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WEATHER

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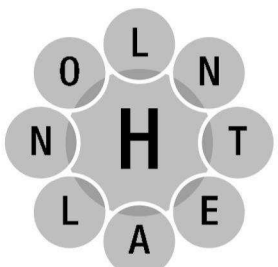
TODAY	MIN 16	MAX 23
Partly cloudy, medium chance of showers		
TOMORROW	MAX 24	
Partly cloudy		
FRIDAY	MAX 21	
Partly cloudy		
SATURDAY	MAX 21	
Partly cloudy		



OZ LOTTO
Draw 1518: 1, 30, 4, 38, 9, 19, 6. Supps: 37, 10, 13.
Div 1 prize pool: \$5.5m.

MONDAY LOTTO
Draw 4270: 7, 14, 16, 41, 43, 21. Supps: 31, 5.
Div 1: \$1m; Div 2: \$6,289.45; Div 3: \$506.95; Div 4: \$26.95; Div 5: \$14.70; Div 6: \$11.50
thelott.com

WORD PUZZLE



In making a word each letter may be used only once, and the centre letter must be included. No slang, hyphens, apostrophes or plurals ending in 's'. Minimum four letters.
Good 18, Very good 22, Excellent 29

akin arak bake baker bank banker bark barker beak bike biker brake break brink ikebana inker KARABINER karri kerb kern kina kine nark narkier rake rank ranker rink

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GREAT READING TOMORROW



LEIGH PAATSCH REVIEWS KEANU REEVES' LATEST ACTION OFFERING SMARTDAILY

JOHN WICK 4



MELTING POTS

SHAKE UP YOUR SLOW COOKER REPERTOIRE SMARTDAILY



SAVVY SHOPPERS THE BEST BARGAINS YOU CAN BAG THIS WEEK SMARTDAILY

Greens, Labor deal sinks probe

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE
In an explosive letter, first detailed by the Herald Sun, Mr Redlich accused government MPs of interfering over the parliament's Integrity and Oversight Committee. He also accused the government of launching revenge attacks on IBAC in retaliation to a series of probes into its dealings.

The committee's proposed terms of reference would have given it the powers to investigate the IOC, the adequacy of IBAC's funding, and the scope of the corruption watchdog's powers.

The opposition was banking on the support of the four Greens upper house MPs and at least three crossbenchers to establish the committee.

On Monday, Greens leader Samantha Ratnam told the Herald Sun the party was "open to the establishment of a select committee".

However late on Tuesday the party backed away from the plan after striking a deal with the government.

In a statement Victorian Greens integrity spokesman, Dr Tim Read, said under the agreement the IOC would no longer have a government majority or government chair. Dr Read said the reform was a better way to strengthen the state's integrity system than the select committee being proposed by the Opposition.

"We want to see Victoria better protected from corruption. For that reason, no single political party should have a majority on the Integrity and Oversight Committee; it should be truly independent," he said. "The Integrity and Oversight Committee is now in a powerful position to hold the current and future governments accountable with the precedent created."

"We have worked with all parties on this because we want to see an outcome that improves the state's anti-corruption regime."

The move was backed by the Legalise Cannabis party. Leader of the Opposition in the upper house, Georgie Crozier, slammed the move.

"We need to get to the bottom of the concerns raised in the letter by Robert Redlich," she said. "This committee would have given the opportunity to do so."



Musician and prostate cancer drug beneficiary David Cosma with children Charlie, 8, and Georgie, 11. Picture: David Caird

Pill starves killer cancer
New hope in prostate battles

EXCLUSIVE ROBYN RILEY

A NEW drug is available in Australia from Wednesday for men battling the most deadly form of advanced prostate cancer.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has registered the drug darolutamide (sold as Nubeqa) for men with advanced metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer. The drug is taken as a tablet twice daily and works by starving cancer cells of the hormones they need to grow and divide.

Metastasis means the cancer has spread to a different part of the body from where it started. The drug has been approved for use as a "triplet therapy" where it is taken in combination with chemotherapy and a hormone therapy injection.

It is this method that a major international study

confirms not only extends life but improves a patient's quality of life.

More than 1300 men worldwide, including patients from Australia, took part in the ARASENS trial published in the New England Journal of Medicine a year ago. Further promising results were published last month.

The trial involved men with metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer and found that survival was significantly longer for those on the triplet therapy of darolutamide combined with androgen-deprivation therapy and chemotherapy.

While the Bayer-made drug has been available in Australia since 2020 for prostate cancer before it has spread, it has been given the green light for use in men with more advanced disease.

Musician David Cosma is one of the first Australians to try the new drug therapy and

says so far it is doing its job.

Husband to Sharon and dad to Georgie, 11, and Charlie, 8, the singer-songwriter says his Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) results confirm it remains good news.

PSA is a blood test that can monitor men after surgery or radiation therapy for prostate cancer to see if their cancer has recurred.

"The PSA is now 0 which is really great; it is stopping the cancer from growing, it is doing its job with me at the moment," he said.

Oncologist professor Arun Azad from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and the University of Melbourne says TGA registration is important. "It offers a large group of men, who previously had few treatment options, access to an effective new treatment," he says. He said when metastatic disease is detected, there is now no need to delay treatment.

Cheaper fares for V/Line

MITCH CLARKE

VICTORIANS planning to travel around the state on public transport will be able to book cheaper V/Line fares from Wednesday.

The regional fare cap – which will see a full return fare on the regional public transport network cost just \$9.20, or \$4.60 for concession holders – will come into effect on March 31.

The cheaper fares, which were a key election promise in the lead-up to last year's state election, replace current prices that calculate regional fares based on distance travelled.

This means a return trip between Melbourne and Bendigo could cost commuters nearly \$70.

Premier Daniel Andrews said cheaper fares would make public transport more accessible to passengers who live in every corner of the state.

"It's really about bringing fairness to our V/Line fare structure," he said.

V/Line is expecting a surge in demand, but chief executive Matt Carrick said the organisation had not yet bounced back from Covid. Currently, the service is operating at about 80 per cent of pre-Covid levels, Mr Carrick said.

"We have no doubt that with these fare cuts there will be increased patronage right across the network," he said.

Third arrest in fake cop case

A THIRD man has been arrested after a group allegedly posed as police in Whittington on Monday.

It is alleged a group, including three men and a woman, told two men on Solar Dve they were police officers and searched them before taking their phones and wallets.

Police said the group then fled to an address on Orbit St about 9am where they stole two cars, phones and cash.

Police said a warrant was executed at a premises and a 47-year-old man from Corio was arrested. A 27-year-old man and a 25-year-old woman, both from Corio fronted the Geelong Magistrate's Court on Tuesday and were remanded.