



# MISSION STATEMENT

## OUR MISSION

The Australian Paralympic Committee seeks to:

Facilitate success by athletes in Paralympic Games and other elite international events (sanctioned by the International Paralympic Committee).

Encourage participation in sport by people with disabilities.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



From left to right:

Back Row: **Mr Greg Hartung**, President; **Mr Paul Bird**, Sports Portfolio; **Mr Nick Dean**, Vice President

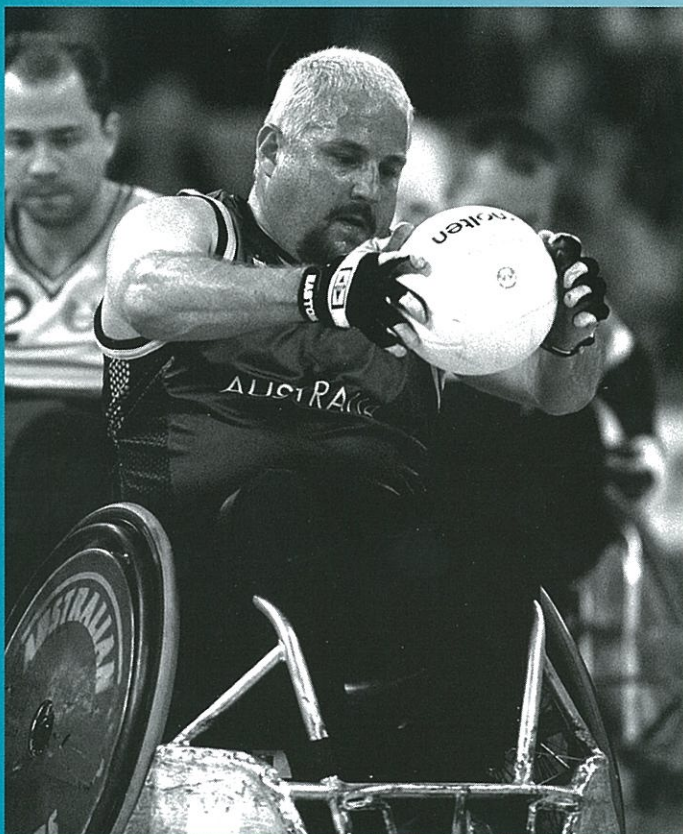
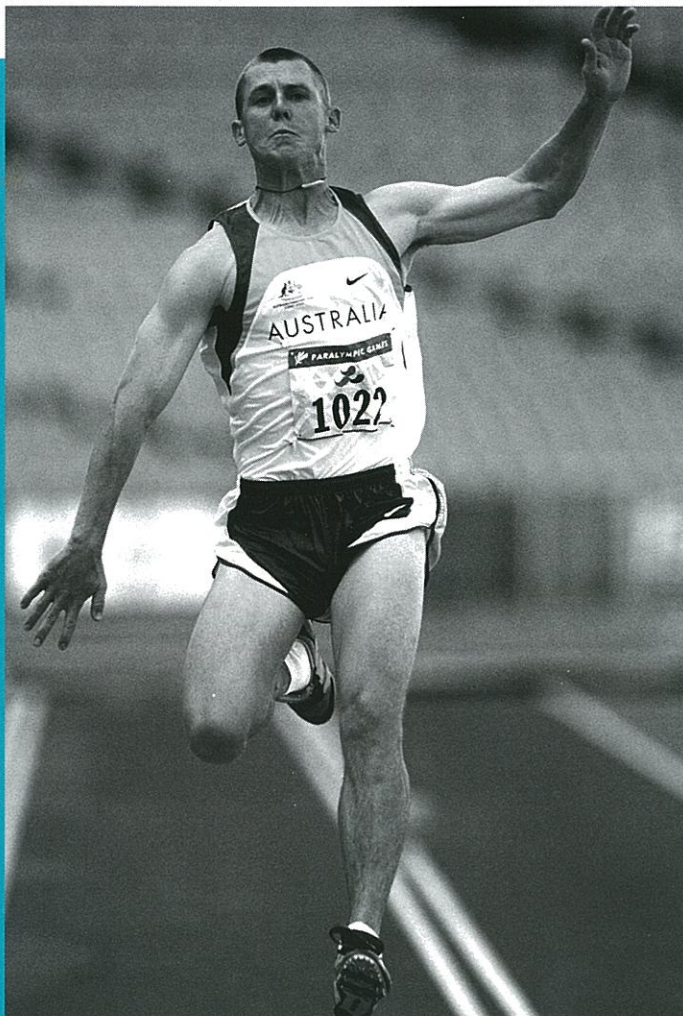
Front Row: **Mr Hamish MacDonald**, Athletes Portfolio; **Ms Maria McCarthy**, Marketing Portfolio;

**Dr David Millons AM**, Medical Portfolio; **Mr Ken Brown AM**, Vice President; **Mr Doug Denby**, Finance/Admin Portfolio

Absent from photo: **Ms Liz Pollock**, Policy Portfolio; **Mr Neil Flett**, Communications Portfolio



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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The post-Games euphoria has subsided, but the legacy of the most successful Paralympic Games has stayed with us. Everyone involved in Paralympic sport has been intent on maintaining the momentum of the Games. As every coach would agree, winning is one thing, staying on top is an even greater challenge.

Our key on-field objective has been to sustain our performances; to continue to rebuild our team with fresh talent and to perform at our best in international competition. Off the field, our focus has been to ensure that the organisation is structured and financed in a way which will enable Australia to keep its reputation as a professional and efficient Paralympic nation. The efforts of the Board and Management have been united in achieving this objective.

In last year's Annual Report, I reported the desire of the Board to reform the Constitution of the APC to enable our membership base to be broadened to include National Sporting Organisations (NSO's) with a genuine and demonstrable involvement in providing opportunities for our athletes. I am very pleased to now report that the national Sporting Organisations for the Disabled voted in the majority to accept that recommendation.

The Board is very conscious that NSO's will need to demonstrate their credentials before they will be eligible for membership. To date, only one NSO has qualified: Athletics Australia. We have been pleased with the manner in which Athletics Australia has embraced the challenge of including our Paralympians in their squad. It is working well for Athletics Australia and it is working well for the APC and our athletes. The results of this policy of 'mainstreaming', will be proudly displayed in future international events. The APC is now working with other NSO's to broaden our relationships even further with the main sporting organisations in the country.

Another issue which I put forward last year was Australia's international role. It has been long considered that Australia - reinforced by the growth generated through the 2000 Paralympic Games - has a responsibility to assist the Paralympic Movement in other countries. Since October last year we have worked with South Pacific countries which are members of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). With the financial support of the Federal Government through the Australian Sports Commission, we have now successfully brought the Region together and reached agreement on the creation of the South Pacific Regional Committee of the IPC. This Region has been one of the most underdeveloped in the world with the advent of the new organisation we are now collectively developing plans to assist sport for people with disabilities in the countries in our



immediate neighbourhood. This is clearly a tangible and very worthwhile outcome of the Sydney Games.

The APC has also been active in pursuing and encouraging other policy objectives, particularly in such areas as Classification and Talent Identification and in support of our member body, AUSRAPID, in dealing with the IPC's demands for athletes re-registration. There is no shortage of issues for the APC to tackle, nor events to contest. In this respect we wish all our athletes success, particularly those who are now in the midst of preparations for next year's Winter Paralympic Games. With the support of our membership and the energy and enthusiasm of our Board and management team led by Brendan Flynn, we can achieve a great deal.

My thanks and appreciation are extended to Brendan and his staff and also to my colleagues on the Board who have been outstanding in their generous contributions collectively and individually to the success of the APC. It has been my pleasure to work with them.

Greg Hartung  
PRESIDENT





# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The twelve-month period post the best Paralympic Games ever has been an extremely challenging one.

The APC is restructuring to prepare for two away Paralympic Games in Salt Lake City 2002 (Winter) and Athens 2004 (Summer).

It has been a rebuilding process with changes in APC staff, contract coaching and support staff and with new faces in many of our PPP squads.

Once again the PPP funding provided by the Federal Government through the Australian Sports Commission has assisted the APC to commence the new road through to Athens, via Salt Lake City.

The APC has looked back, to go forward, but it is a new challenge ahead, a different challenge and in my view, a tougher challenge.

I would sincerely like to express my thanks to the Sponsors who have continued to commit to the APC in a climate that again is very much tougher than it was with a home Paralympic Games.

We will need to continue to work closely with all of our

important partners. Thanks must be expressed to all of the National Sporting Organisations for the Disabled (NOSD's), the National Sporting Organisations (NSO's) that continue their professional approach, the various State Institutes and Academies, the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Institute of Sport that have worked so closely with the APC in the pursuit of excellence and to the Australian Olympic Committee for their assistance.

I'm sure with all the continued support from our partners and sponsors the APC will ensure that the high standards previously set will carry us through to achieve great results in the all important World Championships in 2002.

To the APC President, Mr. Greg Hartung and his dedicated APC Board, a special thanks. They fully understand the 'road ahead' and will govern in a professional way to achieve the outcomes that all of us want to fulfill.

Finally, to my TEAM within the APC office and round the states, your commitment never ceases to amaze me.

THANK YOU,

Brendan Flynn  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



# FINANCE REPORT



The year ended 30 June 2001 was, as expected, a significant year for the finances of the APC, and it is pleasing to note that the year finished with a small surplus.

The APC is very grateful to the Australian Federal government, through the Australian Sports Commission, for their assistance, and to all our many sponsors and benefactors who have helped in whatever way!

Our expenses for the year were not inconsiderable and brief details are given in the summarised financial statements on this page. The detailed financial statements, together with the report of our auditors, Ernst & Young, are available from the offices of the APC.

Our focus must now be on the future and the need to contain costs within available funding and without compromising the potential of our athletes.

