

WESTSIDE

# FOOTBALL

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VOL 9, No. 1, Thursday, March 26, 1987

WA's ONLY FOOTBALL NEWSPAPER

## WE'RE BACK

*YOUR favourite football newspaper is back in business!*

*After a summer recess where our writers have been watching the growth of the West Coast Eagles and the development of eight WAFL clubs, the ball is ready to be bounced.*

*Joining our talented team of writers this year is the man himself — Mark Jackson. Jacko's own column is on the back page ... and inside you'll find your old favourites — Grant Dorrington, Ian Miller, Bill Mather-Brown, Dave Clement and Robert Bennett.*

*And joining us next week after the debut of the Eagles will be their skipper, Ross Glendinning.*

*It's on again ... footy '87 is a whole new ball game for WA fans — and we'll be right where the action is all season.*



### Let the Eagle attack

**GOOD LUCK TO THE EAGLES IN 1987 FROM THE WINNING TEAM AT ...**

*Makes it happen for You...*

# McInerney Ford



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# THIS WAS A COSTLY LEGAL WRANGLE

by Grant Dorrington

SHAREHOLDERS in the West Coast Eagles should have their first questions ready to be asked at their initial annual general meeting.

How much did the Paul Harding-Gary Buckenara legal wrangle cost?

And who made the decision to recruit these two players while they were still contracted — the players or the hierarchy?

It seems unbelievable that with so much money at stake — and considering the VFL's player-payment ceilings — that two such costly errors in judgement were made.

It is either a case of bad management by the Eagles or incorrect information being given by the players.

Legal costs are astronomical, along with signing-on fees. Shifting house costs, rent and other incidental expenses makes the whole case something that cannot be swept under the mat.

The football public who have been the life-blood of the WAFL competition for a 100 years are entitled to know.

The local clubs have given top players to the Eagles for very small transfer fees.

Subiaco's Mark Zanotti is an example of the unfair treatment given to our local clubs. For the Eagles to place a figure of \$35,000 on his head after the money they had wasted in the Harding-Buckenara case was an insult to the WAFL — and then Subiaco got even less from the WAFL's arbitrator, Rod Brown.

It seems as though there is more respect for the other VFL clubs than our local ones.

I hope that the people at the helm of the Eagles don't ever forget the contribution local football has made to our first national team — and will continue to put into our great game.

Much of the current unrest among WAFL club presidents is the result of being ignored and treated as having had little knowledge of the game. In most cases they are born and bred West Aussies who have a deeply committed love of the game and our State and are not trying to use it as a means of self promotion.

National football is a must and the Eagles will be successful. But unfortunately before that becomes a reality, local club's will be asked to give total support and yet be treated with little respect.

# FOOTY PUNCHLINES

## NATIONAL TOUCH

NATIONAL Panasonic, the last-minute sponsors of the VFL's pre-season night series, has a long involvement with top Australian sport. The international electrical goods manufacturers have sponsored major golfing events, including the WA and Australian Opens, top-ranking tennis events including big women's tournaments on the west and east coast and are a former sponsor of Formula 1 Grand Prix motor racing. For the record, National Panasonic is a member of the Matsushita Electrical Industrial Co. Ltd, Japan's leading producer of consumer and electrical products with world-wide sales last year in excess of \$30 billion.

## MULTI-RACIAL

TALKING about the National Panasonic Cup, the curtain-raiser match for the debut game by the Eagles (against Footscray on March 3) featured the Maribyrnong High School playing Melton High. It's a game that Maribyrnong's No. 9, Darren Shaw, will always remember. He was the only player in the 22 players listed who had an obvious Australian name. He was surrounded by Fagone, Salazar, Cammerino, Adrianopoulos, Marinell, Soldatos, Boicos, Robolds, Cardinale, Vergis, Kotoski, Mosca, Sacaner, Bijeljic... and so on.

## FEMALE FEELINGS

WOMEN certainly have feelings when it comes to football, particularly if they are married to a star. It was interesting, therefore, to see where Paul Harding's wife Leisa, was fully supportive of her husband's court battle against Hawthorn. Even when the case went against Harding, his wife was quite happy to go along with whatever eventuated. "I don't want him to throw his career away," she said. "He puts in 100 percent to the game and he puts his heart and soul into everything he does. He's such a good player I hope a solution can be reached so he can play football this season."

## BULLDOG RECRUIT?

THERE were a few raised eyebrows pre-season when an obviously skillful player (with a receding hair line, admittedly) took to the training track at Fremantle Oval. Turns out it was former Collingwood star Ricky Barham, a friend of South Fremantle coach Stan Magro. Barham, a classy winger with 151 games from his 10 injury-plagued years in the VFL, was in Perth as part of a leisurely trip around Australia. The 28-year-old Barham announced his retirement last season — but you can bet that Magro did his best to talk him out of that decision during his Perth stop-over.

## SPORTS RECRUIT

THE establishment of Perth's \$22 million sports centre at Graylands — a magnificent first in Australian sporting facilities — has produced a bonus recruit for East Perth. Canberra's Cameron Scott has joined the Royals after winning a position at the Superdome (as the centre will be called) as administrator of several sections, including

the basketball division. Scott is only 18, but has played with maturity in Ainslie's senior side in the A.C.T. and looks a likely league candidate as a half-back.

## TOP DOGS

SOUTH Fremantle certainly set the pace in certain areas of football — and their No. 1 badge holder in Prime Minister Bob Hawke heads an impressive list of VIPs in Bulldog territory. South have had Alan Bond as their patron for some years.

## BROTHERS QUERY

NO doubt the football historians will be hard at work on this query — when was the last time a set of three brothers lined up in the same team? The way things are looking down in South Fremantle territory, the Collard trio — Brad, Derek and Cliff — could all feature in the seniors together this year. They have all made their league debut, but at this stage only two brothers have been together at any one time.

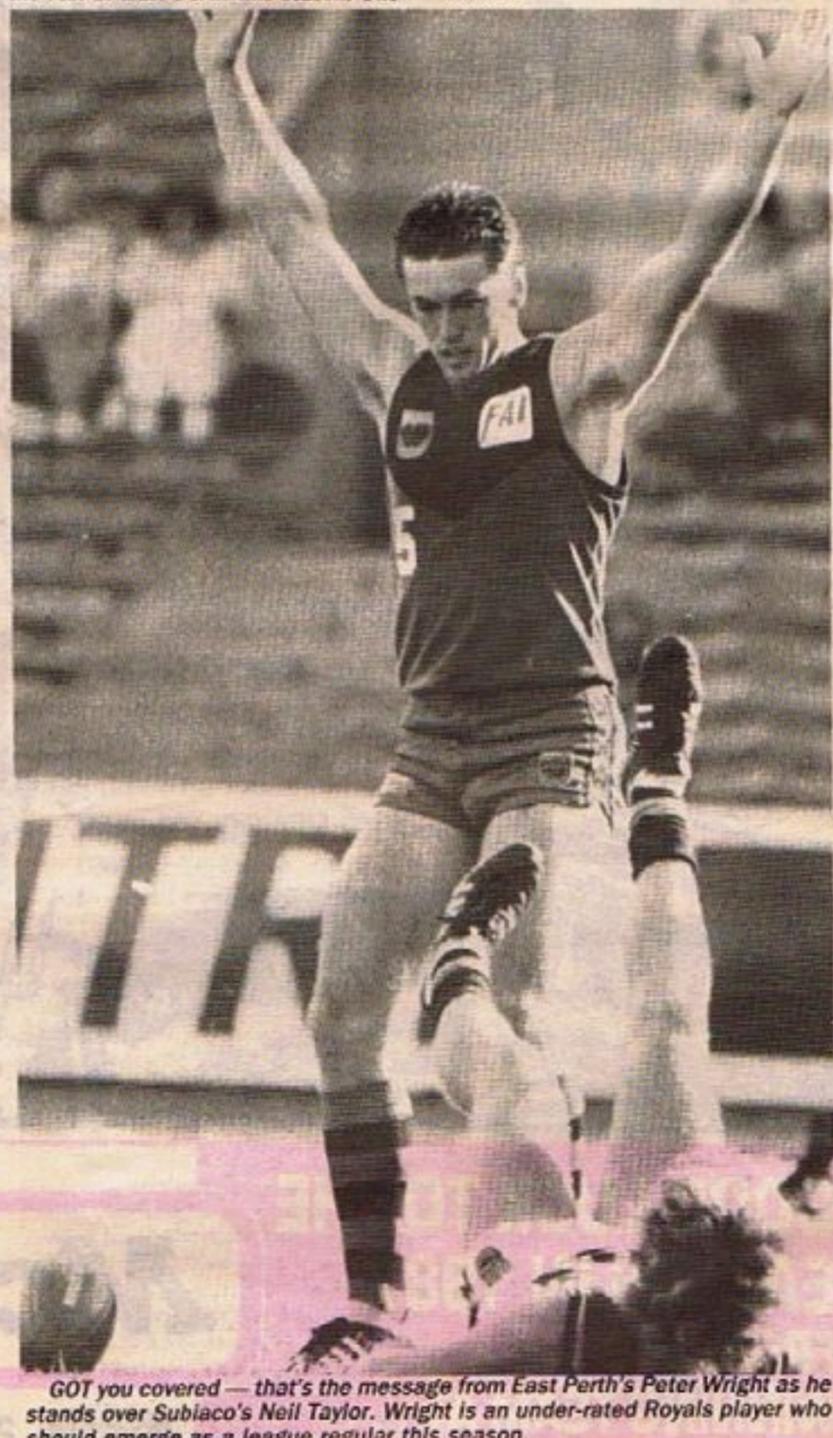
TALKING about small players, Boyup Brook rover Andrew Embery (19) will be standing head and shoulders below the rest at East Perth this season. The

red headed rookie, who has played two seasons of senior football in the Lower South West League, is a pint sized 5.6 (168cm) and weighs just 9.12 (60.2 kg).

NO wonder umpires can't get decisions right! They can't even get the spelling on their room right. The sign on the Umpire's room at South Fremantle oval reads "UMPIERES!"

WITH football now sharing usage of the WACA ground, some rationalisation needs to be made regarding seating. While 1500 die-hard football spectators braved wet and chilly conditions in the second round of the Kresta Blinds Cup series, the three stands for WACA members only were all but bereft of life. If ground sharing is to work, then these stands need to be open to the general public at football games.

FORMER Subiaco and South Fremantle footballer Kevin Castensen is all set to make another debut in league football. Castensen, who played 19 league games in the early 1970s, joined the WAFL umpires panel a couple of seasons back and seems destined to umpire his first league game early this season.



GOT you covered — that's the message from East Perth's Peter Wright as he stands over Subiaco's Neil Taylor. Wright is an under-rated Royals player who should emerge as a league regular this season.

## WESTSIDE FOOTBALL

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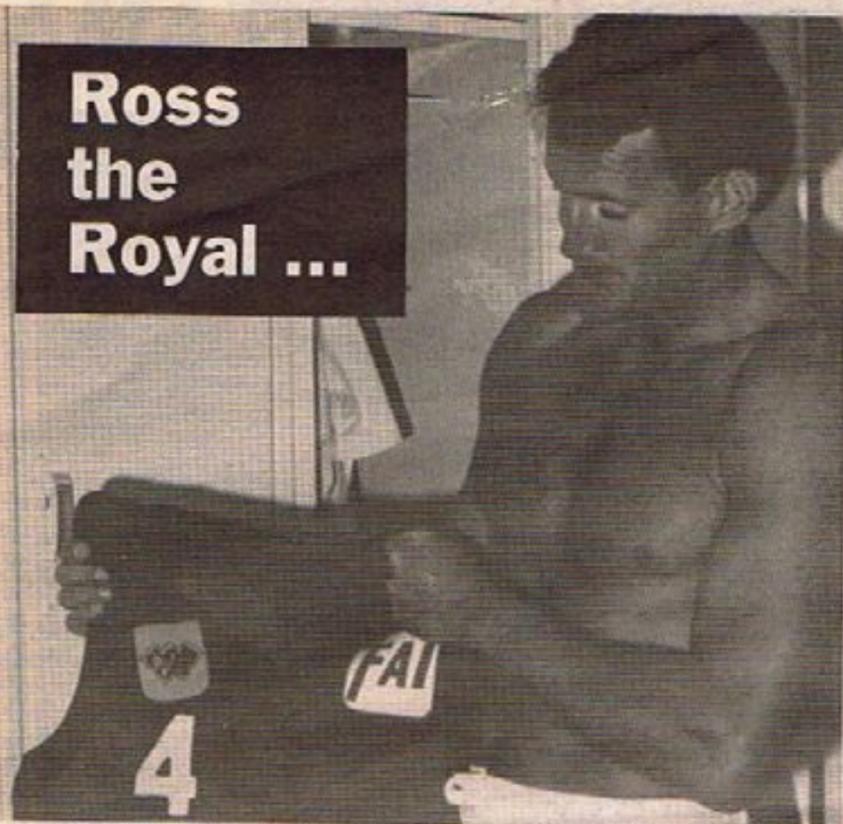
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## Ross the Royal ...



Ross Glendinning ... happy to be a Royal again, even just for a night.

# GLENDINNING SHOWS HE'S STILL HUMAN

**NERVES** play a part in the life of every footballer — and that is why West Coast Eagles skipper and former VFL veteran Ross Glendinning was roomed with WA rookie Chris Lewis on their first Victorian trip.

But in the end it was Glendinning, 30 years of age and with 259 senior games behind him, who discovered that he still had nerves.

"It was an anxious time," says the former VFL Brownlow Medallist of the debut by the West Coast Eagles in the VFL National Panasonic night competition.

A last-half victory over Footscray — after a struggling start — helped calm the nerves, but Glendinning proved that football is a great leveller. In that match he showed signs of having trouble settling down; he was moved around considerably and never really got into the match despite the fact that he would certainly have been one of the most talented players on the field.

By contrast, his roommate emerged to be a star, showing ample coolness and maturity.

That opening night match was a forerunner to the Eagles second appearance at VFL Park — against Fitzroy where they also came from behind to win strongly.

This time, however, the much-more composed Glendinning showed his real class. He was a star at centre-half-back early in the match, repelling many Fitzroy attacks when the Lions were in full rage and he went on to be one of WA's star performers.



Ross Glendinning ... skipper of the Eagles.

## and an Eagle

by  
Alan East

Glendinning has felt nervous many times before — in VFL finals with North Melbourne; in his first game after winning the 1983 Brownlow Medal; his first game back after receiving a shattered jaw playing for East Perth as a 19-year-old.

He has been recruited by Indian Pacific Ltd, the public company controlling the Eagles, as a high-profile person; a well-respected West Australian competing in Victoria and a man generally considered to have excellent leadership qualities.

He carried considerable responsibility in the formation of the Eagles, from establishing initial links with VFL-based West Australians to helping coach Ron Alexander pick the players before being publicly named as team captain.

While Glendinning might have felt the burden of that responsibility in his opening game in the blue and gold Eagles guernsey, he certainly won't be treated lightly in future VFL encounters.

His strong marking, long kicking, fearsome clearing dashes and clever body work make him a player to mark and rival VFL coaches will need to assign the task to one of their key players each time they do battle with the Eagles.

Glendinning felt touches of that nervousness again when he donned his old East Perth guernsey for the first time since 1977.

The occasion was the Kresta Blinds Cup pre-season series in WA where the Eagles players were allowed to return to their original WAFL clubs.

Glendinning, even though he has been cleared back from North Melbourne to play for the Eagles, is now registered again as an East Perth footballer and his return to that side was a bonus.

Glendinning was pleased to be back in those blue and black colours.

"I couldn't really see myself playing with any other WA club in such circumstances," says Glendinning.

"I have fond memories of East Perth; after all I started with them and my father played with them."

Glendinning, like all the other Eagles players, trains with his former club one night a week in a bid to keep the strong player contact with WAFL clubs and the Eagles.

"It's great being back in the West and the Eagles challenge is exciting," he says.

"But it's also good to have a foot back in the East Perth camp."

AUSTRALIAN AIRLINES PRESENTS ...

## The Australian game

EAGLES assistant coach Barry Cable was like a kid with a new toy when he took up his position with the WA side early in March. Cable was virtually seconded from Perth, where he had put into place an excellent development programme as coach of the Demons under-19s. But returning to the VFL arena is an exciting move for the man who has conquered mountains in that sphere three times before. Firstly, as a brash young rover from the West who quickly got dubbed Cassius Cable when he played that one season with North Melbourne in 1970, making plenty of outrageous comments about his ability. He did well enough (winning the club's fairest and best) to have everyone's attention when he went back as a full-time player for North in 1974. A couple of premierships later and he packed up to come home to further glories. Then, even after his leg-shattering accident, he still managed to go back to Victoria as coach of North Melbourne and lift the struggling side back into the final five.

Now he returns to that familiar stamping ground as assistant coach to Ron Alexander ... and he's keen to show the Vics how the West can be winners. "It's a little bit like playing for WA in interstate games," says Cables. "We have everyone committing themselves to 100 per cent and more efforts. It's a matter of pride and survival that we do well."

### MUDDY FATE

"SOME of our young blokes won't know what's hit them when it gets down to five degrees and mud everywhere." That fairly astute comment comes from ace Eagles rover and former WA skipper Rob Wiley as he talks about the WA team's fortunes in the VFL. Wiley is as excited as anyone about the Eagles' prospects — but he has words of caution for some of the newcomers to VFL football. "It gets pretty nasty over there in the middle of winter when the mud gets rubbed in your eyes and takes ages to get off after the game. It's not as pleasant as playing footy in the West."

### EAGLE MENU

THE Eagle has landed ... that has been a common phrase this season. But a group of people out Perth Oval way have been recalling the time when the Eagle perished. Back in 1949, the young Royals adopted the nickname of The Eagles and took on a huge stuffed eagle, courtesy of a city store, as their mascot. But their football fortunes faded and by 1952 many East Perth fans were blaming the unwanted eagle. So, in the midst of an end-of-season function (a wake after the semi-final loss) the eagle was spirited away from its position in the clubrooms and deposited on to the barbecue — and the Royals were ushered into a new era.

### WEIGHT TIP

FORMER Hawthorn champion Don Scott is now a television commentator in Melbourne. He renewed acquaintances with his one-time ruck adversary Graham Moss (Eagles general manager and former Essendon star) on a recent Melbourne trip and opened with the quip: "You're losing weight, Mossie." Any more tributes like that and the gentle giant might consider a comeback.

### PROUD PUMA

TALKING about Puma, one of the first men into the Eagles rooms on their initial trip to Melbourne for their National Panasonic debut was former champion athlete Herb Elliott. Now head of Puma in Melbourne, Elliott was obviously pleased to see the first team from his home State joining the VFL with Puma all over their gear.

