

Mum gets
bond for
\$5000
'bluff'

A SINGLE mother who bluffed her way into receiving more than \$5000 she didn't have in her bank account through a series of eftpos transactions at an Albury service station was yesterday put on a bond.

Nadeen Faye Sedgwick, 35, of Swan Street, North Albury, appeared in Albury Local Court for sentence on 20 counts of obtaining money by deception and was convicted.

Magistrate Gordon Lerve imposed a 30-month bond with Probation and Parole Service supervision and ordered Sedgwick to repay \$5784 to the ANZ Bank.

Mr Lerve had previously been told Sedgwick had visited the Caltex service station in Dean Street on 10 dates between May 1 and June 9 last year.

She told a sales assistant she had forgotten the personal identification number for her ANZ debit card.

The sales assistant had taken Sedgwick at her word and manually forced the transaction through by disconnecting the eftpos machine from the telephone line.

That allowed the transaction to take place without registering with ANZ.

In subsequent transactions, Sedgwick told the same sales assistant she hadn't had a chance to collect her new personal identification number.

An investigator from ANZ Group Security contacted Albury police and supplied documents outlining the status of Sedgwick's bank account.

Adult games 'should not be child's play'

BY JOHN CONROY

MORE than 600 customers at an Albury computer game store have signed a record-sized petition calling for an R18+ rating to be introduced for video games.

More than 89,000 people nationwide have signed it, making the largest "wet petition" since the one against John Howard's Work Choices in 2005.

Game's national head office and PAL Gaming Network have combined to produce the petition, which ran for eight weeks.

The petition is calling for an R18+ rating for games such as *Red Dead Redemption*, which has 18+ ratings in the UK and US but is MA15+ in Australia.

"We are the only country in the Western world without an adult video game classification," Game managing director Rod Lukic said.

"Games that are only suitable for adults are either pushed into the MA15+ category or simply banned altogether.

"And right now, some content that should be 18+ is rated MA15+."

Red Dead Redemption — a wild west action game that has "strong violence, sex scenes and course language" — was the highest selling game at Albury's Game store last month, with more than 50 copies sold.

Other games such as *Grand Theft Auto 4* and *Modern Warfare 2* also fall under the



● Kade Litchfield wants R18+ ratings on games like *Red Dead Redemption*. Picture: KYLIE

R18+ rating overseas and have also been best-sellers.

"These games are popular because they are realistic," Albury Game store manager Kade Litchfield said.

"People want to see realism in movies and in video games."

Mr Litchfield said most gamers were aged 25 or over and had supported the petition, one-third of all signatures came from parents while those 18 or

under — about 10 per cent of the store's customers — generally did not support the campaign.

"Once parents understood the issue and how these games are rated overseas, they signed on while gamers, most of who are 25 or over, were keen to sign the petition," he said.

The petition will be presented to the Senate and any changes to the law will need to be signed by all state governments.

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Should the
an R 18+
introduce
video gam



Judge determines artworks were fakes

A JUDGE has found three works, supposedly by eminent Australian artists Charles Blackman and Robert Dickerson, are fakes and has ordered they be destroyed to stop them re-entering the market.

Mr Blackman and Mr Dickerson took their case against Melbourne art dealer Peter Gant to the Victorian Supreme Court for supplying the forgeries, which were purchased for \$24,300 by a Melbourne businessman.

In his ruling yesterday, Justice Peter Vickery determined the supposed Blackman drawings, *Three Schoolgirls* and *Street Scene with Schoolgirl*, and Dickerson's *Pensive Woman* weren't genuine.

"They were fakes masquerading as the genuine article," he said.

Mr Dickerson, 86, was "delighted" at the outcome, his wife Jennifer Dickerson said.

"It's a very good judgment to help all artists because we're not the only artists who are getting forged," she said.

The court made no finding against Mr



● The forged Blackman *Scene with Schoolgirl*. P

their way onto the mark
their destruction.

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