



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Saturday August 20, 2005

### **BRONZED AUSSIES CONTINUE WINNING MEDALS AT THE WORLD UNI GAMES**

Australia has claimed two more bronze medals on the second last day of competition at the 2005 World University Summer Games (WUSG), knocking out World Championship contenders in the process and taking its tally for the event to one silver and three bronze.

At Narlidere Swimming Pool, Amey Moors-Chantry and Briony Cole nailed their final dive of the competition to finish in the medals and knock out World Championship bronze medalists, Ukraine pairing of Kristina Ishchenko and Olena Fedorova.

Sitting in fourth place for most of the session, the young duo capitalised on some uncharacteristic mistakes by the Ukrainians to leap ahead at the very end.

Performing a backward 2 ½ pike, the Australians scored enough points to beat the Ukraine pair by three points to become the first Australian women ever to win a medal in diving at the Games.

Moors-Chantry and Cole were ecstatic at their unexpected placing in a competition where the line up consisted of China's gold medal winning duo Ting Li and Jingjin Guo, who took out the 10m platform synchronised event and silver medalists, Mexico's Paola Espinoza and Jashia Luna.

"The last time we dived together was in January and since then this week has been the only time we've trained together so we didn't expect to be in contention for a medal.

"All we concentrated on was doing five good dives and seeing what happened. It was tough with the Ukraine and Mexico pairings coming from the World Championships last month," said the girls.

Victorian sailor Krystal Weir won Australia's second bronze of the day in the women's Laser Radial regatta at the Karisayka Sailing Centre.

It was a high pressure day of match racing for Weir who went into the final two races equal fourth with Mexican Tania Elias Calles, but out of touch of the gold and silver.

In the first race Elias Calles got the lead and finished fourth, half a boat length in front of Weir who finished fifth.

But in the last race of the event the tables were turned and Weir regrouped to take second place with Elias Calles finishing eighth.

In another first, Weir, the 2004 World Champion and Exercise Science student from the Australian Catholic University, has won the first ever medal by an Australian in a sailing event at the World University Games.

"Bronze was the best I could do today," Weir said.

"It was looking pear shaped after the first race but I never gave up and come out on top in the end.

"I have enjoyed the event and the high standard of competition and am very excited to have taken the bronze." Weir said.

In the women's 470 class Jacqueline Bonnitcho and Rashele Martin maintained their seventh overall position at the end of the regatta with two fifth placings in the final two races, while Jonathon Bonnitcho dropped back to 17th position overall after placing 12th in race 12.

The Australian women's volleyball team were able to achieve what the Wallabies has struggled of late and that is to beat both the New Zealand and South Africans team in the final stages of the tournament.

While the Wallabies were going down to the Springboks in Perth our girls notched up a three-nil win at the Gursel Aksel Sports Hall in Izmir. They finished the competition in 19th position.

In track and field action at Ataturk Stadium, the scene for tomorrow night's closing ceremony, Sydney Olympian Clay Cross finished eighth in the final of the shot put.

Cross scraped into the final by just 1cm, with his very first throw of the competition, putting the shot 18.08m.

Cross, the brother of Sydney Roosters star centre Ryan, fouled his next attempt and then hurled the shot over 17m four times without improving on his first thro.

## **COMPLETE AUSTRALIAN TEAM RESULTS – DAY 9**

### **Diving**

Amey Moors-Chantry and Briony Cole 3rd (Bronze Medal) in women's 3m springboard

### **Sailing**

Krystal Weir women's Laser Radial 5 (race 11) 2 (race 12) 3rd place overall (Bronze Medal)

Jacqueline Bonnitcho / Rashele Martin women's 470 class 5th (race 11) 5th (race 12) 7th overall

Jonathon Bonnitcho men's mistral 12th (race 12) 17th overall

### **Volleyball**

Australia defeated South Africa 3 – 0 (25-11, 26-24, 25-22)

### **Athletics**

Clay Cross men's shot put 8<sup>th</sup> – 18.08m

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