

These updates occur on the first Wednesday of every month. To unsubscribe please email ntis@nt.gov.au with 'unsubscribe NTIS update' in the subject header.

Young Achievers Award

Congratulations to Desmond Abbott and Crystal Attenborough on their selection as finalists for the 2006 Young Achievers award in the Perkins Shipping Sports Award category. There some excellent applications that missed out notably Ashlee Brown, Joel Carroll, Sophie Hawken and Amy Hardy to name a few who had outstanding years.

Tenpin Bowling

Jayde Flanagan won Mt Gravatt Youth Cup in Brisbane on the 17, and 18. Jayde. Eliminated Rochelle Mottlee of Queensland in Round 1, Kara Tru of NSW in round 2 before meeting head to head with her sister Bianca Flanagan of Queensland in the final. Jayde won the final 2 games to 0, 227 to 205 and 234 to 233.

Jayde Flanagan, Bec Simpson and Head Coach June Voukolos travel to Melbourne for the final Australian Team Selection Camp for World Champs Team to Mexico.

NTIS Tenpin bowlers completed a 2-day training camp in Darwin and in addition Ronald Voukolos, Daniel York, Bruno Maglieri and Angela Shima all accredited as Level One Tenpin Coaches. They will complete Level Two as part of NSO Succession Plan for coaches, at the end of March with other elite bowlers from Sydney, Brisbane and Singapore.

Triathlon

Darwin's Alison Fitch was runner up in Lotto Ironman Malaysia (Langkawi) in 9 hours 50 minutes and 59 seconds breaking the 10 hour barrier 8 minutes behind winner Germany's Nicole Leder and 10 minutes clear of third place Yoko Hori from Japan. Alison finished 27 overall. Germany's Nina Kraft and Great Britain's Bella Comerford led the women's race but at the end of the 180km cycling leg, the two were caught by Alison Fitch, setting up a dramatic start to the marathon run with all three women within seconds of each other.

In the oppressive heat with temperatures reaching high 30's Celsius and high humidity the two leaders wilted and pulled out of the race. That left Fitch in the lead but she could not hang on as Leder overtook Fitch and cruised to victory.

Baseball

New NTIS athlete Wilson Lee is a new Carbine Club JEDS athlete after obtaining a scholarship to attend the 2007 Major League Baseball Australian Academy Program (MLBAAP). The MLBAAP is a 6 week camp on the Gold Coast to select and train elite junior baseball players for the junior Australian teams as they prepare for the World Championships. He will receive daily expert coaching.

Wilson pitches for the Palmerston Reds in the Darwin Baseball League.

Swimming

Alice Springs swimmer Zac Dalby is also a new Carbine Club JEDS athlete following his recent success at the South Australian Open. His time of 2 minutes 17.85 seconds in the 14 year olds 200m Individual Medley qualifies him for a JEDS scholarship. Zac had an outstanding championships winning 3 golds and 5 silvers.

Sailing

F18 World Championships held at Yeppoon 19-25 February, JEDS scholarship holder Jack Benson and partner Mathew Punch finished in 27th place behind winners Glenn Ashby and Darren Bundock. Ashby and Bundock are multi Olympians in the Tornado class and like them Jack was using this regatta to gain valuable catamaran experience for the upcoming Australian Tornado championships this weekend in Perth. Jack and Mathew finished the regatta with best placings of 19 and 15th place.

Mark Edmunds and Rohan Langworthy have been busy preparing their catamaran for the upcoming Australian Tornado championships at the Nedlands Yacht Club, Perth.

Cricket

Congratulations to Kane Richardson on his selection in the Australian U18 cricket squad preparing for the U19 World cup in Malaysia in 2998. Kane was also named as an emergency to play in an Australian U19 team that will play Pakistan in Brisbane in April. Kane was in a Melbourne school, Carey Grammer but has returned back to the NT to seek treatment for a back injury.

Athletics

Crystal Attenborough competed in the 4 x 100m relay at the recent Telstra Series event in Sydney for Australia A with fellow Aussies Sally McLennan, Melanie Kleeburg and Olivia Tauro. The A team defeated Australia B team and New Zealand's best team in a time of 44.51 seconds. The team aiming to qualify for the 11th IAAF World Championships in Osaka, Japan in August 2007. While Crystal's change of batten was perfect the time of 43.90 seconds was not achieved and so the team must find another event to race in order to qualify.

In the 200m a 23.30 time is the B qualifier to In the 200m race Crystal was pipped at the post by Monique Williams of New Zealand obtaining a time of 23.53 seconds. Her first goal is to reach a time of 23.30 seconds which is the B qualifier to the World Championships then 23.10 seconds for an A time. With the Nationals on the 9-11 March this will be the perfect opportunity to reach that mark.

Tennis

The 2007 tennis squad was announced with the following athletes inducted into the NTIS. First year players, Matilda Hurst, Kassandra Dunser, Emily Webb, Emma Labessar , second year athlete Tarlina Tipungwuti, Ashlee Brown (7 years as a scholarship holder), and Adil Hakeem (6 years as a scholarship holder). Rohan Fischer is still the coach of the program, with assistance of the local Darwin coaches.

Rugby League

The NTIS squad consisting of Reece Coleman, Sam Irwin, Michael Elphick, Gavin Brown, Tyler Malone, Jac Ralph, Jason Gebert, Jerome Edwards, Sean Shanahan, Peter Hassall, Mitch Jeggo, Brett Boucher, Jake Marshall played against the Darwin Colts before match of the Penrith and Newcastle NRL pre season match on Saturday 24th. NTIS won 20-14. Played very well as a team and were in a competitive game and showed they have come a long way with their 5 months training.