

NORTHERN TERRITORY News

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League drug decision due

SYDNEY.— Police Drug Enforcement Agency officers will make a decision today on whether New South Wales rugby league players tested positive for illegal drugs will face charges.

"At this stage the matter will be discussed later today and a decision made on what action, if any, will be taken," a Drug Enforcement Agency spokesman said.

The results of drug tests conducted by the Australian Sports Drug Agency on June 18 in which 10 South Sydney players showed traces of cocaine and what was thought to be marijuana were released at the weekend.

One player, fullback Scott Wilson, 19, had his contract cancelled after recording a drug test positive to cocaine.

Nine players tested positive to

illegal recreational drugs, believed to be marijuana.

Should charges be laid against the players, the spokesman said he believed it would be the first time drug testing had led to criminal proceedings.

Twelve players from three other Sydney Winfield Cup rugby league clubs were drug-tested after yesterday's matches.

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PERRON MAY SWAP SEATS

By FRANK ALCORTA

The Chief Minister, Mr Marshall Perron, may leave his safe seat of Fannie Bay for Millner in the next Territory election.

This would mean Mr Perron would oppose the Opposition Leader, Mr Terry Smith for the seat.

Mr Perron refused this morning to confirm or deny the move, but the CLP president, Mr Shane Stone, said he was aware of Mr Perron's intentions and had discussed them with him two months ago.

"I'm not surprised to hear it. We talked about the possibility of his standing at Millner a couple of months ago. He's a gutsy politician," Mr Stone said.

But I would urge him not to move from Fannie Bay.

"Sure, it would be a huge political coup, but why put at risk a bloke who is head and shoulders above everyone else in the Parliament?"

The move is widely seen in the CLP as an attempt to kill two birds with one stone.

Mr Perron could knock off the Opposition Leader and win a crucial urban seat for the CLP in what is tipped to be the closest fought election since 1977.

He also would pave the way for Mr Stone, an many CLP members see as a potential chief minister, to enter the Legislative Assembly through the Fannie Bay seat.

Millner was held by the CLP from 1974 to 1977 when it was won by the then Labor leader, Mr Don Isaacs.

Mr Isaacs resigned from the Parliament in 1981 to take up a position with Aboriginal Affairs with the Wran Labor Government in NSW.

The by-election was won by Mr Smith who held the seat with increased majorities in the Territory elections of December 1983 and



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