



Australian women's wave ski champion Melissa Hardy in action during qualifying heats for the national titles at Emerald Beach yesterday.

Photo: TREVOR VEALE 05050327C

Brothers in contention

EMERALD Beach brothers Khane and Rees Duncan will be out to defend their places at the top of the Australia Wave Ski tree at the national titles on their home beach this week.

The Australian Wave Ski national titles began yesterday and conclude on Thursday, with the Duncan boys hot favourites to feature heavily when the major places are decided.

Khane is seeded one after claiming the national title in 2004, with Rees seeded two.

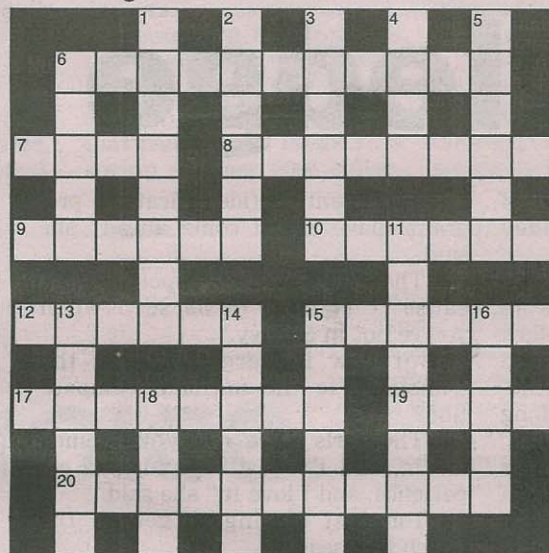
But despite dominating last year, the pair are not expected to have things all their own way in the 52-strong field.

Current world champion Neil Decker (Gold Coast) will test the duo, while former champions Lance Milnes and Graham Lancaster will also be in the running.

But the smart money will be on the local boys.

"I would put be backing them for sure," contest director Steve Cleary says.

QUICK PUZZLE NO. 7632



ACROSS

6. Country (5,6)
7. Lake (4)
8. Cosmos (8)
9. Flush (6)
10. Shellfish (6)
12. Gloomy (6)
15. Sew (6)
17. US state (8)

DOWN

1. Fungus (8)
2. Bird (6)
3. Assert (6)
4. Ascend (4)
5. Girl (6)
6. Rage (5)
11. Sword (8)
13. Foolishness (6)