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THE
FUTURE
Centre pages

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WESTSIDE

40¢

FOOTBALL



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WA's ONLY FOOTBALL NEWSPAPER

PREMIERSHIP

BLUES

STARS FACE THE AXE

MEMO: Andrew Purser, Mal Dobson, Merv Carrott, Rod Lester-Smith, Roger Crouch, Kevin Taylor, and Wayne Cormack . . . shape up or ship out of the league side.

That's the new get-tough message from downhearted East Fremantle coach Brad Smith who's still chasing a spot in the four.

Smith didn't specifically name the players, but didn't disagree with the list put up by Westside Football.

Smith said: "The players have got to cop it sweet or look elsewhere."

"Some blokes need much more discipline than they have been showing. And I would rather go out on the field with a team of battlers because at least then, you get a run for your money."

Smith said he had been a bit too soft on some players for some time but that was about to change.

"I tried a few on the interchange bench to wake them up a bit but it hasn't worked. When I rip a player from the ground, he wants to know why."

"The fact is many players simply refuse to accept that they have not been performing," Smith said.

The Old Easts coach said a wayward attitude and bad ball control were the two main reasons why his side has slipped from the top to the bottom of the football tree in six months.

He has set his sights on winning 11 of the next 14 games to regain a spot in the four.

"And unless I start getting tough with some of these players, we'll never make it."

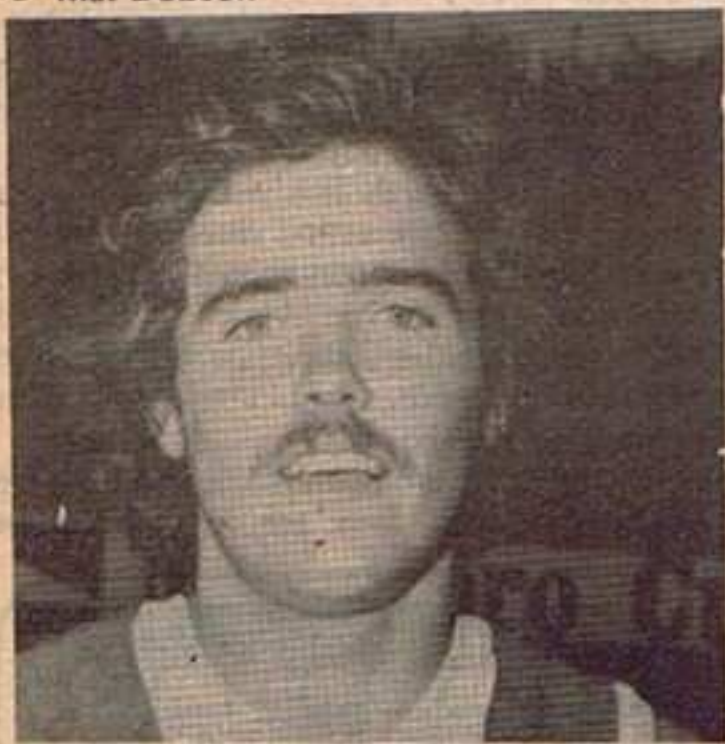
Smith said a spate of injuries and retirements had made it difficult to find adequate replacements for non-performers this season.

For those reasons, and a lack of depth in the reserves has kept some non-performers playing league.

Smith said he was willing to ride out the storm but unless some name players started to pull their weight, they would be tossed overboard.



● Mal Dobson



● Wayne Cormack



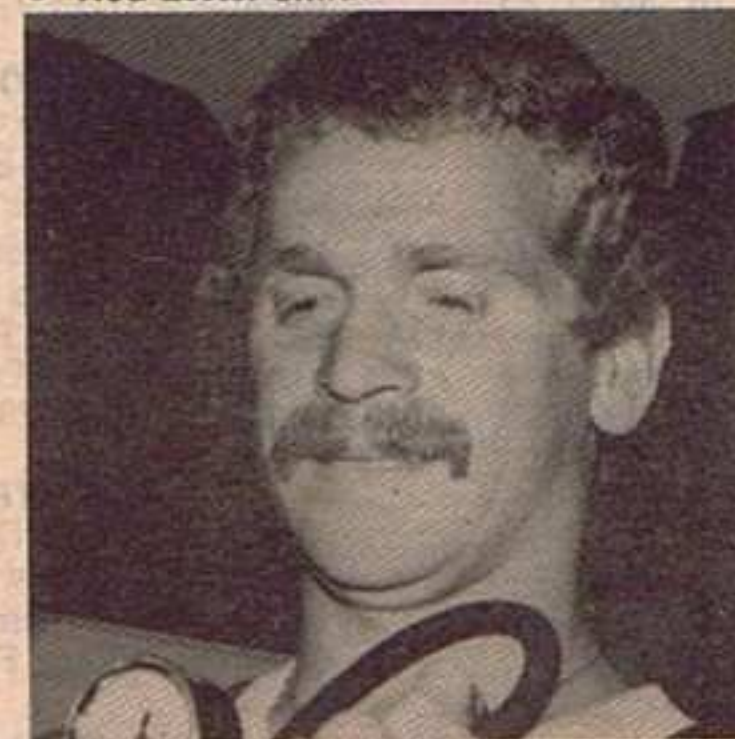
● Merv Carrott



● Andrew Purser



● Rod Lester-Smith



● Kevin Taylor

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REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION - CATEGORY 'B'



Swans coach John Todd isn't telling star rover Ian Williams to leave... simply making a point about his game.

WHAT A ROUND!

Swan Districts charged through the first round of WAFL fixtures shattering records as they went at a blistering pace to make them odds-on favourites for this year's premiership.

No team has completed the first round of qualifying fixtures undefeated since East Perth did it in 1969.

However, it is not the mere fact that Swans have won their first seven matches, it is the devastating style in which they have achieved their wins.

It seems that we are bestowing one accolade after another upon Swans in this column each week... we find it difficult to do anything else but.

There has been a long time between drinks for Swans... they have worked hard to get where they are today and no-one can begrudge them the praise they are now receiving.

It is not often that you cannot find a weakness in a side - but it is impossible to find any flaws in the Swans set-up.

John Todd's big task will be to keep up the momentum. There is 18 weeks to go before the match that counts, and for the side to maintain its present pace will be a tough assignment. However, their achievements so far indicate that they are well on the road. This week's game against Old Easts will do nothing to impede that passage.

West Perth, demoralised by their crushing defeat at the hands of Swans a fortnight ago, fought back to regain some lost prestige with a fighting win over East Perth last week.

Though slightly under full strength, the Cardinals resembled the side that had won their first five matches.

West Perth have been a little undermanned with reserves in recent years. However, at the moment have half a dozen players who can fill gaps when needed. Stuart Hillier made an auspicious return to league ranks last Saturday and will give the Cardinals added strength. Brian Adamson, in his second game for the season, appeared to be a little stiff-legged and wasn't moving or leaping in the fashion West Perth fans remember before his days in Adelaide.

South Australian recruits Kym Davison and Les Fuller were top players in the West Perth reserves team last week and are making claims for league selection.

Coach Graham Campbell will warn his players of complacency when they meet Subiaco this weekend. The Lions roared for the first time in many moons last week after thrashing East Fremantle, and they will be keen to bite again.

It was a great day for the Lions, and even greater was the way in which they tore apart last year's premiers. No-one will begrudge Subiaco their win and if they can play with the same motivation they will worry other teams before the year is out.

The brightest note for East Perth from last Saturday's match at Leederville was the great return of Peter Spencer.

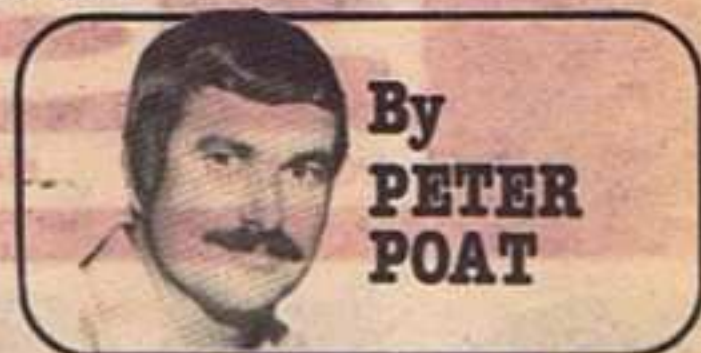
There were flashes of Spencer 1976 vintage during the match and with a few more games under his belt, he will be a great asset in the Royals' quest to regain the spot in the four which they surrendered to Claremont last weekend.

However, apart from players like Hayes, Curtis, Dimmer, Duke and Michalczyk, there are too many "established" Royals' players performing below par.

A fortnight ago East Perth were at home when they beat third team South Fremantle in a tough encounter. They're back there this week to do battle with fourth team Claremont.

With a good win they could displace the Tigers from the four. However, a loss would put them two games out of the four and severely shatter their prospects of participating in the 1980 finals.

This contest has the ingredients of becoming the feature attraction on this weekend's programme.



By PETER POAT

Claremont, who faded after great pre-season displays, have gradually worked their way back into touch with successive wins over South Fremantle, Subiaco and Perth.

The Tigers' fitness will be put to the test as they enter this match after an unsettling trip to Melbourne for Tuesday night's Escort championship encounter.

South Fremantle's premiership aspirations have faded a little following three straight losses.



Graham Moss... all smiles, but facing three hard games in seven days.

Starting the season with four consecutive victories, the Bulldogs ran into injury problems.

However, they showed plenty of fight against Swans and are still well in the fight. With several top players still to come back things can only get better.

They meet Perth this weekend in what should be an interesting duel at Lathlain Park. The Demons stayed with Claremont for three quarters last week. If the Perth team can lengthen their performance to 100 minutes, they should take the game right up to Souths.

If the next two rounds are anything like the first, footy fans are in for a feast.

WILLS SPORT ESCORT REPORT

A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE A.F.C. ESCORT CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Claremont have turned their solid pre-season campaign into a \$33,000 bonanza. The club's stunning victory in Tuesday's Escort Championship quarter-final against Hawthorn puts them into a semi-final on June 24 - and there is no reason why the Tigers cannot go right into the final.

Claremont's effort in making the semis right from the opening round has been the best performance by any team outside of Victoria in any interstate championships over the past few years.

They go into the semi-final against the winner of next week's clash between North Melbourne and St Kilda with the knowledge that they have now won at VFL Park twice under the treacherous lighting conditions.

It was their fourth win in the series this year, earning them \$25,000 so far - plus a guaranteed \$8000 for reaching the semi-finals.

It's not exactly proving to be a big money-spinner for the Tigers as a club. After the sponsors, W.D. & H.O. Wills, pick up the expenses tab for the trip, Claremont still have to meet the match payments of their players - and that amounts to more than \$7000 each time the team runs out on to the field.

The Claremont players were given an extra day in Melbourne to recover from the night match and they are expected to return fit and fresh for their clash with East Perth this week.

Claremont's victory was built around their backline, which saw Kevin Worthington and Gerald Betts - who both played in Victoria last year - return to top form in the full-back line.

Dashing ruck-rover Kim Trew, who has returned to league ranks in fine style in recent weeks, won the man-of-the-match award of a colour TV set.

Other good players were the roving brothers, Jim and Phil Krakouer, and wingers Dalton Gooding and Darrell Panizza.

Claremont captain-coach Graham Moss was jubilant after the game. "We love coming over here," he said. "We turned in a real hard-running game and went right on with it in the final term after the scores were level at three-quarter time.

"Our handball was fantastic and the players handled the ball well."

1 March 3	Claremont 22.10 b East Perth 4.16	Leederville Oval
2 March 3	Subiaco 15.9 b Perth 11.14	Perth Oval
3 March 2	Hawthorn 18.13 b West Perth 11.15	Perth Oval
4 March 4	Melbourne 22.16 b Swan Districts 8.18	V.F.L. Park
5 March 11	North Adelaide 14.11 b Norwood 13.13	Adelaide
6 March 14	Glenelg 11.13 b Central District 6.8	Adelaide
7 March 8	St Kilda 19.6 b Sturt 8.11	V.F.L. Park
8 March 8	South Melbourne 10.16 b West Adelaide 7.18	Adelaide
9 March 11	Footscray 17.10 b West Torrens 12.3	V.F.L. Park
10 March 16	Queensland 15.17 b Tasmania 9.15	Tasmania
11 March 15	Richmond 20.17 b Woodville 9.3	V.F.L. Park
12 March 16	NSW 17.10 b A.C.T. 10.11	Sydney

SECOND ROUND

13 March 15	Claremont 16.20 b Subiaco 12.9	Leederville
14 March 18	Hawthorn 17.17 b Melbourne 14.4	V.F.L. Park
15 March 21	Glenelg 22.11 b North Adelaide 13.12	Adelaide
16 March 22	St Kilda 17.15 b South Melbourne 10.6	V.F.L. Park
17 March 23	Footscray 18.14 b Queensland 10.8	Brisbane
18 March 23	Richmond 17.19 b NSW 14.16	Sydney

THIRD ROUND

19 March 25	Claremont 10.13 b Geelong 9.14	V.F.L. Park
20 April 1	Hawthorn 20.20 b East Fremantle 4.11	V.F.L. Park
21 April 15	North Melbourne 9.16 b Glenelg 9.11	V.F.L. Park
22 April 29	St Kilda 16.11 b South Adelaide 13.11	Adelaide
23 May 6	Collingwood 12.9 b Footscray 11.9	V.F.L. Park
24 May 13	Richmond 16.13 b Fitzroy 13.12	V.F.L. Park
25 March 14	Essendon 18.10 b Port Adelaide 12.14	V.F.L. Park
26 March 16	South Fremantle 23.19 b Carlton 9.12	East Fremantle

QUARTER FINALS

27 May 20	Claremont 12.12 Hawthorn 7.10	V.F.L. Park
28 May 27	North Melbourne v St Kilda.	V.F.L. Park
29 June 3	Collingwood v Richmond	V.F.L. Park
30 June 10	Essendon v South Fremantle	V.F.L. Park

SEMI-FINALS

31 June 24	Claremont v Winner 28	V.F.L. Park
32 July 1	Winner 29 v Winner 30	V.F.L. Park

GRAND FINAL

33 July 15	At V.F.L. Park	
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WESTSIDE FOOTBALL

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FOUR STARS RETURN

Despite the fact that last week generally highlighted the negative aspects of WA footy, Saturday saw the return of four of the games outstanding players.

