

# The Courier

EST 1867

\$1.70 INC GST

SPORT  
**BOGGED DOWN**



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**SOGGY MINE RESCUE**



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NEWS  
**MOON MEMORIES**



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REHEARSING: Dana Reynolds, Annie MacNeill, and Isabelle Channon take part in the dress rehearsal for BCMA's junior musical theatre production of *Mulan*. Picture: Kate Healy

## Final touches for *Mulan*

The costumes are ready, the songs are tuned and performances are being polished ready for the Ballarat Centre of Music and the Arts junior musical theatre production of *Mulan*. More than 80 young potential 'triple threat' performers studying singing, dancing and acting have been rehearsing hard before they take to the stage on July 27 and 28 at the Loreto College Theatre. More pictures online.

# RULED OUT

## Report shuts down hope of eastern bypass link for Buninyong

BY MICHELLE SMITH

A PROPOSED link road connecting the Midland Highway and Western Freeway to take trucks out of the centre of Buninyong has been ruled out after a year-long investigation.

Regional Roads Victoria

said the 12-month traffic movement study found the proposed link road would not significantly reduce the number of heavy vehicles travelling through town.

"The traffic study showed that roughly only 18 percent of all heavy vehicles that travel through Buninyong

might use a proposed east link road, which means not enough trucks would be removed to adequately address safety issues," said RRV chief regional roads officer Paul Northey.

Most of the concern surrounds the Midland Highway and Warrenheip Street

roundabout, particularly the downhill slope that trucks travelling toward Ballarat must negotiate.

Locals have pushed for more than two years for roads authorities to investigate the link road option, which would have potentially upgraded Yankee Flat

Road to link the freeway and highway from Buninyong to Warrenheip.

Mr Northey said while evidence did not support construction of a link road, a range of other "traffic calming measures and safer crossing points for pedestrians would be considered to

address the safety concerns of residents.

He said new signage erected on the outskirts of Buninyong and unique road markings painted would "provide a visual reminder to drivers that they ... need to slow down."

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