



## ST PAUL'S COLLEGE

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# MEDIA RELEASE

For 13 June 2007

## St Paul's athletes compete successfully at two major athletic events

At the recent City v Country track meeting, two of St Paul's students were selected to run in the Open 1500m. The event, run over five days, was held at Santos Stadium and brings together over 20,000 athletes from around the Australia.

Competing with great courage and spirit against older competitors, Daniel White, 15, came in at a respectable 7th. Martin Deng, 16, sprinting the last 150m of the race, won first place. Martin broke St Paul's record by 15 seconds, with an inspiring 4 min 25.6 seconds.

In the Open 200m steeplechase, an event which was unfamiliar to him, Martin lined up against the third ranked athlete in Australia. Martin stayed within 5m of the leader, powering home to take out 2<sup>nd</sup> place, in a time that was only 9 seconds from automatic qualification for the National Athletics Titles later this year.

At the combined Primary and Secondary Cross Country Championships, held at Victoria Park Racecourse, St Paul's students Callan Banks, Josh Harrison, Jake Sampson and Andrew Cunningham took out the Bronze medal for the team event. The 12 year olds, competed in a field of 300 runners, in slippery conditions.

Thomas Deng, who competed in the 2km event for 10 year olds, led his event from start to finish. Displaying exceptional ability, he sprinted the last leg of his race to the finish ahead of his competitors – a field of 318 runners – by 3m.

“St Paul's has a proud history of producing athletes of a very high calibre,” said Principal, Mr Peter Shanahan. “Our sporting and co-curricular programs encourage all boys to participate and achieve in variety of sporting endeavours. It is pleasing to see our students competing so well in such high profile events.”

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