Doug Denby  
FINANCE DIRECTOR

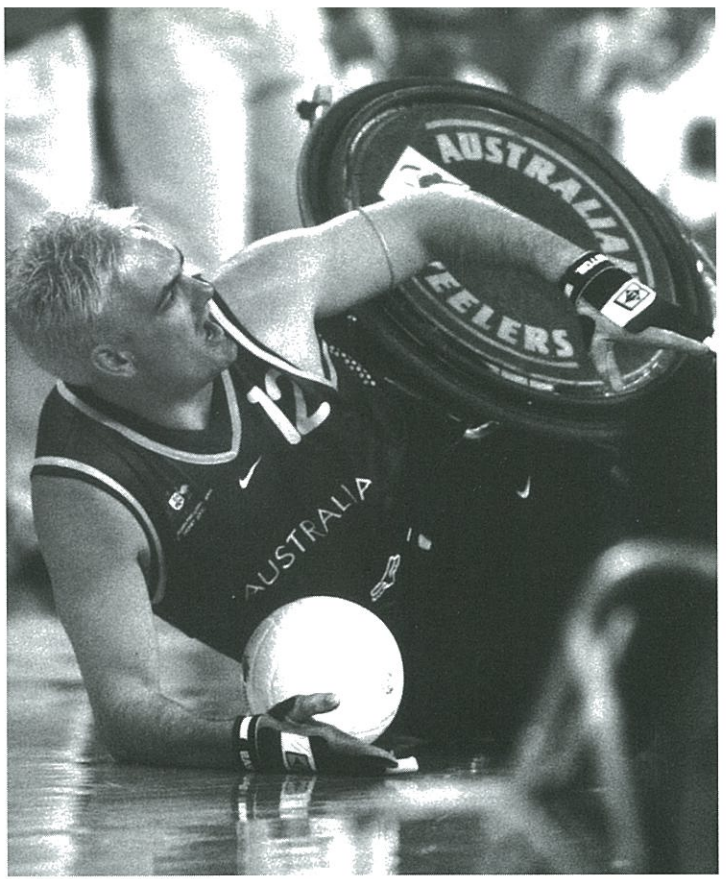
## INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT (in \$000)

	2001	2000
<b>Income</b>		
Australian Sports Commission	2,929	1,987
Sale of certain marketing rights to SPOC	497	1,294
Fundraising and sponsors	4,953	1,947
Income from investments	418	19
Other	5	5
	<u>8,802</u>	<u>5,252</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Athletes and international competition	4,465	3,129
Promotions, marketing and media	2,242	557
Administration	2,053	1,724
	<u>8,760</u>	<u>5,410</u>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	42	(158)

## BALANCE SHEET (in \$000)

<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and investments	2,376	2,521
Other (receivables, etc.)	1,323	408
	<u>3,699</u>	<u>2,929</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors and provisions	1,055	482
Deferred revenue/grants	902	747
	<u>1,957</u>	<u>1,229</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	1,742	1,700





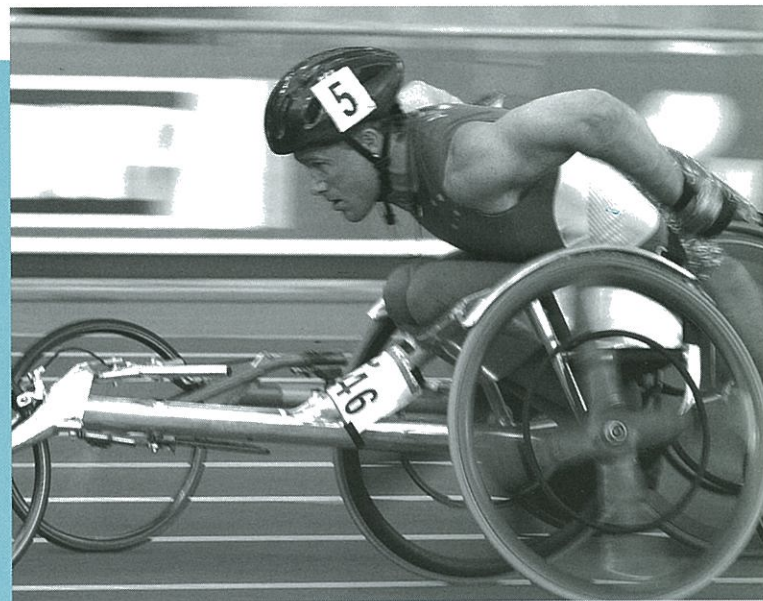
## MARKETING REPORT

Paralympism witnessed a meteoric rise in public profile with the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games and the interest in Paralympic sports was unprecedented.

During the lead up to and including the Games, the APC's marketing program consisted of a joint arrangement with SPOC (Sydney Paralympic Organising Committee). Sponsors of this program received rights to the Team and the event.

As follow up to the Games, APC appointed Sports Marketing and Management in February this year as the APC's exclusive marketing agent with the responsibility to co-operatively develop with the APC the marketing program for 2001 with a view to Athens 2004.

The emphasis has been on securing renewed support from sponsors of the 2000 Games. To date, the APC has secured continuing support from Telstra, Adecco Australia, Energy Australia, Motor Accidents Authority, Workcover, Sport the Library, TAB, Rogen and Fforesite.



Sponsorship interest in the market remains strong for APC, despite mixed signals in the Australian economy and apprehension as events unfold around the world following the recent outbreak of terrorism in America.





# ARCHERY



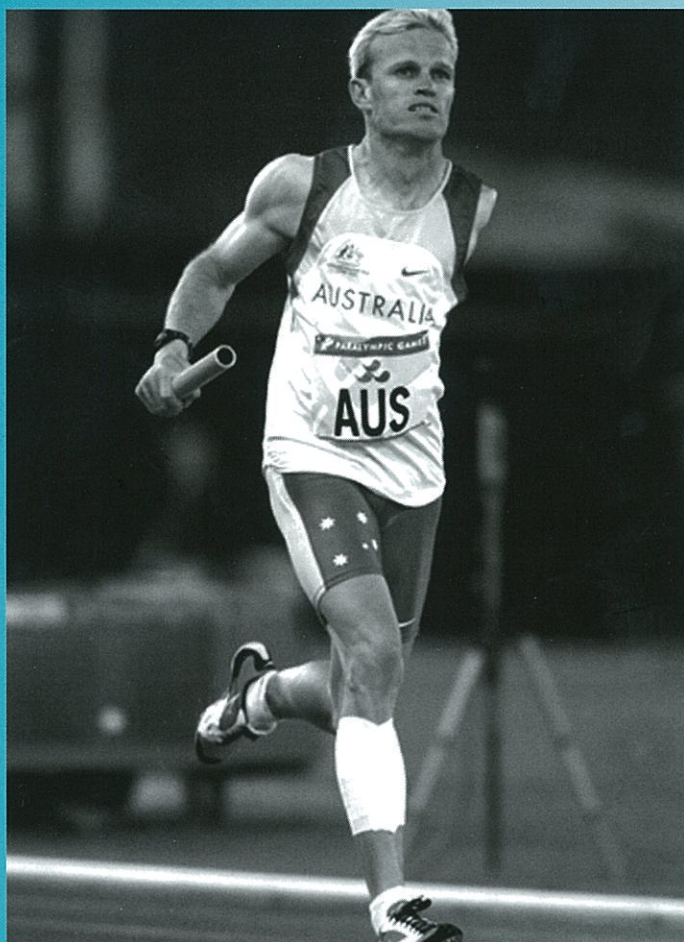
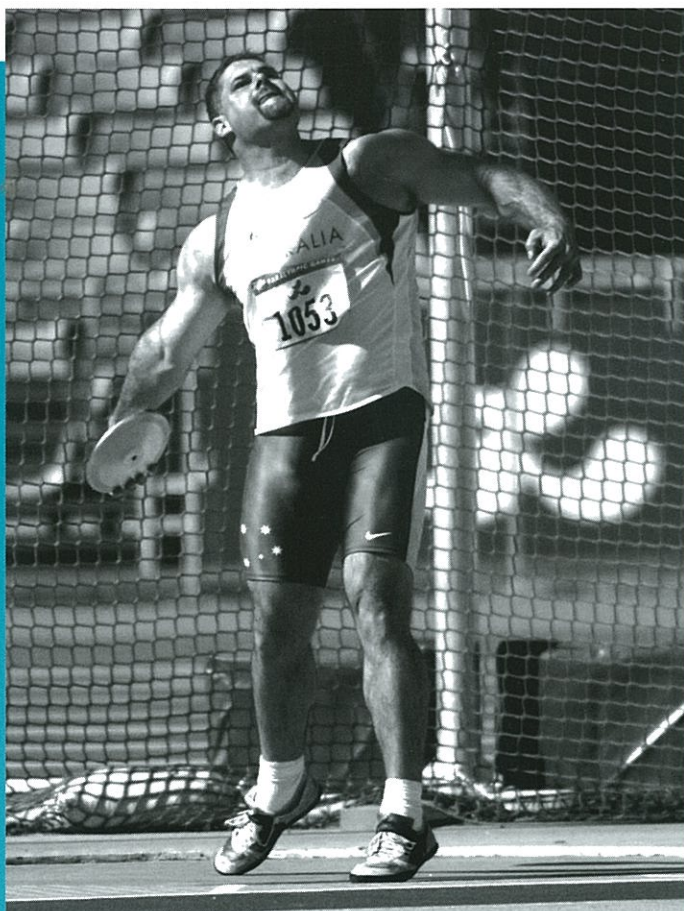
## **Manager: Vicki O'Brien**

Archery has undergone a full program restructure since the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games.

The APC decided not to appoint any coaches to the program but to expand the Sports Advisory Committee and for this committee to set policy and drive the program. Athletes will work with their home coaches, rather than under the program of a National coach, and will come together for 'preparation camps' under guest coaches. A Manager, Vicki O'Brien, has been appointed to manage camps and overseas trips.

The Archery program did not compete in any competitions or attend any training camps this year.





**Head Coach: Scott Goodman**  
**Sprints and Jumps Coach: Brett Jones**  
**Wheelchair Track and Road Coach: Andrew Dawes**  
**Middle and Distance Coach: Robbie Bolton**  
**Throws Coach: To be appointed**  
**Manager: Jason Hellwig**

**Mission:**

*To retain Australia's status as the Number 1 Paralympic Athletics Team in the World through to the Athens 2004 Paralympic Games and beyond*

Since the success of the Athletics team at the Sydney 2000 Paralympics, the program has undergone a phase of re-building and re-bonding. The 2000-2001 domestic season definitely suffered from a deflated Post-games environment. A number of athletes had a substantial break after the Games and are now returning, better for it.

There have been a number of retirements, including Fabian Blattman (T51 Wheelchair Track and Road), John Eden (F42 Throws), Mark Davies (F11 Throws), Anton Flavel (F20 Throws), Trish Flavel (T20 Middle Distance), Frances Stanley (T44 Sprints), Jeff McNeill (T11 Marathon), Mick Dowling (F44 Throws). All have been valuable team members and have left their own unique memorable moments with everyone who has shared in their athletic careers: they will be missed.

The Athletics' program has also lost its effervescent leader, Head Coach Chris Nunn. Chris has moved on to the position of Head Coach of the AIS Track and Field program. He still plays a role on the AA-PPP Sports Advisory Committee and is also in regular contact with the new AA-PPP Head Coach, Scott Goodman, who is based in the same offices at the AIS.

Goodman has been an integral member of the AA-PPP in his role as Athletics PPP Co-ordinator during the two years leading into Sydney, and as one of the key event group coaches for a number of years.

continued next page



# ATHLETICS continued

Other key staff who have continued their involvement are Brett Jones (Sprints and Jumps), Andrew Dawes (Wheelchair Track and Road), Jason Hellwig (Manager), Jenni Banks (APC High Performance Manager for Athletics), Kathryn Periac nee Lee, (AA High Performance Manager and 1996 Atlanta APC Head Coach).

