



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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PAGE 3

Man jailed for sick sex act



PAGE 14

Digicel fined for hillside billboard



BUSINESS – PAGE 51

NASFUND makes big half year profit

INSIDE TODAY ▶



THE Correctional Services Bagpipes Band leads veterans and other participants at yesterday's commemoration of Remembrance Day in Port Moresby. DETAILS ON P13.

NA ahead on 8

Chief confident of forming govt

By ALEX RHEENEY

THE Governor-General will be advised before the end of the week which political party to invite to form Papua New Guinea's next government.

Electoral Commissioner Andrew Trawen said he will pay a visit to Government House before the weekend to advise the Head of State.

But he was quick to point out that it was too



Sir Michael

I'm confident of advising the Head of State about the name of the political party that will be called upon to form the next government," he told reporters yesterday.

As at 6pm yesterday, 31 of the 109 seats had been declared, with NA getting eight seats with Aitape-Lumi MP and Forest Minister

early to predict the major players despite the ruling National Alliance Party (NA) continuing to record victories in a large number of electorates.

"I'm convinced the majority of the 109 seats throughout the country will be declared early during the week. Before the weekend,

Patrick Pruaitch, South Bougainville MP and Education Minister Michael Laimo and Huon Gulf MP and Agriculture and Livestock Minister Sasa Zibe retaining their seats.

NA also had a new MP join its ranks after its West New Britain Provincial seat candidate Peter Humphreys defeated independent Sir Joe Tauvasa.

Buoyed by these victories and the fact that the party was leading in several electorates, Prime Minister Sir Michael Somare at the weekend said he was quietly confident of forming Government.

While he admitted it was too early, the signs looked good for NA returning the biggest number of members to be invited to form Government.

Independents also increased their numbers to four after the declarations over the weekend of human rights lawyer Powes Parkop (NCD Provincial seat); Vincent Michaels (Tewae-Siassi); and Ken Fairweather (Sumkar) joining Kokopo MP Patrick Tammur.

Yesterday's declaration of new Talasea MP Francis Marus increased Pangu Pati's numbers to three following last week's declaration of Kavieng MP Martin Aini and Nuku MP Andrew Kumbakor.

New Generation Party (NGP), Peoples National Congress (PNC), Peoples Democratic Movement (PDM), Melanesian Liberal Party, and Rural Development Party have secured two seats each.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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