

F&DHS DOCUMENT ARCHIVE  
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DOC 2053

# Forrest's towering concerns

BY ELEANOR WOODS

THE BATTLE continues between Colac-Otway Shire and Towers Out Of Town (TOOT) protesters about whether or not to erect a 45-metre telecommunications tower in the heart of Forrest.

Optus was given the okay to construct the tower on council land – just a stone's throw from the main road – but TOOT is standing its ground.

This was evident in a public rally outside Colac-Otway Shire offices on Friday.

Council chief executive officer, Rob Small, said residents were welcome to protest a mobile phone tower proposed for their town but said council was not in a position to hasten Optus' response to community concerns.

"We are actively working on a solution, and the protest group is well aware of this," Small said.

TOOT's Gillian Brew, who runs the Neighbourhood Community House, said only a handful of residents had received notification of the plans to erect the tower and no community consultation was undertaken.

TOOT began picketing on June 28 on the corner of Blundy Street and the main road, near the proposed tower site – and they haven't left yet.

"We are not opposed to a tower. We need one. We just don't want it smack bang in the centre of town," Brew said.

"Our concern is that this is a potential health risk to our community as well as having this huge tower dominating our skyline."

"We love it here. We love the fresh air off the ocean and the Otways and we don't want a 15-storey tower in the centre of our town."

TOOT met with the council and Optus, and rejected the company's offer to reduce the tower to 35 metres, which would also reduce its reception coverage.

Many families confirmed they would leave Forrest if the tower went ahead at the proposed site.

"We only have 170 people in town. If too many families leave we won't have enough children to



Towers Out of Town (TOOT) group, from left, Gillian Brew, Pete Mitchell, Bob Butt, Maureen Ward, Mary Clarke, John Weickhardt, Emma Stubbs, Laura Tehan, Andrew Broomfield and son Joe at the picket line near the proposed telecommunications tower site in Forrest.

keep the school and then that will go. If the tower goes up here it will hurt this town in so many ways," Brew said.

The group's Pete Mitchell said TOOT had investigated other more suitable sites, including the Barwon Water Reservoir, and spoken to Optus and Telstra about sharing one tower, which is in line with the Code of Practice for Telecommunications in Victoria to reduce duplication of infrastructure in small towns.

Work on the tower is currently at a standstill after the picket was recognised by the Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union, Electrical Trades Union and Geelong Trades Hall Council.

## Roots and Loops for TOOT

TOOT is holding a benefit concert this Saturday to raise awareness for Towers out of Town. Roots and Loops for TOOT will feature a host of musicians, bands and entertainment over several stages at the Forrest Public Hall from 10am until 12pm. To find out more or to get involved, contact TOOT's spokesperson, Teresa Price, on 5236 6193.

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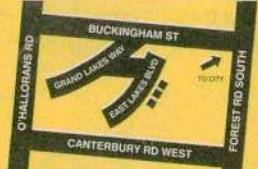
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# Community boost

MORE than \$10,000 was handed out by the Torquay Community Enterprise last week at its first round of grant funding presentations for the year.

The function, held at the Torquay Bowls Club, saw \$10,300 in funding distributed to 10 different community groups to support a variety of grassroots projects.

The biggest contribution - \$4,800 - went to the Torquay Men's Shed.

The balance of the grant funding went to the following groups:

- Jan Juc Pre-School - \$1,000 to fund play equipment
- Surf Coast Energy Group - \$500 towards the cost of its community film season
- Jan Juc Playgroup - \$500 for a Teddy Bears' Picnic to be held during National Children's Week
- Torquay Netball Club - \$800 for white goods for the

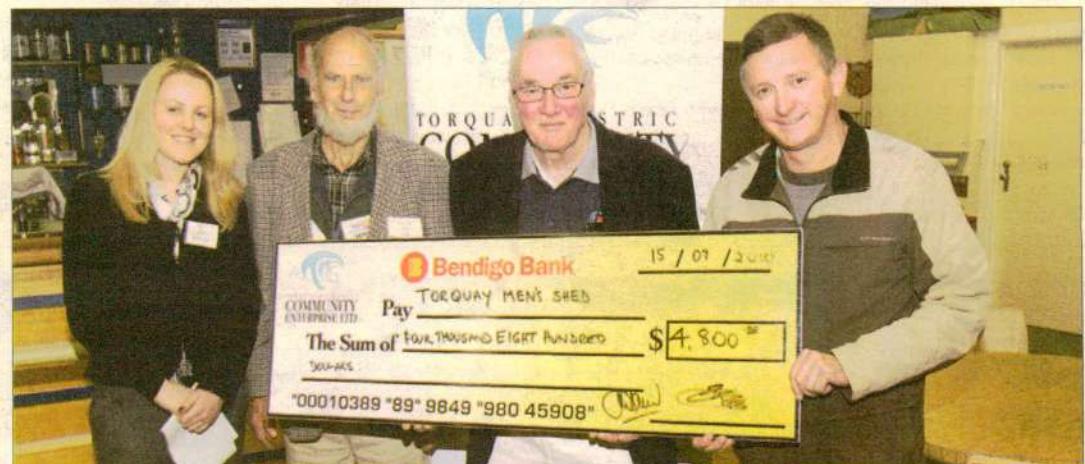
club kitchen

- Torquay Sailing Club - \$700 for a Youth Sailing Programme during the school holidays
- Torquay Boardriders Club - \$500 to fit out a van for the club
- Danawa Community Garden - \$500 for new infrastructure and artworks at the garden
- Transition Torquay - \$500 for the production of a brochure promoting local businesses that are environmentally sustainable
- Torquay Landcare - \$500 towards producing a DVD to promote the environmental work the group does.

A second round of grant funding for 2010 will be made available in November. Applications will be open in October and will be advertised in the *Surf Coast Times* and on the enterprise website [www.torquayce.org](http://www.torquayce.org).



Left: Julia Brangwyn and Anne Sullivan from the Surf Coast Energy Group with Tony Smales. Right: Julia Brangwyn and Anne Sullivan from the Surf Coast Energy Group with Tony Smales.



Men's Shed Torquay's Vern Stott and Ray Busby, with Alison Giles from GMHBA and enterprise chairman, Dean Webster.

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## Optus will find new site for mobile phone tower

# Forrest residents win fight

by Jennifer Chiu

**Forrest residents have won a campaign to stop construction on a 45-metre mobile phone tower in the heart of the town.**

Representatives of telecommunications company Optus and Colac Otway Shire Council met with Forrest residents yesterday to tell them they would aban-

don the current site and investigate alternative sites.

Alternatives residents identified include a Telstra tower outside Forrest and a Barwon Water treatment plant.

Optus started building the tower in Blundy Street more than a month ago.

Residents formed a Tower Out of Town group and protested outside the coun-

cil's Colac offices two weeks ago because of concerns the phone tower could affect their health and the town's aesthetics.

An Optus spokesman said the company was now working with the council to "discuss the terms of our departure" from the Blundy Street site.

"Throughout the past weeks, the Forrest commu-

nity have made it clear that they were dissatisfied with the plans as they stand," he said.

"We have begun investigating alternative sites in the surrounding area which we're confident will allay the concerns of the local community."

TOOT member Teresa Price said Forrest residents were "absolutely over-

whelmed, ecstatic and very happy".

"It's been four weeks and we think it's amazing," Ms Price said.

"It's very joyous at the picket, there's been a couple of banners made already to state that we've won," she said.

"It's a good scene and I'd say we would have a bit of a celebration tonight.

"It's a really good example of when people band together."

Council chief executive officer Rob Small welcomed Optus' decision.

"Optus has responded to the community's concerns by considering alternative sites for the tower, and I would like to thank Optus for its co-operation," Mr Small said.

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# The Colac Herald



Poetry blends

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## OPINION

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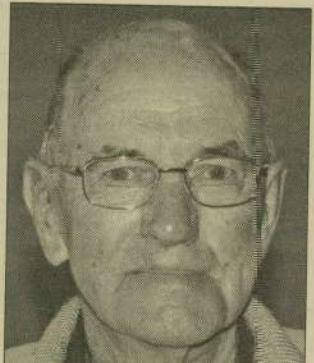
# On the street

The Colac Herald  
who they thought



"Bob Menzies for the way he handled the country when we were recovering from World War Two."

Lance Ryan,  
Barongarook  
100802AW005



"John Howard, I think he did a great job under extreme pressure."

Bill Cust,  
Colac  
100802AW006



"John Howard, he was a straight shooter and did a great job over a long period of time."

Cliff Tann,  
Colac  
100802AW007



"Bob Meagher was a strong leader."

Jac...

Street for a chance to win a \$500 account from **SEWELL'S FIN**

## Letters

Have your say in The Colac Herald. Send letters to:

### Well done, Forrest

I would like to take this opportunity to thank *The Colac Herald* for its extensive and unbiased coverage of the TOOT protest against the location of the 45-metre telecommunication tower at 6 Blundy Street, Forrest. An alternative site will now be negotiated and that is a good outcome.

It is interesting, however, that the rudest comments seem often to come from the most ill-informed.

Some of the outbursts protestors had to endure do not bear repeating, but if I were just to say that the residents of Forrest are not unemployed, dole-bludging ferals and worse, I think you get the gist of them.

Nor as Mr Robert Oggro of Colac, who numbers amongst the ill-informed, suggests, are they selfish and myopic.

The Forrest community is made up of people of all ages, political persuasions and ideologies, but has proved itself to be homogeneous when an issue of such importance arises. Their courage and steadfastness in pursuing their campaign to its positive conclusion should be an occasion for universal praise, not condemnation.

During the picket, contact was made with many visitors to the township who were appalled at the location chosen for this tower.

The protesters always stated that it was the safety of these visitors which was of tantamount importance to them, stressing that a communications tower was long overdue and unanimously supported, but not at 6 Blundy Street.

Amongst the reasons for the picket was residents' concern for the aesthetics of the township which has now been given the accolade of Gateway to the Otways, a title that numerous townships, including several in the Surf Coast Shire, would give their eye teeth to own.

It has been majorly the individual efforts of private citizens that have transformed Forrest in the last 10 years to what it is today.