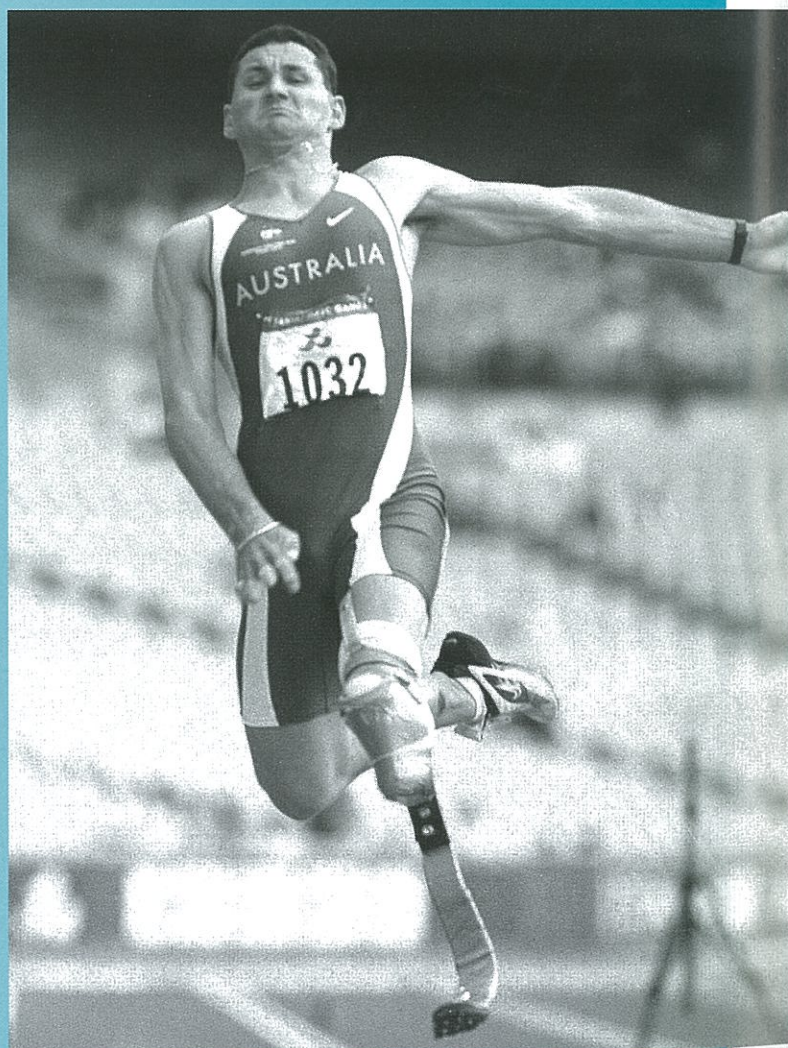
Robbie Bolton has replaced Di Barnes as the AA-PPP Middle and Distance coach. Di has a new role as the AA National Middle and Distance Event Group Coordinator.

This group of staff along with the committed athletes that constitute the AA-PPP squad will form the backbone of the Australian assault on the 2002 IPC World Athletics Championships in Lille (20-28 July) and through to the 2004 Athens Paralympics.

The most significant Athletics initiative has been the arrangement between the APC and Athletics Australia (AA) whereby the Athletics PPP has shifted base to AA and is now known as the 'AA-PPP'. This significant move further strengthens the APC's sport-specific approach to the preparation of athletes with a disability.

2001 has been a period of considerable change for the AA-PPP. While the 'post-Sydney blues' have taken a while to shake off, a majority of AA-PPP squad members had the opportunity to compete overseas with considerable success during the Northern Summer. These have included a stream of World Best performances this year.

The coming Australian summer will be a significant one for all members of the AA-PPP Squads, with extended opportunities in the AA Telstra Grand Prix series and the combined AA Nationals. It will be great to see squad members stringing together a series of PBs during the series in preparation for next year's World Championships in Lille, July 20-28.





# BASKETBALL

for athletes with an Intellectual Disability (Men)

**Head Coach: Peter Corr**

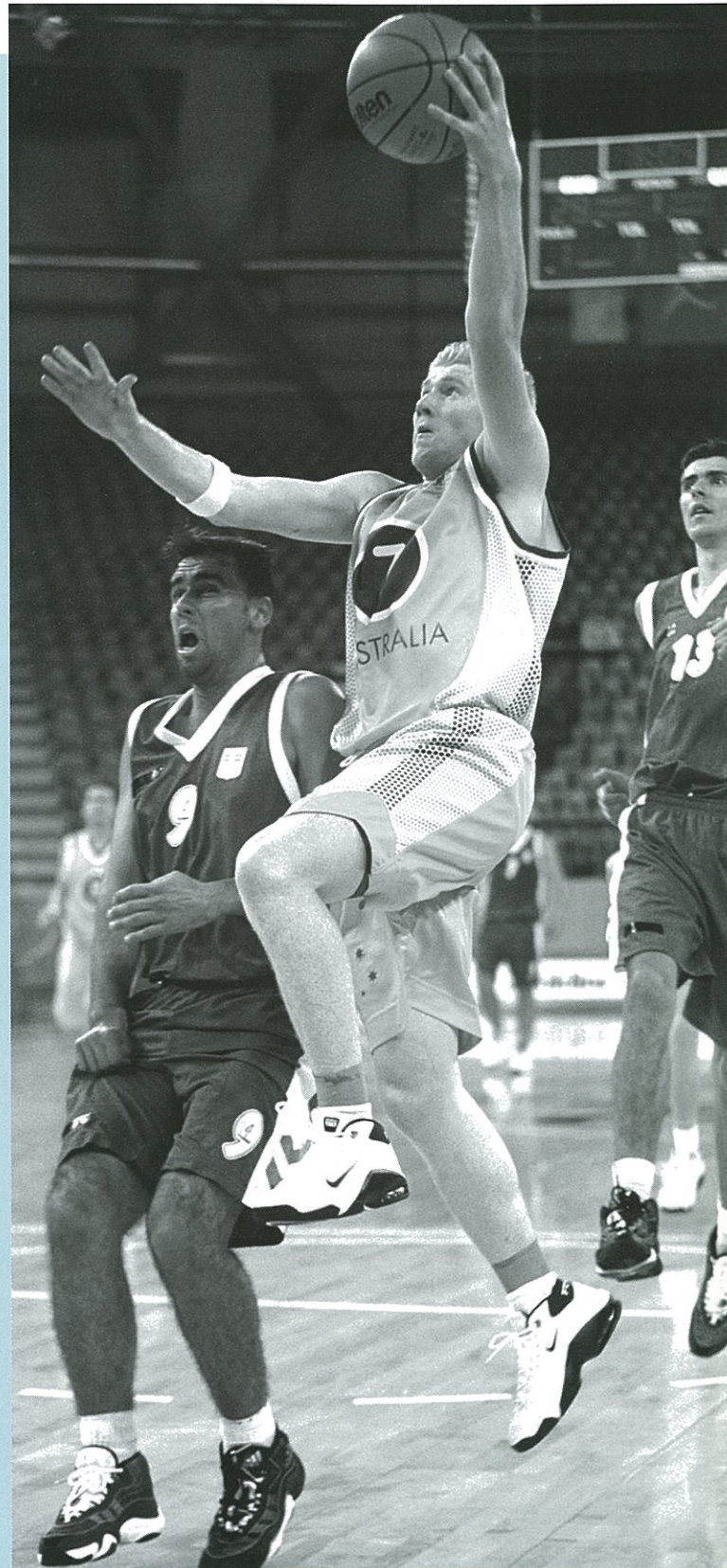
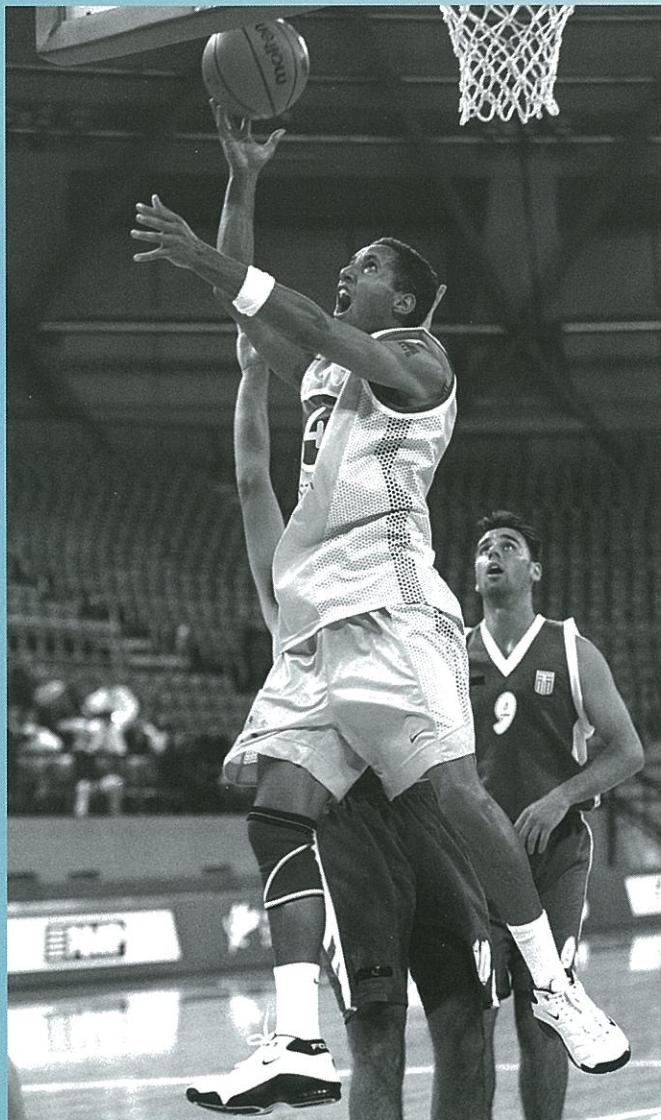
**Assistant Coach: Ian McLeod**

**Assistant Coach: Craig Painter**

**Manager: Kevin Smith**

A new Head Coach was appointed to the Basketball for Athletes with an Intellectual Disability (Boomerangs) program. He is the former head coach of the Women's Wheelchair Basketball program, Peter Corr. Corr's Manager with the Gliders, Kevin Smith, has joined him with the Boomerangs. Assistant coach Ian McLeod remains with the Boomerangs' program and Craig Painter joins the program from a strong able-bodied basketball background.

The National Championships for the Men's Basketball for Athletes with an Intellectual Disability were held the second week of July, so no squad was selected prior to that event.







## WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL (Men)

**Head Coach: Murray Treseder**  
**Assistant Coach: Alan Cox**  
**Manager: Kelvin Browner**  
**Mechanic: Graham Gould**  
**Physiotherapist: John Camens**

