**ROBERT Smerdon’s stayer Sheilan faces his D-Day to prove a boil to contest the Melbourne Cup.**

Shawan — impressive winner of the Group 2 Herbert Power Handicap at Caulfield a fortnight ago, beating Wednesday’s Geelong Cup runner-up Tanby — faces a massive task in the 2000m Drake International Cup (formerly Moonee Valley Cup). Smerdon described the weight of 57kg as “borendous” given he gets only 1kg from last year’s Melbourne Cup winner American.

“We were determined to run in this race, to give us two weeks between runs,” he said.

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**What’s on in Territory sport**

**Aust Football
NRL Rd 3**

Tonight at TIO Stadium No. 2 — Under-30s: Darwin v Nightcliff, 5.30pm; St Marys v St Marys, 4.40pm; Warrabuls v Wardabh, 3.30pm.

Tomorrow at Gardens Oval — Premier League: Darwin v Nightcliff, 1.30pm; Palmerston v St Marys, 4pm; Div 2: Nightcliff v Wardabh, 3.30pm; Palmerston v St Marys, 3pm; Div 2: Darwin v Nightcliff, 1.30pm; Palmerston v St Marys, 3pm.

Sunday at Gardens Oval — Premier League: Wanderers v Waratahs, 2pm; Div 2: Darwin v Nightcliff, 1.30pm; Palmerston v St Marys, 3pm.

**Greyhounds
Winnellie Park**

Tonight: Seven race card. Last at 7.30pm, last at 8.30pm. Includes Race 1. Div 2: $12,000 XXXX Summer Bright Hcp at 4.55pm. Full TAB meeting.

**Horse Racing
Fannie Bay**

Tonight: Five-race card. Last at 8.10pm. Includes Race 3. Div 2: $12,400 Broomhook Hop (1368m) at 4.20pm. Full TAB meeting.

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**Top Guns get down and dirty**

Tony Norris will be hoping for a strong showing in tomorrow night's mud racing, with or without a crocodile

Top End Mud Racing

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**Jockey suspended for four weeks**

DAVIN hoop Brendan Davis has been suspended for four meetings for failing to show sufficient endeavour on his mount Out Of The Desert. Darwin Turf Club stewards yesterday found Davis guilty under rule AR 137 (a) of incompetent riding.

The charge arose from Davis’ ride in the Cooper Animal Health/Waratahs Fencing Handicap at Fannie Bay on October 15. Stewards board evidence from Davis and trainer Gary Clarke.

The one-month suspension means Davis will miss this weekend’s meeting at Fannie Bay and three more through November.

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**D-Day for Smerdon’s Sheilan**

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“We were determined to run in this race, to give us two weeks between runs,” he said.