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Oh brother, what a game!

Brothers Aaron Davey (All-Stars) and Alwyn Davey (Essendon) after the big Australian rules football match in Darwin last Friday night. The Aboriginal All-Stars' unbeaten record in the annual pre-season clash came to a halt when the Bombers won by 50 points. All-Star Aaron plays for Melbourne while Alwyn is playing his first year with the Bombers after being drafted from South Adelaide.

Photo by MONICA NAPPER

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Taskforce head says:

Abuse plan flawed



The chairperson of a taskforce that reveal epidemic levels of child sexual assault in New South Wales

Aboriginal communities has strongly criticised the State Government's response to the issue.

Marcia Ella-Duncan says the Government's response to the NSW Aboriginal Child Sexual Assault Taskforce's report *Breaking the Silence: Creating the Future* is seriously flawed in its approach and lacks courage in its failure to allocate new funding and resources.

She says the Government would rather make substantial financial investments in comparatively trivial things than in measures that she says would save Aboriginal children's lives.

The Taskforce reported to Government in July last year, finding

that child sexual assault in NSW Aboriginal communities could be up to four times the rate of the general population, and was largely unchecked by Aboriginal communities, authorities and the courts.

Yet NSW health data indicates that of all children in NSW who accessed services that respond to sexual assault during 2003/04, only 11 per cent were Aboriginal.

In the New Year, the lemma Government released a five-year interagency plan to respond to issues identified in the report by reducing the incidence of child sexual abuse in Aboriginal communities, reducing disadvantage and dysfunction in Aboriginal communities, and building up Aboriginal leadership and increasing

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