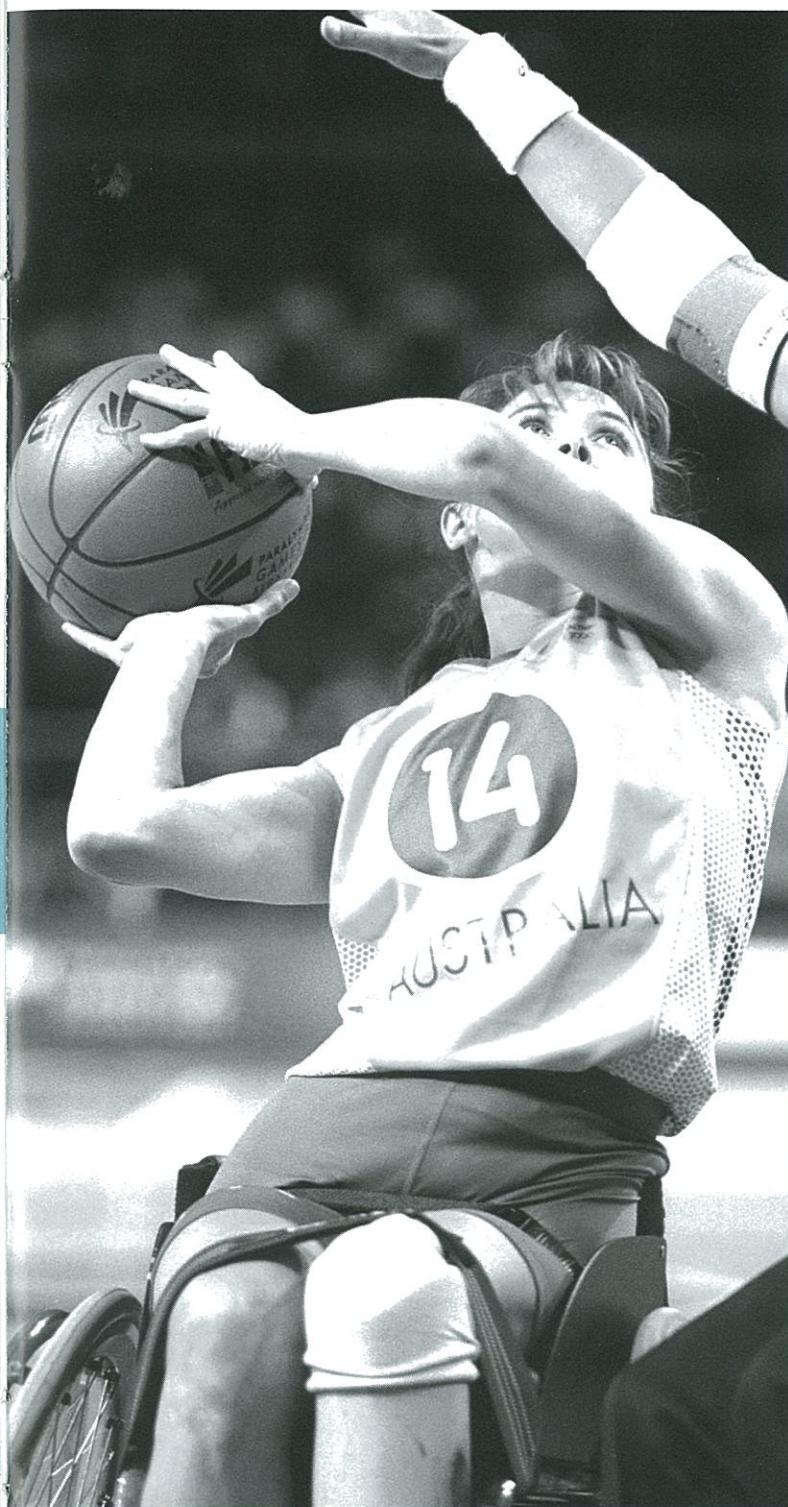
The Men's Wheelchair Basketball (Rollers) program has undergone a major change in coaching staff and coaching philosophies after the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games.

New Head Coach Murray Treseder brings to the Rollers a wealth of experience in able-bodied basketball. To improve his wheelchair basketball knowledge, Treseder observed the Roosevelt Cup international tournament in Warm Springs, Colorado, USA, in May. The Rollers have previously competed at this event and plan to do so again in 2002. Treseder then returned to the USA in June with Gliders' Assistant Coach Gerry Hewson and five athletes to attend a camp run by the coach of the 2000 Canadian Men's gold medal team, Mike Frogley. The assistant coach to the Rollers' program, Alan Cox, is head of the Wheelchair Basketball program at the New South Wales Institute of Sport.





# WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL (Women)



**Head Coach:** Liz Fraser  
**Assistant Coach:** Gerry Hewson  
**Assistant Coach:** Darryl Durham  
**Manager:** To be appointed  
**Physiotherapist:** David Spurrier

The Women's Wheelchair Basketball (Gliders) program has undergone a complete change of staff since 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games.

Former assistant coach of the Boomerangs, Liz Fraser, has been appointed Head Coach. To further her wheelchair basketball skills, Liz attended the Walker Cup in Raleigh Durham, North Carolina, USA, in May. At this tournament she was able to meet with other National coaches and see how the other countries were performing after the Sydney Games. This is an annual tournament which the Gliders have previously attended and will be attending next year.

One of the assistant coaches, Gerry Hewson, attended the camp in Illinois run by Mike Frogley in June. Gerry was a member of the Rollers team at the Sydney Games and is now turning his focus to coaching. The other assistant coach, Darryl Durham, has come from an able-bodied basketball background.





# BOCCIA



**Head Coach: Joan Stevens**  
**Assistant Coach: Italo Vigolo**

The focus of the Boccia program since November has been on the development of potential athletes in Queensland, Western Australia and Victoria. The Head Coach has identified new players in each state and is working to increase the depth of the elite program.

This has included regular workshops and talent identification in conjunction with the Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association in Queensland. Stevens has also travelled twice to Western Australia and is working to identify volunteers to assist Victoria and New South Wales

The Squad travelled to Hong Kong for the FESPIC Championships with some new players. There were nine countries participating with 54 athletes. It was a good experience for all players and it has shown in the improvement of their game. They gained experience in travelling and working as a team, with improvement in their knowledge of the game, skills and tactics.





**Head Coach: Kevin McIntosh**  
**Assistant Coach: Darryl Benson**  
**Assistant Coach: Radek Valenta**  
**Manager: Elsa Lepore**  
**Mechanic: Paul Lamond**  
**Masseur: Maria Di Michele**

The December 2000 to July 2001 period has been one of change and renewal for the Cycling PPP following their highly successful Paralympic Games campaign.

Following a comprehensive review of the program, the successful Cycling PPP Squad staff were re-appointed at the beginning of the year with the major change being the appointment of Head Coach, Kevin McIntosh, on a full-time basis. McIntosh is now based at the AIS Cycling Office in Adelaide. This link with the AIS program is already generating dividends.

While the Australian Paralympic Cycling Team has enjoyed an extended period as the number one Paralympic cycling nation in the world (over six years), it has been clear that the lack of a nationwide development program is an area of concern that will potentially limit the program's future success. In view of this, one of McIntosh's major tasks in his initial period of employment has been to set up state-based development programs in liaison with Cycling Australia and the State Cycling Federations and coaches. To assist in this endeavour, Cycling PPP Assistant Coaches, Darryl Benson and Radek Valenta have both taken on a greater involvement with the WA and NSW-based programs, respectively. Although there is still a considerable amount of work to do, the new state-based programs have already yielded some new riders, with three gaining selection in Australian team to compete in the 2001 IPC European Cycling Championships (NSW-based riders, Peter Brooks, Lindy Hou and front rider, Martin Vinnicombe).

Like many sports, a number of cyclists took an extended break after the Paralympic Games to catch up on the rest of their lives before embarking on another campaign in preparation for the Athens 2004 Paralympic Games: this included Paralympic medallists Greg Ball, Paul Lake, Daniel Polson, David Murray, and Paul Clohessy. Front rider Steve Gray announced his retirement from the program following the Games.

The current Cycling PPP Squad (announced following the Cycling Australia Track Nationals and the subsequent qualifying period) includes Peter Brooks, Mathew Gray, Paul O'Neill (all LC1), Noel Sens (LC3), Mark Le Flohic (CP Div 2), Peter Homann, Chris Scott (CP Div 4), Lindy Hou/Martin Vinnicombe, Lyn Lepore/Ed Hollands, Christine Fisher/Russell Wolfe (Mixed Tandem) and Sarnya Parker/Tania Modra (Women's Tandem).

All of these riders will compete in the IPC European Cycling Championships in Switzerland in September.





# EQUESTRIAN



**Head Coach: Gillian Rickard**  
**Assistant Coach: Carolyn Lieutenant**  
**Chef de Equipe: Judy Cubitt**

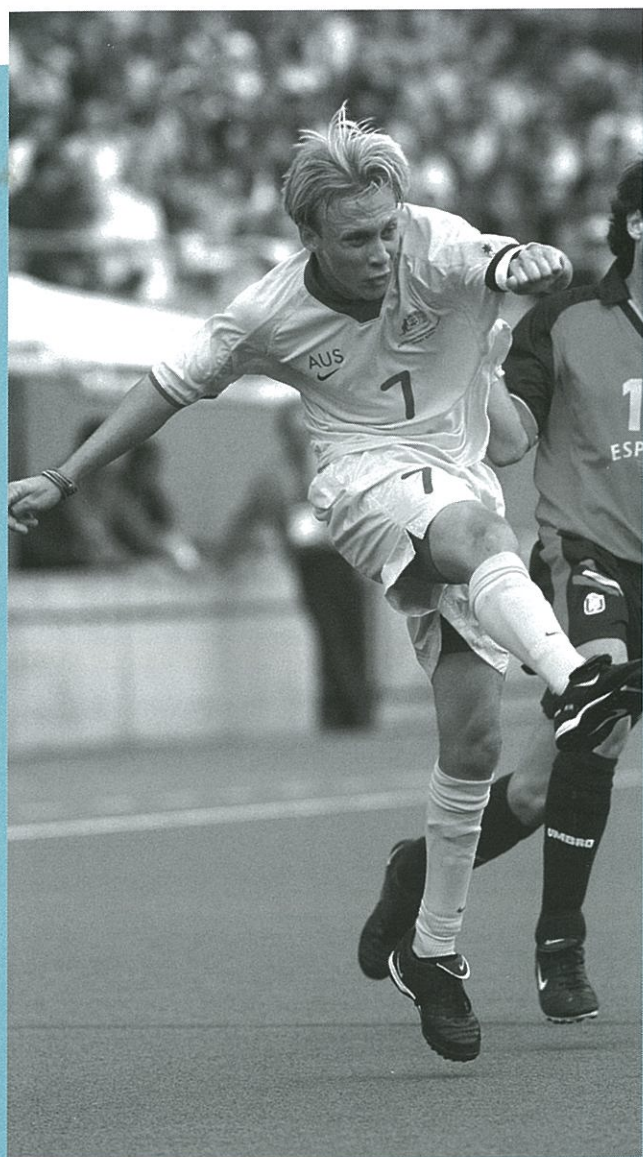
The Equestrian program has already conducted several training camps this year, under the direction of new head coach, Gillian Rickard. The camps were attended by all Paralympic Preparation Program funded athletes, including those new to the program since the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games. The first camp held was an 'off horse' camp in early May at the Australian Institute of Sport. This camp dealt with issues such as nutrition and sports psychology. The next camp was held late May at the Kurrajong Equestrian Centre.

The training camps, individual training and local/state competition that the athletes participated in are all in preparation for the National Dressage Championships for Riders with a disability, to be held in Melbourne in September.





