

## MEDIA RELEASE

## JANA PITTMAN - THE FACE OF THE GAMES

With **200 days to go** to the 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games in Bendigo, 400m World Champion hurdler Jana Pittman has been announced as The Face of the 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games.

Michelle Pryde, Director of the 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games was pleased to release the news as Jana prepares to leave for Brisbane next week for intensive training before departing in July for the Athens Olympics.

"Jana Pittman is an exciting young athlete who is a great ambassador for sport. Her enthusiastic passion for her athletic endeavours has made Jana stand out as someone who would exemplify what the Youth Games stand for," Michelle said. "We are rapt that Jana has agreed."

With 200 days to go, the role of The Face of Games will be to promote the Games to state, national and even international markets. Michelle said the role includes media interviews, an advertising campaign, speaking engagements and attendance at the Games.

Jana took time out of her busy training schedule in Melbourne today to comment on her new role.

"I am honoured to be The Face of the 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games. These Games are significant, as they will attract the best young athletes from the Commonwealth to Bendigo. I know I'm excited to see who the up and coming stars will be during the Games!"

Although disappointed she was unable to visit the city, Jana said she was looking forward to spending time in Bendigo after the Olympics. "Bendigo is going to be a great Games host city. This is such a fantastic opportunity for people to visit Bendigo and watch elite athletes compete," Jana said.

Jacinta Allan, Member for Bendigo East said that Jana was an excellent role model for aspiring young athletes and her participation heightened the importance of the Youth Games.

"Jana will provide wonderful assistance in promoting Bendigo and regional Victoria on the national and international stage", Ms Allan said.

The 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games has asked Bendigo to join with them in wishing Jana all the best as she prepares to compete in the Olympics in August.

The 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games will be held in Bendigo, Victoria from 29 November to 4 December attracting over 1000 participants from 24 nations.

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