

Capes is flying high

By IAN GAULT

LOCAL indigenous boxer Fred Capes has been offered a fulltime scholarship at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

Fred and his coach, Gareth Williams (head coach at The Boxing Shop), recently re-

turned from the AIS, where 20 athletes were put through a rigorous testing procedure which finished on the final day with full contact competition against other hopeful indigenous athletes.

"Fred was refused a scholarship in his previous attempt but he came back to

the gym and worked hard on his skills," Williams said.

"I'm wrapped for him. He really deserves a shot as he's been boxing for 12 years and hopefully being a fulltime boxer can see him achieve his dreams of representing Australia in major competitions".

The week of intensive training and testing involved three training sessions per day, sports science lectures, new rehabilitation procedures and on the down side a suspected broken thumb.

"During a light sparring session two days before the

final competition, Fred hurt his thumb so we quickly got him in to see a doctor, physio and have his X-rays completed all within half an hour. The result was a recurrence of an old injury but Fred had already made his mind up that he was willing to compete."

Capes has joined five other indigenous boxers in the new NTID programme, as well as the current squad of athletes that AIS coach Bodo Andreas has under his guidance.

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