### EAGLES AFLOAT

A NUMBER of critics raised their eyebrows when the Indian Pacific Ltd prospectus for the public float appeared in full in The West Australian on March 14. In what was obviously a costly exercise, the prospectus was published as a 20-page lift-out supplement, raising questions about why the expense. But this normal business practice was always going to be the case. The IPL people declared early on that all of the public would get the chance to be a shareholder in WA's first sporting enterprise after the initial prospectuses had gone to WAFL club members and sharebroker's clients.

### OLD EAGLE

PERTH advertising man David Self — he looks after Royals sponsors FAI Car Insurances — has more than a passing interest in the West Coast Eagles. Self came to WA in 1970 to play football with Perth after a promising career with New Norfolk in Tasmania and Geelong West, in the VFA. He played a few reserves games with the Demons before injury curtailed his career and he then travelled overseas. But before making the move West, he featured in a winning grand final side with New Norfolk in 1968 — and they were known as the Eagles. Self, a big ruckman, was one of the team's better players in that premiership as they beat North Hobart, who had current Geelong coach John Devine as their captain-coach.



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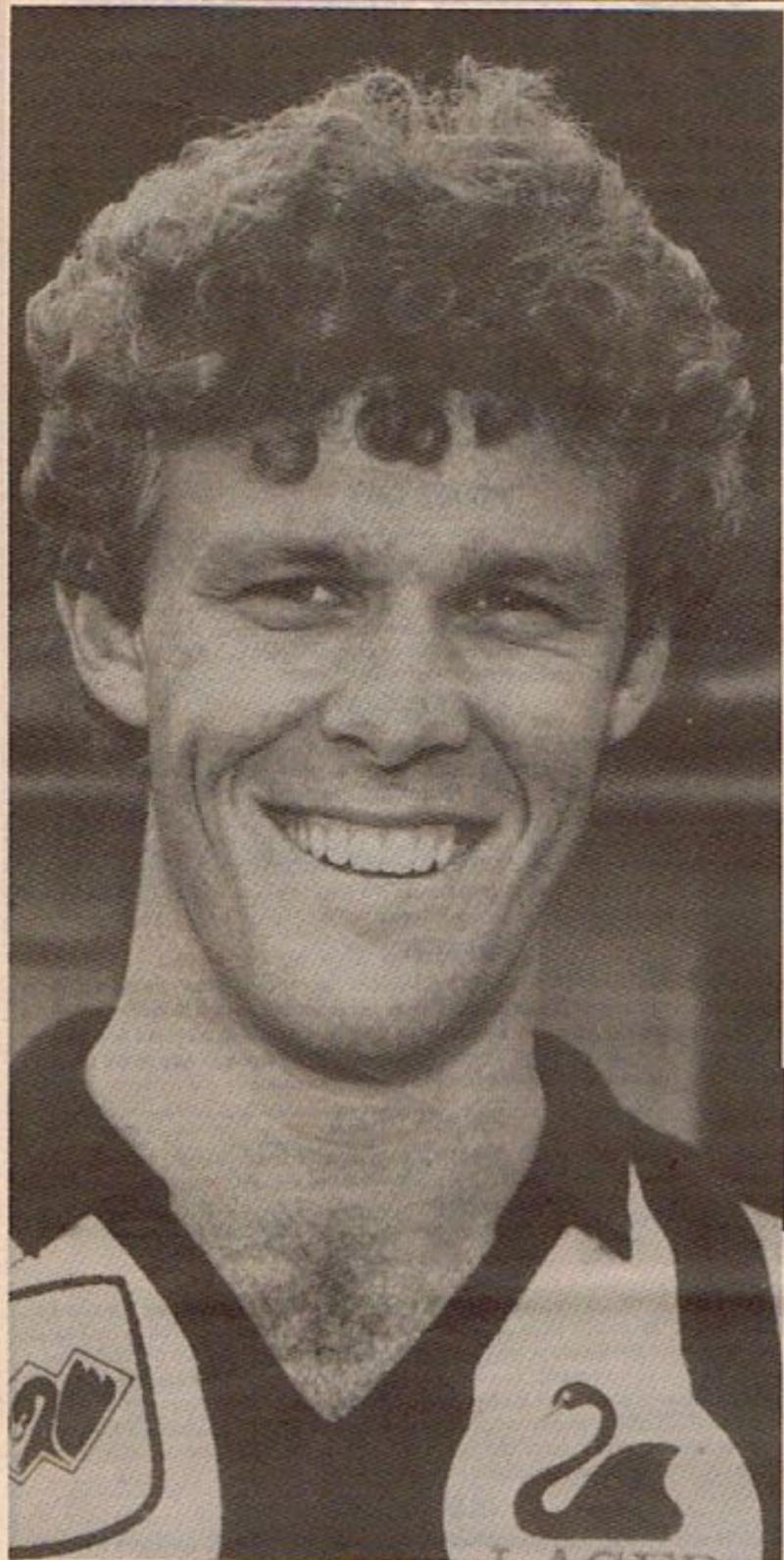
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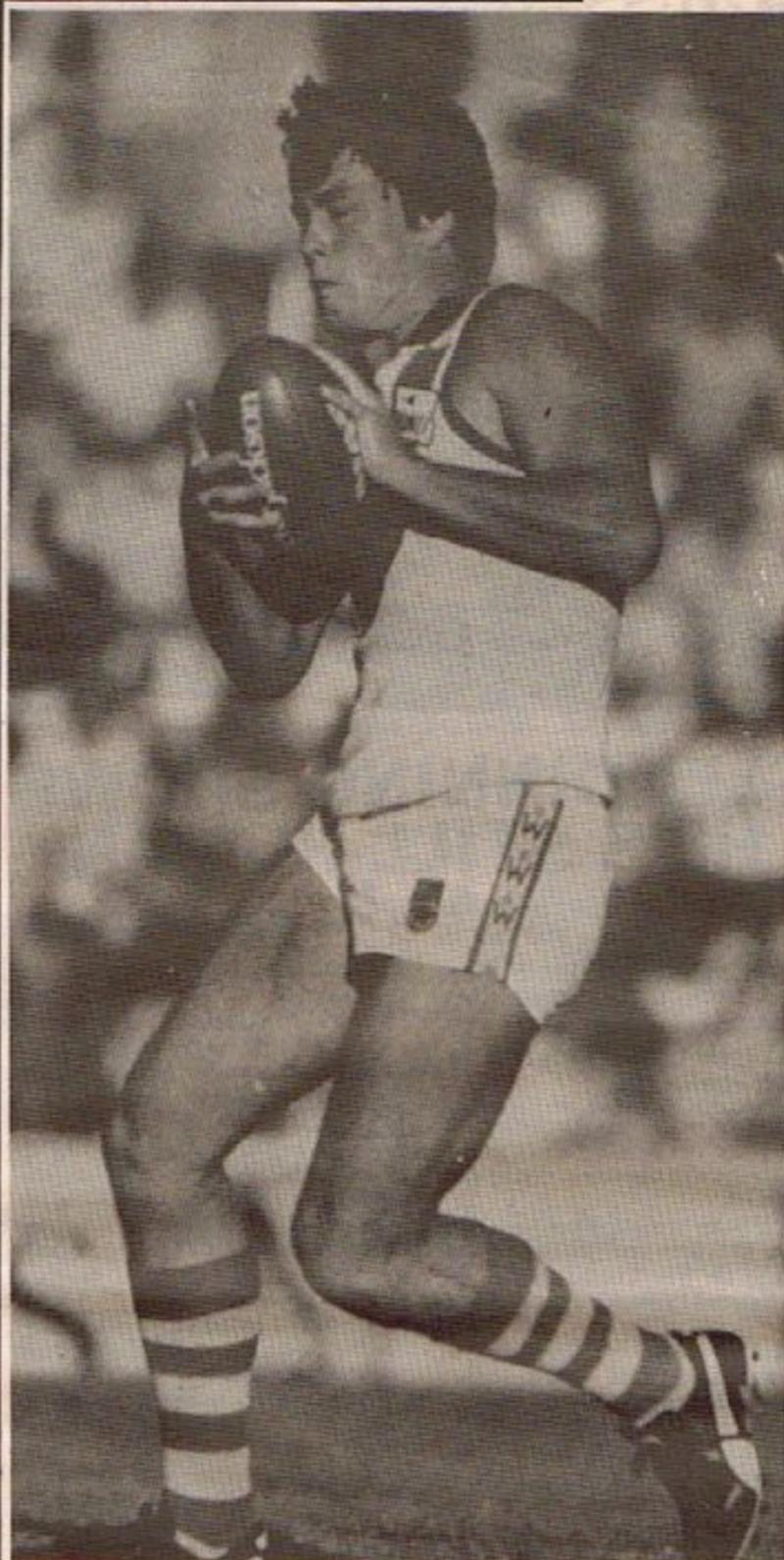




 **PERSONAL DETAILS**

**Tony Cope.**

*Nickname: Copey. Why? Surname*  
*Date of Birth: 14/11/65. Place of Birth: Perth.*  
*Height: 189cm (6'2½"). Weight: 89kg (14st). Age Started Playing: 9.*  
*Previous Club/s: — Junior Club: Redcliffe.*  
*Marital Status: Single. If not Married — Girlfriend's Name: Amanda.*  
*Residence: South Guildford.*  
*Occupation: Student. Place of Work: Curtin University.*  
*Other Sporting Interests: Cricket, fishing.*  
*Favourite Position: Centre-half-forward. First Position: Ruck.*  
*League Debut: 1985. Versus: Subiaco.*  
**YOUR FAVOURITES:**  
*Actor: Roger Moore. Drink: Beer*  
*TV Show: The Winners. Food: Seafood.*  
*Movie: First Blood. Music: Jackson Browne.*  
*Book: Jaws. Holiday Resort: Exmouth — Norcape Lodge.*  
*Ground: Bassendean.*  
*Your Car: Subaru Wagon. Your Favourite Car: My car.*  
*Career Highlights: I've never played in a premiership.*  
*Worst Moment in Football: 1985 reserves grand final.*  
*Hard Things in Football: 7am Sunday morning training.*  
*Football Idols: —*  
*Toughest Opponent: Phil Bradmore. Most Respected Opponent: Phil Bradmore.*  
*Most Respected Umpire: David Johnson.*  
*Most Memorable Game: 1985 reserves grand final.*  
*Ambitions: League premiership.*  
*What do you like about Football: The challenge.*  
*How do you Mentally Prepare for a Game: Loud music — usually Eye Of The Tiger.*  
*Who Influenced Your Career: John Todd — he gave me a game.*  
*Guernsey Number: 36. Any Reason: That's the one the boss gave me.*  
*Superstitions: Nil.*  
*Worst Injury: Broken foot.*  
*Luckiest Break: Don't believe in luck.*



 **PERSONAL DETAILS**

**Michael Pedley.**

*Nickname: Peddles. Why? Short for Pedley*  
*Date of Birth: 3/6/67. Place of Birth: Katanning.*  
*Height: 193cm (6'4"). Weight: 92.5kg (14st8lb). Age Started Playing: 8.*  
*Previous Club/s: Aquinas College, Katanning Wanderers. Junior Club: Katanning Wanderers.*  
*Marital Status: Single. If not Married — Girlfriend's Name: —*  
*Residence: Wembley Downs.*  
*Occupation: Technical Officer. Place of Work: Agriculture Department.*  
*Other Sporting Interests: Cricket, swimming, squash, tennis.*  
*Favourite Position: Centre-half-forward. First Position: Centre-half-back.*  
*League Debut: 8/6/85. Versus: Claremont.*  
**YOUR FAVOURITES:**  
*Actor: Mr T. Drink: Kahlua and beer.*  
*TV Show: Hill St Blues, MASH, A-Team. Food: Steak.*  
*Movie: All Rocky movies. Music: Classical.*  
*Book: Spy novels. Holiday Resort: Mandurah.*  
*Ground: Fremantle Oval.*  
*Your Car: Cortina. Your Favourite Car: Datsun 300ZX.*  
*Career Highlights: First game*  
*Worst Moment in Football: Missing out on the Teal Cup 1984.*  
*Hard Things in Football: Elbows, training.*  
*Football Idols: Mike Fitzpatrick, Stephen Michael, Gary Buckenara, Geoff Sims.*  
*Toughest Opponent: All of them. Most Respected Opponent: All of them.*  
*Most Respected Umpire: Paul Mannix.*  
*Most Memorable Game: First one versus Claremont.*  
*Ambitions: To play State football.*  
*What do you like about Football: Competition and comradeship.*  
*How do you Mentally Prepare for a Game: Meditate.*  
*Who Influenced Your Career: Father.*  
*Guernsey Number: 40. Any Reason: Given to me.*  
*Superstitions: None.*  
*Worst Injury: Broken ribs.*  
*Luckiest Break: League debut.*

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**300 GAMES**

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\*Denotes games with other clubs as follows: Bryan Cousins 219 Perth, 72 Geelong.

**250 GAMES**

Brian Peake (EF) 237  
Tony Buhagiar (EF) 245\*  
\*Denotes games with other clubs as follows: Tony Buhagiar 137 East Fremantle, 83 Essendon, 25 Footscray.

**200 GAMES**

Peter Spencer (EP) 192\*  
Gerard Neesham (CL) 185\*  
\*Denotes games with other clubs as follows: Peter Spencer 169 East Perth, 21 Subiaco, 2 Claremont. Gerard Neesham 79 East Fremantle, 97 Swan Districts, 9 Sydney Swans.

**150 GAMES**

Wayne Otway (EP) 143  
Noel Morton (CL) 141

**100 GAMES**

Phil Bradmore (WP) 98  
Ray Holden (P) 98\*  
David Rankin (EF) 97  
Warren Ralph (CL) 96

\*Denotes games with other clubs as follows: Ray Holden 16 Perth, 79 West Perth, 3 Melbourne.

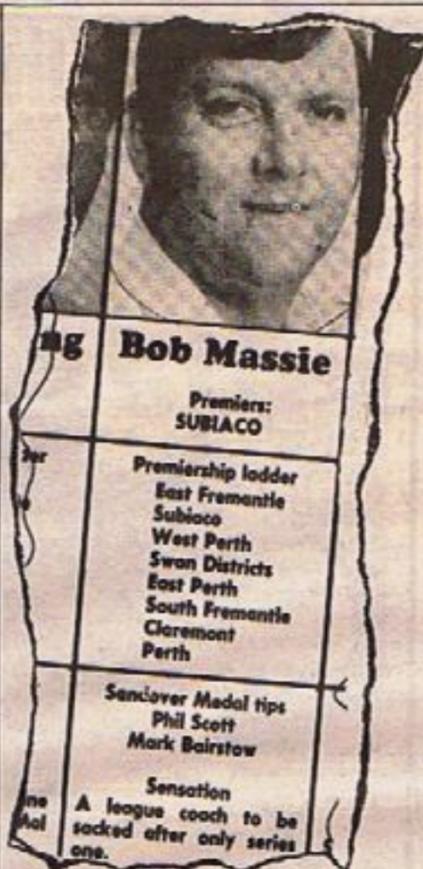
**50 GAMES**

John Gavranich (P) 49\*  
Brya Bryce Forman (EF) 49  
Tony Beers (CL) 46\*  
Dan Foley (WP) 46\*  
\*Denotes games with other clubs as follows: John Gavranich 40 Perth, 9 West Perth; Tony Beers 41 Claremont, 5 Colingwood; Dan Foley 39 West Perth, 7 Richmond.

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WHEN all was said and done at the end of the 1986 football season, the critics at the Sunday Times newspaper could afford a wry smile and a satisfying "I told you so".

Because they did. Before the first round of fixtures got under way last year, the selections of critics Ray Wilson, Doug Young, Bob Massie, Rob Bennett, Laurie Heal, Rod Lane and Geoff Worner were all published.

Messrs Young, Massie, Bennett, Lane and Worner predicted the flag would go to Subiaco for the first time in 13 years and all agreed that the Lions and Sharks would fill the top two positions on the League table when fixtures were completed.

Wilson, Massie, Heal and Worner also tipped South Fremantle's Mark Bairstow as a probable winner of the coveted Sandover Medal.

But Worner and Massie were the only two to select the Subiaco-East Fremantle quinella with Bairstow making the trifecta.

And Massie, the former test swing bowler, showed that he's no slouch at reading football form either when his "sensation" tip for 1986 was that a senior coach would get the sack before the end of round one.

When the East Perth committee sacked coach Greg Brehaut after seven games (round one) that prediction also came true.

**MARLOWS**  
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footy columnist.



**SIMPLE SELECTION**

PICKING the 20 players to represent the West Coast Eagles in their opening VFL game against Richmond was always going to be a tough task with some 35 players in the squad — and all worthy of consideration. But when the Eagles announced that the Burswood Island Casino would be the team's major sponsor, the problem was solved. The now-legal roulette wheels at the Casino have 35 numbers on them — so the team could be picked at a gambling session with coach Ron Alexander and his selectors. Simply spin the wheel 20 times and as the (guernsey) numbers come up, so the player goes into the team! If zero comes up, then maybe Alexander might have to play!

**SHY COACH**

NEW East Fremantle coach Graham Melrose is no stranger to challenges on the field or in dealing with opposition players. But he is having trouble coming to grips with the politics of the game, in particular having to deal with the public exposure side of the coaching business. Melly has always been regarded as a top fellow by media moguls, but very shy and reserved and not wanting any up-front limelight. An outstanding leader as a player, it will be interesting to see how successful he adapts to the higher public profile required from coaches these days. I'm betting he'll continue to have everyone's respect . . .

**SHEEDY CAUTIOUS**

ESSENDON coach Kevin Sheedy, who knows all about building up sides to have them at their peak for that one day in September, had a word of warning for Eagles fans recently. "They are a good side, alright," said Sheedy. "But let's just see how they are going in September — that's a long way away."

**CLIPBOARD KING**

TALKING about Kevin Sheedy — he has his own 'clipboard' attendant among his coaching entourage. One man had the onerous task of carrying around a huge board with all the Essendon and Eagles players names attached when the two sides clashed at Subiaco Oval pre-season.

**SACRED GROUND**

THE area around the umpires is sacred ground when they gather in the centre during breaks in football matches. All coaches know that. Therefore, it was with some obvious trepidation that new WAFL chief Peter Cummissey had to venture out to the middle during the recent Eagles-Essendon practice game to give a message to the men-in-white. What was it? You can only guess.

**TV ADDICTION**

ARE we developing a new breed of Norms? That famous TV-watching character Norm was invented by the Government during the influx of cricket on television immediately after the Kerry Packer circus went into business. At that time we were bombarded with cricket and Norm, the couch slouch, was dreamed up as the counter to everyone sitting at home and stagnating. Now we've got hundreds of hours of TV footy coming up with games on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays — and as many as five matches in some eight-day periods. We'll need a football-type character to prevent us from receding back into our lounge rooms.