# FOOTBALL (Soccer)



**Head Coach: Ian Murray**  
**Assistant Coach: Norm Boardman**  
**Assistant Coach: David Brand**  
**Manager: Joel Lipman**  
**Physiotherapist: Mark MacDonald**

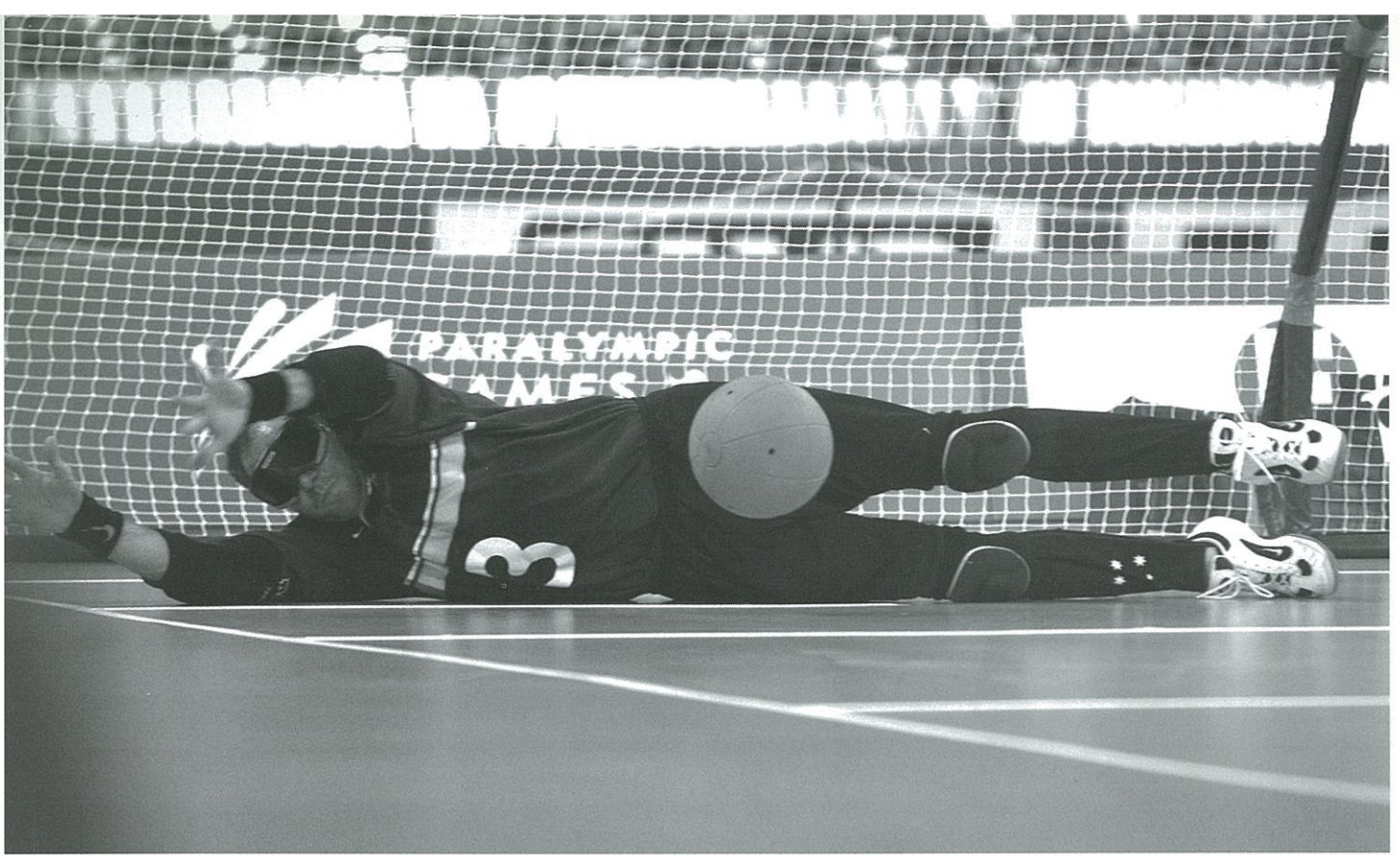
The post Games PPP review and an advertising campaign in the able-bodied football press resulted in a complete overhaul of the Football PPP staff for 2001. Three coaches were selected from thirty high quality applications, with the Head Coach position going to former Matildas (Olympic Women's) Assistant Coach, Ian Murray, and the Assistant Coach positions to Norm Boardman and David Brand: three coaches that the APC believes have the expertise, knowledge, and ability to take the Football PPP Squad to the next level. Team2000 Operations Team staff member Joel Lipman was appointed Team Manager and Mark MacDonald retained his position with the squad as Physiotherapist.

To date, the program has held three highly successful training camps in Sydney and Canberra and an Australian Team will participate in the CP World Cup, the first of the Paralympic qualifying events, in Nottingham in July. The new coaching staff have concentrated on engendering a new level of professionalism and skill in the squad, which appears to have an exciting future.

The current Football PPP Squad includes: David Barber (Capt), Jason Driscoll, Shaun Fedele, Patrick Grant, Eric Haddrick, Miguel Marcellino, Beau Menzies, Andrew Panazzolo, Chris Pyne, Jeremy Thorpe, George Tonna, Mathew Bell, Brett Fairhall, Owen Hughes, Jay McBain, and Mark Morris.





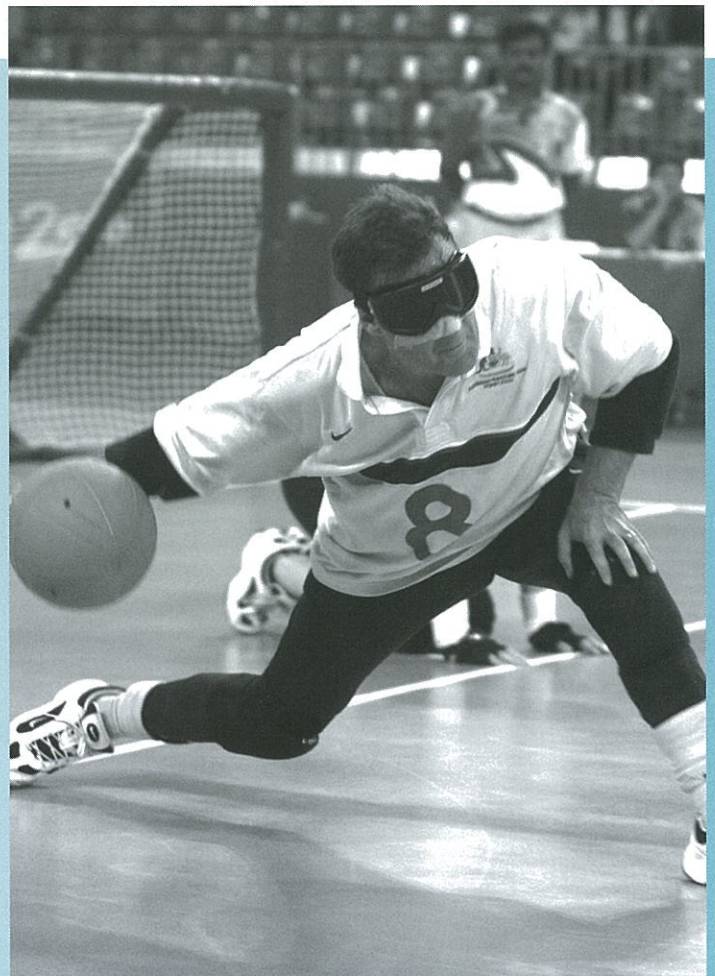


## GOALBALL (Men)

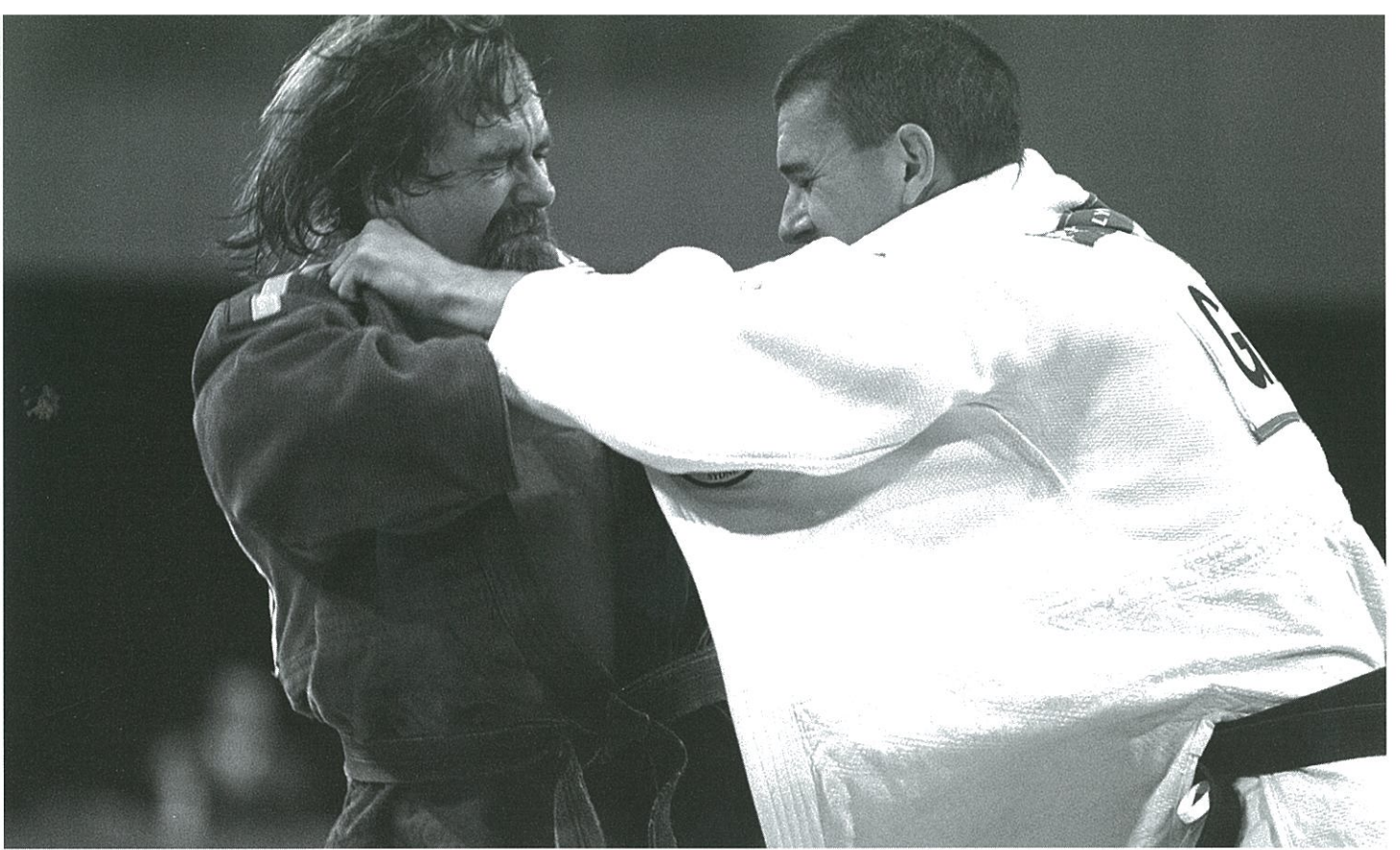
**Head Coach: Jonathon Voller**  
**Assistant Coach: Karen Scott**

Goalball has undergone a full coaching restructure since the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games. New program coaching staff were appointed in June. Head Coach Jonathon Voller and assistant coach Karen Scott bring a new plan and philosophy to the program. Jonathon comes from a sports coaching background while Karen has been involved in Goalball as a coach and administrator for many years.

As the coaches were appointed in June, the team was not selected by the end of the financial year.







# JUDO



## **Head Coach: Trevor Kschammer**

The only Judo athlete in the Paralympic Preparation Program, Anthony Clarke, competed in the able bodied National Championships as well as the Arafura Games this year. Both of these competitions were held in Darwin in May.

At the National Championships (12/13 May), Anthony competed in two separate divisions. In his division he had two competitions with two losses. In the Open Division he had one competition with one loss.

Judo was held for the first time at the Arafura Games (20/21 May). This is an able bodied, multi-event competition. These Games are held every two years in Darwin with 27 countries competing overall in 2001. Anthony was awarded silver in his division after winning three competitions and losing one. In the Open Division he was awarded the Bronze medal after winning two of his three competitions.





# POWERLIFTING

**Head Coach: Blagoi Blagoev**  
**Assistant Coach: Ray Epstein**  
**Manager: Mick Farrell**

The period under review was, as expected, relatively quiet with most athletes and coaches taking a well-earned break after the 'high' of Sydney 2000.

