**Floating water park a cool idea**

A new floating water park will have local kids, and some adults, splashing for joy. The 20m x 4m inflatable obstacle course in the Darwin Waterfront’s outer Recreation Lagoon, next to Flyboarding, opens today, in time for Easter and the school holidays.

Both activities are operated within the buoys, with the outside lanes available for the public. Raw Spirit will operate the floating water park seven days a week from 9am to 6pm.

It is part of Darwin Waterfront Corporation’s plans to make better use of one of NT’s safest places to swim.

The attraction features a high jump, rock wall, long jump, balance beams, slides, trampoline and more. Anyone over the age of 6 can have a go. It costs $22 per person, per 50-minute session.

**Helping hands back to Darwin**

TERRITORIANS assisting in Vanuatu’s immediate Cyclone Pam have returned to Darwin. The first group of Territorians who were deployed to Vanuatu to assist in the recovery following Pam’s destruction returned to Darwin last night.

Twenty-seven Territorians and Victorians formed the Australia Medical Assistance Team (AusMAT) who treated 1341 patients and assisted with the delivery of 92 babies during their deployment.

**New leaders in public service**

ALMOST 60 employees from the Department of Health and the Department of Children and Families have graduated with qualifications in leadership and management.

Minister for Health and Minister for Children and Families John Elferink said the Minister for Children and Families have graduated with qualifications in leadership and management.

**Snakes’ rehoming honours Naomi**

THE much-loved pet snakes of a young Darwin woman who passed away last year have found their forever home at Territory Wildlife Park. Naomi McLachlan, 14, drowned while swimming at Casuarina Beach in January last year.

Soon after, her mother, Tania Wright, approached the Territory Wildlife Park to see if they would take in her daughter’s beloved pets, Monty the water python and Irwin the children’s python.

Because of the special circumstances, the park agreed to help. Ms Wright said Naomi was really the only one who handled the two pythons.

“I didn’t think it was fair to (them) to be sitting in a cage,” she said.

Ms Wright said that Naomi would be really proud... she loved any animal to do with reptiles.

Nocturnal house zoo keeper Rob McGregor said Monty and Irwin were “magnificent specimens”.

Both snakes were friendly, had been well looked after and were in great condition, he said.

Ms Wright said she was worried by Monty and Irwin’s new home.

“I didn’t expect they were going to be that big,” she said.

“Naomi would be really proud... she loved any animal to do with reptiles.”

Nocturnal house zoo keeper Rob McGregor said Monty and Irwin were “magnificent specimens”.

“Both snakes were friendly, had been well looked after and were in great condition,” he said.