Peter Spencer, Jim Sewell, Brian Adamson, and Ross Prunster were all rushed back into their respective teams.

Some people may doubt the wisdom of selectors that include players lacking in match practice but when you are dealing with the calibre of this quartet their selection makes good sense.

I bet its a tonic for the other members of the side to see such players back in the team, even if their personal contributions are less than outstanding their presence as part of any pre-match build-up registers as a big plus.

Of the four, Peter Spencer's return at Leederville Oval against West Perth simply highlights what the football public have known for a long time, he is a champion and a popular one.

It needs to be said that not all champions rate as highly in popularity as Spencer. The good old Aussie support for the underdog is quite often understandable but not altogether productive. I often find myself one out supporting, for arguments sake Arsenal in the recent FA Cup or Ali in a title bout, against lesser rivals because it seems people want to see the champs take a tumble.

Not only do I consider it to be an exercise in positive thinking to support the champs but I also feel sympathetic towards them when they do go under. It seems to me that the underdog in most sporting contests can be beaten yet be praised for a game or unlucky effort while in victory the proven performer can be accused of lethargy or a decline in skills. The yardstick applied to the champion is generally his own which in itself is a pretty big cross to bear. Teams or individuals don't get to the top in the majority of cases without applying the strictest standards to themselves. Having done that the pressure continues to grow on the maintaining of those stand-

ards. You often get the situation especially in English soccer with a competition like the FA Cup, where some unrecognised club comes from oblivion to challenge one of the first division giants. From then on the unknown has everything to gain and nothing to lose.

Like most things in life, sport and a contest is made easier without the burden of real pressure. All of which is a long-winded way of saying we should really appreciate the qualities that sets apart the likes of a player like Spencer.

These same qualities seem to have deserted WA's most traditional club, East Fremantle for the present. Because of the pride that's an integral part of Old Easts, I'm sure that they'll soon return to a place of power. It's interesting to note that people tend to treat an unsuccessful club remaining unsuccessful as a joke, but are quite venomous towards a highly successful club becoming temporarily unsuccessful. East Fremantle's biggest danger now is sure to be devisiveness within its own ranks.

SUBI'S HOPES

Hopes spring eternal for Subiaco supporters and recently a mate of mine told me it was still possible for Subiaco to win all of their home games and still make the four. He said the Lions were having trouble winning at home and they couldn't win away. I thought afterwards that they were running out of places to play but I guess he's right because at last they have started to win at home.

Congratulations to them.

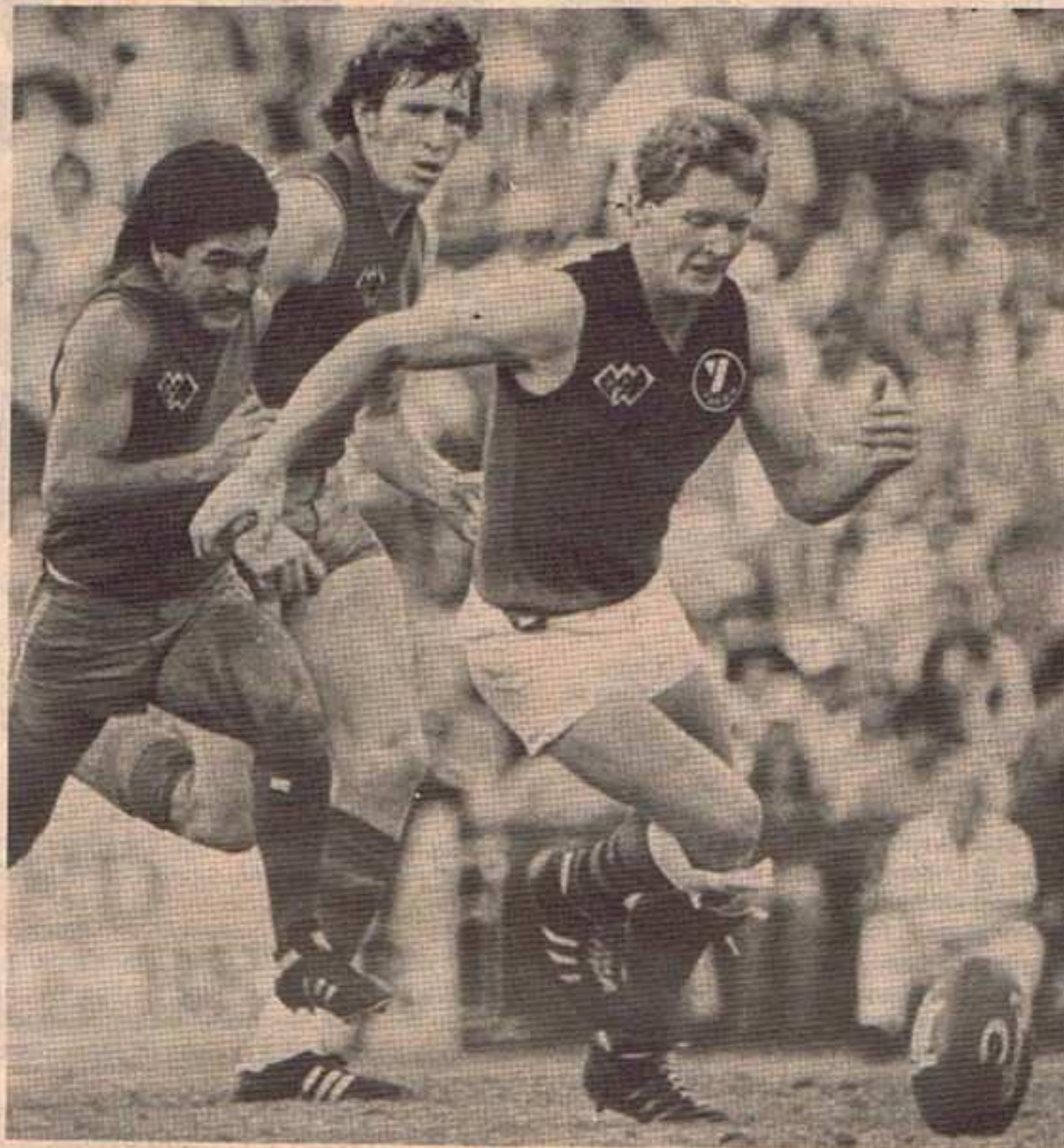
Guest Columnist

Presented by **McInerney Ford**

THIS WEEK:

DENNIS COMETTI

... ABC radio, television commentator.



Spencer in action against West Perth last weekend.

Marlboro Money

The state manager of Philip Morris, Mr Barry Milsome, presented Swan Districts president, John Cooper with a cheque for \$4000 last Sunday for their first round Marlboro Cup win.

Swans scored 35 points for the round, only seven short of a perfect score, to win the cup for the first time since 1975.

South Fremantle won \$1500 as runners-up, finishing a point ahead of West Perth with 28 points.

The Marlboro Player of the Round was Les Fong of West Perth, who won \$1000 for his first round brilliance.

BREHAUT RETURNS



Former all-Australian wingman Greg Brehaut made a shock return to football last week when he led Wanneroo to a convincing win over Melville in the WAFU game at Kingsway Reserve.

The 34-year-old ex-Perth and State star showed he had lost none of the brilliance that made him one of the all-time greats of WA football when he came on as an inter-change in the second quarter to dominate play in the centre and on a half forward flank.

Brehaut picked up 15 kicks and made 10 effective hand-passes as his team crushed Melville by nearly 15 goals.

He said after the match that it was only a temporary comeback. However, his form was so convincing in his first competitive match for six years that the 'Roos are likely to attempt to get their coach onto the ground for Sunday's match against Applecross.

SUNNY CITRUS CUP

INTERSTATE MATCH

WA AMATEUR FOOTBALL LEAGUE v VICTORIAN AMATEUR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

at SUBIACO OVAL on SUNDAY, JUNE 1

Main game starts at 2.30 pm. Curtain raiser - WAAFL Colts v Teal Cup Team - 12.30 pm.

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Used Cars



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SHAW GETS DEATH THREATS

Ray Shaw, skipper of strong VFL club Collingwood and one of football's loveable young men, has been receiving death threats.

The 26-year-old Shaw, a VFL veteran of seven years experience, has had a police escort at the last two Collingwood matches.

The death threats have been made in telephone calls to the home of his mother, Mrs. Eileen Shaw, who said: "They were horrible. They went on for four days and we didn't really know what to do".

Football officials believe that the death threat is the work of a crank, and it stems back to the May 3 incident when volatile St. Kilda player Robert Muir was reported for an incident involving Shaw.

Muir claimed that Shaw had spat at him in the game, but the VFL tribunal handed out a four-week suspension to Muir for striking.

Collingwood are seeking to clear Shaw's name in the alleged spitting incident and have asked the VFL to investigate the claim.

Meanwhile, Shaw will continue to have a police escort . . .

A NEW NAME!

What's in a name . . . a lot, according to St. Kilda officials as they try to spell the name of their latest whiz kid — Constantin Gorozidis.

The 18-year-old son of Greek parents has been kicking goals for several years down Brighton way and was finally lured to Moorabbin this year.

He played four games in the thirds, booting 22 goals from centre-half-forward and then went up to the reserves for a 12-goal haul in three games.

He was slotted into St. Kilda's league side in a forward pocket and did well even though he only kicked one goal.

CARLTON'S BLUES

Carlton, who have gone from rags to riches and back again in quick style, are under the hammer from some of their volatile supporters.

After last week's loss to Richmond — their third successive defeat — angry groups of supporters gathered outside the rooms with chants of 'Bring Back George' — a reference to deposed president George Harris.

Coach Percy Jones, who replaced Alex Jesaulenko when he quit, seems likely to really get tough with his charges this week.

"I have to stop being one of the boys even if they are all my friends", he says. "I'll be a lot harder . . . and a few names will go".

Jones himself is expected to be recalled by the selection panel — and he'll probably replace his namesake, Warren Jones, in the ruck.

IT'S GETTING TOUGHER

Work, work and more work . . . that's the remedy coach Royce Hart is going to use in his bid to get Footscray into a winning mood.

Hart, win-less at Footscray this year, wants to extend his training sessions — and the poor old Bulldogs are already training four nights a week.

Footscray took the game right up to Essendon till half-time last week — when they trailed by only 11 points — but it was slaughter from then on as Essendon ran away for a 13-goal victory.



● RAY SHAW

FITZROY'S PLIGHT

Fitzroy, one of the struggling VFL clubs in the financial world, could switch headquarters . . .

The Lions are currently at Junction Oval with St. Kilda, but they say they cannot pay their way there. The No. 1 choice for their new home is Collingwood's Victoria Park, which is close to big pockets of Fitzroy's supporters.

But it seems as though there is no chance of Fitzroy moving to Sydney — a move many people consider to be an ideal one to promote the game in NSW.

JEZZA'S PROBLEM . . .

The magical Alex Jesaulenko wants to retire as a player . . . but he can't.

Jeza, who took over the reins at St. Kilda a few weeks back when coach Mike Patterson copped the chop, said he would only play if he had to . . . and boy, does he have to!

The Saints have slumped to a low-low point and Jeza spent 20 minutes sitting alone in the dressing rooms after their loss to Geelong as he studied the statistics.

"I now see myself as being a playing coach for a lot longer than I expected", he said.

Jeza brought in two young players for Saturday's game — Con Gorozidis and Wayne Godsell — and though he's not promising rash changes, he will continue to cultivate youth.

Jeza played himself off the interchange bench, electing to watch for most of the 10-goal defeat. He entered the fray late in the match and will almost certainly be out there a lot earlier this week.

NO, NO — NOT YET!

Two VFL superstars have denied thoughts of retirement. North Melbourne's experienced centreman John Murphy — a former Fitzroy and South Melbourne player — is not thinking of quitting even though he is in the reserves.

And big Carl Ditterich, now coaching Melbourne after a 275-game career, says he's not retiring — just resting.

SYDNEY PRESS BLACKOUT

From Kevin Taylor

A press blackout on the Sydney Football League and Association is almost complete. Local sporting editors are treating the Sydney Football League with contempt and if it's not part of a campaign to "keep the Rules boys in their place", then something else must stink.

The Rugby League and Soccer oriented editors are really sticking in the boots when it comes to the SFL — they simply refuse to acknowledge the SFL's presence.

That five-million people throughout Australia and countless thousands in Sydney support the national game doesn't seem to matter.

There are five viable licensed Australian Football clubs operating in Sydney — Western Suburbs, North Shore, East Sydney, Newtown and Balmain. But as far as the press is concerned the SFL may just as well stand on North Head spraying into the wind.

The Australian Game celebrates 100 years of competitive football in Sydney during 1980 and through all of its struggles it continues in a healthy form.

There will be a Sydney-based VFL side — if not in 1981, certainly by 1982,

and that's not a pipe-dream!

When the VFL arrive it'll be interesting to see which paper will jump on the bandwagon.

