

6
VOLUME



Girls Sport Victoria



Camberwell Girls
Grammar School

Fintona Girls School

Firbank Grammar School

Genazzano FCJ College

Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School

Kilvington Girls' Grammar

Korowa Anglican Girls' School

Lauriston Girls' School

Loreto Mandeville Hall

Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School

Melbourne Girls Grammar

Mentone Girls' Grammar School

Methodist Ladies' College

Our Lady of Mercy College

Presbyterian Ladies' College

Ruyton Girls' School

Sacré Coeur

St Catherine's School

St Margaret's School

Shelford Girls' Grammar

Star of the Sea College

Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar School

Tintern Girls Grammar School

Toorak College



2006



GIRLS SPORT VICTORIA

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GSV Website

In 2006 the GSV website was further developed, adding more photos and interesting information, especially for students new to GSV. The website was maintained on a weekly basis to communicate the latest news, results and upcoming events. To reach the site, go to

www.gsv.vic.edu.au

GSV always welcomes your feedback.

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From the GSV President

Now in our sixth year, we are incredibly proud of how well established and respected GSV has become in this relatively short period.

With 24 all-girls' schools as members, a wide variety of sports to choose from and an equal focus on participation and competitive excellence, we believe GSV schools provide the best sporting opportunities for girls.

This achievement is a reflection of the dedication and hard work of each person associated with GSV: Executive Officer Ms Meredith Prime and Project Officers Ms Jo a'Beckett and Mrs Leonie Mawkes do a wonderful job delivering high quality programs. But these programs would not be the success they are without the efforts of the staff and coaches at each GSV school.

I would like to particularly acknowledge Mr Dean Rossato, who, after 12 years as Head of Sport at Star of the Sea College, is moving on. Mr Rossato's commitment to the development of girls' sport is evident in both the participation rates and competitive success of Star's sporting endeavours.

I would also like to farewell Ms Jo a'Beckett from GSV. Jo has been a valuable member of the GSV team since 2003 and we wish her well in her new role.

Ms Margaret Webb, GSV President



2006 Sports Captains Inspired to 'Make a Difference'

The Sports Captains' Breakfast is one of the first events on the GSV Calendar and marks the beginning of a new year of sport for the 24 GSV schools. The incoming Sports Captains always enjoy the chance to meet their counterparts and swap stories about the opportunities and challenges they face within their own school environment.

This year the girls were invited to acknowledge their role as leaders and consider the impact they could have on their school landscape, by encouraging girls who are not involved in sport, to become involved. They were reminded of the unique influence they can have on their peers and encouraged to 'think outside the square' as they motivate girls to become involved in competitive or non-competitive sport.

With a bit of help from Australian Judo Champion Catherine Arlove, the Sports Captains were challenged to consider the kind of legacy they would like to leave their school. Catherine turned down the role of School Captain for what she considered to be a more appropriate role for her: that of Sports Captain. With dogged determination she changed her whole school's perspective on the value of sport. Many of the changes she implemented are still in place nearly fifteen years later, a legacy of which she is extremely proud.

We hope the Sports Captains of 2006 have taken something from Catherine's story and completed their last year of school with a sense that they really did make a difference.

Your Principals Walk the Walk



What a wonderful display of collegiality! The 24 GSV School Principals actively demonstrated their support for girls' sport and physical activity by walking a 1 km loop of the 2006 Cross Country Championship Course at Bundoora Park this year.

Having swapped their business suits for tracksuits, they kept a brisk pace, assuring us all of their own physical fitness.

The Principals were flanked by teams of girls from their schools, some of whom were warming up for their own events later in the day. Others joined in for their personal sense of achievement and participation.

The mood was exultant, with Principals brimming with pride that they could, so demonstrably, encourage girls to be active. But it was clear that the girls were just as proud of their Principals. With wide smiles and cheers of support they encouraged them along, impressed that their Principal was prepared to take time out of a busy schedule to support girls' sport.

As the first 'school' of Principals strode under the impressive inflatable finish balloon, there were even more cheers and applause.

Principal of Firbank Grammar School, Dr Anne Sarros, was energised by the enthusiasm and spirit of the girls who cheered universally for the Principals.



"Walking with Year 11 girls from Firbank, I felt as if I belonged with them to GSV in an active way, that we were all promoting girls' sport and women in action!"

Having been such a success in 2006, the 2007 Principals' Walk is a certainty, and who knows, we may even stretch them a bit further next year.

WHAT A YEAR!



