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Steel trounces Pulse 66 - 44 Saturday 30th May 2009

Ascot Park Hotel Southern Steel 66 - Central Pulse 44

By Kate Buchanan

Notching up its biggest win in ANZ Championship history, the Ascot Park Hotel Southern Steel trounced the Central Pulse to cement its place in the top four. The congested nature of the points table made Saturday's victory by an impressive winning margin crucial to the Steel's semi-final aspirations. And, while the Steel are ultimately in charge of its own fate, the Vixens 57-53 win over the Queensland Firebirds in Melbourne on Sunday certainly helped the Southerners cause.

"Our first focus was to win the game ... but winning by a big goal differential was important. It could all come down to that, everything is so tight," vice-captain Wendy Telfer said.

"We really needed this game – it's important to us to make the top four and we needed to keep surging. Getting the big score really helped us."

Despite never winning an ANZ Championship game, to its credit the Pulse remain determined and should not be underestimated by any team. That hunger was evident in the opening spell with the Pulse snatching an early lead over its more acclaimed rivals.

[READ FULL MATCH REPORT](#)



A tall story by Kate Buchanan

When you interview Daneka Wipiiti, it pays to sit down – it eliminates the glaringly apparent height differential.

At 6ft 4in tall, the Ascot Park Hotel Southern Steel shooter is a striking presence in any environment. She's no doubt heard every possible jibe and it makes for a somewhat obvious line of questioning.

"When I was at school I hated every moment of it. It was more because I always stood out," Daneka said.

"I remember in primary school kids running up to me crying because they thought I was the teacher.

"As I got older, I realised my height was an advantage and it was taking me somewhere. When the higher rewards in netball started that made me stand taller and say 'hey, I'm pretty good at what I do. I'm not ashamed to be tall anymore'."

The most frequent observation she receives on the street is a predictable one. "People are like 'oh my gosh, I didn't realise how tall you were' because I guess we look so normal on TV where you're among an average of six footers,"

Daneka said.

"When you're out with the netballers you feel normal. It's not until you get pulled apart from the pack and you walk around with average people that you feel like a giant."

[READ DANEKA'S FULL PROFILE](#)



BOOK NOW for next Home Game against Mystics. Don't Miss Out !!

Don't miss out on your chance to see the mighty Ascot Park Hotel Southern Steel **IN ACTION**. Our last home game against the Wakato/Bay of Plenty Magic was a **SELL OUT !!** So don't be disappointed - the Steel are **FOURTH** on the competition ladder and the excitement is only going to get greater from here. Get behind your favourite team and book your seats for the next home game against the Mystics on 15th June, today. **Get down to Stadium Southland and MAKE SOME NOISE !!!!**

THE 2009 ASCOT PARK HOTEL SOUTHERN STEEL



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We've got limited stocks available of supporters T-Shirts at sizes XSM and XXL for only \$25 each. Plus, there are still limited stocks available of supporters Hoodies (\$40) and Scarves (\$25) (ideal for the southern winter !!)

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This year the action heats up even more with the brand new website created by ANZ just for fans - www.easytosupport.co.nz. With amazing weekly prizes, a super-simple ScoreSelect virtual netball competition and blogs from celebrity fans and professional players, we're making it easier get behind the Southern Steel. There's a trip for two to Sydney for the ScoreSelect overall winner*, so get your picks in now! Register now at www.easytosupport.co.nz and you'll receive a FREE copy of Women's Health or Men's Health magazine**. Whether you're in the stands, or following the Steel on television, www.easytosupport.co.nz has got all the good stuff to make it easy to support the ANZ Championship - the hottest game in town!



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Don't miss the all out excitement of a Southern Steel HOME GAME !

HURRY - Book your seats for the game against Mystics on 15th June. Our last home game against Magic was a sellout - so don't be disappointed, BOOK TODAY !

As good as the live television coverage is - nothing beats the full on energy and sheer excitement of a home game. And when you're surrounded by the famous Supporters from the South at the Edgar Centre or Stadium Southland, it's a feeling you'll never forget ! So don't miss out - there's still plenty of good seats available for the Steel's 2009 Home Games :

- Monday 15 June vs. LG Mystics - Stadium Southland 7.15pm
- Monday 29 June vs. Adld. Thunderbirds - Edgar Centre, Dunedin 7.15pm
- Saturday 4 July vs. NSW Swifts - Stadium Southland 2.15pm



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