Which Sydney-based newspaper will be the — first to publish selected VFL sides on a Friday morning; first to preview all of Saturday's games; first to give accurate comments and results from each VFL round — and I mean all of the six games covering 12 sides. There are large numbers of supporters in the Sydney metropolitan area who have allegiance with one of the 12 VFL clubs.

When it comes to handing out favouritism on VFL matters and breaks, I certainly hope the power-men of Australian Football remember the newspapers who kicked in the teeth of those who worked so desperately for the Sydney Football League.

Time is on our side — we've been around for 100 years and besides having long memories Australian Football will still be here for another hundred.

● This item does not refer to forced curtailment of news during the current journalists strike.

OATEY — A LEGEND

Jack Oatey is becoming a legend in his own lifetime in South Australia.

The veteran coach is getting close to breaking the long-standing record for coaching — Collingwood's legendary Jock McHale set a figure of 717 games between 1913 and 1950.

Now Oatey, whose football coaching career started back in 1945, is just two weeks away from equalling that record.

His career reads like a football Who's Who. He was captain-coach of Norwood from 1945 to 1952; non-playing coach of Norwood from 1953 to 1956; coach of West Adelaide from 1957 to 1960 — and he has now been with Sturt for 20 years.

The record will topple on June 16 — the week after the interstate game — when Sturt meet Woodville.

RECRUITING MOVES

VFL giants Carlton and North Melbourne are jostling for positions to win the services of two brilliant young South Australians.

Both clubs are keen to get Central District pair Peter Jonas and Steven Trigg across the border for next year — but it won't be easy.

Jonas — a star in the interstate arena — is currently playing at centre for Centrals and he would easily be a superstar of the 80's if he stayed in Adelaide long enough.

Trigg is a little-known college boy whose form on the half-forward line has been mind-boggling. But he is in the awkward situation of having to bow out of league football for a while this season as he is required to play school football with St. Peter's — he's only 17!

ANOTHER OATEY

Talking about the Oatey family . . . Sturt and Norwood star-of-the-past, Robert Oatey, coached the South Australian youth team in a clash with NSW at Football Park on May 19.

Oatey, a former coach of Norwood, is working closely on the state football scene with senior selectors Ray Kutcher, Neil Kerley and Fos Williams.



MILESTONES

Two SA footballers reached milestones last week.

Dashing Norwood centreman Phil Gallagher reached the 150-game mark in the game against Woodville.

Ken Whelan, Sturt's versatile jack-of-all-trades, reached the 125-game milestone — a feat which earned him life membership of the SANFL.

ROVERS DO BATTLE

It's not often that top-class rovers do battle to the extent that Glenelg and Port Adelaide turned on last week.

Darrell Cahill and Brian Cunningham (Port) and Kym Hodgeman and Peter McInerney (Glenelg) are currently regarded as the best four rovers in the SA competition — and they clashed at Football Park.

The Port pair had the last laugh as they led their side to a hard-earned eight-goal win over Glenelg.

A NEW SA STAR!

Former South Australian John Roberts is being hailed as the new aerialist star of the VFL.

Many fans are claiming that this high-flier from Woodville is another Malcolm Blight — also a Woodville player who grabbed the VFL headlines with his sensational football feats.



BENNETT'S BURST



I find it rather incredible that some football critics are more intent on looking for weaknesses in this season's glamour side, Swan Districts, rather than giving them the credit they deserve.

Some recent examples are: "They won't make the grand final" and "They've yet to show how they can perform under pressure".

It has been a long time since Swan Districts have fielded such a good team. One needs to go back to their halcyon days in the early 1960's to find comparable combinations.

From their performances this season this could easily be the best football team ever fielded by the club. While there are numerous players in the current team who have yet to earn the reputation of some of those who were members of Swans four grand final sides between 1961 and 1965, it is debatable whether any of those 60's sides teamed together any better than the 1980 side.

Malcolm Brown remarked after last week's game that Swans were the best team he had competed against as a coach at South Fremantle.

It's difficult to find fault with that comment. I have seen Swans in their three toughest encounters this year... against East Perth, Claremont and South Fremantle. In each of those games they surrendered the initiative but were still able to regain their composure and stride away to a convincing win.

While it is still early in the season, it will take a top class effort to stop Swans undefeated run.

There are some critics who point to Swans reliance on their runners... Graham Melrose, Gerard Neesham and Ian Williams, as their Achilles heel. If you can curb them then you can stop the side.

I don't believe it is that simple. John Todd has not only cultivated a talented

team but has also developed a system that is not easy to counter.

It must peave all at Swans to hear critics say they won't make the grand final or that they have yet to prove themselves under pressure.

It has been a long time since a club have started a season in such awesome fashion as Swans. Surely they deserve kudos for their efforts.

What more can they do to vindicate that they are a top side?

I believe they are the most exciting thing to happen to WA football in the past decade. They haven't achieved 12 straight league wins through luck. It has been the culmination of a lot of hard work that started with the club's administrators and has been projected through Todd.

The season still has a long way to go... so the situation could change. After all there have been some outstanding efforts by clubs in qualifying rounds only for them to fail in the finals.

But for a side to kick 21 goals or more and win all their matches so convincingly in the first round indicates that Swans are a cut above the other sides in the competition at the moment.

It is difficult to find fault with them. The way they are playing now only suggests that they will make the grand final but also win the premiership.

Until one or more sides show that they have the ability to beat Swans they should receive the accolades they deserve.

ROBERT BENNETT

ACT CONCERNS M.L.C.

A severe body blow has been struck against all Australian Rules footballers.

The Federal Government is attempting to exclude all football players from the protection of the Trade Practices Act.

The National Party spokesman on recreation, Mr Tom McNeil MLC, recently expressed concern that the Federal Government was about to turn their back on footballers.

The WAFL and VFL have been pressing for such action for some time and should the Federal Government bow to this pressure, as seems likely, the rights of football players to seek redress through the courts will become even more difficult.

The ability of players to successfully challenge the rules of clubs and leagues is an unacceptable restraint of trade which has been proven.

Instead of administrators amending their rules and regulations to make such restraints reasonable and acceptable to all, they are attempting to hide behind the Prime Minister and the Federal Government.

According to the Federal Government, footballers are taxpayers, but according to the State Government they have no right to workers compensation.

When it is considered that footballers are not generally permitted to play with the club of their choice; that they become the property of a particular club at birth; that when attempting to transfer interstate are held at ransom; that they must wear football boots selected by the club — the situation has got completely out of hand.

Consultation with the players' associations in each state to find a solution to the archaic rules is essential and once agreement is reached the long and costly court cases will be a thing of the past.

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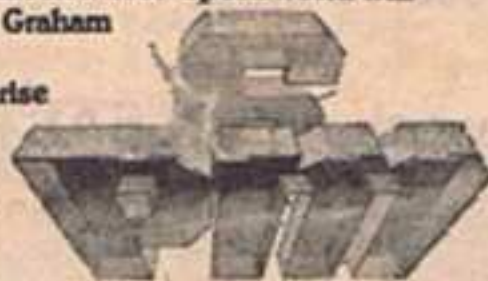
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MARLBORO CUP

RESULTS ROUND 1

Swans 35	East Perth . . . 19%
Sth Frem. . . . 28	Perth 18
West Perth . . . 27	East Frem . . . 9%
Claremont . . . 25	Subiaco 6

FORM GUIDE and THIS WEEK'S GAMES

ROUND 2	
PERTH, L, W, L, L, W, W, L	v South Fremantle at Lathlain
EAST PERTH, W, L, W, L, L, W, L	v Claremont at Perth Oval
EAST FREMANTLE, L, L, L, W, L, L, L	v Swan Districts at East Fremantle
WEST PERTH, W, L, W, L, W, L, W	v Subiaco at Leederville
SUBIACO, L, L, L, L, L, L, W	v West Perth at Leederville
SWAN DISTRICTS, W, W, W, W, W, W, W	v East Fremantle at East Fremantle
CLAREMONT, L, W, L, L, W, W, W	v East Perth at Perth Oval
SOUTH FREMANTLE, W, W, W, W, L, L, L	v Perth at Lathlain



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STEVE GILLESPIE — AN UNSUNG HERO

Football often produces the quiet champions; the players who just go through season after season without attracting much attention.

Swan Districts have one such player in Steve Gillespie, a big, strong man who has filled a variety of key roles at the club for the last decade. He is now 28 and a veteran in a young club; he is quiet and, unassuming — but terribly effective as many forwards around our competition have discovered.

Gillespie has known some good days at Swans; days when the side has made the final four and days when he has been a key player. But he has also known the bad times; the years when Swans have been the league's chopping block and the days when he has had to arrive at the ground much earlier than normal to take his place in the reserve side.

This week ALAN EAST talks to one of football's unsung heroes.



Well, I guess you must be very happy about the way Swans are going this season?

I'm very pleased to see the side winning early games; they are important as we found out last year when we looked like having a chance of making the finals, but had to rely on other sides to lose so we could make up the lost ground. East Fremantle found last year that they won the early games and then had enough points on the board to overcome the bad times, which almost every side has.

Do you see a great deal of difference in this Swans side to teams over the past few years?

There's a lot of difference. In the side that has been cultivated over the last couple of years there has been a changing blend. In 1975, when we made the four, we had a top-heavy side. Now the trend has been to develop faster, quicker players with a more even blend of height and smaller skilful players.

You have seen a lot of young guys really come on this year, haven't you?

Those younger guys such as Mike Smith, Mike Richardson, Ian Williams, Phil Narkle, Don Holmes and Craig Holden are particularly skilful. There wouldn't be too many clubs in Australia that could boast the skills we have among our young players.

Looking back on those lean times, what did you see as the worst year?

Probably 1976 when we dropped from being a finals team to playing hopelessly. It was frustrating for everyone concerned. It had taken a while to build up to those finals in 1974 and 1975 and looked as though we could have had a very good side. But we lost so many players, some retired, some left the club and so forth. We looked as though we had a side that could stay there for five or six years. But in 1976 we were down and out.

When did you see the light coming through again?

In 1977 when John Todd took over, more players were thinned out and at the start of 1978 I thought we had a chance, but we didn't play well enough. It seemed as though Toddy has to re-teach everyone. Everybody seemed to know what he was saying, but didn't do it.

Did you every think of joining the exodus, of quitting or moving?

I had a pretty lean spell at the start of 1978 and played a few games in reserves, but I never really considered quitting because it's not in my make-up to do that.

You didn't think that you might be next on the line to get axed?

Not really. I believe that you can make a rod for your own back in football. If I was getting hammered by Toddy I knew

it was because of my own fault, not his fault. Whereas a few of the others might not have been able to accept that.

What did you do to get back into form?

You have periods when you go up and play well and you have times when you go down. The only thing you can really do is have a good look at yourself and be as honest as you possibly can with yourself; ask yourself why you are going bad and try to find the answer.

Are you happy about your form this season?

I certainly expect better things. It's great to be playing in a winning side, but the last couple of years I've probably expected more of myself instead of just getting a game, which I had done for a number of years.

As an experienced defender, you must have shouldered a lot of the Swans burden at times?

Yes, I guess so. Particularly when Stan Nowotny moved out to play elsewhere and Tom Mullooly was injured and I've played with five young kids around me. But all of those players have had that bit of experience now and are playing really well.

Well, what of the future?

I'm heading for 200 league games next year and that will be good.

adidas
PLAYER PROFILE

Name: Steve Gillespie.
Born: 28.3.52.
Height: 6 ft 2 in.
Weight: 13 st 3 lb.
Lives at: Noranda.
Married: Yes.
Wife's name: Robyn.
Children: Alicia (8 months).
Occupation: Insurance broker.
Favourite food: Seafood.
Favourite drink: Beer.
Hobbies and relaxation: Spending time at home with the family.
Football likes: Winning.
Football dislikes: Annoying decisions.
Hard things in football: The whole game really, it's not an easy game. Loss of form also.
Ambitions: To be part of a premiership side and to reach 200 games.
Nickname: Ger.
Guernsey No: 22.
Why? No real reasons.
Idols in football: Wally Brown.
Came from: Bassendean.
League debut: 1970.
Games played: 180.

GOALS!

West Perth full forward Rod Alderton had a goalkicking feast last Saturday when he scored 8.1 of the Cardinals' total tally of 13.21. Some of his goals were real gems... his third goal for the match came from a free kick he was awarded after catching George Michalczyk holding the ball. From 60 metres out on the right half forward flank he guided the ball through brilliantly making allowance for a slight breeze. His fifth goal resulted from another perfectly judged kick from deep in the left forward pocket in the third quarter. He had been awarded the kick after taking a screaming mark over the head of East Perth's Kevin O'Keefe.

There were plenty of great snap-shot goals in the match at Fremantle Oval last week — and South Fremantle captain Noel Carter led the way. Carter booted five goals, of which three were top snaps, including his fourth which was a real around-the-corner goal that rolled for about 15 metres before crossing the goal-line.

There wasn't much doubt about World of Football's goal-of-the-day last week. The Town and Country \$100 cheque was Brad Hardie's right from the moment he booted South Fremantle's fifth goal against Swans. Hardie, a man of many positions, was playing in the back pocket at the time — the first quarter. He had come up to the half-back line in search of the resting rover and beautifully anticipated a short pass from a Swan's player. He picked the ball up on the half-volley, dashed through two Swans players, had two bounces and drove the ball home for a long goal.

Collingwood captain Ray Shaw had one of those kicks for goal that every player dreams of. The Magpies were six points down in a thrilling finish; rover Ron Wearmouth passed the ball out from the wing and hit Shaw on the chest. Shaw lined it up, put it through to tie the scores — and then heard the siren go!