Star of the Sea College continued their dominance on the Track and Field and have now won every Division One Carnival in GSV's six-year history.



Ruyton ran away with their fourth GSV Cross Country title.



Lauriston won both the A and B Open Waterpolo Premierships this year and have now won seven from 10 GSV Waterpolo titles.

Firbank proved too good off the Diving board, and was victorious in GSV Division One Diving for the 5th time in GSV history.



MLC celebrated their reign over the Swimming pool and, apart from sharing the victory spoils with Firbank in 2004, remain undefeated in GSV Division One.

Weekly Sport

Term 4 2005 Weekly Sport

With a spring in their step, GSV girls welcomed the warmer weather and the Term 4 sports of Basketball, Cricket and Junior Waterpolo.

Term 4 is a busy time of year for the Seniors, especially VCE students, and the season is adjusted accordingly. The Cricket competition has just two age groups, Juniors (Years 7-8) and Seniors (Years 9-12), while the Senior Basketball matches are played twice a week, with the condensed competition ending before VCE exams commence.

The Senior girls who commit to sport in Term 4 take advantage of the brief break from their studies to clear their minds and get a valuable energy boost from playing sport.

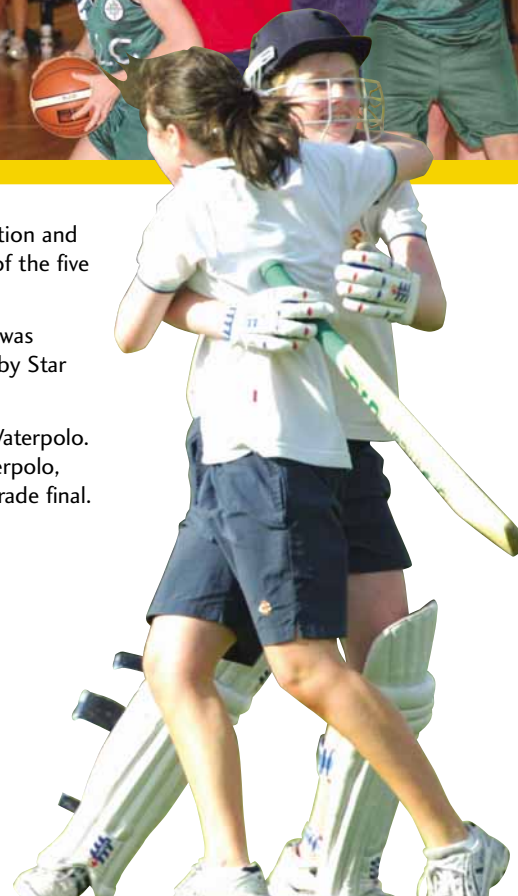
Congratulations to the Senior Basketball team at MLC, most of whom had been playing together since Year 7, who went out on a high with a decisive victory over Star of the Sea in the Grand Final.

In the Intermediate A grade Basketball, Genazzano were too good for MLC, winning the title for the second year in a row. OLMC were triumphant in the Junior A competition and had a good year all round in Basketball, finishing on top of the ladder in their zone for three of the five categories, and coming second and third in the other two.

The Cricket was contested in beautiful spring weather, especially the Junior Grand Final which was celebrated afterwards with a BBQ hosted by victors Sacré Coeur. The Senior Cricket was won by Star of the Sea for the second year in a row.

The Junior Waterpolo continued to help develop girls' skill and confidence with the sport of Waterpolo. 2005 was the first year that a finals series was held and Lauriston, traditionally strong in Waterpolo, was simply too good for Ivanhoe in the A grade, but could not overpower PLC in a tighter B grade final.

	SENIOR A	INTER A	INTER B	JUNIOR A	JUNIOR B
Basketball	MLC	Genazzano	Genazzano	OLMC	Star
Cricket	Star			Sacré Coeur	
Waterpolo				Lauriston	PLC



St Catherine's Get the Mix Right

St Catherine's Senior B grade Tennis team won the Premiership and the pride of their school. So what were the ingredients of this special team?

Director of Sport and Tennis Coach Ms Thompson believes they got the mix right.

"A key ingredient was definitely elite Tennis player Bridget Healey.

"Bridget is a delightful, modest girl who has played at the highest level – the French and Wimbledon Juniors, as well as the Australian Open. Bridget was a fantastic role model, she was very open to play with anyone, and was always very encouraging. The girls really looked up to her."

But you can't win with just one top player so they mixed in a team of very solid players. "They were an enthusiastic group of girls who just loved training and playing."

