

breast cancer each year have the aggressive HER-2 positive breast cancer that Herceptin attacks. Researchers studied 173 American women with

related death, according to the study in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. All but three patients improved their heart function after stopping

guidance for monitoring cardiac toxicity. The US Food and Drug Administration warned in 2003 that Herceptin use could result in congestive heart failure leading to

is available for women with advanced breast cancer, and is being considered for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme listing for treatment for early-stage breast cancer.

A pride of Aussie women



Proud lineup: cancer researcher Vasso Apostolopoulos with baby Vivian, 6 months, Olympic champion Cathy Freeman, Mt Everest conqueror Brigitte Muir and police chief Christine Nixon. Picture: IAN CURRIE

THE search is on to find inspiring women and pioneers in high-profile fields for the 2007 Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

Past inductees, Olympic champion Cathy Freeman, Victoria Police Chief Commissioner Christine Nixon, Mt Everest conqueror Brigitte Muir and leading medical researcher Vasso Apostolopoulos, yesterday joined Women's Affairs Minister Mary Delahunty to call for nominations.

About 20 new inductees, some with public profiles and some unknown, will be announced in

Emily Power

March next year as part of International Women's Day.

The honour roll was launched in 2001 to mark the Centenary of Federation, and aims to document the efforts of women in fields including education, human rights, sport, the arts and social justice.

Freeman, who in 2000 became the first indigenous Australian to win individual Olympic gold, said women should be inspired, not intimidated, by the 356 wom-

en whose names had already been inscribed on the roll.

"The best role model is within yourself," Freeman said. "That might sound a bit spiritual, but that's just me."

Ms Nixon said many girls she spoke to at schools could not identify a female role model.

The award is open to any Victorian woman who has made a contribution to her community locally or internationally, and can be awarded posthumously.

To nominate go to www.women.vic.org.au before September 22.

Qld polls date set

QUEENSLAND goes to the polls on September 9.

Premier Peter Beattie announced the election five months early to avoid a likely by-election defeat prompted by the resignation of one of his MPs.

After two landslides, Mr Beattie declared it would be "the toughest election campaign my Government's had to face".

GMH plan wins union

UNIONS say work will stop at a car component factory today if administrators do not agree to underwrite workers' entitlements.

The Australian Workers Union held talks with employees at Ajax Fasteners, in Braeside, yesterday to discuss a proposal by GM Holden.

AWU Victorian secretary Cesar Melham said they had received an offer from Holden to underwrite Ajax Fasteners until 5pm this Friday.

"In return, the company will crank up production to solely work for Holden for that period and they will underwrite losses for that week," Mr Melham said.

But he said that after 5pm on Friday, there was no guarantee from Holden of any further financial commitment.

It follows the voluntary administration of Ajax, being managed by Stephen Longley of PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Apart from Holden, Ajax's customers include PBR Australia and Textron, which supplies Ford.

Mr Melham said PBR Australia and Textron had not agreed to a plan that would see Ajax continue to supply parts.

He said the union had given the administrator and the stakeholders until this morning to come up with a package to secure workers' entitlements.

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