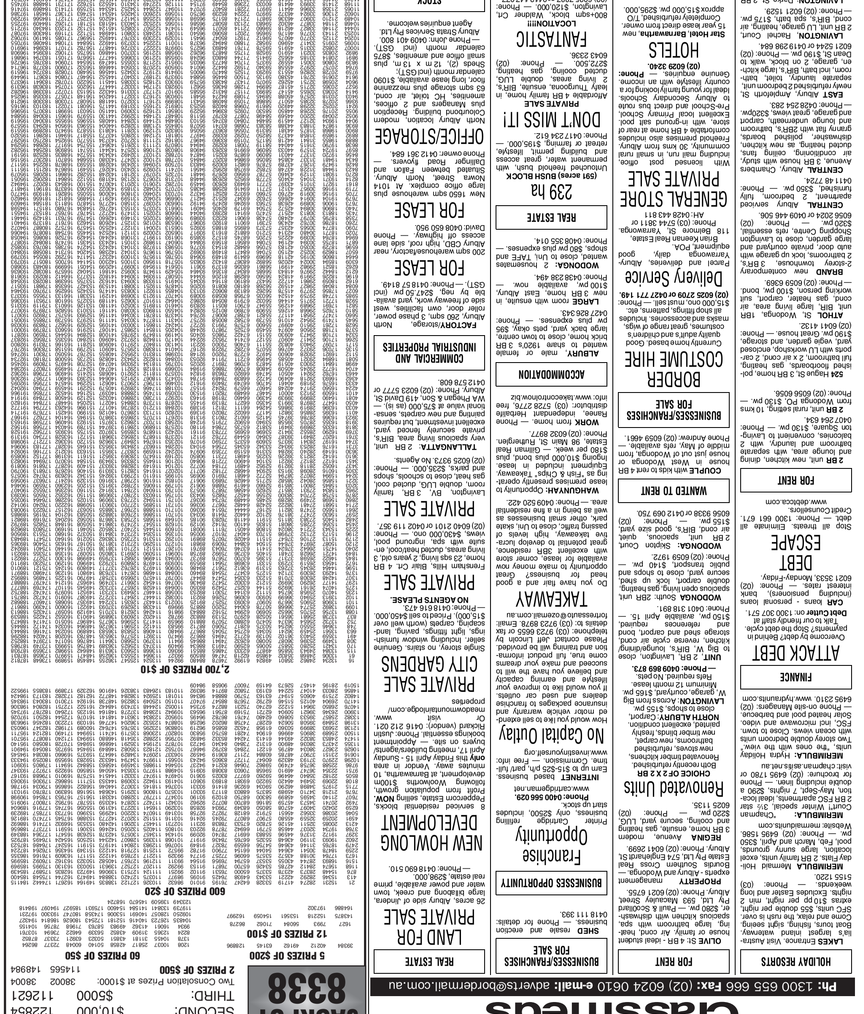
The Border Mail Sport
Tuesday, April 12, 2005

MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE – PAGE 42

HOME DELIVERY
CALL (02) 6024 0568

ISSN 1322-252X

■ STAN ALVES ON THE BIG FOUR FLOPS, THE FLOOD, THE ROOS, THE BLUES AND THE BULLDOGS: PAGE 45



Laidley 'busting' to give former Lavington giant his first taste of the big time

BIG MAC ON PIE ALERT

ROO ON THE RISE: Hamish McIntosh at Kangaroos' training yesterday. Picture: NEWS LTD

By XAVIER MARDLING

AFL 2005

FORMER Lavington giant Hamish McIntosh is in line to make his AFL debut when the undefeated Kangaroos tackle Collingwood at the MCG on Friday night.

Kangaroos coach Dean Laidley said yesterday he was "busting" to play the 203cm ruckman-forward against the Pies after a strong start to the season for Port Melbourne in the VFL.

But McIntosh, who was named as an emergency for the Roos before breaking his ankle last season, said last night he had not been told if he would play.

"They've told me that my form's been good and to just keep persisting and that my chance will come," McIntosh said.

"When it does I just have to take it.

"But I haven't been told anything about this week.

"I've been here a while now so this year is really make or break for me, hopefully I can make a few inroads."

● Continued Page 44

The Border Mail

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2005 $1.10 INC GST

3 DAYS TO GO
INSIDE SPORT

COOPER TOOLS ALBURY GOLD CUP

The Border Mail INVESTIGATION

It has been revealed bonus wages are paid to workers if the XPT is late into Albury, costing taxpayers thousands of dollars. The Carr Government and RailCorp have shown little interest in getting to the bottom of the situation.

EXCLUSIVE By BRAD WORRALL

GRAVY TRAIN

MORE than $6000 a week is being lost on the Sydney to Melbourne XPT service through a loophole in working conditions and the NSW Government has washed its hands of the matter.

The Border Mail has discovered some passenger attendants receive $100 on top of their wages if the train is more than six minutes late into Albury, while taxis are being used to ferry staff from Albury to Wagga and Goulburn to Canberra.

Last month the State-owned RailCorp defended its policy of flying XPT workers to Albury and Melbourne to cover sick staff as part of its efforts to keep the service running.

The comments outraged one of its workers, who said that this was just the tip of the iceberg.

"If the Sydney train is six minutes late in the morning the passenger attendants get $100 to $150 extra," the source said.

"In the afternoon the extra payment kicks in if the train is more than 20 minutes late."

RailCorp has confirmed the payment is part of award conditions that demand workers have a seven-hour break between shifts.

The two daily services from Sydney to Melbourne are late about five of the seven days and manned by five passenger attendants, the source said.

It was also claimed to *The Border Mail* that some Sydney staff "drag their feet at stops" to delay the train's arrival in Albury.

There was a further claim the train sometimes made unnecessary stops at country stations even when no passengers were boarding or alighting.

● Continued Page 4
● Editorial — Page 10

4-DAY WEATHER FORECAST FULL DETAILS: PAGE 30

TODAY	TOMORROW	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
FINE	MOSTLY SUNNY	COOL CHANGE	RAIN CLEARING
27°	30°	28°	22°

Fuel levy another blow for bush

Children's workshop a feature

NEWS IN BRIEF

Classifieds

Ph: 1300 655 666 Fax: (02) 6024 0610 e-mail: adverts@bordermail.com.au

REAL ESTATE

BUSINESSES/FRANCHISES FOR SALE

FOR RENT

HOLIDAY RESORTS

LAKES Entrance, North Arbertarra, 4 bedroom lakefront home, sleeps 10 PP Dry Lake, $55 double per night, extras $10 PP per night. Min 2 weekends. — Phone: (02) 6021 6756.

ALBURY Mediterranean Villas, 2 Bedroom Apts, Lake Frontage, Pool, Tennis, Spa, Sauna, Gym, Boat Ramp, Kids Pool, Beach and Adult Pool. Website: www.mediterranean.com.au

ALBURY Lake Hume Holiday Apartments, Albury Wodonga. — Phone: (02) 6021 2899

ALBURY Lake Hume, Lake Side Resort, Lake Frontage, Pool, Tennis, Spa, Sauna, Gym, Boat Ramp, Kids Pool, Beach and Adult Pool. Website: www.lakeside.com.au

ALBURY Lake Hume Holiday Apartments, Albury Wodonga. — Phone: (02) 6021 2899

ALBURY Lake Hume, Lakeside Resort, Lake Frontage, Pool, Tennis, Spa, Sauna, Gym, Boat Ramp, Kids Pool, Beach and Adult Pool. Website: www.lakeside.com.au