

Making waves

Swimmers at Monash Aquatic and Recreation Centre had a sneak peek at the cream of Australia's swimming talent last week. The Australian squad, including stars Stephanie Rice (pictured), Libby Lenton, Michael Kim and Grant Hackett, started training in MARC's outdoor 50-metre pool on Thursday. The Australian and German teams will be based there for the next two weeks. MARC marketing manager David Douglas said the public was able to attend an open Australian training session on Saturday, but otherwise patrons were barred from the outdoor pool from 6.30-9.30am and 3.30-6.30pm.

Picture: Lucy Di Paolo



SEE page 19 and 30 for more sport.

MONASH JOURNAL 19 MARCH 2007

Wave of support for splash pad at Oakleigh pool site

COMMUNITY Life Action Group has expressed surprise after a wave of support was recorded for a splash pad to be developed on the Oakleigh pool site.

As the public consultation series nears its conclusion, the second speak-out session, at Oakleigh Recreation Centre, attracted 70 participants.

The splash pad option was one of the less popular options at a stakeholders' meeting last month.

The first speak-out at Eaton Mall, Oakleigh, attracted about 150 visitors,

most of whom voted by painted handprint for 'none of the above' — a rejection of the four options framed by Monash Council.

CLAG spokeswoman Julie Clearwater said she noted some of the people had written that they voted for a splash pad because it was "unique". "We'd say it is just as unique as the existing pool, and we've already had a splash pad once [now disused at Brickmakers Park]."

She said the consultation was "a bit of a farce" because the most popular option — complete refurbishment of Oakleigh pool —

wasn't among the four options offered. None of the options will retain the shallow pool for toddlers or learner swimmers.

Ms Clearwater said CLAG planned to put up a stall at yesterday's Oakleigh Festival, the site of the third speak-out, to inform people of their right to vote for the 'fifth option'. She said CLAG was organising a petition to strengthen its claim.

"It's nice the council is keeping [the pool site] open, but why has it shut out one section of the community?"

Consultant director Andrea Cook said

consultants didn't force respondents to vote for one of only four options.

She said 'activities' allowed people to add in additional elements. A great number of respondents had opted for toddlers pools. She said a younger crowd had attended the recreation centre speak-out than the people at Eaton Mall — with most support for a splash pad, and a number wanting a diving pool.

Ms Cook intends to report the final results back to council next month.

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Monash backs shave day

Skulls shine for cancer research

MONASH JOURNAL 19 MARCH 2007

By Camron Lucadou-Wells

HAIR was sacrificed or coloured in Monash to raise money for leukaemia research last week.

Cr Denise McGill and Community Life Action Group spokeswoman Julie Clearwater have different opinions on the Oakleigh pool but were united by hair dye for the World's Greatest Shave at Oakleigh Centro last Friday.

Cr McGill, whose husband Len has had leukaemia since 1999, chose a pink tint at her grand-daughter's suggestion.

Ms Clearwater, in keeping with the colour theme for the Save Oakleigh Pool campaign, chose blue.

Another Monash councillor, Paul Klisaris, had his head shaved.

Cr McGill said her hair treatment was "very temporary", having pre-booked a correction session with a hairdresser that afternoon.

She said her husband's illness was in remission, but he'd "been through the mill" and there was no known cure.

"His immune system is still very low ... but things have



Close shaves: Justin, David Gubbels and Nicholas shed their locks for leukaemia research.

Picture: Rob Carew

been all right in the last few years, touch wood."

The couple plan to travel into the Simpson Desert in July.

Mr McGill, a long-time muso, still plays drums for touring rock-and-rollers such as Johnny Preston and Johnny Tillotson.

At St Christopher's Primary School, Nicholas Gubbels and schoolmate Justin raised more than \$3000 for shaving their heads on Wednesday.

Nicholas, who was featured in the *Journal* last month, was sup-

ported by about 90 school friends who coloured their hair.

His father David also shaved his hair.

Nicholas raised \$1450 for the cause two years ago after a neighbour contracted non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

In the past 10 years, two of the school's pupils have died of the disease.

In their memory, the school created a grade 6 memorial award and planted a tree in the school grounds.

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