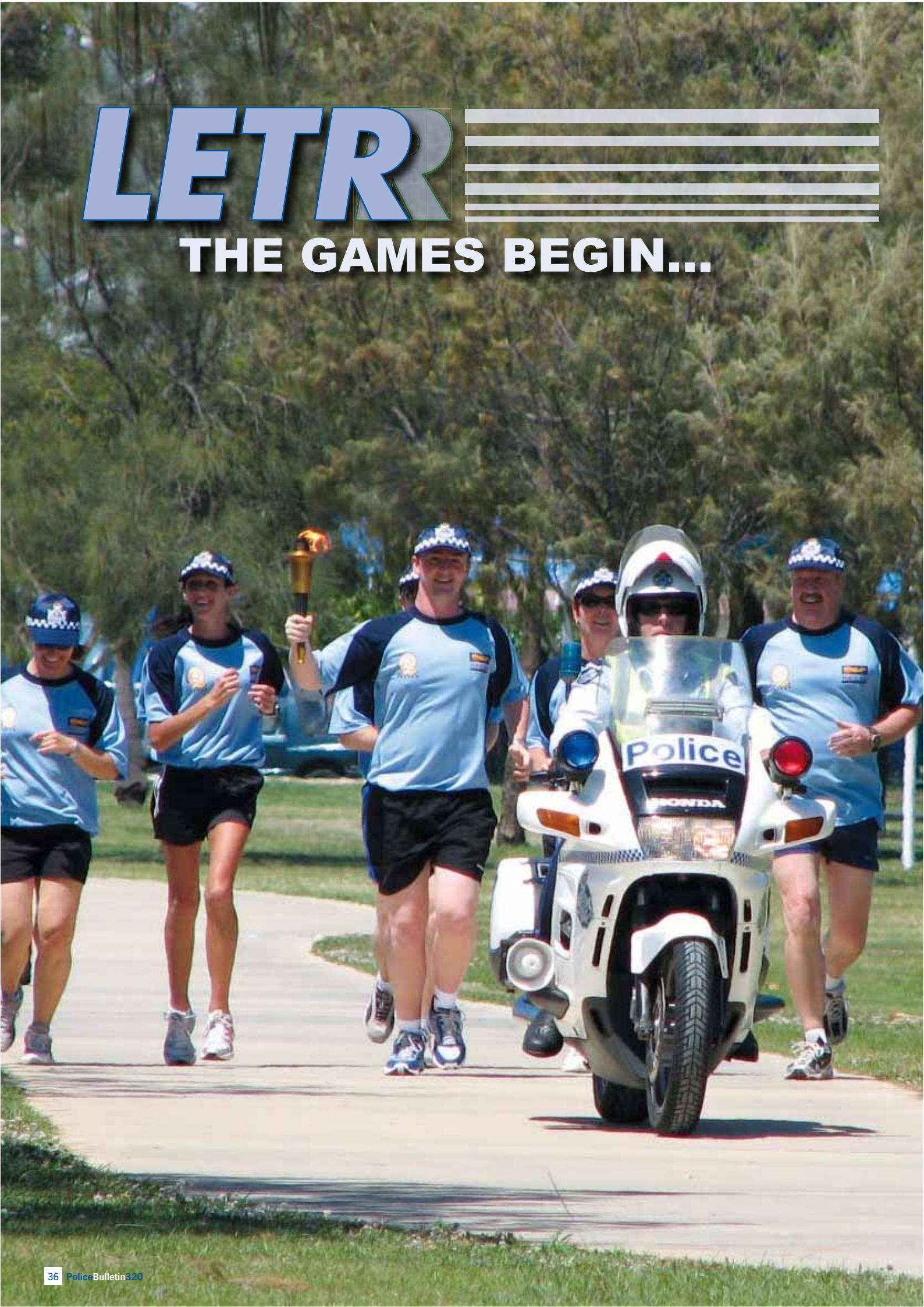


LETR



THE GAMES BEGIN...





A Queensland police officer has achieved the remarkable distinction of being invited to be the only Australian runner in an international torch relay leading up to the Special Olympics being held in China this month.

Sergeant Brett Price has had a key role in the creation of a Queensland chapter of an international

fundraising movement for intellectually impaired athletes called the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR).

It originated in the United States 26 years ago and has become the Special Olympic movement's largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle raising more than A\$30 million for around the world.

More than 85,000 law enforcement officers have carried the Flame of Hope across 35 nations, raising awareness and funds for Special Olympics.

Every two years law enforcement officers and Special Olympics Athletes carry the 'Flame of Hope', the enduring symbol of the Special Olympics, on a Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Queensland police officers participated in this event for the first time in 2006 in a highly successful event that travelled from Bundaberg, Gympie, the Sunshine Coast, Redcliffe, Brisbane, Ipswich and Logan before culminating at the opening ceremony of the 2006 Special Olympics Games held on the Gold Coast.

The 2007 Special Olympic Games is being held in China from October 1 to 13.

The Queensland LETR committee has been in existence for less than a year and furthers the work of the

NSW Police LETR which has been actively fundraising for three years.

Prior to his departure for Beijing on September 23 Sergeant Price was looking forward to what would undoubtedly be the experience of a lifetime.

"I am incredibly proud to be the only Australian law enforcement officer taking part in the run," said Sergeant Price.

"It will help to raise public awareness of Special Olympics within Queensland and hopefully boost fund raising efforts to finally assist regular sporting events across the state which is the goal of LETR Queensland."

There are 127 other law enforcement runners divided into teams of 11 for each of the torch relay sections throughout the country.

A competing athlete accompanies each of the torch runners.



Aspiring Special Olympian Adam Knust had to put his love of sports - especially basketball - on hold after breaking his leg during a recent touch football match.

The 15-year-old son of Queensland Police Service Inspector Ralph Knust is typical of the young athletes that the Law Enforcement Torch Relay (LETR) aims to encourage and support.

UNLUCKY BREAK sidelines Adam

Adam has been a Special Olympics athlete for approximately four years, participating in basketball, tennis and cricket.

In June he took part in the Special O state basketball games held at the Carrara indoor stadium, Gold Coast. He was the Special O Brisbane West Division representative to participate in the Torch Relay co-ordinated and attended by Sergeant Brett Price.

Adam has experienced success, winning medals, including gold, in basketball and tennis.

"Special Olympics has provided Adam with the opportunity to forge friendships and experience social

interaction on and off the sporting field, growing his self esteem and developing his interpersonal and leadership skills," said his father.

"Like any other athlete, Adam is motivated to one day represent his country in the international sporting arena but mostly, participates for the joy of the experience," said Inspector Knust.

"Adam is a proud member of the extended law enforcement family in Queensland.

"His mum Debbie, sister Karla and I are extremely proud of him and proud of his achievements as an athlete."