

# NEWS



On the angle: University of Braunschweig, Germany, driver Marc Daniel takes part in the 'tilt test'. The team ended up finishing seventeenth overall.

## Business soars in Tailem Bend

By Courtney Blacker

TAILEM BEND and surrounding areas have benefited from a passing tourism injection from national and international visitors for the SAE Australasia competition.

The four-day event, which began last Thursday and was held at the Mitsubishi Test Track at Tailem Bend, was a huge success, with the town being a hive of activity.

Tailem Bend Information Centre spokesperson Ruth Julian said statistics show that the town had more than double the people passing through than usual.

"The deli next door to us was just about sold out of everything ... it was good for us, but it's helping the town as well," she said.

"We had people coming through and asking about accommodation and there was zilch - we had to send them to other areas."

Riverside Hotel owner Mark Crocker said he was pleased with the increase of business he had received and that the competition was "welcome to come back anytime".

"We had people from all nationalities

eating here ... we were serving from 80 to 120 meals on weeknights, which was excellent for business," he said.

The VIP catering company in Coomandook also received a lot of business and was utilised for meals by Mitsubishi.

University of Braunschweig, Germany, team member Christoph Von Hugo said since arriving in the Murraylands the team had been able to meet a lot of local people and they had received a friendly reception.

"We have been able to travel around a fair bit and for some competitors it is their first time in Australia," he said.

Winners for the competition were the Georgia Institute of Technology, The United States, which made it's debut performance in the competition this year.

SAE Australasia executive director Stuart Charity said since the competition had been staged in Australia the quality and performance of the vehicles had improved substantially.

"Students working on these vehicles represent the leaders of the next generations of engineers that will help guide and shape the future of Australia's car industry," he said.

## Limestone Coast Tourism reviewed

CONCERN surrounding the operations of the Limestone Coast Tourism Board rose when they recently met with the South East Local Government Association and the South Australian Tourism Commission.

On November 21 a meeting was held between the three groups to discuss the future structure and

relationship between these groups for the next three-year funding agreement, to commence in July.

Particular concerns were raised in regard to balanced representation on the board selection panel.

There were also concerns about sufficient provision in staffing to look after the interests of the LCT body and its members.

The LCT staff have been advised their contracts, which were due to end June 30 next year, will not be renewed, however according to Mr Yates this will not preclude them from applying for the proposed new positions.

Further discussions about the board are to be held on December 11.

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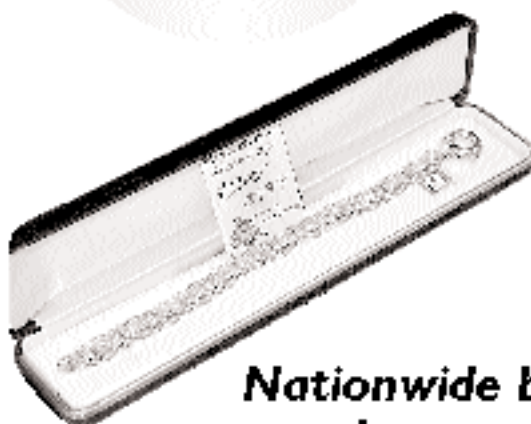


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