The bike trails, the development and beautification of the Forrest Caravan Park, which now attracts a lot more visitors, the Tiger Trail up through the Yaughan and the resurrection of a dilapidated building in the main street into what is soon to be a micro brewery and cafe, that will also be a focal point.

Now in partnership with the shire, these initiatives can be honoured and supported, rather than undermined.

And there is still much that can be done. Scattered around the township are icons of its very interesting past, small things that many people take for granted but are fascinating to those not of this place or of its era.

A steam engine, an old petrol bowser, a police cell, a little railway building and I'm sure many more, that could be gathered together and curated and added to the attractions of the township of Forrest that has most definitely found its way.

With an alternative site chosen for the telecommunications tower, which will be for the benefit of all, residents and visitors alike, it really is a demonstration of that much over-used phrase "going forward" but from now on, together.

Congratulations to the township of Forrest.

Victoria Moore  
Gerangamete

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it is vital community  
action takes place before  
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Mulder raised his con-  
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ergy Resources Legislation  
ment Bill in parliament.  
comments come as the  
res Royal Commission's  
blamed faulty power-  
or Colac district's Black  
day blaze.

Powercor canvassed the idea  
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in a submission to the  
Commission.

ven Colac and district los-  
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Marsh and Lavers Hill,  
e on a list of Victoria's  
isk fire towns.

Mulder praised Power-  
electricity improvements  
ghout the Otways and  
hoped the improvements  
continue.



Contest at Cressy. She is  
air Dickson. 100730NH010A

Cressy title



## Listening to the Community - Bushfire Royal Commission Recommendations

The Royal Commission into the 2009 Victorian bushfires handed down its final report on the 31st July.

Of the Commission's 67 recommendations, the Victorian Government has supported 59 in principle and has called for further consultation.

The remaining recommendations are complex and will affect communities in different ways.

To develop its final response, the Government will consult people who are directly affected.

As part of the consultation process over the coming weeks, communities will be asked for their views on these important decisions that will help make Victoria as fire-safe as possible.

Meetings will be held at:

**Apollo Bay:** Saturday 7 August 2 - 4pm

**Colac:** Monday 9 August, 6.30 - 8.30pm

All members of the community surrounding this area are invited to attend.  
Please refer to [www.premier.vic.gov.au](http://www.premier.vic.gov.au) for further details.

Feedback can also be emailed to the Premier, John Brumby, at:  
[john.brumby@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:john.brumby@parliament.vic.gov.au)

mitch37102

112280

## The questions people ask when planning a funeral

### When will the death certificate arrive - our solicitor has a

At the time of a person's funeral, a death certificate is registered with Births, Deaths and Marriages. You can apply for a certified copy of the death certificate from your funeral director. At this time, you may be asked to pay a fee for the certificate. This is legal proof of death. Death certificates may be requested by a range of organisations, including banks and solicitors. It usually takes two to three weeks to arrange for a death certificate to be issued. This time may be delayed by a range of things, such as the coroner's inquest or the findings process of the State Coroner.



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# Residents back Telstra's tower

by Jennifer Chiu

**More than 100 Colac district residents have signed a petition supporting a telecommunications tower at Forrest.**

The petition comes after a group of four Forrest residents lodged an objection with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal against plans for a Telstra mobile phone tower at Caspers Access, Forrest.

Long-time Forrest resident Jim Speirs said he had placed petitions in and around Forrest after hearing about the VCAT application.

"They only went out three days ago and I've only picked up half of them and we've got 100 signatures already," Mr Speirs said yesterday.

"There's a heck of a lot of support for the tower to go up

there, they want good coverage," he said.

Mr Speirs said he was disappointed people had objected to plans for a 50-metre lattice tower about a kilometre from the centre of Forrest.

Optus had started to build a similar tower in the town centre before residents' outrage forced a rethink in July.

"I think everyone who's signing these papers is very disappointed because they thought after the big kerfuffle about the tower in the town, they expected they'd have a tower before summer," he said.

"We've been fighting for it for a few years now and with the fire situation, people are a bit toey about fire."

The objectors claim Telstra failed to adequately consult them about other possible sites

for the tower and hope to have a "healthy discussion" with the telecommunications company about the locations.

Mr Speirs, who lives in the town's centre, said Colac Otway Shire Council had a meeting for residents before approving the plan.

"They had all the maps up, showed the coverage and showed the best deal was where they decided to put it now — everyone was happy that was the place to go," he said.

"I can't figure out why they're mucking around with other sites.

"The site has been agreed to by the private owner, it's well out of the town, no threat to anybody, and as far as the visual aspect of it, naturally it's got to be on a high point to get coverage."

## All candidates will debate

**Polwarth's six political aspirants will make their case to voters in Colac tonight.**

Otway Business Inc's candidates' forum will hear from all the electorate's lower house candidates in the lead up to next week's state election.

Liberal MP Terry Mulder will take to the stage with Labor opponent Brian Crook and Natalie Atherden of the Greens, independent Grant Peale, Family First's John Modra and Garry Kerr of the Australian Family Alliance.

chairman and Warriorn farmer Doug Chant, AKD Softwoods chief John Hayden and environmentalist Geraldine Gartland.

Mr Riordan sought Liberal Party pre-selection for a state upper house seat last year, Mr Chant is a former National Party Polwarth candidate and Ms Gartland has ties to the Labor Party.

Mr Baldwin, an OBI member, organised the event. "We've got five panellists confirmed now and they're from a range of different backgrounds," he said.

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ur say in The Colac Herald. Send letters to the Editor, PO Box 21, 250, email to news@colacherald.com or fax 52311943.

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**Malcolm Gardiner,  
Kawarren**

**public good**  
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wise pristine little  
a tower within 400  
m a primary school  
jury is still out as to  
+ young children.

at that distance is in my view, I  
would be saying to myself, now  
all my neighbours have mobile  
phone coverage like me.

In other words, it is in the  
public interest and for the  
public good, end of story.

**Victoria Moore,  
Gerangamete**

## Ordinary politics

It is very disappointing  
when politicians like Mr  
Mulder use scaremongering  
and fear to try and win votes.

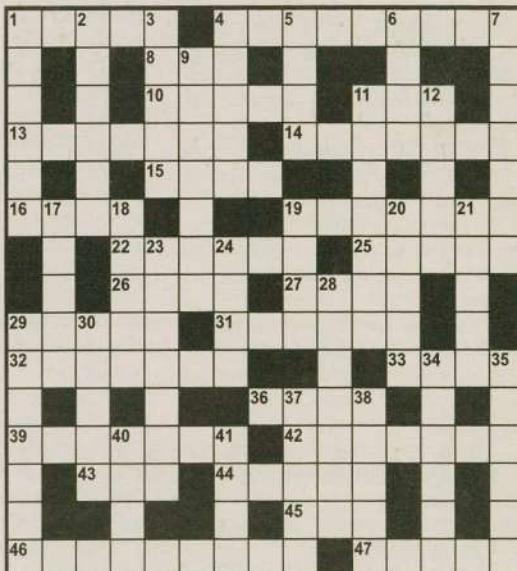
Mr Mulder, *Colac Herald*,  
does not provide one shred of  
evidence for his allegation that  
the merger of the Corangamite  
Catchment Management Au-  
thority with Glenelg-Hopkins  
CMA will result in job losses  
for Colac.

It is far more likely that this  
region will secure more funding  
and staff and will be better  
able to deal with landscape-wide  
environmental problems.

In the time that I have been  
on the board of the CCMA, Mr  
Mulder has shown no interest  
whatsoever in the organisation's  
activities to help farmers  
adjust to climate change, river  
health or protection of biodi-  
versity in our region.

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was last in government they  
slugged every householder a  
\$100 "poll tax" on each rate

# Crossword



### Across

- 1 Wise men
- 4 Skilled knowledge
- 8 Old cloth measure
- 10 Waterway
- 11 Immerse
- 13 Take for granted
- 14 Refined and luxurious
- 15 Deep mud
- 16 Require
- 19 Sparkle
- 22 Come forth
- 25 Prescribed amounts
- 26 Season

### Down

- 1 Chinese boat
- 2 Country
- 3 Liquid component of blood
- 4 Young eel
- 5 Unmixed
- 6 Small shoot
- 7 Newspaper executives
- 9 Restricted
- 11 Mocked
- 12 Separates
- 17 Small with delicate frame

# Forrest is facing new tower fight

by Jennifer Chiu

**Disgruntled Forrest residents have lodged an official objection against a telecommunications tower in the Otways town.**

Colac Otway Shire Council approved Telstra's plan to build a 50-metre mobile phone tower at Caspers Access, Forrest, in September but four Forrest residents have filed an objection with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

One of the objectors, Alice Morell, said the residents had decided to go to VCAT because Telstra had been "really poor at talking to locals" before deciding on a location for the tower.

Mrs Morell said she found out about the tower "by accident" a week before it received approval and she was concerned about the effect the tower might have on people's health, property val-

ues and the town's aesthetics.

"All our hope is to sit down and have a healthy discussion with Telstra as to what are the other sites and would they have less of an impact on people," she said.

Mrs Morell said the residents had met with a Telstra representative in September but were unsatisfied with the talks.

She said she was "realistic but hopeful" about the prospects of the VCAT objection.

"We're not saying we don't want a tower in our backyard – if we conclude there's no other site, then so be it."

The council received seven objections against the 65 Caspers Access tower, which would improve mobile and data coverage at Forrest and Barwon Downs, and heard from objectors during the approval process.

Telstra south-west Victoria

general manager Bill Mundy said the company would be unable to make further progress on the tower until VCAT ruled on the objection.

"I certainly understand the community's concern and we'll certainly look to try and work through the process in a manner that is appropriate and takes into consideration their concerns," Mr Mundy said.

"But we've been working on the tower for over 12 months, in terms of the planning process and consultation with council and the community," he said.

"I'm concerned the delay may cause an inability to provide coverage for the upcoming fire season."

The VCAT objection follows Optus' decision to abandon plans to build a tower in the middle of Forrest after a campaign from residents.

## Station promise welcome

by Brett Worthington

A Colac district fire brigade captain has welcomed an election commit-



## Call for better access to council paperwork

by David McKenzie

A Colac civic leader has called for the public to have more access to planning issues before council meetings.