Garry Sidebottom . . . in the thick of things.

**INSTANT ACTION**

NOW, I know this one comes from a few weeks back, but as this is often regarded as a paper-of-record we need to make mention of this fact. The first official pre-season practice match was at Bassendean Oval way back on February 14 when the West Coast Eagles had their stepping out day against Swan Districts. The first official scuffle of the season came at the five minute mark of the first quarter when the near-40 degree temperature provoked a few hot-headed reactions. Right in the middle was none other than Garry Sidebottom — he's not losing his touch, is he?

**CAUGHT OUT**

SWAN Districts have a new team manager in Wayne Simms, who is doing a top job. But for an insurance salesman, he may need to brush up on his technique. Last week the former ruckman tried to sell a prospective customer a membership to the Swan Districts "Supporters Club" for \$150. Among other things, the membership also gives the new member a one-in-1500 chance of winning a \$90,000 Porsche. When Wayne went for the 'jugular' in his pitch he dropped the ball because he didn't have a membership form on him!

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Mark Watson (Perth) 27 on April 4.

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# FOOTBALL FACTS

With DAVE CLEMENT  
WA's top football historian.

## Neesham has a chance

THE 1987 season kicks off with four rookie coaches in Graham Melrose, Gerard Neesham, Stan Magro and Bruce Monteath.

Only six coaches have been successful in their first attempt at league level in the 43 years of post-war football -- Brad Smith (EF 1979), Graham Campbell (WP 1975), Ross Smith (Subiaco 1973, Mal Atwell (Perth 1966), Steve Marsh (EF 1957) and Clive Lewington (SF 1950).

The form displayed by Claremont in pre-season games gives Gerard Neesham an excellent chance of joining this list.

Only once before in league history has a football season started with four rookie coaches. The year was 1972 and newcomers to league football were Jack Ensor (Swan Districts), Barry Cable (Perth), Verdun Howell (Claremont) and Peter Steward at West Perth.

STILL on coaches, for the fifth time in football history Sandover Medal winners make up half of the league coaches in our ranks.

Illustrious winners of this prestigious award who have coaching roles this year are Melrose, Hadyn Bunton (Subiaco), Mal Brown (Perth) and John Todd (Swans).

When the last time there was no Sandover Medallist on the coaching panel?

## to join first-up winners

— It was 1962, the year Bunton won the honour as coach of Swans.

WE all remember the premiers from last year...Subiaco in WA, Hawthorn in Victoria and Glenelg in SA.

All three had to overcome a loss in the second semi-final to take the flag. After much research, I can count only one similar occurrence, back in 1935 when the premiers that year were West Perth, Collingwood and South Adelaide.

I GO along with the name of our national team, the Eagles and their colours blue and gold. But one club in South Australia could be excused for calling us "copycats".

West Torrens have played in blue and gold since they joined the SA league in 1897 and for at least 40 years they have been known as the Eagles.

Let's hope our Eagles perform better than Torrens, who have won only four premierships, the last in 1953.

JOHN Todd has won his 'tussle' with Graham Moss and now has the coaching record to himself -- 11 successful years at the one club.

Moss coached the Tigers for 10 years before stepping down this year to take on an administrative role with the West Coast Eagles.

Todd has a long way to go to beat the Australian record, Collingwood's Jock McHale was at the helm for 38 years. Another long running coach was Dick Reynolds with 19 years at Essendon.

FATHER and son combinations have figured prominently in league football for many years. Surprisingly when you look at the fairest and best winners at the clubs, there were only two, till last October.

Big Garry Sidebottom and his father Wally have won Swan Districts fairest and best, Peter Spencer and his father Jim have both collected East Perth's award and last year West Perth's Dan Foley joined his father Brian on this unique list.

## Croweater captains the Bears

SOUTH Australian recruit Mark Mickan has been appointed captain of the Brisbane Bears.

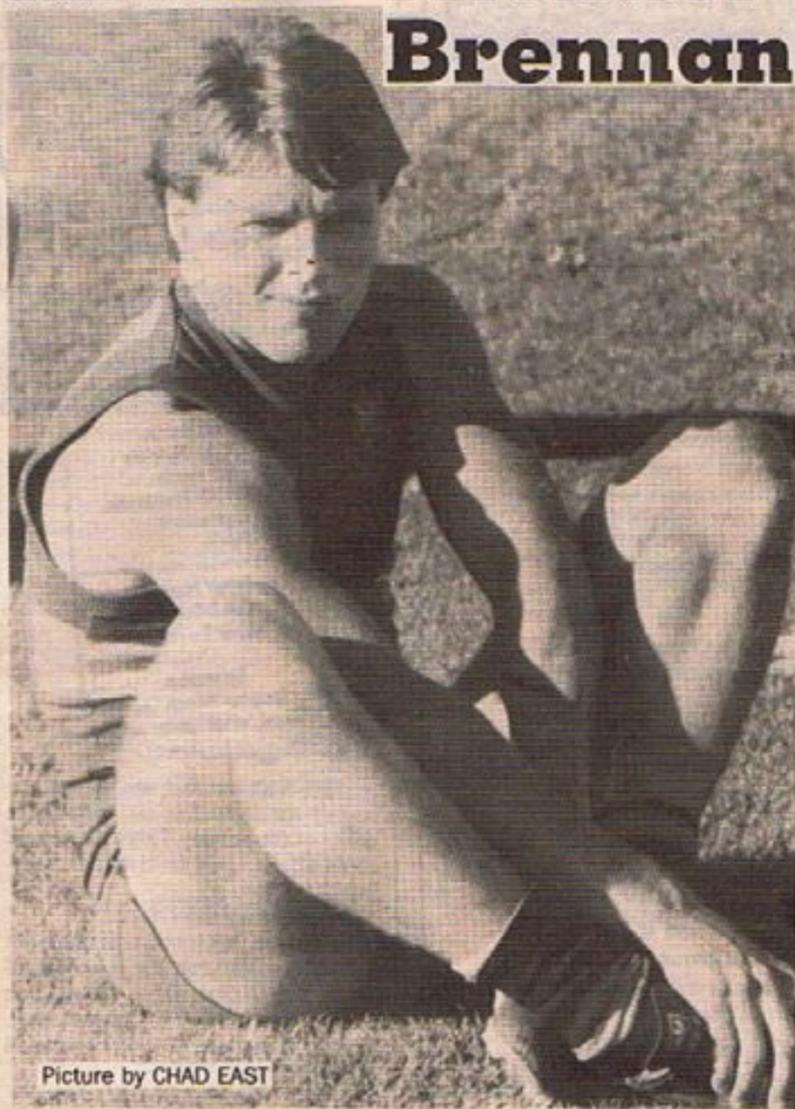
Mickan (25) was appointed ahead of former Collingwood star Mark Williams, who many believed would be given the job automatically.

The South Australian ruckman joined the Bears from SANFL club West Adelaide, where he played more than 100 games in seven seasons.

Former Geelong key position player Stephen Richardson was appointed deputy vice-captain.

## EAGLE PROFILE

# Michael Brennan



Picture by CHAD EAST

NAME: Michael Brennan  
FAVOURITE POSITION: Centre  
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Geraldton 29.6.65  
HEIGHT: 185cm WEIGHT: 82kg  
RECRUITED FROM: East Fremantle  
FIRST PLAYED: Vs Subiaco 23.3.83  
GAMES PLAYED: East Fremantle 72, WA 1, Finals 4  
FOOTBALL HONOURS: 1982 WA Teal Cup  
MARITAL STATUS: Single  
BROTHERS/SISTERS: 3 brothers, 2 sisters  
OCCUPATION: Bank Officer  
SCHOOL/S ATTENDED: Trinity College  
CAR: Commodore  
FAVOURITE PASTIMES/HOBBIES: Horse racing  
FAVOURITE FOOD: Pork, T-Bone steak  
FAVOURITE DRINK: Rum and coke  
FAVOURITE SINGER/GROUP: Neil Young

FAVOURITE AUTHOR: S.E. Hinton  
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY SPOT: Rottneest  
FAVOURITE NIGHT SPOT AND/OR RESTAURANT: Newport Hotel  
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Young Ones  
FAVOURITE MOVIE: Breaker Morant  
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Peter Waterman, Clay Shimmer, Ron Alexander  
MOST ADMIRER SPORTSMEN: D.K. Lillie  
ROUTINE BEFORE A MATCH: Take it easy  
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Missing the 1985 premiership team  
BIGGEST THRILL: First league game  
NICKNAME: Monkey  
FAVOURITE GROUND: Fremantle Oval  
FOOTBALL AMBITION: A regular and contributing member of the successful Eagles

## Vic tipsters fancy Eagles

LEADING Melbourne football critics Neil Roberts, Scot Palmer and Jon Anderson have all tipped the West Coast Eagles to make the final five in the VFL this season.

Roberts, writing in the Sunday Press newspaper, described the Eagles as a real threat.

He said that though they have only 40 players to choose from (in fact it's 34), they face a season full of plusses.

"Each time they turn out they will virtually be playing an interstate game against a Victorian team," Roberts said.

"This has always been a great spur to the Sandgropers, especially with a partisan crowd behind them.

"They have youth, with skill and height where needed.

"They know Victorian teams and players well now and will be able to plan to counter them."

A coach with Victorian experience and a home ground advantage, plus a

very familiar climate, should give them enough advantage to make the five.

The clubs the three critics tipped are:

ROBERTS — Hawthorn, Carlton, North Melbourne, West Coast Eagles and Essendon; PALMER — Hawthorn, Swans, Essendon, West Coast Eagles and Carlton and ANDERSON — Carlton, Essendon, West Coast Eagles, Hawthorn and Geelong.

Roberts said: "Hawthorn will be there for sure and so will Carlton. I'm tipping North Melbourne, who were seventh last year to make the five.

"The Eagles will be a force and Essendon, fifth last year, may sneak in despite the hectic percentage scramble for the last spot in the five.

"The Swans, Cats and 'Roys are also in strong contention."

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# BOUNCEDOWN



## Little men pose a problem

THE battle of the little men could hold the key to the outcome of the West Coast Eagles first official VFL fixture against Richmond.

Certainly that is the strongest area of the Richmond team, with rovers Dale Weightman and Michael Mitchell among the best in the country. And it appears to be the suspect division for the Eagles.

Wally Matera has shown good form in practice matches, but has lacked support.

His partner on Sunday is likely to be Don Holmes, who was outstanding a couple of weeks ago against Essendon before leaving the ground with a bruised thigh.

On pre-season form, the Eagles should win their opening encounter.

### BIG EFFORTS

The reason for their good form has been the efforts of players like ruckman Alex Ishchenko, ruck-rover John Annear, key position player Ross Glendinning, defenders Dwayne Lamb, Mark Zanotti and Paul Peos and centreliners Peter Davidson and Murray Wrensted.

The Eagles have a strong midfield presence and that will be their trump card again today.



Phil Narkle ... speedy wingman.

When the squad was initially chosen it was thought Ishchenko would be spending most of his time with his club side, East Perth.

But with Phil Scott injured and Paul Harding unable to play with the Eagles, he took over the mantle as the leading ruckman and his early work has been largely responsible for the Eagles strong performances in the National Panasonic Cup.

He has brought many of his smaller teammates into the action and his clash with Mark Lee should be a highlight.

Wrensted has given a couple of reminders of his skill in the early matches. He was one of football's forgotten men last year when injury problems interrupted his pre-season campaign and took the edge off his fitness.

### ANXIOUS

It was a disappointing season for him after winning the 1985 Sandover Medal and he is anxious to prove a point.

He certainly reminded a few people of his immense talent when he was easily the best player afield against Essendon in a pre-season match and followed that up with a strong display against Fitzroy.

Wrensted, Davidson and Annear assured the Eagles of midfield dominance against Fitzroy.

Davidson's effort in the second half against Essendon and from the start against Fitzroy must give him great confidence as the season opens.

He has been plagued by injury throughout his career, particularly when big games are approaching, but has overcome a thigh strain and looks in the peak of physical condition.

### EXPERIENCE

Annear and Glendinning are essential players in the Eagles team, not just because of their playing ability, but also because of their VFL experience. They will be expected to give the younger players the benefit of their knowledge.

Annear could be of particular value off the field this week because he played with Richmond last season and has a sound knowledge of the opposition.

Richmond have done little in pre-season work which would inspire, but they were most impressive against South Fremantle earlier this month.

The Tigers have recruited two of the best players from WA in Mitchell and Peter Wilson and along with Lee, Maurice Rioli, Weightman, Michael Roach (when fit), David Palm and Mark Eustice provide the experience in the team.

Richmond are traditionally one of the VFL's strong teams and they will be anxious to give the Eagles a baptism of fire.

Michael Mitchell ... in new Tigers colours.



## Arch rivals in opening battle

IT is fitting that East Perth and West Perth, two traditionalists in the WAFL, should meet on the day of the first appearance of the West Coast Eagles in the VFL.

East Perth and West Perth have been arch rivals for many years and while the two teams have revealed differing pre-season form, a tough encounter can still be expected.

The two teams have met twice in pre-season games and West Perth have won them both.

Initially, the Falcons completely out-played the Royals at Collie and then, after trailing for three quarters in the Kresta Cup competition, came from behind to steal victory.

Things are looking good for the Falcons, one of the clubs least affected by the raid of the Eagles, and they will be among the favourites to win the premiership.

### MESSAGE

But pre-season form has been proven in the past to be of no significance when the business of playing for premiership points starts and that will be the message East Perth coach Gerard McNeill will convey to his players.

West Perth are expected to have Sean King, Dean Warwick and Paul Mifka available for most of the season, while there is some chance that ruck-rover John Gastev will also spend some time with the Falcons.

Dean Laidley, the other West Perth player in the Eagles squad, should spend the entire season in the VFL competition.

Because Mifka, King and Warwick are competing for centreline roles, their task is extremely difficult with Peter Davidson, Murray Wrensted, Phil Narkle and Dean Turner favoured to win those positions.

That gives the Falcons a strong midfield division and the nucleus from which to build a strong unit.

### ESSENTIAL

A talented centre line is essential in the make-up of finals teams.

The Falcons are also well served in the big man department with Craig Nelson and Dan Foley in good pre-season form, Darren Bewick adds class to the West Perth midfield and Peter Menaglio, Les Fong, Peter Murnane



David Martin ... key forward.

and Brian Perrin gave the Falcons an edge in experience.

Those players will make things difficult for the Royals this week.

East Perth require players like centre-half-back Grant Campbell, centreman Chris Allen, half-forward Russell Sparks and ruck-rover Glyn Williams to take control and lead them into this historic season.

The Royals finished last season brilliantly, winning six of their last seven matches, but they have been rocked by the loss of players. Something like 14 players have left East Perth over summer.

But still most of their players have tasted league football and it will be up to those players who have experienced some league football to develop and become key players in the East Perth line-up.

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# BENNETT'S BURST

By respected  
veteran football  
writer ROBERT BENNETT



## Ralph can be a winner

WHEN Warren Ralph left Claremont for Carlton a few years ago, he and I weren't on the best of terms. He took exception to a few things I had written about him.

So he may be surprised, though we have bumped into each other since his return, with these thoughts on him.

I believed at the time — and said so — that he could be battling to succeed in the pressure-cooker atmosphere of the VFL.

That he is now back with Claremont would indicate that I was right.

Wrong.

I don't believe Ralph got a fair go with Carlton. He showed he had the capability to succeed in the VFL on some of his limited occasions in the league side.

If he had been with another club, that could easily have been the case. It wasn't and it could mean the difference between Claremont being a premiership side or just one of the pack this year.

Ralph was one of WA's most potent full-forwards when last with the Tigers.

Now that he has gained experience in the VFL, he has to be an even better player this time around.

It's a safe bet, barring injury, he will post 100 goals this season. He topped the ton in his last three seasons with Claremont.

The Tigers have lacked goalscoring bite since Ralph last played with them in 1983.

### IMPETUS

They have plenty of impetus mid-field and this year it doesn't look as though it will be any different.

Despite the centreline loss of Steve Malaxos, Peter Davidson and Darrell Panizza, Claremont have not lost a great deal in this area because of the return of Allen Daniels and the acquisition of Joe Ahmat and Gerry Neesham.

With runners such as Steve Goulding, Peter Thorne and some of the up-and-coming players of the calibre of Brad Mumme and Tony Begovich,



Outstanding full-forward Warren Ralph ... back in Claremont colours this season.

Ralph won't be starved of opportunities up forward.

In fact, I predict he will not only become a fullback's nightmare, but will have the West Coast Eagles wishing they had acquired him.

This season's WAFL competition is shaping as a very close one. The only two sides not in the chop-up for a place in the four are Swan Districts and East Perth.

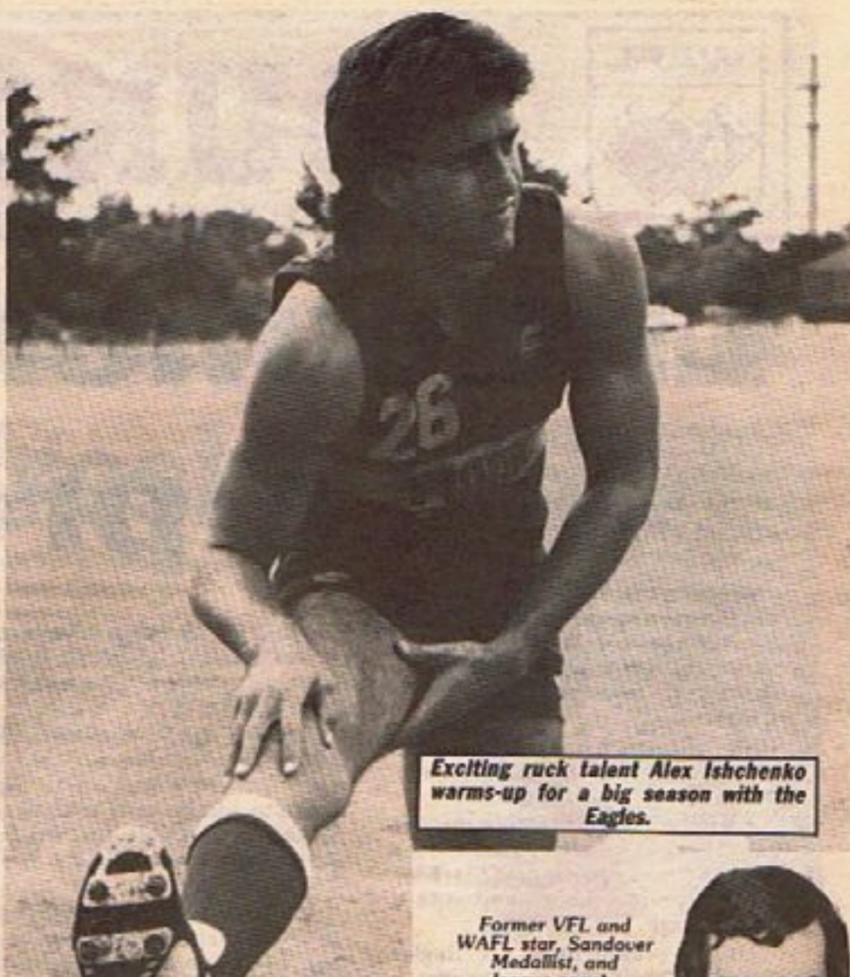
Neesham could well be very confident of Claremont winning this year's premiership.

