

Courts referee marina stoush

By GLENN ROBERTS

THE courts are likely to decide the fate of the Northeast Business Park after State Planning Minister Stirling Hinchliffe decided on Friday not to go ahead with his threat to take over the assessment process.

Mr Hinchliffe said that after consulting stakeholders he did not think the reasons for calling the project in were "sufficiently compelling".

The move was welcomed by Moreton Bay Regional Council Mayor Allan Sutherland who said the Planning and Environment Court was the most appropriate place for council's refusal of part of the project to be tested.

Councillor Sutherland said his council continued to have "significant concerns" about the impact the marina and residential complex could have on the health of the "already fragile" Caboolture River.

"At the top of our list of concerns is a proposal to dredge 9km of the sensitive Caboolture River to accommodate the marina," Cr Sutherland said.

"Up to two thirds of this parcel of land is below the Q100 flood level and council isn't convinced plans to back-fill part of the site

won't shift flooding problems elsewhere."

"I don't want to see Moreton Bay's ratepayers footing the bill to mop up the environmental damage that could be unleashed on the river catchment, if the marina component of this development was allowed to proceed."

Mr Hinchliffe said the project could only start if the developer could satisfy state regulations such as the Marine Parks Act 2004.

But he took a swipe at the council.

"Council was instrumental in drafting tough conditions around flooding and management of the Caboolture River, which is why it is so hard to understand their subsequent rejection of those elements of the project," Mr Hinchliffe said.

"The Department of Environment and Resource Management initially raised similar concerns around the Caboolture River but it is satisfied tough conditions, such as the need for an estuary management plan, will fully address any impacts."

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Stars shine before rain



DETERMINED: Rachael Iselo of Deception Bay at the Sunshine Coast Little Athletics regional carnival at Centenary Lakes.

THE Sunshine Coast Little Athletics (As) regional carnival fell victim to the rain at Centenary Lakes on Sunday but not before Caboolture, Deception Bay and Wamuran athletes gave their best.

Under-12 discus thrower Rachael Iselo (pictured) represented the Deception Bay centre and struck a determined look in her attempt.

The washed-out events have been rescheduled for

this Sunday. Caboolture Little As spokeswoman Julie Totoro said Saturday was "brilliant", with an impressive display of personal bests.

More pictures, www.cabooltureherald.com.au.

Tuckshop ready to chop day

■ From page 1

Mr Dunn said profits from the canteen helped keep registration fees down but a lack of volunteers could impact on sales and put upward pressure on fees.

He knew one local club that refunded part of its registration fee if parents volunteered.

A Volunteering Queensland spokeswoman said while some organisations struggled to find enough volunteers, others had long waiting lists.

The spokeswoman said the problem was often finding the right people for particular jobs.

State Member for Morayfield Mark Ryan has volunteered, at his suggestion, to work at the cafe on February 17 to raise awareness.

Slow down

ELECTRONIC road signs displaying a message to drivers to "check your speed" will be installed on three local roads. The signs also display the speed limit and will be placed on the D'Aguilar Highway, Woodford, Bribie Island Rd, Caboolture, and Kilcoy-Beerwah Rd, Stanmore.

Join Guides

NARANGBA Girl Guides are celebrating the state-wide organisation's centenary year. The Narangba guide hut, in Kelly St, has vacancies for girls aged five to 18. Phone Wendy on 3385 5596 or visit www.guidesqld.org.

Rental grants

NON-PROFIT community groups are invited to apply for a share of \$180,000 in grants from the Residential Tenancy Authority. Contact the RTA's community engagement unit on 1300 366 311 or visit the RTA website at rta.qld.gov.au.



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