



# every sunday maltatoda

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Malta's fastest growing newspaper

First ever exit poll:

## **Busuttil, Cassola** and Muscat ahead

A MALTATODAY XFM radio exit poll indicates Simon Busuttil as the candidate with the highest number of first count votes, followed by Arnold Cassola and Joseph Muscat a close third. However, a vast majority of those answering yesterday s exit poll refused to divulge their preferred candidate. That fact alone indicates that the scenario could very well change as the votes are counted. But the exit poll (see special feature on page 7), the first of its kind ever organised by a media group, points to a resounding electoral result for former MIC

malta**today** 

X=100.2

**Exit Poll** 

chief Simon Busuttil.

Dr Busuttil, who rose to fame

with his calm disposition and 'honest looks may well be elected on his first count and indications put him close to a quota and a half. He acquired 32.8 percentage points in

Dr Cassola was indicated as still way behind being elected, but at over 8 percentage points in the poll he stands a good chance of giving both political sides a good fight. Maltastar editor Joseph Muscat is in third place with 5 percentage

Continues on page 6



Karl Schembri and Julian Manduca

LABOUR LEADER Alfred Sant has told the Employment and Training Corporation there was no longer need to investigate his allegation about the dismissal of a Maltese worker, employed with Charles Polidano (ic-Caqnu), who he had claimed, was replaced by a foreign worker.

MaltaToday is informed that the worker referred to dramatically by Sant on TV, was dismissed for disciplinary reasons, although the official reason given for his job termination was that of 'lack of work so that he could register for unemployment benefits.

Continues on page 2



Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi and his wife Kate at the M'Skala polling booth yesterday. This is the first electoral test for the PN premier in elections which may see some shifts in electoral support (see feature on pages 6, 7 and 8)

## More serious revelations on land scams as libel actions unleashed

MALTATODAY HAS been served with libel actions in a bid to prevent this newspaper from bringing to light the way families and young couples were sold property in Ta 1-Ibragg. The sale was made on the false premise that the land on which they stood would be theirs, with a legal surety that guarantees buyers the land they purchase is theirs and has no other competing claims to ownership. This is known as the pacifiku pussess in Maltese notarial jargon.

The libel actions were presented filed by legal representatives Dr Tonio Azzopardi and Dr Henry Antoncic. Labour candidate Dr Giglio have also threatened that

one of their clients will sue.

MaltaToday is citing its right to report the true facts and its privilege to report court proceedings and is promising its readers to con-tinue to uncover the truth. Malta-Managing described the legal advice and legal action proposed by the lawyers as vexatious and he added that MaltaToday would not be gagged by these court proceedings. He added: "To fight these libel cases, preliminary court fees alone would add up to over Lm700. But this is not the first time that attempts have been made to silence MaltaToday.

See full story on page 9

### Farmers outraged:

"The safeguard clause would have solved our problem, but if they're not going to apply it and they're going to make a bloody issue out of it every time we'll have to use it, forget it. We'll just stop farming once and for all"

See interview with Peter Axisa on page 12

Euro 2004 & free recipe inside

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Telephone enquires also taken on Sunday