The Tigers pre-season form lends weight to that confidence.

But because it promises to be close, a player of Ralph's ability in a competition that has been gutted of some of our more talented and experienced players will be a bonus ... just as Ken Judge will be for East Fremantle.

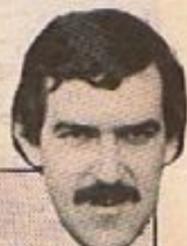
Some will see Ralph as perhaps having come back to Perth with his tail between his legs.

But, just like Steve Malaxos, he will have a point to prove. And just like Malaxos, I'm sure he will.



Exciting ruck talent Alex Ishchenko warms-up for a big season with the Eagles.

Former VFL and WAFL star, Sandover Medalist, and league coach.



## IAN MILLER

### Players still have to perform

MOST opposing VFL clubs must certainly be cringing when they see the sponsorship dollars that the Eagles, the Bears and Sydney Swans have gathered, especially the \$1 million the Eagles have got from the Casino.

But really, it has to be expected in a one-team town, compared to Melbourne, which is supporting 11 teams. For this reason alone, the dollars will not "stretch" too far and we will see Melbourne reduced to support possibly six teams, which is realistic.

While the Brisbane Bears may be financial, they look likely to struggle on-field for a while because of a lack of talent. On the other hand, the Eagles professionalism and the expertise of those people behind Indian Pacific has already been shown, both on and off the field.

But don't get too carried away. The VFL has provided us with no favours. Success is still measured on the scoreboard and the players must perform. But I'm sure there are a few opposition teams already suggesting that the Eagle has certainly landed.

### WRONG DECISION

THERE are not too many players at 18 years who can afford to miss 12 months of football, play just one colts game and then move straight into league ranks — as Claremont's Mark Hepburn did last season.

In just five games, Hepburn showed he was a player of class.

Unfortunately, he looks unlikely to fulfil his contract with Claremont — another two seasons. North Melbourne and the wily Ron Joseph, who fears no barriers in the field of recruiting, have Hepburn in their fold already.

The dollars put up by North must be attractive, but Hepburn must feel morally obliged to Claremont, not forgetting the legal implications.

Claremont are prepared to be realistic in the matter, but not till next season. They must stand firm for 1987, which could see Hepburn stand out of football. Even if Hepburn was cleared, I don't think he is ready for the VFL. The experience gained by playing a full season in the WAFL would far outweigh any stint he may spend in Victorian reserves.

### Big Alex is a worry!

ONE of the key men for the Eagles in 1987 undoubtedly will be Alex Ishchenko.

In early games he has put his stamp on the Eagles and the VFL, which is a long way from when he languished in the reserves for East Perth midway through last season.

A pre-requisite of good teams is strength and aggression from your big men — something coach Ron Alexander knows about — and Ishchenko can, and will, deliver the goods.

Already big Alex is developing a strong-man reputation and opposition clubs are aware of his ability and will be out to counter him. While opposition clubs will be saying "beware Ishchenko" it will be vitally important that his naturally aggressive game is controlled and retaliation (if necessary) is contained within the rules.

Both Ischenko and the Eagles can ill-afford a penalty from the VFL tribunal.

### WAFL FORESIGHT

IN light of the Eagles fanfare, the WAFL is to be complemented on the Kresta Blinds Cup pre-season competition.

With player-losses and uncertainty in many areas in regards to 1987, the League has shown courage by presenting the wares of the eight league clubs, who have indicated just how competitive they will be this season.

They also showed foresight and "cashed-in" on having the Eagle players available in some club games.

They had first use of the WACA Ground under lights in a double-header and were involved in a triple-header with Eagles and Essendon, which proved a real winner.

The WAFL is in for a competitive season, which will keep all football followers motivated.

### BACK AGAIN

IT is good to be back with Westside Football again (year 7) in what promises to be an exciting year of football I have taken a break from coaching and club commitments and I'm looking forward to my role in the medi-

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SEASON '87 will be a great one for the WA Football League.

The critics of doom have spent all summer spreading the word that the introduction of the Eagles will be the end of the local competition.

Sure, the loss of talented players will take away some of the club glamour. But the birth of exciting young talent will keep everyone watching with renewed interest.

Football is a coloured disease depending on the club you follow. It spreads into your body when you are young and remains there till you die.

To imagine a Royals supporter giving up the famous blue-and-black colours or a Falcon forgetting the traditional red-and-blue would be worse than the Pope becoming a Protestant. It is unthinkable.

We are all now bound together as Eagles fans in one big football family. But when the local games siren sounds, its war, as it has been for the past 100 years.

The imaginative steps taken by the WAFL in spreading the local competition over night games and Sundays is further positive promotion that will generate great interest.

We have an exciting group of coaches with a blend of experience through some talented rookies, ready to make a name for themselves.

Everything is set for a great season; even the competition. All clubs have lost players, making season '87 look very keen and even.

Each year at this time a look into the crystal ball is an interesting exercise.



#### EAST PERTH

The ROYALS will finish last. That statement hurts, but common sense has to prevail.

How can a club boasting young talent like Craig Starcevic, Alex Ishchenko, Richard Dennis, Steve Da Rui, Glenn Bartlett, Paul Peos and Michael Christian replace them in one season?

Coach Gerard McNeill has shown great enthusiasm and effort in developing a team, but has to face facts that while guts and determination are great, skill still wins games. The Royals just don't have enough skill. But never underestimate them; give them a chance and they will fight.



#### SWAN DISTRICTS

The SWANS finished last in season '86 after a glorious decade and though they will improve, they should finish a competitive seventh.

The club needed a clean-out as many of the older brigade had achieved the top and lost the desire or urgency to re-

# DORRO'S DIARY

BY GRANT DORRINGTON



## Experience will tell for the Sharks

main there. Youngsters given a chance will now be able to build the next Swans era of greatness.

There is plenty of talent at Bassendean and with one of Australia's best coaches in John Todd, don't be surprised to see them climb up the ladder.



#### PERTH

The DEMONS had a great year in '87, but will notice the loss of midfielders Rob Wiley, Brett Yorgey and Earl Spalding. They have some very talented youngsters and a shrewd coach in Mal Brown who loves bleeding new players. Captain Mick Rea will need to have another great season up forward to create the goals needed to keep the Demons near the top.

If Peter Bosustow and Brownie can "fall in love" then another talented forward will be available to share the load.



#### SUBIACO

The LIONS took off the '86 premiership, and have had their football heart ripped out.

Laurie Keene, Warren Dean, Mark Zanotti, Andrew MacNish, Glen O'Loughlin, Dwayne Lamb, Phill Scott, Peter Featherby, Stephen Sells and Michael Crutchfield would be enough for any club to "cry poor" and accept defeat.

Not so the Lions. Off-field they are superbly led by president Michael Carlile, general manager Michael Flanagan and football manager Trevor Nisbett. These men created the new Subi and will not allow the club to return to the bottom — those days are gone. Coach Haydn Bunton has another challenge and is the man to teach the new players the requirements of success.

Up forward they will struggle to score although maintaining a good defence and mobile division.



#### SOUTH FREMANTLE

The BULLDOGS are the most talented team of young players in the competition. Dean Irving, Scott Watters, Richard Graham, John McDonald and the Collard brothers will lead the Bulldogs back to power.

With new coach Stan Magro providing the guidance, the young Bulldogs will again bring smiles to the people in the Port city.

The only danger is new recruit Mark Jackson.

For example, in the Kresta Blinds Cup game he was very beneficial to the team, but the doubt relates to his top-rating song "I'm an Individual".

Great teams have individual flair, but are welded together by a genuine concern for each other.

Jacko must do this. With his experience and football ability, he can be the corner-stone to success or failure. It will be great to watch.



#### WEST PERTH

The FALCONS, under new coach Bruce Monteath, must regain credibility, something they lost last year.

Their need for a more regular competitive Falcon team is essential. With Les Fong, Peter Menaglio, Darren Bewick, Gavin Chaplin, Dan Foley and Craig Nelson they have enough mid-field talent to reach the top.

They still have a weakness in the key defensive positions, but can overcome this with players prepared to work harder.



Bruce Monteath ... his Falcons can improve.



#### CLAREMONT

The TIGERS will sharpen their claws and become more fierce in season '87.

New coach Gerard Neesham is hungry for success and knows only too well that the talent is there, but the concentration and ruthless competitive spirit must be developed to achieve the glory of several years ago.

Claremont's form in the Kresta Blinds competition showed glimpses of the hardness the team has not had for several seasons.

Warren Ralph will kick many goals and Allen "Shorty" Daniels' midfield run will be very important. Add to that youngsters in Guy McKenna, Brad Mumme and Stephen Cook and they will be where they should have been — at the top.



#### EAST FREMANTLE

The SHARKS for '87 premiers. They have a great array of experience in Brian Peake, Colin Waterson, Ken Judge, David Rankin, Shane Ellis, Stephen Green, George Christie and Tony Solin, along with some exciting youngsters in Brad Tunbridge, Chris Waterman, David Bushell and John O'Sullivan.

The Sharks had the talent in season '86, but were not hard or competitive enough when it counted — grand final day.

New Coach Graham Melrose has been able to watch what has gone on previously and with his ruthless competitive approach, should make a very talented, aggressive combination.

Comments from many of the senior Shark players about their disappointment at missing the Eagles Squad will be a regular incentive for them to do well and prove a few judges wrong.

## Behind the scenes is important

FOOTBALL just doesn't happen — teams don't suddenly appear on the oval.

A lot of behind-the-scenes work goes on in League clubs and I recently had the chance to talk to Gerry Atherden, the former general manager of Claremont.

He really filled me in on a few things that go to making up a successful football club — and team.

Someone has to do all the paper work and organisation and it was interesting talking to a man who had been in the thick of it all for six years, from 1978 to 1984.

He enjoyed his position as a senior administrator of a club going through a period of success. The Tigers won a premiership in 1981 and the achievement compensated for the seven-day-a-week commitment that his position required.

I asked him how much money league players averaged because we all seem to think that they are in a pretty high salary bracket.

Gerry surprised me: "While I was

with Claremont, the average league footballer received around \$150 per game — not much when you consider the time they have to put in to reach the standards required to play at that level."

So I asked: "If all clubs had open cheque books how much do think they should receive?"

Gerry's answer was that if money was no object, and all things were taken into consideration, the average player should get something like \$30,000 a year.

"It is not just the playing that is involved," he says.

"They have images to maintain like the stars in any sport and this necessitates good clothes, cars and so on.

"Most sports people are conscious of their standing in the community and it is to the credit of many of our league players that they try to sustain a high profile.

"What the game cannot afford to pay is overcome by nothing more than the sheer dedication of the players concerned."

Gerry spoke about the winning of premierships and how much can depend on injuries.

"During our last premiership year we had a relatively good run. Our league team used only 28 players, whereas the number is generally up around the 40 to 45 mark.

Gerry considers the interest that the Tigers have shown in their juniors is paying dividends.

"There was some pretty intensive work done while I was at Claremont and many youngsters should be coming through the ranks now," he says.

Having visited Linda and Gerry Atherden's home, located up on the Naturalistic escarpment among picturesque hills, I can assure Tigers people that they are happy in their semi-retirement. Gerry has done some real estate work in Dunsborough, but he has a time-consuming interest in gardening and is rapidly finding himself short of hours in the day.

Many Claremont people have dropped in to say hello, and while



Wheelchair sports critic BILL MATHER-BROWN

## FROM WHERE I SIT

Gerry is always pleased to see them, he has no ambition to get back into harness.

"I gave the Tigers seven or eight years of practically non-stop service. Though I enjoyed every moment of it, I believe that my length of time was about as long as you would want to be in that type of position. It tends to be too demanding."

With the first nip of winter in the air, I suspect that Gerry can smell the liniment, hear the clomp of spurs, the thud of a boot connecting with leather and the roar of the crowds. He may be enjoying his retirement, but I believe that football will draw him back to Tigerland, Subiaco Oval or the WACA Ground a few times during the year.

# What they said

## September

"We knew we could do better and it forced each player to examine himself and make sure all the faults in the second semi-final were eliminated." Subiaco coach Haydn Bunton after their 1986 premiership.

"It was simply not our day. But there was no way our players deserved to be booed off the ground." East Fremantle coach Ron Alexander after their grand final loss.

"His record in the past three years has been outstanding. We believe he is a long-term proposition and a man with a broad role to play in the establishment of the national team." Richard Colless, chairman of the Indian Pacific Ltd on the appointment of Ron Alexander as coach of WA's national team.

"Of course there's a touch of sadness, but I'm pretty happy about the appointment." Ron Alexander on his WA coaching role.

"My job is not complete yet. I still owe something to the players who took a pay cut this year." Perth coach Mal Brown on his decision to stay with the Demons for a third year.

"It's a big and exciting challenge." Graham Moss on his appointment as general manager of WA's national side.

"This historic vote by the VFL clubs guarantees that WA will have a powerful presence in the future of Australian football." Geoff Christian, writing in *The West Australian* on the VFL's decision to accept a WA team.

"I guess you could say it was a bit hard to get the players up again after their win in our grand final." Subiaco coach Haydn Bunton after the Lions had lost the clash of the premiers against Hawthorn by two points.



Mark Jackson

## October

"It is an exciting challenge to be involved as a coach in the new era of football." Gerard Neesham on being appointed coach of Claremont.

"It came as no surprise that South Fremantle would make a bid for the person we regard as the best coach available, but we are delighted he will stay with us." Subiaco president Michael Carlile on Haydn Bunton's decision to stick with the Lions.

"We believe his best interests could be served by staying with East Fremantle and not joining the VFL." East Fremantle

president Harry Morgan on the Sharks bid to keep Paul Harding in the camp.

"Everybody at the club is going to have to work hard next year to be successful." Bruce Monteath on his appointment as West Perth coach.

"My short-term target is to make South Fremantle more competitive and more successful in the WAFL competition." Stan Magro on his coaching appointment at South Fremantle.

"We believe that a Bunbury-based team will adequately fill the vacuum and add a new marketing dimension." Bunbury's Dr Ernie Manea on plans to field a league side from the South West.

"We do not want to develop a game for sissies. What is needed is controlled aggression." Liam Mulvihill, director-general of the Gaelic Football Association after a violent clash at the WACA Ground saw Australia win 65-57.

"I've enjoyed my four years in Victoria, but basically I've had enough." Ken Judge, returning to play with East Fremantle.

"To be quite frank, the Irish are bloody wimps." Australian coach John Todd after Ireland's Gaelic team beat the home side 62-46 in a subdued game in Melbourne.

"I am impressed with the WAFL's blueprint for the future, especially the role of the league competition and the football development trust." WAFL newly-appointed chief executive Peter Cummiskey.

"Indian Pacific Ltd will own the WA team in the VFL and has been created primarily to finance and market the game in WA." Richard Colless, chairman of WA's public company for the national team.

"The West Coast Eagle has landed. One small step for mankind, one giant leap for West Australian football." The announcement of WA's team name, West Coast Eagles.

## November

"The WA side is in the big league now and they have to play by the big boys' rules. They have blatantly infringed the VFL player rules." Hawthorn chief executive John Lauritz announcing that the club would take action against the West Coast Eagles for naming Paul Harding in their squad.

"If we raise more than the \$15 million required, we'll make the surplus available to other sports such as cricket." West Coast Eagles legal adviser Peter Fogarty on details of the fund-raising plans for Indian Pacific Ltd.

"The name is first-class." Premier Brian Burke commenting on the naming of the West Coast Eagles.

"I have always been a dyed-in-the-wool Essendon supporter and my ambition is to play with them in 1989." West Perth youngster Darren Bewick after signing with the VFL club.

"Darren has signed with Essendon, but that doesn't rule him out of Eagles contention for 1988." Eagles general manager, Graham Moss.

"I hope something can be sorted out between Hawthorn and the Eagles because I have decided to come home to Perth for family reasons, but I still want to continue playing in the VFL." Hawthorn and former Subiaco star Gary Buckenara on his decision to join the Eagles.

"Things did not exactly work out at Carlton, but I have lost none of my enthusiasm for the game and I look forward to re-establishing myself with Claremont." Former top goalkicker Warren Ralph on his return to WA.



Simon Beasley

## December

"The team is already getting its fair share of attention in the Eastern States and we're close to signing the major sponsor." Eagles chief executive John Walker on reports of almost \$2.5 million in sponsorship money ready to be unveiled.

"The directors believed that, in view of the significance of the move into the VFL, the reduction in penalties was an appropriate gesture at the start of a new era in football." WAFL chief executive Peter Cummiskey on a decision to drastically reduce suspensions handed out to Brett and Dean Farmer for umpire interference incidents.

"I am pleased to see that the directors have acted responsibly. The original suspensions were very harsh." Perth coach Mal Brown, who had a \$5000 fine halved.

"He will be a hard act to follow. Harry Morgan put East Fremantle back on their feet and my job is to make sure they stay there." Newly-elected East Fremantle president Hans Beyer.

"It was a hard decision to make, but I know it is the right one." Evergreen Subiaco footballer Peter Featherby (34) retiring after 316 games in WA and Victoria.

"We were in diabolical strife and could easily have folded up. Financial creditors were getting tired of waiting." East Perth president Alan Delaney on the club's position mid-way through 1986.

"We have a situation where a player has taken the law into his own hands and thinks he is bigger than the club." Footscray forward Simon Beasley talking to club members on the dispute between Brownlow Medallist Brad Hardie and Bulldogs coach Michael Malthouse.

"I've been blackballed by most of the teams in the Eastern States, so the most sensible thing is to return to the West." Flamboyant former VFL star Mark Jackson on his move to South Fremantle.

"We were frustrated in every way and some of the things that were originally promised were not delivered." A Bond Brewing spokesman on the Brewery's decision to withdraw sponsorship from the VFL.

"I would be a fool to suggest that the creation of the Eagles is not going to have a significant effect on the WAFL. But this State has an amazing capacity to generate new players." New chief executive Peter Cummiskey.