Ms Thompson also admitted to sweetening the pot with the odd bribe to keep the girls' energy up. "And we added just a dash of good old fashioned 'rev-up'", she said.

Well, the cake is baked and St Catherine's are, justifiably, licking it up!

Weekly Sport



Term 1 2006 Weekly Results



With Term 1 lasting just six weeks before all Victorian schools broke for the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games, the seasons of Indoor Cricket, Softball and Tennis literally flew by.

For the first time in GSV history, the finals were held in the first two weeks of Term 2. The season was further delayed when poor weather postponed some Grand Final matches.

But the wait was worth it for those schools who pulled out season-best performances to win their Grand Final matches, and in the process, make GSV history.

Congratulations particularly to the St Catherine's Senior B grade Tennis team who won their school's first ever Tennis pennant. Accolades also to Lowther Hall whose Junior A grade Tennis team made their first ever Grand Final in any GSV Weekly Sport. They were unable to beat a classy Tintern but can look forward to more success in 2007.

Fintona were also impressive, winning their first pennant for any GSV weekly sport, when their Intermediate B grade Softballers won the hard fought Grand Final match against Sacré Coeur. The win was the culmination of several years of progressive improvement in GSV Softball for Fintona.

Fintona's Coordinator of Sport Dot Georgiou said the whole school was buzzing with excitement and pride after the win, and they are now daring to dream of success again next year.

Kilvington also made history with their first Softball premiership, when their Junior A team beat OLMC. It was a great Term of sport for Kilvington, who also added the Senior Indoor Cricket cup to their trophy cabinet.

The win over PLC was especially sweet for the Kilvington girls, with five of the team having been members of the Junior team when they won the school's first GSV pennant in 2002!



	SENIOR A	SENIOR B	INTER A	INTER B	JUNIOR A	JUNIOR B	JUNIOR C
Softball	Star		Star	Fintona	Kilvington	Star	
Tennis	MLC	St Catherine's	Melbourne	MLC	Tintern	Star	Star
Indoor Cricket	Kilvington		PLC		MLC		



Weekly Sport

Term 2 2006 Weekly Sport

Term 2 is always the busiest in the year for weekly sport, with contests in GSV's highest-participation sport, Netball, along with Hockey and Open Waterpolo. This year there were 323 Netball teams, 96 Hockey teams and 19 Waterpolo teams - that's a lot of girls playing sport each week!

Netball

Star of the Sea College continues to set the benchmark for success, winning nine out of a possible eleven pennants! However, the five rounds of weekly competition were very competitive with a record number of Semi Finals berths being determined on percentage. A number of schools, including Loreto Mandeville Hall's Senior B and Junior A grade teams narrowly missed out on making the finals series.

The Loreto girls did have something to smile about though, with their Junior F grade winning their Grand Final! Congratulations also to Genazzano's Intermediate A team who won the Premiership over Tintern.

Hockey

The 2006 Hockey competition produced several unexpected results, with Ivanhoe's Junior B team making their first ever GSV Hockey Grand Final. While they weren't able to overcome a triumphant PLC, Ivanhoe will use the experience as motivation to perform strongly in 2007.

Loreto Mandeville Hall were also smiling at the end of the season, having made only their second ever Hockey Semi Final. The Loreto girls were overwhelmed by the intensity of the finals, but gained enormous experience from their match against PLC.

Less unexpected, but equally deserved, was Ruyton's Senior A grade Grand Final win. The girls have had a stellar run in the six years they have been playing as a team, winning five Premierships and only ever losing one match! Their goal difference is an equally impressive 196! Five girls have been with the team since Year 7: Jenny Bowtell, Sarah Clayton, Kate Gleeson, Pip Inge and Laura Tulloch.

Congratulations also to the quiet achievers in Hockey, MLC, who were represented in every 2006 Hockey Semi Final. They played three of the five Grand Finals and while only their Junior A grade team came home victorious, they should hold their heads high.

Open Waterpolo

There were few surprises in the Waterpolo pool this year with Lauriston continuing their dominance in the sport, winning both the A and B grade Grand Finals matches. Lauriston has now won seven from a possible 10 GSV Open Waterpolo titles. Congratulations girls, for showcasing to the GSV community such skill in this exciting and challenging sport.

Strathcona Girls Thank Star

Every year, the same group of Strathcona girls come together with a goal: to contest the GSV Netball A grade Grand Final. We did it four years running, and the girls have now become a close group of friends.

