

numbers have started well, and things are looking good with Kirsten O'Hara selected in the NSW State Team for the 2006 Australian Target and Field National Championships to be held in Morwell in April. There are no plans for an Archery EUC or AUC in 2006, however an event has been planned to fill that gap in the shooting calendar, and a new league competition for club members is being started.

-Donald Chiou

## ATHLETICS

Sydney University Athletics Club had a very successful summer season with many athletes competing in the Telstra A-Series and recording competitive performances. A highlight was our domination of the 800m where there were three SUAC finalists, with Nick Bromley taking the title. Other title winners included Lachlan Chisholm in the 1500m, Lisa Grant in the 20km walk and Justin Merlino in the 110m hurdles. Gillian Ragus placed second in the National Championships in the heptathlon. Emma Rilen placed third in the women's 1500m which was a major breakthrough for her.

The club took out the NSW Club Championship for the fourth consecutive year in the men's competition and also won the women's competition. It was the first time the club has won both men's and

women's Club Championships in the same year. The men's team went on to the national Club Championships where they finished a narrow second. This was despite having lost a number of team members to representative duty. On the same weekend the Sydney University men's 4x800m relay team recorded a victory at the national level when they won the 4x800m Relay Championship. The team of Nick Bromley, Frazer Dowling, Mark Abercromby and Tom Richardson ran extremely well to hold off the Eureka Club from Victoria.

The Sydney University Track Classic was a highlight for 2005. Several international athletes competed and personal best times were recorded by several SUAC athletes in the 800m and 1500m races. The event was covered by SBS and Sports Tonight and received coverage in the Daily Telegraph and the Sydney Morning Herald. Congratulations to all who gave up enormous amounts of time and energy to help put the event together.

At the conclusion of the season a number of SUAC athletes were asked to tour overseas as part of Australian teams. Madeleine Heiner, Russel Dessaix Chin, Emma Rilen and David Byrne competed in Japan's Chiba Relays while Justin Merlino and

Nick Bromley took part in Australian Junior Development tours in Beijing and the USA respectively.

The winter season saw the cross country athletes thrive. SUAC was victorious in the NSW Road Relays in Wollongong in both the men's and women's events - another first for the club. At the Cross Country Relays the women posted a victory and the men's team finished third. David Byrne and Russell Dessaix Chin both recorded wins at the NSW Championships in different events and Madeleine Heiner won both the U20 state and national cross country titles. Kathryn Archbold finished second at the NSW Cross Country Championships.

Lisa Grant collected several individual NSW titles in the road walking events. Additionally, Lisa was selected in the Australian World University Games team, where she placed ninth in the 20km walk in difficult conditions.

A small group of talented runners competed at the Eastern University Games with Madeleine Heiner winning the women's cross country event and Sydney University placing second overall. The 2005 Australian University Games also saw Sydney University well represented on the medal dais, with 17 athletes recording gold medal performances. Sydney University placed

second overall in athletics, behind the dominant University of Queensland. Justin Merlino and Lisa Grant were selected in the Green and Gold team. The final day of the championships saw the club produce arguably its best single day performance winning nine gold medals; the highlight being the men's medley relay team falling just short of breaking the 40 year old Australian University record.

Tom Richardson and Justin Merlino were University Blues for athletics as a result of their strong performances and contribution to SUAC.

Sydney University fared well at NSW State Relays, with the men placing second in both the 4x400m relay and 4x800m relay. The women secured first place in the 1600m medley relay, third in the 4x200m relay, third in the 4x400m relay and second in the 4x1500m relay. The Masters men were victorious in the 4x800m +120 years (combined age of all runners) and won silver in the 4x800m +160 years.

Sydney University was well represented in the 2006 Commonwealth Games trials. Clinton Hill was selected in the Australian Commonwealth Games team. Madeleine Heiner (A-qualifier) and Lisa

Grant (B-qualifier) also qualifying but missed out on selection due to the limited number of athletes permitted in each event. Veronique Molan, Daniel Sumpton, David Byrne, Gillian Ragus and Justin Merlino all made the finals of their respective events. Mark Abercromby and Tom Richardson were both within one second of qualifying for the Commonwealth Games, which was an admirable performance.

