



Secondary School Sport

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Swimmers converge on QE II

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Cai Edge from Rangiora New Life School was in outstanding form at the Combined Country High Schools Swimming Championships at QE II pool last week.

Cai was totally dominant in the senior boys grade easily winning the 50m butterfly, freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke titles, all in record times.

Michaela Ross, also from Rangiora New Life School, also broke the record in the senior girls 50m breaststroke.

Cai, Michaela and five other swimmers selected from these championships, will now compete for a Combined Country High Schools' team at the Canterbury Secondary School Swimming championships which started yesterday and continue tomorrow night.

With more than 500 swimmers representing 33 Canterbury and West Coast schools entered into the championships, the 2008 event promises to be a highlight on the term 1 secondary school sporting calendar.

The Canterbury Secondary Schools' Touch Championships were held in fine but blustery conditions at Sheldon Park in Belfast on Saturday.

With each of the eight super touch teams contesting the boys



Dodge Lincoln's Rosalie Jackson, left, tries to evade her Marian College marker in round-robin play at the Canterbury Secondary Schools' Touch Championships.
Photos: Marc Greenhill



Touch-down: Papanui's Janelle Cavanagh goes for the dive to score against Villa Maria in round-robin play.

and girls grades and a further six teams in the mixed grade the resources of referees and fields were fully utilised. Special mention must be made of the outstanding service given by the 15 referees in attendance, who between them, controlled 50 games throughout the day.

In the boys competition, top seed and defending champion, Papanui High School was again too strong for the opposition, defeating

Cashmere High School, 8-2 in the final.

The girls' final was a repeat of the 2007 final, between Rangiora Girls' School and Papanui High School.

Last year, the two teams shared the title, but this year resolved before the game, that if the outcome was a draw at the end of regular time, additional time would be played to ensure a winner.

However, Rangiora was too

good on the day comfortably winning 6-1.

In the mixed-grade competition, St Andrew's College was too strong for the opposition, winning all of its games to claim the title from a determined Lincoln High School team in second place.

Minister of Sport, Clayton Cosgrove, presented the awards to the top-placed teams.

The top four placed teams in each grade qualify for the South

Island Championships at the end of March.

They were:
Boys: 1st Papanui High School, 2nd Cashmere High school, 3rd Shirley Boys' High School, St Bede's College.

Girls: 1st Rangiora Girls' School, 2nd Papanui High School, 3rd Christchurch Girls' High School, St Margaret's College.

Mixed: 1st St Andrew's College, 2nd Lincoln High School, 3rd Aranui High School, 4th Kalapoi High School.

PUBLIC NOTICE



YAMAHA
PIANO SALE
18TH FEBRUARY - 29TH FEBRUARY
HUGE SAVINGS ON

Edge-of-seat tennis

Canterbury's Leela Beattie has played a key role in New Zealand's defence of the IC World Junior Challenge tennis title against South Africa in Auckland.

New Zealand won the final 4-2 as Beattie formed an unbeaten pairing with North Harbour's Brian Preston.

Going into the singles, South Africa and New Zealand were tied one-all. During the first round, Beattie won her singles match in three sets to help

New Zealand to a 3-1 lead.

The Kiwis had earlier beaten Japan, Great Britain and Mexico.

Team captain Kevin Woolcott was "over the moon" with the win, although his nerves were so on edge that he felt like he had a heart attack.

"Almost every contest we have played (in the tournament) could have gone either way, but the players, with a little luck and a lot of talent, have come up with the goods."



Key role: Darfield's Leela Beattie formed an unbeaten pairing with North Harbour's Brian Preston at the IC World Challenge tennis.