

# WESTSIDE Football

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AMPOL

SCIO



Simon Beasley ... and his new wife.

## BEASLEY ON A RECORD BREAKING MISSION

**FORMER** Swan Districts sharp-shooter Simon Beasley has more than his old coach John Todd in his sights when he takes to the WACA Ground this Friday night.

Beasley, now in his seventh season with Footscray, is on a record-breaking mission when the Bulldogs tackle the West Coast Eagles.

He has just equalled Footscray's goalkicking record of 494, set by his predecessor, Kelvin Templeton and he aims to smash the record and crack the 500-mark at the Eagles' expense.

But as far as Beasley is concerned his priorities on Friday are a win over the Eagles first and then the Footscray goalkicking record and the 500 goal mark.

"Winning flags is what the game is all about," said Beasley, the stockbroker and footballer, from Melbourne this week.

"And you don't win flags unless you win qualifying games."

Beasley is under no illusions about the task that lies ahead.

Fond of a bet, Beasley rates the Eagles odds-on favourites to win at the WACA Ground.

### HOME MATCHES

"The Eagles have the score on the board when it comes to home matches, but we have the type of team that can cause an upset," he said.

"The wide WACA Ground will suit our style of play. We have the pacy midfielders capable of delivering the ball accurately up forward where I'll be expected to finish off the job.

"Personal milestones are gratifying, but they need to be put in their right perspective," said Beasley.

"Equalling Templeton's record felt good, but don't forget Kelvin played a lot of his football at centre-half-forward."

That straight forward attitude has typified Beasley's approach to the game since he nearly quit last year for business and family reasons.

He was married early last year, and then his job as a stockbroker

by **HARVEY DEEGAN**

with the big Melbourne firm Ord Minnett started to overtake his football commitments.

"However, I decided to put in a solid pre-season and hopefully it's going to pay off," says Beasley.

"While I'm not getting a huge bag of goals every week, I feel I'm performing consistently and kicking pretty straight."

Beasley forms part of a powerful goal-to-goal line that looms as a real danger to the Eagles.

### MEAN CUSTOMER

Michael Ford is as mean a full-back as any coach could want; Zeno Tzatzaris has been doing well at centre-half-back; Terry Wallace has gained a new lease of life in the centre with his new club and state centre-half-forward Peter Foster is all class.

Throw in the charismatic Doug Hawkins, Magarey Medallist Tony McGuinness, quicksilver left-footer Angelo Petraglia and the determined Greg Eppelstun and it's easy to see why the Dogs will be no push-over.

The big advantage the Eagles have is that Footscray have yet to play a premiership match in Perth.

The sides met twice in Melbourne last year, once pre-season and again mid-season, with the Eagles winning the first, the Bulldogs the second.

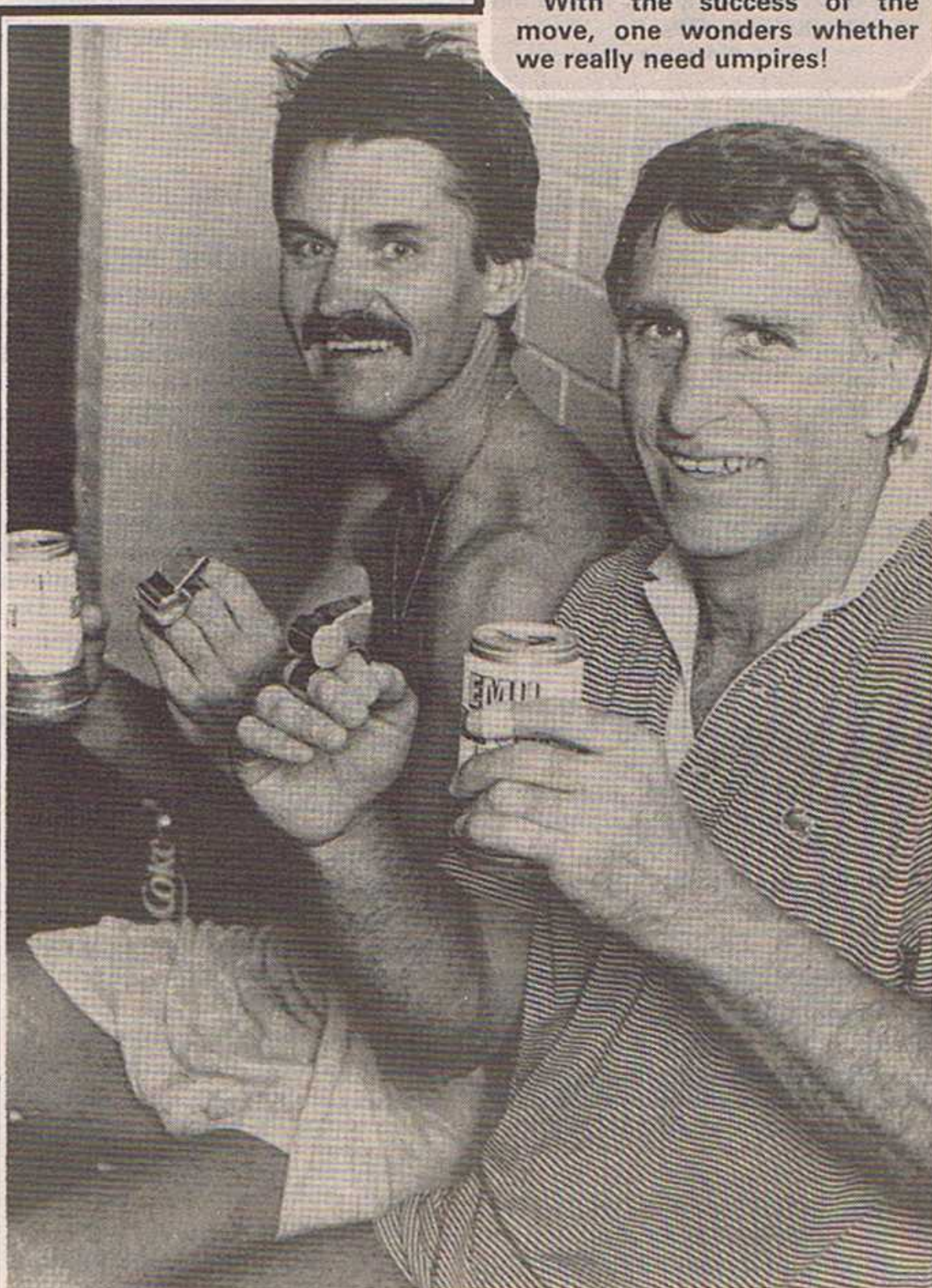
Michael O'Connell was given the task of playing on Beasley at the Western Oval, with Beasley scoring 4.3.

"I suppose Phil Scott will be my opponent on Friday", says Beasley, having studied the current Eagles line-up.

"But knowing John Todd, he's liable to do something novel, such as lining up my former Swan Districts and Footscray teammate Murray Rance on me."

One thing is certain, Todd will have picked Rance's brains this week to gather some intelligence about the Bulldogs players.

Beasley will be under enormous pressure to perform and if the Bulldogs record is set, it will be greeted in stony silence by more than 20,000 Eagles fans.



Paul Mountain (left) and Greg Brehaut were all smiles — and could certainly go an Emu or two — after their umpiring duties at Bassendean.

Picture JULIAN COWAN

## New-look umpires

SOME life-long ambitions were fulfilled last Monday when a number of former league players took up the whistle in the midst of the umpires' strike.

