



# Rodeo organiser wrangles award



A cowboy wrestles a steer at the National Rodeo Finals at Broadbeach in April

Photo: KIT DE GUYMER

THE company behind the National Rodeo Finals on the Gold Coast has bucked off its opposition to claim a major business honour.

Freshbrew Events & Marketing, which put together the National Rodeo Finals held at Broadbeach in April, has won the May award in the Tourism, Hospitality and Events category of the Gold Coast Business Excellence Awards.

During the National Rodeo Finals, thousands of Gold Coasters and visitors watched 120 of Australia's best cowboys and cowgirls compete in six Australian championship events at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Freshbrew was one of nine Gold

Coast companies to claim awards at a recognition ceremony held at Bond University.

Gold Coast Business Excellence Awards president Ian Cousins said the winners included both first-time nominees and repeat winners.

"This month's winners include three companies which won annual titles last year," said Mr Cousins.

The three companies were real estate company John Henderson Professionals Mermaid Beach, which won the Family Business category; food manufacturer Morlife, which was awarded the honours in the Retail, Wholesale and Distribution sector; and Australian Work & Leisure Vehicle Inno-



**Ian Cousins says it is pleasing that first-time nominees were among the winners**

ventions, which drove away with the trophy in the Manufacturing and Construction field.

One of the debutants was the winner in the Emerging Business category, Victory Aerospace and Military Spares.

The Tallebudgera-based company provides customers throughout the world with hard-to-find aircraft parts, military items and vehicles.

The Tony Mokomoko-led company now has customers in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Singapore and Germany.

In other categories water turbine company Tidal Energy swept up the Mayor's Innovation Award, Mermaid Waters-based physiotherapy practice Back In Motion won the Trades, Professions and Services honour, e-CBD won the Information Technology and Multimedia award, and GreenBizCheck claimed the Environmental Management title.

The monthly award winners are eligible for the annual awards, which will be presented at a black-tie night in November.