

# The Manly Daily SPORT

High tides: 1.06am  
(1.4m) 1.54pm  
(1.1m). Low tides:  
8am (0.6m) 7.26pm  
(0.7m). Yesterday's  
water temperature  
(South Steyne) 20  
degrees.

ROUNDERS: WED 48  
LEAVE YOUR PLASTIC OUT

**G BROTHERS**  
**997 2455**  
**MONA VALE**  
DL248

TEST DRIVE  
TODAY



**SUBARU VORTEX FI COUPE**

## World crown a pressure chance

World professional surfing title hopeful Barton Lynch, under immense pressure as Australia's only chance of retaining the world crown, will go into hiding on the peninsula this week before the Bells Beach event, starting at the weekend.

Lynch knows he has to keep his cool and settle the nerves as much as possible if he is to overhaul powerful Californian Tom Curren in the remaining two events on the circuit.

During the last two weeks, he has had more pressure on him than at any other time of his professional career.

Instead of heading straight into the limelight again at Bells, Lynch has decided to spend the lead-up week relaxing and training at Manly.

When he does venture to Bells on Saturday Lynch will know he's capable of handling the pressure of top competition after surviving a tough draw to win the Beaurepaires Open at Elouera Beach last Sunday.

Lynch outpointed England's Martin Potter in the final 5-0 after Curren had earlier bowed out of the contest.

"There has been a lot of pressure on me to perform particularly after Tom (Curren) was eliminated," Lynch said yesterday.

"My main battle has been to relax and try to ignore the attention and concentrate solely on my own performance.

"It was very hard, though, to ignore the pressure with people coming up to me all the time and reminding me that Tom was out of the contest.

"To come through with a win with all the build-up and pressure has really done my confidence the world of good.

"The most pleasing part was that I handled the pressure and the nerves," he said.

BY WARREN SIM

### Lead-up in Manly for circuit's last

"I just have to try and settle down now and concentrate on my first round contest at Bells.

"I know the Bells break fairly well so I'm going to stay at Manly as long as possible.

"The pressure is obviously going to be on again and I just want to make sure I'm relaxed and ready for it."

Lynch mastered the sloppy conditions at Elouera on Sunday to down Potter after beating defending world champion Tom Carroll in the semis.

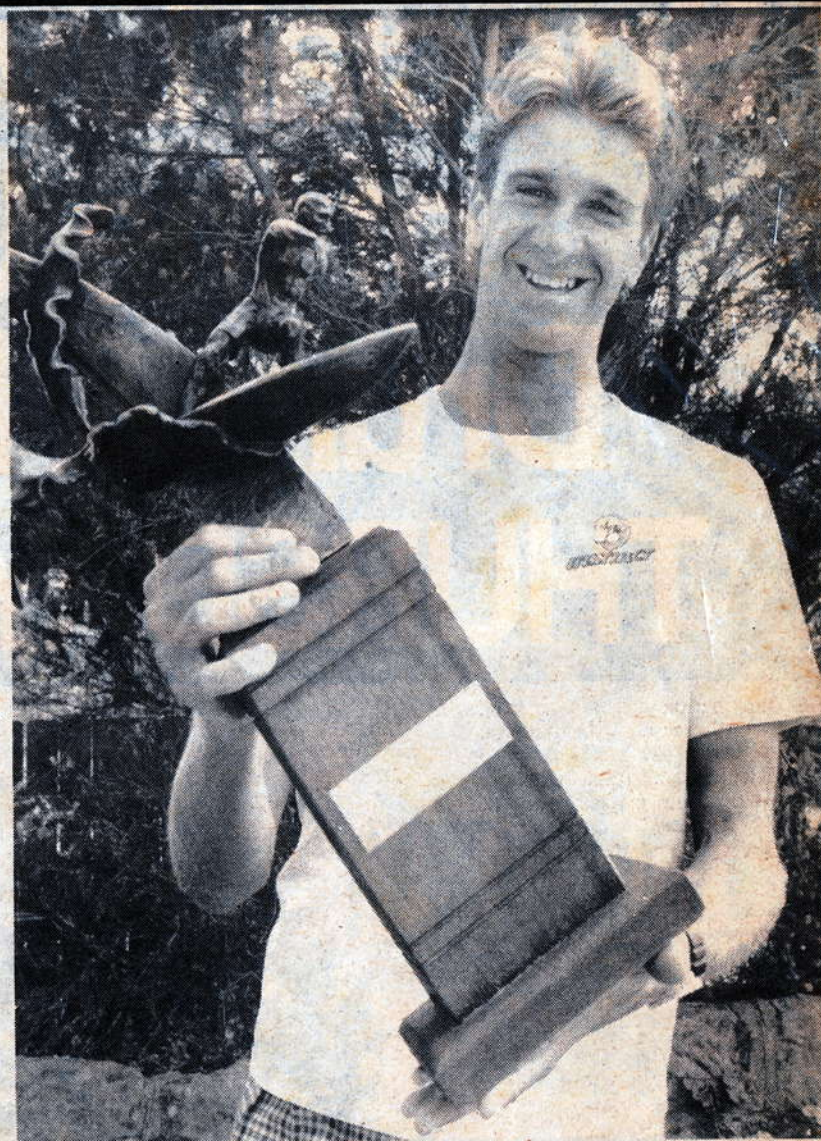
The win puts him less than 500 points behind Curren on adjusted rating but he will still need an exceptional finish in the remaining two events to outpoint the American for the crown.

Curren only needs to place better than second and fifth to claim the championship, even if Lynch wins both contests.

Lynch needs to turn in winning performances and hope Curren is knocked out in the early rounds.

After Bells Beach, the tour moves to Manly for the finale to the world circuit with the Coca-Cola classic.

Meanwhile, the peninsula's chance to claim both men's and women's world crowns nosedived at Elouera at the weekend when Newport's Pam Burridge was bundled out in the early rounds of the Speedo grand prix event.



Manly's Barton Lynch — proudly displays his Beaurepaires championship trophy yesterday.