Former top players and coaches Greg Brehaut and Ron Alexander, plus experienced players Paul Mountain and Noel Carter, answered the call from the WAFL to help control the League matches.

While all four umpires won't necessarily be firing in official applications to become permanent whistle-blowers, they did admit to enjoying the experience.

In fact, many players commented on how good their former colleagues performed.

The games were allowed to flow freely; there were few 50-metre penalties (none, in fact, at Bassendean Oval) and ruckmen agreed that throwing the ball up instead of bouncing it was a big improvement.

With the success of the move, one wonders whether we really need umpires!

**FOR A CAR THAT IS 'SIMPLY STUNNING' NEW EA FALCON**



FOR A DEAL THAT IS 'SIMPLY STUNNING' SEE THE WINNING TEAM AT...



**Mc Inerney Ford**

239 WALTER ROAD, MORLEY PHONE 275 1222

## What they said...

"It seems that West Perth will not make the first installment. If that is the case, we have a dispute on our hands." WAFL chief executive Peter Cummiskey on the Andrew Purser payment to East Fremantle.

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"Your punch was delivered with such force to render Blakely unconscious. There appears little justification for this action." WAFL tribunal chairman Paul Heaney banning Claremont's Peter Owens for four weeks.

\*\*\*\*\*

"Obviously I missed the ball and struck Terry." Melbourne's Rod Grinter, suspended for six weeks for striking Footscray's Terry Wallace.

\*\*\*\*\*

"We feel we need to get in there ourselves and fix the situation." VFL Commissioner Ross Oakley on the appointment of the VFL's finance manager Greg Durham as administrator of the Sydney Swans.

\*\*\*\*\*

"It's like going from Formula Ones back to go-karts." Newly called-up Eagles player Brent Hutton talking about switching from the Eagles back to the WAFL.

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"I'll play for nothing. I've got a million dollars in the bank and I'll pay my own clearance fee." Mark Jackson on joining the Sydney Swans.

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"The WAFL simply cannot continue to dictate terms to its two major bodies, the players and the umpires." Players Association president Len Gandini supporting the umpires decision to strike over a lack of two umpires in the under-19s.

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"We must look after the health and well-being of our members." Umpires Association president Ron Buckey on the decision to strike over the lack of a two-umpire system in the under-19s matches.

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"The umpires apply to the WAFL to umpire and all that has happened is that some of those umpires have withdrawn their services." WAFL chief executive Peter Cummiskey.

\*\*\*\*\*

"We had our disagreements, but always resolved them amicably." Retiring Subiaco president Michael Carlile on his successful relationship with coach Haydn Bunton.

\*\*\*\*\*

"It's a bit disappointing that West Perth can't stand by the rules of the association they play in." Percy Johnson on the Andrew Purser dispute.

\*\*\*\*\*

"The moment they played Purser in the first game they acknowledged that they would pay for him." WAFL Commissioner Mal Brown.

# FOOTY PUNCHLINES



Mark Jackson ... out in the crowd at Victoria Park.

## JACKO'S WARNING

IT'S only natural that the return to football of Mark Jackson will revive his verbal jousting with Eagles coach John Todd.

Jacko remembers the conflict with Todd when he was playing at South Fremantle last season — and Todd, as State coach, ignored his claims for selection.

In fact, there was even talk of legal action one way or another over some of their comments.

Jacko is now back at the Sydney

Swans — and the former Westside Football columnist has his own column in Melbourne's Sunday Press.

He didn't pull any punches about Collingwood downing the Eagles ...

"Watching John Todd get booed was another pleasurable experience for me," said Jacko in his back page article.

"I have reason to doubt his footy judgment. What other man would leave me out of a State-of-Origin squad when I was playing some of the best footy of my career!"

### WEST TOPPLED

IT takes a lot to topple that newspaper bastion *The West Australian* — just ask Robert Holmes a Court; he tried long enough with his newspaper challenger, *The Western Mail*. But South Fremantle footballer Ned Fimmano achieved something close to that last Monday when he crashed headlong into the arena fence at the WACA Ground — and toppled *The West Australian's* advertising sign off its hinges. The sickening thud apparently didn't affect Fimmano as he took a free kick

### MILESTONE MEN

APOLOGIES to West Coast Eagles defender Michael Brennan. . . we missed his 100th game of senior football last week. The former Geraldton player notched his 25th game with the Eagles against Collingwood and added to his 75 with East Fremantle to give him a century. Coming up for a milestone this week is reliable Subiaco defender Clinton Brown, who plays his 150th game with the Lions after his league debut in 1980.

## Wayne Johnston best in the land

ALTHOUGH the expansion of the VFL is having its problems with Sydney struggling for survival, Brisbane not up to scratch and the Eagles rarely able to win in Melbourne, the competition is here to stay.

With the scintillating abilities of the country's best footballers being beamed, in most cases live, into our living rooms each week, the time is ripe to start the lounge and bar-room critics buzzing on who the best players really are.

No. 1 in the land is my old teammate from Carlton WAYNE (the Dominator) JOHNSTON.

Johnno is a big-game player and is a crucial link in the Carlton chain if they are to win consecutive premierships. He's as tough as they come and an indication of how important he is to Carlton is that he was rushed straight back into the side after spending months out of action with injury.

No. 2: ROSS GLENDINNING, the Eagles skipper and only just pipped for the No. 1 spot on my list. He's the best body player in the VFL and we've all seen in the opening rounds how strong the 1983 Brownlow Medal winner is in overhead duels.

No. 3: TONY LOCKETT is the brilliant St Kilda forward who can

## THE BUZZ

By football's Mr Flamboyant  
PETER BOSUSTOW



lead, take a strong mark and kick accurately over long distances. The first full-forward ever to win a Brownlow Medal (1987), he will beat any player in the land in a man-to-man contest eight times out of 10.

No. 4: PAUL ROOS who is getting better and better. The Fitzroy star is one of the most versatile players in the competition and takes big strong marks.

No. 5: DAVID RHYS-JONES (Carlton) may well be the best "stopper" in the game. Who could forget his performance when he cut Hawthorn's Dermott Brereton out of last year's grand final?

No. 6: CHRIS LANGFORD is a tough as you are likely to see. He hates a goal being kicked on him, destroys well and is not frightened to run out of defence to create opportunities

No. 7: SIMON MADDEN (Essendon). His left-hand tapping from ruck contests and immense height make him almost impossible to beat. Takes a great mark and for a big fellow has such a long kick.

### MIGHTY BLUES

JIM Main is one of Australia's most prolific football (and general sport) writers, covers matches all around the nation for *The Australian* newspaper. He was at Victoria Park last Saturday to see the Eagles do battle with the West Coast Eagles and he produced a couple of classic one-liners in his summary. "Facing Collingwood at home is like meeting Mike Tyson in a New York alley." But his assessment of the Carlton-Swans game was even better. "The lack of spirit and morale of many (Swans) team members would have caused a potential new buyer to think about applying mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to a corpse."

### HIGH REGARD

YOU cannot help but admire Ken Hunter, that frail-looking Carlton No. 9 who once graced the playing fields in the West as a courageous member of the Claremont camp. He's one of the WA veterans in the VFL now, starting with the Blues in 1981 and, despite continual injury, now with 129 VFL games behind him. He's often simply referred to as "god" around Princes Park, where the fans believe that there's nothing he cannot do. A dashing and sometimes freakish defender, Hunter's latter-day football has been played in attack and last week he booted three goals against the Sydney Swans to take his VFL tally to 150.

