



Bosses in the dirt

Army reservists put leaders through their paces on assault course

THE city's top legal eagles and hospital bosses have been put to the test on the obstacle course at Lavarack Barracks.

The employers took part in Exercise Executive Stretch, a defence program designed to expose them to the training of army reservists.

Defence Reserves Support Council North Queensland chairman Neville Brown said participants included top bosses from Mater Health Services, local law firms, Education Queensland and Queensland

Health took part. They were put through their paces by Australian Defence Force Reserve personnel last weekend.

The assault course includes running through a rusty barbed wire obstacle, crawling under a cargo net and tackling the 'bear pit' – climbing a wall, then diving into a deep hole full of water.

"They all stood up well under pressure," Mr Brown said.

"It was physically challenging but they really enjoyed it, jumping in the bear pit. They got up close and dirty."

Mr Brown said the employers were also thrilled to fly in one of the RAAF's longest-serving aircraft, a Caribou, to High Range on Saturday.

"They spent the night under canvas up at High Range, they got to fire weapons and use night-vision goggles," he said.

Mr Brown said the exercise and the support council showed employers the value of having employees who were reservists and the skills Army Reserve members brought to the workforce.



HARD YARDS . . . Allison Rourke of the Australian Tax Office gets a taste of the military life