

## **School Sport Australia – USA Tour 2009**

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#### **SSA men lost the final of the Mt Zion Tournament – 19<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA men's team has lost the final of the Mt Zion Tournament to Kestrel Heights Preparatory School 51-63 in Durham, North Carolina. Luke Devlin top scored for SSA with 16 points. He was supported by Spencer Llewellyn who scored 9 points, and James Hunter and Lachlan Miller who both scored 6 points. Shooting forward Darius Leonard Black scored 23 points for Kestrel Heights.

SSA started well with their shooting touch going. Kestrel Heights being a couple of years older were very big and strong but it was the outside shooting of Darius Leonard that got them going. Quarter time saw SSA down by 1point 16-17.

SSA started in a 2-3 zone and this put the Kestrel team off and slowed the game down. Some strong work inside at the offensive end led to SSA gaining a 4 point lead at half time. SSA led at the half 33-29.

In the third period Kestrel Heights handled the early pressure better and went from 4 down to 8 up as SSA could not put the ball in the hole. Turnovers proved to be costly. SSA down 42-50 at three quarter time!

The fourth period saw the pressure mount on SSA. Their structure broke down and the players tried to individually get the team back in the game. The foul count for SSA climbed rapidly and helped Kestrel Heights to maintain their lead at the foul line. SSA kept trying to the end but their efforts fell short. In the end it was a hard fought lose, 51-63.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA men's USA tour is now complete

**SSA 51** (Luke Devlin 16, Spencer Llewellyn 9, James Hunter 6, Lachlan Miller 6) lost to **Kestrel Height PS 63** (Darius Leonard 23, Kahlil Alford 13, Travion Leonard 10)

#### **SSA men beat Mt Zion in the Mt Zion Tournament – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA men's team is the first visiting Australian team to beat Mt Zion Christian Academy 73-53 in Durham, North Carolina. Andrew Steel top scored for SSA with 12 points. He was supported by Mitch McCarron who scored 10 points and Billy Johns-Teni, Lachlan Miller and Luke Devlin who all scored 9 points. Small forward Jaemar Black scored 10 points for Mt Zion.

SSA started well after arriving late due to a snow storm. The limited warm up did not seem to worry them and Captain Andrew Steel was on fire early setting the trend for the rest of the team to follow. Quarter time saw SSA leading 17-15.

Mt Zion was big and strong and the game got very physical. SSA got the ball through hands and finished their sets, leading to a 20 point quarter. Mixed in with a 2-3 zone defense and SSA set up a good lead. SSA led at the half 37-24.

In the third period SSA handled the early pressure and continued to make the scoreboard tick over with an inside, outside game. The lead grew to over 20 thanks to coach Sue See changing the defense up and forcing the opposition's structure break down. SSA led 59-35 at three quarter time.

The fourth period saw the foul count for SSA climb rapidly and help Mt Zion with foul shots. Through all of this SSA remained positive and were able to keep scoring. The win was even more satisfying in that all players scored and contributed. In the end it was a historic win, 73-53.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA men will play the final in the Mt Zion Tournament Sunday at 1.00pm AEST.

**SSA 73** (Andrew Steel 12, Mitch McCarron 10, Billy Johns-Teni 9, Lachlan Miller 9, Luke Devlin 9) bt

**Mt Zion Christian Academy 53** (Jaemar Black 10, Tevin Bently 8, Desmond Lewis 7)

### **SSA women continue their winning way for sixth win – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA women's team has beaten Mt Zion Christian Academy 96-49 in game six of their USA tour in Durham, North Carolina. Ash Stonehouse top scored for SSA with 16 points. She was supported by Jacqui Zelenka who scored 15 points and Cortney Williamson who had 13. Mt Zion power forward Mahogany Jones scored 14 for the home side.

SSA was a much more skilled team and started this game by forcing the Mt Zion guards into turnovers. This gave them plenty of free points going the other way. Quarter time SSA led 24-7. Mt Zion gained confidence in their structure and made an impression on the scoreboard early in the second period but solid defense and strong running saw SSA extend their lead. SSA led at halftime 51-24.

The game had lost its sting and both SSA and Mt Zion traded baskets. SSA were running in numbers while Mt Zion were shooting well from outside. Three quarter time saw SSA leading 79-35.

The final quarter continued much the same as the third quarter except that coach Spicer tried some of his smaller players inside and some of his big's outside. In the end it was another easy win to SSA. The final score saw SSA win 96-49.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA women play the final of the Mt Zion Tournament Sunday at 11.30am AEST.