### WELL DISCIPLINED

IF YOU'RE wondering why North Melbourne produced such a disciplined performance to get their first premiership points of the season at the expense of Footscray, then ask their special guest for the day. Despite conceding size and power to the Bulldogs, the struggling Roos won the battle — and that pleased the guest of club president Bob Ansett. . . American General, Norm Smith. The tall, thin but impressive-looking Marine Corp officer, with two silver stars and a cluster of campaign medals, was in the North camp for the day and obviously appreciated the Roos battle against adversity.

No. 8: DALE WEIGHTMAN (Richmond) is the best rover in Australia and this is borne out by his regular selection in All-Australian and Victorian teams. Is very dangerous with his handball and his pace around the ground makes it almost impossible to stop him getting to a contest for the ball.

No. 9: SEAN WIGHT, recruited by Melbourne to Aussie Rules from Ireland just three years ago, is now one of the most exciting big men around. Has a long kick, is extremely aggressive and takes great marks in a pack. What more can you want in a follower?

No. 10: PETER DAICOS (Collingwood) destroyed the Eagles in mid-field last Saturday in the same manner that every other VFL side will experience his dominance this year. Probably the most gifted player in the nation and although a little injury-prone this is offset by his courage and hunger for competition.

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OFFICE:

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PHONE: Editorial 275 3722  
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Correspondence

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# Co-operation the answer to umps' wrangle

The WAFL umpires may have created football history by going on strike but their relationship with the League is nothing new. It's been an 'us and them' scenario practically since the game began in this State.

Former top umpire Ross Capes believes the problems have a lot to do with administrators not consulting umpires.

Take the present wrangle as an example.

In 1983, Capes who was then Umpires' Coach, advocated the use of one umpire in under-19s matches, saying it would help those umpires gain experience and mature more quickly.

It was not a success, and in 1984 two umpires were again employed at colts' games.

Capes believes there was justification for a trial in 1983 because there were more skilful umpires around then than now.

"Many of the under-19 umpires had controlled top-grade country matches, and some had even done League matches," said Capes.

"But I misread the speed of the



Ross Capes ... still wants two umpires.

by  
**Harvey Deegan**

game and there was no question it was too fast for one umpire to handle."

That was five years ago, and nobody would suggest the game has become slower, but it seems the WAFL has paid scant regard to recent history and has decided to conduct another experiment.

## QUALIFIED

Capes is well versed to give an opinion on the merits of the one-umpire versus two-umpire debate. He officiated in 275 league games, and was the last umpire to 'go it alone' in a grand final.

That was in 1975 and the following year he and Ron Powell became the first pair to control a grand final under the two-umpire system.

He believes the one-umpire system is better, but unworkable while laws are introduced to speed up the game.

"The new law this year preventing players who have been awarded a free-kick from handballing is just a token gesture to slow the game down," said Capes.

"There would have to be many other changes before the wheel turns a full circle and the one-umpire system could be reintroduced," he added.

It seems a crazy state of affairs when most junior matches from under-14s are umpired by two men in white right up to under-19s where the League thinks there should be a

change. Then it's back to the two umpires for Reserves and League.

## SOLUTION

Former umpire and colourful critic Fred Woods is another who believes the game would be better under one umpire, but who also agrees that's impossible in today's environment.

Woods has a solution, though.

"They'd have to reduce the size of ovals, reduce the number of players, and reduce the time of each quarter from 25 to 20 minutes," he said.

He is right behind the umpires in their current dispute.

"Ever since I can remember, the WAFL has adopted an off-handed approach to umpires," said Woods.

"One prominent administrator of the past told us we were just paid servants of the League and should do as we're told."

## BATTLE

Both Capes and Woods recall the days when umpires had an ongoing battle with the League over training venues.

"One year we had to change at the Leederville tennis courts, run around Lake Monger for our training, and go back to the courts for a cold shower," said Capes. "That was terrible in mid-winter."

Woods said he would never forget changing at Subiaco Oval, and then having to use a nearby park which had no lights.

"We had umpires tripping up in holes and running into trees because it was so dark," said Woods.

As for John Todd's plan to allow West Coast Eagles' players to be used as boundary umpires during the strike, Woods has a barbed comment.

"The way they played against Collingwood," he said, "they should all think about a career as boundary umpires."



Fred Woods ... only one umpire needed.

But Ray Scott, a former umpire who also played the game with great success at full-forward is one to whom striking umpires need not turn for sympathy.

## NO ILL-EFFECTS

"I can't understand why they won't umpire," said Scott. "Who says the game is faster these days? The speed of a game is determined by the number of goals kicked."

"I have played and umpired in games where over 40 goals were kicked with no ill effects."

Scott believes umpires should be able to handle a match on their own — even today. He points out that he was umpiring on his own at the age of 43, and handled a carnival match in Adelaide when he was 42.

The argument will rage wherever those who want to discuss football gather.

But one thing the umpires must remember is that as long as there are players, football will go ahead, although the quality may be reduced.

Whether they like it or not, the umpires are not indispensable.

# WHISTLE-BLOWER!

*An interesting exercise in an unnecessary dispute*

**TAKING the whistle and umpiring a WAFL game on Monday was certainly a new experience.**

Bryan Cousins, player turned Umpires Board member, reckoned that I tried to umpire the game when I played, so it was only a natural progression!

But the situation was such that I couldn't turn down the request to be a "strike-breaker."

The League has built up a solid base of 18,000 or so supporters this season, so it was essential that the matches went ahead to ensure the continuity of that support.

As I was in Geraldton visiting my sister at the weekend, I took the opportunity to watch the East Fremantle-Subiaco game in company with one of their league umpires.

He pointed out some of the positioning techniques and other areas to watch for.

On the Monday I watched the Claremont-West Perth game prior to my commitment with Perth and South Fremantle.

I was a little nervous before the start, but once the ball was in play, you don't have time to be nervous; you simply concentrate on positioning yourself and the ball.

Darren McPartland, who umpired with me, certainly acted like a veteran and did an excellent job.

Hopefully, the League and the Umpires' Association won't get hooked up in personality conflicts or a battle of pride in this dispute.

Such a dispute can only hurt football and it requires people to act for the overall good of the game, a phrase that is often bandied about, but not taken up often enough.

Commonsense must prevail.

## ALEXANDER'S ANGLE

By **RON ALEXANDER**



### PHYSICAL CLASH

THE West Coast Eagles went down to Collingwood at Victoria Park, but they certainly weren't disgraced.

They were thrashed in the second quarter, but apart from that, they fought out a very physical game with little support from the crowd.

Their second half was very encouraging and I believe they can beat sides like Footscray, St Kilda, Richmond and the like when they meet them in Melbourne.

### SCORING CHANGES

THE huge margins in football at times makes you wonder whether the scoring system should be changed.

Perhaps we should experiment pre-season with goals only and reduce the size between the big sticks from seven yards down to six.

Perhaps the answer is to ensure that each club has the same amount to spend on players contracts and clearance fees.

But that's fantasyland because there will always be clubs who are well administered and supported and those who will struggle.

### TOUGH TIMES

LITTLE rover Wally Matera seems to be having a down period at the moment.

He played reasonably well on Monday, but not up to his usual standard.

Matera is a true rover with good pace and evasive skills and is really needed by both South Fremantle and the Eagles. I'm sure he will bounce back to his best form in the near future. He's certainly good to watch in full flight.

Adrian Barich continues to play well for Perth, where he is giving himself every opportunity to be selected in both the State side and the Eagles.

