

SWIMMING

Jewish students shine at VIC championships

AJN STAFF

THE 2019 Victorian Schools Association Swimming Championships were held under lights at the Melbourne Sport and Aquatic Centre last week, with seven Jewish swimmers, representing four schools and three associations, competing with the state's best students.

Ashley Weill from Yarra Valley Grammar School, also representing Associated Grammar Schools Victoria, won gold in the girls' 17&over 50m backstroke, but there were more medals to come.

Weill, who has competed at several consecutive state and national open and age swimming championships, also won silver in the 100m freestyle, and bronze in the 4x50m butterfly relay.

Bialik College had a strong contingent of three swimmers – Jesse Nissen, Brooke Roseman and Asia Carp – representing Eastern Independent Schools of Melbourne (EISM).

Nissen won bronze in the boys' 17&over 50m backstroke.

His year 12 schoolmate, Roseman, swam in three girls' 17&over events, winning silvers in the 4x50 butterfly and medley relays, plus a bronze in the 4x50 freestyle relay.

Caulfield Grammarian Jordana Marks, swimming for the Associated Public Schools of Victoria, earned bronze in the girls' 15-16 4x50 butterfly relay.

Halli Klinger and Jade Kausman from Mount Scopus College also competed, representing EISM.



From left: Jesse Nissen, Asia Carp and Brooke Roseman at the 2019 VSAC Championships.

Six out of the seven Jewish swimmers were part of the Maccabi Australia Junior Swimming Team at the 2017 Maccabiah Games in Israel, including relay medallists Weill, Roseman, Marks and Kausman.

Meanwhile, Melbourne's Benno Negri and Isabella Smorgon, and Sydney's Gabriella Goodridge and Ariella Levy, competed in the newest event on Australia's swimming calendar – the inaugural combined Sydney Open and UniSport National Meet, held last weekend.

Negri, representing Monash University, came first in the B final – and 11th overall – in the men's 200 free final, and also came second in the B final of the 100 free.

Smorgon, swimming for Australian Catholic University, finished second in the B final of the women's 200 breaststroke, and third in the 100 breaststroke B final.

The event was created to give elite swimmers a final hit-out before the Australian trials for the world championships in a month's time.