JESS TO GET ARAFURA GAMES OFF TO A SINGING START

Territory singing sensation Jessica Mauboy will be the star attraction of the entertainment extravaganza to open the Arafura Games on May 12.

Sports Minister Kon Vatskalis was joined by Jessica and dancers from Casuarina Senior College and Darwin School of Ballet to announce the key acts for the opening ceremony.

“The Arafura Games are a great part of the Territory lifestyle- and this year’s event is shaping as the best ever,’ Mr Vatskalis said.

“The opening ceremony is always popular and the crowd can expect something special for 2007.

“Our Jess will be the headline act of the Youth Extravaganza part of the opening ceremony.

“The Darwin diva will sing Janet Jackson’s Together Again with the support of 40 back-up dancers from Casuarina Senior College and Darwin School of Ballet.

“The Youth Extravaganza features 10 primary schools from the Darwin and Palmerston areas – the Parade of Athletes will be supported by local band Neo.

“Tracks Dance is producing the main act which will feature over 600 performers from the Irish, Greek, Pacific Island, Chinese and Filipino communities.

“The night of family entertainment will finish with a fireworks spectacular.”

The Games are expected to attract more than 2500 athletes from 30 countries, competing in 23 sports.

The Arafura Games has also been given "Sport for All" patronage by the IOC; only three events per continent receive patronage each year.

Tickets are available from the Darwin Entertainment Centre and associated outlets on (08) 8980 3333 or online at www.darwinentertainment.com.au.

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