

25<sup>th</sup> July 2008

## **NSW JUNIORS TO CAPTAIN BOOMERS AND OPALS**

Former NSW juniors Lauren Jackson and Matt Nielson were recently named as Captains of the Australian Olympic teams, the Opals and the Boomers. Jackson, the world's best female basketballer, has captained the team since the retirement of Trish Fallon, while for Nielson it will be his first campaign as captain. Both players came through the Basketball NSW development system including NSW state teams. Jackson was an Albury junior before going onto the AIS, Nielson likewise was an AIS scholarship holder, after a successful junior career with Penrith.

Joining them in Beijing are two other former NSW juniors Suzy Batkovic and Jenny Screen, both of whom are originally from Newcastle who have both recently been plying their trade in Europe

The NSW contingent does not stop at the coaching ranks with Basketball NSW Senior Manager, Coaching Peter Lonergan onboard as an assistant coach. Joining him in the national team coaching ranks is current Singapore Slingers coach and former NSW coach Gordon McLeod.

The final Boomers and Opals squads are listed below:

### **BOOMERS:**

**David Andersen**  
**Chris Anstey**  
**David Barlow**  
**Andrew Bogut**  
**CJ Bruton**  
**Joe Ingles**  
**Patrick Mills**  
**Brad Newley**  
**Matthew Nielsen**  
**Shawn Redhage**  
**Glen Saville**  
**Mark Worthington**

### **OPALS:**

**Suzy Batkovic**  
**Tully Bevilaqua**  
**Rohanee Cox**  
**Hollie Grima**  
**Kristi Harrower**  
**Lauren Jackson**  
**Erin Phillips**  
**Emma Randall**  
**Jenni Screen**  
**Belinda Snell**  
**Laura Summerton**  
**Penny Taylor**

### Australian OPALS Olympic Schedule (Group A)

August 9, 2008	Australia v Belarus
August 11, 2008	Australia v Brazil
August 13, 2008	Australia v Korea
August 15, 2008	Australia v Latvia
August 17, 2008	Australia v Russia

#### Quarter Finals

August 19, 2008 Times and positions TBD

#### Semi-Finals

August 21, 2008 Times and Positions TBD

#### Finals

August 23, 2008	Bronze Medal Game
August 23, 2008	Gold Medal Game

### Australian Boomers Olympic Schedule (Group A)

August 10, 2008	Australia v Croatia
August 12, 2008	Australia v Argentina
August 14, 2008	Australia v Iran
August 16, 2008	Australia v Russia
August 18, 2008	Australia v Lithuania

#### Quarter Finals

August 20, 2008 Times and positions TBD

#### Semi-Finals

August 22, 2008 Times and Positions TBD

#### Finals

August 24, 2008	Bronze Medal Game
August 24, 2008	Gold Medal Game

#### **BASKETBALL NSW PRESS RELEASE**

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