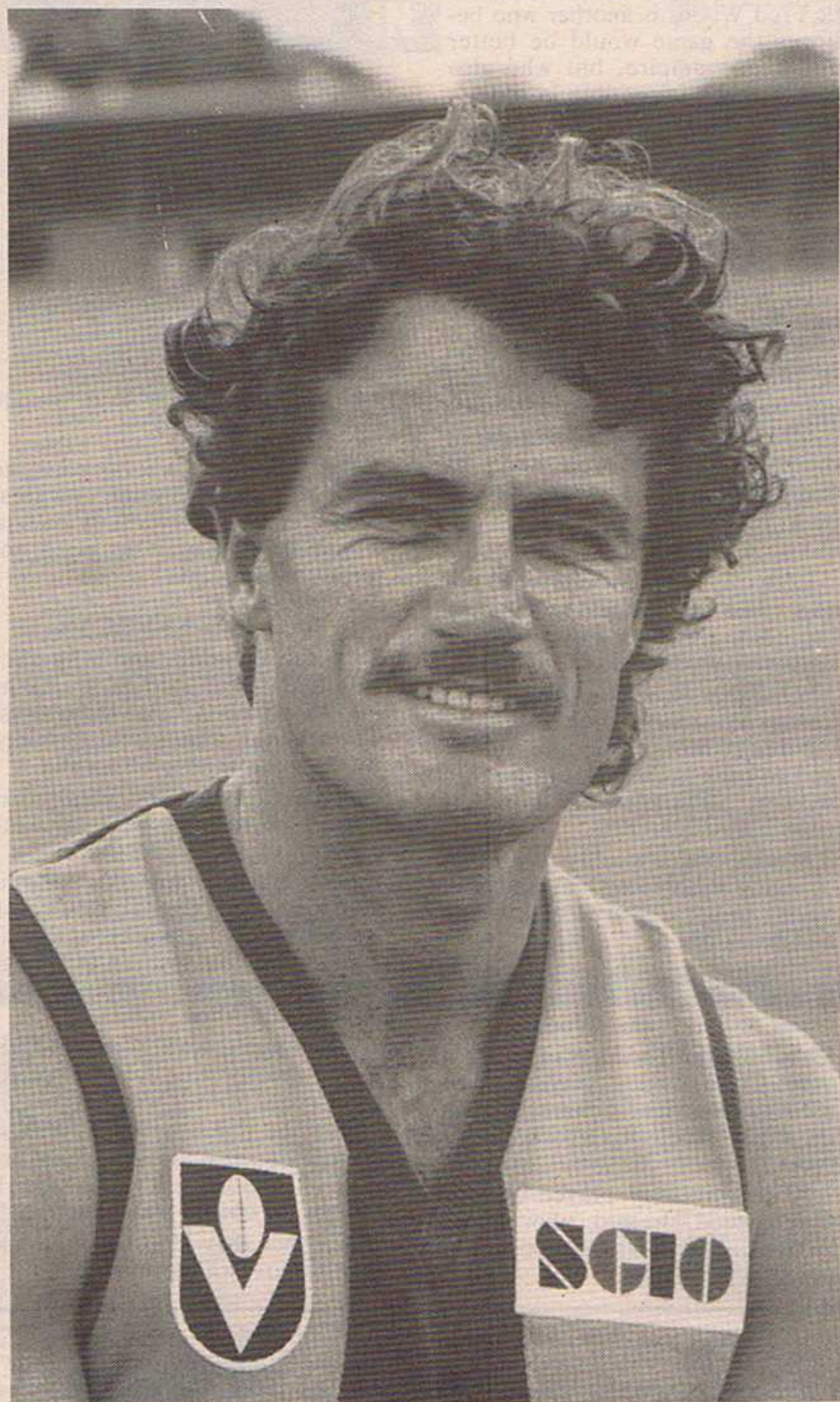
He has great pace, is a sure mark and one of the strongest tacklers in the league. He should be back in the Eagles line-up this week.

PS: It's obviously extremely difficult to keep a secret in football. I was told that there would be no announcement of who was umpiring the respective games, so I kept the information to myself ... only to read about it on the back page of the Sunday Times!

# SCIO PLAYER PROFILES



**LAURIE  
KEENE**



**FAVOURITE POSITION:** Ruck  
**DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:** 2/1/61 Subiaco  
**HEIGHT:** 202cm **WEIGHT:** 105kg  
**RECRUITED FROM:** Karrinyup and Subiaco  
**FIRST PLAYED:** 11/4/81 versus East Fremantle  
**GAMES PLAYED:** Eagles 18, Subiaco 122  
**FOOTBALL HONOURS:** 1986 Footballer of the Year Award — The West Australian, Daily News, Channel 7, 6NR Football Media Guild, 1981 Media Guild Footballer of Future, 1980 Medallists Award Colts F/B.  
**MARITAL STATUS:** Married to Deanne  
**CHILDREN:** One daughter, Jasmine  
**BROTHERS/SISTERS:** 2 sisters  
**OCCUPATION:** Surveyor  
**SCHOOL/S ATTENDED:** Karrinyup Primary, Scarborough High  
**CAR:** Nissan Pintara  
**FAVOURITE PASTIMES/HOBBIES:** Beach, golf  
**FAVOURITE FOOD:** Seafood

**FAVOURITE FOOD:** BBQ  
**FAVOURITE DRINK:** Beer, Iced Coffee  
**FAVOURITE SINGER/GROUP:** Peter Gabriel, Dire Straits  
**FAVOURITE AUTHOR:** John O'Grady  
**FAVOURITE HOLIDAY SPOT:** Gracetown/Hawaii  
**FAVOURITE NIGHT SPOT AND/OR RESTAURANT:** Rubys  
**FAVOURITE TV SHOW:** Family Ties  
**FAVOURITE MOVIE:** Back To The Future  
**FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS:** Michael J. Fox  
**BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:** Rod Keene (father), Haydn Bunton  
**MOST ADMIRED SPORTSMEN:** Greg Norman  
**ROUTINE BEFORE A MATCH:** R-n-R  
**BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:** Losing 1985 grand final  
**BIGGEST THRILL:** Winning 1986 grand final  
**FAVOURITE GROUND:** Subiaco Oval  
**FOOTBALL AMBITION:** To win the most and be the best.

**John  
Sullivan**



**Full Name:** John Sullivan.  
**Nickname:** Sully. **Why:** From my surname.  
**Date of Birth:** 13/3/66. **Place of Birth:** Perth.  
**Height:** 183cm (6ft). **Weight:** 78kg (12st 5lb).  
**Age Started Playing:** League 20.  
**Previous Club/s:** Boulder City, Kalgoorlie.  
**Junior Club:** CBC Kalgoorlie.  
**Marital Status:** Single.  
**Residence:** Scarborough.  
**Occupation:** Purchasing officer.  
**Other Sporting Interests:** Cricket, golf, tennis.  
**Favourite Position:** Anywhere. **First Position:** Wing.  
**League Debut:** 1986. **Versus:** Perth.

