

## **ST LUKE'S ALMOST CAUSE UPSET**

In the match of the day in Section 1 Tennis Geelong on Saturday, St Luke's Highton Uniting at home to Centre Court Blue almost pulled off an upset, going down by one game only.

In a low scoring match with both teams recording runaway set wins, Court's men of Ry Davies, Chris Baxter and Adam Lasky dominated the men's doubles, losing only 2 games in the 3 sets. Both teams were missing their top players – Matthew Hicks for Court and Jeremy Palmer-Morgan for St Luke's – for this very important clash.

St Luke's dominated the mixed doubles winning all 3 sets with their ladies Vicky Stucky, Brianna Bateup and Raelee Anderson taking out 2 of the 3 ladies' doubles.

The clash of Carolyn McGann and Kelly Brunger against St Luke's Vicky Stucky and Brianna Bateup was a highlight with the Court ladies getting home 6/3.

Overall Centre Court Blue just got home 4 sets 36 games to 5 sets 35 games, however, lost top place in the process.

## **NEWCOMB MOVE TO TOP**

Newcomb at home to St Mary's took over top place on the ladder from Centre Court Blue when it soundly defeated bottom side St Mary's 8 sets to 1 and next week will meet Blue in a "top of the table clash".

Once again the men from Newcomb, Gavin McCoy, Chris Higgins and Peter Cullen were too strong in mixed and men's' doubles, winning all their sets in fine style. Bridget LeMaitre for Newcomb was also a three-set winner on the day.

For St Mary's Peppe Scorpo fought hard all day and their only set win in the match was in 3<sup>rd</sup> ladies when Melinda Spalding and Natasha Chequer defeated Raquel Murdoch and Sascha Bruenjes 6/4.

In a one-sided match Newcomb home 8 sets 53 games to St Mary's 1 set 26 games.

## **GROVEDALE MOVE TO FOURTH**

Grovedale at home to Wandana Heights moved into the Four with a solid win against 7<sup>th</sup> placed Wandana on Saturday. The win for Grovedale was set up by its ladies when Ebony Del Rio, Bianca Duff and Sara Kucenko won all three ladies' doubles sets in fine style.

Duff and Kucenko were winners in their mixed doubles also to record victories in all their sets for the afternoon.

Veteran and coach Tony Brushfield was a standout, winning his 3 sets and the Heights' only sets on the day. His son James with Mark Hagebols gave him good support, however, Grovedale too strong winning 6 sets 48 games to 3 sets 35 games.

## **COURT RED UPSET GROVE**

Ocean Grove travelled to Centre Court on Saturday in the final match of Section 1 Tennis Geelong Competition and suffered a minor setback with Centre Court Red currently 6<sup>th</sup> winning against 3<sup>rd</sup> placed Ocean Grove by 6 sets to 3.

The Court's ladies of Romano Mataruga, Fiona Walker and Claudia Gunjeca were in great form winning all their sets in mixed and ladies doubles to put the match beyond doubt.

Grove's only sets came in men's doubles with Jason Raselli, Brad Edwards and Ari Levinson winning all three in a strong showing. Overall Centre Court Red 6 sets 45 games too strong for Ocean Grove 3 sets 32 games.

## **SECTION 1 LADDER**

Newcomb 41.5 points, Centre Court Blue 40.5, Ocean Grove 31.5, Grovedale 27.5, St Luke's Highton Uniting 26.5, Centre Court Red 19.5, Wandana Heights 17.5, St Mary's 15.5.

## **GEELONG LAWN WIN TOP OF THE TABLE CLASH**

Geelong Lawn travelled to Gheringhap on Saturday in Section 2 Tennis Geelong competition and won well to retain top position. Lawn's Mick Carlon was the only 3-set winner on the day and was ably backed up by Toby Lawrence, Trevor Priddle and the three ladies – Philippa Tepper, Alice Broadbent and Lorran McCaul - all winning 2 of their 3 sets for the afternoon.

For Gheringhap Anthony Leigh at No.1 was the stand-out, winning 2 of his 3 sets in their loss to Lawn by 6 sets 46 games to 3 sets 35 games, however held on to 2<sup>nd</sup> place on the ladder.

## **OCEAN GROVE SURPRISE HIGHTON**

Ocean Grove at home in Section 2 had a strong win over Highton 6 sets to 3 on Saturday, but is now in last position only 2 points from 5<sup>th</sup>. For the Grove, David Franks and Jarryd Proctor after struggling to win close mixed sets teamed with James Kerr to win all three men's doubles in a convincing manner.

Highton's Emily Stephenson was the leading light for her team, winning all her sets and Highton's only sets for the afternoon. Nicole Patterson and Nicole Spong ably backed her up.

Final result saw Ocean Grove 6 sets 49 games too good for Highton 3 sets 40 games.

In the final game in Section 2 Barwon Heads at home recorded a runaway win over Grovedale 7 sets 50 games to 2 sets 27 games to move to 5<sup>th</sup> on the ladder.

## **SECTION 2 LADDER**

Geelong Lawn 42.5 points, Gheringhap 26.5, St Mary's 23.5, Grovedale 23, Barwon Heads 17.5, Highton 16.5, Ocean grove 15.5.

## **FITZGERALD CUP BOYS DO WELL**

Representing the Barwon Region in the John Fitzgerald Cup played at Creswick recently were Michael Chapman, Darcy Narita, Tom Dixon and Sam McLachlan.

The Cup is a Regional team event for boys aged 13 & Under from across Victoria and is run by Tennis Victoria.

The team played with great determination in difficult weather conditions against some tough opposition to finish 4<sup>th</sup> in their pool matches.

They then posted a sound victory over the Goulburn Region in the playoff match to finish in 7<sup>th</sup> position overall.

Anna Chapman, the Team Manager, said that at all times the boys displayed great team spirit and sportsmanship and are to be congratulated on their efforts.



John Fitzgerald (wearing dark cap).

Boys L to R –Darcy Narita, Sam McLachlan,

Michael Chapman and Tom Dixon.



L to R – Tom Dixon, Sam McLachlan  
Michael Chapman and Darcy Narita.

## **VICTORIAN JUNIOR PENNANT**

The Victorian Junior Pennant season runs for 10 weeks and began in mid August. Players from each of the tennis Regions within Metropolitan Melbourne and Geelong compete each Sunday morning in a two-set singles and 8 games doubles match.

The Barwon Region entered 9 teams this season in U16, U14 & U12 Boys, U16, U14 (2) & U12 (2) girls and one U12 mixed team. The teams had a mixture of results with the U12A team of Georgia Kelly, Alessia Rosso, Nicole Mullen, Grace Johnston, Maddison Sideris and Zoe Duff and U12B team of Rachelle Lolait, Olivia Ryan, Marnie Higgins, Olivia Price, Tamika Hider and Taylah Mielczerak having qualified for the finals to be played on Sunday November 21.

Playing consistently against some of the better players within the State has enabled the players to develop their game to a higher and more consistent level.