



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday August 12, 2005

### **AUSTRALIA TOO STRONG FOR HOMETOWN HEROES TURKEY IN BASKETBALL AT WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES**

The Australian women's basketball team has overcome a hostile home crowd and a determined Turkish team at Celal Atik to win for the third time in as many days at the World University Games in Izmir.

It was a golden day on court for Australia with the men's basketball team also winning, defeating Lebanon 99-69.

For the women's team centre Rachel Warren scored 17 points and guard Jennifer Screen added 13 to lead the Australian's to victory, 70-48.

Turkey came out firing in front of a boisterous capacity crowd and right from the outset it was clear the Australian's were in for a physical game.

In fact, the scores were level at 16-all at the end of the first quarter and it looked as though Australia were in for a long night before they pulled away late in the second quarter.

The end score was not a true indication of the ferocity or closeness of the match and it wasn't until a withering second quarter scoring run saw Australia score nine unanswered points and grab the upper hand.

Australian Coach Deborah Cook used her bench well and all ten team members scored points in the win.

Warren came off the bench to be the highest scorer for the second straight day and the 19-year-old, who studies at Portland University, has been instrumental in Australia's three game unbeaten streak that sees them sitting comfortably on top of their Group in the 20 team competition.

With a day's break before their final Group stage match against Sweden, the Australian's will take a well earned rest after a schedule that has seen them play three days in a row – including two matches before the Games' opening ceremony.

Earlier in the day the Australian men's basketball team got their campaign off to a winning start with a 30 point win over Lebanon.

The Aussies were too big and too tough on defense for the Lebanese team who struggled to muscle up to Australia's big men in the paint.

Top scorer for Australia was guard Drew Williamson with 18 while Brent Hobba, who is on scholarship in the USA at Colorado Christian University, netted 17.

Ian Crosswhite scored 13 and also pulled down a game high 11 boards despite suffering a gashed leg in the first half.

Australia's next match is tomorrow against Great Britain.

In women's volleyball action the Australian team started their tournament with a tough fought match against Poland, coming away with a 3 sets to 1 loss.

In an exciting match, where head coach Sue Jenkins ensured the entire team experienced some game time, the Australians showed encouraging skill and determination to keep the Polish team in check for most of the game.

After losing the first set 25 – 20, the predominantly South Australian based team hit back with a 25 – 16 victory in the second set, forcing their opponents to rethink their strategy.

In a hotly contested 30 minute third set, the Polish again overcame the Renae Maycock led team to take a 25 – 21 victory before ending the game with a 25 – 9 fourth set win.

Australian National University student Eileen Romanowski topped scored for the Australians with 18 points, followed by Louise Bawden and Magdalena Rybicki.

After the game team manager Wanda Sipa said she was impressed with the way the girls played and that it was a good warm up for a big match up against Portugal tomorrow.

On the first day of the swimming program the Australian women's 4x100m freestyle relay team of Belinda Nevell, Lauren Winter, Kate Lynch and Lucy Saville finished eighth behind the USA, New Zealand and France.

## **COMPLETE LIST OF AUSTRALIAN RESULTS**

### **Day 1**

#### **Women's Basketball**

Australia 70 defeated Turkey 48

#### **Men's Basketball**

Australia 99 defeated Lebanon 69

## **Women's Volleyball**

Poland 3 defeated Australia 1 (25-20) (16-25) (25-21) (25-9)

## **Swimming**

Robert McDonald 12th men's 200m breaststroke (2:15.75)

Kieran O'Regan 13th men's 200m breaststroke (2:16.23)

Australia women's 8th 4x100m freestyle relay (Belinda Nevell, Lauren Winter, Kate Lynch and Lucy Saville ) (3:52.70)

Ends

*For further information please contact:*

*Kate Robinson  
Media Manager  
Australian University Games team  
+90 543 340 1774*

*Toni Bush  
Commercial Manager  
Australian University Sport  
+90 543 340 1702*



**Australian Government**

**Australian Sports Commission**