**FAVOURITES:**

**Actor:** Jack Nicholson. **Drink:** Beer.  
**TV Show:** Faulty Towers. **Food:** Crayfish.  
**Movie:** Life of Brian.  
**Music:** Contemporary.  
**Book:** The Bourne Identity (Robert Ludlum).  
**Holiday Resort:** Kalgoorlie.  
**Ground:** Subiaco.  
**Car:** Subaru. **Favourite Car:** Porsche.  
**Career Highlights:** League debut.  
**Worst Moment in Football:** Relegation to reserves.  
**Hard Things in Football:** Maintaining consistency.  
**Football Idols:** Stephen Michael.  
**Toughest Opponent:** Derek Kickett.  
**Most Respected Opponent:** All.  
**Most Respected Umpire:** All of them.  
**Most Memorable Game:** Drawn game against Claremont 1987.  
**Ambitions:** To fulfil my own ability.  
**What do you like about Football:** Team-spirit.  
**How do you Mentally Prepare for a Game:** Relax.  
**Who Influenced Your Career:** My father (John), Brian McGregor and Subiaco coaches.  
**Guernsey Number:** 28.  
**Luckiest Break:** Moving to Perth.



*Eagles No. 1 supporter*



FAI present ...  
**BENNETT'S  
BURST**

By **ROBERT BENNETT**  
of The Sunday Times



# Eagles loss is a worry

IS IT going to be a case of 1987 all over again with the West Coast Eagles?

Before the season there were a lot of people who did not think the Eagles had recruited enough players to handle the Melbourne conditions.

But after beating Geelong and creaming Essendon, it appeared as though they were misguided in their assessment.

But the way the Eagles capitulated against Collingwood, who are not possessed with a lot of stars and that will be exposed against Carlton in the so-called match-of-the-year at VFL Park this Saturday — there is reason for concern in the Eagles camp.

Despite the daunting task of tackling Collingwood on their home soil, everything else was conducive to the Eagles performing well.

### NO BACKERS

So much so that some WA footy critics couldn't find anyone to back Collingwood in the press box before the game.

Their three opening wins indicated the Eagles were playing a better, more aggressive style of football than last year. This showed out in the first quarter, even though they weren't able to capitalise on a wind advantage.

The fickle Melbourne weather was kind and Victoria Park, which can be a glue-pot in the heart of winter, was in top condition.

Last week I mentioned that the warning bells must be ringing loud and clear in Victoria after the Eagles' great start to the season.

I doubt that many Victoria fans now believe they have anything to worry about when it comes to the Eagles in Melbourne.

It is a different matter over here and always will be. Victorian sides, no matter how good, will find the Eagles a tough proposition, for exactly the reasons we have struggled in Victoria, the ground conditions over here.

Given latitude over here — and it is always easy to get that on our expansive grounds — there are some Eagles players who are hard to contain.

Put them in the confines of a Melbourne oval, where the heavy grounds, sometimes wet conditions and fierce approach by most teams can be daunting and those same players don't like, or can't handle, the close encounters.

Despite their lack of success in recent years, Collingwood have always been an aggressive side at home.

Geelong, on the other hand, have always been a pretty side who rely on skill rather than close checking to win matches.

### PRESSURE

Anyone who watched the opening game on television between the Eagles and Geelong could not have helped notice the lack of pressure when compared with the Carlton-Hawthorn game when the closing stages were televised.

It's early days yet and just as three wins did not make for a successful season, one loss does not suggest that the Eagles will slip back into the groove of last year that had them struggling to win games in Melbourne.

They should still be a finals contender and are in the position of getting a flying start to the season that could have them firmly ensconced in the top five before they front up to the Melbourne winter.

But after last week's game there must be question marks against some Eagles players who don't appear to be able to handle the tempo of VFL in Melbourne.



## VFL PREVIEW:

IT was a little disturbing to hear reports last Saturday night that the West Coast Eagles were far from disgraced in losing to Collingwood.

The Eagles ruined much of the good work they had achieved in the opening three games through their defeat at the hands of the Magpies — and they were, in fact, disgraced.

It wasn't just the fact they lost, but the manner in which they lost which was most disappointing.

They did not have any players at the fall of the ball and were out-muscled far too easily at ground level.

That area has been one of the Eagles strengths in their second VFL season, but the commitment was not there on Saturday. They did not want to win desperately enough and caved in.

Collingwood should have won the game by much more than the 39 points final margin.

### CHALLENGE

And the Eagles will have to re-group and assemble themselves for the challenge against Footscray at the WACA Ground on Friday night.

It would be a mistake for them to go into the clash with the same attitude with which they tackled their last assignment — billed as the game of the season.

The Eagles missed the efforts of Steve Malaxos, who works tirelessly at the base of the packs, feeding the ball out to the midfield movers.

The Eagles should remember the game against Footscray as one which proved costly in missing a place in last year's final five.

They went to the Western Oval full of hope and returned with their wings well and truly clipped. To add insult to injury, their plane trip home was delayed by heavy fog and they spent several hours wandering around Tullamarine Airport.

Footscray have started the season strongly and would have been in the top five this week had they been able to dispose of North Melbourne last Saturday.

They have some classy midfield players like Brian Royal, Angelo Petraglia and Peter Foster, while Simon Beasley has been in good form at full-forward.

### MIDFIELD

The Eagles will need to lift their midfield rating to have any chance of victory.

John Todd hasn't coached too many teams to successive losses in recent years and is well aware of the requirements to rebound.

If there was one good thing to come out of the Collingwood game it was that vice-captain John Annear came

# Eagles face tough task to rebound

by

**GARY STOCKS**  
of The West Australian



John Annear ... a welcome return to the Eagles.

through the contest unscathed and he gives the midfield a physical presence.

As well, captain Ross Glendinning has been in good touch at full-forward and he gives the Eagles a positive avenue to goal.

And Michael O'Connell's form in attack would give the opposition plenty of food for thought.

The Eagles should return to the winner's list, but it will take more than just another victory in Perth to erase the memories of last week's poor performance.

### EAGLES GOALKICKERS

Ross Glendinning	18.14
Michael O'Connell	8.1
David Hart	7.5
Dwayne Lamb	7.4
Andrew Lockyer	5.5
John Gastev	5.4
Dean Laidley	5.3
Karl Langdon	5.3
Dean Turner	4.0
Phil Scott	3.1

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## Coaching seminars for '88

THE Football Coaches Association has drawn up an impressive programme of seminars for its growing membership this year.

With more than 300 members, the association places strong emphasis on providing coaches with valuable information on coaching ideas, with stimulating speakers from a variety of sources.

The season-long programme features some of Australia's leading coaches taking part in seminar discussions.

**Monday, May 2 — Perth Oval, 5.30pm:** Eagles coach John Todd and WAFL Umpires Association president Ron Buckley.

**Wednesday, May 4 — Perth Oval, 5.30pm:** Eagles coach John Todd.

**Saturday, May 28 — Subiaco Oval, 8pm:** Carlton coach Robert Walls.

**Sunday, June 26 or Monday June 27 — Superdrome lecture theatre:** Fitzroy coach David Parkin.

**Saturday, August 6 or Sunday, August 7 — Superdrome lecture theatre, 8pm:** North Melbourne coach John Kennedy.

**Monday, August 22 — Superdrome lecture theatre, 7am:** Collingwood coach Leigh Matthews.

**Monday, September 12 — Perth Oval, 7.30pm:** Eagles coach John Todd.

Members of the AFCA are advised that these seminars could be subject to alteration and changes will be announced in the Sporting Notices section of The West Australian on the Friday before the event.

## URGENT Footballers Wanted

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**WESTSIDE'S EXPERT SELECTIONS**

# Lions will stop Demons' charge

PERTH, who completely devastated South Fremantle on Monday, will give WA football followers an accurate guide to their prospects when they play Subiaco at Subiaco Oval on Saturday.