Rugged Swan Districts skipper Stan Nowotny probably has one of the most awkward-looking kicking styles in the business — but he knows where the ball is going. He produced two goals against South Fremantle and one was a real gem — of luck. It was his second and came early in the last quarter when he dropped it onto his boot about 45 metres out from goal — and saw it bounce three different ways before finally going through the open goal-mouth!

Two brilliant goals by East Perth's Larry Kickett and Peter Spencer sparked off a desperate fightback by the Royals in their match against West Perth. Early in the final term, Kickett — playing in his 100th match — snapped a great major while at full flight heading across goal. Shortly after, Spencer streaming down the left flank, received a clever handpass from John Nolan and from 60 metres out split the centre to register the Royals' 10th goal. Goals followed from Turner and Otway, but West Perth steadied and held on.

GOLDEN BOOT

SIMON BEASLEY (Swans)	31.26
DOUG SIMMS (Perth)	29.14
PETER BOSUSTOW (Perth)	27.16
ROD ALDERTON (West Perth)	25.12
CHRIS STASINOWSKY (West Perth)	24.17
PAUL ARNOLD (East Perth)	22.10
DON HADDOW (South Frem.)	22.9
KEN JUDGE (East Frem.)	22.19
WARREN RALPH (Claremont)	21.8
IAN WILLIAMS (Swans)	20.14

FOOTBALL FORUM

PLEAD FOR BASIL

Dear Sir,

I plead for umpires to give Basil Campbell a go.

Opposition players and spectators alike don't like him because of his vigorous play, but what starts Basil going berserk?

He doesn't get the easy free kicks, by that I mean the obvious ones. Basil is the only player in Australia that hasn't got a back!

Basil started the season well, why? Because when he went for the ball he was treated like any other player and got his free kicks.

Maybe the umpires were feeling sorry for him playing his first game, but now that he's fully fit, it's back to penalising him every time he tackles. I must admit he's a hard tackler, but let's say 80% out of a 100 are fair tackles, but, to umpires it's 99% bad.

Tackling is the most exciting art to watch. There's nothing like watching a strong tackle.

My last point is this: If Moss, Kelly, Fong, Peake or even the Krakouer brothers didn't get their obvious free kicks during the whole match, I'm sure they would lose their cool.

What I'm trying to say is, give Basil the free kicks he deserves and he won't go on rampage. It's like not feeding a lion for days, so naturally the lion is going to roar.

So come on ump's, give him a go, after all he's made more comebacks than Muhammad Ali.

Keep it up Baz John Sciascia.

WHAT ABOUT DUGGAN

Dear Sir,

I noticed in the April 3 edition of Know Your Team, Rod Duggan was not mentioned in the East Perth section. I'm a little disappointed as he is one player I would like some information about.

Other than that, I think your paper is terrific and I hope there will be more competitions in the future.

M. Denver,
Wembley Downs

Editor: Sorry. But when the East Perth players line-up was presented Duggan had not confirmed that he would be returning to the city. But for your information this is his fact-file: Born 20.4.56. Height 5ft. 8in. (172cm). Weight: 11st (70kg). League Debut: 1975. Came from Margaret River. Occupation Truck driver. Games played 44. Goals kicked 33.

RATINGS

Dear Sir,

In reading last week's edition of the Toyota Westside Ratings, it says that Les Fong and Doug Simms were the first players to receive nine points in a game this season.

In checking through the charts you will find that George Michalczyk (East Perth) received nine points in the first game of the season against Claremont.

Darren Humphrys,
Bunbury.

Editor: You're so right, thanks Darren, we slipped up



WESTSIDE WIZZARD

Three queries will be published each week and the writers will each receive double theatre tickets to a Line Drive-In or one of City Theatres cinemas. Anyone stumping the Wizzard wins twelve month's subscription to Westside Football.

As is normal with any "stumping" competition the writer must be able to provide reasonable evidence of the correct answer if the Wizzard cannot answer a question.

C. Tapping, Bepton Way, Balga, asks:
Who was the 13-year-old named as a reserve for Swan Districts in a league night premiership match in 1967?

Joe O'Neil.

M. Walker, Dartmouth Ave., City Beach, asks:

Has a WA footballer ever coached a

VFL side to a premiership; if so who was he?

Subiaco's Brighton Diggins coached Carlton to their 1938 premiership.

C.W. Croom, King William Street, Bayswater, asks:

This season the West Australian National Football League decided to drop the word "National" from its official title. Had the word "National" always been part of the league's official title.

No. Prior to 1932 the league was known as the West Australian Football League (its present title). In that year the word "National" was officially added to its title. It has originally become known as the W.A.F.L. in 1908 after changing its name from the West Australian Football Association.



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MOTHER BROWN

Well, firstly I have to open up with a couple of apologies!

My comment a few weeks back about women not receiving the recognition they deserve in football with life memberships brought some quick reactions. Doreen Watson, of Toodyay and Bill Renouf, of Lathlain, were kind enough to write and point out that the Toodyay and Perth clubs did, in fact, have women life members.

Sorry folks . . . but at least some good has come out of my original comment — our women are now getting the recognition and publicity they deserve and that's what Westside Football is all about.

It's interesting to note that when I was at Dowerin (for 19 years) and we played Toodyay, it was Spot Watson — Mrs. Watson's husband — who was always a stumbling block at full-back as far as we were concerned.

I've also had a letter telling me about women life members at Merredin and Corrigin, so our women are really in the limelight — and good on them.

WELL DONE SUBI

CONGRATULATIONS to Subiaco . . . your win last week was a tremendous boost for the competition.

It's great to see young players being given their chance in senior ranks and Ken Armstrong will undoubtedly get good value out of these boys in the future.

MORE SOCIALISING!

In Victoria, it is traditional for the players of both sides to get together after the match for a few drinks and a light snack — usually in one of the changerooms or somewhere away from the crowd.

This doesn't happen in WA — and I think it should. I believe that what goes on out on the field is forgotten when the game is over and our footballers should get together after the match.

Bob Miller made the point on TV last week and I think it's a really good idea. Why, we've even had the situation when players are picked for State sides that they don't really know each other.

DROP IT!

I believe that the Subiaco-Claremont incidents should be forgotten — and quickly.

I don't see much point in harbouring what went on in that spiteful game and the sooner we stop seeing film clips of the incidents, the better.

Some players have been suspended and some got off. But how about we stop digging it up again. Why don't we see a few more brilliant high marks in replays or some great goals, instead of nasty and unwanted acts of violence.

And about the send-off rule . . . it won't work, Fred Woods.

I don't agree with the idea; I just don't see how an umpire could make it operate, especially when we have a heated all-in brawl.

NAMES DON'T HURT

I've had a letter from a disappointed supporter who is upset at the names players get called — especially out on the field. I guess this supporter is referring to some of the problems Aboriginal players like Basil Campbell and the Krakouers face.

My only suggestion is that players have to learn to live with names — they don't hurt; but they often spur a player on to prove that he is better than his opponent.

Cheers,
Eileen Brown.



Chubby's Chatter

Last week on 6PM's Sports Panel I was impressed with the way Noel Carter expressed himself and the way he was able to overcome problem questions. As we are aware, Carter's contract runs out end of the 1980 season and it would not surprise me to see him captain-coach a league side in the 1981 season. On the same programme it was interesting to note that Murray Couper stated that East Perth would beat West Perth because they were more disciplined. Of course, this comment did not go down well with Graham Campbell (West Perth coach) and even though I thought Couper won the argument off the field, Campbell certainly won the battle on the field.

OLD EAST LOSS NO SURPRISE

After watching East Fremantle play Perth, it did not surprise me to see Subiaco defeat them last week. Gone is the discipline and the ability to run and create which was a feature of East Fremantle's game last year. As always, the coach is the person who takes the brunt of all these problems but one wonders after seeing them beat East Perth and then see their loss to Perth and Subiaco, whether a few players should look themselves in the mirror and ask if they are doing their best and utmost on the football field.

CONGRATULATIONS BUZZ

Last Saturday, at the Perth-Claremont game I was quite surprised to find that one of my opposition radio stations - 6PR - gave a "Team Man of the Week Award". Hats off to them, as this type of player often goes unnoticed. But to a lot of people, the most surprising thing is that Perth's Peter Bosustow won this award. I thoroughly agreed and it goes to show you how maturity and attitude can change a player. I only hope that Buzz can progress consistently with this team man attitude.

MISSING FACES

Watching the Perth reserves and league side play last week, one noticed many faces missing from their line-up. After the game, coach Alan Joyce pointed out that 26 players have left the club in season 1980 and of these 15 were league players. Big names missing include Gibellini, Farrant, Watt, Noack, Mitsopolus and Fotheringham. Even though some people will say some of the names mentioned were not big-time league players, they formed an intricate part of the Perth team. It is quite noticeable that there is no pressure being put on the players in the league side from their reserves.

LET'S FOLLOW THE LEAD

In reading the South Australian football columns, I noticed that last Monday South Australia played an under-21 team against a New South Wales state side. It was a curtain raiser to South Australia's clash against Queensland. I see no reason why Western Australia cannot take the bull by the horns and initiate a similar game before the big clash against South Australia in June, or when they play their State of Origin game against Victoria in July, play the Victoria under 21-side.

Next week in this column I hope to be able to pick a Western Australian Under-21 side.

ALLAN STILES

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A ROUND OF SURPRISES

The end of round one and what a round, packed with surprises and high scores.

Swans broke records week after week and finished with 1142 points, which better the previous first rounds high of 1013 points kicked by South Fremantle in 1978.

Swan District also hold the record of the most points kicked AGAINST them, 1115 in 1978.

The total of 6892 points scored in the first round which made it the highest scoring first round in history. For the first time ever, two teams - East Fremantle and Subiaco - had over a thousand points kicked AGAINST them in a first round.

CLAREMONT RECORD

Claremont's mammoth score 29.17 (191) last week at Lathlain Park was not only THEIR highest score on that ground but the best kicked by any league team against Perth on their home ground in the 21 years of football at Lathlain.

Claremont's margin of 59 points was their easiest win over the Demons at Lathlain.

TOUGH ODDS

Sides out of the top four at the end of round one have the odds of going premiers stacked against them, well the records say so anyway.

From 1904 to 1979 there is only two occasions when a team has proved this wrong, in 1971 and in 1978, when West Perth and East Perth won. Both sides were in fifth place through inferior percentage.

BAD STARTS

There is only one instance in W.A. history where a team lost its first three games and still managed to win the premiership. This occurred in 1949, when the Cardinals were successful.

TWO GAMES IN FREQ

Two league matches in Fremantle on the one afternoon? Never! say some but it did happen in 1969. On May 24 East Fremantle played Swan Districts at home and South played Perth at Fremantle Oval.

Its quite possible that back in the days when North Fremantle were in the league there would have been plenty of days when Fremantle had two league games on one day. (North Fremantle dropped out in 1915).

HOW LOW CAN EASTS GO

How low can they go? Where are last year's premiers East Fremantle going to finish?

Three clubs South Fremantle in 1971, West Perth in 1970 and Swan Districts in 1964 slid to SIXTH place the year after winning a flag. Can Old Easts do worse than that.

(In the V.F.L. Hawthorn slipped back to NINTH place the year after they won their first flag in 1961).

SECOND HALF DROUGHTS

Can a team win if it does not kick a goal in the second half? Can a team win if it hasn't a goal on the board by half time? The answer is yes.

On May 27, 1963 South Fremantle led Perth at half-time 7-6 to 1-8 and then won 7-10 to 5-16. The game was played at Fremantle Oval and umpired by Brian Feld.

At the same ground on August 6, 1966, South led West Perth by 7-1 to 0-4 at the long interval but West won the game 12-10 to 10-5.

INTERSTATE CLASH AT SUBIACO

The West Australian Amateur Football League will meet the Victorian Amateur Football League in an interstate clash at Subiaco Oval next weekend.

The WA side, coached by former East Fremantle coach Harry Neesham won a warm up match when they met Avon at Northam last weekend. (See Amateur notes).

It will be the first ever clash between the two State's amateur sides apart from carnival games.

The match which will be played on Sunday June 1 will be previewed in detail in next week's edition.



These players this week celebrate birthdays, we join their fans in wishing them well.

Tony Hall (Subiaco) 24 on 25th.
Kevin Worthington (Claremont) 27 on 25th.

Archie Duda 28 on 26th.
Brad Lohoar (Subiaco) 18 on 29th.
Kim Hetherington (East Fremantle) 19 on 29th.

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GIBBS WAS ONCE A ROYAL

A redistribution in club boundaries eight years ago presented West Perth with their back pocket specialist Ross Gibbs, by courtesy of East Perth. Gibbs, who has played 23 league matches for the Cardinals since making his league debut in 1978, is earning a big reputation as a back pocket specialist.

Ironically, it was almost by accident that he found his spot in the backline.

It was during his second league game, playing as a ruck rover, that he spelled in the back pocket for a period and did such an effective job that he has been there ever since.

Gibbs played all his junior football as a rover or centreman and when he made his league debut, played in his first two matches as a ruck-rover.

Since that third game for the Cardinals, he has held down the back pocket position. His great marking ability and his superb judgement make him a vital part of the West Perth backline and he can look forward to a long future with the Cardinals in this role.

His early junior football was played in the East Perth Council but a re-allocation of club district boundaries saw his Dianella home become part of West Perth territory.

He then played his remaining junior football with the Mirrabooka club before graduating to West Perth colts. After one season of colts football, he played six reserves matches in 1978 before making his first league appearance.

