

School Sport Australia National Triathlon Championships

19th- 22nd March 2007

By Rebecca Dracup

Thank you UWA Tri Club for sponsoring me to compete in the National Schools Championships.

The trip to Canberra was so much fun. I had never been to Canberra before the Champs and it was an extraordinary place (if a little peculiar being so symmetrical and all)

Upon arrival in Canberra on the 19th we headed straight to our accommodation, a trailer park about 15mins from the transition area next to Lake Burley Griffin. It was raining and cold, and we were told that the swim was canceled due to blue-green algae in the lake.



Here's a photo I took from the top of Mt Ainslie looking towards parliament house. Even the river was designed with symmetrical aesthetics in mind!

The 20th was another grey, wet day, and some of us went for a short run along a bike path before breakfast. All the bikes had arrived in Canberra by then (apparently Virgin couldn't cope with all the bikes, so some of them arrived on the morning of the 20th), so we headed to transition to set up our bikes. Then we walked to Commonwealth Park for the Opening ceremony, this was the first time all the teams had met. In the afternoon we had roll-outs and transition set up. Then we went shopping, and generally just relaxed for the rest of the afternoon.



WA senior girls before the race.

21/03/07

RACE DAY!

The seniors began their races at 12pm. Following the Juniors who had started 9.30am and Intermediates at 10.30am. The weather had cleared up for the race and it was sunny and calm. The course was changed to a run 2.5/bike 20/run 5, not really my kind of race, but I enjoyed it anyway. The atmosphere was great, high fives and all. WA ended

the day with one silver in the Junior boys (Kenji Nener) and lots of drafting

penalties. We headed back to the accommodation and relaxed at the pool for the afternoon. That evening we had the presentation dinner.



Canberrian balloons!



22/03/07

Relay Day

The relays were fun except I got caught for drafting (But I didn't mean to!...Draft that is). After the final presentations had finished we drove back to

Seniors at the presentation dinner.

the accommodation and packed. Then we went shopping for a couple of hours and went back to the aeroport. We flew to Adelaide where we had a 2hour stopover and were told to move our bags because leaving them in a pile was a security breach or something... Then we arrived back in Perth at around 10pm.