The Demons have surprised by winning three of their first four matches — and believe they should have won the other against East Fremantle.

Subsequent wins over West Perth, Perth and Claremont have them locked at the top of the table with Subiaco and East Fremantle.

The Subiaco-Perth match has genuine claims to billing as the game-of-the-day and it is Perth's biggest test of the season.

The victory over South Fremantle last week thrust Perth right into the spotlight as their methodical demolition of the Bulldogs was their most impressive performance of the season.

## UNSTOPPABLE

With their little men running riot, the Demons were unstoppable as they ran South into the ground in the first three quarters.

But they come up against a team which has also not faltered since the opening day of the season and which inflicted the first defeat on East Fremantle last week.

Both Perth and Subiaco have similar strengths — their small and talented band of running players — and it promises to be an enthralling contest.

Perhaps the Lions, with edge in big-match experience in the past few years, could emerge victorious.

Tally does not include Eagles games	Tally	Subiaco v Perth	E. Perth v E. Frem	Clare. v Swan Dist.	S. Frem. v W. Perth	Eagles v Footscray
RON ALEXANDER	9	Perth	East Fremantle	Claremont	South Fremantle	Eagles
ROBERT BENNETT	11	Subiaco	East Fremantle	Claremont	South Fremantle	Eagles
PETER BOSUSTOW	8	Perth	East Fremantle	Claremont	South Fremantle	Eagles
DENNIS COMETTI	10	Perth	East Fremantle	Claremont	South Fremantle	Eagles
DAVE CLEMENT	8	Perth	East Fremantle	Claremont	West Perth	Eagles
HARVEY DEEGAN	10	Subiaco	East Fremantle	Claremont	South Fremantle	Eagles
GRANT DORRINGTON	11	Subiaco	East Fremantle	Claremont	South Fremantle	Eagles
ALAN EAST	7	Subiaco	East Fremantle	Claremont	South Fremantle	Eagles
BILL MATHER-BROWN	10	Subiaco	East Fremantle	Claremont	West Perth	Eagles
IAN MILLER	9	Perth	East Fremantle	Claremont	West Perth	Eagles
GARY STOCKS	6	Subiaco	East Fremantle	Claremont	West Perth	Eagles
MOST FAVOURED	9	Subiaco	East Fremantle	Claremont	South Fremantle	Eagles



## FROM HARD TO FOLLOW

THE form of West Perth and South Fremantle this season has been impossible to follow and selecting the winner of the clash at Fremantle Oval is a case of shutting your eyes and using a pin.

Form has counted for little in the opening four rounds of the season.

West Perth came out on Monday and convincingly beat Claremont after being sunk by Perth at Leederville nine days earlier.

South Fremantle, winners of the Kresta Cup pre-season competition, have promised so much and given so little.

But the game is at Fremantle Oval and it is a chance for the Bulldogs to regain some lost pride.

West Perth, on the strength of last week's effort, should win the contest.

They have an impressive array of big men and there is no shortage of talent at ground level.

Players like Craig Turley, Darren O'Brien, who produced his best effort since arriving from Collie, Peter Mena-

glio, Wayne Dayman and Sean King represent a classy group of mobile players capable of dominating a game.

South's efforts have been disjointed and they need greater team commitment and direction to be successful.

## Meal for Sharks

EAST Perth showed improvement in their performance against Swan Districts last Monday and will need to lift to an even higher level if they expect to push East Fremantle at the WACA Ground on Saturday.

The Royals are gradually settling into a style of team football capable of extending some of the more fancied combinations in the competition.

Unfortunately for East Perth they come up against the Sharks on the rebound.

East Fremantle will be out to avenge last week's defeat at the hands of Subiaco and with that as a spur they should win this contest.

## Tigers on prowl

CLAREMONT and Swan Districts, traditional rivals of the early 1980s, clash at Claremont Oval in a match of great importance.

The Tigers are smarting after being dumped by West Perth last Monday while Swans returned to the winner's list and kept alive their final-four aspirations with a hard-earned 16-point win over East Perth.

The rival teams are locked on eight premierships points and victory is a must for both.

Claremont coach Gerard Neesham will see this game as a chance to upset the course of one of his old clubs and will be looking for a special effort.

And some of the Claremont players in the State squad have a point to prove. Several of them struggled to have any influence on last Monday's game.

Claremont appear to have an edge in individual ability, though team cohesion has been lacking since their impressive first-up effort against Subiaco.

That should carry them across the line.

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# EXPLOSIVE FOOTBALL ACTION SATURDAY

Saturday, April 30 (Round 5)

SUBIACO v PERTH AT SUBIACO  
EAST PERTH v EAST FREMANTLE AT WACA GROUND  
CLAREMONT v SWAN DISTRICTS AT CLAREMONT  
SOUTH FREMANTLE v WEST PERTH AT FREMANTLE

Be there live to support your local team, because it's never the same unless you're there at the game.



Map MGA 9954

## GARY'S GOSSIP

with GARY CARVOLTH  
of 6PR Sport-n-Talk



### We'll miss Chaddy

I WAS extremely disappointed to hear of Jim Chadwick's departure from Channel 7.

Take it from me, Channel 7 will announce a replacement soon and, believe me, the "new boy" has quite a knowledge of football.

I wish I could tell you who it is. But my lips are sealed (for the time being!)

#### FORUM FOIBLES

THINGS still have not settled down on the 6PR Football Forum show following the much publicised John Todd-Rod Brown affair.

Percy Johnson told me during the half-time break of last week's show that he was going to pour his drink of squash over Rod Brown's head. Fortunately for all concerned he didn't carry out his threat.

#### GIVE FOR GOLD

ALL football and sporting fans should be tuned to NEW Channel 10 on Friday night, May 20, from 8.30pm for the big Olympathon fundraising program. What a show it promises to be!

A national telecast and Perth will be part of it. The theme is "Give for Gold" and I am looking forward to assisting on the program.

#### THUMBS DOWN

I WAS disappointed to hear that leading Daily News sports writer Kim Hagdorn has decided he won't appear on 6PR's Football Forum show this year.

Kim told me his first allegiance is to Radio 6NR and that's fine with me except that it did not worry Kim when he covered cricket this year on two different stations.

Thank goodness Dennis Cometti has agreed to appear on our show!

#### PERT LOVES PERTH

FITZROY champion Gary Pert loves Perth and, according to my spies in Melbourne, his contract with the Lions is up at the end of this season.

Pert usually likes to holiday in Perth and if I were part of the Eagles recruiting department, I would be gearing up to entice him to play with us in 1989.

#### \$64,000 QUESTION

FINALLY for this week, the \$64,000 question: is Tony Solin going to play with the Sunday League or does he intend to line up with Swan Districts?

PS—Newsflash: Len Gandini is allegedly in dispute with Swan Districts and could be returning to Kelmscott (his old club) this Sunday. You read it here first.



## SHABBY TREATMENT

### League should act on radio coverage

LOYAL supporters of Swan Districts and East Perth had every reason to believe they were shabbily treated on Monday.

With only three games on offer on Anzac Day, it provided the Royals fans with their first opportunity of the season to have some radio coverage of their game.

Unfortunately, the three radio stations involved with the broadcast of WAFL matches this season all chose to be at the WACA Ground for the double-header.

The idea of radio coverage, as far as I can see, is to cater for those people who cannot make it to the grounds.

Pensioners, those who are ill and supporters who just can't make the game and happen to follow East Perth are not being treated fairly.

It is time the WAFL took steps to ensure that it does not happen in the future.