We went out on court focusing on having a great time. Each year we pulled out some of our best Netball to make it through to the Grand Final.

They were all fought against Star and as the years passed a fierce rivalry developed. Unfortunately, Star ended with the tally 3-1 in their favour, but every year the game was closely contested, with neither team giving up easily.

The GSV competition has provided many unforgettable memories for us. It is a fitting send off to play our last game of Netball together, replaying the 2006 Grand Final as the curtain raiser to the Phoenix and Kestrels match at the SNHC.

Ebony Fietz,
Strathcona Senior Netball Captain



Netball Results

	A GRADE	B GRADE	C GRADE	D GRADE	E GRADE	F GRADE
Senior	Star	Star				
Intermediate	Genazzano	Star	Star			
Junior	Star	Star	Star	Star	Star	Loreto Toorak

Waterpolo Results

	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2
Open	Lauriston	Lauriston

Hockey Results

	A GRADE	B GRADE
Senior	Ruyton	
Intermediate	Melbourne	Genazzano
Junior	MLC	PLC



Weekly Sport

Term 3 2006 Weekly Sport

Term Three's sport may be optional but participation rates are still extremely high, with all 24 schools fielding at least one Soccer team, and 19 schools fielding at least one team each in Badminton and Volleyball.

And the quality of competition was just as impressive, with many of the zone winners for each sport determined on percentage, after schools finished the ladder equal on points at the sharp end of the home and away season. There were a few surprises too, with Camberwell making the Junior A Semi Finals, Shelford making their first Soccer Semi Final (Intermediate A grade) and Strathcona making their first Volleyball Semi Final (also Intermediate A grade).

The finals series was just as closely contested with a number of schools celebrating success for the first time. Sacré Coeur won their first Soccer Premiership (Senior A grade) and Tintern won their first title (Intermediate B grade) after several attempts in the past few years.

St Catherine's and Ivanhoe were rapt to win their first GSV Volleyball pennants, with St Catherine's defeating Lauriston in the Senior A Volleyball Grand Final match, and Ivanhoe sharing the spoils with Star of the Sea in a drawn Junior A grade Grand Final.

The results of the Badminton competition were a little more predictable with Badminton stalwarts PLC, Firbank and Toorak all victorious in the Senior, Intermediate and Junior competitions respectively.

Winning a Third Term sport holds additional appeal, with the Premiers of the Senior and Intermediate Soccer and Senior Badminton qualifying for the All Schools tournaments later in the year. Congratulations girls, and enjoy the honour of representing your school and Girls Sport Victoria.

	SENIOR A	SENIOR B	INTER A	INTER B	JUNIOR A	JUNIOR B
Badminton	PLC		Firbank		Toorak	
Soccer	Sacré Coeur		Star	Tintern	OLMC	MLC
Volleyball	St Catherine's	OLMC	Melbourne	Melbourne	Ivanhoe drew Star	Star

Tenacity Takes the Title

Ivanhoe and Star of the Sea's Volleyballers made GSV history this year when their Junior A grade Volleyball Grand Final match was drawn! After both teams won their Semi Final matches

comfortably, they certainly met their match in each other - in both skill and tenacity.

The Grand Final match was a thriller, with each set going down to the wire. Star won the first set 25-22, Ivanhoe won the second 28-26 and the third 26-24. With only six minutes left on the clock the match reached fever pitch, with no-one confident the fifth set would even reach the mandatory eight points to count. But when time was called Star of the Sea was awarded the set 22-21, leaving both teams drawn at 2 sets and 97 points apiece!

Throughout the match both teams were tenacious, each believing they would be the ones holding the pennant at the end. And while they were a little disappointed that they had not won outright, both teams were equally relieved they hadn't lost and, given the terrific spirit of the match, it was fitting the Ivanhoe and Star girls got to share the victory spoils.



Carnivals

Diving and Swimming Carnivals

The Melbourne Commonwealth Games wreaked havoc on the 2006 GSV Diving and Swimming season. With MSAC unavailable from February until well into April, GSV postponed the Preliminary and Championship carnivals until second term. And with the Cross Country Championships bearing down, the Diving and Swimming Carnivals were squeezed into the first two weeks of May. Unfortunately for our elite competitors, the very busy GSV sporting calendar simply had no room for a Finals Evening this year. But it will return in 2007.

The changes to the calendar may have made Term Two extremely challenging for organisers and coaches, but seemed to have little impact on the outstanding performances of our Diving and Swimming athletes.