Overall it has been one of the best years in the club's long history and the club looks to be in an even better position for the year ahead.

-Dean Gleeson

#### BADMINTON

2005 was a fine year for Sydney University Badminton Club with respect to achievements of the University team and club members. Membership continues to thrive with over 50 annual members and many casual members.

The USBC has a long tradition of performing well in competitions. With strong performances in the local interclub competitions, our reputation of being tough competitors was galvanized. Individual club members participated in several tournaments throughout the year, procuring swags of silverware.

Adrian Mansukhani, a regular on the local B grade men's circuit,

snatched several titles throughout the year and has since progressed in leaps and bounds to the A grade circuit, proving to be a tough opponent. Newcomer Lucas from Switzerland proved to be a great competitor by reaching the semi-finals of the Sydney Open B grade men's singles whilst a relatively new pairing of Adrian Mansukhani and EwJin Chen were close runners up in the B grade men's doubles. The standout for 2005 has to be Clarina Wang with a haul of gold medals and trophies in Open, A and B grade ladies doubles and mixed doubles in the Sydney Open and Sydney University autumn doubles competition.

In autumn the club hosted a doubles tournament where we received over 100 entries. The Open grade event provided a great spectacle and boasted a pool of players that included state representatives and champions, Australian junior champions and humble University Games participants. The tournament raised over \$1,500 for the club and aided in sponsorship of the Australian University Games team.

The men's team selected for EUC included Ewjin Chen, Richard Chi, Tony Gao, Nathan Gunasekaran, Adrian Mansukhani and Druvi Perera. The women's team consisted of Lynn Duong, Clarina Wang

and Sophia Yeung. Both teams achieved bronze medals.

The AUG men's team was made up of EwJin Chen, Richard Chi, Nathan Gunasekaran, Adrian Mansukhani, Alan Ng and Druvi Perera. Lynn Duong, Corianne Kwan, Catherine Tjoa, Clarina Wang and Sophia Yeung made up the women's team. The men finished eighth while the women finished fourth.

The successes of the year were celebrated at the annual dinner which was held at Satasia, Balmain in November. Guests of honour included former president Virag Kushwaha and our supplier of shuttlecocks Mr James Kuo of Calibre Pty. Ltd.

Thanks go to all those that contributed to the club's administration. Particularly our Secretary, Adrian Mansukhani and Treasurer, Druvi Perera. Without the countless hours spent organising tournaments, bargaining down shuttle prices and liaising with SU Sport, the club would have struggled to have courts set up on time let alone reap the success that we did in 2005. Our coach Ms Marianne Loh was tireless in her efforts to run drills for the university team and coach beginners as well. Her efforts are truly appreciated by everyone who has had the privilege of attending her training sessions. Finally, special thanks go to our members who have assisted in looking after sessions and brought

sanity to the office bearers. I look forward to further successes in 2006 and hope that our partnerships in badminton will continue long into the future.

-EwJin Chen

#### BASEBALL

The Baseball Club started 2005 on a high note after the successes of our centenary year celebrations and third grade premiership in 2004. Jason Moir combined with Sydney University Sport scholarship holder Jonathan Freeston as the club coaches. This proved to be a strong pairing, with 2005 being a particularly strong year for our first grade side. A record of 10-4-1 saw the side finish in second place and make it all the way to the grand final. Unfortunately we could not get across the line on the day, falling to the minor premiers and heavily favoured Petersham.

Both second and third grade finished outside the top four. Second grade finished with a record of 7-7-1 in sixth place. Third grade finished in fifth place with a record of 5-6-4.

The Club also competed in both the Eastern and Australian University Games. This team was weaker than those fielded in the past few years as many team stalwarts finished their undergraduate degrees. The team finished fourth at EUG and a disappointing ninth at