Colac Otway Shire Council has a planning committee meeting on the second Wednesday of each month where councillors vote on whether to approve planning permits for developments.

But Cr Chris Smith said people who applied for planning permits didn't see the conditions on their permit until two days before the council voted on them.

Cr Smith said people needed more than



**Cr Chris Smith**

two days to go through the conditions and to work through concerns with council officers.

Councillors receive the agenda for planning meetings on Thursdays, but agendas don't become available to the public and developers until the Monday.

Cr Smith raised his concerns after the council this week hurriedly amended conditions on a planning

permit to allow Quinn Funerals to turn a former church into a funeral parlour.

Tough planning permit conditions had caused concern for the company.

Cr Smith said Quinn Funerals had been aware the development would go before the council on Wednesday, but were not aware what conditions the council was actually approving.

"It only allows less than two days for an applicant to speak with planning staff to find out what the hurdles are," he said.

Cr Smith said it would be better if people applying for permits received the agenda on the Friday.

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## OPINION



# On the street

What would you like to see Colac retailers do with the extra public holidays following Christmas Day and Boxing Day?



"They should all do the same to prevent confusion but I think they deserve a rest."

Margaret Cameron,  
Colac  
101110AW001



"Because we're so busy at Nu Deli in the lead up period we look forward to that break. It's a good reward for the staff."

Brian Menzies,  
Colac  
101110AW002



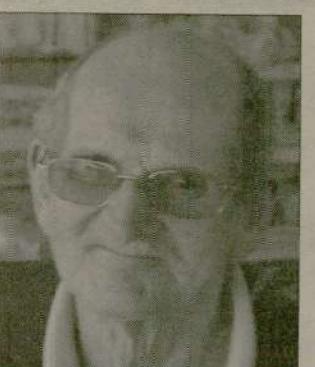
"I think they should be open because it could be good for business after being closed for the weekend."

Josephine Knight,  
Colac  
101110AW00



"I guess it's good to have services open but I completely understand the staffing issues that businesses would face at that time of year."

Stephen Lee,  
Camperdown  
101110AW004



"It's completely up to them, it's their business so it's their decision."

George Newcombe,  
Colac  
101110AW00



"I think they should be open because people have a lot of family around at that time of year so having shops open is convenient."

Samantha Rollo,  
Colac  
101110AW006

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### WEATHER DETAILS

#### THREE-DAY OUTLOOK

FRI Showers, storms 13-28

SAT Rain, 14-16

SUN Rain, 13-16

#### SUNRISE/SUNSET

FRI 6.07am/8.13pm

# Letters

## Playing politics

Bushfire preparedness is vital. But let's not be fooled by Labor's slick mail outs and its exorbitant TV advertising campaigns.

Have your say in The Colac Herald. Send letters to the Editor, PO Box 21, Colac 3250, email to [news@colacherald.com](mailto:news@colacherald.com) or fax 52311943.

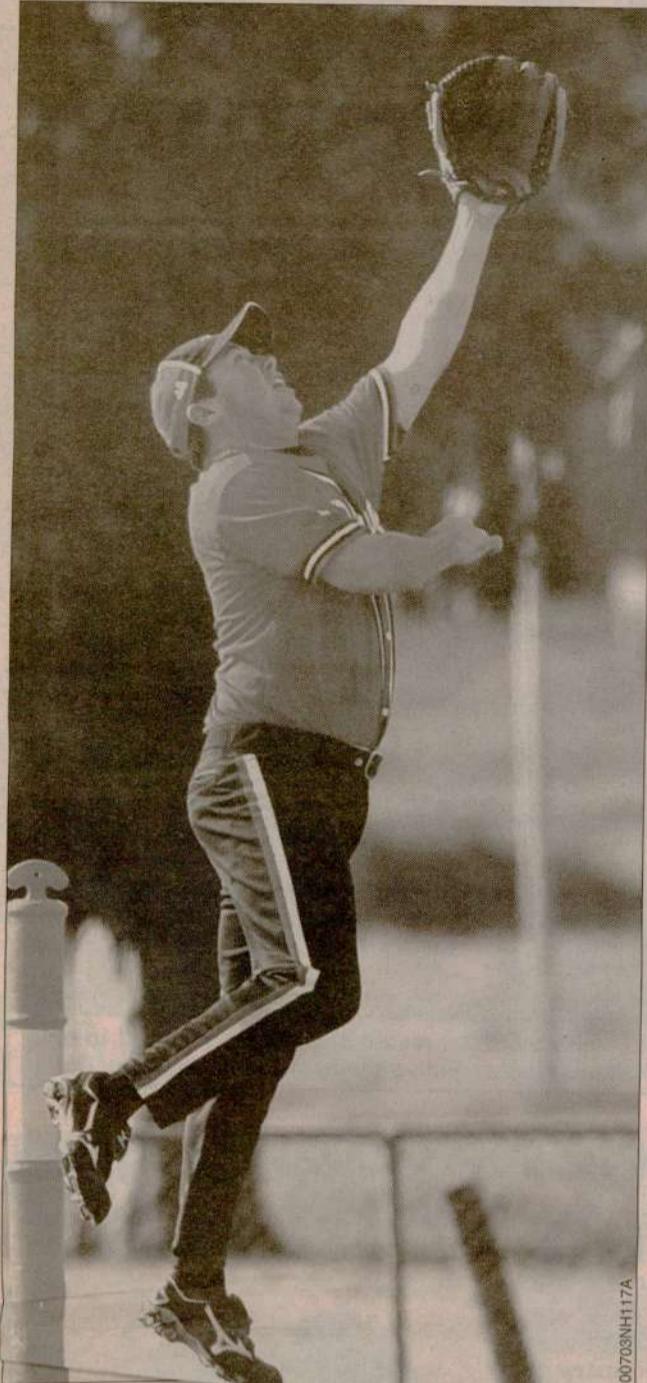


# Good News

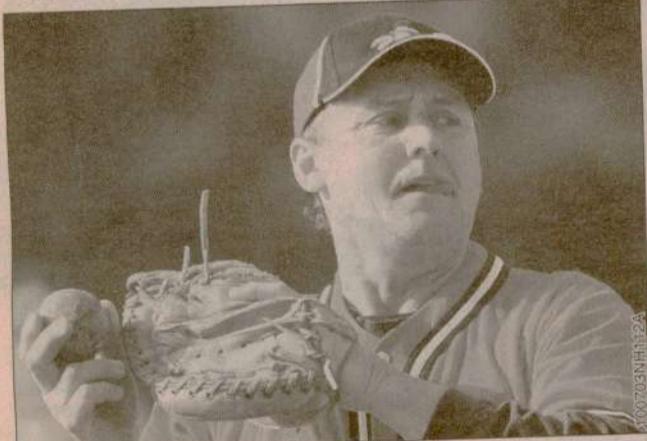
## Reward for providing

F&DHS DOCUMENT ARCHIVE  
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Subject Category.....  
Key Words.....  
DOC.0247 Date.....:Dig.Copy?

# COLAC HERALD SPORT



HANG TIME: Colac Brave ... air to catch a fly ball at Eastern Reserve.



THE TONGUE: B Reserve Brave Murray Hillman sets himself against Ballarat at Eastern Reserve.

## New plan of attack

by Ben Martin

Colac Basketball Association's committee has put plans into motion to provide the best competition it can.

The committee has introduced a four-year strategic plan and president Paul Walters said the plan would benefit the association.

"It's broken up into one and two-year objectives as well as three and four-year objectives," he said.

"And we'll try and abide by that for the next few years."

Mr Walters said the introduction of its website was one of the association's more successful initiatives in recent years.

"It'll be the most valuable tool in oncoming months for all results and

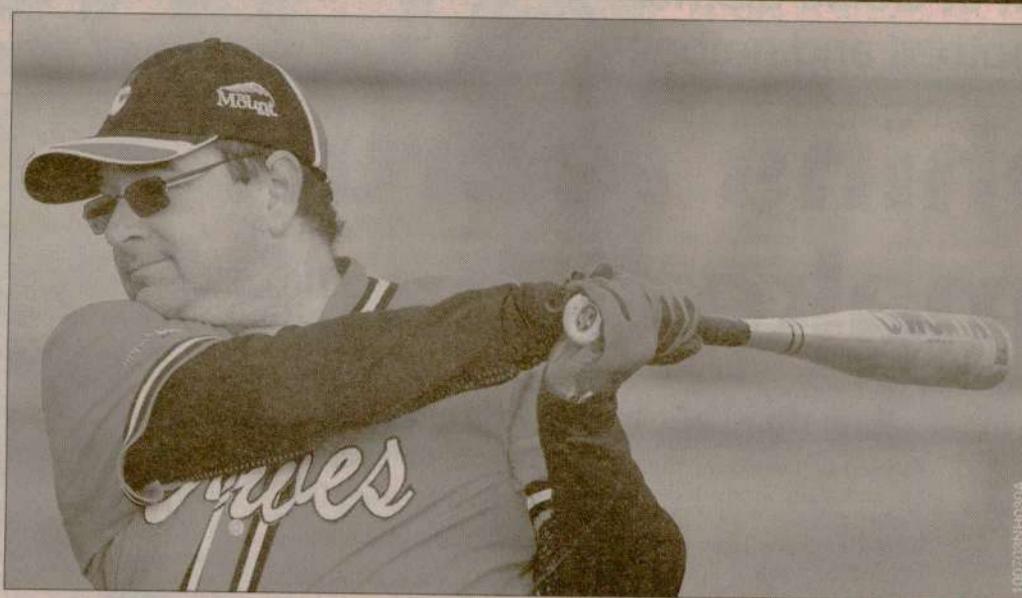


PLAN: Paul Walters

ladders done via Sporting Pulse," he said.

"It had 17,000 hits last November, 9000 in March - it just shows people are showing lots of interest in Colac basketball."

Mr Walters said the committee would also distribute a survey to all regis-



TOP OF THE HEAP: Colac Braves president Dave Dickson in action against Ballarat.

## Braves escape with late runs

by Ben Martin

Colac Braves escaped the upset of the season when a late-game charge got them over the line against the Ballarat City Brewers.

