



Speech by

Mr BRUCE LAMING

MEMBER FOR MOOLOOLAH

Hansard 26 August 1999

SUNSHINE COAST UNIVERSITY, ATHLETICS TRACK

Mr LAMING (Mooloolah—LP) (10.26 a.m.): Last Sunday saw the long-awaited opening of the University of the Sunshine Coast athletics track. The opening was performed by the member for Mansfield, Phil Reeves, on behalf of the Minister for Sport. I would like to acknowledge the honourable member's congratulations to the former coalition Government for its contribution of \$1.4m to make this synthetic track a reality. The former Minister, the member for Southport, Mick Veivers, was also acknowledged by the member for Mansfield and the university's vice-chancellor, Professor Paul Thomas. I would like to place on the record my personal thanks to the member for Southport, who was a great Minister for Sport.

Obviously, the track would not have received funding had it not been for the planning vision of Professor Thomas and his university council and the excellent submission put forward by Mark Bradley, the facilities manager. Maroochy Shire Council tipped the balance in favour of the project proceeding with its contribution of \$100,000. I acknowledge that contribution and thank Mayor Culley and the councillors for their commitment.

Although it was a little rainy last Sunday, it was great to see so many young people using the track on opening day. We on the Sunshine Coast are looking forward to hosting at least two overseas Olympic teams prior to the Sydney Olympic Games.

During his address, the member for Mansfield suggested that the Sunshine Coast had a bit of catching up to do in regard to sports facilities funding within Queensland. I agree with him and invite him to join with me in my efforts to secure funding for a badly needed international standard hockey facility at Ballinger Park, Buderim.
