

## MEDIA RELEASE

15th JUNE 2012

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### **RAFTERS STAR BATTLES FOR FATHER AND CHARITY IN 'DANCING WITH THE STARS' FINAL**

After weeks of powering through eliminations, *Packed to the Rafters* star Zoe Cramond will represent the Spinal Cord Injury Network in the *Dancing with the Stars* grand final, this Sunday June 17th at 6:30pm on Channel 7.

Tipped as favourites to win, Zoe and dance partner Aric Yegudkin will compete for the coveted mirror ball trophy in honour of Zoe's father who sustained a spinal cord injury as a young man, and to raise money for the Sydney-based network, which reaches out to researchers, healthcare professionals and the community across Australia and New Zealand.

"My Dad sustained a spinal cord injury by breaking his neck in two places at the age of 28 and was told he was never going to walk again.

"When I started to walk when I was a kid, he was learning to walk again, so we're very close. I'm doing it for him," said Zoe.

Spinal Cord Injury Network Chief Executive Dr Stephanie Williams said she was delighted with Zoe's commitment to spinal cord injury research and very proud of Zoe's remarkable effort.

"Each day in Australia and New Zealand one person sustains a spinal cord injury. Life is changed forever with devastating consequences.

"Zoe's performance is an incredible tribute to more than 12,000 people in Australia and New Zealand who live with paralysis as a result of spinal cord injury," she said.

**To help Zoe win the final please vote for Zoe. Call 1902 55 77 16 or SMS 'ZOE' to 191 777.** MNET Entry Cost \$0.55. Mobile calls to 1902 extra. SMS Helpline 1300851419.

Final voting closes on Sunday June 17th at 6.30 pm AEST. Terms and Conditions available at [yahoo7.com.au/tv](http://yahoo7.com.au/tv).

The Spinal Cord Injury Network is an alliance of leading scientists, health care professionals, community members and other key stakeholders who are working together to improve treatments and find a cure for spinal cord injuries.

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