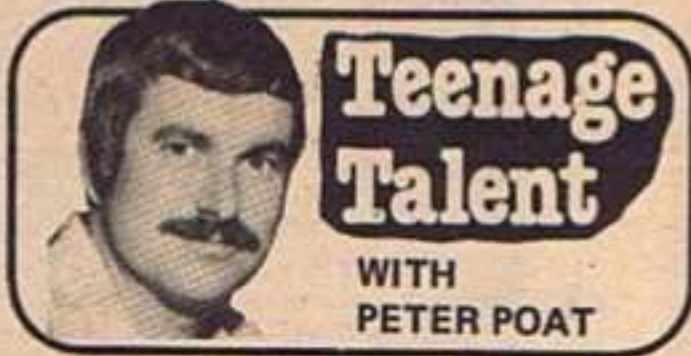
Though happy to be part of the successful West Perth side he has a secret desire to "get in amongst it" and have a run on the ball. He obviously enjoyed his junior days as a rover and would like to try his luck in this role now. However, with players like Les Fong and Corry Bewick firing so well at the moment, he will have to be content remaining in the position in which he is serving the Cardinals best.

Some critics are suggesting Gibbs has claims to a State berth. However, he is not getting any high hopes about that prospect.

"It would be great to get a State game, but I think I've got a fair way to go yet", he says.

"There are plenty of other good players who would get a guernsey before me.

"I'm happy to be part of the West Perth



team and my biggest goal is to be a member of a West Perth premiers side.

"There is great spirit in the club, and tremendous comradeship which has



developed during our long pre-season campaign.

"We started training two weeks after the 1979 season finished and the boys have become great mates.

"Of course all this has been inspired by our coach Graham Campbell, who is a tremendous motivator."

West Perth has always been well served by effective back pocket players. In recent years they have had Leon O'Dwyer and Ian Kent and Gibbs will certainly maintain the club's reputation of producing back pocket specialists.

GARY'S GOSSIP



By the time you read this article, the football future of Brian Peake could well have been decided. I firmly believe that the East Fremantle champion will leave for Melbourne within the next few days or so.

Peake is in a real dilemma — to go or not to go. There is no way he would leave East Fremantle if he was required to do a job (he's proved that in the past). However, the Blue and Whites have virtually no chance now in 1980. Surely it would be common sense to let Peake go (temporarily) in exchange for money and some players.

Brian is being constantly bombarded by the Geelong club to upstake and join them for the remainder of this season at least. Talking of Geelong, they are going extremely well this year, third on the V.F.L. premiers ladder and some easy ground ahead of them. Naturally the Geelong officials, now more than ever, are anxious to secure the services of the East Fremantle skipper.

Geelong have been watching the results of East Fremantle's matches this season and, of course, this has only added fuel to the fire. Did ya know that under the terms of Peake's contract with East Fremantle he is entitled to play in Victoria for 12 months? Its true. Therefore the time is right (in my opinion) for Peake and East Fremantle to make the big decision. Incidentally, Brian had two calls that I know of from Geelong last Sunday morning. I don't know who the first caller was, but I certainly know the second. Yes it was an impassioned call from Geelong's coach, Billy Goggin. You see Goggin, apart from wanting Peake at Geelong as soon as possible was also disturbed to hear that the champion had been injured during the Subiaco game. Goggin's advice to Peake was straightforward — "Look after yourself, we want a fit Brian Peake at Geelong".

P.S.!! Here is a long range tip — Brian Peake will eventually captain and coach East Fremantle (when he gets back from Geelong).

DRIP OF THE WEEK

Football is really enjoying an unprecedented era of popularity, not only from public support, but also from sponsorship. Just think of all the individual football awards that are presented these days. One of the newer awards, that has really caught the imagination of the public and indeed the recipients is the "Dorf Drip of the Week". This 6PR based award is sponsored by Dorf Taps and is presented to the person whom the panel consider "Has put his or her boot in it" — "said or done something outrageous, controversial or funny". Last week's winner was Channel Seven's sporting editor, Harvey Deegan. Harvey won hands down for his now famous interview with West Perth coach, Graham Campbell. Harvey interviewed Campbell after training and it was raining "cats and dogs". They were both "Dripping Wet". Surely you'll agree Harvey Deegan was a truly worthy recipient of the "Dorf Drip of the Week".

WELCOME BACK WATTSIE

Isn't it good to hear my old mate John K. Watts back on the air waves after a serious illness, which put him completely out of action for two weeks. In my humble opinion, the "Happy-go-Lucky Wattsie" is a perfect example to all of us who feel down or miserable from time to time. What I mean is you never hear John complain about his heart or anything else for that matter. This is the second occasion that "our mate" has been hard hit by this mystery illness, but he has bounced back again. Personally, I hope he is around for years, isn't it good to see someone whose main aim in life is to make others laugh and make light of life's so called burdens. Welcome back John K. Watts.

CONGRATULATIONS SUBI

My sincere congratulations to Ken Armstrong and all of Subiaco after breaking the ice against East Fremantle. The Lions have a long way to go, but they do have quite a few talented youngsters, who are developing week by week. There has been talk that former up-and-coming young Royals star Craig Earnshaw is keen to join Subiaco. Well, Kevin Merrifield be warned. I'm told that the Margaret River club Craig has been playing with are not anxious to lose his services.

CHANGE FOR OLD EASTS

Finally, I hear that there are plans for a change of guernsey for East Fremantle next season. Not only that, there are also plans to find a substitute name for Old Earts. I wonder what they will come up with.

GARY CARVOLTH

SANDOVER MEDAL GUIDE

This weekly survey is designed to help the keen football follower keep an up-to-date guide for the Sandover Medal.

Each week we list the major media voting on a 3-2-1 basis and leave room for you to fill in the voting by the umpires when Sandover Medal night arrives.

This form guide, which should be cut out and clipped in a file, will give you an easy-to-read indicator of the consistency and form of our leading players. It also provides an interesting comparison of the best-on-ground lists compiled by the various media.

MAY 17	West Australian	Sunday Times	Weekend News	Sunday Independent	TVW 7	6PR	6PM	6IX	Umpires
South Fremantle v Swan Districts				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holden (SD) Michael (SF) Neesham (SD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marty McDonnell: Melrose (SD) Michael Nowotny (SD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alan East: Melrose (SD) Michael Holden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jack Sweet: Michael Melrose Williams (SD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roley Daw: Neesham Michael Williams 	Capes/Powell
West Perth v East Perth	NO VOTES CAST OWING TO INDUSTRIAL STRIFE INVOLVING			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spencer (EP) Menaglio (WP) Fotheringham (WP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kevin Murray: Alderton (WP) Spencer Fong (WP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oscar Howard: Spencer Fotheringham 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joe Fanchi: Alderton Fong Spencer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neil Garland: Alderton Spencer Fotheringham 	Rows/Gillies
Perth v Claremont	JOURNALISTS			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julian Stawell: Moss (C) Trew (C) Bosustow (P) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Rogers: J. Krakouer (C) Bosustow Moss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> J.K. Watts: Moss Bosustow Ditchburn (C) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allan Stiles: Trew Bosustow Ditchburn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phil Mulcahy: Frost (P) Harper (C) Morton (C) 	McBride/Phillips
Subiaco v East Fremantle				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marshall (S) Peake (EF) Hall (S) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Marsh: Hamilton (S) R. Brown (S) Marshall (S) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Self: N. Taylor (S) R. Brown Screech (S) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colin Hopkins: Hamilton Marshall R. Brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laurie Nugent: Hamilton Marshall R. Brown 	Buckey/Ball

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SWAN GOLD SPOTLIGHT

STARS OF THE FUTURE

The focus was on juniors around several league clubs during the holidays . . . and our cameraman was there as well.

While the juniors who attended coaching clinics run at various league grounds — with sponsorship support from the Town and Country Building Society — benefitted by the exercise; football club officials have expressed concern at the lack of support from the boys, their parents and their junior clubs and councils.

Clinics at several clubs were cancelled because of a lack of support . . . and some people suggest football doesn't do enough for its juniors!





HOLIDAY ACTION . . .

On the right: MICHAEL FREEGARD, from the Noranda club, in East Perth's council.

On the left: BRADLEY MUMME, of Swanbourne, the 12-year-old son of former Tiger star Les Mumme, joins with Mitchell Summers, 12, of North Beach as they tackle James Stewart, 11, of Claremont.

On the right: NICHOLAS MORGAN, 11 of Claremont has the front seat for this mark ahead of Jeremy Pell, 11, of Claremont (left) and Paul Keighley, 11 of Mosman.

On the left: MICHAEL GANNON, an eight-year-old from Dianella, has this chest mark all over his back.

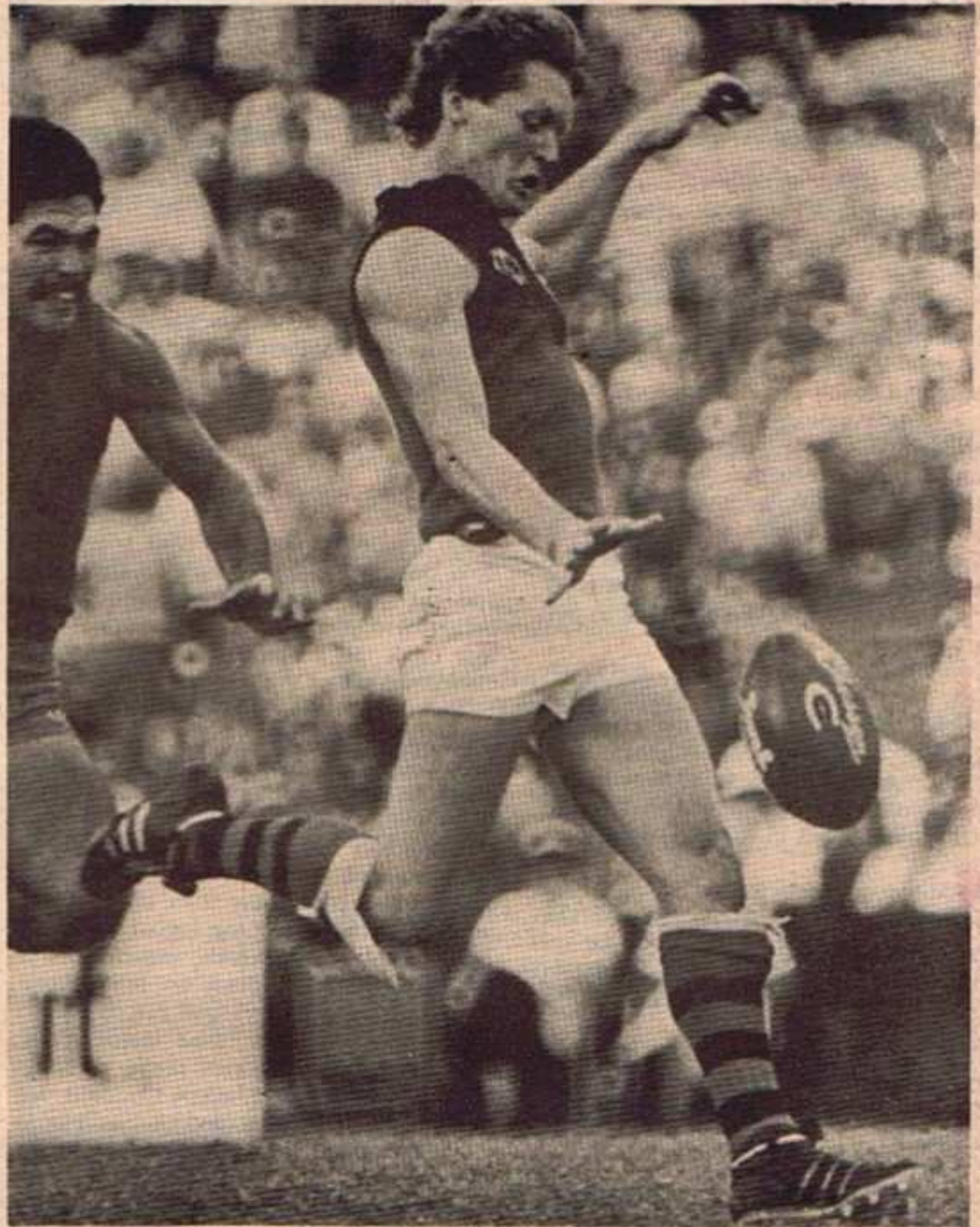


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SPENCER WINS THE BATTLE



If Peter Spencer was a gambler, he would certainly be a big winner.

For Spencer gambled boldly with his football fitness this year — and he has won handsomely.

Spencer battled for almost a year to shake off a serious groin injury and return to football in fine style last year . . . only to see his 1980 campaign frustrated by yet another injury, this time to his knee.

The closer the season came, the worse the injury got. So Spencer opted out of the Perth Oval scene and went out on his own to adopt a spartan training programme that involved hours and hours of painstaking work.

He said he would be back by the end of the first round — and he was.

Spencer returned to the arena wearing special knee pads designed to help prevent a repetition of the injury.

"Last year I seemed to spend a lot of time falling on my knees during the matches," he says. "Apparently this had something to do with the knee injury."

"So I'm wearing these special pads in an attempt to avoid such a thing happening again."

SUNDAY SCENE



GOSNELLS THE GIANTKILLERS

Gosnells the giantkillers... that's the story in the South Suburban-Murray football league this week after their top-class effort in ending the unbeaten run of Canning.

Gosnells, premiers two years ago, snapped right back to their best form with a convincing seven-goal win over Canning in a high-scoring game.

New players gave Gosnells added life and stars like Arthur Jones on a wing, led the way and coach Len Anderson will look for a continuation of that attitude, particularly this week when Gosnells play the much-improved Rockingham side.

Rockingham took advantage last week of Kalamunda's slump to storm to a thrilling one-point victory — their second for the season and one that lifted them up two places on the premiership table to put them in 9th spot.

