

## **ALL SAINTS BREAK THROUGH FOR MAIDEN SECTION 1 PREMIERSHIP**

All Saints Anglican broke through for their maiden Tennis Geelong Section 1 premiership on Saturday, but went about it the hard way after coming from 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishing off perennial champions Centre Court late in the morning to complete the rain delayed preliminary final, and then backed up in the afternoon to eclipse powerhouse new side Leopold in the grand final.

With the preliminary final stopped due to rain the previous Saturday with All Saints leading 4 sets to 1 over Centre Court, but well down in 2<sup>nd</sup> ladies, Court went on to win this set. Daniel Thomas got them home, combining with Mat Holschier to win the 2<sup>nd</sup> men's and then combined with Shane Wiffen to win 3<sup>rd</sup> men's and assure them of a grand final berth in the afternoon. Holschier was outstanding for the Saints winning all his sets.

Backing up only hours later on the plexi-courts at Geelong Lawn Tennis Club the All Saints team started strongly in the 1<sup>st</sup> mixed with Mat Holschier able to negate the powerful game of young gun Adam Lasky and with Ash Andrews showing deft touch at the net to combat Leopold's Taylor Sobczyk, it was first set to All Saints.

Leopold struck back in 2<sup>nd</sup> mixed with Ry Davies and Karen Filippou well matched against All Saints' Shane Wiffen and Jenelle Findlay. The outstanding point of the day went to All Saints as their captain, Wiffen, pushed back well behind the baseline, chased down a certain winner and with a desperate dive, landed on the hard court, but amazingly returned the ball over the head of the stunned Davies. Wiffen regained his footing to win the point after retrieving the return from Filippou. Unfortunately despite Wiffen's great effort Leopold managed to take the closely fought set in a tiebreak.

In the final mixed set Leopold's Alessia Roso and James Brushfield overcame their All Saints opponents Carly McClelland and Matt Fisher in a tight tiebreak set.

All Saints' Andrews, played strongly to win 2 of her 3 sets in fine style. Leopold's Filippou won 2 of her 3 sets also including 2<sup>nd</sup> ladies with Sobczyk to overcome the determined efforts of Andrews and McClelland, to take the set.

In the men's department Saints' Holschier and Wiffen won 1<sup>st</sup> men's over Lasky and Brushfield and Lasky and Davies took the 2<sup>nd</sup> men's for Leopold defeating Holschier and Daniel Thomas.

Wiffen was again dominant in 3<sup>rd</sup> men's teaming with Thomas, defeating Brushfield and Davies comfortably to put the match out of reach for Leopold.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> ladies' set, with Leopold leading, was unfinished as a result had been reached with All Saints Anglican winning the Section 1 Tennis Geelong flag over Leopold by 4 sets 45 games to 4 sets 38 games.

## **GROVE TAKE FLAG IN TWO**

Hot favourites Ocean Grove took out the flag, making them champions, in Section 2 Tennis Geelong on Saturday proving too good for St Mary's, winning by 5 sets to 1.

Grove's Nick Vicary and Brad Edwards got them away to a flying start with a strong first set win over Paul Field and Peter Ficca.

In a tight second set James Kerr and David Franks made it 2 sets to love winning in a tiebreak for Grove over Adrian Koorn and Peter Rodgers. Grove continued to dominate with Vicary and Kerr taking the 3<sup>rd</sup> set and Edwards and Franks the 4<sup>th</sup> set, and when Vicary and Jarryd Proctor took out the 5th set of the afternoon the match was long gone.

The Saints' only set in a disappointing grand final was the last set of the day when Ficca and Koorn won in a hard fought set.

Overall Ocean Grove proved that they were the strongest team all season, winning the Section 2 flag by 5 sets 36 games to St Mary's 1 set 19 games.