



Coast Confidential

with Rachel Syers, Lauren Barker and Seanna Cronin

G.C. BULLETIN
TUE 20TH MAY 2008



C was appalled to see a young driver who tailed an ambulance to get ahead of rush-hour traffic on Ferry Road yesterday morning.

The truck drove dangerously as north-bound commuters made way for the emergency vehicle to reach an accident at the corner of Monaco Street.

The daring driver's rude move was met with honks, angry stares and hand gestures, but drivers could do little to stop him.

If you're that desperate to get to work on time mate, leave home earlier!

PLAYBOY bunnies may have been jumping for joy to see a quirky mascot at Bangalow's annual Billy Cart Derby on Sunday. One cart was transformed (through creative papier mache) into a giant carrot cheekily named the Rapid Root. In one race - a tag-team contest - teams had to roll to the bottom of the hill, another member ran the cart back to the top of the hill before another jumped in and raced down

again. The Rapid Root looked to be a contender on the final leg before the lady driver found a case of the wobbles and flipped the giant carrot at full speed. Although support members ran to her aid, the lucky racer stood uninjured to relieved cheers from the crowd.

Next year the Rapid Root team might want to try a more aerodynamic vegetable to help its chances.

WE HAVE all heard of Spongebob SquarePants, but Flypants?

CC has caught wind of Dreamworld's plans to build a new Spongebob-themed ride.

Set in the fantasy Jellyfish Fields, the ride will plunge and spin through the imaginary deep sea world of Bikini Bottom and feature many of Bob's buddies.

CC isn't sure how and when ocean-going Spongebob will take to the sky, but at least the quirky cartoon character will fit in well with his surrounds at the marine-themed park.

Disappearing disc proves reality check

JOHAN Harley Weston (below) is finally ready to release his new album, *Welcome Back to Reality*, but it hasn't been a smooth road for the Mt Tamborine-based singer. Maybe it was a miracle or the threat of a seething Myspace blog, but either way his master disc, which was lost en route to Sony's Sydney studios in March for duplication, eventually turned up safe and sound.



The disc was the only final version of his new album, which took two years to make, and was lost for a nerve-wrecking couple of weeks.

Weston was at his wit's end after spending days trying to navigate Australia Post's customer service labyrinth.

Sony was just about to create another master disc, not an easy or cheap endeavour, when John

received the good news of it being found safe and sound - just in the nick of time for production to continue on schedule.

He never did get an explanation, but John said he was just happy everything worked out in the end.

He will launch his CD on Saturday week outside the Gold Coast Arts Centre as part of Cancer Council Queensland's Relay For Life fundraising event.

Rogues take shine to rising Byron outfit

POSITIVE thinking has paid off for Byron Bay band Very Unique Existence.

The self-proclaimed 'positive consciousness rockers' have been selected by The Rogue Traders as special guests for their Lismore Workers Club gig on Saturday.

Rarely using other acts, The Rogue Traders and their management selected the band after listening to the Byron group's debut album, *Everyone*.

It's a huge testament to the band's hard work over the past six months, which has also paid off with placement on the listener-voted Australia Hot 20 list.

The band's first single, *Take it Easy*, climbed from number 19 to number one on the chart and held the top spot for five days.

The band also wants to thank the hundreds of people who were touch after their TV appearance last week, where the band discussed how they donate part of the proceeds of every gig to a local charity.

Keep sending the positive vibes our way, guys.



School reworks stage hit

SOUTHPORT High students may not be old enough to remember the Broadway debut of *The Wiz*, but that's not getting in the way of them this week celebrating the groundbreaking musical's 30th anniversary.

The students have been working since January on their updated hip-hop version of the show with the help of Tora, an artist in residence from world-renowned physical theatre company Zenzendo, and hip-hop choreographer Luis Pinto, from Megalim.

Their cowardly lion is more funk than fraidy-cat, the tinman is a circus-trained acrobat

and the wicked witch is



The Southport High School this week celebrates the 30th anniversary of *The Wiz*

more of a foxy cleopatra than a green-faced ghoul.

The flying monkeys also have been turned into a gang of 'gangsta' monkeys.

Director and teacher Rachel Cutajar said the kids had pushed the boundaries, put in long

hours to out-do last Thursday and Friday.

When a heel chases a heel

THE Gold Coast fashion pack can be fickle at times, but it can be emphatically stated they sure know what they want when they see it.

Adrenalin boutique owner Dean McCauley has been trying to tactfully share his store goodies around, but seeing as how he has a limited number of the super hot items, it is getting to be tricky.

Especially when two women last week had a stoush over the last pair of Schutz heeled shoe boots from Brazil.

"They sell for \$299 but they are nearly identical to a \$1500 pair from Louboutin so they have been running out the door as soon as we get them," said Dean.

"One woman had just tried the last pair in her size on, was trying on another pair of heels when another woman came and grabbed the shoes and began trying them on.

"They were telling each other how

they were taking them, and I had to step in and grab them back for the customer who had them first - the second woman ended up buying a pair one size larger just to have them."

So Dean has figured out an easier way to keep the peace for the new Black Rats pants from sass & bide (left) that debuted at New York Fashion Week recently.

"The black ruched-side pants are proving to be the next 'it' pants. We have been inundated with so many requests we have a waiting list for customers who want to get their hot little hands on them before the first delivery sells out," said Dean.

"We expect the first delivery will be sold out before it even hits the store in early June.

"We haven't seen such hype on a pant since sass & bide released the black Freyed Misfit skinny leg jeans a few years back that Kate Moss made famous."

Titans ball buy beats all other Mother's Day presents

SOME were happy with chocolates and flowers on Mother's Day, but Julie Carroll wasn't complaining when her husband successfully bid \$60,000 for a luxury car at the Titan's annual ball.

James Frizelles Audi Centre officially handed over its top-of-the-range Audi A4 1.8 Turbo Multitronic to the winners of the third-annual Gold Coast Titans Community Foundation auction, Julie and Glenn Carroll (pictured right).

The luxury car is the first of the model to arrive on the Gold Coast on May 1 and was

donated to the foundation in the hope to raise funds for the Gold Coast project for homeless youth and the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre.

Generous husband and state manager for Streets Ice Cream, Glenn Carroll said it was a spontaneous decision that led to him to buy the luxury car.

"I had a few bids at the time but I went outside to answer my phone and came back in to find all my offers outbid," he said.

"The car was up next and it got the better of me. It was as easy as that."

Mrs Carroll said she wasn't surprised by her husband's impulse buy, but was still over the moon with her new present.

"I never know what to expect from him. He's just like that," she said.

"The atmosphere on the night was great so it was easy to get caught up in the moment, but it's really great to see the money going to worthwhile charities."

The car was one of 50 items sold, raising more than \$185,000 for the foundation and two deserving charities.

James and Rebecca Frizelle were both present at the Audi dealership

and happy to hand over the generous gift.

"We donated the car to raise funds for these two worthy causes," said Ms Frizelle.

"The Coast has the highest rate of domestic violence in Queensland so it's definitely worthwhile."

The lucky new owners enjoyed the rest of their day knowing good deeds were done.

"We always said we would get something like this one day, but no time like the present," said Mrs Carroll.

"I'll be driving it to the Titans' games but I'll let Glenn drive it out of the dealership first."

