



PRIME MINISTER

**STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P.J. KEATING, MP
KEATING ACCEPTS HEWSON'S CHALLENGE**

I note with some amusement Dr Hewson's latest "formal challenge" to me to put aside "antics" for the remainder of the campaign.

Dr Hewson's challenge, issued beneath a photograph of the Opposition Leader taking a dip at Cottesloe Beach after a 4-kilometre "picture opportunity," is welcome.

I will continue to direct my efforts in the campaign towards jobs and the impact of a GST.

I take it from his latest challenge that Dr Hewson intends to desist from the following:

Wearing funny hats.

Jogging picfacs.

Impersonating the President of the United States.

Taking dips at Cottesloe, or any other beach.

Pretending to be a lifesaver.

Presenting himself to the nation's media hot, wet and half-dressed.

Arranging Liberal stooges to impersonate the unemployed.

Signing pledges to give up a year's salary.

Walking on the beach (with or without socks).

Telling school kids in Brisbane there will be no tax on their tuckshop lunches when his policy says there will be.

Being force-fed at a McDonald's Restaurant.

And the most outrageous antic of all:

Pretending the Goods and Services Tax will create 2 million jobs.