Gosnells should win at home, but when a team like Rockingham — young, inexperienced but full of enthusiasm — gets their tail up anything could happen.

Maddington returned to their winning form when they downed premiers Kelmscott by nine points in a top-class game at Kelmscott.

Maddington had former Swans defender Rod Mohr as their best for the second week in a row and his influence on their defensive football is instrumental in the side moving up to fourth position on the table.

This week Maddington are at home to Kwinana, who had to pull out all stops last week to beat the unlucky Willetton combination.

Kwinana's veteran brigade — led by coach Brian Ciccotosto and centreliner Tony Micale — held off a determined Willetton challenge to win by three points. Willetton went within five points of

downing Kelmscott a week earlier and their good showing against Kwinana means that no top side can now take victory for granted when they play the Gary Greer-combination.

This week it's Kenwick's turn to be on guard. They are at home to Willetton and coach Mal Day will be determined not to drop the points and lose their precarious hold on third place. Kenwick were strong and solid, if unimpressive in the scoring department, when they beat Thornlie by four goals last week and they will need a disciplined effort this Sunday.

Canning, whose run of seven straight victories was brought to a shuddering halt by the Gosnells onslaught, travel to Mandurah in what will be the toughest task faced by any side this weekend.

Mandurah are strong and relentless. They downed Armadale by a comfortable 16 goals and they have their sights firmly set on clearing out at the top of the table. Their victory last week, coupled with Canning's loss, put them on top on percentage and now they have the chance to widen that gap over their major rivals.

Armadale, who showed plenty of spirit against Mandurah but lacked the skills, are at home to Kelmscott and that will be a tough encounter though Kelmscott should win.

Kalamunda and Thornlie, two 'drop-outs' this season, clash at Hartfield Park where Kalamunda can earn a much-needed win.



APPLECROSS IN DANGER

Applecross are sitting in third spot on the W.A.F.A. ladder with four wins at the end of the first round of fixtures. However they have only a tenuous grasp on the position and are in danger of slipping out of the four.

This Sunday they meet Wanneroo at Shirley Strickland Oval in what promises to be the match of the day.

They could take little heart in the top performance of a number of Wanneroo players on Sunday. Wingman Terry Senior celebrated his 100th game with the club by being best afield and centre half-forward Noel Knights (eight goals), full-forward Colin Northcott (nine) and half-forward flanker Ian Kent (five) all had field days in attack.

However Applecross had some heartening signs when Ian Crawford returned to something like his top form when played as a ruck-rover.

Crawford, defender Steve Robertson and rover Joe Pittorini were the stars in the Hawks 15-point win over Osborne Park on Sunday.

However coach Tony Ryan will ask for a big contribution from Crawford, rovers John Pietroniro and Mick Pember as well as ruck rovers Frank Treasure and Larry Dwyer. They will not want to waste chances in front of goal as they did last week.

South Perth, who finished the first round equal on points but behind on percentage to Wanneroo, should consolidate their place near the top by beating bottom side Osborne Park at Robinson Reserve.

Metropolitan-Victoria Park who lost their first five games, proved they were still contenders for the four when they beat Mosman Park by six goals on Sunday.

This week they meet Melville at Forster Park and are set to make it three wins in a row — and put pressure on teams above them.

Cockburn, sitting in fourth place with four wins, have the physical strength with players like Phil Clucas and Trevor O'Brien setting the standards in this department.

But Mosman have the pace around the ground and will be looking for big games from their skilled players Gavin Hambley and Barry Haydinger to make amends for their loss to Mets.

Mosman are well aware that a further loss this week will cancel out their strong comeback over the past few weeks and will be desperate for a win.



AMATEURS BEAT AVON IN THRILLER

In their fifth inter-association clash since 1950, the W.A. Amateur representative team scraped home by 3 points over the strong Avon Football Association last Sunday at the Jubilee Oval, Northam.

It was a game in which the A.F.A. held the whip hand all day, leading by four goals half way through the final term. Desperate team football enabled the Amateurs to grab victory with their final goal kicked 30 seconds before time.

The first quarter saw Avon play with purpose and kick to position scoring 4 goals before their opponents replied.

The pace was still maintained and a 5 goal difference was opened up before the Amateurs got their running game going and closed within 1 goal at half time.

In the third quarter the Avon team swept all before them and looked like set for their first victory against the W.A.A.F.L.

Positional changes by coach Harry Neesham plus the desire to maintain that unbeaten record the Amateurs seemed to lift themselves and despite goal front inaccuracy as well as miskicking caused by the pressure of the Avon backmen, the visitors hit the front for the first time in the game on the final siren.

The Avon Football Association should be commended for their tremendous team effort and high standard of skilled football and were unlucky not to have gained what probably they justly deserved... victory.

The W.A.A.F.L. thank the Avon Association and Railways Football Club for their hospitality and wish them every success in the future.

Full match details appear on the results page of this edition.

In Saturday's W.A.A.F.L. club fixtures, Wembley kicked one of the highest 'A' Division scores in recent times when they annihilated C.B.C. 36-31 to 4-7, with 1979 State captain Bill Payne kicking an unbelievable 1-13. Nollamara 22-11 d Bayswater 7-10. Old Wesley 17-11 maintained second spot defeating Uni 11-14 who have slumped from top to fourth in two games. Mt. Lawley 17-16 d Collegians 15-11. Maylands 18-14 d Carlisle 14-13.

The game of the day this week should be at McGillivray No. 1 where University and Mt. Lawley play for 4th spot. In recent games Uni have not come up to expectations against highly rated teams and their ability to match themselves against a revitalized Mt. Lawley may be questioned. The Hawks must win this to prevent a two game gap between 4th and 5th spot. Maylands and Collegians are evenly matched at Bassendean Oval, with two wins apiece. Last week's win may give Maylands a boost needed in this close one. Wembley will find Bayswater a little harder than C.B.C. last week but should win by a reasonable margin at Claremont Oval, while at Fremantle Oval C.B.C. front up to unbeaten Nollamara in what could be a repeat performance of their last effort. For the sake of interest in 'A' Division it is hoped that lower teams can be more competitive in clashes against higher rated teams, as must Carlisle be against Old Wesley at Collins Oval. Old Wesley with State representative players who performed creditably against Avon. They should provide the springboard for victory.



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• Football Stars. Show
Starts 1.00 p.m.



Dean Mews (right) and Jeff Pow, both 11-year-olds from Noranda.

PERTH JUNIORS KICK MASSIVE TALLIES

With half the first round of fixtures in the Perth Junior Football Council's 1980 age group contests now played it appears more evident that there is a great deal of new blood in the competition.

The newest blood infused into the grades comes from Queen's Park Club which is undefeated and leading the 12 years and 14 years contests, is equal second on points in the unofficial 10 years competition and equal third in the 16 years.

In fact, these four teams have only lost two games out of 20 played, has drawn one and won 17.

Carlisle teams are equal second in the 10 years, undefeated equal leaders in the 12 years, equal top in the 14 years, and a clear second only half a game behind the 16 years leading team East Victoria Park.

Two other traditional strong clubs, Manning and Canning, are well in the running for the premiership stakes this season.

Manning has an undefeated 10 years side, is equal fourth in the 12 years, equal top in the 14 years and equal third in the 16 years.

Canning is equal second in the 10 years, equal top in the 12 years, fourth in the 14 years and equal third in the 16 years.

Other clubs which are having some measure of success in the grades include East Victoria Park, the 16 years undefeated competition leader, and South Perth which is equal second in the 10 years and equal third in the 12 years contests.

Kensington has a team equal third in the 12 years and Centrals is in fifth place in the 14 years contest.

Interest is mounting in the competitions in all grades with most of the top teams

meeting each other during the next few weeks to finalise the first round of fixtures.

BIG SCORES

Outstanding scoring by some teams throughout age group competitions has been a feature this season.

Two weeks ago the Canning 10 years side scored 40 goals 26 behinds and during this same period the Carlisle Green 10 years team has scored more than 30 goals twice including 32 goals 23 behinds last Sunday.

Two weeks ago the Carlisle 16 years side scored 29 goals 27 points to nil against Centrals and three quarters of that match was played in rain.

Last Sunday this same side scored 29 goals 25 behinds to South Perth's 1 goal 1 behind.

The 10 years leading undefeated side Manning Maroon has scored 31 goals 18 behinds to nil against Carlisle Maroon.

Earlier this season the strong Queens Park 14 years team scored 37.20 to South Perth nil and in the same grade East Victoria Park scored 34.37 and Queens Park scored 28.19 in their respective matches.

These scores, of course, are reflected in the winning teams' percentages on the premiership tables such as 1180%, 1171%, 1158% and 1006%.

The 10 years and 12 years scores are even more remarkable in that these teams only play a total of 60 minutes of football each match — BARRY GREEN

WESTSIDE FOOTBALL

JUNIOR QUIZ

Nine-year-old WAYNE VAUGHAN, of Maddington, is certainly a keen reader of Westside Football.

Our junior quiz last week was based on articles in various parts of Westside Football — and Wayne answered all three questions correctly, so he didn't miss much of the paper.

Wayne wins a great Chesson footy in his favourite club colours — West Perth — plus a beaut Adidas bag to carry all his football gear around in.

Chesson and Adidas are combining to provide more than \$1,000 in prizes for our junior readers, so get your entries in kids. Remember, entries must be received at our post office box by the Friday after each publication, so get your coupon posted off first thing Monday morning.

It is the first correct entry opened after the last mail is cleared on Friday, so make sure your coupon is in the barrel.



Great idea for juniors

West Australian junior football clubs should have a good look at a Skill Achievement Certificate scheme which has been successfully operating in Victoria for several seasons.

The scheme is particularly appropriate for juniors up to the age of 14.

Under the system, youngsters attempt skill tests which have been set at six levels.

Non-preferred side kicking, handball and a host of other skills are included in the tests. Because of the range of certificates available, no player misses out on an award since each player can commence at his appropriate level and then proceed at his own rate.

The certificates available:

- The Mini Footballer
- The Junior Footballer
- The Bronze Footballer
- The Silver Footballer
- The Gold Footballer
- The Senior Footballer

An example of tests set for two of the certificates:

The Mini Footballer:

- Run in and kick a football off the ground with alternate feet.

- Catch a football tossed from 3 metres.

- Run fast for 10 metres and pick up a stationary football with two hands on both sides of the body.

- Jump and hit out to the front with two hands a football which has been tossed

overhead into the air.

- Knock a stationary football on along the ground to a teammate five metres away with alternate hands.

- Stand still and bounce and catch a football three times in a row.

- Run quickly 20 metres touching the ball to the ground every five metres on alternate sides of the body.

- Stop a football bowled along the ground from five metres.

The Senior Footballer (about 14 years old):

- Kick a drop punt, torpedo punt and drop kick with both feet for 25 metres.

- Handball with both hands for 10 metres.

- Run 50 metres bouncing the football with alternative hands under eight seconds.

- Pass the ball with both feet to a player running quickly 20 metres away.

- Kick three goals out of five shots with the right foot and three out of five with the left foot from 25 metres.

Billets needed

Most of the WAFL clubs are hosting interstate visitors for the forthcoming Teal Cup championships — and billets are needed for the junior footballers.

If you are interested in billeting a star football-of-the-future during the Teal Cup, then contact your local junior council or your nearest football club.

Our Westside Winners tipsters on the back page often stir up a bit of controversy. But how good are they? How many are correct this week?

ANSWER:

Who is heading the goalkicking table in Victoria (after this week's games)?

ANSWER:

Who is compere of 6PR's Football World panel show?

ANSWER:

The answer to all these questions can be found in this issue

POST THIS WHOLE COUPON TO: JUNIOR QUIZ
WESTSIDE FOOTBALL,
POST OFFICE BOX 153,
MORLEY, 6062

NAME:

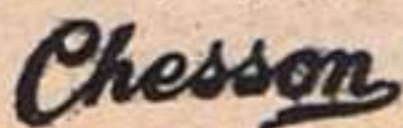
ADDRESS:

.....POSTCODE

AGE:PARENT'S SIGNATURE

MY FAVOURITE FOOTBALL CLUB IS:

The mystery player above is



Entries close Friday following publication.



ANSWERS TO QUIZ NO. 7: 1: Towns, in Geraldton. 2: Northampton. 3: East Fremantle. MYSTERY FOOTBALLER: Norm Salomons.

Country League Review

WEST PILBARA and DE GREY
FOOTBALL LEAGUE

N.W. LEAGUE SERVES A BIG AREA

League clubs have tended to keep a close eye on the West Pilbara and De Grey Football league because it is one of the few associations not included in the WAFL zoned area.

The hope of 'striking it rich' in the resource rich Pilbara has resulted in league clubs making regular sorties into the area.

It is rare these days to pick up a top-class footballer without having to negotiate a high transfer fee — and this is the lure for league clubs.

There have been a number of players recruited, but as yet few have had the potential to make a mark in league football. Even so, the improving standard of the competition makes it a worthwhile exercise keeping it under scrutiny.

Swan Districts coach John Todd remarked on one trip up there that players were more intent on knocking each other over first and then going for the ball.

It is an indication of how tough football is in the area, however ruggedness is starting to give way to finesse.

It is certainly a far cry from the early days of the competition when only the De Grey league existed.

When competition started just over 10 years ago there was no point using boots because of the sandy surface of grounds.

Water was a precious commodity and it was necessary before matches to either get a grader in to smooth out the surface or conduct an emu march picking up loose stones and other debris that had found their way onto the ground between matches.

However, the advent of the mining companies has completely changed the situation and most clubs have football surfaces that would make some league clubs envious.

