Millennium bub’s grown

By LAUREN CRAWLEY
IT IS hard to believe 10 years have past since the beginning of the new millennium but Jahmaine Sheridan is living proof. She celebrated her 10th birthday yesterday and had the honour of being the first Territorian born in 2000.

There was to be no partying like it was 1999 for mum Natalie Pilkington because there were more important matters at hand. “New Year’s Eve we were on our way to the hospital in the late evening. Jahmaine was born at five past three in the morning,” she said. “I wasn’t worried about having the first millennium baby. All I cared about was giving birth to a healthy baby. We were very blessed.”

“When she was first born at the Alice Springs Hospital the paper came and took a family photo and the Northern Territory Government gave her a beautiful plaque to acknowledge her birth.”

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“I’m going to stay up until the countdown. I’m going to countdown the hours and seconds,” she said.

But it is not all fun for a New Year’s baby. “It’s in the school holidays so I never get to have a birthday party with friends, because they’re all away,” Jahmaine said.

First 2010 NT baby goes to Royal Darwin

SHAKILA Barabara (right) is believed to have been the only New Year’s Day baby born in a Territory hospital. She has taken the name of her oldest sister, who died of asthma at the age of four.

Her mother, Alison Wurrawilya, said: “I took the name back and gave it to my baby.”

Shakila has another sister, two-year-old Shanelda. Ms Wurrawilya lives on Groote Eylandt but gave birth at Royal Darwin. “There’s a clinic at Groote but it’s very small,” she said.

Armed robberies mar New Year

TWO armed hold ups in Darwin terrorised staff over New Year’s Eve.

McDonald’s at Casuarina was held up by a man with a 20cm long carving knife at 8.40pm. He walked into the restaurant area and demanded staff hand over money before fleeing down Bradshaw Tce to the bus exchange. He was wearing a white T-shirt and jeans.

Coles Express service station at Nightcliff was held up at 3.30am when a woman threatened staff with scissors, stole cash and was later arrested yesterday and was being questioned last night.

NT’s ‘gatekeeper’ to Indonesia dies

The Territory’s “man in Jakarta” has died at the age of 81. Former Subarto Cabinet Minister Frans Seda was the NT’s link man in Indonesia. He did every thing from helping Territory politicians and business people make important contacts to spruiking NT products.

Former chief minister Shane Stone last night paid tribute to Mr Seda, a Flores-born Catholic. “I was very upset to hear about his death,” he said.

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