

Emma Keeps Performing

Emma Wirkus played for the Matildas again this week, playing against Japan in Tokyo. Wirkus impressed again with some good saves from long distance in the National Teams last game for the season. She has timed her run well for selection, as Head Coach **Tom Sermanni** has been pleased with her overall performance on the last 2 tours to South Korea and Japan.

Next year will be a heavy year with Australia focused on qualification for the 2008 Olympic games and participation in the 2007 Women's World Cup in China.

Adelaide Sensation 9 def Enfield U15 Boys 0

Dominated by SASI players the Adelaide Sensation Squad has maintained its training edge despite not having a National League to play in 2006. After beating Modbury U15's last week 2-0, the girls gave a football lesson to the unprepared Enfield boys with goals from **Katrina Bexis**, **Victoria Balomenos**, **Greta French Kennedy**, **Lauren Chilvers** with the highlight being an opening goal from Goalkeeper **Kristi Harvey**. In the 7th minute Kristi launched a ball from her goal area and all present watched it bounce 2 times (one over the hapless Enfield GK) to score from about 80 metres.

Young Sensation Program Launch

The new underpinning program, **Young Sensation**, has commenced. Seen as an important step leading to the SASI Women's Football program and the Adelaide Sensation, it is the result of a lot of hard work from SASI staff **Tracey Jenkins**, **Ben Haines** and **Matti Clements**, and SAWSA's Executive Officer **Wendy Carter**.

On Tuesday 7th November at SASI over 50 players and parents met at SASI to launch the program which will identify and develop players for the Elite Women's Football in SA. Based at SASI and Coached by SASI Female Scholarship Coach Tracey Jenkins the program will run with the support of the SAWSA and link into the SAWSA Development squads and SASI Scholarship program.

National Squad Selections

As highlighted last week **Emma Wirkus** put in a very good performance for the Senior Matildas in their Peace cup Tournament against Denmark as is up for selection again in Matildas Tour to Japan next week.

Also **Angela Formano** and **Sian McLaren** will be traveling to Canberra next week to take part in a National Junior Selection Camp. Angela, a budding Midfielder is

famous for winning a competition around Australia where the prize was a trip to train with Real Madrid and no other than Davis Beckham. Sian McLaren has graduated from A Goalkeeper Development program sponsored by SASI.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 10th NOVEMBER 2006

Wirkus Makes Overseas International Debut for the Matildas

Emma Wirkus last week played an outstanding game to keep the Matildas in the game against European Superpower Denmark in the 3rd game of the Peace Cup In South Korea. FIFA ranked 10th Denmark, caused the Matildas makeshift defence all kinds of problems in the first half leaving SASI Goalkeeper Wirkus to hold the last line strong on numerous occasions before conceding a late goal to lose the game 2-1.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 20th OCTOBER 2006

Wirkus to tour with the Matilda's Team

Emma Wirkus has been selected for the forthcoming Matilda's tour to South Korea. This will be Emma's first overseas tour with the Senior Women's National Team after missing selection to the previous tournament, the AFC Championships. Recently Wirkus has been able to put in good performances in the Boys league, and with some new strength and conditioning ideas from **Ben Haines** and individual sessions with key SASI Scholarship Holders and Goal Keeping Coach **Neil Tate** lead to an excellent selection camp in Canberra and subsequent selection.

The tour of South Korea will mean an arduous traveling schedule playing games in three cities against Olympic Champions, USA and European Teams Holland and Denmark.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 15th SEPTEMBER

Strong Season Finish for SASI Girls

The SASI Girls Football Team finished the season much better than they started, losing only one game in the second half of the season. The SASI Girls finished in 7th position in the FFSA U16 Boys Competition.

For the majority of the season the SASI Girls outplayed the opposition on a week to week basis however a failure to turn possession into goals was a major reason for

games being drawn instead of won. In saying that SASI scored 14 goals in the last 5 Games, which was pleasing as this was more than the rest of the season put together. Although in a tough competition, another pleasing aspect was that the team took points off every team in the competition except recent bogey team Noarlunga United, although in the second game against them they were very lucky to get away with a one nil win.

With the season now over the players will focus on Adelaide Sensation training with 22 of 23 SASI squad members selected for a forthcoming unknown tournament that will hopefully be held in Adelaide. This competition will replace the National league competition which we expect to be re launched next season.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 4th AUGUST 2006

Asian Cup Teams use SASI facilities

SASI has recently been used as an International Training Venue for visiting Asian Football Conference Women's Football Teams. All nine teams trained at SASI over the last three weeks with Australia, China and Japan being the teams who trained at the excellent facilities on the back oval the most. All teams were happy with the surface and facilities especially in comparison to some other ovals that they trained on. The SASI squad enjoyed an impromptu training match against the Japanese Team in one of their training sessions.