Even so there are still some aspects that test players endurance. Clubs usually have to travel hundreds of kilometres for games because of the nature of the competition.

Initially there were two separate competitions — the West Pilbara league which was centred around Port Hedland and the De Grey around Port Hedland.

It was decided to amalgamate the two competitions in 1977 on a trial basis, but that was soon consolidated into one strong league. However, they still retain their own identity when they take part in the annual Pilbara Football championships which also include leagues centred on the two inland mining towns of Newman and Tom Price.

The sealing of the highway between Port Hedland and Karratha made it viable to

combine the two competitions, however there is still about 500 kilometres between the two clubs at the extremities of the competition — Dampier and Shay Gap. Some clubs have tried to overcome the huge distances by flying teams to games.



TEN TEAMS

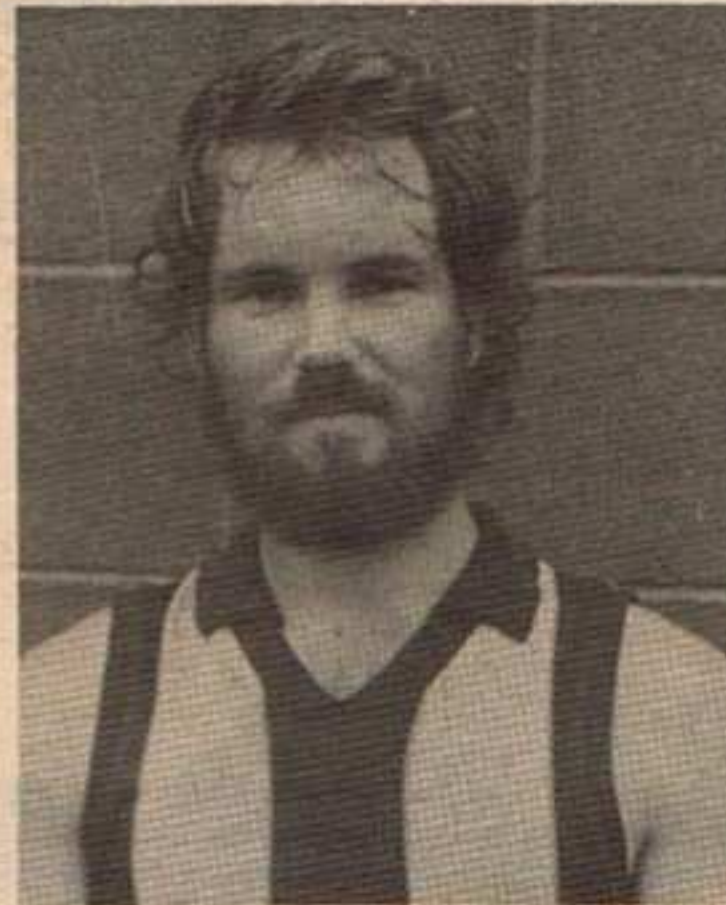
This season, for the first time, there are 10 teams, six from the De Grey and four from West Pilbara.

The De Grey teams are Port Hedland Rovers, Port Hedland Panthers, South Hedland, Goldsworthy, Shay Gap and Finucane Island, while those in the West Pilbara are Dampier, Karratha Kats, Karratha Cardinals and Wickham.

PREMIERSHIPS

1960 Panthers; 1970 Panthers; 1971 Rovers; 1972 Goldsworthy; 1973 Rovers; 1974 Rovers; 1975 Rovers; 1976 Rovers; * 1977 Goldsworthy; 1978 Rovers; 1979 Karratha.

* The West Pilbara amalgamated with the De Grey National Football League.



IAN REICHMAN Slay Gap



IAN PETTINGILL. Slay Gap

ROVERS BOAST GREAT RECORD

Few football clubs can boast the record of Port Hedland Rovers over the past decade. In nine years they have played in seven grand finals — winning six of them.

On another occasion they headed the premiership table at the end of the qualifying rounds. The other year they were edged out of second place after being beaten by less than a goal in their last qualifying match.

They also are the only club to go through the qualifying rounds undefeated — in 1973. After a shock second semi-final loss they returned to form to win the preliminary final and grand final.

But if Rovers record is impressive consider that of one of their coaches, John Green. He has not lost a premiership as coach. He won three in a row — 1974-75-76 — to give Rovers four pennants on end, had a breather in 1977, when the side failed to make the grand final, but returned as coach in 1978 to again steer the club to a premiership.

A former Albany player Green initially played with Panthers, but decided to join Rovers in the middle of the 1973 season. Panthers surprisingly cleared him only hours before an important match against them. Green responded by setting up a goal in the dying minutes of play to enable Rovers to win by a point.

He has been something of a Jonah to Panthers ever since.

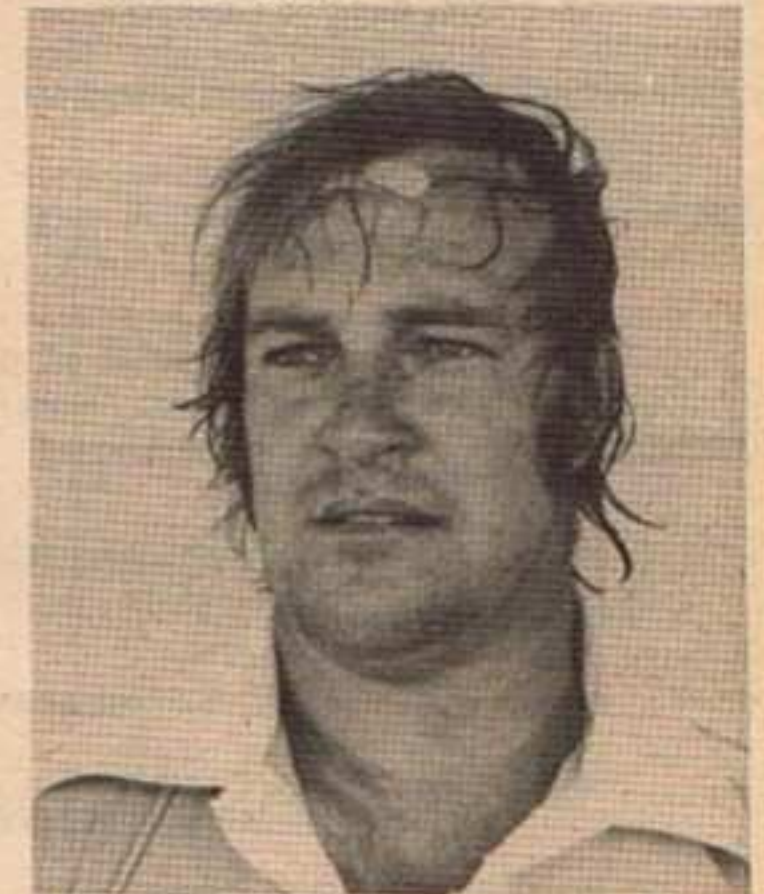


DON WILLIAMS. Rovers president

This season they are again shaping as a force in the competition.

The success of Rovers has been at the expense of Port Hedland Panthers, who have made the grand final almost as many times but with little success — usually being beaten by Rovers.

However, Panthers are hoping their luck will change this year as they are looming as the team to beat for the premiership.



BARRY SCADDEN. Rovers

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FINAL FOUR LOOKS SET

Even though the W.P.D.G.F.L. season has just got under way, the final four looks cut and dried — Karratha Kats (last year's premiers), Panthers, South Hedland and Rovers.

South Hedland are heading the premier-ship table but it is difficult to compare them with the other undefeated side Panthers as they have not played against the same kind of opposition.



LLOYD PAGE Panthers

Panthers have defeated both of last year's grand finalists, Karratha Kats and Rovers and look to be the team to beat this year.

Karratha are starting to gain in strength and should again figure prominently in the finals. Rovers have traditionally been difficult to beat but don't appear to be as impressive as Panthers and Karratha.

At this stage none of the other sides look capable of matching the above four teams.



Next week

The Southern Districts National Football League will be featured in this section in next week's edition.

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Wesfarmers COUNTRY ROUNDUP

ZONE MATCH A STEP CLOSER

Proposals to have a gala day for the zone-of-origin football match in the northern areas moved a step closer to fruition this week.

The first step has been taken with the decision of the Central Midlands league to take part in a curtain-raiser for the zone of origin clash which would involve the East Fremantle Football Club.

Central Midlands will probably join forces with North Midlands to field a combined side to play the Great Northern zone in the curtain-raiser.

The big carnival has been scheduled for the weekend of July 6 — when there will be a bye in WAFL fixtures because of the interstate match in Victoria. East Fremantle will have a number of their stars available for the country side, which will be made up by top players from the Great Northern league.

Other Great Northern players will compose the second 18 to meet the combined Midlands team.

* * *

ALBANY NOSTALGIA

Albany are about to stage a football match with plenty of nostalgia about it.

Saturday June 21 is the date and Souness Park is the venue. Stars of the past will come out of retirement to play in a curtain-raiser to the colts match between the Southern Districts league and the Central Great Southern competition. All proceeds from the novelty match will go to the Spastic Welfare Association via the local Miss Australia entrants.

Old rivals from Albany and Mt Barker will renew their battles, giving today's youngsters a glimpse of the style of some of their predecessors.

The Albany side will boast names like Joe Menegola, Bob Whalley, Brian Humphries, Ted Thompson, Ron Bowe, Colin Edwards and Peter Cooper.

The Mt Barker team has stars of the past such as Brad Souness, Les Holt, Robbie Scott, Bill Bunker, Joe Burton and Greg Mead.

Recently-retired players like Holt, Scott, Souness and Mead are still looking fit and will certainly give the Albany camp some tough times.

But Albany have their share of stars. Cooper, Thompson and Whalley have played up till recent times and they still possess a viable amount of football ability.

* * *

PINJARRA FAVOURED

Pinjarra have become early favourites for the Murray league flag — and they really turned it on last week to thrash their nearest rival, Centrals, by 120 points.

Pinjarra stormed home with a nine-goal last term to win handsomely and former Claremont player Colin Viska was again the man to do the damage.

Pinjarra exposed huge weaknesses in the Centrals side and their seems little left in the league to challenge the Tigers.

MCCORMACK AGAIN

Well-known Geraldton player and coach, Gary McCormack, has been appointed coach of the combined Great Northern side for the second year in a row.

McCormack, coach of Mullewa in the GNNFL, will have Ross Thompson and Tom McNeil as the selectors — with a third selector likely to be appointed shortly.

McCormack won the job from two other applicants and he is confident that they will do well at the annual Wesfarmers county championships in August.

* * *

BULLER SUSPENDED

Former South Fremantle ruckman Pat Buller, now captain-coach of Mines Rovers in the South West league, has been suspended for two weeks.

Buller was found guilty on a charge of intimidating boundary umpire Les Free. A tribunal hearing the week previous had cleared Buller of a charge of striking Free because he was concussed.

Brian Banks, a Mines witness at the first hearing, was also found guilty of intimidation and suspended for two weeks.

The tribunal was told that the incident happened when the two players were leaving the first hearing.

* * *

JONES IN LEAD

Champion Brigades centreman Warren Jones has opened up a handy lead in the Rocks footballer-of-the-year award in the GNNFL.

Jones polled five votes last week to move to 21 — four clear of his nearest rival, Mullewa's Alan Hartley.

Former East Fremantle star Chris Hicks has moved into third place with 15 points — but is up before the tribunal to face a charge of striking.

* * *

ROYALS HEAD FOR THE COUNTRY

July 5 — the day WA play Victoria in Melbourne — will be a big date in the South West.

With no league football in Perth that weekend, the entire East Perth team — apart from State players, of course — will take off from Perth by bus on Friday night headed for Busselton.

They will play a practice match on the Saturday and all players will be involved in a massive junior coaching clinic.

On the Sunday, Royals players will visit all the SWNFL games in the district before returning home that night.

"This is all part of our programme to restore the name East Perth to a place of top pride throughout the State," says Ron Webster.

"We are well aware of the fact that we probably haven't done as much as we should have in our country zones and metropolitan district and we are determined to remedy that.

"We want every person in our country zone to know the name East Perth and what we stand for. We want them to know that we are interested in their football development and we are determined to boost our involvement throughout our zone."



● ROSS TYSON

STRONG SW SQUAD

The strong South West league have named a 27-man squad for their clash with Southern Districts in Albany on June 15.

A number of former WAFL players have been included in the squad — including East Perth big men Ian McCulloch, now with Mines Rovers, and John Leyendekkers, who is with South Bunbury.

The squad is: L. Baker, K. Buswell, L. Buswell, O. Kowal, J. Leyendekkers, L. Wright (SB); P. Butcher (BCD); W. Coles, D. Ramshaw, G. Saunders, I. McCulloch (MR); P. Davidson (Collie); P. Dawson, D. Roberts, R. Tate (BSN); K. Dye, J. King, R. Stephens (CP); N. Earl, F. Tyson, R. Tyson (AMR); G. Fuller, G. Jeffery, D. Morris, R. Solin (HB); R. Tresize (BY); J. Roberts (DBK).



● IAN McCULLOCH

BROOME IS NEW TARGET

Watch out Broome, here come the Royals!

East Perth have accepted an invitation to visit far-flung Broome on May 31 to be part of a special juniors day and a coaching clinic.

The Royals will send one or two players up to Broome to fly the blue-and-black flag.

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HOUGHTON SEES A SOLID FUTURE

Cliff Houghton is a self-made businessman with a string of successes behind him . . . and he is a man who doesn't like — or tolerate — failure.

Therefore, the current situation at Perth, where they haven't really made up their mind which way they are going this season, is one that will change if Mr Houghton gets his way.