"I couldn't be bothered with the hassles of an appeals board or a court case, so we decided to come back to Perth." Ace goalkicker Warren Ralph on his decision to quit Carlton after three years and return to Claremont instead of tackling another VFL club.

"There is an urgent need to sort this problem out and I believe it will be solved." West Coast Eagles chief executive John Walker on the blackout threat in the VFL over television rights.

"We won't clear him and we're strongly committed to retaining him." Claremont president Stephen Scott on North Melbourne approaches to entice young star Mark Hepburn to Victoria.

"The Swans board of management showed courage and foresight by opposing the WAFL." Former Swan Districts president John Cooper at the club's annual general meeting on their opposition to the West Coast Eagles joining the VFL.

"At 30, some people probably think I've seen my best years, but I'm quietly confident of surprising a few people." WA's Brownlow Medallist Ross Glen-dinning, returning home to captain the West Coast Eagles.

## January

"We are demanding an immediate answer to this ridiculous situation." West Coast Eagles chief executive John Walker on the confusion surrounding television rights for this year's VFL season.

"It would give me a great deal of satisfaction to play well." Steve Malaxos talking on his new challenge with the West Coast Eagles.

"It could take up to a year before some of our guys are worked out by the opposition." Eagles captain Ross Glen-dinning on the prospects of his new team.

"We won't be making him an exception because if we do, other players might start getting ideas." Footscray chief executive Dennis Galimberti on the dispute with Brownlow Medallist Brad Hardie.

"He is going from North Melbourne to captain another VFL team and that makes him a very important player. We expect to get \$200,000 for him." North Melbourne general manager Greg Miller on Ross Glen-dinning's clearance bid.

# Over the summer

"It would be an absolute indignity for Ross Glendinning to have to go to the appeals board after his long service with North Melbourne — and to suggest a \$200,000 clearance fee is absolute hogwash." West Coast Eagles chief executive John Walker.

"We have matched the offer from Perth and it's not our intention that he will be cleared." South Fremantle managing director Harold Harper on the move by defender Warren Mosconi to Perth.

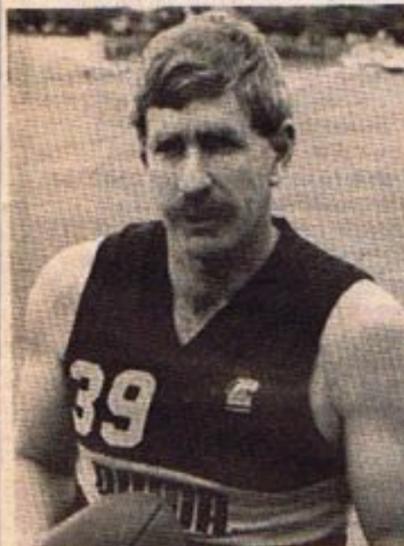
"We're still hopeful that the matter will be resolved in favour of the players and they can line up with the Eagles." West Coast Eagles general manager Graham Moss on Hawthorn's move to take legal action over Gary Buckenara and Paul Harding.

## February

"If you think I'm over-confident — you're right. I'll have no trouble with those wimpy little full-backs fresh out of kindergarten." Zany footballer Mark Jackson on his decision to play with South Fremantle.

"It wasn't easy at first because I had to turn myself around from being a fringe player to someone who had to do the hard things. But I think I gave it my best shot." Former East Perth and Fitzroy player Dean Turner, back with the Eagles.

"We needed a class defender and he was rated the best in the VFL last year." East Fremantle president Hans Beyer on the signing of former Subiaco and Footscray player Tim Gepp.



Ron Alexander

"They spit and throw cans at Windy Hill, so it will be nice to know we've got a few supporters out there." Eagles captain Ross Glendinning on the Australian Airlines sponsorship deal that will take supporters to VFL games.

"I don't think Kevin Berry (head of ABC sport) has ever seen The Winners in his life." An angry ABC football compere Drew Morphet on the ABC's decision to axe the popular The Winners show.

"The ego of some coaches and administrators has to be shelved for the overall good of football." Swan Districts coach John Todd calling for more loyalty to the West Coast Eagles.

"They say they had little hope of holding them and have acted accordingly; it's good news for us." Eagles

general manager Graham Moss on clearances for Ross Glendinning, Dean Turner and Phil Narkle.

"I believe that the clearance fees are not in the best interests of football." Eagles chief executive John Walker on news (a day later) that the trio would be cleared for a total of \$310,000.

"The WAFL is confident that the public will support this new concept." WAFL chief executive Peter Cummisky on the round-robin pre-season series to be played over three weekends.

"We made a mistake and now we have to pay for it." East Fremantle president Hans Beyer on the \$6000 fine handed out by WAFL arbitrator Rod Brown on the Sharks for failing to comply with regulations over interviews with former Subiaco player Tim Gepp.

"We believe he has a lot to offer young players on the track and in a match." Perth general manager Mick Moylan on a decision to appoint former South Fremantle and WA skipper Noel Carter as playing coach of the reserves side.

"Let's be blunt about it; football was dying." Eagles chief John Walker.

"We have opened the way for the Victorians to take our best players and keep most of their money." Swan Districts chief Bill Walker criticising the draft agreement that Indian Pacific Ltd have reached with the VFL.

"Subiaco were at Subiaco Oval in 1901, well before the venue became league headquarters." Subiaco president Michael Carlile on the dispute over whether the Eagles can use Subiaco as a home base.

"Indian Pacific Ltd could be a trail blazer in Australian sport and entertainment and is in a very strong position to take advantage of the Eagles." Sports studies lecturer Dr Brian Stoddard praising the Eagles concept.

"We believe that in the best interests of football and with the public following for the Eagles, we should telecast as many live games as possible." Channel Seven general manager Kevin Campbell on moves to telecast VFL games to Perth each Saturday.

"The WAFL is not only disappointed at the decision, but also in the way which TVW has made its position public." WAFL chief executive Peter Cummisky.

"The way the matter is dragging on is a major concern." Perth general manager Mick Moylan on whether the Demons would be playing home games at Lathlain Park or the WACA Ground.

"In one way it helps prepare the players for what will be a topsy-turvy year of travel and a variety of different training grounds." Eagles coach Ron Alexander on the team's lack of a home base.

"If that trend continues people are going to have to get in quickly to take advantage of the investment package." Eagles chief John Walker on the response to the Indian Pacific public float.

"We had to bring our ticket prices into line with what are being charged in other stands at Subiaco." WAFL Members' Club president Colin Delmenico on the price hike for members' seating.



Gary Buckenara

## March

"The most important part of the trip is to win the game." Eagles coach Ron Alexander on their four-day trip to Melbourne for their National Panasonic night series debut.

"Last year we played without character and achieved nothing. There's a different feeling and a lot more enthusiasm this year." Swan Districts coach John Todd.

"It appears that there is a campaign against us in Melbourne. There are just too many coincidences." John Walker on high clearance fees being imposed on players returning to the Eagles.

"Miles was a registered WAFL player when he signed for the Eagles and we didn't expect to have to pay for him." Eagles general manager Graham Moss on the \$38,000 clearance fee for Geoff Miles.

"He has withdrawn his bid to join West Perth and will stay with Perth for the next two years." Perth general manager Mick Moylan on John Gavranich's decision to remain a Demon.

"Unless I can play football at the highest level, I won't play at all." Gary Buckenara on his court conflict with Hawthorn.

"It's a very exciting time for me — it's 10 years since I pulled on a Royals jumper." Eagles skipper Ross Glendinning about to line up with East Perth in the pre-season series.

"Brown had remonstrated with an umpire and kicked Derek in the shins." Claremont general manager Allan Moore on plans to lay a complaint over Perth coach Mal Brown kicking Tigers forward Derek Kickett.

"The venue is superb, but they have to soften up the centre wicket area." Perth captain Mick Rea on the WACA Ground surface.

"It is clear that the public wants to watch football under lights at this time of the year." WACA chief Tom Ivankovich on the response to football under lights at the WACA Ground.

"After mature consideration of Mal Brown's attitude to the affair, we have decided not to proceed. The matter is finished." Claremont president Stephen Scott on the Derek Kickett kicking incident.

"I can assure our supporters that we will be playing with a lot more aggression than in recent seasons." West Perth veteran skipper Les Fong.

"We haven't given up hopes of getting both players and have left all our options open." Eagles chief John Walker on Supreme Court rulings that Gary Buckenara and Paul Harding were tied to Hawthorn.

"For the past three years we have remained totally loyal to Paul Harding. We expected him to play with Hawthorn and we now hope that he accepts the decision and joins us." Hawthorn chief executive John Lauritz on the Supreme Court ruling that Paul Harding was tied to the Hawks.

"There is no doubt that the Eagles and Burswood Casino will make a terrific team; they will be a winning combination." Casino chief Dallas Dempster on the signing of a \$1.5 million sponsorship deal.

"I'm sure they are going to be hard to crack — in Perth or Melbourne." Essendon coach Kevin Sheedy after his Bombers had been blasted by the West Coast Eagles.

"Nothing surprises me anymore." Subiaco president Michael Carlile after the WAFL gave permission for the Eagles to play Lions defender Mark Zanotti without a clearance.

"After the two court cases I think a poaching protest against the Eagles is a fait accompli." Hawthorn football manager Alan Joyce on the Gary Buckenara-Paul Harding cases.

"The introduction of 21-man teams would be a big help this year with Eagles players eligible to come back to their clubs at different times." Perth coach Mal Brown.

"We have discounted our other players; we're standing firm on Zanotti." Subiaco president Michael Carlile demanding \$60,000 in transfer fees from the Eagles for Mark Zanotti.

"This is a completely unrealistic figure." Subiaco president Michael Carlile on the \$27,500 transfer fee for Mark Zanotti as ruled by WAFL arbitrator Rod Brown.

"I believe the decision is a fair result, I'll pay it tomorrow." Perth coach Mal Brown after being fined \$1000 on charges of abusing and interfering with umpire Ken O'Driscoll.

"There was no way the boys were going to buckle under." Eagles coach Ron Alexander after the side had come from 28 points behind at half-time to down Fitzroy by 23 points in a VFL night game.



Alan Joyce



MEET THE EAGLES

# Glendinning heads all-star cast



Phil Narkle

IF the West Coast Eagles were a movie, the producer would be Cecil B. de Mille.

The Eagles have all the stars, a wealth of talent and have cost millions of dollars to bring together during the past 12 months.

This weekend Perth will be the centre-stage of Australian football as this team makes its official debut in the football competition that is now drawing the world-wide attention that it so justly deserves.

At 12.15pm at Subiaco Oval on Sunday March 29, the Eagles line up against the mighty Richmond in what will be the Perth team's biggest test so far.

The 1987 Victorian Football League season will start in earnest and Richmond will be wanting to grind the Perth newcomers into the ground.

But with the wealth of talent the Eagles boast, starting with captain Ross (Rosco) Glendinning, that is hardly likely.

Glendinning is one of football's most talented big men; with the strength, experience and charisma to lead the fledgling Perth team into the fray he knows all too well.

After making his debut for East Perth in 1974, Glendinning moved to North Melbourne just four years later

and became a household name, winning the Brownlow Medal in 1983.

Glendinning's experience — 190 games including 12 finals appearances — will be invaluable. He has also represented WA 11 times and Victoria twice in interstate matches.

Looking at the rest of the squad in alphabetical order presents an interesting roundup of people.

**Adrian Barich** is a robust player who was recruited to the WAFL in 1984 by Perth from Manuka, in the ACT. Barich (23) has been a versatile contributor to the Perth side, either in defence or attack and was one of the big reasons for the Demons resurgence last year.

**Glen (Barts) Bartlett** is a gentle, quietly-spoken giant who put in some outstanding games for East Perth last season.

Born in Collic, the accountancy/law student is 22-years-old and has overcome a serious kidney injury that he sustained in the '85 season.

Bartlett made his debut in 1983 and was never recognised as a front-line ruckman, but last year his strong marking and good use of body tactics in ruck duels brought him to the fore.

**Darren (Benno) Bennett** is a nurseryman who has been nursing injuries of his own for much of his league football career.

Bennett's first four seasons with East Fremantle were stop-start affairs, but everything fell into place last year,

by **George Temple**

kicking 51 goals for the Sharks, including a record 10 in the semi-final against Subiaco.

Born in Sydney, the 21-year-old Bennett played junior football with South Melbourne before his family moved West in 1978.

**Michael (Monkey) Brennan** played Teal Cup for WA in 1982 and burst onto the league football scene straight from East Fremantle colts the next season.

The 21-year-old Brennan is a classical half-back; tall and strong with a dashing approach to his football.

**Peter (Davo) Davidson** was voted WA's best winger in 1986 and is a creative hardworking midfielder with good skills.

In 1980 Davidson came from Collic to be a Teal Cup All Australian and was voted WA's fairest and best player at the carnival with his performances at centre-half back.

The 22-year-old sales representative made his State debut against Victoria last year after withdrawing from the team to play South Australia on the eve of the match with injury.

**John (Gasto) Gastev** is a tall rover who loves the hard work. Possessing a touch of pace, he has gradually developed into a league regular rather than bursting onto the scene overnight.

A graphic artist, Gastev has had 48 appearances for West Perth and at 22 years of age still has a lot of football ahead of him.



Andrew MacNish

**Don (Horse) Holmes** was one engineer behind the Swan Districts premierships of 1982-83-84. As a rover he has kicked 285 goals for the black and whites in just 133 games. Conspicuous by his protective helmet, the 28-year-old school teacher also has the ability to take high marks as well as scavenge around the pack.

In 1984 he kicked 61 goals for Swans which earned the man born in Bridgetown his only State team cap.

**Alex (Russian) Ishchenko** is one of the game's emerging big men with superb physical attributes and a great capacity to learn the art of ruck play.

A 1981 Teal Cup All Australian, Ishchenko is almost two metres tall and weighs a monstrous 100 kilograms which he uses to great effect. Since making his debut for East Perth in 1982 both injury and application have kept this big man from playing more than his 46 league games.

**Laurie Keene** is a 202 centimetre tall ruckman or full forward who has agility that belies his exceptional size.

Until 1986 the surveyor had a checkered career with Subiaco, but was in the limelight last year when he assumed the role as the club's No. 1 ruckman.

He then scooped all the media awards and was odds-on favourite for

the Sandover medal, but finished fourth.

Keene also made two appearances for WA in the interstate clashes with South Australia and Victoria, with clubs from the latter making him big offers to sign on their dotted line.

**Sean (Kingie) King** came into Eagles calculations fairly late — after a barnstorming finish to the 1986 season.

The lightly-framed wingman or half-forward didn't even feature in West Perth's pre-season list at the start of last year, but he got his chance in the opening game and held his position till the end of the first round when an injury sidelined him.

He fought his way back into the Falcons line-up and his exuberance on a wing earned him a berth in the toughest training squad in town over summer.

**Dean (Tunnel) Laidley** has made a big impact on the WAFL football scene after his debut for West Perth as a 17-year-old in 1984.

In 1985 he was West Perth's fairest and best runner-up and last season finished third in the same medal count.

Laidley, a bank officer, started his league career as a wingman but has developed into a rangy half-back flanker with great stamina and courage.

In 1986 his talents were also recognised by the State selectors and he played in both the South Australian and Victorian games.

**Dwayne (Lamby) Lamb** began his football career in the back pocket, but has developed into a strong hard-working mobile player who specialises in "mopping up" backwards of the centre as a loose man ruck-rover.

Lamb, a sales representative, made his league football debut in 1980 and since 1982 has consistently won football honours, including Subiaco's fairest and best award in '82, '84 and '85.

A player who has excellent hand-ball skills, he seldom wastes the football and his strength and speed make him a difficult footballer to counter.

**Don (Langers) Langford** has earned a new lease of life as a member of the Eagles squad.

A pharmacist and hard-working captain of Swan Districts, Langford has seen the good and bad times at Bassen-dean, being member of their premiership teams after taking his debut in the "dark" years of 1977.

A 28-year-old, he provides quiet inspiration for his team-mates and was always a willing worker in his three State games. He has tackled the pre-season program with renewed zest.

**Chris (Lewy) Lewis** is the baby of the West Coast Eagles squad. A 1984 Teal Cup player, he has just had his 18th birthday and you can count his games in league football on one hand.

Lewis was recruited to Claremont from Christ Church Grammar School and acquitted himself well in his three league games on the half-forward flank and in the centre.

**Andrew (Locks) Lockyer** is the 190 centimetre, 95 kilogram big man who kicked 71 goals for East Fremantle in thier 1985 premiership season, only to be transferred to the full-back position the following season.

A former Teal Cup All Australian Lockyer has been struggling with injury in pre-season and he has just recommenced training.

A player with unlimited potential, the 21-year-old nurseryman should equip himself well when given a chance to don an Eagles jumper.

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Ross  
Glendinning

Andrew (Macca) MacNish has emerged as a very mature player with great creative skills and the capacity to take high marks — all since making his league debut with Subiaco in 1985.

That season MacNish was chosen as the Subiaco best first year player and he cast aside any suggestions of second year blues in 1986 by making two appearances for WA and being chosen in the All Australian side. He was subsequently named as the Media Guild's Footballer-of-the-Future.

The 21-year-old engineering student can play on the wing or across the half-forward line with great effect and it was his high mark and goal in the game against Victoria that earned WA a three-point victory — and the mantle of Australian champions.

Chris (Mainy) Mainwaring is another player who made light of the second year blues syndrome with an excellent season of roving for East Fremantle in 1986.

Mainwaring, a recruit from the Geraldton Rovers, played his first season of league football on the wing, but adapted quickly last year to the rover's role.

Steve (Stavros) Malaxos needs no introduction to football devotees. In the past four seasons the 25-year-old physical education teacher has collected himself almost a complete volume of sports credits.

Twice Media Guild Footballer-of-the-year, twice Claremont fairest and best, joint 1984 Sandover Medallist, WA and All Australian captain and Lindy Sportsman-of-the-year (WA division), Malaxos is having his second crack at the VFL after being deprived of opportunities with Hawthorn in 1985.

After making his debut on the half-forward line with Claremont in 1979, the 1986 Claremont captain was earlier used as a specialist goalkicker from the forward pocket position and since 1983 as a centreman.

Wally (Ant) Matera has been a key player in the South Fremantle revival of the past two seasons. A diminutive 64 kilograms and 170 centimetres, Matera ranks as one of the smallest players in the game and was often overlooked for the key roles.

But after winning the Port team's fairest and best award two seasons ago, he gained the recognition he deserved which boosted his confidence and has seen him realise his junior potential.