The top-placed B Grade Braves trailed the seventh-placed Brewers by one run mid-way through the match at Eastern Reserve before finally kicking into gear and scoring some much-needed runs.

Club president Dave Dickson said the Braves failed to play half of the season.

"They were very sluggish at the start, it took them a while to get a run on the board," he said.

"It wasn't the best showing considering how dominant we've been at the start of the season, I think we'll need to go back to the drawing board and try to get our batting right."

Dickson said a revitalised Brewers line-up surprised the Braves.

"Ballarat has been

experimenting with a lot of new pitchers, they have three young pitchers that showed they could be a force to be reckoned with in the future," he said.

"But I would say Colac allowed them to be a bit better and just didn't play to their full potential."

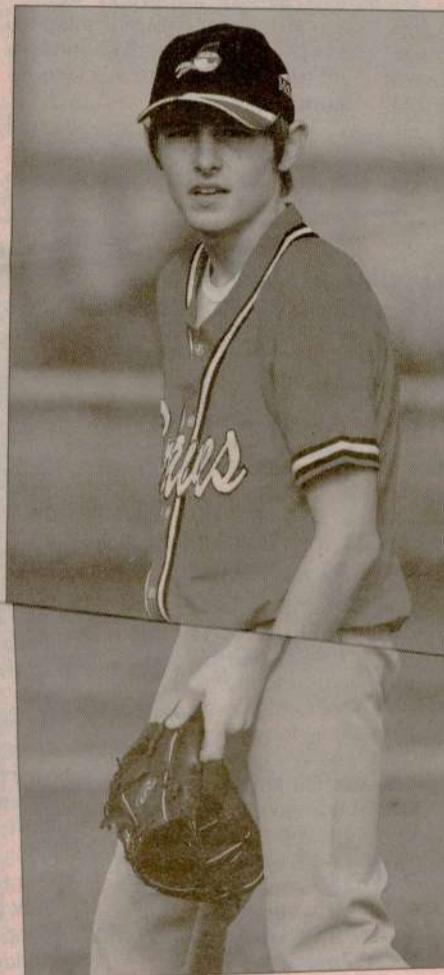
The Braves, helped by the return of pitcher Michael Reid from an ankle injury, lifted their work-rate in the remaining innings to blow the Brewers out of the water 9-2.

Dickson credited pitcher Brad Egan and cotrag Dave Ryan as

"Brad pitched his heart out as he does every week, and Dave showed some really good form with the bat," he said.

Meanwhile, Colac's B Reserve side enjoyed its biggest win of the season with a 25-0 thumping of the Brewers.

The return of pitcher Josh Hay helped the Braves as they cruised to their eighth win of the season.



GAME FACE: Colac Brave Jamie Willey.



Daniel Semmens

### Career high for export

A season-best outing from mid-fielder Daniel Semmens has lifted Geelong Falcons back into the top two in the TAC Cup under-18 competition.

The Cobden export covered almost every inch of Chirnside Park at Avalon on Saturday, racking up a career-high 30 possessions and 11 handball receives in a brilliant display of gut-running.

Semmens also took seven marks, laid five tackles and only six of his 30 disposals were ineffective.

The Falcons defeated the Western Jets by 31 points, 14.11 (95) to 9.10 (64), to string back-to-back wins together and move into second spot.

Six other Colac district young guns also contributed to the victory.

Camperdown's Luke Mahoney was the Falcons third best player behind Semmens, booting two important goals and getting involved possessions while grabs.

Colac Tigers' Luke Burnett also kicked a goal had 11 disposals, Jarryn McCormack took seven marks and had 18 possessions and Jarryd Garner had 11 touches and laid three tackles.

Camperdown's Fraser Lucas had nine possessions.

### Ladies' champion



VICTORY: Golfer Diane Wallace, pictured, defeated 65 other competitors to win a South Western District Ladies Golf Association B Grade championship at Portarlington Golf Club. Wallace became the second Colac golfer to win the regional event after Lorraine Matthews won in 1989 and 2001.



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A look at Colac district football and netball

# Across the

## Dolphins recruit will make it back

by Ben Martin

### He'll be back.

It was the news that breathed a sigh of relief into the Lorne Football Club, knowing that a shoulder injury to boom recruit Scott Hovey would not end his season.

The Dolphins feared the worst after Hovey damaged a shoulder in a dirtbike incident before their round 11 clash with Irrewarra-Beeac.

But coach Jim Alford announced this week the gun midfielder would return this to help Lorne's 2010 finals campaign.

"Had there been a crack or shifting of the bone, his season would have been well and truly over," Alford said.

"The specialist has cleared him of any structural damage, so depending on the pain, there's no reason why can't play football again this season," he said.

"It just depends on the management side of things, how well

he looks after it, he said.

"We won't go jumping up and down just yet because things can happen and we know there can be secondary kinds of damage."

Alford said the Dolphins hoped to have Hovey, who returned to work installing windows last week, back on the field for their round 15 clash with Simpson – a possible finals preview.

"The doctor says maybe two to three weeks but we'll put him through several physical tests before Simpson, and if we have any doubts at all then we won't play him," he said.

"He needs proper fitness so we'll give him a couple of weeks because he's still pretty sore."

"He plays pretty hard, we don't want to bring him back to get hurt and have to miss weeks again."

Alford said the injury-plagued Dolphins, which have won seven of their 11 matches, planned to

**"Had there been a crack or shifting of the bone, his season would have been well and truly over."**

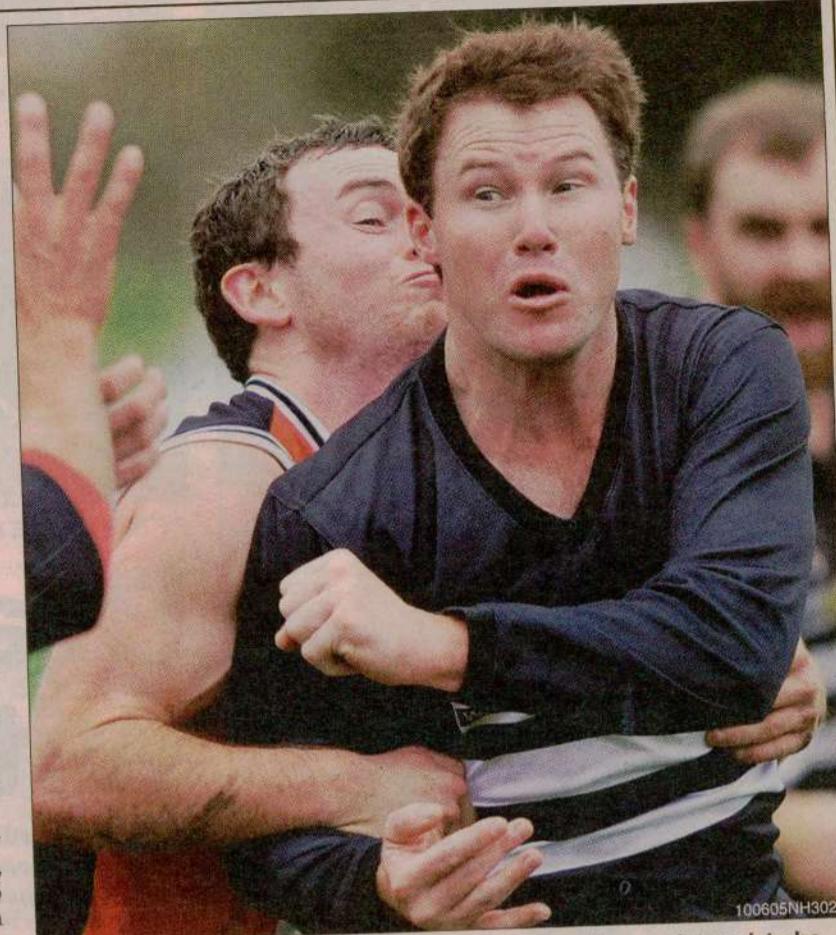
JIM ALFORD ON SCOTT HOVEY'S SHOULDER INJURY

take extra precaution on the road to September.

"We want our full-strength side three or four games coming into finals," he said.

"Drew Steven probably could've played on the weekend, but even if our players are 95 per cent right, we'll give them another week."

"I'd like to think we'll get some dividends out of it."



100605NH302A

GOOD NEWS: Lorne expects star recruit Scott Hovey, pictured, to be available for CDFL finals after a positive diagnosis on his shoulder injury.

## inside the HUDDLE

Colac Herald sports journalist Ben Martin goes inside Western Eagles' huddle to speak with Eagle captain Nathan McNamara about his first year as a leader and the club's long-term goals.

**BEN: How's things going**  
pretty good. It's all part of rebuilding at the moment, I'm just trying to do my bit as a local.

**B: How do you lead your team as captain? Do you like to talk the boys up before a game, or do you prefer to lead by example?**

N: Basically on the ground. I try to play my best and always turn up to training and train hard. I'm not really a big speaker so I just try and play well. I probably play my best roving under our ruckmen Mat Bowen and Raj Nair.

**B: Have you always played at Western Eagles?**

N: Yeah, I played all my

through the 17s and into senior footy in the last few years. It's the good people around the club that have kept me around plus all my family plays out there. We grew up at the club; Dad played for Irrewarra Bulldogs, so when they combined with Pirron Yallock we stuck around.

**B: What have been some of your career highlights? You would've been a part of that under-17 grand final a few years ago?**

N: Yeah, the 2004 grand final against Lorne was probably the highlight – we had a fair bit of junior success. Then a couple of years after in about 2006 I finished third in league best and fairest for under-17s.

WITH  
Nathan  
McNamara



games haven't had the most desired start to 2010, what does the club hope to get out of the rest of this season?

N: Hopefully we can pull off a few wins, which I think is easily doable, most of us have still only played a few games together. Then we'll look at rebuilding and keeping everyone together and look forward to next year. Hopefully next year we can look towards finals and hopefully go from there.

**B: How's the club looking to improve in coming years?**

N: We've got to keep our juniors, so we'll keep playing them and then look at bringing in a few new players.

## Colac Tigers young gun making an impression

by Ben Martin

Colac's Brody Mahoney did everything he could to help Vic Country get the start it wanted in the NAB AFL under-16 championships.