When four radio stations covered four WAFL games, there was a ballot system where each station rotated the right for first choice of a match.

Now that the only three games are covered it seems that the system has been abolished and on a day like Monday, it becomes open slather.

Because of that operation, the season is four games old and East Perth have yet to have one of their games broadcast.

That is not in the best interests of football.

Perhaps the radio stations would argue that East Perth games would not rate as highly as other matches. But if the old system of rotating first choice had been affected on Monday, it would have been much fairer.

There are other times in the year when there are split rounds and had a station been assigned the East Perth-Swans games last week, they could have had first crack later in the year.

#### TAKING STOCK

By GARY STOCKS  
of the West Australian



Not only are East Perth being deprived of the broadcast, but the team they play is also suffering.

And Monday's Swans-Royals game was the closest match anyway!

#### Strike was futile

IT was disappointing to see the WAFL Umpires Association take the drastic action of going on strike last weekend.

The umpires felt that it was the only way they could obtain satisfaction in their request for the reintroduction of the two umpire system to the under-19s competition.

Unfortunately that approach of trying to force the League's hand had the opposite effect with the commissioners deciding to take a stand.

Few people would argue that the umpires had a responsibility to take up the issue with the league after young Adam Binks collapsed with heat exhaustion on the first day of the season.

That was a sad situation, but the umpires might have acted a little hastily last week.

The WAFL introduced the one-umpire system to the under-19s as a cost-saving exercise and it was to operate for the first series of seven games on an experimental basis and then reviewed.

Had the umpires waited until that experimental period had expired then they would have received greater public support and there was a strong chance the WAFL would have reviewed the situation.

It seems a trait of the 1980's that industrial action, particularly striking, is the first option explored rather than a last-ditch effort.

The situation pertained to the under-19 competition and that is where it should have stayed.

## Shades of bygone days with the Pies

WHEN Carlton and Collingwood clash in any season at any venue it's a match with great interest.

Even in recent years, with the Pies languishing near the bottom of the ladder, it's been a hard result to predict.

This week the VFL has a real bonanza with both sides undefeated and ready to do battle at VFL Park.

The crowd can be confidently predicted at a lock-out 75,000.

And what a confrontation it promises to be — the finesse, class, power, arrogance and poise of the Blues against the enthusiasm, drive, aggression, determination and grit of the new-look Magpies.

If the Pies do get the points, football will be reliving memories of the late 1950s. An expected Melbourne victory in Sydney would leave these two great clubs alone at the top of the ladder — undefeated.

#### SOUR TASTE

IT really was a sour day for the Eagles.

Injuries to David Hart, Guy McKenna and Mark Zanotti were certainly not welcome and even the team's banner ran into trouble.

When it finally got to the ground, the players ran around it at half-time. Just one of these days the "Todd boys" would like to forget. They're not the first side to leave Victoria Park in a state of disrepair and they won't be the last!

#### BIG GAP

THE VFL must be concerned with the chasm that has already opened up on the ladder.

After just four rounds, there appears to be a few teams with little or no chance of playing in the finals.

Richmond, Brisbane Bears, Sydney Swans, St. Kilda and Footscray appear to



#### THE EAST COAST

with SHANE HEALEY  
6PR's man-on-Melbourne

have no hope, while Fitzroy and North Melbourne are also looking rather shaky.

That makes it just a seven-team battle and it seems as though we are in for one of the most lopsided seasons in quite some time.

#### HARD TO PLEASE

COACHES are a difficult lot to please.

Apart from Kevin Sheedy and Robert Walls, most coaches were unhappy with their team's efforts during the Anzac weekend of football.

Of the six teams I saw, Collingwood were by far the best.

Geelong and Melbourne recorded easy wins, but their opposition in Richmond and the Bears was very poor.

It's going to be a long winter for former greats, Peter Knights (Bears) and Kevin Bartlett (Richmond) as they attempt to mould their teams into competitive combinations.

#### FIERY START

THE crowd of over 31,000 at Moorabbin was the biggest there for 15 years.

However, many of them missed a sensational start to the clash between St Kilda and Essendon.

There was no excuse for fans having to wait until quarter-time to gain entry.

The problem was caused by the fact that most supporters arrived after noon, as there was no curtain raiser due to the remembrance of Anzac Day.

The huge crowd also saw what may become the most controversial incident of the 1988 season — the clash between Warren "Wow" Jones and Essendon's Steven Clark.

I'll leave the VLF's investigators to decide on that one!



# Carlile bows out on a strong note

THE old cliché should read "behind a successful club is a successful president" when it comes to the Subiaco Football Club.

Michael Carlile has retired as president of the Lions, who have gone from rags to riches within a decade.

The Lions were an embarrassment to the WAFL when Carlile became a committee man. They were almost bankrupt financially and far from being competitive on-field.

Behind the scenes he had many personal qualities that would eventually take the Lions to the top, both on and off the field.

Perhaps his strongest quality as a leader was his ability to select the right people and then allow them to do the job while he watched and silently supervised.

Michael Flanagan and Trevor Nisbett were selected as the key men behind the club's financial and playing areas.

Flanagan brought financial drive and sponsorship expertise, which, when added to Carlile's financial background, has seen perhaps the biggest turnabout in club finances in the history of our game.

## DIRECTION

Nisbett, as the football manager, provided the character, knowledge and direction for the on-field development that eventually achieved a premiership.

This turnabout, from last on the premiership table to the top, deserves accolades as one of the game's greatest achievements.

During Carlile's reign, he has seen other clubs pass by on their way to take the "poor relations" of football title.

Carlile believes that actions speak louder than words, as his comments have been few and far between.

Never one to rant and rave or publicly express his anger, he can surely take the title of the game's most professional leader in the past decade.

Leaders with Carlile's ability are few and far between. Too many club lead-



Michael Carlile ... a professional leader.

ers have the philosophy that nothing can happen without their say so, both on and off field.

Delegating responsibility to the right people is a quality very few people have; yet this quality, as Carlile has proved, can change the course of a club.

Carlile should not be allowed to drop out of football; he has too much to offer.

His record speaks for itself and therefore his expertise as a "special adviser" to the WAFL and its clubs must not be lost.

The Commissioners should discuss ways in which he can offer his knowledge to the game.

His analysis of a club's future direction would be excellent value for the game.

Carlile is the football achiever of modern times and hopefully, both the game and his club will honour him.

Perhaps a special tribute can be made at the State-of-Origin game in July.

He may now be able to spend more time with his family and his leisure interest of breeding racehorses, but he has earned a special place in Australian Football history.

## DORRO'S DIARY

By GRANT DORRINGTON



## A great experience!

THIS Friday night will see a once-in-a-lifetime experience for a group of footballers from the north of Australia.

Teams from Bathurst Island (off the coast of Darwin) and One Arm Point (200km north of Broome) will play against each other in the curtain-raiser game to the Eagles v Footscray match.

When these teams contacted the Football Development Trust in late 1987 to see if there was any possibility of playing a game before a VFL fixture, they did not really believe that it could happen.

After investigating their request and realising just how much Australian Football means to them, it was a tremendous challenge to bring about the experience.

Their reaction to this game has been remarkable.

Many of the players have never been to the "big smoke" and none have seen the WACA Ground or a live Eagles game.

To think that they will run on to the ground, play under lights and in front of a large crowd must be a sporting highlight in their life.

They arrived last Sunday and have

*The boys from the bush will be terrific!*

had a big week of sport organised for them by the FDT.

