An athlete of potential: Emma Zielke

**NAME:** Emma Zielke  
**SPORT:** AFL  
**AGE:** 23  
**CLUB:** Morningside  
**SUBURB:** Norman Park

**What is it like playing club AFL in Brisbane?**

Morningside is a really good club and the team is usually on top of the ladder.

**What stopped you last time?**

It was really good to get to know the squad. Half of them were from Cairns and the other half from Brisbane.

**These are your first national titles. What stopped you last time?**

The competition for nationals only happens every two years. In my last attempt, I was going to try out last time but I injured my ankle the day before. I was out for about seven weeks.

**What is it like training with the elite player development squad?**

The co-ordinator is definitely trying to market the game as much as possible (and bring those clubs back).

**How do you rate your season?**

I've had three really good years. It's a really good squad to go away with and a lot of fun.

**Are there five clubs now. Do you see that growing?**

I think there are five clubs now. Do you see that growing?

**The competition only happens every year for nationals only.**

Yes, the competition only happens every year for nationals only.

---

**Scholarship for driven teen golf talent**

**GOLFL:** A gifted young golfer from Runcorn has won a $2500 scholarship from the prestigious Greg Norman Foundation.

Ryan Gaske, 16, is one of only two junior golfers to receive the 2011 Alan Davidson Scholarship, which is given out each year to a boy and girl who display exceptional golfing talents.

The 11 year old student from Morven Bay Boys' College (MBBC) said he was planning to use the money for equipment, coaching and tournament entry.

Mrs Joy Davidson funds the $2500 scholarship each year in memory of her late husband who was a keen supporter of junior golf.

Ryan plays off a handicap of 2 and in his short career has won a host of tournaments including the North Queensland Junior Classic and the Titleist Two Day Summer Classic held at Mt Cootha. He also won the Best Net at the Gary Player Junior Classic last year.

Ryan, who plays for the Pacific Golf Club at Carrindale, said he looked to Australian golfers such as Jason Day and Adam Scott for inspiration when he is competing.

Ryan’s mother, Vicki Gaske, said she was excited but not surprised when she found out her son had won the scholarship.

“The competition only happens every year for nationals only. It's a really good squad to go away with and a lot of fun.

**For instance?**

I’ve had three really good years. It’s a really good squad to go away with and a lot of fun.

**What is it like training with the elite player development squad?**

The co-ordinator is definitely trying to market the game as much as possible (and bring those clubs back).

**How do you rate your season?**

I’ve had three really good years. It’s a really good squad to go away with and a lot of fun.

**Are there five clubs now. Do you see that growing?**

I think there are five clubs now. Do you see that growing?

**The competition only happens every year for nationals only.**

Yes, the competition only happens every year for nationals only.

---

**Star medal contender**

**ATHLETICS:** Alpester athlete Keshia McGrath-Volau (pictured above) is now in France as part of the Australian team contesting the 2011 IAAF World Youth Championships.

The Southern Star 2010/11 YoungStar award winner is off to a bright start in the new calendar year, earning another green and gold jersey for discus.

The QBS Track Club competitor, who will celebrate her 17th birthday in Brisbane during the competition, threw a personal best of 47.87m in Brisbane earlier this year.

**Gold wins for academy**

**GYMNASTICS:** The Robertson Gymnastics Academy Sunnybank has produced another champion at the Queensland Gymnastics Championships held at the Sloman Sports Complex from June 24-26.

Alysha Koli, Cassiel Rousseau and Etienne Rousseau all won gold in their divisions at the competition.

---

**Easts boost City line-up**

**RUGBY UNION:** Easts Rugby Union and the Brisbane City line-up supplied two players for the under-19 City team that played a Country under-19 selection team on Saturday at Ballymore.

City won 20-15. Easts prop Michael Ryan was named man of the match. Easts center Andrew Ready, winger James Klaassen along with Jack Bridges played in the City XV. Klaassen scored for the second try of the game.

East play Sunshine Coast this Saturday at Ballymore Park with the main game starting at 3pm.

---

**Sprints unsettle Carina**

**RUGBY LEAGUE:** Second-placed Carina were upset by Souths at the weekend in the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League premiership in a weekend of shock results – top team Aseylo also lost – Carina were humbled 44-16 by Souths.

The club fared better in the Southside 1 competition, beating Inala 26-16 to improve to 26 competition points.

The club also won in Southside 3, beating Stacks Creek 36-18. Easts are leading the Under-20 competition.

---

**Duo teams up for state**

**RUGBY LEAGUE:** Easts Suburbs juniors Brendan McBryde and Matt Turnbull have both been part of a stellar year by earning selection in the Queensland under-16s side to take on New South Wales this weekend at Coorababara.

The pair were part of the SEQ Poineettas side who were beaten by the Northern Harlins in the QRL Junior Championships grand final.

McBryde is a Carina Tigers representative and Turnbull is from East Springwood. Both are part of the elite player development squad of Queensland Cup side Easts Tigers and both are students at Lavendel Road State High School.

The pair of second-rowers were also part of Easts winning Cyril Connell side this year. Well done boys. Give the Blues hell this weekend.

---

**Queensland ties firm**

**BASKETBALL:** Don’t expect the Gold Coast Blaze to drop their feet any longer in their negotiations with Southern Districts junior Heath Gannen.

The Brisbane Spartans point guard is one of the hottest young Australian products to return from the American college system and a career in the NBL appears to be a given.

The Blaze are interested, but no contract has been signed yet. Raising NBL champions New Zealand have been sniffing around along with a few other American college champion Cj Bruton and made a formal approach for Gannen last week.

He doesn’t want to leave Queensland and our mail is the Blaze don’t want him to, either.

---

**SIX on the trot**

**SOFTBALL:** South Brisbane’s charge to the Brisbane softball finals continued at the weekend, their brutal 11-2 hammering of Royals putting an exclamation mark on a six game winning streak.

The Royals trialled a new pitcher who was caned by the Dodgers batters and pulled from the attack late in the game.

Mick Winlaw, who had been out for five weeks, returned with a terrier-like performance in the out field – catching every ball sent his way to prevent the runners scoring.

Paul Conqist had his best game of the season with a perfect four from four with the bat while Kris Amy banged home a booming run.

---

**Hawks flying high**

**SOCCER:** The Holland Park Hawks have surged back into contention for finals football with an emphatic 6-3 win away to Bayside.

The Hawks were almost at full strength with the return of Yuta Tsutsui, and Bayside took the brunt of the resurgent club with three goals scored against them in five minutes midway through the first half.

Captain Dean LePetit’s switch into the forward line paid dividends with a double along with Lewis Chadwick, Alex Malloy and Craig Burchell added to their season tally.

The reserves also took maximum points against the table topping Baysiders.

---

**ANATOMY OF A CHAMPION**

**NAME:** Emma Zielke  
**SPORT:** AFL  
**AGE:** 23  
**CLUB:** Morningside  
**SUBURB:** Norman Park

**What is it like playing club AFL in Brisbane?**

Morningside is a really good club and the team is usually on top of the ladder.

**What stopped you last time?**

It was really good to get to know the squad. Half of them were from Cairns and the other half from Brisbane.

**These are your first national titles. What stopped you last time?**

The competition for nationals only happens every two years. I was going to try out last time but I injured my ankle the day before. I was out for about seven weeks.

**What is it like training with the elite player development squad?**

The co-ordinator is definitely trying to market the game as much as possible (and bring those clubs back).

---

**Online:** www.questnews.com.au  
**Classifieds:** 138822  
**SOUTHERN STAR, Wednesday, July 6, 2011**