SASI players **Christiana Papageorgiou**, **Vicki Balomenos**, **Stacey Day**, **Gianna Cavuoto** and **Tanya Katianos** regularly trained with the National team. Matildas Squad members included South Aussies **Dianna Alagich** and **Emma Wirkus** and former Adelaide Sensation players **Lisa De Vanna**, **Collette McCallum** and **Cheryl Salisbury**.

National Championships

At the recent National Championships in Coffs Harbour the State U15 and U17 Squads competed and had mixed results. The U17 Squad Coached by SASI Female Scholarship Coach **Tracey Jenkins** finished a very credible 3rd place with SASI Players **Moni Holmwood**, **Sian McLaren**, **Amy Chilvers** and **Lauren Chilvers** performing well.

As a result of their performances at the Nationals **Sian McLaren** and **Angela Formano** have been selected to the National U15 Squad. McLaren has also impressed the National Goalkeeper Coaches who recently visited SASI to conduct training sessions for the SASI Goalkeepers.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 19th MAY 2006

National Youth Camp

National Youth Camp attendees **Tanya Katianos** and **Vicki Balomenos** returned from Canberra on Monday and received very positive feedback from National Coach **Alistair Edwards**.

At her first Camp Katianos played in the Left side of defence and took to the role very well for a right sided player. Balomenos was outstanding and had her best camp to date.

Socceroo Strength And Conditioning Visit

Socceroo Strength and Conditioner **Anthony Crea** visited the SASI Women's Football program last week running sessions for the players at training.

FFSA Boys League

In the FFSA Boys League, the SASI Girls put up an incredible fight against the Western Strikers U16s. Although losing 3-1, the girls created more chances this week and were unlucky not to have taken all 3 points.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 28TH APRIL 2006

Young Matildas qualify for Youth World Cup

SASI women's football player **Vicki Balomenos** and the Young Matildas have qualified for the Youth World Cup after defeating Japan with a last minute Goal from former Adelaide Sensation player **Colette McCallum**. The YWC will be held in Russia and Australia will be in a group with New Zealand, Brazil and Russia.

Tanya Katianos has been invited to take part in the forthcoming Young Matildas training camp in preparation for YWC in August.

SASI Girls drew their 4th Round game with Campbelltown U16 Boys with a goal from **Vicki Balomenos**.

FFA Technical Manager **Ron Smith** recently ran 2 training sessions with the SASI Girls working on getting players forward into attack and how to defend against players running in behind the defence.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 7TH APRIL 2006

Balomenos in Australian Youth Squad

Vicki Balomenos has been selected in the Australian Youth Squad to play in the Asian Qualifiers for the 2006 FIFA Youth World Cup. Balomenos is presently in a training camp in Canberra before leaving for Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday 6th April.

Katrina Bexis is on standby for the tournament and **Tanya Katianos** has been added to the list of players who are in the running for the squad. The addition of Katianos followed her good recent performances and recommendations from National Coach **Tom Sermanni** who visited SASI last weekend to train with the squad and watch them play.

SASI Team tour SA Country

The SASI Women's Football Team has again taken their Country Road Show to SA Provincial Towns by playing in Port Pirie against the local Under 16 Boys Team. **Katrina Bexis** scored two goals during the match and **Stella Rigon** kicked the winning goal, after goalkeeper Kristi Harvey saved an earlier penalty.

AIS Training Camp

Emma Wirkus and **Luisa Marzotto** have recently attended the AIS National Training Camp in Canberra. Both are AIS Scholarship Holders.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 24th MARCH 2006

MOUNT GAMBIER COACHING CLINIC

The SASI Women's Football program took part in a weekend of activities in Mount Gambier. They played 2 games against the Victorian Institute squad and took part in other promotional and coaching activities. The SASI Girls won the first game 1-0 and drew the second 0-0 on the Sunday. All SASI scholarship holders were provided the opportunity to play against good standard opposition with every player getting at least 45 minutes of game time over the two games. The local Football community (Men and Women) embraced the weekend's activities. The Coaching clinic, run by SASI coach **Kevin MCCORMACK** along with some of our scholarship players including former Matilda Kristyn Swaffer, was very well received. Together with the local organising committee, the VIS and ourselves a date for 2007 has already been penciled in for similar events in 2007.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 24th FEBRUARY 2006

SASI Women's Footballers **Emma Wirkus** and **Vicki Balomenos** have been regular attendees at National Training Camps. The hard work has paid off for Balomenos after being selected in the National Squad to play Asian Pre World Cup Qualifiers in Singapore in March.