

MARIO SEEKS A DIVA OF HIS OWN

LADIES, fancy a suave, sweet-talking, international superstar as a boyfriend?

Well, Il Divo singer Carlos Marin is single and ready to mingle with Aussie women.

The classical musical act arrive in Melbourne today to promote their new album, to be released on Friday, and Spaniard Marin said he would love to find a nice Australian girl to have a family with.

"All the guys (in the group) have kids and they're all married and I'm the only single one," he said.



"Obviously I'm looking for the one. Who knows when she's going to arrive. Hove bables."

Oueensland women will get the chance to win his heart when the band play at the Brisbane Convention and **Exhibition Centre on February** 20, something Marin is excited about.

"I have a feeling that work will I really want to get to know what's around Brisbane.

And she's sure to get to know Brisbane's more wild and wacky characters when she heads to the festival. But she said she wasn't too worried about the extremely passionate fans.

"What's most important is that they care about something," she said. "I know that I love things and if I were given the opportunity to meet certain people I would probably be really nervous or say something stupid so I understand what it's like to really love something and I'm just excited that

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ALANA'S COOKING UP SOME HOT NEW IDEAS

BRISBANE MasterChef contestant Alana Lowes is about to head back into the world of television - shooting her own pilot show. The journalist-turned-cook told FYI she had a production company on board and would begin shooting segments in December for a show about why people love to cook and eat.

"It's not going to be me straight up cooking, it's going to be me going out talking to people and finding out why they love food," she said

"We'll go out and film bits and pieces and see where it goes from there." Lowes is also in talks with book publishers in the hope of releasing her first cookbook, in addition to writing a weekly column for Nine MSN, conducting cooking demonstrations, updating her blog and running cooking classes.

"I'm living all those dreams that I wanted to do before MasterChef," she said

Also about to embark on a new TV career is fellow MasterChef contestant Hayden Quinn. The 24-yearold former lifequard will soon have his own cooking show on Channel 10.



CH TO THE GAZ

CHANNEL 9 Brisbane forecaster Garry Youngberry is under the weather.

The Nine News star came down with the chickenpox last Monday and has been exceptionally unwell.

It affects adults far more severely than children and Youngberry has been quarantined at home and

ordered to rest.

He was quick to ensure that no other Nine staffers, particularly newsreader Melissa Downes who is pregnant with her second child, caught the virus though. We hope you feel better soon Gaz.

HAPPY 4-0 MATT

OUEENSLAND cricketing star and Sunday Mail columnist Matthew Hayden racked up some serious runs yesterday, turning the big 4-0.

The former Australian opening batsman celebrated the occasion by hitting the beach with his family for a little surfing. The real party was last weekend, though, when Hayden's brother visited and the whole family went to see Steve Winwood and Steely Dan perform at A Day on the Green concert at Sirromet Winery, east of Brisbane.

SURF'S UP FOR **SMALLVILLE STAR**

SMALLVILLE actor Cassidy Freeman is "super excited" about coming to Brisbane this Friday.

The star of the Superman-based sci-fi series will be in the River City for the annual pop-culture expo Supanova and said she couldn't wait to check out Oueensland and what

"I'm going to try to find the most remote surf town I can and just hit the water and enjoy the southern hemisphere," the keen surfer said.

take me to Sydney or Melbourne so

they get to experience that."