Nominations were called and received for positions on the Sports Advisory Committee (SAC). The coaching team of Blagoi Blagoev (Head Coach) and Ray Epstein (Assistant Coach) was reappointed for another term and they had their first personal contact with the whole squad at the Queensland Invitational competition and following three day training camp in March 2001.

The squad has undergone some changes since the Paralympics, with Julie Russell announcing her retirement and move to refereeing; Kahi Puru making a change to try his hand at field events; Melissa Trafela taking up the challenge of basketball and regretfully, Sue Twelftree being forced to retire on medical grounds. We wish these people all the best in their new ventures and especially extend our best wishes to Sue.

Julie will continue her involvement with the sport both in Australia and internationally as referee and as a Member at Large on the IPC Powerlifting SAEC.

Work began on the Operational Plan and was greatly assisted by the appointment of Mick Farrell as Team Manager in June. The plan is based around increasing the base of expertise accessible by the squad, including more emphasis on Sports Psychology and cross training possibilities, including the application of some martial arts training techniques for performance enhancement.



# WHEELCHAIR RUGBY



**Head Coach: Terry Vinyard**  
**Assistant Coach: Glenn Stephens**  
**Manager: Kim Elwood**  
**Mechanic: David Bonavita**  
**Physiotherapist: Greg Ungerer**

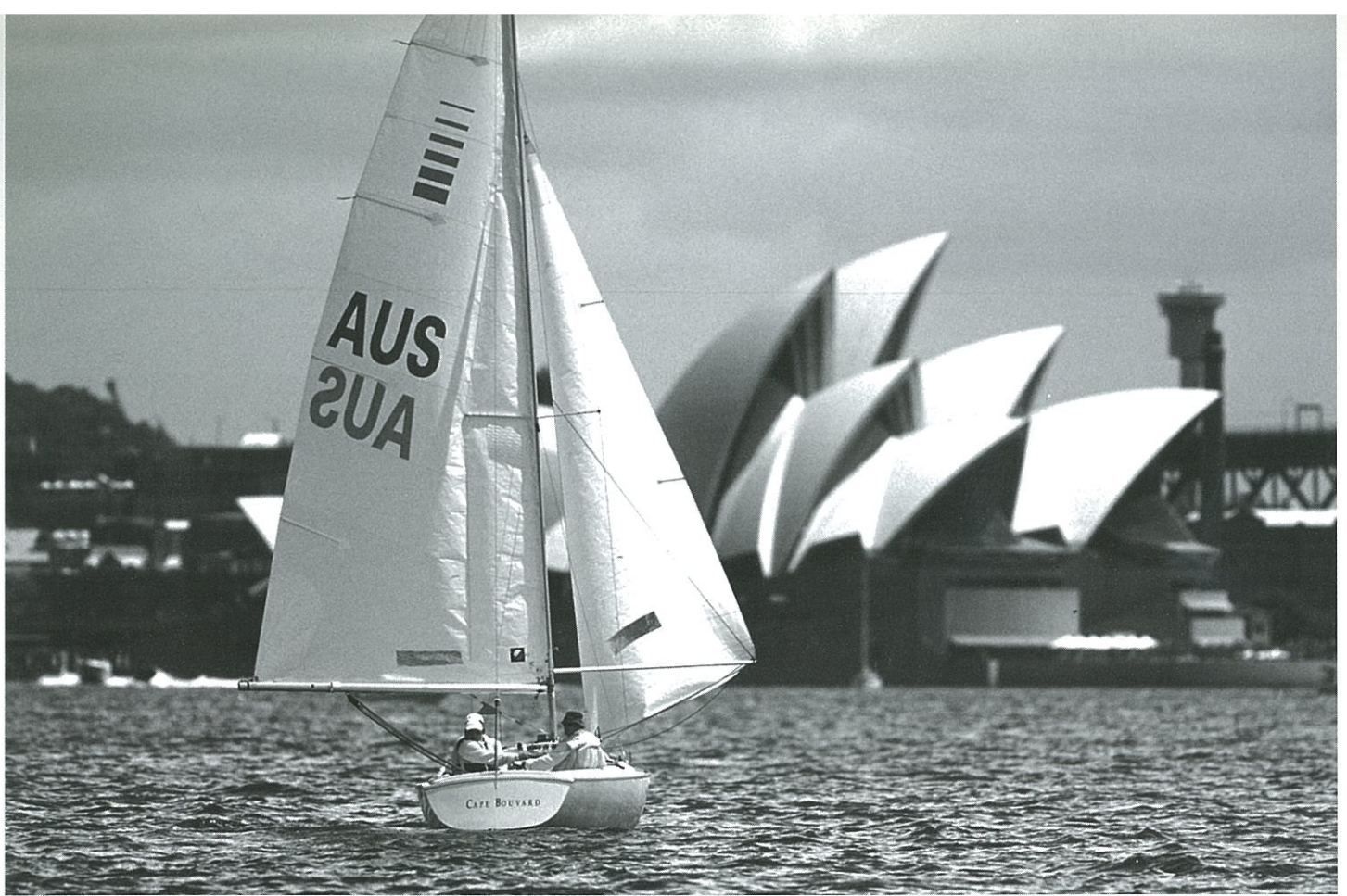
The focus of the wheelchair rugby program following the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games has been to secure the services of Terry Vinyard as Head Coach. Terry has accepted a full time position in Australia as Head Coach of the Wheelchair Rugby team and will be based in the Queensland Sporting Wheelies office in Brisbane. His prime responsibility is to continue to work with the national squad to prepare for the 2002 World Championships. However, he will also be working throughout Australia to train coaches and officials in Wheelchair Rugby and to increase domestic competition opportunities to ensure that the future of the sport in this country is secure.

The Australian Steelers travelled to NZ to play the NZ Wheelblacks for the much coveted Chris Handy Cup. This game was arranged to coincide with the first of the Bledisloe Cup games between the Wallabies and the All Blacks. The Steelers continued their performance from the Paralympic

Games and secured another win against the Kiwis, retaining the Chris Handy Cup for another year.

The next 12 months will be busy for the rugby program with a regional qualifying tournament, a tour to play US teams and the 2002 World Championships in Sweden in May.



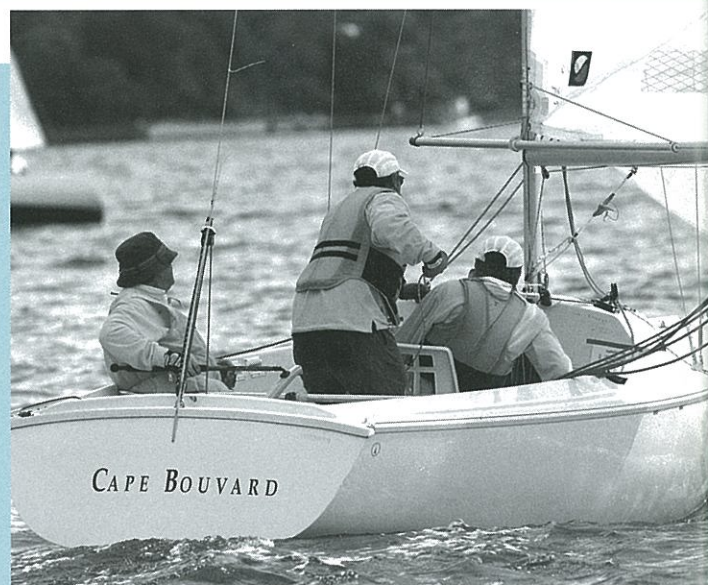


# SAILING

## Head coach: Lachlan Gilbert

After a successful 2000 Paralympic Games regatta, the first six months of 2001 have seen a lighter period of planning and preparation for the campaign for 2004. Of the 2000 Paralympic team, only Graeme Martin, a member of the gold medal Sonar crew, has announced his retirement. Skipper Noel Robins has been scouting potential crew members to join him and Jamie Dunross in their next campaign. In the 2.4mR class, only Michael McLean planned to contest the 2001 World Championships, while Peter Thompson, who finished fourth in Sydney, has taken some time off before starting the preparation towards the next Games.

Lachlan Gilbert was re-appointed Head Coach of the program. Gilbert now works closely with the High Performance Manager of the Australian Yachting Federation as a member of its High performance Unit. The AYF and the APC have held initial discussions about handing full management responsibilities for the program to the AYF.





# SHOOTING



**Head Coach: Miro Sipek**  
**Assistant Coach: Hans Heidemann**  
**Manager: Michelle Fletcher**

The new coaching and management staff were selected in April 2001 and introduced to the squad members at the National Championships held in Sydney in April.

Level one and Level two criteria were set and squad members were named and placed in the appropriate levels.

The squad had a training camp in May, with this being an introduction of both shooters to coaches and vice versa. By the end of June they were well on the way to organising the first International trip for this year, to the European Championships.

Hans and Michelle attended the coaches and managers workshop on the Gold Coast in June. A large amount of information was gained at this session.



