

A Taylor-made pollie

By LOUISE THROWER

Nats keep us guessing: P5

ANGUS Taylor made his first foray as the Liberal Party's pre-selected candidate for Hume at a debutante ball in Young last Saturday.

The Nationals' Senator Fiona Nash, widely tipped to contest the seat at the next election, was there too.

They didn't dance and it could

have been awkward, but Mr Taylor said it was not.

"They're our friends and that's the way I treat it," he said of party.

But competition between the two could hot up in the federal election run-up. Senator Nash is not ruling out a tilt at Hume and

the Nationals are keen to reclaim their patch, lost to Alby Schultz in 1998.

The party is finalising its coalition agreement before committing to a Hume contest.

But state director Ben Franklin said it was "extremely unlikely

the Nationals wouldn't run".

Mr Taylor, who was pre-selected last Saturday and formally endorsed on Wednesday, played down the possible clash.

"The Nationals are our Coalition partners and friends, and while it doesn't always look like it, it's a fact and the job now is to put a bad government out of power," he said.

"The last thing people want to see is a fight between us...We all

recognise these contests are a waste of money and we resist fighting each other when the real goal is taking on the government."

He pointed out his father, Peter, ran for Country Party pre-selection in the old seat of Eden Monaro, taking in Goulburn, in the mid 1970s.

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Pet lovers to paws in park

By EMMA MASTRONARDI

ONE million tiny paws will be stepping out across the nation this weekend to make a difference in the lives of rescue animals.

It doesn't matter if you own a cat, dog, miniature pony or ferret, RSPCA Goulburn is inviting every creature, great or small, to participate in its annual Million Paws Walk at Victoria Park on Sunday.

The walkathon is now in its 20th year and vice president of the Goulburn branch, Natalie Jeffrey, said it's the not-for-profit organisation's biggest fundraiser.

Ms Jeffrey has seen it all, from dogs in tutus to three-legged pups.

She, admittedly, used to dress up with her dog as matching bumble bees.

"It's just a chance to get together and have fun, all while raising money for a good cause," she said.

Rain, hail, shine or snow the event will go ahead, Ms Jeffrey said.

All funds raised from the Goulburn activity will be injected straight back to the local RSPCA.

Two local vets will be in attendance to check over animals before participating in the walk.

Tea and coffee, a sausage sizzle, balloon animals, a judging competition and raffles will also be on the cards.

Residents are asked to gather at Victoria Park's guide hall at 10am and put their best foot, paw, hoof or even claw, forward at 11am.

CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL: RSPCA Goulburn Vice President Natalie Jeffrey with her four-year-old Jack Russell cross Jackson, with Marilyn Manfred and her 13-year-old Border Collie Scotty and 12-year-old cat Danny Boy.

DIGITAL EXPERTS

Saturday from 9 till 2pm

Antenna, analogue switch off & technical advise



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