A plant operator by trade, Matera was recruited to South Fremantle from Wagin Federals and last year followed up his great 1985 year by being runner-up in the club fairest and best to Sandover Medallist Mark Bairstow.

Paul (Miff) Mifka made his league football debut for West Perth in 1984 and can be used with equal effectiveness in either defence or attack.

After two seasons in the half-forward line and being named 1984 best first-year-player at Leederville and Media Guild Footballer-of-the-Future, this tall rangy Victorian was switched to centre-half-back in 1986 with unqualified success.

A police officer, Mifka was recruited from Balcatta and has made 59 league appearances for the Falcons.

Geoff (Joffa) Miles is having his second start in the VFL after playing one season with Collingwood in 1981.

He is a high leaping defender who plays tight, defensive football and can adequately fill a number of different roles in defence.

Miles works as a sales manager and was enticed to Perth in 1982 by Claremont. He went on to play for WA under State-of-Origin rules in 1986, acquitting himself well and used his spoiling tactics to great effect.

Phil (Magic) Narkle was the 1982 Sandover Medallist and was recruited to the Eagles from St Kilda, who he joined from Swan Districts in 1984.

Narkle's nickname "Magic" is testimony to his artistry on the wing where he uses his 65 kilograms frame to great advantage, eluding players just when they think they have him under control.

Born in Bunbury, he joined Swan Districts in 1978 and was part of their 1982-83 premierships winning teams. He wears a protective helmet after suffering bouts of concussion in his earlier career.

Glen (Locko) O'Loughlin has emerged as a late contender for a spot in the Eagles team even though he has been in the squad since last October.

The 28-year-old Kalgoorlie electrician missed almost all of the tough Eagles summer of preparation as he was back on the Goldfields working — with employment in Perth being a problem at the time.

A hard-working and often unnoticed ruck-rover, O'Loughlin had two tries at earning league recognition with Subiaco, succeeding in his second attempt to become an integral part of coach Haydn Bunton's premierships plans.

Michael (Oke) O'Connell has the same confidence, versatility and dash that made his father John a ruck star with both Claremont and Geelong.

A tall, mobile player he overcame adversity twice in his early years, suffering a broken leg in his debut season of 1982 and then a fractured cheekbone the next year.

And if problems like that can't keep him down, the speedy half-back flanker should adapt well to life in the expanded VFL competition.

Recruited to Claremont from Trinity College, O'Connell is an art student who has 84 league games and six finals games to his credit.

Paul Peos is a Bachelor of Economics student who was under great pressure to join Carlton this season, after being the only 1986 rookie to play all 21 WAFL qualifying games last year.

Although he was used on the ball occasionally at East Perth, Peos looms as a key position player, particularly at centre-half-back where his strength and mobility make him ideal for such a role.

Peos was a 1985 Teal Cup All Australian and the Football Budget's best first year player in 1986.

Phil (Scotty) Scott gave football away when he was 14-years-old, but was enticed back three years later playing in Hopetoun, on WA's south coast.

He later moved onto Scarborough Amateurs before Subiaco gave him his league debut in 1982.

In the past five years he has shrugged off numerous shoulder injuries and developed into one of the game's unheralded big ruckmen.

Scott is a huge 193 centimetres tall, weighs 91 kilograms and works for the Agriculture Department as a research officer.

Dean (Deano) Turner is having his fourth season of VFL football in 1987, joining the Eagles from Fitzroy.

A bank clerk, Turner is a dashing winger whose clever use of the ball and change of pace made him a damaging runner in Victoria.

Twenty-seven-years-old, his 110 games with East Perth and 51 with Fitzroy gave him the experience that the younger players in the Eagles squad will benefit from.

Dean Warwick is 23-years-old with more than five seasons of WAFL football experience. Predominantly wing or half-back he is a highly polished footballer with the capacity to play in a variety of positions.

Warwick was born in Midland and joined West Perth from Merredin, making his debut against Claremont in

1981 and going close to State selection in 1984.

Robert Wiley returns to the VFL with the Eagles after coming back to Perth four years ago from Richmond where he figured in their 1980 premierships side and was runner-up in the fairest and best.

A physical education teacher, he is one of the most genuine players in the game and a rover who leads by his own example.

Regarded as one of the best players never to win the Sandover Medal, Wiley has won the Perth fairest and best in all eight seasons he was at the club, including 1985 and 1986 when he was captain.

John (Washy) Worsfold was the 1986 Daily News Rookie of the Year, making his league debut after winning the South Fremantle colts fairest and best award in 1985.

Also a member of the victorious 1985 WA Teal Cup team, Worsfold is a versatile player who was used by South's last year as a ruck-rover.

He played 19 games in 1986 and is studying pharmacy.

Murray (Mussa) Wrensted, East Fremantle's 1985 Sandover Medallist (winning it on his 21st birthday) is a talented centreman who was affected by injury last year.



Mark  
Zanotti

MEET THE EAGLES



Yet another product of Geraldton's Great Northern League, Wrensted works as a plumber and is living proof that flying does not make your game sluggish (as some critics have claimed).

In his debut year, Wrensted flew back and forwards from Geraldton to Perth at weekends and still won the club's fairest and best award.

Mark (Zaver) Zanotti is a real dasher from defence and his performance in the 1986 grand final for Subiaco won him the coveted Simpson Medal as the game's best player.

He began his league career on the half-back line and the tall 22-year-old has an electric turn of pace that has seen him run the ball from defence and on occasions go all the way to kick a goal.

Ron Alexander, one of the most respected names in Australian football, has been given the responsibility of moulding the "manufactured" Eagles team into a competitive unit.

He played more than 300 games of league football in both WA and Victoria during his illustrious career that won him many honours including a Brownlow Medal. Since turning his hand to coaching in 1982 Alexander has won a WAFL premiership with East Fremantle (1985) and the Australian championship with WA (1986).

Alexander was a physical education teacher before taking up his full-time Eagles and commands great respect from all his players.

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## YOUR CLUB IN '87 The Falcons are fit — and fresh

WEST Perth pose a much bigger threat to their rivals in the football community this year — and that is something pleasing as far as the players themselves are concerned.

In the last two years the somewhat unorthodox approach of former coach John Wynne produced a healthy team spirit at the club — but some question marks about their fitness.

This summer the Falcons, under new coach Bruce Monteath, have worked hard and methodically — and have enjoyed the change.

The balls have been out since January with a lot of weights work and running making up the earlier get-fit component of their preparation.

A look at the talent available at West Perth provides two schools of thought — now the team will perform without their West Coast Eagles players and how much better will they be when those players are available to rejoin the Falcons.

It is obvious that West Perth members of the Eagles squad in Sean King and Dean Warwick will be struggling to hold down permanent places with the Eagles simply because of the depth of



Paddy Madaffari ... top goalkicker.

talent in their midfield, mid-size player role.

Rover John Gastev is in with a reasonable chance of grabbing a regular berth, depending on early-season form, while utility player Paul Mifka also faces many challenges from other Eagles men for his spot in the final line-up.

Defender Dean Laidley is probably the only Falcon guaranteed a regular Eagles berth — which means that West Perth can receive a fairly healthy injection of talent for most of their WAFL games.

That will be a boost for the many young players at Leederville who will find good players around them for most of the season.

Those new players have come from a variety of sources this year as the club has worked hard to retain all the young talent to emerge last year — and hopes to reap the benefit of the decision to keep the promising under-19 side together as a team for two seasons.

Players ready to emerge from that colts breeding ground this year include wingman Mark Fagan, ruckman David Graham, key position player Brad Dwilliam, defender Gary Holden, ruckman Ian Jansen, key forward Colin Maguire and rover Paul Sanzone.

Many of those players are probably

not ready for immediate guernseys in the senior arena, but they will be blooded over this season and should form the basis of a strong Falcons camp for several years to come.

Several new faces have also arrived from other WAFL clubs — a familiar one in Gavin Wake, the tough East Fremantle defender who will slot in beautifully on a half-back flank.

Monteath and his former Claremont colts team manager Greg Simpson have only enticed one Tiger across to Leederville — but he is the very promising Shayne O'Neill, who looms as a real chance at full-forward.



Stuart Holmes ... speedy flanker.

goalkicker, operating out of a forward pocket. He is not tall, but marks strongly and has a long, accurate kick — a feature of last year's Wesfarmers country championships when he steered through a goal after the siren to give South West a thrilling carnival win.

Clive Millar is a handy-sized centreman from Hyden-Karlgarin who also looks ready-made for senior ranks.

The interstate brigade has a promising half-forward recruit in Stuart Holmes coming from Ballarat, via Bunbury, where he played last season.



Brad Gwilliam ... up from colts.

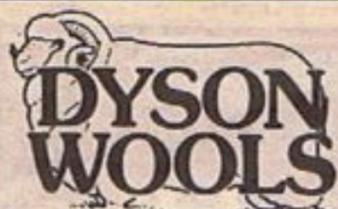
He was the joint leading goalscorer in last year's under-19 competition with 41 goals and he has done well in pre-season work.

The club's country recruits are not big in number — or even in size — but their talent has been well established.

Paddy Madaffari comes from Harvey-Brunswick where he established a reputation as a dangerous



Clive Millar ... country recruit.



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THERE'S ONE NEAR YOU

# East Perth in a familiar situation

YOUR CLUB IN '87



IT seems to be fairly a well-worn phrase that East Perth continues to produce talented young players — and 1987 will be no exception.

The Royals have lost 14 players from last year's list of league performers — and half of those represent sheer class.

Losing players of the calibre of Alex Ishchenko, Glen Bartlett, Paul Peos, Craig Starcevic, Richard Dennis, Michael Christian and Steve Da Rui is a shattering blow for the young East Perth brigade.

But the club has lost senior players in big lumps many times in the past and have always found new talent to replace them. Unfortunately, the Royals haven't been able to keep that talent together long enough to produce a premiership-winning combination.

Royals coach Gerard McNeill has had the team for pre-season training for the first time (taking over mid-season in 1986) and he believes that they can develop as the year progresses.

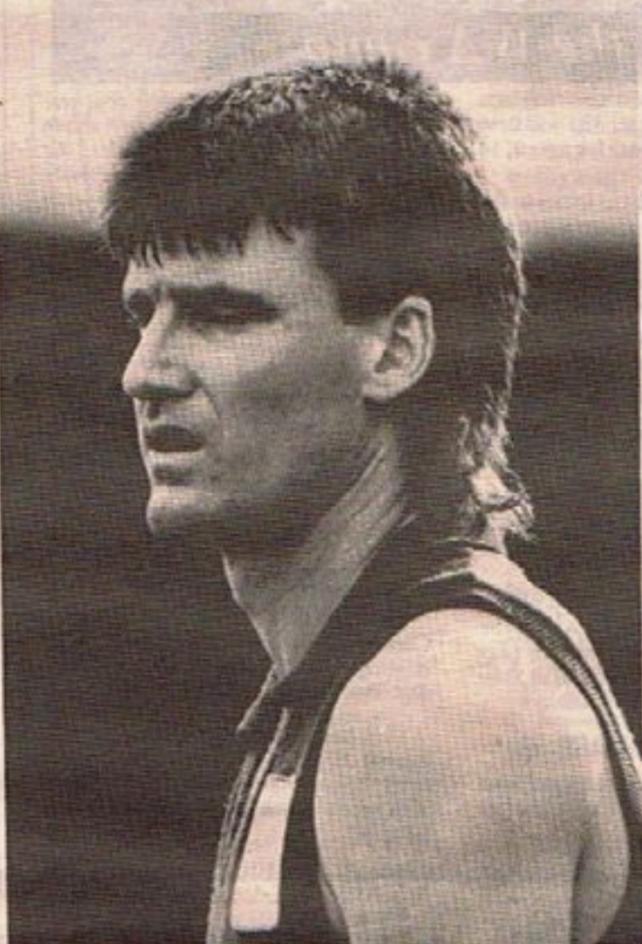
New faces mainly come from East Perth's prolific country area south of Bunbury and the ever-strong local junior council district.

Seventeen players in the 40-man East Perth senior squad have not played league football before and eight others have only a handful of games to their credit.

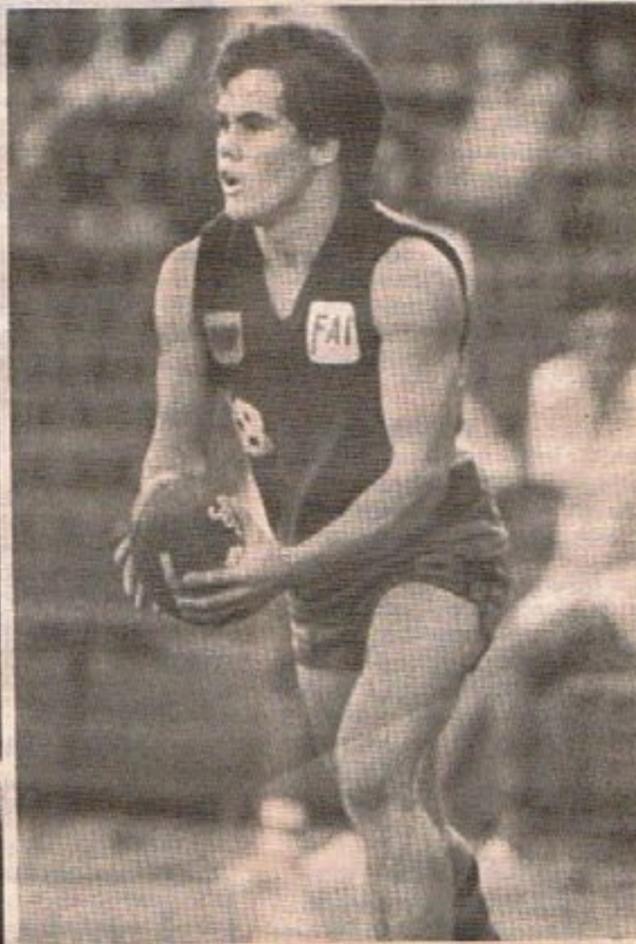
New players at Perth Oval worth keeping an eye on are lightly framed rover Andrew Embery — to top under-21 player in the lower South West League last year, Nathan Brooks — runner-up fairest and best in the East Perth colts in '86 (he can play in a variety of roles from half-back to ruck rover); rover or centremen Mark Cartier who showed he has the potential to be a top player in his 13 colts games last year; former Teal Cup players Michael Chalmers and Shane Evans; Paul Ionakis (the most improved player in the lower South-West League last season) and utility player Lloyd Haskett, who could earn a league spot after coming straight from Morley Police Boys.

In the big man department, East Perth have two faces — but both with a familiar look about them.

Wayne Duke, the No. 1 ruckman in their 1978 premiership team, is back after a few years wandering around in other football circles and despite his



Mal Bennett (left) and Butch Baroni.



31 years, he looms as a key contributor to this young side.

The Royals have recruited Mal Bennett from West Perth and he now seems ready to be a permanent member of a league side after just 13 games in six injury-interrupted years.

Michael Richardson comes from Ainslie, in the ACT, and while he looks a raw-boned ruckman, he has plenty of height. He stands at 193cm (6ft 3in) and is only 22 years old.

There is a lot of big-man talent available for other positions with players like Peter Cransberg, Justin Cook, Brad Kevill, Jeff Dennis and Shane Stempel pushing for league places.

The Royals have also enticed a number of Eastern States recruits to the West.

From South Australia (via Finley in the NSW country league) comes defen-

der Mark Bullock, who played 10 senior games with South Adelaide back in 1984.

Howard Cropley, a lightly framed wingman with ample skills, comes from Warrigal, in Victoria and from Canberra comes 18-year-old Ainslie half-back Cameron Scott.

Shane Dirou is a local product from Bassendean who played at half-forward with the Mt Lawley amateurs last year.

And, of course, the most familiar face of all belongs to the Royals dual Sandover Medallist, Peter Spencer, who returns to the club where he made his senior debut in 1974 after brief visits to Subiaco and Claremont.

The Royals have had up to 70 players on the track in their pre-season preparation, giving coach Gerard McNeill and assistant Peter Ivanoff plenty of sorting-out work to do.

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# JUNIOR PAGE

## GET THE TEAL CUP BACK!

WESTERN Australia is all out to regain the Teal Cup — the prestigious interstate under-age football trophy.

That's the message from newly-appointed coach, Greg Brehaut.

Following the loss of the Cup to Victoria last year, Brehaut has gathered a dedicated group of former league champions to help win back the trophy.

Put together the experience and knowledge of Stan Nowotny, John Duckworth, Chris Mitsopoulos and Brehaut and you have some of the top exponents of the game passing on their knowledge to our State's junior champions.

To ensure that WA field their best team, the league has taken a firm stand on the availability of players.

Players have until April 30 to declare themselves unavailable for selection. After that date, should a player withdraw from the squad he cannot take part in his normal club games during the Teal Cup championship.

This season's championship will be held in Hobart, Tasmania from July 8-12 to coincide with school holidays.

The Teal Cup will have a new sponsor this year — the Commonwealth Bank will be the strength behind the competition.

### INCENTIVES

THE West Australian Football League has formed a Football Development Trust to promote the development of junior football throughout the State.

The FDT is offering subsidies on \$2 for \$1 basis up to a maximum of \$20,000 for full-time Development Officers at each WAFL club. To take advantage of this offer, each junior council must conform to a criteria set down by the Trust.

West Perth and Swan Districts have already taken up the offer and have appointed Allan White and Peter Mahoney respectively as their full-time officers. East Perth have recently advertised their position.

### COUNTRY NEWS

ALL junior city and country associations are urged to be regular contributors to this page. Please send news and fixtures as soon as possible to Gary Knewstubb, 20 Devon Road, Bassendean 6054.

### SAME GAME — NEW NAME?

THE high school football competition, formerly known as the CIG Shield, is to have at least one change this year.

Negotiations are under way to procure a new sponsor and the shield may have a new name.

### NATIONAL SCHOOLBOYS

ONCE again the Commonwealth Bank will sponsor the national schoolboys championship, which is open to all schoolboys, year 10 and under.

This year Western Australia will be the host to the nation's top 15-year-old footballers from all States and the Northern Territory.

The championship will be held from September 4 to 13 and WA hope to go one better than last year when they finished second behind Victoria.

### OFF AND RUNNING

THE Subiaco-Wanneroo Junior Football League start their 1987 season on April 5 — one of the earliest groups going into action.

## That's the message from the WA camp

The SWJFL welcome a new club into their ranks — Edgewater, who will field three teams in Aussie footy for ages 9, 10 and 11.

The SWJFL will field 113 teams in the current season — nine teams upon last year.

### LITTLE LEAGUE

LITTLE League format will have a minor alteration this year.

To conform with the NFL "Aussie Rules" format, no scores will be listed as there will be no premiership ladder as such.