# SITTING VOLLEYBALL

**Head Coach: Weiping Tu**

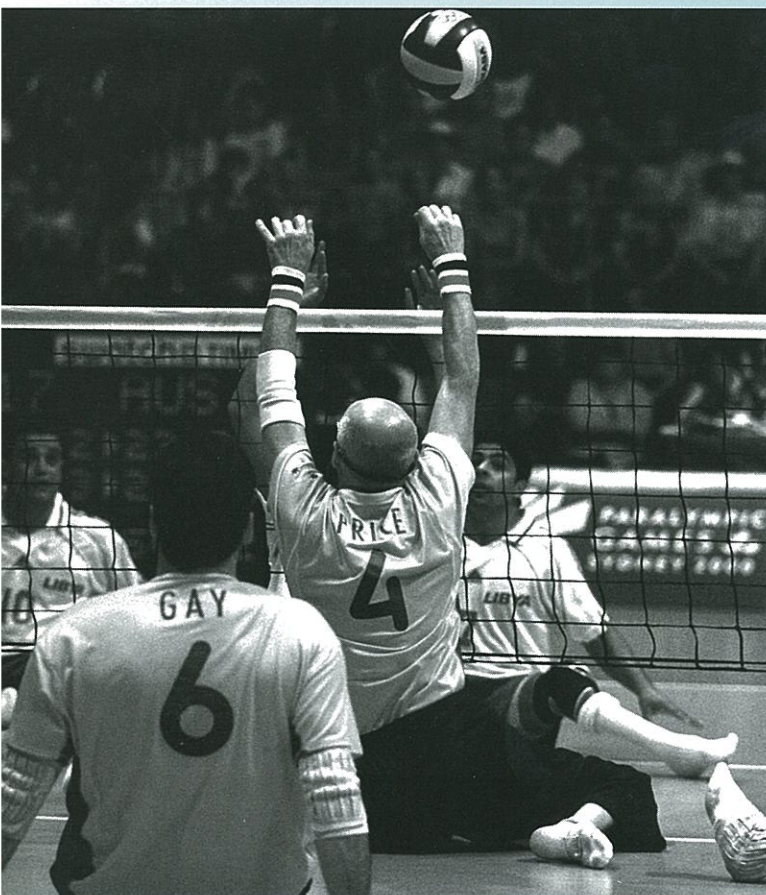
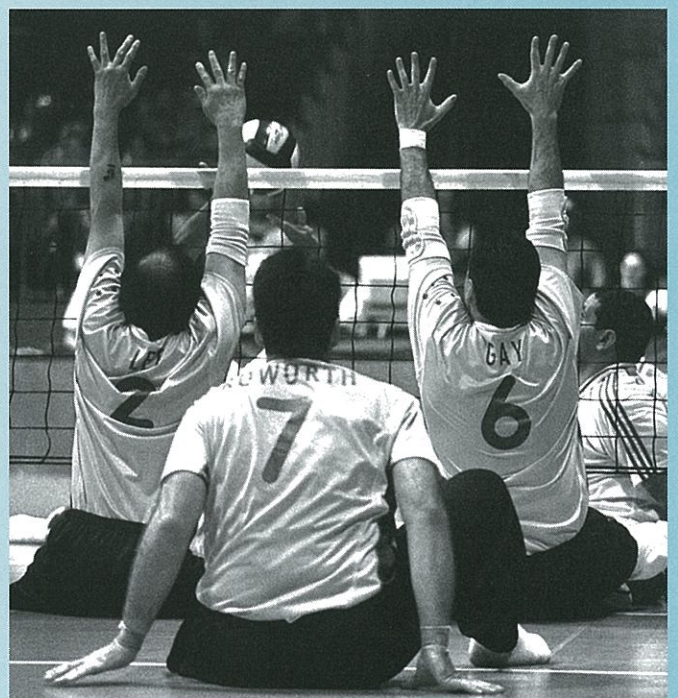
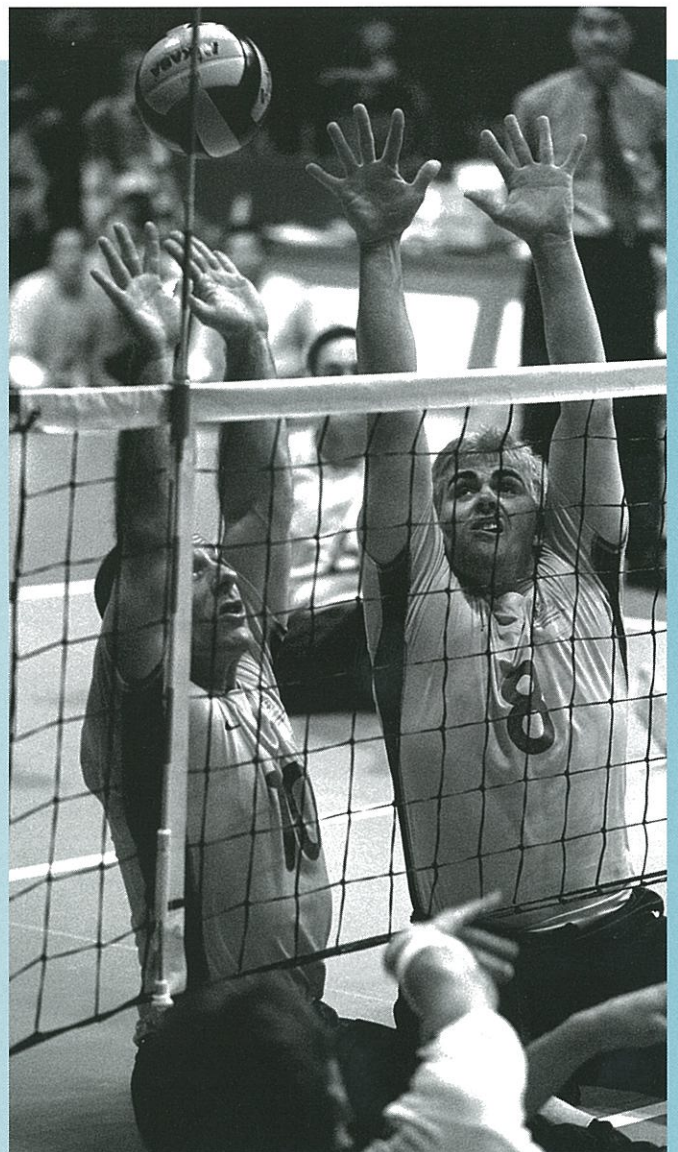
**Assistant Coach/Manager: Glenn Stewart**

**Assistant Coach: Anne-Marie Anderson**

The team coaches from Team2000, Weiping Tu and Glenn Stewart, were re-appointed to head up the new Sitting Volleyball PPP. Having identified the need to increase the player base as a priority for the first 18 months of the new program, the coaches have been going 'to the players' in the Eastern states for camps and exhibition activities to promote the sport and work with new players.

The appointment of Anne-Marie Anderson, from Brisbane, means that there will be a coach available to work with players based in Queensland and Northern NSW.

Activities have included camps in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne and exhibition games in Mittagong (NSW) and Mudgee (NSW).







## WINTER (ALPINE SKIING)

**Head Coach: Steve Bova**

**Assistant Coach/Manager: Andrew Stainlay**

**Doctor: Kevin Boundy**

**Physiotherapist: Ben Siu**

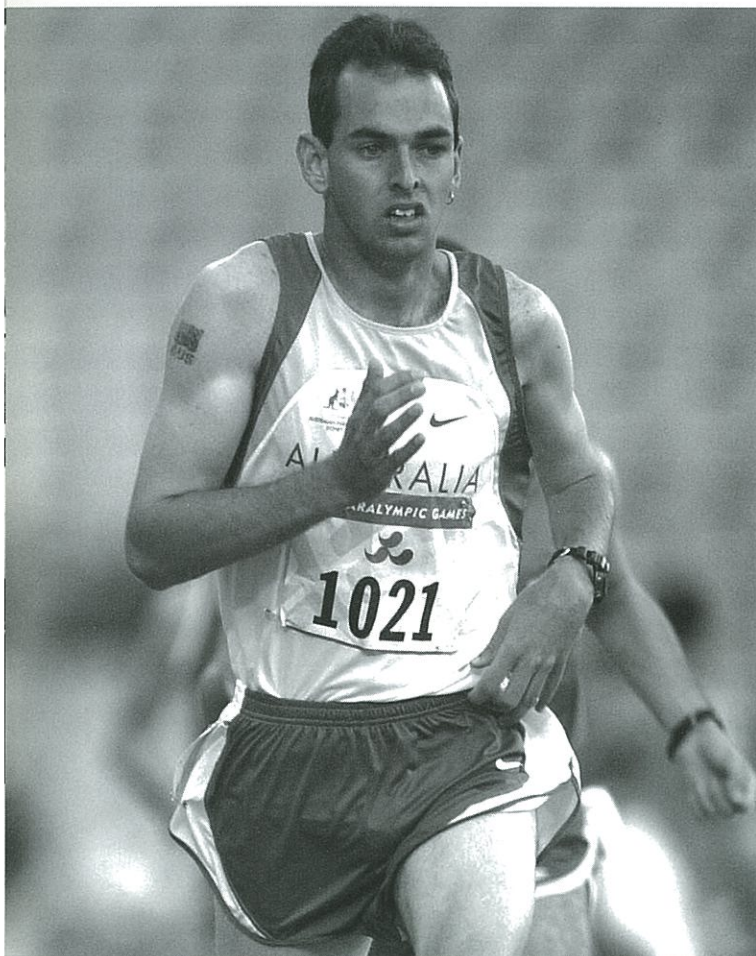
Between January and March 2001 the APC National Alpine Ski Team of Michael Milton, Peter Boonaerts, James Paterson, Mathew Nicholls, Bart Bunting and guide Nathan Chivers, trained out of Kimberley BC, Canada. The members of the Team competed in numerous events beginning with the Western Canadian races, the Western Provincial races in Alberta in February, then down to Salt Lake City USA to race

in the Paralympic Test Event in Snowbasin - the Chevy Truck Disabled Alpine World Cup. From the US they again travelled up to their base in Kimberley to race in the World Cup Finals, where Australia's athletes, especially Michael Milton, showed their class.

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# SPORTS REPORT



The 2000 Paralympic Games marked the conclusion of the first Paralympic Preparation Program (PPP). In the months that followed the Games the APC Sport unit reviewed the programs of all Summer sports as well as the Australian Team's performance at the Games.

This process included a comprehensive review of the swimming program, involving interviews with almost a quarter of the team and a detailed analysis of the team's Sydney performances.

As a result of the reviews, the APC chose to include 18 Summer sport programs, plus Alpine Skiing, in the new PPP. The Paralympic Games sports of Fencing, Table Tennis and Women's Goalball were not included in the new PPP. Standing Volleyball, a Games' sport for more than twenty years, was dropped from the Games' program by the IPC and hence ceased to be supported by the APC.

The structure and programs of some sports were comprehensively overhauled. In all sports, the APC has increased the role of the sport's management in the planning and preparation for activities and the program's financial administration.

A major new initiative began with an agreement between the APC and Athletics Australia (AA) for the management of the Athletics PPP. AA manages the Athletics PPP on behalf of the APC as part of its overall responsibilities for Athletics in Australia. The APC continues to be involved in the program through the Sports Advisory Committee and a Joint Management Panel.

PPP staff appointments were made progressively. In addition to retaining a large number of key team staff, the APC has been fortunate in attracting a number of extremely capable new staff for programs.

The reviews of the previous PPP had found that the sports which performed best were those with professional coaching staff. As a result, the APC has moved to employ head coaches Kevin McIntosh (Cycling) and Terry Vinyard (Wheelchair Rugby) full-time. A National Co-ordinator has been appointed for the Swimming PPP, along the same lines as the Athletics' program.

The delivery of sports science services has also been changed. The APC has appointed a national co-ordinator for sports science and is assisting sports to appoint their own co-ordinators wherever possible. Sports will now take more responsibility for testing and the delivery of services for their own programs through their sports science co-ordinator and the head coach.



The APC Sport Unit initiated a weekly electronic newsletter, the PPP Post, to disseminate information about the activities of the APC's sports programs. Such was the success of the newsletter that it became the new format for 'The Paralympian' and is distributed widely to the Australian 'Paralympic Family'.

For much of the time covered by this report, there was uncertainty about the level of ongoing Federal Government funding support, which made it difficult to initiate long-term planning. However, all sports prepared operational plans for the 2001/2002 year. These formed the basis for a coaches and managers workshop at the end of June to initiate the new PPP and discuss the practicalities of implementing it.

By the end of June, the vast majority of programs were underway.

The APC currently manages nineteen elite sports programs through its sport unit. While the programs are the responsibility of the Head Coach, each is overseen by an APC staff member who works with the Head Coach and the sport's Sports Advisory Committee (SAC). They are:

**Jenni Banks (High Performance Manager)**

Athletics, Cycling, Football (Soccer), Powerlifting, Shooting, Winter (Alpine Skiing).

**Kate Fehon (High Performance Manager)**

Archery, Basketball for Players with an Intellectual Disability, Wheelchair Men's Basketball, Wheelchair Women's Basketball, Equestrian, Men's Goalball, Judo.

