Saturday, August 9, 2008

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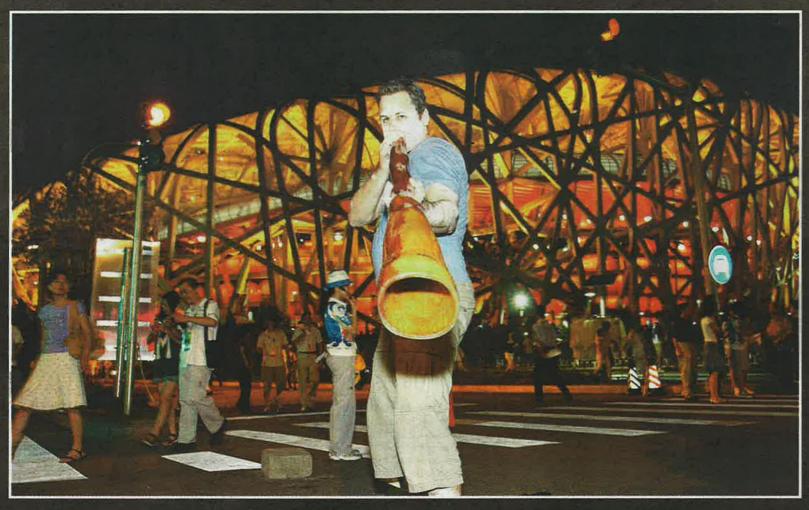


LUCKY IN LOVE

WHY THIS COUPLE WED ON 08-08-08 PAGE 8



A \$9000 TV DETAILS ON PAGE 4



THAT'S GOLD: Didgeridoo player David Williams was seen by four billion people as he played at the Olympic Games' opening ceremony in Beijing last night.

BEIJING'S A BLAST FOR ROCKY'S DAVID

Starring role for musician at opening ceremony

By ADRIAN TAYLOR

HE MIGHT not be an athlete, but David Williams made sure Rockhampton was centre stage last night as the Beijing Olympics got off to a spectacular start.

David performed in front of 90,000 people.

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Big pay day for Comet Karl

CENTRAL Comets' gun centre Karl Johnson is set to pick up a reported \$140,000 when he signs a deal for a 12week stint with a Japanese rugby union club.

Johnson, who is expected to link up with the club during the Comets' off-season program early next year, is currently sidelined with a broken wrist.

STORY PAGE 87

Legal twist in Wyatt drama

TOM Wyatt may never work a day in the office job demotion Rock-hampton Regional Council CEO Alastair Dawson has planned for him.

It is believed the union representing Mr Wyatt has mounted a strong case under the Local Government Act to have him returned to work only as the manager of parks, sport and recreation.

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Local News

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David sounds didgeridoo for the world

FROM PAGE 1

And it was in the Bird's Nest Olympic Stadium, and was watched by a television audience estimated at four billion, during the opening

ceremony.

The Rockhamptonborn and raised 24year-old was one of
nine indigenous Australians who mixed
with musicians from
around the globe to
play for the athletes
as they marched into
the stadium.

Speaking exclusively to The Morning
Bulletin yesterday,
David said playing in "the world's largest gig" was the proudest moment of his life

moment of his life.
And it was equally exciting for his grandmother, Maureen
Williams, who watched the ceremony at her home in North Rockhampton.

Maureen sparked

David's interest in Aboriginal culture when he was a small boy, teaching him songs she had learned from her own great grandfather.

"I don't know where he learnt to play the didgeridoo, but he was always a talented musician as a boy and he's always travelling the world to perform. It's difficult to keep

I always watch the Olympics anyway, but this is very special for me

track of him.

"It's a big thrill for me. I always watch the Olympics anyway, but this is very special for me".

me."

David grew up in
Rockhampton and
went to St Anthony's



MY 80Y: Maureen Williams proudly displays a portrait of her grandson at the moment of one his earlier achievements.

PHOTO: ADRIAN TAYLOR

TRADITION: David Williams in his traditional role as didgeridoo player.

Primary School.

But his family
moved to Nambour in
his early teens so
David and his brother
could go to a specialist

music school.

Although he's a talented pianist and trombonist, it's the didgeridoo that has brought him fame and opened the door to the world. He's played in Europe and in America for John Travolta

and this is his fifth visit to China.

But the Olympic experience is the highlight of his career.

He's been in Beijing now for two weeks and performed in three dress rehearsals in the Bird's Nest before the main event last night.

"It's an amazing thing and the sheer numbers involved almost make it unreal like a movie.
 "The best thing is that I've had front seats at the most spectacular show ever

staged."
Brisbane-based,
David runs an Aboriginal design agency,
Gilimbaa, and is also an internationally renowned artist with works in private collections in Australia,
Italy, Spain, England,

Sweden and Germany.



BULLY BRIEFS

Girls strut

STRUTTERS Nightclub will host Australia's longest-running grid girl competition this weekend – Bartercard Miss Indy.

Heat three will see five girls take to the stage tonight aiming for the local final on August 23. Entry before 10pm is free.

River art

AN art project will create a collaborative artist book inspired by the Fitzrov River.

The finished product will be displayed in the Rockhampton Art Gallery, giving participants a gallery experience for their work.

The program runs from September 1 to 5 at the Walter Reid Cultural Centre. Call 4927 7129 for bookings and information.

Festival nears

THE Village Festival is almost here, so why not find out all you can about it?

Tune into Channel 10 tomorrow morning at 10am as one of the festival stars, comedian Ellen Briggs, is appearing and letting you know all about the August 29 to 31 festival at Yeppoon Pony Club.