

COLLEGE SPORT

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Silverstream head boy Kenneth Tuffin is spreading his sporting talents wide this year.

Photo: KEVIN STENT/FAIRFAX NZ

Top allrounder juggles many balls

RUGBY

KENNETH TUFFIN is grabbing every opportunity in his final year at school. The St Pat's Silverstream head boy has widened his sporting portfolio to include the first XV. Tuffin, who already leads the cricket first XI and the senior basketball squad, will be at fullback when Silverstream challenge Scots College for the Moascar Cup on Saturday. A multi-talented sportsman, Tuffin played rugby at under-15 level in 2010 but then had two years away from the game as basketball became his sporting passion. He made a low-key return to rugby last year, playing mostly for the second XV or the under-80kg side but had one game for the first XV, against Christchurch Boys. His other commitments meant he made a late start to the 2015 rugby season but he has played for the first XV for the past two Saturday matches.

"It's good to play with my mates again and I don't want to have any regrets in my last year," Tuffin said. "It was my decision [to play rugby] but I went through the process. We will get to the end of the term and see how we go from there." Tuffin been a fullback for most of his rugby career and has impressed Silverstream first XV coach Rob Ackerman. "He's a clever footballer, with a good rugby brain. He knows how to distribute the ball and it's good to have him back," Ackerman said. Tuffin, who is 1.93m tall and weighs 80kg, is an old-fashioned sporting allrounder in an era where students are under increasing pressure to specialise in one sport. He also made a mark at the McEvedy Shield athletics meeting, winning the 100m hurdles and finishing second in the triple jump, third in the long jump and fourth in the javelin. A left-hand batsman and left-

arm opening bowler, he has been in the Silverstream first XI since year 10 and played rep cricket up to under-17 level. He recorded his first premier one century this year, making 125 not out against Wellington College. "I grew up with Troy Johnson [Hutt International head boy and first XI captain]. We played in the same cricket teams when we were younger and used to try to do better than each other and we still have a good rivalry. "We used to talk about becoming professional cricketers but then I found basketball but Troy is still on track." Basketball is the sport Tuffin is now most passionate about and he is scheduled to take up a basketball scholarship in the Philippines, where his mother was born, next year. He will head to the Far Eastern University (FEU) in Manila, where he will play for the FEU Tamaraws, who are consistently at or near the top of the Philippines college basketball competition.

'Basketball is the sport I enjoy the most and where I want to be in the future.'

Kenneth Tuffin Silverstream head boy

"They approached me and I will be going over in the July holidays to check everything out," said Tuffin, who is a small forward. "They have a good competition over there and I'm hoping it will open doors [in basketball] for me. "Basketball is the sport I enjoy the most and where I want to be in the future." Meanwhile, he is excited about the chance to reclaim the Moascar Cup, a trophy Silverstream last held in 1974. "Of course I think we can do it. It will definitely be a good game and we are looking forward to it."

It will be the first clash between Scots and Silverstream since Scots landed a last-minute penalty to win the 2014 premier one final. "There will be a lot of passion involved," Ackerman said. "These opportunities [to play for the Moascar Cup] don't come around very often. "A lot of old boys never had the opportunity and these boys have to seize it with both hands." Silverstream came away from Wairarapa College in the second half of their WelTec premiership match last weekend, winning 43-7, after leading 10-7 at halftime. Hooker Asafa Aumua, who can also play at No 8, continues to be a standout forward for Silverstream and Ackerman has been impressed by Tone Fauolo's progress. Second five-eighth Tararuna Alati missed the Wairarapa game but is expected to be back on Saturday but winger Sione Uvea has been sidelined by a fractured collarbone, who beat Rongotai 41-12

last weekend, will probably be missing winger Connor Gardenland but have been boosted by the arrival of English player Sam Fox. Fox, who has played under-20 rugby for Cornwall, played against Scots for Truro College at the Sanix world youth championships in Japan and can cover halfback and first five-eighth. "He only arrived in the country at the weekend," Scots coach Philo Tiatia said. "He caught our eye [in Japan] and wants to experience rugby in New Zealand. He will add to the competition in the squad." Tiatia rated his team's performance against Rongotai as an improvement on their effort against St Pat's Town a week earlier. "There was more urgency and the accuracy was better but we need to keep improving." Town, who held out Wellington College 15-11 in their traditional meeting last week, meet Rongotai on Saturday, while Wellington College play Tawa and Wairarapa meet HIBS.

