

Fatal collision: Charge dismissed against man, 92

By LOUISE THROWER

A MAGISTRATE has dismissed a charge of negligent driving causing death against an elderly local man.

Before her and sitting in a wheelchair, 92-year-old Frank Charles Chattaway hardly heard the verdict. His clearly relieved family had to explain the decision that had been eight months coming.

Moments earlier, in a lengthy address, Magistrate Geraldine Beattie said she saw no purpose in convicting and punishing a man of such "outstanding character" who was ill and had already suffered deeply. She dismissed the charge outright.

Mr Chattaway was charged in May following the April 15 death of local cancer coordinator Barbara Gildea in a road accident. Driving his Holden Commodore, he had given way to one vehicle at the Addison and Bourke St intersection while travelling west, but according to police and a witness, did not see Mrs Gildea riding on her Suzuki motorbike.

Noting an oncoming utility, he believed he had time to cross but in the process hit Mrs Gildea, travelling in front of the ute. The impact caused the 67-year-old to go into cardiac arrest and she died that morning in Goulburn Base Hospital.

Mr Chattaway had earlier pleaded not guilty on the grounds of medical evidence. But this was changed to guilty before yesterday's 45-minute appearance.

His barrister Peter Williams described it as a "dreadful accident".

"There are no winners and losers in court today. No matter what decision is made here today, the deceased will not be coming back."

Police prosecutor Chris Toole did not appeal the Section 10 dismissal. He said this was best left to the court.

He said vision and speed were not issues on the day and pointed to a witness statement quoting Mr Chattaway as saying he did not see the bike.

"We say that is what occurred," Sgt Toole said.

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TESTING TIMES OVER: Trinity Catholic College students relax yesterday after being notified of their HSC results.

Class effort by all

By ANTONY DUBBER

CHRISTMAS has come early for many local HSC students, who after 12 months of study, assessments, examinations, trials and truck loads of practice papers have received their final marks to attain their Higher School Certificate on Wednesday.

Trinity Catholic College, Goulburn High and Mulwaree High all fared well in this year's results.

Principals of the three high-schools told the *Post* they were proud and impressed with their Students' efforts, with Trinity and Mulwaree High School the stand out performers.

Trinity principal Mary Jane Carroll-Fajada told the *Post* she

was extremely proud of all of her students, and was especially impressed with school captain Nicholas Campton-Smith, who achieved Band Sixes across all of his subjects.

"It makes me especially proud that our school captain has received such great results," she said.

"It sets a great example for the rest of the students to aspire to."

The college received 33 Band Sixes across 18 subjects and 130 Band Fives across 30 subjects, with a particularly strong performance in the German Continuers subject.

Mrs Carroll-Fajada also said that many other subjects were filled with high achievers.

"We also had strong performances in History Extension,

English, Studies of Religion 2, Senior Science, Economics, Industrial Technology, V.E.T, Retail and Community and Family Studies (CAFS)," she said.

Two Visual Arts students, Bryony Williamson and Heidi Wurston have been nominated for the prestigious Art Express 2012 at the Art Gallery of NSW, with Heidi's works to be featured in an exhibition early next year.

Music student Michael Spackman has also been recognised for his achievement, receiving a nomination in the Encore 2012 program, a showcase of performances and compositions presented by the Board of Studies. Michael will perform at Encore 2013 at the Sydney Opera House in early February.

Mulwaree High also performed well, with 27 students achieving Band Sixes, and 70 achieving Band Fives.

Principal Martin Purcell told the *Post* that a couple of his students received particular recognition.

"One of our Textile and Design students, Brittany James, achieved a mark of 98 for one of her works. She also received a 92 for PDH/PE, and a 93 in Business Studies," he said.

"Daniel Granger also did well, receiving a 96 for Business Studies, and, even though he is only in Year 11 and doing his Preliminary HSC, Jakub Nabaglo also got a 96 in (HSC) Maths.

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