But the Vics by 44 points at Blacktown Olympic Park on Saturday.

Although he was playing in a losing side, Mahoney racked up 17 possessions and six tackles playing off the half-back line and earned a spot in his team's best players.

"We started off pretty well, after the first half we were only trailing by about three points and then we started playing pretty bad," Mahoney said yesterday from Sydney.

"I played a bit of a rebounder role, and tried to get a bit of run out of the backline," he said.

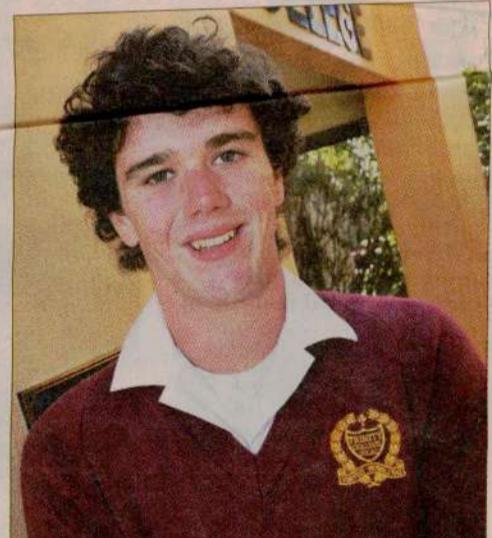
The Vics hoped to bounce back from the 15.11 (101) to 8.9 (57) loss when they took on state rival Vic Metro last night.

"It should be a big game, there's a bit of rivalry there," Mahoney said yesterday.

"We played them in a practice match and only won by a point," he said.

Mahoney said Vic Country coach Garry Lyon planned to make a few changes after the disappointing opening round of the championships.

"We just kind of slipped away against WA, we didn't come out in the second half so he's going to switch a few things around and hopefully we can get up against Metro," he said.



100615NH0086A

STANDOUT: Colac Tigers' Brody Mahoney

"They're going to put me on the wing for the start this game."

Mahoney said the team gave Lyon, a former AFL star, its full attention.

"Everyone listens to him, he's been really good," he said.

"He's a good coach, you learn heaps from him."

Mahoney said the team, which is staying at Sydney's Crown Plaza, was spending time enjoying recovery and ice baths before last night's match.

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FOOTBALL

3 VOTES	2 VOTES	1 VOTE
Alvie	Bye	Bye
Apollo Bay	J. Page	K. McCormack
Birregurra	M. Davis	S. Salajan
Colac Imperials	J. Boone	A. Scott
Forrest	S. Calcedo	S. Hay
Irrewarra-Beeac	T. Castles	J. Angus
Lorne	R. Evans	S. Oliver
Otway Districts	R. White	L. Harrington
Simpson	S. Shawcross	T. Leishman
South Colac	T. Speirs	T. Dean
Western Eagles	J. Hickey	D. O'Loughlan

NETBALL

3 VOTES	2 VOTES	1 VOTE
Alvie	Bye	Bye
Apollo Bay	L. Taylor	K. Huybens
Birregurra	C. Spokes	A. Spokes
Colac Imperials	Bye	Bye
Forrest	T. Beasley	E. Ryan
Irrewarra-Beeac	R. Rodger	C. Hillman
Otway Districts	A. Gleeson	S. Sexton
Simpson	J. Hawkins	K. Pouw
South Colac	N. McNamara	E. Piera
Western Eagles	E. Ellmore	J. Fish

## TOP 5

FOOTBALL	
1. J. Boone (Cl)	22
2. S. Calcedo (F)	22
3. M. Davis (B)	19
4. L. McGuane (A)	16
5. A. Harris (Cl)	15

## NETBALL

NETBALL	
1. C. Sexton (OD)	20
2. A. Hall (F)	19
3. A. Spokes (B)	19
4. N. McNamara (SC)	17
5. J. Fish (WE)	15



FIRE THREAT: English backpackers demonstrated the abundance of fairy grass from Lake Colac's dry bed during summer.

## Call to remove lake fire threat

by David McKenzie

A Lake Colac campaigner wants the State Government to be a good neighbour and pay to clean up fire hazards on the lake this summer.

John Martin of Irrewarra said government departments were responsible for the lake and should pay to reduce fire risks from fairy grass.

The grass lives on dry lake beds and produces dry seed heads which can be a fire hazard.

Mr Martin, a volunteer community member of a lake management committee, said a lot of work was necessary when planning the lake's future, but the work relied on money.

"The lake's managers are predominantly Parks Victoria and the Department of Sustainability and Environment, with Colac Otway Shire having a small responsibility as

**Departments need money from the State Government."**

JOHN MARTIN



well as private landholders," he said.

"In the past the agencies have stated they haven't budgeted for it.

"The departments need money from the State Government.

"They've got to be a good neighbour."

Mr Martin called on the council and its chief executive officer Rob Small to pressure the State Government to allocate money to manage the lake to protect public safety.

"It shouldn't be up to the Colac Otway Shire to fund that. The funds should come

from Parks and DSE."

Mr Martin said fairy grass was a fire hazard and its seed heads could also contaminate crops and affect commercial operations.

"The council should be looking to the State Government departments as a matter of urgency for the upcoming fire season," he said.

Mr Martin said there were "significant new colonies" of fairy grass on the lake.

He said a Dry Lake Working Group was considering ways to restrict fairy grass on the lake this year.

The working group is a sub-committee of the Lake Colac Committee of Management.

Mr Martin criticised comments from Mr Small in Friday's *Colac Herald* that he would urge the dry lake group to plan for Lake Colac's long-term future, rather than only focusing on short-term issues such as fairy grass and dead carp.

"We have been planning for the future, both short and long-term issues," Mr Martin said.

"Every time we meet we certainly think about the lake's future," he said.

Mr Martin said the group was not meant to take direction from Mr Small.

He said the working group made recommendations to the Lake Colac Committee of Management, which in turn made recommendations to the council or government authorities.

## Car crash concern

by Jennifer Chiu

A car crash at an Elliminnyt intersection has raised concerns about the safety of the road.

Senior Constable Ray Doensen said a driver had failed to give way at the corner of Pound Road and Queen Street, before crashing into another car on Pound Road at 10.20am yesterday.

People who live on the intersection say drivers often travel too quickly on Pound Road.

"There are a lot of people coming down this way and think they can see both ways," one resident, who did not want

to be named, said.

"They're just playing chicken with the other cars," she said.

Her neighbour said she always took the precaution of driving onto her nature strip before moving onto Pound Road when she travels out of her driveway.

"I know it's a dangerous road, they should build a roundabout, then it will stop," she said.

"Especially now that the school is here and the childcare centre is on the corner."

Sen Const Doensen said no one was injured and the offending driver would receive a penalty notice for failing to give way.

## Victim can rebuild

Ondit fire victim Lynne Prior will finally be able to rebuild the home she lost on Christmas night last year.

Her plans to rebuild had hit a hurdle a few months ago because planning laws banned building permits on farms of less than 40 hectares, and Ms Prior's property was 1.2 hectares.

Ms Prior has been living in a furnished blue-stone shed since her home burnt down.

Ms Prior said her plans received the green light from the Colac Otway Shire Council last week.

"Everybody's been on the case," she said. "A lot of people, councillors and my mum in particular. They harassed them, I guess, and they must have had second thoughts about it."

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Funeral services are held in an ever increasing number of venues.

Most common are churches, where people have a connection to their own faith.

After this any place where you can gather as a group can be considered. We have directed funerals in private homes, the gardens, football club rooms, bowling clubs, the RSL, tea rooms, nursing home chapels, the beach front and our funeral home chapel. Your options are limitless. Consideration should be given to the seating capacity and the ability for mourners to participate when looking at a venue.

Consultation with your funeral director about venue options is advisable.

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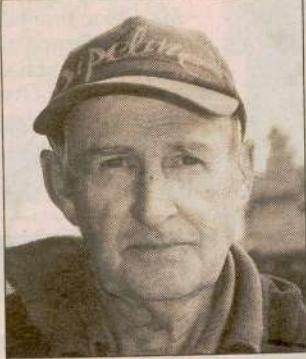
Raleigh

AVANTI

**OPINION****SEWELLS**  
FINANCE LIMITED**On the street**

"If I was in a war zone and I had to get away, I would want to get as far away as I could."

**Loretta Patterson,**  
**Alvie**  
100705JC006



"There's too many and it's gotten out of hand. They should stop them on the other end, where they're running from."

**Jim Moore,**  
**Cressy**  
100705JC007



"I think we should try to help, but they should have to go through the process and not just rock up on boats."

**Kathy Pearce,**  
**Colac**  
100705JC009



"We should be helping them. Asylum seekers should have the same rights as us. They're human so they should have the same opportunities as us."

**Tamara O'Carroll,**  
**Apollo Bay**  
100705JC011



"I think they should say why they're here. Some reasons are worth hearing and some reasons aren't."

**Ynez Galtrey,**  
**Colac**  
100705JC013



"I think the government needs to do more. If the policy's clear-cut, perhaps they'll find another way to get here because it's dangerous for the travellers."

**Nicole Lewerm,**  
**Drysdale**  
100705JC014

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**WEATHER DETAILS****THREE-DAY OUTLOOK**

**WED** Shower, 5-12

**THU** Fog, frost, 3-11

**FRI** Light frost, 3-13

**SUNRISE/SUNSET**

**WED** 7.42am/5.18pm

**THU** 7.42am/5.19pm

**FRI** 7.42am/5.20pm

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**Letters**

Have your say in The Colac Herald. Send letters to the Editor, PO Box 21, Colac 3250, email to news@colacherald.com or fax 52311943.

**Working together to relocate tower**

In December 2009 I purchased my property in Forrest.

At no time did I receive written notification of plans to build a 45-metre telecommunications tower directly opposite me.

Regardless of whether there is scientific proof that these towers emit hazardous radiation – the perception is they do!

Establishing a health-related business and this will negatively affect my business plan, as well as my quality of life.

Health implications aside, the ugliness of this tower will deface the "Gateway to the Otways".

Colac Otway Shire CEO Rob Small indicated that the council had legally followed the statutory guidelines concerning notification to adjacent dwellings, but that there is "something for council to learn" given the community's response.

