



TENNIS

Twins get a double shot at success

DUO TO HIT NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CAMP

Simon McEvoy

MT MARTHA twins Stami and Zahra Arthur are looking forward to taking their place among the best 16 young tennis players in the country.

The nine-year-olds have been selected in a Tennis Australia talent-identification program to attend a national development camp on the Gold Coast at the end of the month.

Playing since the age of three, the twins have been coached by Steve Foot at Mt Eliza Tennis Club for the past three years.

"They were pretty impressive from day one," Foot said.

"Most kids are starting competition at about nine or 10. These two have been competing since they were six."

Foot will accompany Stami and Zahra to the week-long camp.

In a high-performance environment, they will be put through skill testing to see where they are at and be prepared to play in tournaments.

Foot has coached thou-

sands of kids and rates

Stami and Zahra – who are barely bigger than their racquets – highly.

"At their age, these are the best two kids I've coached," Foot said.

"I've coached players who have ended up getting world rankings.

"These two are the best I've had at that age of nine."

Foot said apart from having obvious talent, Stami and Zahra, possessed unbelievable training ethics.

They run every morning and train every night after school.

They attend Balcombe Grammar School, in Mt Martha, but the pair would happily hit tennis balls all day if they could.

Stami and Zahra are this week's Leader sports stars.

Leader Sports Star is sponsored by Sportmart.

To nominate a sports star who has achieved at state level or above, email mornington@leadernewspapers.com.au



Stami and Zahra Arthur, 9, with coach Steve Foot.



Mornington Peninsula Leader, Melbourne
13 May 2014, by Simon McEvoy

General News, page 36 - 576.00 cm²
Suburban - circulation 47,503 (-T-----)

ID 00255993646



Stami Arthur serving it up at the Mt Eliza Tennis Club courts.

Picture: DERRICK DEN HOLLANDER