**SSA 96** (Ash Stonehouse 16, Jacqui Zelenka 15, Cortney Williamson 13) bt

**Mt Zion Christian Academy 49** (Mahogany Jones 14, Kiera Turner 11, Melieka Mercer 10)

### **SSA men Loose a close one to John T Hoggard HS – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA men's team has lost a heart stopper in their fifth game of the USA tour against John T Hoggard HS 56-59 in Wilmington, North Carolina. Luke Devlin top scored for SSA with 19 points. He was supported by Mitch McCarron who scored 12 points and Billy Johns-Teni who scored 6 points. Shooting guard Lawson Ahrens scored 21 points for John T Hoggard HS.

John T Hoggard started very well and their outside shooting made SSA realize they were in a contest. The first quarter was tough half court basketball and good to watch. Quarter time saw SSA leading 15-14.

Lawson Ahrens lit it up from downtown and he eventually made 6 huge threes that gave John T Hoggard a very strong showing. When SSA were patient and finished off they looked good but this was infrequent. SSA led at the half 33-31.

In the third period SSA really pressured their backcourt players and started to finish off their sets. The lead slowly grew but the opposition wasn't done yet. SSA led 48-41 at three quarter time. The fourth period saw SSA patients and finishing off go out the door. An 11-2 foul count against the men saw John T Hoggard win the game from the foul line. SSA had their chances down the stretch but failed to execute and finish off. A close game in the end but a disappointing loss 56-59!

No injuries were reported.

The SSA men will play Mt Zion Christian Academy Saturday at 11.00am AEST.

**SSA 56** (Luke Devlin 19, Mitch McCarron 12, Billy Johns-Teni 6) lost to

**John T Hoggard HS 59** (Lawson Ahrens 21, Darius Plummer 14, Stilman White 13)

## **SSA women thrash John T Hoggard HS for fifth win – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA women's team has beaten John T Hoggard HS 105-30 in game five of their USA tour in Wilmington, North Carolina. Christina Boag top scored for SSA with 15 points. She was supported by Ash Stonehouse who scored 13 points and Ellie Gleeson who had 13 also. John T Hoggard HS forward Raven Goodman scored 8 for the home side.

SSA was a much bigger team and started this game by going inside early and a lot. Their ability to share the ball around saw 7 players on the score sheet by quarter time. Quarter time SSA led 25-4.

John T Hoggard got their structure working early and made the scoreboard tick over but solid defense and strong running saw SSA extend their lead. SSA led at halftime 43-16.

The more this SSA team play together the better they work at forcing mistakes and running the other way. They also showed their strength by running their sets in the half court. Three quarter time saw SSA leading 73-21.

The final quarter was a one way procession as the strong defense forced lots of turnovers. In the end it was an easy win to SSA with all the SSA players scoring. The final score saw SSA win 105-30.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA women play Mt Zion Christian Academy Saturday at 5.00am AEST.

**SSA 105** (Christina Boag 15, Ash Stonehouse 13, Ellie Gleeson 13) bt  
**John T Hoggard HS 30** (Raven Goodman 8, Autumn Bennetts 5, McKenzie Edwards 4)

## **SSA men beat Eugene Ashley HS for third win – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA men's team has won their third game of the USA tour against Eugene Ashley HS 75-48 in Wilmington, North Carolina. Mitch McCarron top scored for SSA with 20 points. He was supported by Andrew Steel who scored 13 points and Lachlan Miller who scored 10 points. Shooting guard James Xavier scored 10 points for Eugene Ashley HS.

Eugene Ashley started in a 3-2 zone and it took SSA a while to get their game going. The first quarter was scrappy and both teams were not finishing. Quarter time saw SSA leading 16-7.

Eugene Ashley went back to a man defense and SSA got going. They shared their ball and executed their sets finishing the quarter with a commanding lead. SSA up at the half 35-15.

In the third period SSA really pressured Eugene Ashley and blew the lead out to 30 by three quarter time. The highlight was a massive tomahawk dunk from Mitch McCarron that brought the large crowd to its feet. SSA 54-24 at three quarter time.

The fourth period saw Eugene Ashley and SSA trade baskets as the sting was out of the game. 24 points from the opposition made the scoreboard respectable. A strong win to SSA 75-48!

No injuries were reported.

The SSA men will play John T Hoggard HS Friday at 11.30am AEST.

