



Media Release

Basketball with a Life-Saving Message

April 11 2007

Hoops, health and hepatitis C will be the focus of a range of events in Darwin this week as the 2nd Hoops for Health challenge kicks off tomorrow.

Hoops for Health founder and local basketball star, Timmy Duggan, will be joined by some of the cream of Australian basketball including Anthony Mundine, Aaron Grabau, Damien Anderson, Kurt Russell, Verle Williams, Richard Ketchell, Andre Moore, Paul Vandenberg, Lindsay Munro, Joel Khalu and newly recruited Cairns Taipans giant Nathan Jawai.

Timmy established the H4H program in Cairns in February 2002 after witnessing the illnesses and early deaths afflicting too many of his Aboriginal family and friends. Returning to his hometown of Darwin Timmy started working with the NT AIDS and Hep C Council and realising the potential impact of these diseases should they become widespread in the Indigenous community decided that this year's H4H is about minimising and managing the effects of Hepatitis C.

"C the Goal" theme will be raised in a series of community events across Darwin in the next two days culminating in the 2nd Darwin Hoops for Health Challenge at the Marrara Indoor Stadium this Friday March 13 at 5.30. The main game will be supported by the Maningrida All-Stars battling under-18 Darwin team, the D-Livers.

Tomorrow the H4H team will be undertaking a series of health education and motivation events with local youth groups at Darwin's Bagot community and at the Casuarina cinema complex. The team will also deliver its good-health message to the Basketball NT's Intensive Training Centre athletes.

A media conference is organised from 12.30 – 12.45 at the Marrara Indoor Stadium where players, including recently crowned world boxing champion, Anthony Mundine will be available for interview.

At 1.00pm the public will join the players for a motivational talk and shoot-around and media are invited to film and photograph this session.

Hoops For Health is a program of the NT AIDS & Hep C Council and proudly sponsored by the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health, Greening Australia, Basketball NT, Karu Childcare agency, Eagles Basketball Club, NT News, Augusto Homes and Radio Larrakia.

For more information and to arrange interviews and photo opportunities call:

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