



**2009 FURNWARE NZ "AA" SECONDARY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Arena Manawatu, Palmerston North, September 28-October 3**

# Game On

**Day Three - Wednesday, September 30**

## Swimming With Sharks

**Waimea College girls' coach Tatjana Zizic tried to put the result in perspective ... "It's only a pool game".**

But, when that swimming hole happens to be a dreaded "pool of death", the importance of victory should not go understated.

"Suddenly, everyone is talking about us," chuckled Zizic.

Waimea's 72-58 win over Jeff Green-coached Fraser High School probably marked the first real showdown of the 2009

**Furnware NZ "AA" Secondary School Championships**, pitting last year's fourth placegetters against a team that tried desperately to sneak in under the radar.

That's pretty hard to achieve when you're coach wears an ugly Hawaiian shirt and is the most talked about person in the stadium.

"I like coaching against Jeff," admitted Zizic. "He is a good friend, but you know he will try everything to win ... that's the way he is."

Fraser fell in a deep hole early against Waimea, eventually falling 20 points behind before rallying to within six in the final quarter. Zizic credited her players, most of whom have returned from last year's lineup, for staying cool under pressure.

Daughter **Jelena Vucinic** led the effort with 22 points.

"They stepped up as a team and did everything we asked them to do," said Zizic. "They executed well and played defence well."

Waimea's success puts their heads above water in a pool that also includes 2008 runners-up Rangitoto College, and potential party poopers Auckland Girls Grammar and Manurewa High School.

"It is the toughest pool and not just those top three teams."



**Northcote College - lucky escape**

*Continued ...*



### **From P 1 ...**

With Vucinic ill on Day One, AGGS went within a basket of upsetting Waimea in their opener and then gave Rangitoto all they could handle in the afternoon.

Fraser have a victory over Rangitoto up their sleeves, but must now await the result between them and Waimea to learn their fate. A narrow Rangitoto win would still see Fraser gone, a big win could still see Waimea under threat and a loss could see last year's beaten finalists out of contention.

"We are still not 100% through, but if we had lost against Fraser, our game against Rangitoto would have been a must-win. This just makes it easier." In fact, Waimea would have to lose by 25 points against Rangitoto to let a quarterfinal spot slip from their grasp. "If we lose by that much, we don't deserve to be there."

Meanwhile, one coach happy to be clear of the "pool of death" is Northcote College's **Tony Pompallier**, whose charges came back to defeat Sacred Heart of New Plymouth 73-63 and remain unbeaten entering the final day of pool play. A win over Rangitoto Girls School in the morning would be enough to earn a quarterfinal spot that seemed unlikely just a week ago. Northcote was originally drawn in the Waimea-Fraser-Rangitoto group, but escaped when Avondale College were late withdrawals and lower ranked northern zone qualifiers all moved up in the draw. Their gain was AGGS' loss. "The team didn't have a coach 12 weeks ago, and my daughter asked me to come and help," said Pompallier, who was second chair when NC captured the schoolgirls' title in 2006. "We weren't meant to qualify, but did. Then we raised \$6000 in two weeks to get here ... I'm so proud of them." While Waimea are probably the closest girls team to sealing a playoff spot, three boys' outfits – Church College and Rangitoto College in Pool B, and Westlake BHS in Pool D – are assured.

### **NZ "A" Secondary Schools Championships North Shore Events Centre**

#### **Tuesday, September 29**

##### **Boys**

Tolaga Bay Area School 81 Pinehurst School 70  
Dunstan HS 81 Nga Taiatea Wharekura 64  
Buller HS 73 Rotorua Lakes 72  
Paeroa College 89 Pinehurst School 48  
Taumarunui HS 85 Stratford HS 38  
Rotorua Lakes HS 70 Paeroa College 67  
Buller HS 79 Tolaga Bay Area School 54