**SSA 75** (Mitch McCarron 20, Andrew Steel 13, Lachlan Miller 10) bt  
**Eugene Ashley HS 48** (James Xavier 10, Travis Keys 8, Dylan McStean 5)

## **SSA women continue winning way by thrashing Eugene Ashley HS for fourth win – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA women's team has beaten Eugene Ashley HS 74-24 in game four of their USA tour in Wilmington, North Carolina. Samantha Creed and Lauren Jansen top scored for SSA with 13

points. They were supported by Ash Stonehouse who scored 12 points. Eugene Ashley HS forward Kelsey Cooper scored 10 for the home side.

SSA started this game much the same as previous games. Their ability to share the ball and to finish from outside and inside gave them the advantage from the start. Quarter time SSA led 20-8.

Relentless defense from SSA led to Eugene Ashley turning the ball over and giving up a lot of free points. SSA led at halftime 39-11.

Try as they may Eugene Ashley found it very hard to get into a routine. The running game of SSA continued and the lead continued to grow. SSA 59-18 at three quarter time.

Eugene Ashley got a couple of early stops and baskets but they could not stop the relentless team pressure put on them. All the SSA players scored and again the team concepts pushed by coach Spicer were followed and were rewarding. The final score saw SSA win 74-24

No injuries were reported.

The SSA women play John T Hoggard HS Friday at 10.00am AEST.

**SSA 74** (Samantha Creed 13, Lauren Jansen 13, Ash Stonehouse 12) bt  
**Eugene Ashley HS 24** (Kelsey Cooper 10, Crystal Harrell 3, Rachelle Hatton 3)

### **SSA men beat EE Smith HS for third win – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA men's team has won their second game of the USA tour against EE Smith HS 79-60 in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Luke Devlin top scored for SSA with 17 points. He was supported by Mitch McCarron who scored 14 points and Lachlan Miller who scored 13 points. Swing man Michael Major scored 13 points for EE Smith HS.

Spencer Llewellyn scored the first 10 points for SSA as they raced to an early lead. SSA then went to their big's and took a 26-11 lead into quarter time.

EE Smith came to life and hit some big shots early but SSA stayed in touch by going to Luke Devlin inside. The term finished almost equal. SSA up at the half 43-30.

The third period was a bit of a slog but a good inside game led to the big's continuing to score. SSA's lead was 59-42 at three quarter time.

The fourth period saw EE Smith make a run and cut the lead to single digits, Some committed defense by SSA led to the guards getting some free points down the stretch and allowing SSA ran away with a comfortable 79-60 win.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA men will play Eugene Ashley HS Thursday at 11.30am AEST.

**SSA 79** (Luke Devlin 17, Mitch McCarron 14, Lachlan Miller 13) bt  
**EE Smith HS 60** (Michael Major 13, Jeremy Hemingway 12, Delvon Jackson 12)

### **SSA women continue tour dominance beating EE Smith HS for third win – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA women's team has beaten EE Smith HS 75-40 in game three of their USA tour in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Christina Boag top scored again for SSA with 13 points. She was supported by Kate Ebzery who scored 11 points and Ash Stonehouse who scored 10 points. EE Smith shooting guard Jovanah Graham scored 10 for the home side.

SSA shooting was very good early in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and they were up 10-0 before EE Smith settled. Quarter time SSA led 20-7.

EE Smith started the second quarter with some fast break points and cut the lead to 7 but SSA stepped up their 'D' and were able to get some cheap points themselves. SSA led at halftime 36-19.

SSA's defensive pressure was far too strong for their opponents in the third period restricting them to 4 points. SSA 58-23 at three quarter time.

Again EE Smith ran hard both ways and started the 4<sup>th</sup> period with an 11-4 run but height and strength inside made sure SSA ran away with the game winning 75-40.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA women play Eugene Ashley HS Thursday at 10.00am AEST.

**SSA 86** (Christina Boag 13, Kate Ebzery 11, Ash Stonehouse 10) bt  
**EE Smith HS 46** (Jovanah Graham 10, Tia Moore 8, Kia Payne-Green 7)

### **SSA women dominate Spartanburg Methodist College for second win – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA women's team has beaten Spartanburg Methodist College 86-46 in game two of their USA tour in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Christina Boag top scored for SSA with 14 points. She was supported by Ebony Antonio who scored 13 points and Ash Stonehouse who scored 12 points. The Local power forward Ashley Toney scored 14 for the home side.

SSA came out firing and was up 15-2 early in the first half. Their accurate shooting and the pressure of their team defense lead Spartanburg into many turnovers. The scoring as per game one was evenly shared around and at the half SSA led 44-11.