Alex Panton, the Little League co-ordinator, is hopeful that there will still be a knock-out competition to coincide with the league finals.

Mr Panto says that the main objective of the Little League is to give the young players the opportunity to play football in front of large crowds at Subiaco Oval, the home of football.

### FOOTY SEMINARS

AUSSIE Footy junior rules are now compulsory for all children up to the age of 12 years.

To ensure that junior club coaches, players and administrators are made aware of reasons for these rules, the WAFL, in conjunction with their Junior Councils, will be conducting seminars at the following venues:

CLUB: Swan Districts/Hills Association; VENUE: Swan Districts; DATE: 5th April; TIME: 10.30-noon; CONTACT: Wayne Jelley 279 1432.

CLUB: Perth; VENUE: Lathlain; DATE: 5th April; TIME: 10.30-noon; CONTACT: Mick Moylan 362 4499.

These seminars are open to all junior clubs and interested parties are urged to attend.

### STARTING TIMES

THE Perth Football Club's Junior Council has decided to introduce a later starting time (10.30am) for their Sunday fixtures.

This has been well received among the parents as it gives them the opportunity to combine church commitments with sport — and provide that Sunday sleep-in.

## Under-19s will produce plenty of new stars

SEASON 1986 promises to be a year where the development of under-19 players will take on even more importance due to the formation of the West Coast Eagles. At all clubs, young players will be vying for League places left vacant by the Eagles recruits, perhaps at times when they are not quite ready for senior football. With so many of last year's colts players progressing to league and reserves, this year's colts squads will be naturally very young.

East Perth, a club that has had great success with its juniors, have again developed another talented group of young players training with the senior squad. Key forwards Shane Stremple and Peter Cransberg, rover/centreman in David Lovell and utility player Shane Evans, in particular, look impressive.

Swan Districts introduced an "elite squad" last year for talented juniors between the ages 14 to 17.

Instead of having as many as 100 players at pre-season training, with only a few practise match opportunities to prove themselves, the club has invited about 60 players to training, narrowing the squad much quicker.

Dean Copobianco, Wayne Morey and Paul Gow are rated highly by league coach John Todd.

Subiaco's Wanneroo Junior Football Council, developing into one of the strongest areas for junior football, has players from younger clubs like Ocean Ridge, Whitfords and Kingsley training with the Lions.

Three members of last year's Lions under-19 side, ruckman Stephen Hooper, centreman Paul Cox and utility player Peter Torpy, look capable of forcing their way into the league side this year.

The Perth under-19 side continues its development programme by producing league players and this year three Teal Cup players are showing out. John Clarkson, Brad Fox and Grant Hatch all started last season in under-19, were promoted to reserves, where they played well and finished the year on the verge of league selection.

These players have been given an opportunity in seniors during the pre-season and have performed creditably.

Fox is a utility player with plenty of height and a good turn of speed; Hatch is a dependable defender and Clarkson a rangy left footer, who can play as ruck rover, in attack or in defence.

### FORWARD

Shayne O'Neill, a talented forward with the Claremont under-19s in 1985 and 1986, has followed new West Perth coach Bruce Monteath to Leederville for the 1987 season.

O'Neill was impressive enough to gain selection in the squad for the Kresta Blinds pre-season Cup competition, as has key position player Cole Maguire and defender Gary Holden.

The name Lamb is synonymous with WAFL football and Subiaco, in particular.

Now East Fremantle have produced Colin and Stephen Lamb who, unlike their Subiaco namesakes, are brothers. Both players had excellent seasons in under-19 football last year and look good prospects for the future.

Chris Waterman, a neatly-skilled left footer has been in outstanding form pre-season and looks ready made for league football.

Waterman is yet another product of the 1985 Teal Cup squad. Two other players from that squad, rover Scott

## What's on at your club



EAST FREMANTLE: This Sunday (March 29) the presentation of guernseys to the league squad. From 4pm to 9pm. BBQ packs available. Music and enjoyment.

BINGO: Monday nights at the club in the club's social hall. Eyes down 8pm.



SWAN DISTRICTS: Jumper presentation evening and cabaret for all grades on Saturday, March 28, starting at 7pm. The Locker Room Restaurant will be open for meals.



EAST PERTH: Jumper presentation on Thursday, March 26, in the Members' Bar at 7.30pm. This will be followed by the players' dinner at 8.15pm in the Royals Restaurant.

On Sunday, March 29, starting at 6.30pm, there will be a trophy presentation in the Members' Bar.

## COLTS CORNER



Shayne O'Neill ... switching clubs.

Annandale and forward Michael Broadbridge, will almost certainly get their chance this year.

The most dominant colts side through the 1980s has been South Fremantle, winning premierships from 1982 through to 1985.

With the amount of talent South have had in their under-19 sides over the years, it's not surprising that so many of their players have progressed to league ranks.

The 1985 Teal Cup side contained 10 South Fremantle youngsters and if they can hold on to these players, the club will be a force for years to come.

Claremont have been the Bulldogs main rivals during the last few years and they too have had a steady stream of young players go on to play league football. Dual under-19 fairest and best winner, Brian Sutherland, defender Peter James and Forward Paul Hazel have all been impressive in practice matches.

# Back for a ninth season

The West Australian Amateur Football League is once again associated with Westside Football. This week begins the ninth year of the amateurs' page.

Westside Football continues to be the only real media outlet for the WAAFL.

As in past seasons, we hope that the football public gain a better understanding and appreciation of the biggest single football body in WA, in terms of both the number of players taking part and teams and clubs affiliated.

This year new clubs in Rockingham, Sawyers Valley, Navy and Mundaring have been admitted. These teams, along with existing clubs, compete every Saturday afternoon in 12 senior grades and four colts (under 20) grades.

In our 65th year we look forward to emulating our successful previous season and invite you to follow our progress through the regular page in Westside Football.

#### WAAFL ADMINISTRATORS

President: Trevor Howard  
 Senior vice-president: Eric Freeman  
 Junior vice-president: Don Baker  
 Secretary: Bruce Wainwright  
 Treasurer: George Livingstone  
 Registrar: Tom Naylor  
 Executive officer: Neil Judge, JP  
 Office manager: Mrs Avis Thirley  
 Management committee members, John Ashley, JP, Kim Ardagh, Neil Browne, John Davies, Dave Eggleston, Doug Frame, Ken Finch, Colin Jamieson, Greg Maskiel, Milton Sanders.

#### LEAGUE CONTACT

ALL inquiries and comments regarding joining or contacting any of the clubs in the WAAFL can be made to amateur headquarters on 382 1293 Monday to Friday, 10am till 4pm.



Amateurs president Trevor Howard.

#### APRIL 4 START

THE WAAFL season starts on Saturday, April 4.

With a break over the Easter weekend, the home and away games finish on August 15.

The final five system is used and all grand finals are scheduled for September 12.

#### FULL COVER

THE full page Westside Football amateur news round-up will start in earnest from April 2.

#### 1986 PREMIERS

- A-grade: Mt Lawley
- B-grade: North Fremantle
- C-grade: Whitford
- D-grade: Nollamara No. 2
- E-grade: Cockburn Lakes
- F-grade: University No. 3
- G-grade: Innaloo No. 2
- H-grade: Dianella No. 2
- I-grade: East Fremantle
- J-grade: North Fremantle No. 3
- K-grade: Innaloo No. 3
- L-grade: Riverton
- A colts: University
- B colts: West Coast
- C colts: Morley
- D colts: Redcliffe

# Bairstow takes on country coach job

NOEL Bairstow, a former South Fremantle reserves player and brother to Sandover Medallist Mark, is one of seven new coaches appointed in the Upper Great Southern Football League this season.

Bairstow will coach Lake Grace, who finished on the bottom rung of the premiership ladder in 1986, failing to win a game.

Other new coaches are: Peter Tyson, Railways; Greg Doyle, Wickepin; Bruce Gillam, Wagin; Michael Page, Pingelly; Murray Ford, Williams; and Ross Wharton, Boddington.

Reappointed were John McGuire (Towns) and Wayne Coles (West Arthur).

With the exception of Tyson and Ford, all the coaches will take their place in the league sides.

McGuire is a former Perth and East Perth league player, while Page played for Perth and South Fremantle.

Doyle, who joins Wickepin from Corrigin, played for the Wesfarmers Country All Stars last season.

And it is Wickepin, together with Railways, who are expected to be the big improvers this year.

Wickepin — winners of three games last season — recruited heavily over summer and should be final-five contenders.

Railways narrowly missed out on the finals in 1986, but are expected to do better this year.

The 1986 premiers, Towns, shape as the favourites in '87, along with the consistent Williams club.

Williams have reached six grand finals in the past eight years, but have only converted two of these into pennants.

They were favourites last year, losing to Towns by 22 points.

The first round is on April 4.

#### FINAL FIVE IS DROPPED

CLUBS in the Eastern Districts Football competition will find it harder to make the finals this year.

The finals have been reduced from the top five teams to the top four because Southern Cross has withdrawn.

This leaves only nine teams to contest the preliminary rounds.

Southern Cross has struggled in the Eastern Districts league and has transferred to the Central Wheatbelt competition.

Eastern Districts coaches for 1987 are: Nukarmi, Kevin Cameron; Hyden/Kalgarin, Neil Fotheringham; Merredin, Gavin Biffin; Burracoppin, Ken Duffy; Bruce Rock, Robert Hayper; Corrigin, Ken Marshall; Naremben, Allan Smoker (ex-Kondonin); Kondonin, Garry Fulwood (ex-Corrigin player); Kulin, Paul Cook (Wesfarmer All Stars).

# Ravensthorpe pull out of carnival

THE Ravensthorpe and District Football Association has withdrawn indefinitely from the annual Great Southern Football Carnival.

However, it has remained affiliated with the Great Southern Council.

Ravensthorpe, one of the smaller associations affiliated to the council, has withdrawn because there is no suitable grade for them to compete in.

Spokesman Rod Daw said this week that Ravensthorpe is a great supporter of the carnival and loves the competition. But they don't consider playing against the bigger associations as being beneficial.

"They are far too good for us and it's always a walk-over," Daw said.

"We have requested the Great Southern Council to provide a level of competition in the carnival more conducive to our own. That way we can take part on equal terms," he said.

However, Ravensthorpe will not be totally unrepresented at this year's carnival.

Ravensthorpe and Ongerup are sending a combined colts team.

# Reserves are the stepping stone

AT first glance the WAFL reserves competition may seem to be a second-rate affair with only the players who are not up to league standard in action.

But a diehard supporter will observe many a young player striving to make the transition from under/19s to reserves.

Then there are the experienced players returning after injury or trying to find some lost form.

Sometimes a man of immense character, not always foremost in the minds of the league selection committee, can be found guiding the inexperienced through the tougher moments of a game.

Youngsters, though, are the main priority of reserves football and all clubs will place a heavy emphasis on having young players in their sides.

In fact, a combined tally of 96 players were promoted from colts to reserves in 1986.

Undoubtedly, many of those players will develop into fine league footballers this season.

Some of the players will become as bigger household names as the many we have lost to the Eagles and the VFL.

The 1987 season should also be the year where players who have dominated the WAFL reserves competition over the past few years can establish themselves as regular league players.

These include players like Mick Lee and Wayne Dawson (Subiaco); Craig Binder and Steve Sadowski (West Perth); Stephen Edgar, Robert Weber, Wayne Nannup and Steve Mathews (East Fremantle); Warren Nicholas and Willy Dick (Perth); Howard Cropley, Gavin Howlett and Andrew Maughan (East Perth); Mark Brayshaw and Andrew Host (Claremont); and Brad McDougall (South Fremantle).

All these players have plenty of ability and, with increased opportunities this season, they could become good league footballers.

Here are some of the interesting details from last year's reserves competition.

Club Fairest and Bests  
 Andrew Maughan (East Perth), Da-

vid Crute (Claremont), Robbie Hooker (Perth), Mick Stockley (West Perth), Steve Matthews (East Fremantle), Mick Lee (Subiaco), Bob De Graff (Swan Districts), Geoff Sims (South Fremantle).

#### PRENDERGAST MEDAL

Mick Lee (S) 39 votes, Steve Matthews (EF) 33, Bevan Warner (S) 24, Greg Walker (SD) 21, Merv Dellar (SF) 20, Ian Rakich (S) 19, Shane Cocker (EP) 19, Mark Blakely (EP) 18, Neil Lester-Smith (EF) 18, Derek Colard (SF) 18.

#### LEADING GOALKICKERS

Micheal Broadbridge (EF) 43, Gary Bock (EP) 40, Darren Bennett (EF) 40, Brad McDougall (SF) 36, Warren Taylor (WP) 36.

#### PREMIERS: South Fremantle.

#### RUNNERS-UP: East Perth.

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## WEST AUSTRALIAN

Home teams mentioned first.  
(\*) denotes match at Subiaco Oval.

### MARCH

Mar 29	Sun	12.15	Eagles v Richmond	Subiaco
		3.00	West Perth v East Perth	Subiaco

### APRIL

April 4	Sat	2.20	Swan Dist v West Perth	Bassendean
			Claremont v Perth	Claremont
5	Sun	2.20	Subiaco v East Frem	Subiaco
			Sth Frem v East Perth	Mandurah
10	Fri	6.30	West Perth v Claremont	WACA
11	Sat	2.20	East Perth v Subiaco	Perth
			East Frem v Swan Dist	East
12	Sun	12.15	Eagles v Syd Swans	Subiaco
		3.00	Perth v South Frem	Subiaco
18	Sat	2.20	Sth Frem v West Perth	WACA
			Perth v East Perth	WACA
19	Sun	2.20	Claremont v East Frem	Mt. B
20	Mon	2.20	Swan Dist v Subiaco	Bassendean
24	Fri	6.30	Subiaco v Claremont	WACA
25	Sat	2.20	East Perth v Swan Dist	Perth
26	Sun	2.20	West Perth v Perth	Leed
27	Mon	2.20	Sth Frem v East Frem	Frem

### MAY

May 1	Fri	6.30	Perth v East Frem	WACA
2	Sat	2.20	Sth Frem v Subiaco	Frem
3	Sun	12.15	Eagles v North Melb	Subiaco
		3.00	Claremont v Swan Dist	Subiaco
8	Fri	5.30	Eagles v Brisbane	WACA
9	Sat	2.20	Claremont v East Perth	Claremont
			East Frem v West Perth	East
			Subiaco v Perth	Subiaco
			Swan Dist v South Frem	Bassendean

16	Sat	2.20	East Frem v Subiaco	East Perth
		7.30	Perth v Claremont	WACA
17	Sun	2.20	West Perth v Swan Dist	Collie
23	Sat	2.20	Sth Frem v Claremont	Frem
			Swan Dist v Perth	Bassendean
			West Perth v Subiaco	Leed
24	Sun	12.15	Eagles v Melbourne	Subiaco
		3.00	East Perth v East Frem	Subiaco
29	Fri	6.30	Perth v West Perth	WACA
30	Sat	2.20	Claremont v Subiaco	Claremont
			East Frem v East Perth	East

### JUNE

June 1	Mon	12.15	Eagles v Collingwood	Subiaco
		3.00	East Dist v East Perth	Subiaco
5	Fri	6.30	East Frem v Claremont	WACA
6	Sat	2.20	Subiaco v Swan Dist	Subiaco
			West Perth v South Frem	Leed
7	Sun	2.20	East Perth v Perth	Perth
12	Fri	6.30	Subiaco v East Perth	WACA
13	Sat	2.20	Swan Dist v East Frem	Subiaco
			Claremont v West Perth	Claremont
14	Sun	2.20	Sth Frem v Perth	Frem
16	Tue	7.00	West Aust v South Aust	WACA
19	Fri	5.30	Eagles v Fitzroy	WACA
20	Sat	2.20	East Frem v Perth	East
			East Perth v West Perth	Perth
			Subiaco v Sth Frem	Subiaco
			Swan Dist v Claremont	Bassendean
26	Fri	6.30	Perth v Subiaco	WACA
27	Sat	2.20	East Perth v Claremont	Subiaco
			West Perth v East Frem	Frem
28	Sun	2.20	Sth Frem v Swan Dist	Frem

### JULY

July 3	Fri	5.30	Eagles v Essendon	WACA
4	Sat	2.20	Claremont v Sth Frem	Claremont
			East Frem v East Perth	East
			Perth v Swan Dist	WACA
			Subiaco v West Perth	Subiaco
10	Fri	5.30	Eagles v Carlton	WACA

11	Sat	2.20	Claremont v Perth	Claremont
			Sth Frem v East Perth	Frem
			Subiaco v East Frem	Subiaco
			Swan Dist v West Perth	Bass
17	Fri	6.30	East Frem v Swan Dist	WACA
18	Sat	2.20	Perth v Sth Frem	Subiaco
			East Perth v Subiaco	Perth
			West Perth v Claremont	Leed
22	Wed	1.45	West Aust v Victoria	Subiaco
24	Fri	6.30	Perth v East Perth	WACA
25	Sat	2.20	Claremont v East Frem	Claremont
			Sth Frem v West Perth	Subiaco
			Swan Dist v Subiaco	Bass

### AUGUST

Aug 1	Sat	2.20	East Frem v Sth Frem	East Perth
			East Perth v Swan Dist	Perth
			West Perth v Perth	Leed
			Subiaco v Claremont	Subiaco
2	Sun	12.15	Eagles v Hawthorn	Subiaco
7	Fri	5.30	Eagles v North Melb	WACA
8	Sat	2.20	Claremont v Swan Dist	Claremont
			Perth v East Frem	Subiaco
			Sth Frem v Subiaco	Frem
			West Perth v East Perth	Leed
14	Fri	6.30	Claremont v East Perth	WACA
15	Sat	2.20	East Frem v West Perth	East Perth
			Subiaco v Perth	Subiaco
			Swan Dist v Sth Frem	Bass
21	Fri	6.30	Sth Frem v Claremont	WACA
22	Sat	2.20	East Perth v East Frem	Perth
			West Perth v Subiaco	Leed
			Perth v Swan Dist	WACA
29	Sat	2.20	FIRST SEMI-FINAL	Subiaco
30	Sun	12.15	Eagles v St Kilda	Subiaco

### SEPTEMBER

Sept 5	Sat	2.20	SECOND SEMI-FINAL	Subiaco
12	Sat	2.20	PRELIMINARY FINAL	Subiaco
19	Sat	2.20	GRAND FINAL	Subiaco
26	Sat		VFL GRAND FINAL	MCG

## VICTORIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

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(\*) Indicates matches to be played at VFL Park. (S) Indicates matches to be played in Sydney.

