

# COLLEGE SPORT



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## Cordwell a rising star in junior ranks

### ROWING

**BELLA CORDWELL** took up rowing after watching the best, now she is having a crack at joining the best.

The Wellington East student has been selected for the New Zealand under-21 team that will compete against Australia in two regattas this year.

Cordwell, who is in her last year at school, will team up with former Chilton St James pupil Ella Pudney in a coxless pair.

It will be the first international competition for Cordwell who was prompted to take up the sport after watching the Kiwi rowers excel at the 2012 London Olympics.

"Watching Bond and Murray and Cohen and Sullivan - it was amazing how such a small country could produce so many good rowers," she said. "I also remember Mahe Drysdale from the Beijing Olympics and it made me have a think about rowing."

Cordwell joined the Star Boating Club and has barely stopped training since.

The rewards have come and Cordwell has already been a medalist at the national club championships and the Maadi Cup regatta this year. She was a member of the Star crew that claimed silver in the women's eight at the national club championships and was the stroke for the East crew that took bronze in the under-18 coxed four at Maadi.

Cordwell was also fourth in the



Wellington East rower Bella Cordwell will get her first experience at international level this year.

Photo: ROB BRISTOW/WWW.ROWINGIMAGES.COM

under-18 single sculls at Maadi, finishing less than three seconds behind the silver medalist, and finished fifth in the double sculls.

"I was just stoked that I had

made the A final in the single but was out the back after 1km. It was my last race for Wellington East, so I thought I had to do something and finished strongly. My fitness

probably helped me along and I was only 0.7 seconds away from the bronze."

Cordwell was selected to trial for the New Zealand junior team

following Maadi and although missing selection for the junior world champs was then offered a trial for the under-21 team.

Cordwell trialled only as a

sculler for the world championships but was put into a pair with Pudney for the under-21 trials.

"Ella is also in Wellington and didn't have anyone to row with and it has worked out well," Cordwell said.

"We teamed up about two weeks before the trials and only trained three or four times before we went up to Karapiro. But Ella is a really good person to row with."

"My preference is for sculling [two oars] and I haven't done much sweeping [one oar] but it seems to be going pretty well."

Pudney and Cordwell were tested against other crews during the under-21 trials and had two wins and a second from three races.

"I was really stoked to make the team, especially as it means that I should make the central RPC [regional performance centre] squad next summer," Cordwell said. "That had been one of my aims for the year."

Cordwell, 17, has played a variety of other sports, including tennis, volleyball, basketball and netball, and has played for the East senior A team in both netball and basketball.

However, rowing has taken over her sporting life.

"We are doing 12 training sessions a week for rowing at the moment, it's pretty crazy."

"I have been on the bench for the netball team when they need me but there's not enough time to

get to two practices and a game.

"But it's what I want to do. I really enjoy [rowing]."

Cordwell, who at 1.73m is one of the smallest rowers in the under-21 squad, expects to maintain her punishing training schedule till after the under-21 series. The first regatta will be in Sydney, in early July, and the second at Lake Karapiro in late August, and the New Zealand team will be in camp for a fortnight before each regatta.

"We try to get out on the water five or six times a week, otherwise it's mainly gym sessions."

Cordwell has always been willing to train hard. "She's a bit crazy, really," her club coach, Nathan Wallace, said. "She's one of those people who you sometimes have to tell to train less often. I wish everyone was more like that."

"She's extremely determined and trains really hard and is prepared to do whatever it takes to win. She's unbelievably fit and would be the fittest in our Star squad."

Wallace also believes that Cordwell might find her niche as a sweeper rather than a sculler. "She's a really good sweeper and the evidence is there from her results."

Cordwell also has some sporting genes and an aunt, Belinda Cordwell, rates as one of New Zealand's finest tennis players, being ranked among the top 20 in the world at her peak, and a semifinalist at the 1989 Australian Open.