He is right – it was shoddy and questionable.

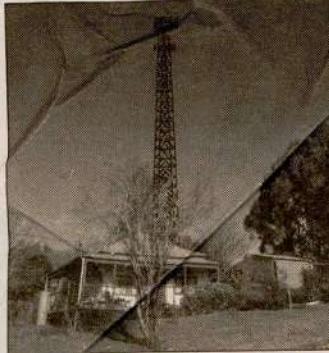
The process of consultation needs a major rethink – it has failed dismally or otherwise there wouldn't be a picket line out the front of my house.

Thank you Rob Small, and councillors for attending Friday's public meeting.

It's heartening to hear you are prepared to reconsider the relocation of this tower and the method of consultation with this community in the future.

Please, please honour this sentiment at Thursday's meeting and work with us to relocate this tower so the residents of Forrest can finally get a good night's sleep.

**Amanda Perry-Bolt,**  
**Forrest**



**IMAGE:** A digital image of how a telecommunications tower might dominate Forrest's skyline.

**Voter has lost confidence**

Re the report in *The Colac Herald* of the meeting in Forrest on Friday, July 2.

The meeting was in opposition to the proposed position of the Optus tower, the position being smack bang in the middle of this lovely Otway Ranges villages when there are other options.

I am not a citizen of Forrest but my mother's family, Turner, has a long history with the town.

Therefore Madam Mayor, because of your message to the meeting, you have lost my confidence and any future vote.

The message was patronising and belittling.

I would also remind you that you can fool some of the people some of the time but not all of the people all of the time.

**Faye Longmore,**  
**Colac East**

**Thanks for care of senior citizens**

On behalf of our senior citizens I would like to thank those lovely people at Coran-

gamarah nursing home for their great band of workers that take such good care of our mothers, fathers, husbands, wives and even brothers or sisters, with respect and dignity, day and night.

They give so much of themselves to our loved ones – bus trips, bingo and other sorts to keep them happy.

These seniors played many roles in their time to pave a way for us to lead a better life.

So now, in the sunset of their lives, they deserve all the respect and loving care they receive at Colac Area Health.

Without these caring carers and volunteers across our nation, our darlings would be lost, confused and forgotten.

My dad was 91 on Monday, his life has been extended another three years thanks to this care.

God bless you all on behalf of Artie.

**Patricia Peterson,**  
**Colac**

**Share the wealth**

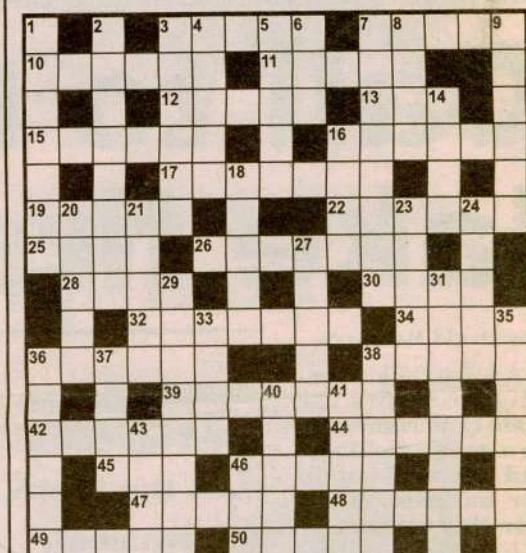
Peter Groves in his letter dated June 28 in *The Colac Herald* says "we now have a PM with a socialist agenda".

Presumably one of the things concerning him is the proposed new tax on the mining industry.

Surely Australians are entitled to a fair share of the profits huge companies make each year. Hopefully the money raised in taxes will be spent on worthwhile projects, which will benefit our society.

We all have our own wish list. Mine is that government money will one day be provided to aid Australian children, who suffer from toothache, because their parents cannot afford to take them to a dentist.

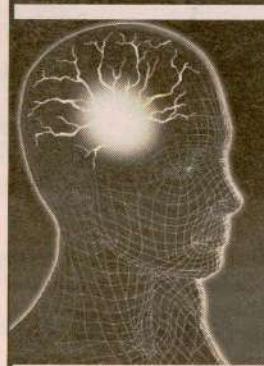
**John James,**  
**Barwon Downs**

**Crossword****Across**

- 1 Bird
- 2 Postpone
- 10 Lace hole
- 11 Speech sound
- 12 Card game
- 13 Faucet
- 15 Sanity
- 16 Givers
- 17 Division
- 19 Grudge
- 22 Goes by
- 25 Place for bees
- 26 Full
- 28 Heavy substance
- 30 Extremities
- 32 Groups of six
- 34 Made a picture of
- 36 Bear witness to
- 38 Indirect effort
- 39 Marionettes
- 42 Stay
- 44 Pulled with effort
- 45 Printers' measures
- 46 Place of retreat
- 47 Commence
- 48 Custom
- 49 Church council
- 50 Large volumes

**Down**

- 1 Give new vigour to
- 2 Calming drug
- 3 Rest
- 4 Make amends
- 5 Happening
- 6 And not
- 7 Explode
- 8 Dash
- 9 Washes lightly
- 14 Mild explosions
- 16 Aeroplane varnish
- 18 Wedge
- 20 Airman
- 21 Tantalise
- 23 Transmits
- 24 Comforted
- 27 Supple
- 29 Looked down on with contempt
- 31 Exercising soldiers
- 33 Stupefy
- 35 Those removing unwanted plants
- 36 Concurs
- 37 Docile
- 38 Yoga positions
- 40 Softly (mus)
- 41 Motif
- 43 Early Christian pulpit
- 46 Success

**Solution in Classifieds****HERALD BRAIN STRAIN**

1. Which pop star played the title role in the 2006 film *Hating Alison Ashley*?

2. What are "orcas" colloquially referred to as?
3. What is the floral emblem of Australia?
4. What is Australia's largest inland city?
5. What do the letters of the television network SBS stand for?
6. Which bushranger did Sidney Nolan portray in a series of paintings he created in 1946-47?
7. What do tumblers, pouters and tipplers have in common?
8. What is the name of the cartoon starring Charlie Brown and who created it?
9. Name the four woodwind instruments played in a classical orchestra.
10. Yarns, loops and hooks all form part of what popular craft pastime?

1. Delta Goodrem
2. Kille Whale
3. Waite
4. Canberra
5. Special Broadcasting Service
6. Ned Kelly
7. They're fancy pigeon varieties
8. Peanuts, Charles M. Schulz
9. Flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon
10. Crochet

**ANSWERS**

F&DHS DOCUMENT ARCHIVE

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Subject Category.....

Key Words.....

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# Professor eases Forrest health concerns Expert claims tower is not cancer threat

by Jennifer Chiu

A leading Australian cancer academic says Forrest residents have no reason to fear a 45-metre mobile phone tower proposed for the heart of their town.

Professor Bernard Stewart, Cancer Control Program director at the University of New South Wales, said there was no evidence mobile phone base stations caused an increased risk of cancer.

Forrest residents have formed a Tower Out Of Town action group to have the tower moved away from homes and businesses, partly because of concerns the tower could cause cancer.

"In broad terms, the strength of any electromagnetic field associated with a mobile phone base station is far less than that generated by personal use of a mobile phone, in so far as it affects people," Mr Stewart said.

"In relation to electromagnetic fields generally, these are not known to cause cancer in humans," he said.

Mr Stewart said a study showing no link between early childhood cancers and phone towers was consistent with the rest of scientific literature on the topic.

The Imperial College of London study found no link between cancer and exposure to electromagnetic fields during pregnancy, after studying data from 7000 children in the United Kingdom.

Mr Stewart also said experiments with electromagnetic fields had failed to cause cancer in rats and mice.

"These have not been successful and direct effects of the fields on biological tissue are poorly characterised



**Bernard Stewart**  
and inconsistent, if demonstrated at all," he said.

"It's conjecture that these levels of electromagnetic fields have any biological effect at all."

"Cells, having been so exposed, do not show any unequivocal evidence of change or injury."

Mr Stewart said people who worked near electromagnetic fields, such as electrical engineers, had shown no increased risk and there was more risk of developing cancer from overhead power lines.

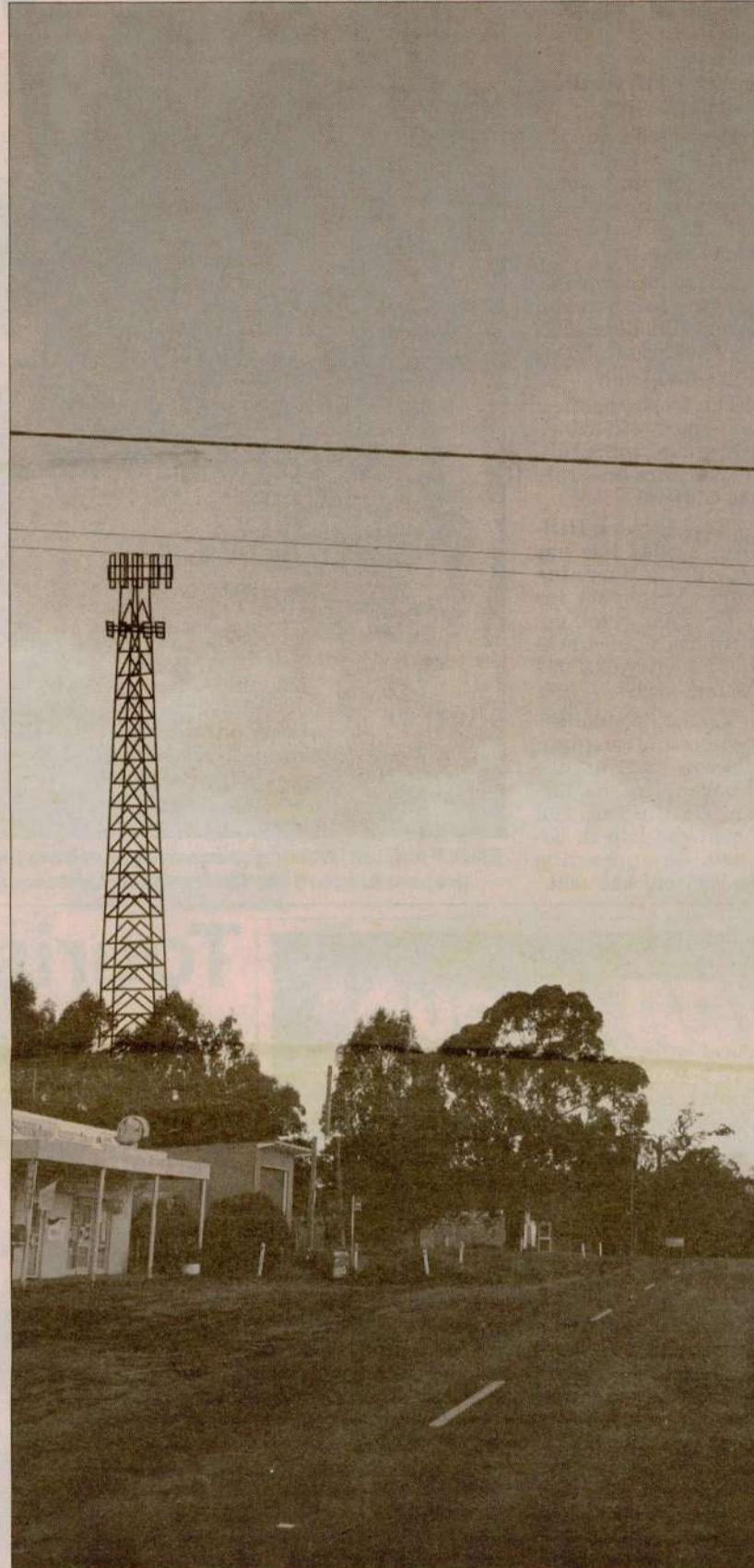
But he said he empathised with Forrest residents on the aesthetics of a 45-metre tower in the town.

