

# SNOOKER 'POT STAR' SHOWS HIS SKILLS



Dene O'Kane's visit to the club was one of the season highlights for the club's snooker players who had the chance to test their skills against New Zealand's best.

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## REMEMBER 50 YEARS AGO. 1954 ? continued..



for Waikato included Hemi and Ponty Reid (Frankton); Mick Hourigan, Rob Watson, Len Connolly, Gaine Carrington (Marist); Bryce Cowley, Don McKenzie, Reg Smith (Old Boys); Jim Roberts, Don Grant, Pat Greene (Technical Old Boys). Dick Everest was Waikato selector. Technical Old Boys won the Stag Trophy. The council signed a new lease of Rugby Park for 175 pounds for 33 years.

Hamilton was the venue for the athletic nationals with Morrie Rae and Don Jowett dominating the sprints, Bill Baillie and Murray Halberg supreme in the middle distances and the Taylor twins of Hamilton starring over the hurdles. Waikato's Joy Crotty and Dot Parker showed the way in the women's sprints. In May Englishman Roger Bannister broke the four minute mile barrier with a 3m59.4s. Halberg had won the NZ title in 4m15.4s.

Hamilton's cycling brothers Ritchie and Warren Johnston continued their reign at the top of their sport with Neil Geraghty also prominent. Waikato teams were the best at both the track and grass championships.

Fishermen remember being informed C Hopkins had landed a 331lb striped marlin on a 20lb line in the Bay of Islands.

Bob Charles won the NZ Open golf crown and became NZ Sportsman of the Year while Hamilton's Tim Woon was the national amateur matchplay champion and Mesdames P Granville and H McDiarmid won the LGU anational autumn foursomes.

Australian Stan Jones won the NZ Grand Prix in a Maybach Special with Roy Roycroft the first New Zealander home in his Alfa-Romeo. Hamilton's George Palmer, in the Palmer Special, became the beach race champion.

In rowing Don Rowlands was national single sculls champion and Mercer's Parker and Douglas dominated the double sculls and pairs at home and overseas.

Kihikihi won the Savile Cup polo tournament at Claudelands; while John da Silva was the heavyweight wrestling champion; and Andrew Berryman continued to star on the rugby league front. In May, 1954, the South Auckland Rugby League announced it was keen to develop the Forest Lake arena into a top stadium and called on the public to help them raise 3000 pounds. Leading lights in the campaign were M R Elvey and G R Hall. Rugby league club games were played at Hinemoa Park with Forest Lake, Railways and Albions clubs fielding teams. Rovers and Wanderers kept the soccer flag flying while Kaipaki, Old Boys, Old Technicals and Railway prominent hockey clubs.

Leading Hamilton cricketers included Eric Petrie, Jim Everest, Tom Puna, Allen Lissette, Ron Hemi and Colin Agnew. Talk of a Northern Districts association was also gaining strength.

The May shooting season opening was considered 'only fair' with H E P Gardiner, K R Smith and C Cummings among those to report early limit bags.

**tws**



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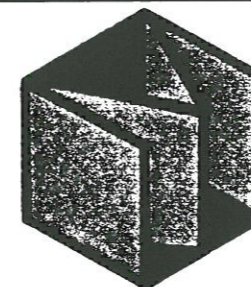


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