

## **ST MARY'S STRUGGLE TO RETAIN THIRD**

St Mary's, away to St Albans on Saturday in Section 1 Tennis Geelong Competition, struggled against 4<sup>th</sup> placed St Albans, getting home by 4 sets to 2 to remain 4.5 points behind 2<sup>nd</sup> placed Grovedale Black with finals approaching. The St Mary's team of Carly McClelland, Natasha Edwards, Peppe Scorpo and Peter Ficca shared the opening mixed doubles sets with St Albans' Clare Burns, Angela Oldham, Peter Lange and Doug Hewson, and when Burns and Oldham won the ladies' doubles for St Albans an upset was on the cards. However, St Mary's hit top gear in the remaining 3 sets losing only 4 games in the process to run out winners 4 sets 28 games to 2 sets 21 games.

## **NEWCOMB CONTINUE TO DOMINATE**

Top side Newcomb continued on its winning way, defeating 2<sup>nd</sup> placed Grovedale by 4 sets to 2. The Dale's Cameron Govan was outstanding, winning 2 of his 3 sets and the Dale's only sets for the day when he partnered Sara Earls to defeat David Kos and Bridget LeMaitre in a tight tiebreak set in 1<sup>st</sup> mixed and with Steven Muratori took out the men's doubles over Kos and Peter Cullen. Earls and Lisa Sherwell almost pulled off the ladies' doubles for Dale, losing in a tiebreak to LeMaitre and Sascha Bruenjes. However, Newcomb with solid wins in the other 3 sets recorded a comfortable 4 sets 34 games to 2 sets 26 games victory.

SECTION 1 LADDER – Newcomb 66 points, Grovedale Black 48.5, St Mary's 44, St Albans 26, Grovedale Yellow 23.5.

## **LARA UPSET TOP SIDE WAURN PONDS**

2<sup>nd</sup> placed Lara at home to Waurn Ponds fought out a thrilling match to get home by 1 set and 2 games in a preview of this season's grand final in Section 2.

For Lara, Robyn Cogan and Daniel Peters were in outstanding form winning all their sets for the afternoon in fine style which set the team up for a surprise win in the match.

For the Ponds, Ben and Emily Rankin along with Nick Zyppel and Joanne Mullen played well during the day, winning 2 of their 3 sets, however, Lara held on to win 5 sets 41 games to 4 sets 39 games to hold down 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Ocean Grove consolidated 3<sup>rd</sup> place on the Section 2 ladder with a solid 7 sets to 2 victory over Torquay at Torquay on Saturday. Although losing 1<sup>st</sup> mixed and men's doubles, Ocean Grove dominated all remaining sets with Scott Bibby, Megan Vicary, Nicole Norman winning all their sets in fine style.

For Torquay Sam Rogers was a standout winning Torquay's only sets for the day with Megan Hapgood and Paul Archer, however overall Ocean Grove too good winning 7 sets 50 games to 2 sets 40 games.

Bannockburn fought hard to hold on to 4<sup>th</sup> place with a close win over 5<sup>th</sup> Grovedale on Saturday by 1 set and 4 games. It was an overall effort from Burn and although no player won his or her 3 sets for the day, Sarah Round, Ida Durran, Carol Dodds, Martin Round and Chris Dodds won 2 of their 3 sets.

For Grovedale, Ben Hardy was the star of the match being the only player to win all his sets for the day. Donna Schoenmaekers was the best of the ladies for Grove, winning 1 set and was involved in 3 hard fought sets, 2 of which were tiebreak sets. Overall Bannockburn with a team effort got home by 5 sets 45 games to 4 sets 41 games and will hold down 4<sup>th</sup> place for the finals.

In the final match in Section 2 Western Heights Uniting, bottom, was against 6<sup>th</sup> placed Geelong East Uniting with The Heights taking the match over East by 1 set and 7 games in a surprise result.

The Heights' men of Robert Arnall, Matthew Wrigley and Jeff Smith were the match winners with Arnall and Wrigley winning all their sets and with Smith took out all 3 men's' doubles.

For East, their ladies of Madeleine London winning her 3 sets and with Sandra Hartkopf and Deborah Lewis taking out all ladies' doubles, took the match up to The Heights. However, in a close encounter Western Heights Uniting came out on top winning 5 sets 45 games to 4 sets 38 games.

SECTION 2 LADDER - Waurnd Ponds 116 points, Lara 101.5, Ocean Grove 84, Bannockburn 76, Grovedale 60, Geelong East Uniting 52, Torquay 48.5, Western Heights Uniting 34.