##### **Girls**

Church College 103 Mairehau HS 16  
Buller HS 73 Wairoa College 65  
Rotorua Lakes HS 69 Te Aroha College 31  
Rotorua Lakes HS 58 Buller HS 32  
Paeroa College 91 Mairehau HS 24  
Church College 75 Te Aroha College 52

#### **Wednesday, September 30**

##### **Boys**

*9am*

1st-6th

Rotorua Lakes v Taumarunui (X1), Court 1  
Dunstan v Paeroa (X2), Court 2  
Buller v Nga Taiatea (X3), Court 3

7th-9th - Stratford v Pinehurst, Court 4

*2.15pm*

1st-3rd – Winner X1 v Winner X3, Court 1  
4th-6<sup>th</sup> – Loser X1 v Loser X2, Court 2  
7th-9<sup>th</sup> – Tolaga Bay v Pinehurst, Court 3

##### **Girls**

*10.45am*

Rotorua Lakes v Wairoa, Court 1  
Buller v Church, Court 2

*12.30pm*

Te Aroha v Paeroa, Court 1

*4pm*

Church v Wairoa, Court 1



**YESTERDAY ...**

**2009 Furnware NZ "AA" Secondary School Championships  
Arena Manawatu, Palmerston North**

**Tuesday, September 29**

**Boys**

*Pool A*

St Patricks 67 (S Sharp 21) Hamilton 53  
New Plymouth 81 Palmerston North 75  
(M Clarke 27)  
Onehunga 84 (L Saina 30) Nelson 65  
(A Rainbird 20)  
Nelson 83 (M Karena 31) New Plymouth 74  
St Patrick's 86 (M Sens 34) Onehunga  
69 (S Ili 21)  
Palmerston North 87 (M Clarke 23)  
Hamilton 67

**Standings:** SPC 6; OHS, NPBHS & NC  
5; HBHS 4; PNBHS 2

*Pool B*

Church 80 (J Whippy 23) Middleton  
Grange 43  
Rangitoto 57 Waimea 50 (C Duthie 21)  
Nayland 77 Otago 66 (E Carruthers 26)  
Middleton Grange 76 (I Solofoti 46)  
Otago 74 (E Carruthers 22)  
Church 86 (J Whippy 27) Waimea 47  
Rangitoto 68 (S King 28) Nayland 39  
**Standings:** CCNZ & RC 8; MG & NC 6;  
WC & OBHS 4

*Pool C*

Tauranga 77 (M Fullerton 29) St Johns 47  
Fraser 94 (H Joyce-Gay 26) Mana 66  
Massey 45 Cambridge 43 (K MacMillan 31)  
**Standings:** TBC & FHS 6; MC & MHS 4;  
SJC & CHS 3

*Pool D*

Cashmere 80 (E Rusbatch 34) Hastings  
74 (K Tobin 25)  
Mt Albert 71 (J Goodwin 34) Kelston 63  
(K Davey 24)  
Westlake 102 (R Loe 29) Wellington 63  
(H Pairama-Lewington 27)  
Westlake 85 (R Loe 24) Hastings 53  
Cashmere 75 (E Rusbatch 25) Kelston  
60 (C Tagaloa 20)

Mt Albert 77 Wellington 65

**Standings:** WBHS 8; CHS 7; HBHS &  
MAGS 6; WC 5; KBHS 4

**Girls**

*Pool A*

Northcote 73 (A Lawrence 26) Sacred  
Heart 63 (R Antunovic 26)  
Rangi Ruru 60 (E Perry 21) Rotorua 55  
(P Purdie 23)

Church 115 Hauraki Plains 26

**Standings:** CCNZ & NC 6; SHC 5; RRGs  
4; HPC & RGHS 3

*Pool B*

Mana 61 Christchurch 52  
Mt Albert 56 Napier 39  
Rangiora 75 Kristin 40 (H Tawfik 21)  
Mt Albert 69 (A Kelman-Poto 22) Mana 47  
Napier 62 Kristin 49 (H Tawfik 21)  
Rangiora 62 Christchurch 55  
**Standings:** MAGS & RHS 6; NGHS 5;  
MC 4; KS & CGHS 3

