



CANTERBURY 24/7



Strong finish

The Canterbury Rams will know they can hold their own in the National Basketball League next year after concluding their comeback season in style. Canterbury finished their campaign on a high note on Saturday night beating the defending champions Southland Sharks 90-87 at Cowles Stadium in front of another sellout crowd. Pictured is Rams player Marcel Jones.

Bravehearts

Brave Christchurch residents, including Eden Pettigrew and friend Jenna Waghorn (pictured), grabbed their wetsuits and togs and took the plunge into the chilly



waters of New Brighton beach early on Sunday for a good cause. The annual Classic Hits midwinter swim drew dozens of swimmers to help raise money for Koru Care New Zealand, which supports children with serious and ongoing medical conditions.

Mudlarks



There was no rest on the sideline for Tai McKenzie, 6, during a fundraiser country rugby match in Rangiora. The inaugural Rakahuri Shield Challenge rugby game was played between Saracens and Ashley at Southbrook Park, in which generous

bids on muddy pink socks resulted in more than \$20,000 raised for breast cancer research.



Give me five

An impromptu visit from a band of superheroes lifted the spirits of sick children at Christchurch Hospital. The visit was part of the "outrageous bursts of all right" campaign run by the All Right? organisation. Pictured above is Noah Western, 7, getting a high-five by one of the super heroes. His mother, Jill, said the visit had made her son's day.

Green fingers

Part of the red zone on Anzac Drive will become a picnic spot for Christchurch families. Representatives from Ngai Tahu, the Avon Otakaro Network and volunteers

marked Matariki, on Saturday, by planting native trees, making raised gardens and creating an open area for whitebait spawning. Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu spokes-



person Te Marino Lenihan said in time the area would become a place where families could go and enjoy nature. "It was a great event with a really big turnout," he said.



Provocative design

Silo apartments at Little River were among regional winners at the national Architecture Design Awards run by Architectural Designers New Zealand and Resene. Organisers said they were impressed by the "creativity and provocativeness" shown, and noted an impressive improvement in the standard of entries. Other winners included a house with "a bach aesthetic" on Worsleys Rd on Christchurch's Port Hills, a "wonderfully playful" yoghurt shop in the suburb of Riccarton, a "sophisticated" low-cost block of apartments in Linwood, a Rangiora cafe with an "industrial vocabulary", and a "uniquely designed" and a rebuilt row of Riccarton shops which drew the judging comment "if only more main streets were like this".



'Pathetic' theft

Pines-Kairaki volunteer rural fire officers are reeling after discovering their station has been targeted by thieves. Chief fire officer Tony Howlett (pictured) said three 30 metre hoses, and a pulley system used to hang and dry the hoses, have been stolen in three separate incidents. "It's pretty frustrating... it's something we need to protect the community. It's pathetic, really." The gear is worth more than \$1000, and is crucial for the functioning of the brigade.

Fairfax