Firbank and MLC continued their annual tussle in both pools, with MLC coming out the victor in the 50m pool and Firbank presiding over the Diving pool. MLC have now won all six GSV Swimming trophies, although they had to share the title with Firbank in 2004. Firbank were second this year and Toorak College third.

But not to be outdone, Firbank won the GSV Division One Diving Championship for the fifth time in the competition's six year history. Firbank have only lost the trophy once, to MLC, in 2002 but also had to share it with them in 2001. In 2006 MLC was fifth, the first time they have been out of a top three place in the history of GSV Diving.

Toorak College, the big improvers for the year, were second in Division One Diving and third in Division One Swimming. Last year they competed in Division Two, and attribute their improvements to building a passion for the sport within the school community and developing a team of great depth.

Well done to all the girls who extended their Swimming and Diving training to accommodate the delayed competition. We look forward to a return to normality in 2007.



Diving's Up at Firbank

Since opening our Swimming and Diving pool in 1996, Firbank Grammar has developed a very strong Diving program. We started with 'Learn to Dive' lessons but the development of the Firbank Aquastars has provided more opportunities for the students to develop their skills in a competitive environment.

Bringing Diving into our Physical Education program and introducing Inter-house Diving competitions has also had a big impact.

We have had to cap the number of competitors in our Inter-house Diving competitions to 80 participants: We have more students than places!

As well as our success in GSV Diving, we have also won the Victorian All Schools Diving Competition five years in a row! We could not have achieved this degree of success without our dedicated team of senior coaches and the ongoing development and encouragement of our assistant coaches.

Firbank is very proud of the achievements of our experienced Divers. But we are equally proud of the sheer numbers of girls who have had the opportunity to enjoy this challenging and exciting sport.

Craig Harris, Director of Physical Education/Sport



Championship Swimming Results

	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2	DIVISION 3
1st Place	MLC	Ivanhoe	St Catherine's
2nd Place	Firbank	PLC	Shelford
3rd Place	Toorak	Melbourne	Sacré Coeur



Championship Diving Results

	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2	DIVISION 3
1st Place	Firbank	Ruyton	St Margaret's
2nd Place	Toorak	Star	St Catherine's
3rd Place	Genazzano	PLC	Korowa



Carnivals



Cross Country Carnivals

In 2006 the GSV Cross Country season was blessed with beautiful weather for all the competitions bar one, atrociously stormy, PB meet. The Preliminary Carnivals were held on a beautiful, almost balmy, day in May and the Championship Carnival was equally blessed by a sunny, if not as warm, day.

Thanks to Georgie Clarke for attending the presentations. Georgie commended the girls on their achievements and encouraged them to stay involved in sport throughout their lives, whether in competitive running or something completely different.

The Division One title stayed firmly in the grasp of the Ruyton girls who trained extremely hard to win the trophy for the fourth year in a row.

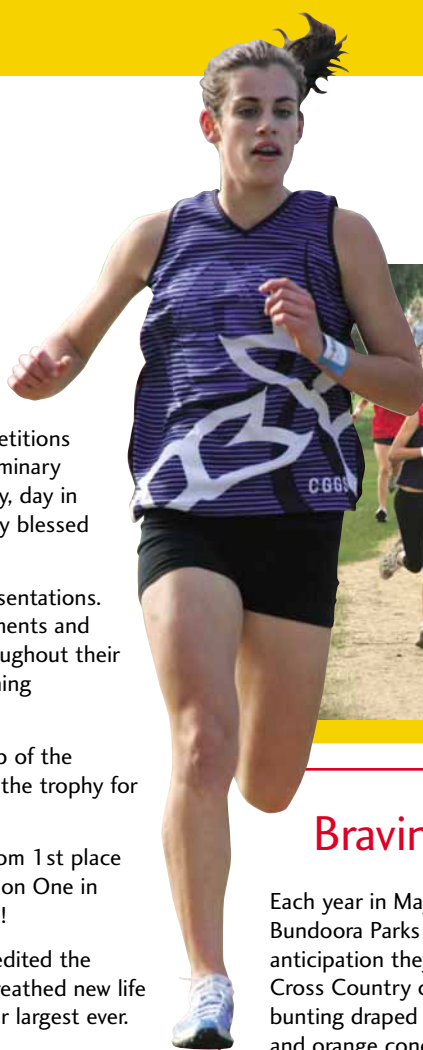
Congratulations to Sacré Coeur who jumped from 1st place in Division Three in 2005 to 6th place in Division One in 2006, leap-frogging ten schools in the process!

