

# Mount Isa Athletics

## PRESS RELEASE

14 August 2011

In less than a month 11 year old Bailey Tautau will be packing his bags and boarding a plane to head off to Darwin for the Primary Schools National Athletics Championships in mid September. The talented athlete recently gained selection into the Queensland Team after a close fought battle in the Discus event at the Primary Schools State Championships.

Early in the event one of his competitors let fly with a 34.18m throw putting early pressure on the rest of the field, this throw was over 2 metres further than Tautau's current personal best of 32.16m which he achieved only two weeks earlier at the Western Games. Giving it his all, the Mt Isians' first throw had the distance but landed just outside the sector lines, he then tried to settle himself with his second throw but only managed a distance of 26m, generally a good throw but not at this level. The pressure was now on of possibly not making the top 8 to progress through to the next round. Tautau then regained his composure to put in a throw just over 30m pushing him into 5<sup>th</sup> place in the field of 30. With his fourth throw he then pumped out a new personal best of 33.27m to move into second place and within a metre of the leader and only centimetres ahead of third place. Placings remained the same right through to the conclusion of the event with the top three placings finishing less than a metre apart.

Tautau was also hoping to do well in the Shot Put but with the youngster still trying to master new throwing techniques it was not to be. A week later with the pressure off, he managed to push out a twelve and a half metre throw in training which would have had him right in the mix at the championships.

Tautau represented the North West at the championships with two other Mount Isa students in Erin Faithful (12) and Tristan Garrett (10). Garrett was struck down with illness only days before the event, he tried to soldier on but was well below his best. Faithful also struggled in her Shot Put event but put in Personal Bests in all three of her remaining events placing equal 12<sup>th</sup> in the state in the 100m running a time of 13.81s, 13<sup>th</sup> in the 200m – 28.27s and placing 14<sup>th</sup> in the Discus, throwing 25.31m.

This weekend will see the next wave of representative athletes heading off to Longreach for the Secondary Schools Regional Championships. Ten Mount Isa Athletic club athletes will be part of the 18 strong Mount Isa Schools team which will be joined by a further 15 club athletes at the combined Club and Schools event.

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### CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval  
Able Smith Parade  
Mount Isa, Queensland

### CORRESPONDENCE

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