

# Aussie Hawk misses storm but sent to Austria

By **AMY REMEIKIS**

SHE is worth just under a \$250,000, left New Orleans two weeks before Hurricane Katrina hit, and arrived in Australia via Austria.

And for members of the Maroochy Aero Club, she was well worth the wait.

The Cessna C172SP or Sky Hawk is the latest aircraft to join the club's ranks and president Gerry Mussen said there was "already a queue to fly her".

"She flies very sweetly and our club members are enthusiastically queuing for her," he said.

The 2003 model was sourced from a flying school in Miami, but was late arriving on the Sunshine Coast because of a shipping mistake.

"She was shipped out from New Orleans, just two weeks before the hurricane, but we had to chase her whereabouts because she was about four weeks late.

"We eventually tracked her down in the port of Antwerp, which is in Austria. They must have got the country wrong," Mr Mussen said.

Believed to be the only one of her kind on the Sunshine Coast, the plane replaces the club's 28-year-old Piper Archer.

"A number of the long-



**NEW MEMBER:** Maroochy Aero Club's Alan Brownbill, Steve Morrison, David Garwood and Gerry Mussen with the new Sky Hawk.

**INSET:** Aero club president Gerry Mussen at the controls.

Photos: David Thomas

time members were sad to see the Archer go," Mr Mussen said. "But I'm sure they'll appreciate the modern equipment and auto pilot in our new one."

The Cessna has a "glass cockpit" and contains the "latest avionics and a three-axis auto pilot".

The club's recently

crowned "pilot of the year", David Garwood, appreciates their latest addition, but his heart belongs elsewhere.

"I'm in the queue to fly her, but my favourite is still our ex-military plane," he said. "She just feels like an aircraft should, she has that nice smell of leather and wood."

Mr Garwood was named the club's pilot of the year for accumulating the most points during competitions, but the former Royal Navy pilot said he keeps flying for the feeling it gives him.

"It keeps you sharp and on the edge," he said.

"There is no other feeling like it, I love it."



# Titanium's \$400m bid now official

By **GORDON CLARK**

TITANIUM Enterprises has lodged a development application with Noosa Council for its controversial \$400 million The Edge residential golf course development near Kin Kin.

But councillor Ray Kelly said yesterday he was unsure what role council would play in the process, with the application to be assessed by the Office of Urban Management.

"This is the first time it's happened in our shire ... we're really the watchers here at the moment," he said.

"I honestly believe it should be up to us ... I mean, if they approve it, does that mean we have to approve it?"

While the Kin Kin Community Development Group (KKCDG) said it supported the project, Mr Kelly said he believed a lot of people had "an opposite view".

KKCDG immediate past president and committee member Colin Jackson said he believed the concerns raised about the project, including fertiliser run-off, water use out of Kin

Kin Creek and access to horse trails, had been satisfactorily dealt with.

Mr Jackson said that with timber, small crops and dairying having all come and gone, the town needed a new source of employment.

"It's fairly positive from a Kin Kin point of view ... our group is in favour of the project," he said.

Titanium Enterprises said the project would create more than 300 construction jobs and more than 150 long-term jobs - 75% full-time - with a commitment to source as many positions as possible locally.

The development, on 514 hectares, would include five-star tourist accommodation, an 18-hole Greg Norman-designed championship golf course and country club, an equestrian centre, bushwalking and horse riding trails, arts community facilities, restaurants, a catering school, orchards, a day spa, fitness centre, tennis courts, heated lap pool and steam rooms - all open to the public.

Just 2% of the site will have buildings, with 80% for conservation.

## New hope for Cow Candy bid

SIGNIFICANT changes to eligibility criteria for funding under the Federal Government's \$444 million Sugar Industry Reform Program should boost the chances of the Coast's fledgling "Cow Candy" project receiving its crucial \$3 million assistance package.

Just three of 70 applications were successful in round one of the Regional and Community Projects component of the SIRP earlier this year, with the Biocene request among the vast majority that missed out.

But Edward Gainer, the Federal Government's Maroochy-based Sugar Executive Officer for the South region, which stretches from Maryborough to Beenleigh, said the Department of Agriculture had changed the criteria for round two to try to "broaden the economic base of sugar cane-dependent communities".

"We've tried to ensure that cane-growing regions which aren't aligned to a local sugar mill are not excluded from the funding process," he said.

### IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

#### Candidates sought

THE Nationals are inviting nominations from people wanting to contest the Coast seats of Glass House and Nicklin at the next Queensland election as part of State Opposition leader Lawrence Springborg's team.

Nationals state director Brad Henderson said the party had begun campaigning in seats right across Queensland, determined to unseat Peter Beattie's "under-performing Labor Government" with a team of "local champions" who would put their community's interests first.

Further details and nomination forms can be obtained by phoning the Nationals on (07) 3844 0666.

#### Deadline extended

CALOUNDRA City residents have been given two more weeks to get their nominations in for the 2006 Australia Day Awards.

Mayor Don Aldous said a limited response by the community had prompted council to extend the deadline for nominations to Wednesday, November 23.

Nomination forms are available from council's Customer Service Centre or city libraries. Alternatively, you can download a nomination form from council's website at [www.caloundra.qld.gov.au](http://www.caloundra.qld.gov.au) by following the Australia Day links. Winners will be named on January 26.

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