

## **NORTHERN UNIVERSITY GAMES - DAY ONE**



### **OPENING CEREMONY**

The Opening Ceremony kicked off the 2004 DrinkSmart\* Northern University Games on Sunday night at the University of Southern Queensland. Laser lights, pyrotechnics and a performance involving all of the university mascots helped make the ceremony one to remember. The Games Ambassador, Australian Olympic Shot Putter Justin Anlezark, was also on hand to say a few words of encouragement to the competitors, volunteers and staff.

### **CLASS HOCKEY** By Tahlia Lait

It was a case of trans-Tasman rivalry at Clyde Park on Monday as the green and gold of the University of New England (UNE) took on the New Zealand Hockey Council (NZHC).

In what was a close game, the NZHC were 3 - 0 victors over UNE who were outclassed in attack by the Kiwis on the grass field.

NZHC had more opportunities and were able to keep the ball in their attacking half for most of the game.

The first half was a battle between the NZHC forwards and the UNE defensive line, who handled the pressure from the Kiwis, allowing only one goal in the first half from a penalty.

UNE did not hang their heads at half time and were positive in their approach to the second half, playing a far more defensive game and leaving only one or two players in their own attacking half.

But the NZHC attacking players were too strong and were able to get two more goals before the end of the game.

The New Zealanders were happy with the result and player Rowan Laurence had his own humorous analysis of the match.

"It wasn't champagne hockey, but it was class considering the grass," Laurence said.

### **MIXED NETBALL**

The USQ Mixed A netball side lost to Bond University 33-14 on the first day of competition at the 2004 DrinkSmart\* Northern University Games in Toowoomba. Their luck turned around though against UQ, defeating them by 12 points.

### **SQUASH:**

### **BOND WOMEN'S TEAM READY FOR FUN** By Kerry White

Many of the entrants in the DrinkSmart\* Northern University



Games are competing in more than one sport, some are champions and some are in sports where they have only ever had the odd social game - just like the Bond University women's squash team.

The team from the Gold Coast based private university comprises five novices: law students Natalie Silaev (from Geelong), Sarah Bourne (Adelaide), Nadine Austin (Sydney), health science student Emily Schultz (Brisbane) and Eleanor Donovan (Rockhampton), who is studying commerce/information technology.

It is the first Uni Games for all of them. Natalie, Emily and Sarah are here mainly for the netball and the other two for basketball. They nominated for squash for "a bit of fun", so they and their equally inexperienced male counterparts were not phased by being up against state and grade players sprinkled among other teams.

Natalie's father was born in Russia and left when he was a child, so she was pleased to hear of Maria Sharapova's success at Wimbledon (Saturday night).

There is a strong link between tennis and squash at these Games. Many of the squash players are also in the tennis as well as other sports such as hockey and soccer.