

BASKETBALL

Moriah triumphs in prestigious Trinity Cup

AJN STAFF

MORIAH College's 1st grade boys' basketball team competed in the two-day Trinity Cup Basketball Challenge against some of the top high school teams in Sydney, and emerged on January 20 as Plate Championship winners for the first time, after defeating Cranbrook in the final 75-68.

The Moriah boys qualified for the decider by winning their quarter-final against the Kings School 68-63, and their semi against St Patrick's College 71-60.

These results were a big contrast to last year, when Moriah was invited to compete in the annual tournament for the first time, and failed to win a game.

Moriah College's head of bas-

ketball, PJ Lane, said the squad completed an intense training camp in the lead-up to the tournament, which turned out to be the perfect preparation.

"The boys attended camp for 10 days over a two-week period, and each day combined four hours of basketball skills, strength and conditioning exercises, and trial games," Lane said.

"There was even a session running up the sand dunes at Cronulla Beach.

"It is a great help to have our staff supporting the boys as they compete against the top schools in the state, and credit must go to where it is due – the players worked incredibly hard and everyone in the team made a commitment to put the team first.

"That really helped us to work



The Moriah basketball squad and officials with the Trinity Cup plate. The players, from left to right wearing singlets, are (back row) Daniel Newstadt, Jesse Halas, Ben Springer, Ethan Kalish, Dillon Kalish, (front row) Joshua Aronson, Noah Levy, Aidan Forman, Sam Wein, Jonah Vaysbakh.

as a unit to compete against very talented teams."

Lane added the squad's success at

the Trinity Cup is the ideal start to what will be a big term one of basketball for Moriah, in school com-

petitions and the Easts Basketball League.

"To win a championship at this level is a huge achievement for these boys – something they will remember for a long time.

"And our team captain Sam Wein – the only year 12 player in the squad – is an exceptional athlete and student, and a great leader for this young team, on and off the court."

Moriah College's director of sport, Dom Helene, described the team's qualities as, "charismatic, hardworking, committed, tough and skilful".

"This team had been dedicated to our basketball program for the last five years, and the hard work is really paying off as the squad becomes one of the most competitive school basketball teams in Sydney," Helene said.



Photo: Brian Biemann/AFP via Getty Images

SURFING

Rothman's ride likely a record

MAKUA Rothman, a Hawaiian-Jewish surfing star, may have successfully ridden the largest recorded wave in the history of the sport on January 16, estimated to be at least 100 feet (30.48 metres) tall.

The 36-year-old posted video footage of the achievement on his YouTube page last Wednesday, beginning around the 23-minute mark.

The final estimate of the wave's height will be announced at the annual XXL Surfing Awards, which Rothman told a Hawaiian news channel should occur in May.

Rothman (pictured surfing at Pe'ahi in 2018), has a Jewish father and a Hawaiian mother, and hails from Kahuku, Hawaii.

Judaism was not a significant part of his life as a child, but he told the *San Diego Jewish World* in 2009 that he was drawing closer to the faith.

"God is the ocean. God is the air. God is the sun ... Every time I'm out there I give thanks," he said.

Rothman, who first got on a surfboard at age two, is not only an elite surfer but a professional musician who has toured with Matisyahu and also The Wailers, Bob Marley's former backing band.

JTA

SWIMMING

Training camp sets the tone

AJN STAFF

MACCABI NSW Swimming Club is ready for a new year of competitive swimming after staging a very successful team training camp in beautiful Port Stephens earlier this month.

Although the location was a popular mid-North Coast holiday destination, the camp was no vacation for the 21 swimmers from the club's junior and senior squads.

The swimmers endured a grueling seven days that included 10 training sessions that ranged from two to almost three hours each.

They trained alongside swimmers from Nelson Bay Swimming Club, including a Paralympian and State Championships medallists.

The Maccabi swimmers used a formula which has worked consistently for them for the last three years – a regional camp to provide the kickstart for a hectic school and competition swimming season over the next 10 weeks.

Upcoming major meets they will compete at include the NSW Junior State Age



Participants in Maccabi's swim training camp at Port Stephens.



The swimmers form the logo for the 21st Maccabiah Games.

Championships, the Senior Metropolitan Championships, and the NSW State Open.

Squeezed into their pro-

gram, on February 21, will be the 71st NSW Jewish Swimming Championships, hosted by the club.

Tune in to *The AJN's* new podcast section for news and views from across the Jewish world
jewishnews.net.au

THE Australian Jewish News

WIN

Three longstanding girlfriends travel to Italy together to attend a cooking course in Puglia, where each finds the opportunity to redefine herself, in this joyous ode to life, love and friendship.

THE Australian Jewish News has double passes to give away to the new Danish hit comedy **THE FOOD CLUB**, in cinemas February 4.

For competition details and conditions, please go to the competitions page at jewishnews.net.au