Sacré Coeur's Director of Sport, Kelly Turra, credited the improvement to new coach Abbey Eeles who breathed new life into the team. "We had 80 girls in the team, our largest ever.

"Abbey's program catered for all our girls and while some initially only wanted to be involved for fitness, they found themselves becoming quite competitive as the season wore on." Keep it up, girls!

Cross Country Aggregate Results

	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2	DIVISION 3
1st Place	Ruyton	Star	Korowa
2nd Place	MLC	Loreto Toorak	Firbank
3rd Place	Genazzano	Toorak	St Margaret's



Braving the Early Morning Cold

Each year in May over 700 girls descend on Yarra Bend and Bundoora Parks and as they jump off the bus in nervous anticipation they are greeted with the perennial spectacle of the Cross Country course laid out before them: kilometres of colourful bunting draped around stakes; hundreds of fluorescent yellow flags and orange cones weaving their way across dewy grass, through stands of trees and across windy pathways.

How did that happen?

Hours before the first shrill of the starter's whistle, a raft of volunteers have braved the early morning frost to prepare Yarra Bend and Bundoora Parks for the GSV Cross Country events.

It is always cold; some years it has been miserably wet; other years the fog has enveloped the entire park; and occasionally a crisp and clear morning has given promise of a fine day ahead.

But even the poorest of weather has failed to dampen the spirits of those who do the hard yards setting up for these events.

We rug up with warm jackets, beanies and gloves and, with abundant humour, get the show on the road, working in teams to haul stacks of stakes around the course and untangle pile after pile of bunting.

Jokes about frostbite, momentary, mischievous course deviations, and mock sword fights with the stakes may be old, but it is refreshing to realise that even as 'grown-ups' we still enjoy firing 'dragon breath' at each other!

Between the physical activity and the rising sun, we start to warm and before we know it, the large open space that earlier could barely be seen for the fog begins to emerge as a clearly marked Cross Country course.

Thanks to all the helpers who, over the past six years, have braved the cold winter mornings to help set up and pack up the Cross Country course. And for those who will help us in the future, we look forward to enjoying your jokes and 'dragon breath' – just dress warm!

Leonie Mawkes

Carnivals

Track and Field Carnivals

The months of August and September are well known for their unpredictable weather and 2006 proved no exception. Across the PB meets, Preliminary and Championship Carnivals and the Finals Evening, the GSV girls experienced it all. They were often buffeted by wind; some days proved to be unseasonably hot; others were freezing cold. And at the first Preliminary Carnival it just bucketed down! But the Finals Evening was picture perfect, with a balmy evening, glorious sunset and ideal competitive conditions.

The weather might have been variable but the the girls' competitive spirit was rock solid and the Track and Field season once again showcased both the individual talent of our elite athletes and the depth of talent within the traditionally strong athletics schools.

Star of the Sea College shone as brightly as ever, winning the Division One Championship Carnival for the sixth straight year. Star also finished on top of the Finals Evening medal count with an impressive 42 medals, 22 of them Gold!

Congratulations to Korowa who, after coming eighth in Division Two Championships, finished third in the Finals Evening medal tally with six Gold medals!

Korowa's success epitomises the purpose of the Finals Evening. While they may lack the depth required to be competitive in GSV's Championship Carnivals, a handful of very talented Korowa athletes were given the opportunity to shine for their school, and came away with two of the four individual records set at the GSV Track and Field Finals Evening.

Overall, 63 records were broken across the season. Well done to all the girls who competed, and thank you to the raft of volunteers who help run the Track and Field events each year. Whether it is supervising a field event, time keeping or race recording, we could not run GSV Track and Field Carnivals without your help.

Track & Field Results

	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2	DIVISION 3
1st Place	Star of the Sea	Loreto Mandeville Hall	Sacré Coeur
2nd Place	Ruyton	Camberwell	Shelford
3rd Place	MLC	Strathcona	St Margaret's

The GSV Track and Field Carnival season has become a real favourite on the GSV calendar and it's not difficult to work out why. The training season follows on from the Cross Country, allowing for firm friendships to form as groups of enthusiastic girls meet regularly for early morning, lunch or after school training sessions. While the training is often arduous, the sense of accomplishment at the end of each session and the improvements in fitness, speed, strength and skill make it all worthwhile.



