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HD **Unlikely allies gang up on Clive**  
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Clive Palmer's Mineralogy has lost a battle to peg a Pilbara tenement after an unlikely alliance of companies associated with Andrew Forrest, Mark Creasy and **Chinese** steel giant Baosteel teamed up to successfully object to the grant of the tenement.

**Mining** Warden Stephen Wilson last week rejected Mineralogy's 2010 application for the miscellaneous licence on the grounds Palmer's **company** did not have permission to be on the land marking out the tenement.

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His ruling came after an objection to its grant by the Kumera Marthudunera Native Title claimant group was backed by some of the State's **mining** powerhouses, including Fortescue Metals Group, Baosteel subsidiary Aquila Steel and Zanthus Resources, a subsidiary of ASX-listed Coziron, which is majority owned by Creasy.

The Kumera Marthudunera group successfully claimed the Mineralogy tenement application should not be granted as the ground the Palmer **company** pegged was subject to its native title claim, and should therefore be treated as private property, meaning Mineralogy should have sought a permit to enter.

Mineralogy argued the land was part of a road reserve not covered by the Kumera Marthudunera claim.

Fortescue, Baosteel and Zanthus, which have all applied for exploration tenements on the ground pegged by Mineralogy, supported the native title claimant's arguments.

Wilson said the law clearly required Mineralogy to seek a permit to enter the land it pegged, and its application for the tenement should be summarily refused.

NO KNIVES, KEVIN

Die-hard West Coast fans still shake in their Birkenstocks at memories of what it was like to be in the (now-called) Etihad Stadium in Melbourne in 2000 when then-Essendon coach Kevin Sheedy incited the big Bombers crowd with his throat-slit gesture towards Eagle Mitchell White.

Time heals most wounds which is why property group JLL's WA boss John Williams was comfortable enough to invite Sheedy into his boardroom the other day despite the presence of one of JLL's local directors, White.

Williams says it was the first time Sheedy had caught up with White "since THE incident".

"Mitch is a very valuable member of our staff so we gave Kevin a plastic knife to get through his chop," Williams regaled.

"We couldn't take the risk. It appears the guys have made up though their version of events are still very different."

## SHIPSHAPE

As Austal's share price continues to sail in smooth waters, co-founder Chris Norman has sold about \$10 million in the shipbuilder's stock.

The sell-down from late August until Monday has seen Norman's stake in the Henderson outfit he started with John Rothwell and Garry Heys 26 years ago slip from 7.7 per cent to 5.4 per cent. The on-market sales came at prices ranging from \$1.26 to \$1.39.

It's a far cry from the 50¢ price for shares issued under an emergency capital raising two years ago when Austal's US debt nearly got out of control.

At yesterday's closing price of \$1.35, the former director's retained shareholding was worth about \$25 million.

## IRON EXIT

Into every merger a little slimming must come, and the BC Iron and Iron Ore Holdings tie-up is no exception — and we're not talking about BC's slimmed-down share price.

While IOH boss Alwyn Vorster ran a tight ship, not all of his staff were deemed necessary at the merged entity. About six of IOH's staff headed for the exit on Friday.

Given the challenging conditions in the mining world, the Bull would expect some of the IOH alumni to knock on Vorster's new door, as head of Baosteel subsidiary Aquila's iron ore operations.

## TASKER'S TIPS

The exploits of reality TV bachelor Blake Garvey have been hard to escape.

Providing Garvey some tips on how to deal with his new-found infamy was PPR's investor relations director David Tasker, who says a mutual friend put them in touch. Tasker says he gave Garvey some "informal advice . . . but it was limited to a few phone calls and one meeting."

With Nick Sas, Nick Evans

and Heather McNeill

<b>CO</b>	ambol : Fortescue Metals Group Ltd   baois : Shanghai Baosteel Group Corp
<b>IN</b>	i211 : Metal Ore Mining   i22 : Primary Metals   i221 : Iron/Steel/Ferroalloys   ibasicm : Basic Materials/Resources   imet : Mining/Quarrying   isteel : Steel Production
<b>NS</b>	ccat : Corporate/Industrial News
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