He is the man who was at the helm of the club in the mid-60's when the Demons grabbed three successive premierships. He returned to the post of president last year, inheriting a team of league footballers who were all in the 'senior' age-bracket.

History has since recorded that Perth slipped out of the top four last year; recorded their first financial loss for many years — and have added to those woes this season by losing more than half of their league side, either through retirement or transfers.

So, Mr Houghton knows he has a battle on his hands; but the motor magnate who revolutionised the industry in Western Australia with his far-reaching ideas 20 years ago, is confident — and determined — that he can rebuild Perth to a football power once more.

"We accept the fact that this year is a rebuilding one, both on and off the field," he says. "But we don't concede that we cannot make the final four this year."

"There are many changes being made at Lathlain and when I came back into the job I knew I would have to break a few hearts as I changed a few things."

"Our initial aim is to reverse the financial loss of last year. We are going to do this with tighter budget control."

"Off the field we are blending a team of youth and experience and I'm confident that this is going to be a side that has the capacity to meet the challenge of the 80s."



Mr Houghton's major crisis this year centred around the sudden departure of Ken Armstrong, the club's full-time football director and a man who was due to instigate the Houghton Motors sponsorship into junior football in the Perth district.

Current league player Clinton Roberts is working in this field and Perth, who were the first club to appoint a full-time coach when they gave Armstrong the complete reins, are very conscious of their responsibility in the field of juniors.

Armstrong was a man who set up many different and far-reaching ideas — and



ideals — at Perth; moves that helped win premierships in 1976 and 1977. But each crop of young players require different motivational methods and current league coach Alan Joyce has varied the Perth programme.

Perth's tradition has been one of solidarity — particularly out on the field. A lot of this was lost when the hard core of experienced players moved out of their lockers this year, turning them over to rookies who had virtually become senior and recognised league players in the space of one summer.

Players like Brad Shepherd, Barry Kimberley, Alan Montgomery, the Simms brothers, Doug and Wayne and Steve Turner were thrust into important roles. They have accepted the new mantle and though it is taking time for the team to mould together, it will come.



Perth's major problem at present is one that they haven't experienced for many years — a lack of depth.

In bygone years Perth have always had an exceptionally strong colts side and an equally strong reserves side made up of promising youngsters and experienced players searching for a return to form.

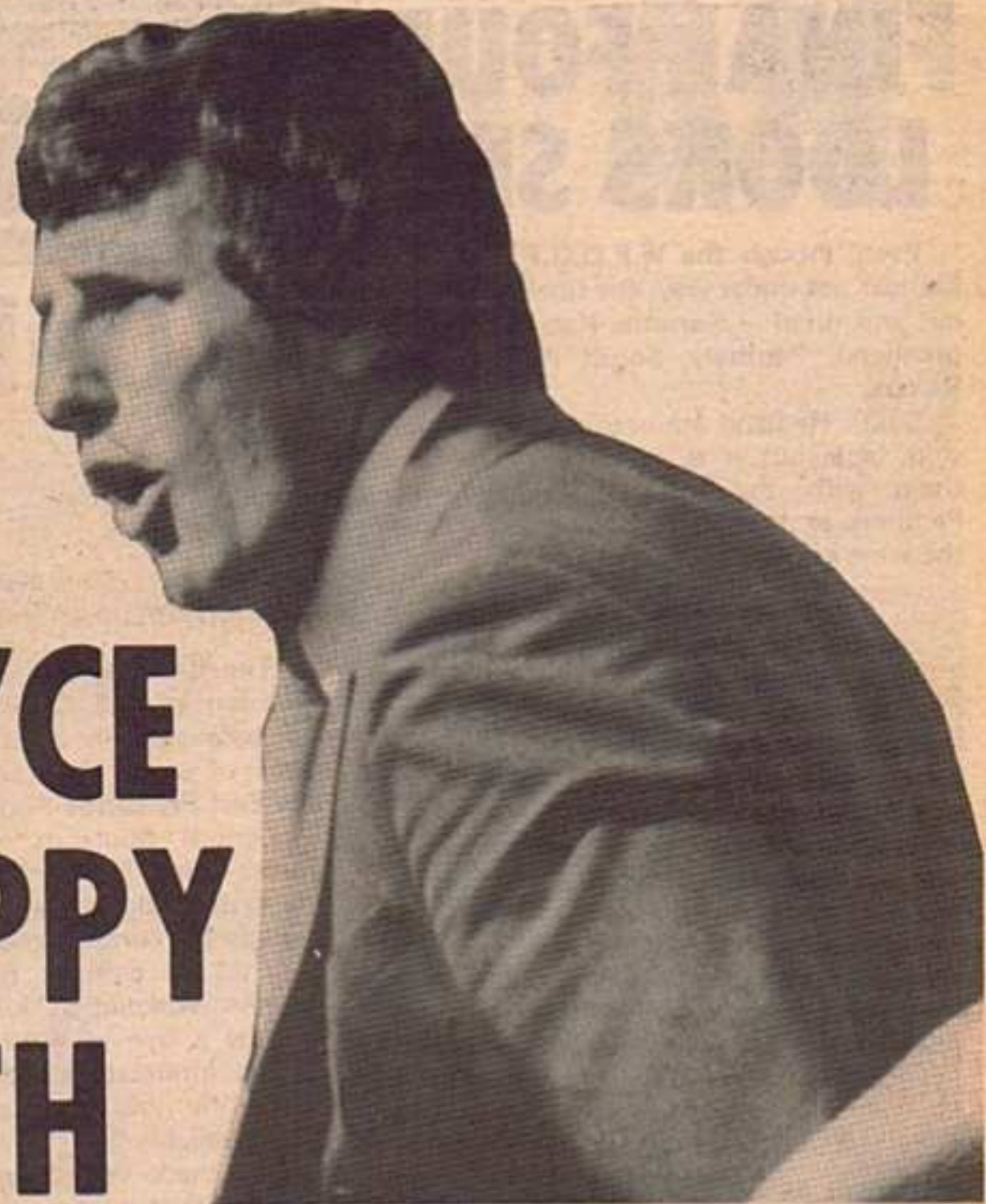
But now the situation has changed, both the colts and the reserves are cemented in the bottom half of the table and this is the trouble area as far as Mr Houghton is concerned.

"We obviously face a hard battle," he says. "We need to develop depth in our playing material and we need this to build a foundation for the future. We had a lot of youngsters coming up this year, but we needed a blending of experience and that's why we had to get players like

Cousins, McGuire, Frost and Prunster into the camp.

"I'm certainly confident that we can build a future at Perth this year."

JOYCE HAPPY WITH IMPROVEMENT



Alan Joyce walked into one of football's hottest seats this year when he took over at Lathlain Park.

He moved into the coaching chair, taking over from the man he had assisted a few years earlier — Ken Armstrong. Joyce was the club's chairman of selectors in 1976 when they notched a premiership — but when he returned to Lathlain this season he found an almost completely different crop of players awaiting him.

The club had grown up under the Armstrong era, a successful time and one that involved many new ideas.

But Joyce had his own ideas and immediately there was friction as Armstrong, relegated to a full-time internal situation, became frustrated at his inability to be part of the league football scene — hence his recent move to Subiaco as league coach.

Joyce knew that he faced a tough task; but he saw some light at the end of the tunnel as the club picked up bonus recruits in Ross Prunster, Greg Frost and John McGuire. These were the men — coupled with the return of Bryan Cousins from Victoria — who he could build a side around.

But it hasn't all been plain sailing.

"I'm certainly happier now than I was earlier; we have improved," says Joyce. "We finished the first round better than we started. Our game has improved, and that's important. But individually we are making too many mistakes. Against Claremont we gave away six or seven goals through silly mistakes. If we cut this out — and it includes senior players as well — then we can become a force in this competition."

Joyce was given a three-year contract at Perth; a time limit that he would naturally believe he needs in order to re-establish the club. But he concedes that it's a dangerous role to have.

"I look at football in the same way as every other coach, I guess — supporters want success pretty quickly," he says.

"John Todd at Swans and Graham Moss at Claremont have had the benefit of staying there for four years. I really hope and believe that we can make the four this year. We need a revival right now."

Perth have a heap of exciting young players at Lathlain and they are capable of developing into a fast-running modern-day team.

"The young players have come forward a lot this year," says Joyce. "But we have gone backwards in stages and we've lost games as the result."

Perth have a solid core of supporters who have tasted — and enjoyed success — in the last two decades. Everyone at Lathlain is confident that the 80s will be the same — but the challenge is there right now.

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EAST FREMANTLE v SWAN DISTRICT

FRED WOODS: Judging on East Fremantle's performance last week, Swan Districts should win by a 100 goals this week!



EAST PERTH v CLAREMONT

ALAN EAST: The day East Perth get their team picked and placed right they'll beat anyone; and it should be this week after all their experiments.



PERTH v SOUTH FREMANTLE

BOB CRABB: The Bulldogs weren't disgraced last week; they'll get better and Perth will find out just how much better this week.



WEST PERTH v SUBIACO

MARTY McDONNELL: Okay, West Perth. You proved me wrong last week. You fluked a comeback against East Perth. But I reckon Subiaco can take you this week now that they have learnt to win.



PICKET SNIPPETS

WELCOME CHANGE

Poor old Malcolm Brown. He can't take a trick.

Brown has been in hot water all week over his controversial decision to retire — and with his criticism of the umpires in WA.

People suggested that he had only quit as an official of the club so he could make public criticism of the umpires, but at the same time avoid any official action by the WAFL.

So last Saturday Brown was back at the helm, resignation withdrawn and everyone happy.

Despite their loss to Swan Districts, Brown acknowledged that it was a top-class game — and he then paid tribute to the umpires.

"That was one of the best exhibitions of umpiring I've seen", he told the South social hall. "The only problem is, all the newspaper reporters are on strike and can't publish my comments about them."

Don't worry, Malcolm. Westside Football had an observer at the presentation and he has recorded your words for posterity. The umpires will certainly welcome that change of attitude!

BASSENDAN CAT

They're calling Swan Districts captain Stan Nowotny "The Cat" up at Bassendean Oval nowadays. Nowotny, a rugged 200-game veteran who knows no fear on the football field, had plenty of fear in his heart last Monday when he was in an aircraft crash down at Esperance. But Nowotny came out unscathed — as did the other passengers — but, of course, the \$1.3 million plane didn't fare too well. Nowotny certainly used up one of his 'lives' in that near-miss. Thank goodness!

MARTY IN STRIFE

Westside Football tipster Marty McDonnell wouldn't have scored many free drinks had he been at Leederville Oval last Saturday. West Perth president Len Roper and coach Graham Campbell didn't miss Marty in their speeches to a crowded members hall after their win over East Perth. They weren't wrapped in his comments about the Cardinals in last week's edition. Campbell promised members that he would "raise" the matter with McDonnell when he appeared with him the following day on "World of Football" ... and he did just that.

PIE STAND OBSTACLE

Ground authorities at Leederville Oval should move the pie stand which is parked on the slope on the eastern side of the ground.

Last Saturday, the caravan effectively blanketed a large area of potential viewing space on a day when Leederville attracted its biggest crowd for the season. Other catering facilities are parked at the top of the slope ... let's hope by the time the next game is played at Leederville this van is also up there.

MIXING SPORTS

South Fremantle believe in mixing other sports in with their football — and last week they had two international stars down at Fremantle Oval to make the after-match presentations.

The Marsh brothers — cricketer Rod and golfer Graham — were great attractions to cap off a big day at the Port.

LEN'S MILESTONE

Big Len Thompson, one of the all-time greats in Australian football, joins the elite 300-Club this week.

Thompson, the 1972 Brownlow Medallist and currently leading the Fitzroy ruck brigade, is in his 16th year of senior VFL football.

He made his debut with Collingwood in 1965 after being recruited from Reservoir. He played with Collingwood till 1978 and then joined South Melbourne for one year before moving again to Fitzroy.

He becomes only the eighth player to reach the 300-game milestone.

Enough is enough!

The Launceston-Longford reserves game in the Northern Tasmanian Football Association was called off mid way through the match last weekend.

The Longford club has been battling this season. Last week only four players appeared for training and when the team was due to take the field on Saturday it was badly undermanned, so officials, former players, juniors and injured players stripped in an effort to field a side ... then they only managed to put 16 men on the ground.

By half time Launceston led 33.12 to nil. With three of its 16 players on one leg, Longford decided enough was enough, showered and called it a day.

Umpire Dennis Whelan started the third quarter with just Launceston players on the field. He bounced the ball and called it quits ... giving Launceston a 210 point win.

The club which began the season with a \$26,000 debt will be forced to field three teams this weekend or face being dropped from the NTFA competition.

The Longford senior side, coached by former St. Kilda champion Barry Lawrence, also fell pretty heavily at the hands of Launceston, in the main match — they went down by 100 points.

NEW JOB FOR BEN

Popular West Perth big-man Ben Jager has been appointed deputy vice captain. Though he didn't know it till after the match, he served in the position for the first time last Saturday, when regular vice-captain, Laurie Heal was out with an injury.

ADIDAS BONUS

West Perth league players all received a bonus after their win over East Perth last Saturday. Club stalwart Clark Johnson presented each player with an Adidas track suit and bag.

LOOK AT THE VICS.

Memo: Fred Woods. For you and all your believers who feel it is impossible to consistently bounce a football straight up at bouncdowns ... take a look at the VFL playback one night. Maybe its because the Victorians hold the ball differently!

UMPS AT LEEDERVILLE

While on the subject of umpiring; the combination of Daryl Gillies and David Rowe certainly would not have been proud of their efforts at Leederville last Saturday. Particularly, Rowe who awarded many doubtful free kicks.

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