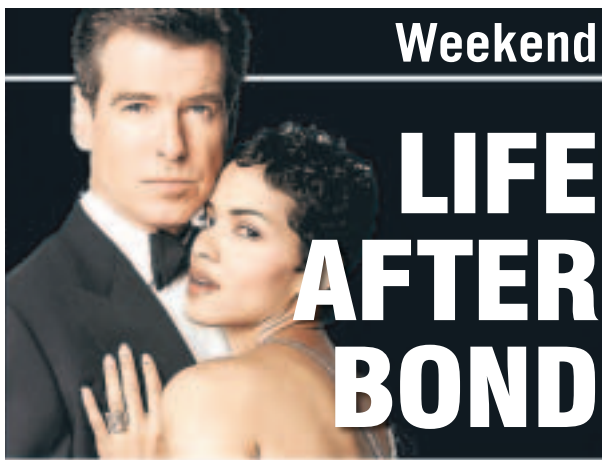




**THE EAGLES
HAVE LANDED**



Weekend

**LIFE
AFTER
BOND**



weekend sport
**Michael
Clarke
PIN-UP
BOY**

INSIDE

careerone 50,000 JOBS IN PRINT AND ONLINE

Whistleblower turns down \$250,000

YOU CAN'T GAG ME



Simon Illingworth



Harry the cockatoo could barely raise a squawk after he was rescued from the \$20 million fire that destroyed the Lombard paper warehouse in Flemington yesterday. Report, pictures: Pages 4-5

A POLICE corruption investigator terrorised by bent cops and criminals has refused a \$250,000 payout because it would stop him criticising Christine Nixon and the force.

Detective Sergeant Simon Illingworth refused the compensation after Victoria Police demanded he never speak ill of the force or Chief Commissioner Nixon on any matter.

"They are not going to buy me," Det-Sgt Illingworth, 37, yesterday told the *Herald Sun*.

"I am not for sale. What they have tried to do is put a complete hush on me. To shut me up.

"I thought this stuff only happened in tobacco or asbestos companies."

The ethical standards department investigator went public in May about what he says is a lack of support for anti-corruption detectives. He said he had been bashed and threatened by other police and accused underworld killers.

Det-Sgt Illingworth, who is on stress leave, sought

EXCLUSIVE

Jeremy Kelly

compensation from the force, accusing it of not providing a safe work environment. He said his position was untenable.

Last week he rejected a settlement offer of \$250,000 to leave the force and refrain from making statements likely to harm Victoria Police.

He said he declined because of the gag clause.

Det-Sgt Illingworth gave the *Herald Sun* the offer, sent to his lawyers, Arnold, Thomas & Becker.

"Your client is not to make, or induce anyone else to make, any statement or statements which are likely to harm the interests of (Christine Nixon) or the Force generally," the letter says.

The offer has other clauses, including that he quit the force and a requirement he keep confidential information discovered in his duties as a police officer.

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**FUNERAL
HONOUR FOR
ARAFAT: P2, 15**

