



RESCUE: A jet skier is treated after being hit by his machine.

Drama unfolds at sea

By **RAE WILSON**

THERE was plenty of action on the water at Caloundra yesterday with a tanker diverting its path to avoid a wayward yacht and an inexperienced jet skier injured by his own machine while jumping waves.

A 25-year-old Logan man was riding his mate's jet ski at the northern tip of Bribie Island when he came off just after 11am.

Sunshine Coast Surf Life Saving duty officer Peter Lucas said the man had been jumping waves while his experienced mate was watching.

He said he believed he was rolled off the machine but when he tried to climb back on, waves slammed it into his abdomen.

"The Caloundra bar through the Happy Valley area can get very rough. All the open and exposed beaches have been rough with wind stirring conditions up," he said.

Mr Lucas said it appeared the man had sustained injuries to his rib cage and his stomach internally.

When Bulcock Beach lifesavers found him he ap-

peared to be in shock.

The lifesavers were soon joined by paramedics who were transported across the water by the Caloundra Coastguard.

The man was taken to Nambour hospital for further assessment.

A few hours later, the Mooloolaba Coastguard was trying to locate a 48-foot yacht which left Southport on Wednesday and could not report its location.

The Mooloolaba Coastguard duty radio officer said the occupants thought they were off Double Island Point but a Tin Can Bay crew could not find them.

He said when they turned their emergency beacon on, they were located off the Caloundra headland about 3pm.

"They were in the middle of the shipping channel and a big tanker was bearing down on them," he said.

"The tanker Summit River had to divert course.

"The yacht got saltwater in the motor and their engine wouldn't start.

"They've been making their way up to Mooloolaba under sail but when they're in calmer waters, our rescue vessel will tow them inside."