SPORT BRIEFS

FOOTBALL
Premier newcomer

Kapiti College will make their first appearance in the boys premier youth football grade this year. Kapiti will join Wellington College, Hutt International, Scots, Hutt Valley and Rongotai in the top grade. Hutt Valley, Queen Margaret, East, Wellington Girls', Upper Hutt, St Mary's and Onslow are guaranteed a place in the girls premier one grade and will be joined by the winner of tonight's playoff match between Marsden and Tawa.

HOCKEY
Penalty shootout

Wairarapa College beat Scots College in a penalty shootout, after the game had been tied 2-2, in the first round final in the premier hockey competition. It was another indication that the championship round will be a tight competition. HIBS beat Wellington College 4-1 in the playoff for third and fourth. St Matthews beat Wairarapa 2-0 in the girls final, with Wellington Girls' beating Queen Margaret 3-2 in the third and fourth playoff.

BASKETBALL
Leading hopes

Hutt Valley and Wellington Girls' are shaping as the teams to beat in the premier basketball competitions. Hutt Valley won their three games in the boys top four grading rounds and began the Pohlen Cup competition by beating Rongotai 106-46. Wellington College, who should also be title contenders, beat Scots 83-68. Silverstream beat Onslow 86-66 and Newlands edged out St Pat's Town 84-79. Wellington Girls' suffered their only loss last season when beaten in the national secondary schools final and have another formidable squad. They beat Paraparumu 94-20 in the opening round of the Sharp Cup, while St Mary's beat Newlands 65-58 and Hutt Valley defeated Aotea 70-35. The Naenae-Sacred Heart game ended in a draw and will need to be replayed, as extra time should have been taken.

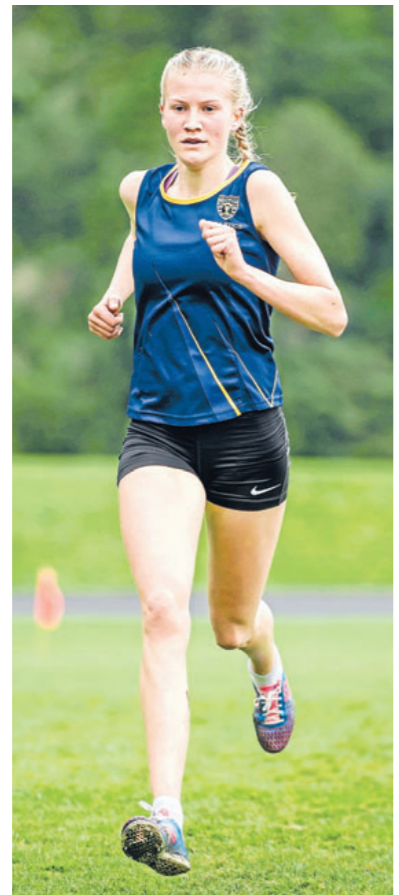
ATHLETICS
Smith selected

Brilliant young sprinter Nick Smith (Silverstream) is among five New Zealand athletes selected for the Commonwealth Youth Games, which will be held in Apia, Samoa, in September.

