

Dumped body case arrest

By ANDREW DRUMMOND

ALMOST six years after a young Sydney woman's body was dumped in a shallow bush grave, a man has been charged with her murder.

Melloney Menhennitt, 23, was last seen allegedly involved in a heated argument with at least two men at Manly about 5.50am on March 12, 2004. Her parents reported her missing about two weeks later.

In September last year, a

Man charged with 23-year-old woman's murder

fossicker found her skeletal remains in bushland off North Head Scenic Dr, in the Sydney Harbour National Park near Manly.

Yesterday, one of the men believed to have been seen arguing with Ms Menhennitt, Cameron Scott, 42, of Fairlight, was arrested and charged with her murder.

Police are seeking a

second man and a woman, both expected to be charged in connection with the matter.

Scott faced Manly Local Court yesterday.

His solicitor, Alex Mijovich, made no application for bail and it was formally refused.

Outside court, Mr Mijovich said a bid for bail

would be made at an upcoming court appearance.

The matter was adjourned to Sydney's Central Local Court on January 27.

Mr Mijovich said the police case against Scott was "circumstantial".

Police say Scott was arrested at a Manly hostel.

"The investigation is continuing and we do expect to

speak to a further male person ... we believe he played a role in this particular offence," Detective Acting Superintendent Mick Sheehy said.

There was a female who police believed had some knowledge of the matter "and we anticipate speaking to her in the short term", Mr Sheehy said.

Ms Menhennitt's parents, Louise and Tom, last year issued a plea for information about their daughter's disappearance.

They described her as "a beautiful girl".

"Just to lose her like that and not know for 5½ years is heart wrenching," Mr Menhennitt said.

Mr Sheehy said the Menhennitts had been notified of Scott's arrest and it had provided some level of "closure".



Net productivity: Hawks Daniel Jackson (left) and Tim Behrendorff at the launch of Midnight Basketball. Kane Porter (front), 13, is raring to go. Picture: ANDY ZAKELI

Courting kids off streets, Midnight Basketball's aim

By LAUREL-LEE RODERICK

KEEPING kids off the street and giving them a productive pastime are goals the Wollongong Hawks are only too happy to help achieve.

With just over two weeks to go until the second season of Midnight Basketball begins at the Illawarra Sports Stadium in Berkeley, the program was given a lift at WIN Entertainment Centre last night.

Teens who completed the first eight-week program last year showed off their skills during the first and second quarter breaks in the Wollongong Hawks' clash with the Townsville Crocs.

Midnight Basketball was started in Redfern to tackle antisocial behaviour and crime among youths.

The program runs from about 7.30pm to 11pm on Saturday nights.

Teenagers are required to participate in life-skills workshops and the motto is "No workshop, no jump shot".

Hawks assistant coach and community development officer Matt Flinn had met some of the kids before in his time as a school teacher.

"I had taught some of those kids and some of them are doing really well as a result of programs like this one," Mr Flinn said.

The program is also benefiting Hawks players, who last year spent a night with the 60 participants and challenged them to a dunking competition and all-stars game. The team will be back again this year.

"Players really enjoy that side of things. They get a lot out of putting something back into the community," Mr Flinn said.

Wollongong Hawks chief executive Wayne Morris

said the initiative fitted within the Hawks' values.

"When we have people from disadvantaged backgrounds, these programs can give them self-esteem and a purpose and they can relate to the Hawks' players," he said.

Midnight Basketball tournament manager Bob Purcell was keen to recruit some new players to join the program which resumes on February 6.

He said 95 per cent of the players from season one indicated they wanted to come back and play.

"We also need volunteer bus drivers, bus assistants, workshop assistants, catering assistants, referees, scorekeepers and scoreboard operators, other supervisors, even someone to take the laundry," Mr Purcell said.

"We are happy for people to volunteer, if they can only give us one night."

Fruit fly learning link

AUSTRALIAN scientists have probed the attention span of the fruit fly and the results, they say, shed new light on the human conditions of ADHD and autism.

Researchers at the Queensland Brain Institute, based at the University of Queensland, created mutant variations of the fly at different ends of the "attention spectrum".

"We have a fly memory mutant that is hard to distract and another fly memory mutant that's too distractible," said lead researcher Associate Professor Bruno van Swinderen.

"They both have the same result - they don't learn well but for completely different reasons."

Visit Warilla Library

THE Warilla Library will stage its inaugural free family fun day tomorrow. With jumping castles, a sausage sizzle and a farm buddies petting zoo among the many activities on offer, Shellharbour planning and development librarian Michael Jazbec said the day would provide a host of entertainment for the entire family.

"Shellharbour City Council libraries provide a large number of activities and events throughout the entire year with the free family fun day the perfect way to launch this year's program," he said, before adding it was the perfect opportunity for residents to reacquaint themselves with their library.

Product Safety Recall



275 Litre Rheem Heavy Duty Commercial Indoor Gas Water Heater Models 621275N0 and 621275P0

Products manufactured from 1 July 2008 up to and including 20 November 2009

If your 275 Litre Rheem **Heavy Duty Commercial Indoor Gas Water Heater** model number 621275N0 or 621275P0 looks similar to the unit below and was manufactured from 1 July 2008 up to and including 20 November 2009, then this is likely to be an affected unit. Model numbers and dates of manufacture can be found on the product label located at the top of the heater jacket.

Defect Detail:

Under extended operating conditions the outer jacket temperature of the water heater can exceed safe temperatures. If this occurs, there could be a risk of contact burn for people that come into direct contact with the outer jacket of the water heater. There is also the potential for combustion of materials that are inappropriately stored against or near the water heater.

Consumer Action:

Immediately remove any combustible materials within the proximity of the water heater and take steps to ensure that no-one comes into contact with the water heater. Once this is done, please call toll free on **1800 063 018** between the hours of 8.00 am and 8.00 pm AEDST. Rheem will be arranging to undertake on site service modifications in order to eliminate the potential risk associated with the water heater. These modifications will be made free of charge.

Rheem Australia Pty Ltd, 1 Alan St Rydalmere NSW 2112
ABN: 21 098 823 511 Email: commercialgas@rheem.com.au

See www.recalls.gov.au for Australian Product Recall Information



BFD-091-0110

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