

# Jay's National threat to CLP



Mr Pendarvis

By FRANK ALCORTA  
Mudginberri Abattoir owner and Australian of the Year, Mr Jay Pendarvis, will "seriously consider" an approach by the National Party to contest the Northern Territory seat in the House of Representatives.

"I would have to consider such an approach and consider it very deeply," he said.

"Something has to be done with the CLP because the party is not putting its act together."

The bombshell development comes in the wake of widespread rumors about the imminent entry of

the National Party to Territory politics.

CLP president, Mr Graeme Lewis, said today victorious Queensland Premier, Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen's representation would not be acceptable to the NT electorate.

But Mr Lewis did not discount the possibility of the Nationals making a push in the Territory.

"I don't discount anything these days," he said.

## Prominence

Territory MHR, Mr Paul Everingham, who moved to Queensland early this year, could not be contacted today. He is believed to be somewhere in Queensland.

Mr Pendarvis achieved national prominence in his fight against the Australasian Meat Industry Employees Union and was a candidate for Senate pre-selection by the CLP.

National Party sources today confirmed he would be an attractive candidate "if the party finally decides to establish itself in the Territory".

The National Party move could be facilitated by the CLP machine's changed pre-selection procedures moving final decisions on candidates from the branches to the powerful central council.

"It is not going to wash with the branches," Mr Pendarvis said.

"That's when the crunch will come"