Forman performs well ahead of major contests

CROSS-COUNTRY

KELSEY FORMAN hopes to have two national championships and a world championship on her dance card this winter. Forman indicated that she was in good shape for the bigger events ahead when successfully defending her senior girls title at the Wellington secondary schools cross-country championships at Trentham last week. The Wellington East athlete had been troubled by a sinus infection and a cold in the leadup but was right on the day. "I felt really good - a lot better," Forman said. "I had had the sinus infection for three weeks and then got a cold. It was good to be able to breathe properly again." Forman ran the 4km in 14:59, nearly 30 seconds quicker than her 2014 time. She is now on the cusp of a hectic period, which will begin with the national secondary schools cross-country championships, in Dunedin on June 20. The following weekend, Forman and her East schoolmate Phoebe Edwards will fly out of Auckland with the New Zealand team for the world youth championships. The team will have a few days in Brisbane before spending a fortnight in San Francisco, and then heading to Colombia for the world championships, in Cali, which begin on July 15. "It's very exciting," said Forman, who will contest the 2km black singlets] arrives soon and it's coming up very fast." Forman has little idea of what to expect in Colombia, apart from knowing that the African runners



Kelsey Forman winning the senior girls title at the Wellington secondary schools cross-country championships for the second time. Photo: MIKE HEYDON

will present a huge challenge. African runners filled the top three placings in the girls steeplechase at the youth championships in 2011 and 2013. However, Forman's coach, Alastair Leslie, has no doubt that Forman will benefit from the experience, regardless of where she finishes. "She will learn what it's like to race against the best and our young runners need these opportunities. It gives them an incentive to stay in the sport. "If they are well beaten [at world events] they will know that they have a lot of work to do and if they are only a few seconds away, they will know they are on the right track. "Kelsey is in good shape and is pretty well prepared," Leslie said. "She's got good speed and stamina and a very good skill set at the jumps. "She has developed a lot of strength from running over the hills in Mt Victoria and I see her future as a 3km to 5km runner, with the steeplechase included in that." In the meantime, Forman will be aiming for a top 10 finish at the secondary schools cross-country champs, which would cement her place in the New Zealand team to compete at the Australian championships, in Melbourne in August. Forman, a Mel 13 student, made the team last year, after finishing seventh at the nationals. She was a creditable 18th in the under-18 division at the Australian championships and is keen

to have a second go. "I really want to get in the team again." Scots College recorded a rare trifecta when James Preston, Tom Caughley and Callum Stewart filled the first three placings in the senior boys at Trentham last week, with the trio finishing 10 seconds apart. Preston finished in the top 20 in the senior division at the nationals last year and is aiming for a top 10 spot this month. "I will be a bit more experienced and did a lot more work [on the track] over the summer." Preston also competed at the Australian championships last year, finishing 32nd in the boys under-18. "I had never competed overseas before. It was a pretty amazing experience and a bit of an eye-opener." Preston had a good track season last summer and he should be competitive in either the 800m or 1500m at the 2015 national secondary schools champs. He also wants to go under four minutes for the 1500m, after being less than a second away on three occasions in the past six months. Promising year 10 middle distance athlete Tessa Hunt (East) overcame the flu, as well as her opposition, to win the intermediate girls title at Trentham. Hunt, who won the junior title in 2014, spent most of the week in bed but was able to hold off Sophie Dawson (Upper Hutt). Both Hunt and Dawson finished in the top 10 in the year 9 girls division at the nationals last year.