## Moascar Cup rugby returns to Wellington

### RUGBY

**ANDY LESLIE** had just become the All Black captain and Norman Kirk was prime minister the last time a Moascar Cup match was held in Wellington.

The clash between holders Scots College and St Pat's Town on Saturday, in the opening round of premier one, will be the first challenge to be played in Wellington since 1974, when St Pat's Silverstream lost the cup to New Plymouth Boys'.

It took 40 years for the trophy to return, when Scots drew with Hamilton Boys' High in the national first XV final last August.

Scots had won the cup by beating Auckland Grammar 39-22 in the national semifinal but it would have been a short tenure if they had lost the final, two days later.

The Moascar Cup is often referred to as the Ranfurly Shield of secondary schools rugby and has a history going back to 1920 but was not a genuine national competition between 1927 and 1971.

Napier Boys revived the competition by successfully challenging in 1972, after it had been held by various schools in the Northland and Counties regions for 20 years.

Wellington College was the last of five cup holders in 1972, winning the trophy by beating Wanganui Collegiate in the quad final.

A powerful Silverstream XV, who lost just one match that year, beat Wellington College in 1973 and held off four challengers before losing the cup.

Twenty-eight different schools held the trophy before it returned to Wellington.

Remarkably, the first Moascar Cup matched played in Well-



St Pat's illustrates the passion that will be part of the Moascar Cup clash with Scots College this weekend.

Photo: ROSS GIBLIN/FAIRFAX NZ

ton, in June 1920, was also between Scots and St Pat's Town, as part of the qualifying rounds, with Town winning 29-0.

However, this weekend's match, which will be televised on the Sky Rugby Channel, will be the first time Town have challenged for the Moascar.

The Town first XV face a big week, with a traditional against St John's College, from Hastings, today, the Moascar match on Saturday and the Wellington College traditional today week.

It's a tough schedule and Town will have some idea of where they are in the premier one pecking order within the first five days.

Town have retained the bulk of their 2014 squad but their backline has suffered through significant injuries to halfback Zac

### PREMIER ONE SQUADS

**HUTT INTERNATIONAL**  
Jesse McCall, Angus Edge, Daniel Wilson, Matthew Wilkes, Tom Lynn, Caleb Tashkoff, Josh Tanner, Sean Leach, Mason Henry, Toby Hall, Riely Edwards, Luke Archibald, Cameron Bacon, James Cox, Callum Dunne, Liam Archibald, Ben Power, Jack Whiteman, Hayden Griffiths.

**RONGOTAI COLLEGE**  
Karl Brownlie, Eimeo Kirk, DJ Taoupu, Nathan Smith, Malachai Nasa-Knox, Denny To'o, Caleb Toleafoa, Tobias Makasi, Ray Pouvalu, Hinckley Siaoosi, Ezra Seiuli, Elijah Nafatali, Norman Fatialofa, Esikeli Komaisavai, Tua Tusa, Liam Falalaga, Matiu William Samuel, Anapapa Siale, Reuben Va'a, Ngatama Marurai.

**ST PAT'S SILVERSTREAM**  
Albert Polu, Chris Aumua, Kieran De La Rambelle, Aisea Mahlie'o, Todd Svenson, Callum Harkin, Albert Latalakepa, Jack Wright, Jack Svenson, Keegan Radovich, Asafo Aumua, Josphua Brown, Ryan Fraser, Losi Filipo, Tarquin Alatipi, Herwini Amunson, Tone Fauolo, Ivan Fepulea'i, Daniel Fiso, Jarrod Harawira, Keaton Te Amo, Stone Uvea.

**ST PAT'S TOWN**  
Ethan Meredith, Ben Aumua-Peseta, Meinrad Fitsemamu, Gus Stone, Billy Proctor, Kevin Fauatea, Peteli Poasa, Thomas Brazil, Zac Donaldson, Paul Bickle, Connor Fitzsimons, Grayson Schutz, Penieli Poasa, Xavier Numia, Emonn Carr, Hannon Brighouse, John Tuia, Jack Nelson-Murray, Luke Georgeson, William Sauea, Thomas Noble-Campbell.

