had been

fourth in the North Island final and qualified third for the Maadi final. However, the quad finished fourth, behind Wellington College. "That was pretty gutting," Ngaia said. "The double was our last go and missing a medal in the quad made us want it more. We had been pretty slow in the semifinal and I'm not sure why. We had been expecting to do better and had been pretty nervous." Ward and Ngaia stayed in con-

tact with the leaders in the final before they and Nelson College put a break on the field. Nelson, who were in the next lane, led by about a canvas 250m out but the Town crew rallied again, to win by less than a second. "I was pretty sure we had won and it felt pretty good," Ngaia said. Ngaia and Ward are in year 12 but are young for their year group and are still 15. Town coach Lua Tuiomanufili said the gold was a reward for

hard work. "We are lucky to have two guys who are so enthusiastic about working hard. They are self motivated and if you ask them to do something, they don't complain, they just do it. Boys like that are hard to find. "Their erg scores are good for their age and they have good levers and size. "I think they lost a bit of confidence after the North Island," Tuiomanufili said. "They needed

to get their confidence back and it all seemed to come right on the day. "We also worked on their speed, because we knew that they had done a lot of work and that their base fitness would pull them through." Andrew Loveard, the stroke for the winning Wellington College quad, matched his sister, Pippa, by winning a Maadi gold. Pippa won gold for Wellington Girls' in the under-18 double sculls in 2012. The Wellington College crew had been beaten by St Peter's at the North Island regatta but dominated their rivals last week, winning all their races and having a margin of more than five seconds in the final. Wellington College had a good week, making nine A finals and picking up four medals, with Thomas Cummack claiming two. They also finished fifth in the competition for the leading sculling school at the regatta.

MAADI MEDALS

GOLD
St Pat's Town: Under-16 double sculls – Daniel Ward and Josh Ngaia.
Wellington College: Under-16 quadruple sculls – Andrew Loveard, Connor Moore, Harry Beasley, Fergus Murray, Liam Stevens (cox).
SILVER
Nelson College: Under-18 single sculls – Hayden Robertson.
Wellington College: Under-18 lightweight double – Tristan Cotter and Sam Wilkins.
BRONZE
Wellington College: Under-17 single sculls – Thomas Cummack.
Wellington College: Under-17 double sculls – Lucas Toovey and Thomas Cummack.
Wellington East: Under-18 coxed four – Bella Cordwell, Kate Johnson, Stella Hudson, Ashley McCarty-Carnahan, Hannah McMullan (Cox).
NZ junior trialists: Bella Cordwell (East), Bianca van Dyk (Wellington Girls), Hayden Robertson (Onslow).
North Island under-18 trialists: Thomas Cummack (Wellington College), Lucy Bird (Hutt Valley), Liam Stevens (Wellington College).

Onslow's Hayden Robertson, the under-17 single sculls winner last year, rose to the occasion again as the runner-up in the under-18 division and was among three Wellington rowers selected to trial for the New Zealand junior team. Wellington East defied their leadup form by claiming bronze in the prestigious under-18 coxed four, after scraping into the final by finishing third in their repechage.

Shot put ace makes her mark with triple strike

ATHLETICS

JUST wait till Diana Oloapu starts doing some serious training for the shot put. The Naena College year 13 completed a hat-trick of records when she won gold in the senior shot put at the North Island track and field championships in Auckland at the weekend. In less than three weeks, Oloapu has set three meeting records. She began with a meeting record of 14.32m at the Hutt zone championships, broke another record with 14.63 at the Wellington regional meeting and extended her personal best to 14.90m in Auckland. She threw almost a metre further than the runner-up at the North Island champs and comfortably exceeded the previous record of 14.56m, set by Siositina Hakeai in 2011. Remarkably, Oloapu has been concentrating on volleyball this summer and has done virtually no athletics training. In addition, she was late for the shot put in Auckland and missed her first throw. She was not fazed and also broke the previous record when throwing 14.76 at her second throw, before recording 14.90 at her third attempt. A hectic schedule had contributed to her late arrival at Mt Smart. She had spent the previous five days in Palmerston North at the national volleyball championships, leading Naena to a top 20 placing. She returned to Wellington on Friday evening to repack and catch a late flight to Auckland and did not arrive in Auckland till 10.30. Oloapu is also a capable rugby



Naena College thrower Diana Oloapu set a record when winning the senior shot put at the North Island secondary schools championships at the weekend.

Photo: JO MURRAY

player but had her sporting year disrupted by a significant knee injury last year, suffered while attending Outward Bound, and will probably ease her way into the rugby season. Wellington throwers made a mark at the North Island championships. Ben Power (HIBS) did not extend his PBs but still completed a winning treble, taking gold in the open shot put, discus and hammer and Brandy Collins (Bishop Viard) set new records in the senior girls para discus and shot put. Nick Smith (Silverstream) won the intermediate 100m and 200m and broke 11 seconds for the second time when recording 10.99 in the 100m. James Preston (Scots) recorded

a PB of 1:54.52 when winning the senior 800m and Alex Hays (Town) won the senior 400m and was runner-up in the 200m and Kelsey Forman (East) won the open steeplechase. Other title winners included Kirstie Rae (East) junior 800m, Libby Leikis (Wellington Girls) para 100m and 200m, Dylan Lynch (Wellington College) junior 3000m, Solo Roderick (Scots) junior triple jump, Max Press (Silverstream) intermediate 1500m and Finn Neely (Hutt Valley) intermediate long jump. Phoebe Edwards (East) qualified for the world youth championships heptathlon, with 5163 points, when runner-up in the under-18 grade at the Australian championships in Brisbane at the weekend.