*Pool C*

Nelson 65 Hutt Valley 50  
Waikato Dio 60 Cambridge 38  
New Plymouth 68 (Z Kensington 21)  
Nelson 43  
Waikato Dio 61 Hutt Valley 42  
New Plymouth 97 (Z Kensington 23)  
Marlborough 41  
Cambridge 72 (A Palmer 30)  
Marlborough 69 (S van Velthooven 27)  
**Standings:** NPGHS & WD 6; NCG, CHS  
& HVHS 4; MGC 3

*Pool D*

Waimea 72 (J Vucinic 22) Fraser 58  
(B Ross-Waitai 20)  
Rangitoto 75 Freyberg 43  
Manurewa HS 61 Auckland GGS 54  
**Standings:** WC 6; RC, MHS & HFHS 5;  
FHS & AGGS 3



## **TODAY ...**

### **2009 Furnware NZ "AA" Secondary School Championships Arena Manawatu, Palmerston North**

#### **Wednesday, September 30**

##### **Boys**

*10.45am*

St John's v Massey (Pool C), Arena 3/C1  
Fraser v Cambridge (Pool C), Arena 3/C2  
Tauranga v Mana (Pool C), B&M 5  
Onehunga v Palmerston North (Pool A), B&M 6

*12.30pm*

Middleton Grange v Nayland (Pool B), Arena 3/C1  
Church v Rangitoto (Pool B), Arena 3/C2  
Waimea v Otago (Pool B), Ballroom 1  
St Patrick's v Nelson (Pool A), Ballroom 3  
Westlake v Cashmere (Pool D), B&M 4  
Kelston v Wellington (Pool D), B&M 5  
Hastings v Mt Albert (Pool D), B&M 6

*4pm*

Cambridge v St John's (Pool C), Arena 3/C1  
Tauranga v Fraser (Pool C), Arena 3/C2  
Mana v Massey (Pool C), B&M 5

*5.30pm*

St Patrick's v New Plymouth (Pool A), B&M 4  
Nelson v Palmerston North (Pool A), B&M 5  
Onehunga v Hamilton (Pool A), B&M 6

##### **Girls**

*9am*

Waikato Dio v Marlborough (Pool C), Arena 3/C1  
New Plymouth v Hutt Valley (Pool C), Arena 3/C2  
Nelson v Cambridge (Pool C), Ballroom 1  
Mana v Kristin (Pool B), Ballroom 2  
Fraser v Auckland (Pool D), Ballroom 3  
Rangitoto v Manurewa (Pool D), B&M 4  
Rangiora v Napier (Pool B), B&M 5  
Mt Albert v Christchurch (Pool B), B&M 6

*10.45am*

Church v Sacred Heart (Pool A), Ballroom 1  
Northcote v Rangi Ruru (Pool A), Ballroom 2  
Waimea v Freyberg (Pool D), Ballroom 3  
Hauraki Plains v Rotorua (Pool A), B&M 4

*2.15pm*

Mt Albert v Rangiora (Pool B), Arena 3/C1  
Christchurch v Kristin (Pool B), Arena 3/C2  
Mana v Napier (Pool B), Ballroom 1  
Nelson v Marlborough (Pool C), Ballroom 3  
New Plymouth v Waikato Dio (Pool C), B&M 4  
Fraser v Manurewa (Pool D), B&M 5  
Hutt Valley v Cambridge (Pool C), B&M 6

*4pm*

Church v Northcote (Pool A), Ballroom 1  
Sacred Heart v Rotorua (Pool A), Ballroom 2  
Hauraki Plains v Rangi Ruru (Pool A), Ballroom 3  
Waimea v Rangitoto (Pool D), B&M 4  
Freyberg v Auckland (Pool D), B&M 6