14th June 2005

CLP targeted in dirty tricks campaign

Dirty campaign tactics against the Country Liberal Party have soured the start of final week campaigning in the 2005 Territory election in Alice Springs.

In what can only be described as an act of political bastardry, two expensive Country Liberal Party campaign banners have been badly vandalised or stolen in the last 24 hours.

A large CLP banner was attacked with a knife at the Finke races yesterday, which slashed the vinyl and deliberately cut out the CLP emblem.

Within 24 hours, Member for Araluen, Jodeen Carney’s large banner on the corner of Espie and Bloomfield Streets was stolen, with only slashed ropes and star pickets remaining.

Both incidents have been reported to the Alice Springs Police.

The damage and loss of campaign materials, estimated at over $1,000, has disappointed and angered local CLP Candidates.

Member for Araluen, Jodeen Carney said it was very sad the campaign had been reduced to illegal gutter tactics.

“The CLP is out in the community running a clean campaign based on issues important to Alice Springs. This vandalism and stealing is clearly designed to distract us in the final week,” Ms Carney said

“The fact vandalism of the banner at Finke directly targeted the CLP emblem suggests this attack was very much political.
“It is very sad people have to stoop this low in an attempt to spoil the CLP campaign. I want this campaign fought on the issues because we are proud of what CLP policies have to offer Alice Springs.”

“CLP Candidates will continue our work getting out into the community doorknocking and informing people of our policies.”