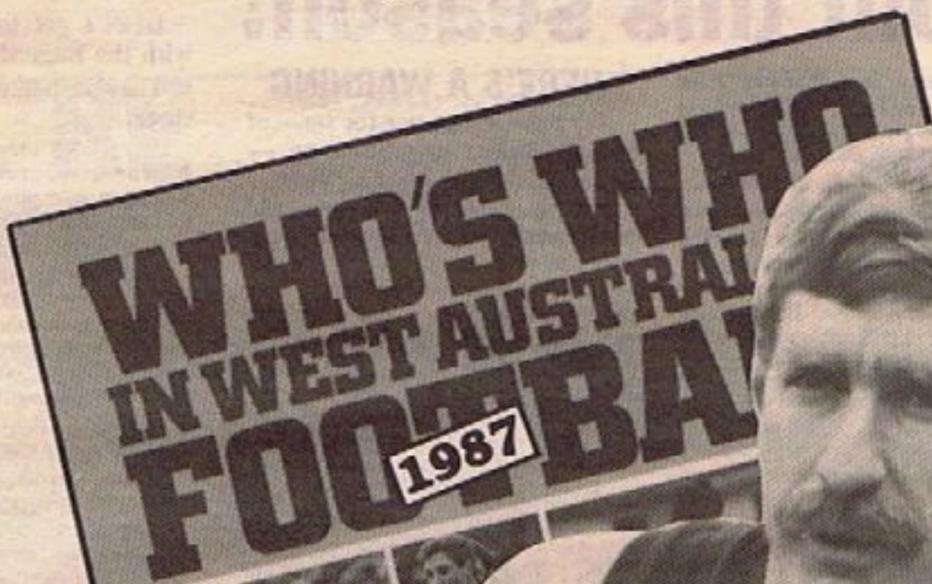
<b>Round 1 (March 27 - Friday)</b> North Melb. v Bris. Bears (MCG)	<b>Round 8 (May 22 - Friday)</b> Richmond v North Melbourne	<b>Rounds 16/17 (July 10 - Fri.)</b> West Coast Eagles v Carlton
<b>Round 2 (April 3 - Friday)</b> North Melb. v Melbourne (MCG)	<b>Round 9 (May 23 - Saturday)</b> Hawthorn v Essendon (P)	<b>Round 18 (July 31 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Richmond
<b>Round 3 (April 11 - Saturday)</b> Fitzroy v North Melbourne (P)	<b>Round 10 (May 30 - Saturday)</b> Hawthorn v St. Kilda (P)	<b>Round 19 (August 7 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Nth. Melb.
<b>Round 4 (April 18 - Saturday)</b> Essendon v West Coast Eagles	<b>Round 11 (Queen's Birthday)</b> June 8 (Saturday)	<b>Round 20 (August 15 - Sat.)</b> Richmond v St. Kilda (P)
<b>Round 5 (April 24 - Friday)</b> North Melb. v St. Kilda (MCG)	<b>Round 12 (June 12 - Friday)</b> North Melb. v Essendon (MCG)	<b>Round 21 (August 21 - Friday)</b> Melbourne v West Coast Eagles
<b>Round 6 (May 1 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Carlton	<b>Round 13 (June 19 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Fitzroy	<b>Round 22 (August 28 - Sat.)</b> Carlton v North Melbourne (P)
<b>Round 7 (May 8 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Bris. Bears	<b>Round 14 (June 26 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Collingwood	<b>Round 23 (September 4 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Sydney Swans (P)
<b>Round 8 (May 15 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 15 (July 3 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 24 (September 11 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 9 (May 22 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 16 (July 10 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 25 (September 18 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 10 (May 29 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 17 (July 17 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 26 (September 25 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 11 (June 5 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 18 (July 24 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 27 (October 2 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 12 (June 12 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 19 (July 31 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 28 (October 9 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 13 (June 19 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 20 (August 7 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 29 (October 16 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 14 (June 26 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 21 (August 14 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 30 (October 23 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 15 (July 3 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 22 (August 21 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 31 (October 30 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 16 (July 10 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 23 (August 28 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 32 (November 6 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 17 (July 17 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 24 (September 4 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 33 (November 13 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 18 (July 24 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 25 (September 11 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 34 (November 20 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 19 (July 31 - Friday)</b> Sydney Swans v Fitzroy	<b>Round 26 (September 18 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 35 (November 27 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 20 (August 7 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 27 (September 25 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 36 (December 4 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 21 (August 14 - Friday)</b> West Coast Eagles v Essendon	<b>Round 28 (October 2 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 37 (December 11 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 22 (August 21 - Friday)</b> Melbourne v West Coast Eagles	<b>Round 29 (October 9 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 38 (December 18 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 23 (August 28 - Saturday)</b> Carlton v North Melbourne (P)	<b>Round 30 (October 16 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 39 (December 25 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 24 (September 4 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 31 (October 23 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 40 (January 1 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 25 (September 11 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 32 (October 30 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 41 (January 8 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 26 (September 18 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 33 (November 6 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 42 (January 15 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 27 (September 25 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 34 (November 13 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 43 (January 22 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 28 (October 2 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 35 (November 20 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 44 (January 29 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 29 (October 9 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 36 (November 27 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 45 (February 5 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 30 (October 16 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 37 (December 4 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 46 (February 12 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 31 (October 23 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 38 (December 11 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 47 (February 19 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 32 (October 30 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 39 (December 18 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 48 (February 26 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 33 (November 6 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 40 (December 25 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 49 (March 5 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 34 (November 13 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 41 (January 1 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 50 (March 12 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 35 (November 20 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 42 (January 8 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 51 (March 19 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 36 (November 27 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 43 (January 15 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 52 (March 26 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 37 (December 4 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 44 (January 22 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 53 (April 2 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 38 (December 11 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 45 (January 29 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 54 (April 9 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 39 (December 18 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 46 (February 5 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 55 (April 16 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 40 (December 25 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 47 (February 12 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 56 (April 23 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 41 (January 1 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 48 (February 19 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 57 (April 30 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 42 (January 8 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 49 (February 26 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 58 (May 7 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 43 (January 15 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 50 (March 5 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 59 (May 14 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 44 (January 22 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 51 (March 12 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 60 (May 21 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 45 (January 29 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 52 (March 19 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 61 (May 28 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 46 (February 5 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 53 (March 26 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 62 (June 4 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 47 (February 12 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 54 (April 2 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 63 (June 11 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 48 (February 19 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 55 (April 9 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 64 (June 18 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 49 (February 26 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 56 (April 16 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 65 (June 25 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 50 (March 5 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 57 (April 23 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 66 (July 2 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 51 (March 12 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 58 (April 30 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 67 (July 9 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 52 (March 19 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 59 (May 7 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 68 (July 16 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 53 (March 26 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 60 (May 14 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 69 (July 23 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne
<b>Round 54 (March 26 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 61 (May 21 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne	<b>Round 70 (July 30 - Saturday)</b> Footscray v Melbourne

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN

\* Denotes home game.

<b>ROUND 1</b> Saturday, April 11 *Port v Sturt ..... Football Park Central v North ..... Elizabeth Norwood v Glenelg ..... Norwood Torrens v South ..... Thebarton West v Woodville ..... Richmond	<b>INTERSTATE GAME</b> Tuesday, June 16 South Aust. v WA ..... WACA, Perth	<b>ROUND 16</b> Saturday, July 25 *North v Sturt ..... Football Park South v Port ..... Adelaide Torrens v Glenelg ..... Thebarton West v Central ..... Richmond Woodville v Norwood ..... Woodville
<b>ROUND 2</b> Saturday, April 18 *Sturt v Norwood ..... Football Park Woodville v Central ..... Woodville North v South ..... Prospect Monday, April 20 Torrens v West ..... Football Park Port v Glenelg ..... (Double header)	<b>ROUND 9</b> Saturday, June 6 *Woodville v Port ..... Football Park Glenelg v South ..... Glenelg Torrens v Norwood ..... Thebarton	<b>ROUND 17</b> Saturday, August 1 Sturt v West ..... Football Park North v Glenelg ..... Adelaide Norwood v Central ..... Norwood Torrens v Port ..... Thebarton Woodville v South ..... Woodville
<b>ROUND 3</b> Saturday, April 25 Torrens v Woodville ..... Football Park Norwood v North ..... (Double header) Sturt v South ..... Adelaide Central v Port ..... Elizabeth Glenelg v West ..... Glenelg	<b>ROUND 10</b> Saturday, June 13 *Norwood v Glenelg ..... Football Park South v Torrens ..... Adelaide Port v Sturt ..... Alberton Woodville v West ..... Woodville North v Central ..... Prospect	<b>ROUND 18</b> Saturday, August 8 *South v Glenelg ..... Football Park Torrens v Norwood ..... Adelaide Central v Sturt ..... Elizabeth Port v Woodville ..... Alberton North v West ..... Prospect
<b>ROUND 4</b> Saturday, May 2 *Glenelg v Sturt ..... Football Park South v West ..... Adelaide Port v Norwood ..... Alberton Torrens v Central ..... Thebarton Woodville v North ..... Woodville	<b>ROUND 11</b> Saturday, June 20 South v North ..... Football Park Sturt v Norwood ..... Adelaide Central v Woodville ..... Elizabeth Glenelg v Port ..... Glenelg West v Torrens ..... Richmond	<b>ROUND 19</b> Saturday, August 15 South v Torrens ..... Football Park Sturt v Port ..... Adelaide Glenelg v Norwood ..... Glenelg Sunday, August 16 North v Central ..... Football Park Woodville v West ..... (Double header)
<b>ROUND 5</b> Saturday, May 9 Woodville v Glenelg ..... Football Park South v Central ..... Adelaide Norwood v West ..... Norwood Torrens v Sturt ..... Thebarton North v Port ..... Prospect	<b>ROUND 12</b> Saturday, June 27 *Torrens v Woodville ..... Football Park South v Sturt ..... Adelaide Norwood v North ..... Norwood Port v Central ..... Alberton Sunday, June 28 West v Glenelg ..... Adelaide	<b>ROUND 20</b> Saturday, August 22 Central v Woodville ..... Football Park South v North ..... Adelaide Norwood v Sturt ..... Norwood Port v Glenelg ..... Alberton Torrens v West ..... Thebarton
<b>ROUND 6</b> Saturday, May 16 Norwood v South ..... Football Park West v Port ..... Richmond Woodville v Sturt ..... Woodville Monday, May 18 North v Torrens ..... Football Park Glenelg v Central ..... (Double header)	<b>ROUND 13</b> Saturday, July 4 Woodville v North ..... Football Park South v West ..... Adelaide Glenelg v Sturt ..... Glenelg Sunday, July 5 Port v Norwood ..... Football Park Torrens v Central ..... (Double header)	<b>ROUND </b>

# Don't miss it!



**Great reading!**

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# JACKO

## I'm deadly serious about this season!

FOR those few people who doubt my football ability just watch out. I'm deadly serious about this season.

I've been railroaded out of the VFL by those ruthless officials and I'm in the West to prove that I'm not only the country's third-best entertainer (there's Paul Hogan and Barry Humphries and me, I reckon) but I'm out to prove that I'm still a great goalkicker.

How many full-forwards do you know with an average of 3.7 goals per game. That's probably the best rating among today's players and puts me in the top 15 of all time.

My playing weight is down to 106kg — I was 118kg when I came West during summer — and that's only a couple of kilos above my best goalkicking weight.

I can still kick goals; those people who doubt my ability just don't understand my antics. They misunderstand what I'm about.

I'm an entertainer and football should be an entertainment.

I'm keen about this season and you could tell from my first game down at the WACA that the fans are looking forward to seeing me in action. They loved the antics — and the goals (except East Fremantle's defenders, of course).

### HERE'S A WARNING

I'VE got a message for some of the defenders around town — watch out!

The full-backs of the league should be quivering in their boots by now, worrying about playing on old Jacko.

They won't be wondering about how to stop me kicking goals; more like they'll be wondering how much I'm going to embarrass them with my antics.

They'll be so worried about me and what I'm going to do next, they'll forget about trying to stop me kicking goals.

The full-backs will all know what I can do — and they will be wondering just when I'm going to explode.

But I've also got a few hints for our full-backs.

What makes a good full-back, some people ask me.

Well, I should know, because I haven't found too many who could beat me.

Those who did have got one big thing going for them — they have a good spring and are top-class destroyers of the football.

It's no good trying to out-mark or out-strength me. You have been able to leap over the back and thump the ball away; destroy it completely. John Hayes was like that. Old Irish couldn't do much else, but he could leap and spoil and that's what made him such a good full-back.

### THANKS SOUTH

WHY am I back at South Fremantle? Good question. I did say once that I'd never play under Mal Brown again, so thank goodness he's gone to Perth.

I admit that I let Souths down when I was here last time, walking out on them in the finals. So I felt I owed them something.

I'm prepared to give them a good season of footy and that will obviously help re-establish my reputation and make the Vics sit up and take notice of old Jacko again.

I'm playing for very little money by my standards at South, but I'm prepared to put my whole reputation on the line.

The club's been good to me and Stan Magro is an understanding coach.

I'm allowed to do plenty of promotional work as long as it doesn't interfere with my footy and as I'm an entertainer by nature and by trade, I'll make sure the Bulldogs fans get more than their money's worth.

### PLENTY OF TALENT

I'M looking forward to this season — and I reckon the fans will be flocking through the turnstiles once the club games get going.

Just look around at the WAFL clubs. We've got the entertainers. We've got stars like Brian Peake and Les Fong, big Garry Sidebottom, Willie Roe, Shorty Daniels and Warren Ralph, Stinger Rea and Bryan Cousins....and so on.

There's heaps of good, young talent coming up through the ranks and now that the Eagles and other Vic clubs can't touch them for two years, they'll have time to develop.

I'm not too worried about rival full-backs — there doesn't seem to be any!

The WAFL should be pretty happy with what they've got left after the Eagles have robbed them of their talent. And the WAFL have got me, so the turnstiles will be clicking.

## IT'S ALL A VIC CONSPIRACY

DON't get too carried away with the Eagles!

They've beaten no-one at this stage!

Every team they have played have been under-manned and I reckon it's a Victorian conspiracy. The Vics have told the clubs to go easy on the Eagles to give them a false sense of security.

They're a corrupt mob, the VLF; almost a mini-Mafia. They can close the door on anyone and everyone and they are making it easy for the Eagles now, but wait till the going gets really tough. Things will be different then.

Look, they beat Footscray without stars like Ricky Kennedy, Peter Foster, no Brad Hardie, a Simon Beasley keeping his nose clean for his wedding a few days later, plus a few other key players.

They beat the Essendon seconds. Imagine a Bombers side without Timmy Watson, Simon Madden, Roger Merrett (he's tough), Glenn Hawker and Paul van der Haar.

They beat Fitzroy without Gary Pert and Paul Roos — the two best defenders in the VFL.

Believe me, the Vics can manipulate things when they want to and they've given the Eagles a few easy warm-up games and now they will throw the big guns at them — Hawthorn, Carlton and Co. ... and they'll be dinkum.

### GLENDINNING'S REPUTATION

WHILE I'm on the Eagles, I've got some question marks about their skipper, Ross Glendinning.

Now I know Rosco is a fellow-columnist in Westside and I hope he doesn't take offence. But I'm not pulling any punches. I don't reckon he's a great skipper.

He only fires against bottom sides; you seldom see him star against the top sides; they worked him out.

I played with the bottom sides — Melbourne, Geelong and St Kilda — and I know he can be a world beater against them. But not so against the top sides.

EVERYONE'S rubbing their hands with glee over the Eagles, but let's wait and see what happens when they lose a couple of games.

The WAFL club competition will be as strong as ever; the clubs have got all the entertaining players — and they've got me — and the fans will still want to go along and see their favourite club play.

It will take the fans time to get used to seeing the Eagles.

### MIGHTY MAGRO

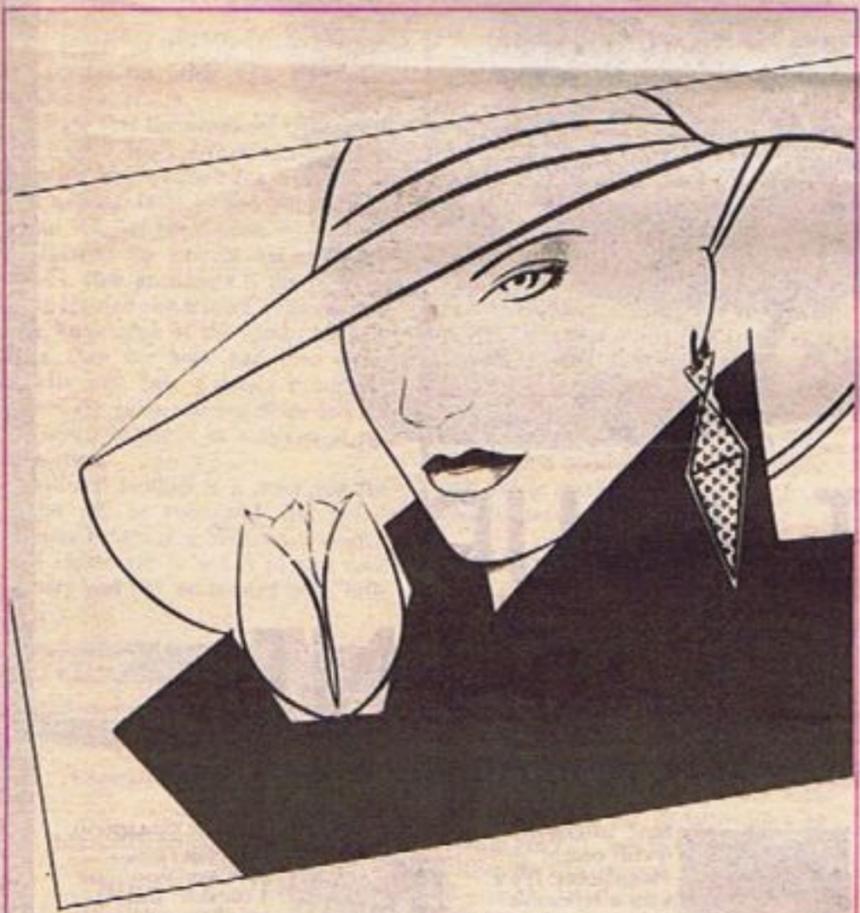
I'M really enjoying training under Bulldogs coach Stan Magro and his big offside Kevin Worthington.

I played against both of them when they were at Collingwood and they like it tough; there's plenty of aggro in their game and they throw their weight around.

I'll be looking after the little blokes down at South, so if any of you tough (or tough pretenders) out there think you can get away with giving one of our small blokes a backhander, just watch out.

Us big blokes will be in there squaring up if anything like that happens.

There's a good comradeship down at South now, I've helped bring that about. We're sticking together and I'll be right in the thick of things if the going gets nasty.



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