Tournaments

GSV Senior Basketball Tournament

18 schools participated in the Senior Basketball Tournament this year with the round robin tournament held at MSAC and Waverley Basketball Centre in early June. St Margaret's, OLMC, Strathcona and MLC all qualified for the finals at MSAC in the middle of July. OLMC concluded the day undefeated to win the Finals series and qualify for a berth in the McDonalds Champion School of Victoria Tournament in October. The Tournament was played in a three-match round robin format and OLMC won two of its three matches, only losing to eventual winners Aquinas College who qualified to represent Victoria at the National Schools Championship.



Football Federation All Schools Championships

Within days of winning their respective Soccer Premierships, Sacré Coeur (Senior) and Star of the Sea (Intermediate) were back on the pitch again representing GSV in the 2006 Football Federation All Schools Championships. Sacré Coeur had risen above expectation to win the GSV Premiership and was thrilled to qualify for the Championships. However, with a number of key team members missing, they were not in contention for the Championship flag. They still enjoyed the atmosphere and heightened competition to finish in fourth place. Star of the Sea's Intermediates showed their dominance early, winning all three round robin matches. Unfortunately for Star, St Monica's scored a late goal in the Grand Final match to secure the title. Well done girls, you did GSV proud.



Past and Current Student Golf Competition

The prestigious Huntingdale Golf Course was the venue for the 2006 Past and Current Student Golf Day in February this year. With the awe-inspiring Australian Masters Crystal Globe Trophy on display in the clubrooms, the girls gained an appreciation of the history surrounding the impressive course. But they were not daunted and fought out the 9-hole Stableford competition for the more modest GSV Trophy. PLC's Nard Watanakij was delighted to win the individual event for current students, especially since she only plays regularly in her homeland of Thailand.



Lord Taverner's Schools Champions Cup

The Lord Taverner's Schools Championship Cup is held in late November each year. GSV has a celebrated history with the Cup and last year Star of the Sea did us proud ensuring the Cup stays in the GSV family. In 2006 the winners of the Senior Cricket competition will represent GSV and hopefully maintain our strong hold on the Tournament.



Father/Daughter Golf Day

The GSV Father/Daughter Golf Day has become an annual event for girls and their fathers/guardians. Each year participants meet at Ivanhoe Golf Course for a 9-hole Ambrose competition. It was inspiring to watch the interaction between teams on the course, and see the pride of both fathers and daughters when either party performed well. The overall winners were Jessica and Tony Schiavello from Lowther Hall, but they were just pipped at the post for handicap honours by Christie and Joe Fekete from Strathcona. Congratulations to all the families who participated.

GSV Skills Development Program

Golf

The GSV Golf Skills program offers girls the opportunity to develop their skills in Golf through a series of lessons followed by two Ambrose Golf competitions. This year the program was held at Albert Park Golf Academy and girls learnt how to swing, drive, chip and putt under the careful guidance of Golf Pro Bryan Ferguson.

The group work allowed girls of similar age and skill to work together. A highlight of the program was the final day when teams were invited to play at the prestigious Commonwealth Golf Course. The day gave the girls the confidence to now consider themselves 'Golfers' and to start playing regularly with their parents and friends.



Surf League

South Melbourne Beach became a hive of activity in February when 200 GSV girls participated in two twilight sessions of thrills and skills on the beach. The GSV Surf League training days are another opportunity for girls to revise old skills, learn new skills, and develop friendships.

The skills required for Surf League competitions are very specific and the girls soon learnt to appreciate the talent of the Surf League coaches, who made activities such as riding a board look easy. The girls learnt other surf skills including wading, and dolphining, as well as beach sprints and the finer art of beach flags.

Thank you to the coaches supplied by Surf Life Saving Victoria and the South Melbourne Life Saving Club.



Beach Volleyball

In Term Four this year, the GSV Sport Skills Program introduces Beach Volleyball to the program. Over 60 girls have signed on for the four week program being held at South Melbourne Beach. The girls are hoping to transfer their Indoor Volleyball skills to the beach version of the sport, learning how to handle the outdoor elements such as the wind and the soft sand. We hope they also have to take into account the warm sunshine, as it seems they will not have to contend with much in the way of Spring rain this year.



Fencing

The 2006 Fencing program proved to be as popular as it had been in its inaugural year last year. Over 40 girls converged on Strathcona's School Hall over four Saturdays in late May and early June to hone their skills of agility, strategy and coordination.

Under the mesmerizing tutelage of Julien Mouchet, the girls learnt the finer art of Fencing with the Sabre. Very few of them will forget learning the pre-match salute: Pointing the Sabre in the air "Please God"; to themselves "Help me"; to their opponent "Put you"; to the ground "In the ground"!