**Tracy Lawrence (Swimming PPP Co-ordinator)**

Wheelchair Rugby, Swimming

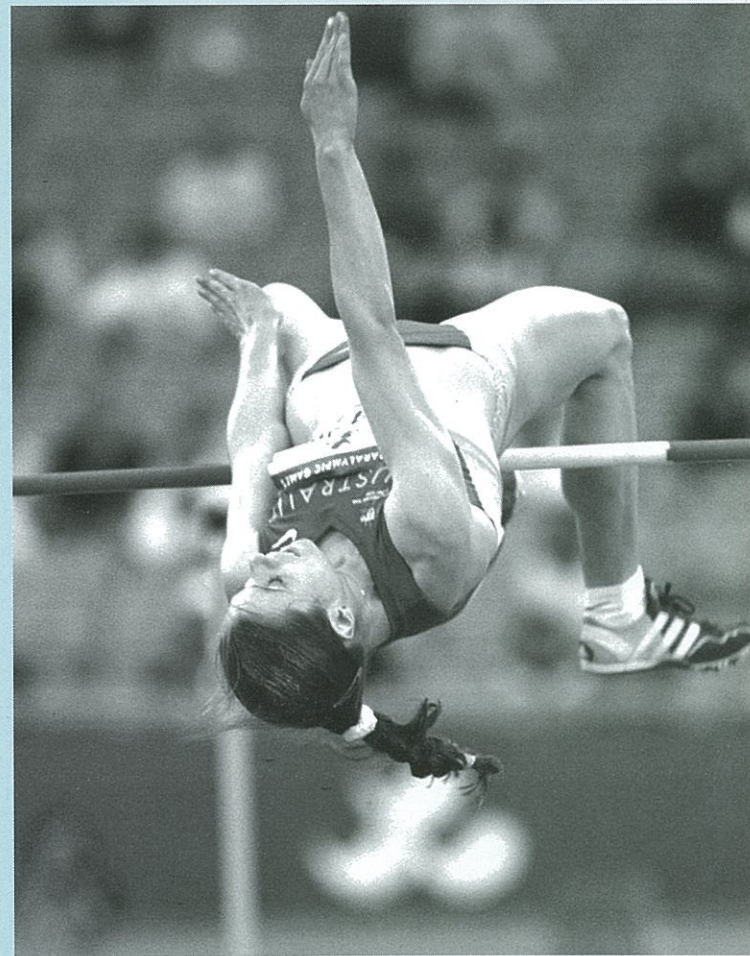
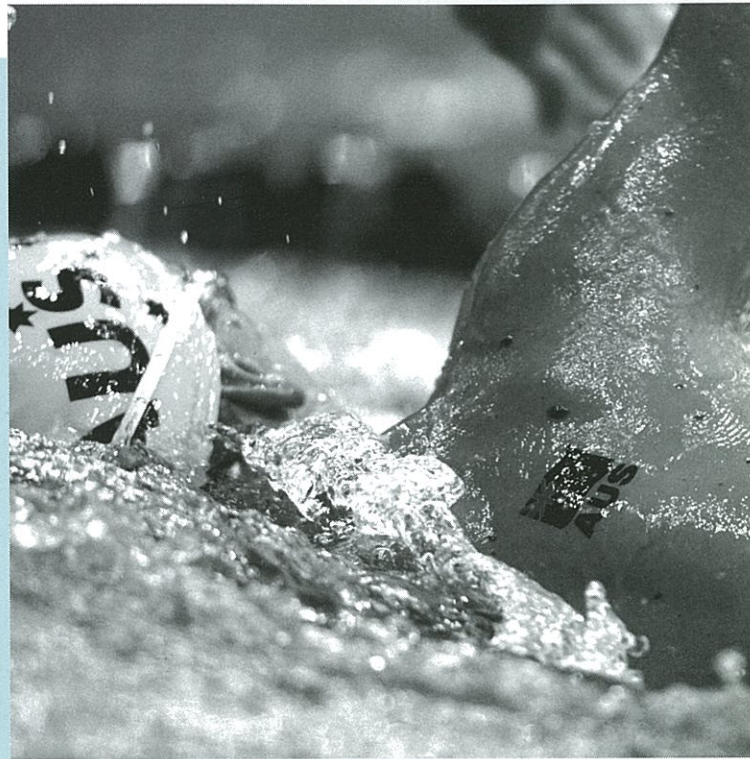
**Kellie Urquhart (Assistant to Manager Sport)**

Boccia, Tennis

**Tony Naar (Manager, Sport)**

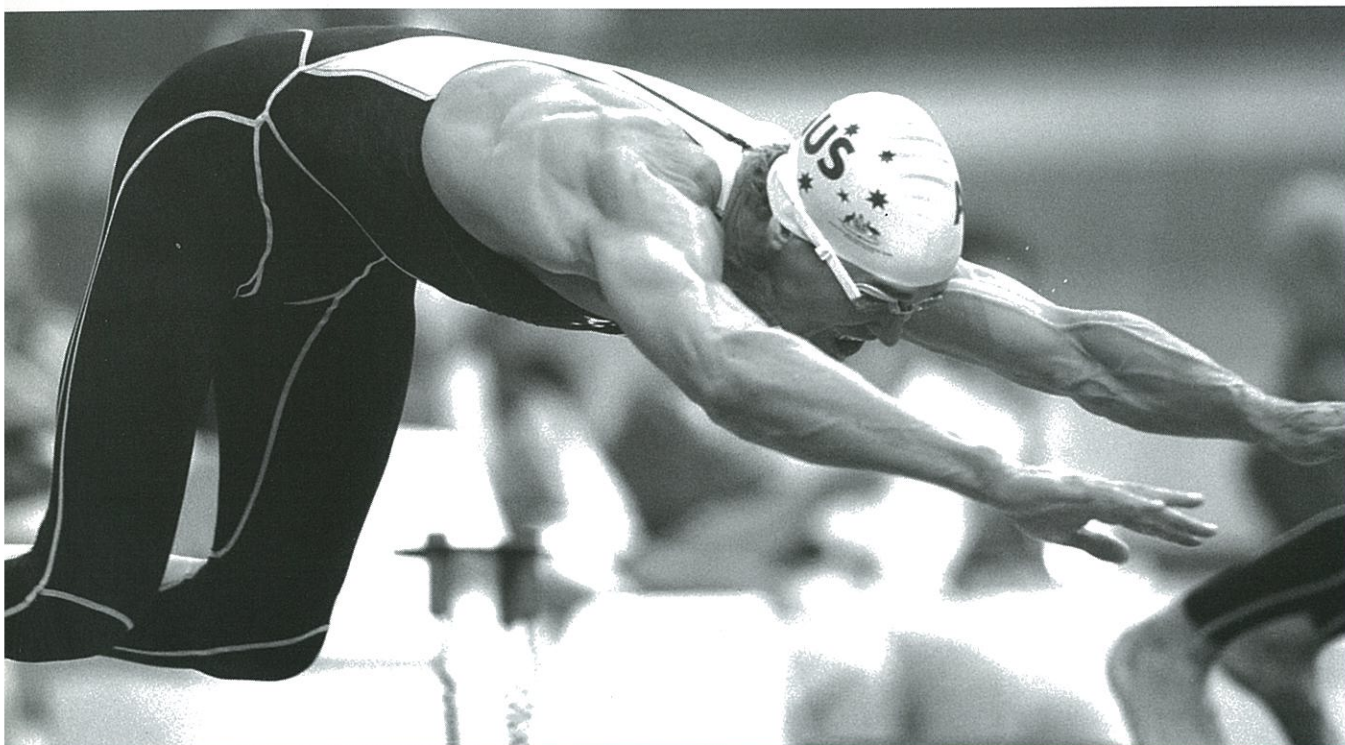
Sailing, Sitting Volleyball

Kate Fehon replaced Ross Boyd in May 2001. Ross is on one year's leave of absence.





# SWIMMING



**Head Coach: Brendan Keogh**  
**Network Coaches:** To be appointed  
**Program Co-ordinator: Tracy Lawrence**  
**Physiotherapist: Linda Garsden**

Following the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games an extensive review was undertaken to ascertain the most appropriate structure and program for the team for 2002/2004 and beyond. The outcomes of this review included the appointment of a National Coordinator for swimming to look after all administration aspects of the program and a proposed structure of coaching staff from head coach to state network coaches. This structure will be implemented over the next 6 months.

A small number of swimmers participated in the Telstra Australian Open in Hobart in March. This event is run by Australian Swimming Inc., with the multi-disability events scattered throughout the program. These events were recognised as full medal events for the first time in 2001 and the points from their results were counted towards the swimmers' club points.

The first international event following the Paralympic Games for the Australian Team was the US Nationals in Phoenix.

A small team of 16 athletes attended this event and achieved 33 personal bests, 9 Australian Records and 2 World Records.



The next 12 months will concentrate on the implementation of the new structure, improving the communication between all those involved with the swim program and working with individual PPP swim squad members and their home coaches/support people to ensure peak performance at the 2002 IPC World Swimming Championships in December 2002.





# TENNIS



## Head Coach: Greg Crump

After the success of the Tennis Team at the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games, the Tennis PPP is again headed up by Paralympic Tennis Coach Greg Crump and comprises of five players: three male and two female. During the period since the Games, PPP funds have been used to assist Tennis PPP Squad members and the Head Coach to access tournaments on the international circuit, including the Dutch Open and the British Open.

The domestic circuit in the beginning of the calendar year went well for Australia. Both David Hall and Daniella Di Toro took out the Men's and Women's Singles respectively at both the Australian Wheelchair Tennis Open and the Sydney International.

Three members of the PPP contested the 2001 British Open. David Hall took out the Men's Singles, defeating long standing rival Ricky Molier from the Netherlands. Both David Johnson and Anthony Bonacurso made it to the quarter finals.



After the World Cup Finals, only Michael Milton stayed on to compete at the Canadian Nationals, held in Sunshine Village, Banff Alberta.

On the Team's return from Canada in April, the Team's coaching staff had to choose a Paralympic Squad for the 2001 Domestic Season.

The athletes chosen were Michael Milton, Peter Boonaerts, Scott Adams, Jono Oakman, Christina Allan, Bart Bunting and guide Nathan Chivers. Unfortunately, long time members of the National Team James Paterson and Mathew Nicholls retired just after getting back from Canada. Also the Squad's Head Coach, Steve Bova, couldn't come out to train the Squad due to unforeseen personal reasons, so the APC had to find a suitable replacement coach for the domestic season.

The APC was lucky enough to secure the services of Silvia Prieler, an ex- Europa Cup Skier for Austria and currently the Australian Children's Ski Team Head Coach. Silvia has coached for 10 years in Australia and in Austria.

The Squad athletes and staff first got together for a pre-season dry-land training and testing camp at the Sydney Academy of Sport in May, where athletes were inundated with information and requirements to compete at the Salt Lake 2002 Paralympic Games.

The Squad then began preparing for the 2001 domestic season and the ensuing training camps in New Zealand, Thredbo and Perisher along with our Nationals in Mount Hotham, Victoria before initial Team 2002 selections on September 15.

A boost for the program this year came with its inclusion within the AIS as an official AIS program. Not only does this provide the skiers with access to the expertise and support available from the AIS, it is an appropriate recognition of the international status enjoyed by Australia's small, but successful Winter program.

Australia's international success stems from the programs initiated by Disabled Wintersport Australia (DWA) and the Jindabyne Winter Sports Academy (NSW Dept of Sport and Recreation) some years ago. The AIS initiative is a great boost to the program and further acknowledgement of its success.

The winter program is structured around development squads and a national squad. Training by professionally accredited coaches both in Australia and overseas incorporates a balance between on snow activities and dry land camps. The program relies heavily upon the support of the mountain communities and the ski resorts, which is gratefully acknowledged by the APC.

Salt Lake City 2002 is almost upon us. The Opening Ceremony is on 6 March! The goal is to continue succeeding at the highest level, having "medalled" at the last three Winter Paralympics.





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