"The only thing is a loss of value due to appearance, I would have thought," Mr Stewart said.

"Would I sell my house? No I wouldn't, although I might fight strenuously against the tower on appearance," he said.

"Fear of the unknown should not be mistaken for evidence of injury and in this case, the medical scientific evidence fails to establish any relevant risk."

Forrest residents hope a meeting tomorrow with Colac Otway Shire Council and Optus will find an alternative site for the tower.



**TOWER:** A mock-up of Forrest's proposed telecommunications tower.

## Colac law student is uni's cover girl

by Carla Okai

Colac's Amber Colbourne is the new face of Deakin University's School of Law.

Ms Colbourne is studying her third year of Law and Criminology at Deakin's Warn Ponds campus and is representing the university on the cover of its study guides and promotional material.

Ms Colbourne said the university approached her because she was a member of the Deakin Law Students Society and volunteered at the Barwon Legal Community Centre in Geelong.

"It's a bit overwhelming to see your face on everything, at first you think it's a stranger and then you realize it's actually you," Ms Colbourne said.

**"It's a bit overwhelming to see your face on everything ..."**

AMBER COLBOURNE

"But I'm getting used to it and it's good to be helping out the university," she said.

After appearing on the front cover of the university's School of Law material, Ms Colbourne's photo is now on posters and brochures encouraging students to enrol at Deakin University.

Ms Colbourne attended Colac West Primary School and Colac High School before finishing her VCE at Geelong College.

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**COVER GIRL:** Colac's Amber Colbourne on a poster for Deakin University's School of Law.

## Website lesson for businesses

An information session will teach Colac businesses people about building a website.

The ezEonline session on July 21 will cover ways to provide a user-friendly and cost-efficient way of reaching a local, national and global audience via the internet.

Colac Otway Shire Council's business development officer Michael Swanson said the program reinforced the importance of developing a business website.

There will be an information session to gauge interest in further workshops on July 21 from 6pm at Colac Otway Performing Arts and Cultural Centre.

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# Bus service had too few passengers

by Jennifer Chiu

A lack of passengers will spell the end of a bus route linking Colac and Gellibrand.

Colac Otway Shire Council has been running a trial of the Colac-Gellibrand route since February as part of a Department of Transport's Transport Connections Project.

Project co-ordinator Trina Ebeling said the route failed to attract the numbers to continue.

"But Transport Connections is negotiating further options for this service," Ms Ebeling said.

Melissa Hatwell, Gellibrand River Hotel's head chef, said she expected no real change in patron levels because of the end of the bus service.

"We get a fair few people come from Colac and we also get a lot of local Gellibrand



Trina Ebeling

the trial will continue running.

It costs \$1 to ride the bus, which is a school bus that would normally have been garaged between school runs.

The route comprises a daytrip loop between Lavers Hill, Beech Forest, Gellibrand, Loves Creek and Colac.

The Department of Transport will run a trial of the Lavers Hill-Colac service from July 9 to April 30.

"The Lavers Hill-Colac Friday bus has provided affordable public transport for medical and retail opportunities since February 5 this year," Ms Ebeling said.

"Council would like to thank and congratulate the communities of Lavers Hill, Kawarren, Gellibrand and those who live in between for supporting the service," she said.

people and a lot of tourists," Ms Hatwell said.

"I don't think it will affect us that much," she said.

"It might affect people that don't have transport, that will be a big impact – if they want to go to Colac and they can't get there because they can't drive."

Meanwhile, a Friday Lavers Hill to Colac bus that was part of



END: From left, Walking group members from left, Marion Watson, Kathy Quinton and Joyce Iselt prepare to board the Gellibrand to Colac loop bus, which will stop running after this week.

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## Tourist attractions are safety concern

Erosion has threatened public safety at tourist platforms near the Twelve Apostles, forcing authorities to close viewing areas.

Parks Victoria has reviewed the location of visitor facilities at the Blowhole at Loch Ard Gorge and at the Twelve Apostles.

Ranger in charge Ben Hammond said an inspection around the Blowhole revealed the lookout and walking track presented a safety risk.

The blowhole is part of an underground sea cave that stretches underneath the walking track.

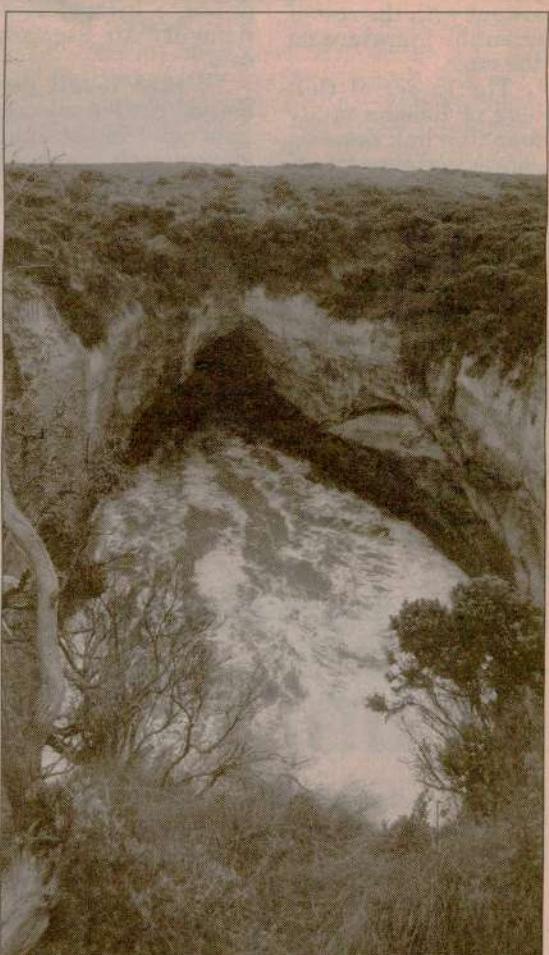
Changes in the rock formation forced Parks Victoria to close the viewing platform on June 28.

"The coast along the Port Campbell National Park is known as one of the most actively eroding areas in Australia – due to a combination of the soft limestone of the area and powerful swells of the Southern Ocean," Mr Hammond said.

"Planning has begun immediately for new lookouts and access tracks for the Blowhole area," he said.

Other facilities in the Loch Ard area will remain open.

"We will continue to work with tour op-



BLOW: Loch Ard Gorge's blowhole is a popular tourist attraction on the Great Ocean Road.

erators and on site to ensure the visitor experience remains spectacular," Mr Hammond said.

Parks has also temporarily closed part of the boardwalk at the Twelve Apostles while experts complete engineering assessments.

"There are a number

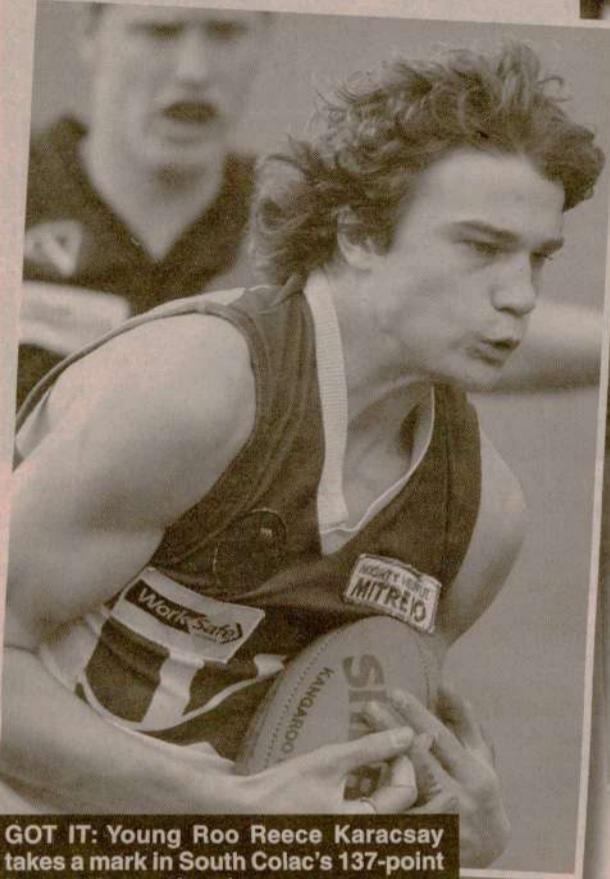
of other lookouts that give people the views and experiences the area is famous for," Mr Hammond said.

