



NSW Players well represented in recent Young Socceroos camp

The famous slogan "We're Proud, We're Blue" was well represented at a recent Young Socceroos camp held at Blacktown's fantastic Olympic Park precinct as many as nine promising youngsters were part of the nineteen man squad going through their paces under the watchful eye of coach Jan Versleijen and Assistant coach Ante Milicic.

Sydney FC's Terry Antonis (Georges Hall), Dimitri Petratos (Blacktown) and Rhyan Grant (Kelso), Central Coast Mariners players Sam Gallagher (North Epping), Bernie Ibini-Isei (Lakemba) and Mustafa Amini (Wentworthville), Melbourne Heart's Brendan Hamill (Chipping Norton), uncontracted player Matthew

Fletcher (Harbord) along with former South Coast Wolves and now Fulham star Corey Gameiro (Port Kembla) all trained in the hope of cementing a permanent World Cup spot. It was the final Australian-based training camp held before the final squad is set to be announced very soon which will compete at the FIFA Under 20 World Cup in Colombia with the first match commencing on the 29th of July and the final set to be played on the 20th of August. Present also was recently appointed Football NSW State Technical Director and former legendary Socceroo skipper Alex Tobin who took the time out in chatting to Versleijen as well as FFA's Technical Director Han Berger about the current develop-

ing structures. Tobin was proud of the tremendous efforts the NSW born players have given and wished them the best in the team's final selection. "It's encouraging to see young talented Football NSW players given the opportunity to be part of the Young Socceroos setup "I would love to see these players involved in future National team set-ups with the aim of potentially becoming our next batch of Socceroos stars." "It's nice to see how these boys talents are appreciated and are looked at by the National Team set-up and I wish them nothing but success in their hopeful World Cup selections." Football NSW wishes the NSW boys as well as the Young Socceroos the best of luck in Colombia.

Has the Will to win

ADAM VIDLER

EARLWOOD eight-year-old William Hatzis knows how to serve up a storm on the tennis court.

The All Saints Grammar primary student has been wielding a tennis racquet for years already, but his coach knows he is more than just a raw talent.

Four Seasons Tennis School tennis director Julio El-Aki said William's ability was measured not just in his powerful serve or physical skill, but in his early understanding of the mental side of the game.

Mr El-Aki has worked with William for the better part of two years, and has high hopes for the boy's potential.

"I've been coaching for 10 years, and in the under-10s, Will has shown more talent, interest and passion than anybody else in that time," he said.

William began his training with "a lot of interest" and an instinctive talent for the game.

He had proven an eager pupil, taking on board the tactical side of the game and learning the mental stamina required to play.

"With the right direction and support, he could become an ex-

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- tennis director Julio El-Aki

tremely competent player."

William's talent and hard work is already taking him up the ladder," Mr El-Aki said.

He has competed in NSW and Australian tournaments in the under-10 category, and trains with Tennis NSW at the organisation's Homebush facilities.

However, his father Nick helps to keep William's feet on the ground. "He gets to play tennis if he goes well in school," Mr Hatzis laughed.

"So far he's been keeping that up well. William's tennis lessons had also served him well in other sporting endeavours."

At a recent school sports day, he came out on top in both the javelin and discus events.



Young tennis hopeful William Hatzis and his coach Julio El-Aki.