The salute caused many a nervous giggle as they reconciled their good sportsmanship with the traditional fighting origins of Fencing. Thank goodness they shook hands at the end of the match!



Dance Sport 2006

What has 60 legs, moves to a beat and giggles a lot? It's the girls from the Dance Sport Skills Program! This year has seen the introduction of Dance to our Sport Skills program and the girls have Waltzed, Tangoed and Fox Trotted their way around the Melbourne Girls Grammar gymnasium.

They were challenged by the steps of Standard Ballroom and delighted by the Latin beat of the Salsa. Instructors supplied by Dance Sport Victoria included Australian representatives in both Ballroom and Latin Dance.

As one enthusiastic participant exclaimed, "I may not always get the steps right, but it's so much fun that I just can't wait to come back next week!"

Thank you to both Dance Sport Victoria for the opportunity to learn to dance and Melbourne Girls Grammar for supplying the venue. We look forward to 'tripping the light fantastic' once again in 2007.

Fond Memories

We all loved Saturday mornings. Not because it was our first chance for a sleep in. Not because Video Hits was finally on and we could have our breakfast in bed. We loved Saturday mornings because we knew that at nine o'clock, along with our team-mates we would be running through the dewy grass on Maribyrnong Park. For us, football was the highlight of the week.

The mornings started with skills, just to fine-tune our technique. And maybe learn a few things to make us look like our idols out on the MCG. Then it was time for our favourite part of the morning: Game time! No matter who we played each week, we were prepared. Prepared for a few knocks. Acting tough, we called each other by nicknames: "You're on number seven, Nugget!" "Stick on her, Squizza!"

As a student who finished school three years ago, I look back and miss school immensely. Not necessarily the homework, but the little things, and especially school sport. When you're at school, you don't realise that your close friends who you see everyday, will all go their separate ways, and it becomes difficult to catch up with them. So the long drives out to Tintern in the school bus, which were actually a chance to catch up with our friends and make new ones outside of the classroom, don't seem so bad anymore. So remember, these are the best days.

**Phoebe Williams - Sports Captain,
Melbourne Girls Grammar 2003**



AFL

On a bright, crisp May morning, young girls pulled on their Football boots for their day of reckoning. The sixth year of the program had been filled with skills development in kicking, shepherding and tackling, and the girls were ready to put these new-found skills into action.

The 2006 Grand Final was an enthusiastic contest between Lowther Hall and St Catherine's, and the elusive goals were cheered by the crowd and recorded by eager parents. A triumphant St Catherine's were the recipients of the Senior pennant.

The Junior Grand Final contest was a goal-for-goal test of persistence by both Melbourne Girls Grammar and St Catherine's. The sound of the siren saw history made with the final result a 13-all draw.

Special awards were presented to Year 12 girls Emma Hayes and Elle Tallent from St Catherine's, who have enjoyed doing the program for the past four years. Well done girls, we hope you keep participating in AFL.



Year 7 Sports Expos

The GSV Sport Expos provide an opportunity for Year 7 girls to experience a wide variety of sports and recreational activities. Each year in October 1,200 Year 7 girls attend one of three Sports Expo days. Inline Hockey, Lacrosse, AFL and Cheerleading were just a few of the activities included in this fun filled day.

The girls were mixed into groups from a variety of schools and, although hesitant to begin with, made new friends and had great fun. We would like to acknowledge the support of all three venues involved in this event; Ashburton

Pool and Recreation Centre, Monash University Clayton and Aqualink Box Hill. The support of these venues and the Sports Development Officers from 28 different sports allows GSV to offer a unique experience in girls' sport.



Year 8 Ball Skills Festival

November is traditionally a busy time for schools, as the year is drawing to an end and students are preparing to move to

the next level of their education. At GSV, November is now a highlight for Year 8 girls with the introduction of a Ball Skills Festival which enhances the skills of throwing, catching, striking and kicking.

The inaugural GSV Year 8 Ball Skills Festival was eagerly embraced by 350 GSV girls. The day consisted of a 'Fun Football' tabloid in which students used giant balls, kicked against speedometers and shot balls through hoops, to name just a few of the challenges.

After morning tea, the groups of girls honed their skills in more traditional ball sports such as Table Tennis, Squash, Volleyball, Rugby League and Baseball. It was another opportunity for girls to improve their ball skills, experience new sports and have fun.



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