



■ NAMED: Michael Klim's name will be a prominent address in the new subdivision. Pictures: BLAIR THOMSON

Olympian will leave mark on new estate

By PAT KOOPMAN

THE ground breaking ceremony for Wodonga's newest property development took on Olympic size proportions.

Australian swimming great and dual Olympic gold medallist Michael Klim was joined by JMP Developments director Jenny Stern and Wodonga mayor Cr Mark Byatt to turn the first sod at Riverside Estate.

With Huon Hill as a backdrop and the Kiewa River flowing alongside, the occasion also provided the opportunity to unveil Klim Street in honour of the special guest.

The street naming theme for many of the 117 streets, which will form the estate, has been inspired by Australian Olympic gold medallists.

"It's a great honour to be here to have my first street ever to be named after me and to be a part of this amazing estate, the Riverside Estate, is just phenomenal," Klim told *NewsWeekly*.

"The site is just phenomenal and offers such a variety of lifestyles ... from an active lifestyle to nature to everything.

"For me to be part of this amazing estate, I am really pleased."

Klim said it would be a lasting legacy which he would cherish forever and pass on to his children and one day his grandchildren.

Klim and wife, Lindy, are kept busy these days raising their two children and as the founder of his Milk and Milk Baby skin care range of products for men and babies.

JMP Developments director Jenny Stern said it had taken 3½ years to get the estate to this point.

"A lot of hard work, but it's definitely paid off," she said.

The estate will incorporate such features as walking and cycling trails, a full size football/cricket oval and 117 streets.

"It's a long term project and that's why we have to make every single part of it perfect," Ms Stern said.

"This is just the first step.

"In years to come you will come back here and there will be a lot of happy people living here."

Wodonga mayor Cr Mark Byatt said the estate represented a real sign of confidence in the city.

"JMP Developments have for 3½ years worked very diligently to get up what I think is quite a special and unique development here," he said.

Cr Byatt said it was very appropriate to have Klim present for the turning of the first sod.

"He is someone who demonstrates vision and inspiration, and that's what this development is about as well."

Margy Meehan, from Wodonga Real Estate, said the developers were ready to start earthworks, which would hopefully begin this week.

"We're going to have a display village with 10 display homes at this stage and hopefully by Easter next year the display village will be up and going," she said.

"There's nowhere between here and South Australia where you can buy blocks with river frontage.

"There will be blocks for all types of homes, whether you're wanting to size down or upsize."

For more details about Riverside Estate contact Margy Meehan at Wodonga Real Estate on 6056 1888.