**SCOTS COLLEGE**  
Moala Katoa, Lotonuu Hauaia, Alex Fidow, George Jacobs, Christian Lee, Henry Mexted, Jarimar Schuster, Daniel Brown, Harry Saker, Ezra Dunlop, Jack Loder, Ollie Whiteman, Jack Royal, Josh Wilson, Peter Umaga-Jensen, Thomas Umaga-Jensen, Connor Garden-Bachop, Malo Manuao, Solo Soave, Joe Boswell, Alec Cannons.

**TAWA COLLEGE**  
Jonsey Elekana-Tuuga, George Bloomfield, Elijah Brooking, Kaiti Iouane, Junior Kuresa, Tayne Lockwood, Lumafale Luaka, Bradley Mart, Adam McGill, Broadus Melvin, Shekinah Neru, Adam Preston, Kyle Preston, Tyler Smith, Ben Stephens,

Benjamin Stowers, Liam Taufale, Tyrann Te Paa, Christian Ulberg, Folau Vea, Hawaiki Walla, Matai Wetera, Daniel Wiggins, Kainoa Wimitu.

**WAIRARAPA COLLEGE**  
Caine Osborne, Taine Hintz, Jordon Galyer, Cullum Pritchard, Tua Levi, Lochie Macrae, Jacob Morison, Joe Roberts, Croydon Hall, Tama Hurihanganui, Bruce Kauika-Petersen, Cameron Ravenwood, Guy Percy, Tuakana Riwai-Couch, Joshua Pepperall, Jack Harley, Jonas Tamihana, Joseph Gordon, Chester Rothery, Keegan Taplin, Brad Griffith, Levi Harmon.

**WELLINGTON COLLEGE**  
Naitoa Ah Kuoi, Utu Ah Kuoi, Qualen Asi, Adam Blackwell, Connor Fuli, Qori Gucake, Kemara Hauti-Parapara, Jimmy Hewitt, Taissou Leaisalanoa, Pio Lupo, Jakob Morgan-Rranri, Leiveni Paongo, Oliver Paotonu, James Patrick, Reece Plumtree, Tana Salzmann, Adrian Sumunufagai, Toka Sopoaga, Will Van Bohemen, Stone Warren-Robinson, Callum Watts-Pointer, Jayden Williams.

Donaldson, second five-eighth Korvann Trogiatama, outside back Billy Rogiatama and wing Willie Saua.

Head boy Thomas Noble-Campbell has taken over the half-back duties with Paul Bickle at first five-eighth and it is hoped that dynamic fullback Siosaia Paese will be back at full fitness, following an ankle injury. "He [Paese] is a lightning bolt and anything can happen," Town coach Glenn Donaldson said.

The Town forwards performed well in the narrow loss against Napier College and openside flanker Jack Nelson-Murray has returned after a lengthy injury layoff.

Town have a good set of loose forwards, with Hannon Brighouse, Peteli Poasa and Kevin Fauatea also in the mix. The forwards have

also benefited from regular cross-fit training sessions. "We have two sessions a week and it has certainly helped," Donaldson said.

Scots were probably relieved not to play last weekend, following the cancellation of the first XV festival games, after the squad had six games in eight days in Japan. "I was pretty happy with their form in Japan," Scots coach Filo Tiatia said.

"We have had nine pre-season games and that has been enough to know where we are at and the boys are looking forward to defending the cup."

Scots cannot expect to match last year's results but will be tough rivals in the Wellington competition again. Alex Fidow, Jarimar Schuster and Henry Mexted will lead the pack and the

Umaga-Jensen twins and Connor Garden-Bachop are proven game-breakers in the backline.

Tawa and Wairarapa College are the newcomers to premier one. Wairarapa College were not eligible previously while Tawa have not been in premier one for decades.

Wairarapa, who play Rongotai on Saturday, have to travel over the Rimutaka hills for their first three games while Tawa will have a testing introduction when meeting Silverstream.