The second half was much more interesting to watch. Spartanburg worked hard in defense and got their share of the boards. This enabled them to cut the lead to 20 with 8 minutes to play. But SSA again showed their class and was far more skilled down the stretch out scoring a tiring Spartanburg by 20 points. SSA ran out comfortable winner's 86-46.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA women play EE Smith High School Tuesday at 9.00am AEST.

**SSA 86** (Christina Boag 14, Ebony-Rose Antonio 13, Ash Stonehouse 12) bt  
**Spartanburg Methodist College 46** (Ashley Toney 14, Starrcree Mixon 8 Kendra Brown 7)

### **SSA men beat Ocean Lakes High School in game 2 of their USA tour – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA men's team has won their first game of the USA tour against Ocean Lakes High School 56-32 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Andrew Steel top scored for SSA with 9 points. He was supported by James Hunter who scored 8 points and Shane Muir who scored 7 points. First Division College bound Justin Hunter scored 14 for Ocean Lakes.

SSA started strongly going inside but was matched on the scoreboard early by Ocean Lakes. Quarter time saw SSA with a 15-10 lead.

The Aussies worked hard in the second period and shared the scoring between all players. Ocean Lakes stayed in touch through sheer athleticism but still trailed at the half 28-19.

The third period saw SSA pick up the pace and gain take control of the game. Again all players were contributing. The inside out game lead to a 42-23 lead at three quarter time.

The fourth saw a continuation of the all around game by SSA. All players scored and they ran away with a convincing 56-32 win.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA men will play EE Smith High School Tuesday at 10.30am AEST.

**SSA 56** (Andrew Steel 9, James Hunter 8, Shane Muir 7) beat  
**OCEAN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL 32** (Justin Hunter 14, JonJon Godfrey 8, Davon Richardson 4)

### **SSA women dominate Ocean Lakes High School for first win – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA women's team has beaten Ocean Lakes High School 92-15 in game one of their USA tour in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Christina Boag top scored for SSA with 16 points. She was supported by Kate Ebzery who scored 13 points, Jacqui Zelenka who scored 12 and Cortney Williamson who also scored 12 points. Local favorite Ashley Porcuna scored 10.

SSA came out firing and was up 23-0 after the first quarter before Ocean Lakes slowed the tempo of the game with a zone defense.

The second quarter was more of the same with all the players sharing in the scoring and going into halftime leading 42-3.

SSA was far more skilled, much stronger and their dominance continued in the third period. Three quarter time didn't come quick enough for the Ocean Lakes players. 69-10

SSA coach Brad Spicer continued to rotate his players in the fourth quarter and the lead continued to grow. The class showed out and SSA ran out comfortable winners 92-15.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA women will play Spartanburg Junior College Sunday morning at 8.00am AEST.

**SSA 92** (Christina Boag 16, Kate Ebzery 13, Jacqui Zelenka 12 and Cortney Williamson 12) bt  
**OCEAN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL 15** (Ashley Porcuna 10, Kashmere Clark 3 Bria Blake 2)

### **SSA men loss to Blue Ridge School in game 1 of their USA tour – 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

The SSA men's team has lost to Blue Ridge School 61-56 in game one of their USA tour in St. George, Virginia. Luke Devlin top scored for SSA with 14 points. He was supported by Spencer Llewellyn who scored 9 points and Ash Minchin who scored 7 points. Local star Chad Foley led Blue Ridge with 23 points.

SSA came out firing and was quickly up 12-5 until Blue Ridge had a 9-2 run at the end of the quarter to lead 16-14.

The Aussies were nervous and the game very physical. Luke Devlin poured in 7 points in a row early in the second quarter but Blue Ridge came back late again to tire it up at 26 all at half time. The third period followed the same pattern as the first two periods. SSA went on an early 9-0 run and was able to hold the lead until the last 2 minutes when Blue Ridge poured in the last 9 point. SSA 40-39 at three quarter time.

The fourth saw a very physical contest as the refs let the players decide the game. 44 all with 5 to play saw the Aussies went outside, Blue Ridge inside and they soon built a decisive 10 point lead. SSA poured in 12 points in the last 2 minutes but fell 5 points short.

No injuries were reported.

The SSA men will play Ocean Lake High School Tomorrow at 11.30am AEST.

**SSA 56** (Luke Devlin 14, Spencer Llewellyn 9, Ash Minchin 7) lost to  
**ROBERT E LEE 61** ( Chad Foley 23, Malick Kane 18, Andre Roberts 6)