

Victoria's best now impresses on the national stage

Gymnastics | David Turner

JUST a month after dominating the Victorian Championships, competitors from the Waverley Gymnastics Centre stamped their authority at a national level by winning a swag of medals at the 2010 Australian Championships in Perth.

Georgia Bonora, Shona Morgan and Emma Dennis have placed their names squarely before the national selectors, with October's Commonwealth Games firmly in their focus, after taking three of the top four places in the Senior International competition.

Bonora was crowned national champion for the first time, streeting the field by some five points, while Morgan finished third and Dennis fourth.

Adding to the medal tally, Bonora was first on bars, first on floor and second on beam while Dennis claimed the gold on beam.

Waverley coaches John Hart and Shaoyi Jiang were delighted by Bonora's national title win.

"We are both so thrilled for Georgia to be the 2010 national champion," Hart said.

"She has had an incredible career so far, with three World Championships and an Olympics under her belt, but we truly believe the best is yet to come."

AT THE NATIONALS

SENIOR INTERNATIONAL

Georgia Bonora: 1st All Around, 1st Bars, 2nd Beam, 1st Floor

Shona Morgan: 3rd All Around, 4th Bars

Emma Dennis: 4th All Around, 1st Beam, 4th Vault

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL

Angela Donald: 1st All Around, 1st Bars, 1st Beam, 2nd Floor

LEVEL 10

Rachel Figgis: 3rd All Around, 8th Vault, 1st Bars, 8th Beam, 5th Floor

Laura Hart: 22nd All Around, 4th Vault, 22nd Bars, 22nd Beam, 25th Floor

LEVEL 9

Emily Cavell: 15th All Around, 12th Vault, 13th Bars, 19th Beam, 16th Floor

INTERNATIONAL LEVEL 6

Eliza Freeman: 1st All Around, 1st Bars, 1st Beam, 2nd Floor, 2nd Vault

Dania Jurickay: 10th All Around, 12th Bars, 13th Beam, 12th Floor, 9th Vault

Meanwhile, after her win in the Junior International category at the Victorian Championships in June, Angela Donald grabbed the national crown with both hands.

Like Bonora, Angela blitzed the field, winning by nearly five points.

She also claimed gold on bars, gold on beam and silver on floor.

As a result of her outstanding win, the rising star was named as Australia's representative for the Youth Olympic Games in Singapore in August.

"We are so excited for Angela, she is an amazing talent and her work ethic is exceptional," Hart said.

"We think this is a wonderful opportunity to have her first Olympic experience."

Waverley's raid on the nationals was completed by young Eliza Freeman who was crowned the national champion in the International Level 6 category.

Eliza also won gold medals on bars and beam and silver medals on floor and vault.

Waverley's Dania Jurickay finished 10th in International Level 6.

In Level 10, Rachel Figgis finished third in the all-around and picked up a gold medal on bars, while Laura Hart finished 22nd overall.

And, in Level 9, Emily Cavell placed 15th in the all-around.

► **Georgia Bonora, Shona Morgan and Emma Dennis were in line to be named in the Australian team for the Commonwealth Games. The team was to be announced on Monday (after the Leader went to print).**



I just love chattin' about medals (clockwise from bottom left) Waverley's Eliza Freeman, Dania Jurickay, Angela Donald, Emma Dennis, Georgia Bonora, Laura Hart, Emily Cavell and Rachel Figgis. (Absent Shona Morgan).

Picture: JOSIE HAYDEN S04WG222