"Facilities open at the Twelve Apostles include the famous views from the boardwalk and the Bunker and Saddle lookouts," he said.

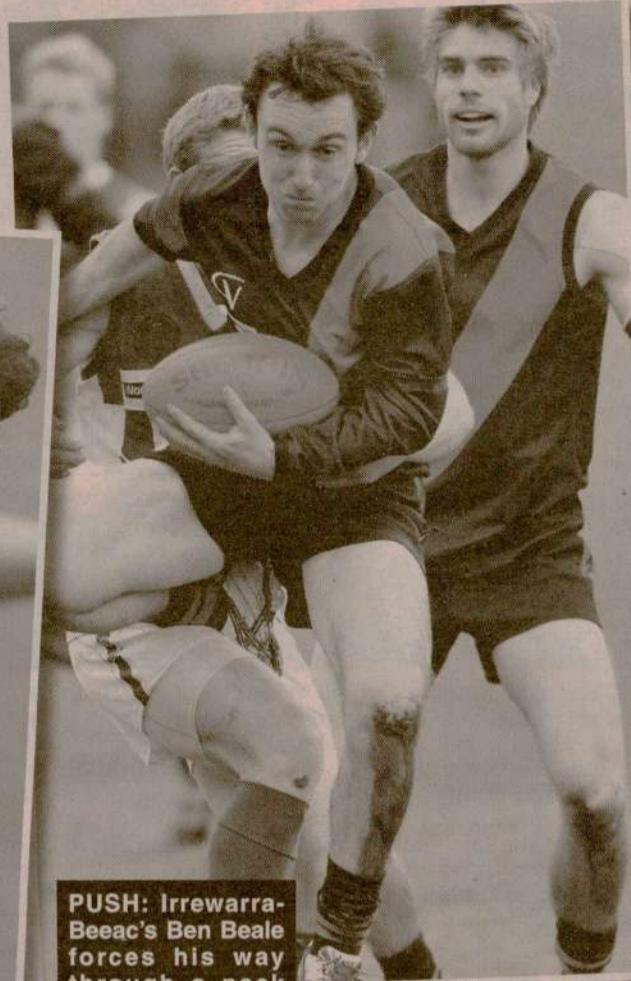
## WEEKEND HOT SHOTS



Colac Herald photographer Nigel Hallett brings together his best shots of Colac district footballers and netballers in action.



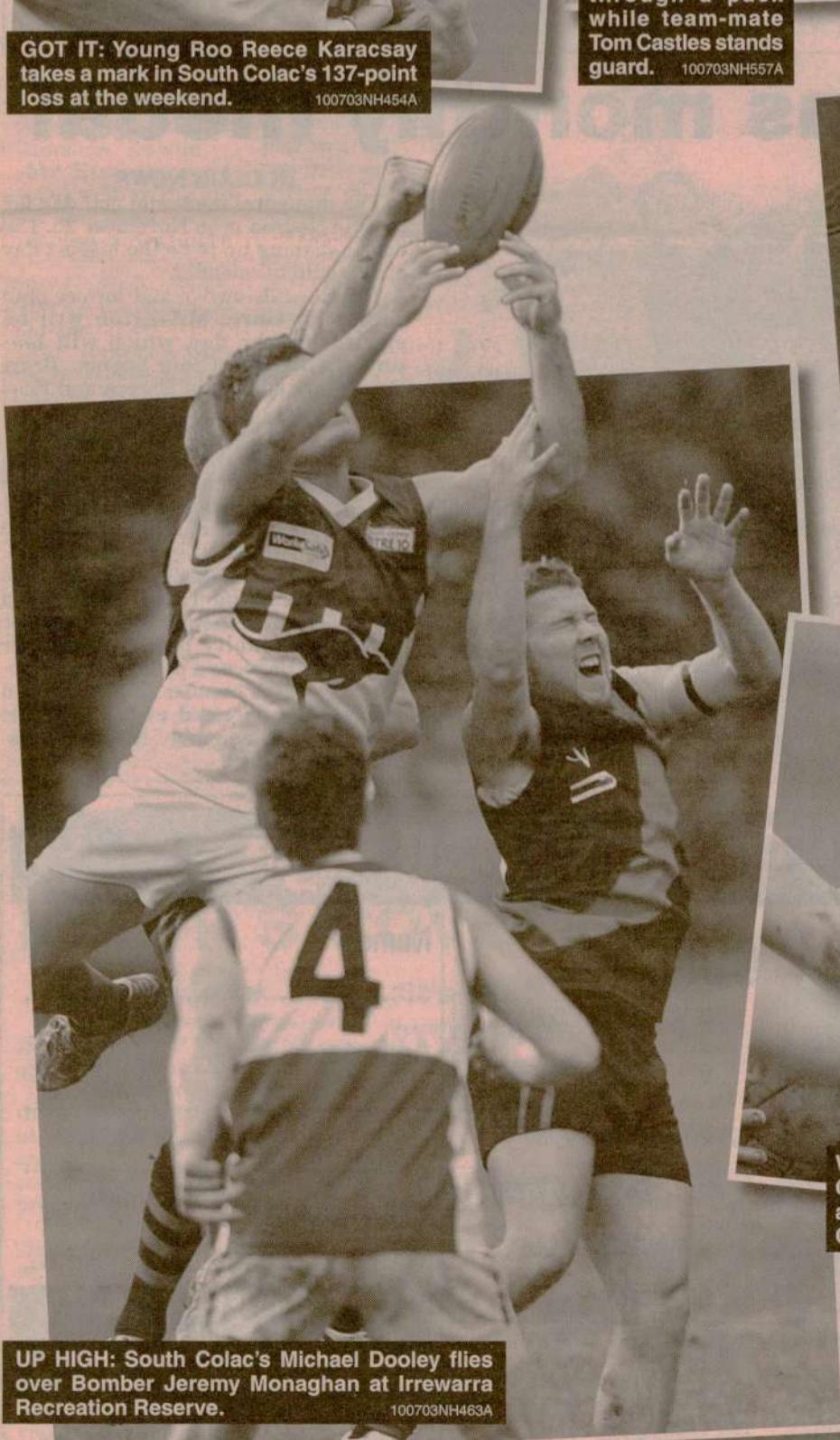
**GOT IT:** Young Roo Reece Karacsay takes a mark in South Colac's 137-point loss at the weekend. 100703NH454A



**PUSH:** Irrewarra-Beeac's Ben Beale forces his way through a pack while team-mate Tom Castles stands guard. 100703NH557A



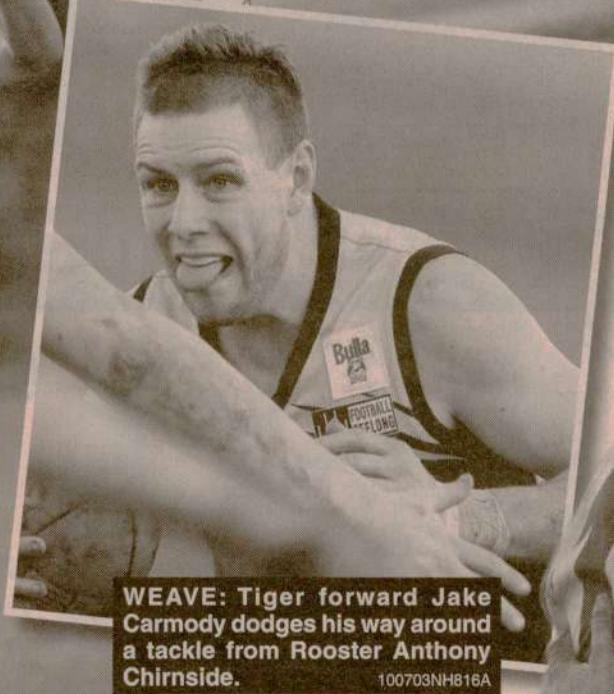
**READY:** Colac Tiger Simone Hickman awaits a pass in the Tigers' A Grade clash with Geelong West St Peters. 100703NH292A



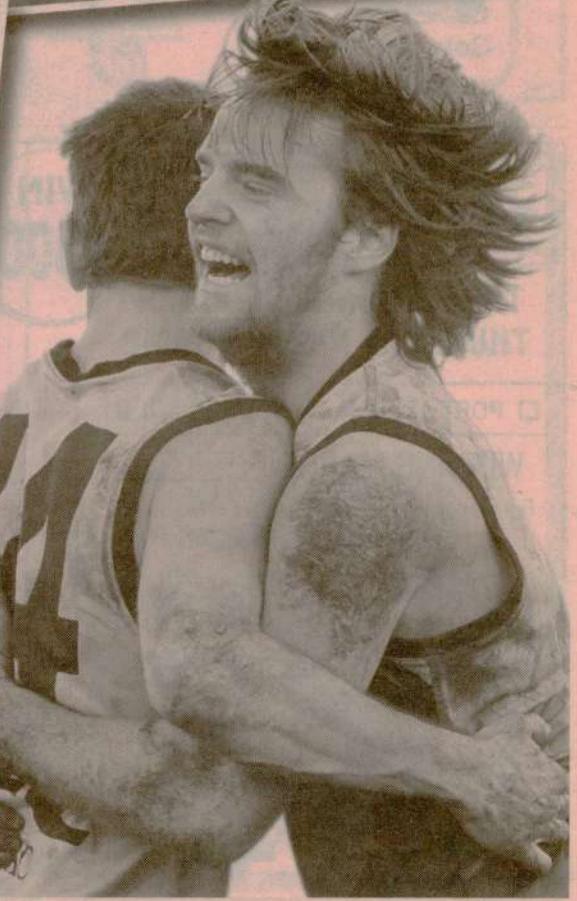
**UP HIGH:** South Colac's Michael Dooley flies over Bomber Jeremy Monaghan at Irrewarra Recreation Reserve. 100703NH463A



**BACK:** Colac Tiger returnee Lochie Veale marks in front of Geelong West St Peter's Gareth Donald. 100703NH835A



**WEAVE:** Tiger forward Jake Carmody dodges his way around a tackle from Rooster Anthony Chirnside. 100703NH816A



**HAPPY:** Tigers Dan Jeffreys and Kane Leersen celebrate a goal in the Tigers' 50-point win at the weekend. 100703NH906A