Scots ace rivals to take tennis title

SCOTS COLLEGE are the national tennis champions. Scots beat Napier Boys, Westlake Boys and Christ's College in pool play at the Renouf Centre, before defeating John McGlashan in their semifinal and defending champions St Kentigern in the final.

Scots led 3-1 in the final after the singles and captain John Vogel and Josh Snowden-Poole made certain of the title when coming from a set down to win their doubles rubber. "We were stoked to win," Vogel said. "It was the third successive year we had qualified for the finals and had been eyeing the win for a couple of years. "We were seeded second [behind St Kentigern] but thought we had the better team this year. We knew that we could win but weren't sure that we would." Scots had finished third in 2013 and were runners-up to St Kentigern last year. The 2015 team comprised Vogel, Snowden-Poole, Felix Humphries, Finlay Hall and Milo Benn. Vogel who played at No 1, is a year 13 but the remainder will be back at Scots next year.

SOFTBALL
Wellington East retained their national softball crown in Wellington. East were unbeaten in their 10 round robin games and were only extended in their two clashes with Hamilton Girls. East won their round robin clash against Hamilton 3-2, before taking the final 3-0. East's Marcelle Parkes was named tournament MVP and top catcher and fellow Junior White Sox representative Pallas Potter (Sacred Heart) was top batter. Other tournament players selected for the tournament team were Nikita Hiroki (East), Georgia Tricker (Aotea), Misha Puleitu (East), Marama Makea (East), Mereana Makea (East), Grace



Wellington East pitcher Nikita Hiroki in action in the national secondary schools final at Fraser Park. Photo: MAARTEN HOLL/FAIRFAX NZ

Hamilton (East), and Te Hau Landon-Lane (Aotea). East, who are coached by Fabian Makea, have become a dominant force in girls softball, winning the national tournament six times in three years. Wellington provided three of the top four schools this year, with Aotea third and Sacred Heart fourth. St Pat's Town was the runner-up in the boys division I, for the second year, losing the final 3-2 to Mt Albert Grammar from Auckland. The Wellington boys to make the tournament team were Joshua De Reeper (Town), Dwight Stoddart (Town), Damon Creasy (Tawa), Kody Clueard (Town), George Bloomfield (Tawa) and Tyrell Packer (Naena). St Pat's Silverstream gained promotion to division I after winning the division II boys title in Palmerston North. Tom McMahon was named MVP for Silverstream, who beat Wairoa College 10-7 in the final. **VOLLEYBALL**
St Pat's Town recorded a rare top 10 placing in the national volleyball championships. Few Wellington sides even made the top 16 but

Town showed their mettle with wins over Nelson College, Lincoln High School, Nayland College and Manurewa College. Bishop Viard won division four, with Wellington High School fifth. Sacred Heart also made the top 16 in the girls championships, finishing 16th, and Naena College were a creditable fourth in division II. St Mary's were fourth in division III, with Wellington Girls, Taita and Wellington East also qualifying for the third division. **CRICKET**
Tawa College will get the chance to defend their national girls NZCT title after winning the Wellington regional tournament last week. Tawa, who have a powerful side, crushed Sacred Heart in the final. Tawa scored 134 from their 20 overs, with Melie and Jess Kerr the leading runscorers, before dismissing Sacred Heart for 33. Nicole Brennan carried bat for Sacred Heart, with 22 net out, but none of her team-mates made more than two, as Jess Kerr took 4-4 from four overs. Wellington's representative in

the Gillette Cup finals will not be known till the fourth term, but will be either Hutt International or St Pat's Town. The final was originally scheduled for Monday but was postponed. HIBS and Town had been the favorites to head their pools and won all three games. However, HIBS had some anxious moments before beating Onslow in their key game and Town were made to work hard by Hutt Valley. Tawa caused a major surprise when beating Silverstream in pool play. Wellington College finished second in the NZCT junior secondary schools finals, for year 9 and 10 players. The tournament was won by Christchurch Boys, who were undefeated over five rounds, with Wellington College, who won three games, heading off King's College for second, on run differential. Devan Vishvaka and Tim Campbell were the leading runscorers for Wellington, with Harry Hunter and Connor McArdle the most successful bowlers. **TRIATHLON**
Henry Gautrey got on the podium at the national secondary school triathlon championships at Taupo. The HIBS year 12 pupil finished third in the under-16 boys. Bayley Van de Coolwijk (St Mary's) finished fifth in the girls under-16 and Emelie Clarke (Tawa) and Sophie Bright (Wellington Girls) were seventh and eighth respectively in the under-19 girls and Jake Jamieson (Scots) was ninth in the boys under-19. Callum Hancock (Scots) was eighth in the boys under-14 triathlon and seventh in the open water swim. Harrison Hitchins (Scots) finished third in the boys under-16 open water swim, Katie Trott was fourth in the girls under-19 and Van de Coolwijk sixth in the under-16 girls.

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