Dynamic duo put on show

JORDAN MBARLE

IT WAS the Hochman and Hullick show at Alice Springs Hockey Stadium on Saturday.

Nathan Hochman and Jamie Hullick guided Darwin Hockey Association men’s leaders East Darwin to a 5-0 win over Nightcliff.

The pair scored two goals apiece, with Michael Quan netting the opener.

The Storm have now sealed the minor premiership heading into the final home-and-away round this weekend.

All the top-four places will stay the same, with St Marys, Nightcliff and Waratah finalists.

St Marys and Commerce-PINT played out a see-saw contest, with the Saints coming back from 2-1 down to win 3-2.

The Saints opened the scor- ing through Jarrod Lockley in the 5th minute, but Commerce hit back with the next two. Lockley tied the game 2-2 late in the second half before Jason Lowe scored the sealer.

In the final game of the round on Sunday, Banks were too good for Waratah 3-0.

Ben Platt was the hero with two goals.

Waratah’s 3-0 win over Banks on Sunday has given them a 12-point lead on top of the women’s ladder. Freya Stephenson scored a double in the win, which continues the Tahs’ brilliant season.

In Saturday’s games, Nightcliff defeated East Darwin 4-1 and St Marys recorded a solid 4-0 triumph over Commerce-PINT thanks to two-goal ef- forts from Leah Atkinson and Kayla Quick.

All six teams are still in fi- nal contention.

The pair scored two goals in the Storm’s win over Nightcliff.

Young talent time as Swifts sign fab four

THE NSW Swifts have signed four of Australia’s most exci- ting young talents for the up- coming ANZ Championship season, with Kaitlyn Bryce, Maddi Turner, Lauren Moore and Amy Sommerville all join- ing the club.

Swifts coach Rob Wright says the team has “unfinished business” to address and is de- lighted to add such quality to his squad.

“Kaitlyn, Lauren and Amy are all products of the NSW system and as training part- ners for the Swifts over recent seasons have shown they are ready for the rigours of the ANZ Championship,” he said.

The Swifts and St Marys have sealed the minor premiership in the Territorial Hockey League.

Netballers shoot for elite covered court

“Even ACT, Tassie have state league competitions and play indoors”

Gowan Bush, Mark Motlop, Barry Renshaw, Steve Larkin and Kieran Bush are eager to tee off in the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander golf championships at Marrara.

Picture: ELISE DERWIN

“You all know from playing that the game that it’s a different game. It’s a different speed.”

Haynes says she flagged the need for an elite indoor facility with the NT Minister for Sport, Gary Higgins at the start of the year, and the sporting body was allocated $2 million in the 2015/16 Territory Budget for upgrades to the Alice Springs netball facilities.

“Even ACT have state league competitions and play indoors,” Haynes said.

When you come here and we’re playing our main com- petition, and Alice Springs plays outdoors, no one plays their regular comp indoors.

“We all know from playing the game that it’s a different game. It’s a different speed.”

Haynes says she flagged the need for an elite indoor facility with the NT Minister for Sport, Gary Higgins at the start of the year, and the sporting body was allocated $2 million in the 2015/16 Territory Budget for upgrades to the Alice Springs netball facilities. But $2 million isn’t enough to take the Alice Springs facility indoors, with the Alice Springs Netball As- sociation having to source extra funds.

“The plan is to put a roof over the court. And do the pro- cess in stages because $2 mil- lion is not going to get you an indoor stadium,” she said.

“The stadium will be done in fragments I guess, in stages until further funding becomes available. We are grateful, I mean $2 million is nothing to be sneezed at, it’s still a long way to go.”

The NT government gives Netball NT $312,500 in annual funding, but admits there is no plan for building an indoor fa- cility.

“There are no plans at this stage to construct an indoor netball facility in Darwin or Alice Springs but as always my door is open for discussion about these matters,” Minister Higgins said.

He also pointed out the Ma- rarra Indoor Stadium was available to netball but Haynes has ruled that out as an option.

“The storm is a must find and they’ve got their competition on it. It’s used for volleyball and MIS basketball. The pre- cious times we would require it, it’s not available so there’s a demand there,” she said.

Aboriginal, Islander boost with national event coup

Golf

Golf

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THE Northern Territory Ab- original and Torres Strait Is- lander Golf Committee is preparing to host the annual golf championships in Darwin from September 21-25 at Dar- win Golf Club.

More than 100 golfers from all state and territory will be in action at the five-day titles, which includes an ambroso on day one before a four-day stroke tournament.

The championships were established to foster the game of golf among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are an amateur member of a golf club affiliated with Golf Australia and have an AGU handicap.

The 36-year-old titles are played around the nation on a rotational basis. But it’s only the second trip to NT (hosted by Alice Springs in 2003).

Joint co-ordinator Mark Motlop said it was a chance to show some Territory hospitality in the nationally recognised tournament.

The male and female win- ners automatically qualify for the Australian amateur titles later this year. The men’s ama- teur title is in Canberra in early November after the ladies amateur championships in Perth in late October.

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Aboriginal, Islander boost with national event coup

JASON Day’s long birdie to win the Canadian Open has lifted him five places in the world golf rankings to No.4. From Beaudesert, south of Brisbane, Day almost had two trophies in a week – his birdie putt to make the British Open playoffs, fell just 30cm short.

Adam Scott (II), Mark Leishman (28) are the other Aussies in the top 50. Rory McIlroy is No.1 and Jordan Spieth No.2.