02 NEWS Herald Sun | Tuesday October 22, 2024

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WEATHER **TODAY MIN 15**



Mostly sunny day with a slight chance of a shower at

TOMORROW















WEEKDAY WINDFALL Draw 4458: 18, 22, 25, 4, 3, 13. Supps: 16, 6. Div 1 prize pool: \$1m. Provisional prize pool: \$1,311,220.61.

SATURDAY LOTTO Draw 4513:

26, 15, 33, 43, 22, 5. Supps: 4, 11* Div 1: \$1,264,652.43; Div 2: \$9550.80; Div 3: \$846.40; Div 4: \$25.60; Div 5: \$14.55; Div 6:

The incorrect Saturday numbers appeared in Monday's newspape For full results the lott.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 22, Very good 29, Excellent 36

ethyl hail hale hall halt hate hath heal health HEALTHILY healthy heat heath hell hill hilly hilt hiya hyalite lath lathe lethal lithe lithely they

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No negatives on cancer drug trial

Immune treatment 'life-saver'

EXCLUSIVE Robyn Riley

Victorian women who were part of a large international breast cancer drug trial say it has been a "life-saver".

They joined about 1100 women worldwide to trial the immunotherapy drug pembrolizumab, sold as Keytruda.

Updated results of the randomised study six years on were presented at the European Society of Medical Oncology annual meeting with key results published in the New England Journal of Medicine

Researchers say the drug plus chemotherapy results in "significant improvements" for women with high-risk, early triple-negative breast cancer. They found meaningful improvement not only in preventing a recurrence, but also in the overall survival following their diagnosis.

Keytruda is now on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and is the new standard of care nationally for women diagnosed with this type of breast cancer.

The drug works by stimulating the immune system to fight cancer. It can be used with chemotherapy or other medicines before surgery and then continued alone after surgery to treat early stage, triple-negative breast cancer at high risk of recurrence.

Mum of three Kylie Pardo says given the opportunity to join the trial through her oncologist at Cabrini not only saved her, but gave her and husband Anthony the chance to complete their family.



After being diagnosed with breast cancer eight years ago, Kylie Pardo, with children Henri, 8, Iva, 10, and Seve, 3, has hailed a world-first clinical trial as a life-saver. Picture: David Caird

They were already parents to two children, Iva, now 10, and Henri, now 8, when she was diagnosed in 2017.

"Before I started chemo my oncologist said 'is your family complete?'," Ms Pardo said.

"Before the diagnosis it was 100 per cent yes, complete. Then I went, 'I don't know', so she sent us off for egg collection just in case."

Associate Professor Yoland Antill is a medical oncologist who helped recruit patients through Cabrini to join the trial called Keynote 522.

"I'm also a clinical triallist and clinical investigator for a number of trials relating to cancer risk as well as cancer treatments," she said. "I chose a career that includes research and trials because we haven't got a single cancer treatment today that hasn't found its way into being a treatment because of the findings from previous clinical trials."

Professor Antill says as a medical oncologist she does not accept that current treatments are enough

"We should continue to strive to improve the outcomes of treatments for patients who are diagnosed with cancers," she said, adding that before this study systematic adjuvant treatment for triplenegative breast cancer was

limited to chemotherapies.

For Ms Pardo the decision to join Keynote 522 changed the course of her cancer diagnosis and her family.

Ms Pardo said when she was given the all clear she and her husband tried naturally and conceived Seve, now 3.

Ms Pardo said she was offered the chance to join the trial through her surgeon at Cabrini, Jenny Senior.

"I remember walking out of her rooms and Jenny said to me 'you are going to be OK, we've got this' so between those two wonderful women, they saved my life.'

For details on clinical trials at Cabrini, visit: cabrini.com.au

Protest legal bid hits uni

Pro-Palestine students have launched a bizarre bid for legal action against University of Melbourne vice-chancellor Duncan Maskell at the International Criminal Court, in a move that has been described as "highly irregular".

A pro-Palestine group that once occupied one of the university's buildings and renamed it "Mahmoud's Hall" says evidence will be handed to the Office of the Prosecutor to investigate "crimes" and refer the university and Mr Maskell to the ICC, The Australian reported on Monday.

Unimelb for Palestine activists claim they have evidence of partnerships linked with weapons companies and operations on Palestinian land.

If it proceeds, it will be the first of its kind in the world, with organisers saying they hope other universities follow suit.

A universityspokesman said of the threat: "We consider the claimed action highly irregular and would not expect the ICC would consider this, given its role and jurisdiction. The university has not received any formal correspondence, nor do we expect to.'

Mr Maskell was approached

42 new cars go missing

New vehicles worth millions of dollars have been stolen in a break-in at a Port Melbourne car vard.

Police say 45 vehicles were driven out of a Salmon St car vard last weekend.

They say the thefts of the unregistered vehicles happened between 3pm on Sunday and 6.30am Monday.

Three were later recovered in nearby streets.

A 42-year-old Prahran woman was arrested in Broadmeadows and is being interviewed by detectives from Melbourne CIU.

Anyone with information can contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Fabricators say jobs on line as Big Build imports steel

FROM PAGE 1

The state's most expensive lines explodes. road project, the \$26bn North East Link, recently sourced 11,000 tonnes of steel – part of an \$80m package – for bridge structures at road interchanges from China.

This follows foreign raiders winning deals on West Gate Tunnel and a Geelong football stadium upgrade, despite concerns raised about meeting Australian safety standards.

The industry has savaged the Allan government for paying lip service to local content guidelines and says hundreds of jobs are at risk of being lost overseas where governments subsidise steel to drive down prices by 40 per cent – just as Australia's need for wind turbines and high-voltage power held to ransom by duplicitous work and for fabricators to said negotiations to purchase

The government said the North East Link bridge girders overseas sourced accounted for 3 per cent of the steel used for the project, and that a procurement shift was required because no local supplier could provide a "largescale trial-assembly offsite".

Weld Australia chief executive Geoff Crittenden said the excuse was ludicrous and that cost-cutting was to blame due to blown budgets.

He said the Chinese company lined up for the bridge girders in Bulleen had been banned from the US, and that local manufacturers were "at

breaking point".

"Our local industry is being

politicians," he said.

Mr Crittenden said the consequences of losing sovereign capability over the long term could be dire, and that an enormous opportunity to secure the future and supply a renewables boom was being squandered.

"If the Chinese turned the tap off on steel like they have with wine and lobsters then we would be in serious trouble." he

The North East Link will connect the Eastern Freeway to the M80 in Greensborough, and has a huge steel requirement for its tunnels and spaghetti junction interchanges.

Government briefings this year included supplier briefings for a massive influx of

reserve capacity for 2025, the bridge girders continued meaning some then passed up work on other projects.

One fabricator, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of losing out on other government work, said Victorian workers had been betrayed and local suppliers were "fighting for scraps" in a price war.

"Their excuse for seeking (to) award to an overseas fabricator was in order to meet the program timelines, which a single local fabricator could not meet," he said. "That's not the case; we're a massive fabricator, but we're also willing to enter joint ventures with other fabricators as an industry, to be able to deliver."

A government spokesman

and that in order to ensure they would be safely assembled over the Eastern Freeway, "a largescale trial-assembly offsite was required and no domestic supplier had the infrastructure space, lifting capacity and steel products to offer this".

"North East Link will use at least 90 per cent locally made content, maximising opportunities for Victorian businesses to benefit," he said.

As a Local Jobs First Strategic Project, builders must consider solutions with local steel before sourcing from elsewhere, and that a Local Jobs First Commissioner would assess whether local content requirements had been met.