Silverstream still had a game last weekend, travelling to Palmerston North, where they had a 22-22 draw with Napier Boys.

Wellington College will meet Hutt International, who retained their premier one place by beating Porirua 13-7 last weekend.



Chelsey Edwards is continuing to dominate her age group in the pool.

Photo: FAIRFAX NZ

## Edwards, 13, sweeps age-group freestyle

### SWIMMING

IT HAS been another golden month for Chelsey Edwards.

The young Chilton St James swimmer was one of the standout performers at the national age group championships in Wellington, picking up five gold medals.

Edwards, a year 9 student, recorded a clean sweep in the freestyle events in the 12-13 years, winning the 50m, 100m, 200m and 400m and added gold in the 50m butterfly.

The 13-year-old, who has been the dominant freestyle swimmer in her age group for some time, was most excited about her efforts in the 100m and 400m.

She lowered her own Wellington age-group record when recording 58.97 for the 100m and reduced her best for the 400m to 4:36.57, more than eight seconds inside her previous personal best.

"I really wanted to go under 59 [seconds] for the 100m," Edwards said. She established her new time in her heat, when she had the brilliant Auckland 15-year-old Gabrielle Fa'amausili in the next lane. "I think that helped me go faster."

Edwards is now chipping away at Rebecca Perrott's Wellington freestyle age-group records. Perrott, a Commonwealth Games gold medalist in 1978, still holds the bulk of the Wellington records and her 13 years 100m freestyle record had also stood since 1975, till

broken by Edwards in December.

Edwards was also close to her PB for the 50m at the nationals, recording 27.40, and one of her targets for the year is to go under 27 seconds for the distance.

Edwards, who won eight events at the national age-group short course championships last September, has also performed well on the international stage this year.

She had her first experience of overseas competition when competing at the Australian age-group championships, in Sydney in April, and won bronze in the 12-13 200m freestyle in a PB of 2:07.54. She had also improved her PBs when fifth in the 50m freestyle and sixth in the 100m.

Lewis Clareburt (Scots), Maggie Burns (Marsden), Alex Pangalone (Hutt Valley) and Joel Crampton (Tawa) also won gold at the age-group championships.

Clareburt lowered his own Wellington record when winning the 15 years 400m individual medley, established another Wellington record when third in the 200m IM and was runner-up in the 200m butterfly.

Burns took gold in the 17-18 years 100m butterfly and silver in the 100m and 200m freestyle while Pangalone, swimming in the same age group, won the 400m freestyle and was second in the 800m.

Crampton also set a Wellington record, when winning the 12-13 years 200m butterfly in 2:21.35.

## Tough week motivates Wellington Girls' to do better

### NETBALL

**WELLINGTON GIRLS' COLLEGE** will attempt to defend their premier tournament title tomorrow, after a week of mixed fortunes.

The netball squad had three tough games over five days and came away with a win and two losses. An away win against Palm-

erston North Girls' was followed by a loss to Wellington East in the local club competition on Saturday and Mt Albert Grammar were too strong in the semifinal of the national college knockout competition the next day.

Wellington Girls' had reached the knockout semifinals by beating Wellington East the previous

week but struggled against the powerful Mt Albert Grammar side, which included four members of the national secondary schools team.

Mt Albert led 27-13 after the third quarter, before winning 35-21. "They [Mt Albert] were brilliant Wellington Girls' coach Emma Weenink said.

"They had talented athletes and a really good defensive structure."

"It was the first time our girls had played a team from outside the lower North Island and showed them what we could be up against if we make the nationals."

"Our girls were really excited going into the game and though they were defeated, they came out

of it quite motivated to get back into training and put in the hard yards in the next few months."

The standouts for Wellington Girls' had included young goal keeper Tianna Rutene, along with Fran Wotton and Tegan Graham.

Twenty teams will take part in the College Sport Wellington netball tournament tomorrow.

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