Results
Senior boys: James Preston (Scots) 1; Tom Caughley (Scots) 2; Callum Stewart (Scots) 3; Seamus Kane (Onslow) 4; Stefan Przychodzko (Paraparumu) 5; Rusi Jagose-Dickens (St Pat's Town) 6; Henry Gautrey (HIBS) 7; Max Press (Silverstream) 8; Joel Carman (Wainuiomata) 9; Robert Delany (Wellington College) 10.
Senior girls: Kelsey Forman (East) 1; Alison Andrews (Paui) (Wairarapa College) 2; Michaela Walker (Kapiti) 3; Izzy Hegon (Wellington Girls) 4; Phoebe Van Boemen (Queen Margaret) 5; Verona Conroy (Onslow) 6; Anna Gibbs (Wellington Girls) 7; Bayley-Rose Van De Cooilwijk (St Mary's) 8; Ruby Leverington (Marsden) 9; Finola O'Boyle (St Matthews) 10.
Intermediate boys: Max Spencer (Rathkeale) 1; Max Karamanolis (Town) 2; Logan Slee (HIBS) 3; Dylan Lynch (Wellington College) 4; Matthew Sutcliffe (Wellington College) 5; Nikolai Allen (Silverstream) 6; James Reilly (Town) 7; Richard Kiddle (Wellington College) 8; Liam Chesney (Town) 9; Patrick White (Wellington College) 10.
Intermediate girls: Tessa Hunt (East) 1; Sophie Dawson (Wellington) 2; Imogen Skelton (Marsden) 3; Jayme Maxwell (Hutt Valley), Ella Berkahn (East) 5; Madison Robinson-Unuia (Upper Hutt) 6; Ilena Shadbolt (Queen Margaret) 7; Lucy England (Sacred Heart) 8; Lucy Preston (Marsden) 9; Brooke Eddie (Paraparumu) 10.
Junior boys: Liam Lamb (HIBS) 1; William Adams (Silverstream) 2; Richard Evans (Hutt Valley) 3; Bruno McKnight (Wellington College) 4; Stanton Renwick (Silverstream) 5; George Sladden (Scots) 6; Finn O'Connor (Scots) 7; Thomas Strawbridge (Silverstream) 8; Henry Chandler (Wellington College) 9; Finn Seely (HIBS) 10.
Junior girls: Phoebe McKnight (Hutt Valley) 1; Christie Flood-Smith-Ryan (Sacred Heart) 2; Kierlie Rae (East) 3; Kate Sims (St Matthews) 4; Lokyee Szeto (Wellington Girls) 5; Sam Mackinder (St Oran's) 6; Olivia Healey (Upper Hutt) 7; Molly Newton-Smith (Queen Margaret) 8; Lucy Hegon (Marsden) 9; Brooke Chandler (Sacred Heart) 10.
AWD boys: Louis Edwards (Paraparumu) 1; Ryan Davies (Onslow) 2; Cole Bailey (Paraparumu) 3; Benjamin Taylor (Rongotai) 4; Rohan Lane-Turnbull (Wellington High) 5.
AWD girls: Emma Flintoff (Onslow) 1; Amber-Maraea Crawford Lamb Platt (Hutt Valley) 2; Maddie Black (Onslow) 3; Ngawai Kirwan (Mana) 4; Melina Kessel (Mana) 5.

St Mary's show out in club competition

NETBALL

THERE is no lack of depth in Wellington school netball. Wellington Girls' and Wellington East made a mark in the national knockout competition and St Mary's are also on a roll. St Mary's won the recent College Sport Wellington premier tournament and finished in the top four in the first round of the Wellington premier club competition. Three school teams - St Mary's, East and Wellington Girls' - played in the premier one grade, with St Mary's the only one to make the top four, after beating East and Wellington Girls' in the round robin matches. The top four teams will now play a round robin format to determine the ranking places for the championship round. "One of our team goals was to be the top college in premier one," St Mary's coach, Pelesa Semu, said. St Mary's were short on numbers for the schools tournament, with national secondary schools representative Colleen Faleafaga unavailable and a couple of injuries

in the 10-member squad. The squad had a dozen players at the start of the season but Terelle Onesimo and Sariah Penese withdrew, to concentrate on their basketball commitments. St Mary's were never seriously threatened in their six games at the premier tournament, beating Wellington Girls' 18-11 in the final. Newlands, who lost a tough semi-final battle with Wellington Girls, beat Aotea 23-19 in the playoff for third, with St Oran's fifth, ahead of Kapiti. The next major college netball teams is the lower North Island tournament in late August, and St Mary's, East, Wellington Girls' and Newlands should all be in contention for a spot at the nationals. St Mary's are led by their experienced year 13 trio of Faleafaga, Milan Lefaoseu and Jermaine Howard-Vallance while the squad also includes year 10 players Cheyne Copeland, Ainsleyana Puleiata, Diaz Tepania-Strickland and Renee Savai'inaea.

'One of our team goals was to be the top college in premier one.'

Pelesa Semu St Mary's coach

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