They have been guests of the Wildcats basketball team, the Sheffield Shield cricket side, the South Fremantle Football Club and the Eagles.

Barry Cable, John Todd, Ross Glendinning, Cal Bruton and Graeme Wood all took them for training sessions.

Football supporters should get to the game early to watch these extremely skilful players show the style that made Mr Magic, Maurice Rioli, a household word in Australian Football.

The Eagles have been strong in their encouragement of such grass roots development of the game by allowing this unique experience for footballers from a remote and often-forgotten part of our sporting arena.

# Development in good hands

WITH the numbers of people playing Australian Football dropping off, the game has to take a close look at its future direction.

The establishment of the Football Development Trust has provided the catalyst for all WAFL clubs to sit down and draft a plan to work to for the future.

To make the plan work, there is a need for people with special qualities to be instrumental in the grass roots front-line development work.

Gone are the days when everyone played football. There are now many other competitors in the sports market trying to entice young people to play their game.

Special people are the key to the game's advance and the group I'm talking about are the WAFL club Development Managers.

These men have the enormous responsibility of re-creating a positive image back into both country and metropolitan football, from juniors to seniors.

## SACRIFICES

Their personal sacrifices are many, spending week nights and weekends working on clinics for schools, elite football programs, coach education courses, CIG and Quit Cup secondary school competitions, to mention a few.

Being a team game, football has many dedicated people putting in countless time and energy, but the undisputed leaders in the development of the WAFL's future is the Development Manager.

These are the men who have that football development in their hands — Trevor Nisbett (Subiaco), Alan White (West Perth), Ross Luckman (Claremont), Peter Mahoney (Swan Districts), Brian Ciccotosto (South Fremantle), Clinton Pike (East Fremantle), Steve Woodhouse (Perth) and Andrew Komp (East Perth).

# A FIGHTING ISSUE!

GEORGE Grljusich, the ABC's sports department head and I have one thing in common — we both like a good night out at the trots.

But there are a couple of issues where we get the urge to come out fighting — and one of these is the matter of time clocks at the league ovals.

George (like a good Bulldog from way back who ducks, weaves and moves to the right) believes that the present system is the best. The spectators have to guess the time left to play, which builds tension and adds to the excitement of the last few minutes of a close game.

Yours truly (like an Old Easts half-back, fearless in the clinches and dancing smartly to the left, tossing a jab or two) believes that a clock, synchronised with the time-keepers should count down the 25 minutes and let the supporters know exactly how much time is left to play.

George is orthodox, upright, straight back and believes that what has been around since clocks were invented was good enough for his grandfather and his father. Being something of an innovative Southpaw, I believe we should try something new and see how it turns out.

The Waffles Peter Cummiskey, is wearing white and trying to make sure that it is a fair fight. He is standing on the ropes, which is football's equivalent of sitting on the fence.

But he indicates that the Waffle discussed this topic and the feeling was that the present system was best and nothing should be done to change it.

## FROM WHERE I SIT

Wheelchair sports critic BILL MATHER-BROWN



Being a poor loser, I'm not prepared to accept the verdict without a trial, so I reckon I'll need some support from somewhere.

If you agree with me, then write to the League and ask for a clock to be put up somewhere on a trial basis. The public are the consumers and you can bet that the League will bow to weight of numbers.

With this in mind we can suggest that the bell for the end of round one has sounded. George has staggered back to his corner to take a breather, while I'm determined to be a stayer and go the whole 15 rounds for something I believe is better.

## FOOTY WIMPS?

DAV Rabey, a workmate of mine and a pretty volatile character, hit my office like cyclone Tracey hitting Darwin.

"You know what I reckon," he stormed. "I reckon they're turning into a mob of fair dinkum wimps."

"Who are?" I said meekly.

"The football mob. Once upon a time the selectors had to pick a team of

no more than 20 players, 18 on the ground and two reserves. If someone got hurt he was replaced by one of them and that was the end of it; no going back on again.

"Then they brought in two umpires and now Toddy wants to chop the quarters down to 20 minutes and someone else wants more interchange players."

He was looking at me as though it was my fault and, as a member of this society, I had the strangest feeling that perhaps I do carry some responsibility for it.

The interchange of players when there is an injury is a good idea, but just running players off and on (like the interchange of ruckmen for instance) leaves me cold.

Selectors can now have a stab in the dark and if they make a mistake they can get off the hook by just changing the player.

The old system where the selectors had to be right the first time had something in its favour.

## IAN MILLER

Former VFL, WAFL star  
Sandover Medallist and league coach



## TURNER'S WORTH HIS PLACE

THE football adage that you're only as good as your last game rings true for the Eagles, disappointing losers to Collingwood.

Dean Turner, who, in my opinion, was their best player, knows all about the highs and lows in football.

From his early days at both East Perth and Fitzroy, Turner was often branded with a reputation as a receiver only. He has certainly turned that around.

His position pre-season was supposedly in question for the Eagles' 1988 line-up, which is amazing when you consider (1) He is one of the few players with VFL experience; (2) He is a player with genuine pace, and the Eagles lack a few of these; (3) He is capable of playing at both ends of the ground and also in midfield.

Turner has been a consistent performer in all games this year, but of course, as he well knows, the pressure is on every week and the only way to keep the critics at bay is to perform.

## UMPIRES' FIASCO

LET me say from the outset, I believe the Under-19 competition should be controlled by the two-umpire system.

Rule changes and playing methods demand it. Also it is the norm for the higher grades, of which the U-19s is a training ground.

Pre-season the WAFL, seemingly for financial reasons, sought to cut back to the one-umpire system.

From a cost-saving viewpoint this represents about \$5000 per year or 1000 paying adult spectators.

The position is to be reviewed after round seven.

The umpires, seeking action before then, decided to strike — a move that was totally unwarranted.

They should have taken immediate action after the round one incident.

And any strike action should have been restricted to the Under-19 competition.

I appreciate the impact would be minimal. The overall loser has to be football.

Season 1988 started on such a good note that the strike decision by the Umpires' Association triggered a fiasco which should never have occurred.

The WAFL have ridden the bumps for one week but a satisfactory solution must be resolved this week.

## GIVE THIS A TRIAL

I'VE been saying for years that the senior umpires' adviser at each League game should go on to the ground at the first and third quarter breaks and speak to the umpires, just as a coach does to his players.

This has always been taboo, for reasons which escape me.

But on Monday WAFL umpires' committee member Bryan Cousins went on with emergency umpire John McGuire at quarter time in the Perth-South Fremantle game.

I'm sure the umpires appreciate the opportunity for some feedback, encouragement or just general comment on the play to that stage.

Of course, it would be important that the adviser/coach went on to the ground at each break as standard procedure, not just when it suits.

I believe the idea has merit.

## BULLDOGS CRUMBLE

Last Monday was my first opportunity to see South Fremantle in action and I was most disappointed with their effort.

While Perth played a superb brand of football, at no stage did South look like giving them any competition, except in the fourth quarter when the game was as good as over.

I was battling to find more than half a dozen good players over the four quarters, which I'm sure would be disturbing for coach Stan Magro.

Maurice Rioli didn't look 100 per cent fit and one got the impression that South have a total reliance on the gifted centreman to get them going. Without him they'll always struggle. I hope that won't be the case.

South have some talented players and Mark Bayliss looked good, even better when at full-forward.

In the last quarter South delivered the ball better to that area. Previously they just bombed it up forward to Craig Edwards for little result and the Perth defence cleaned up.

South will be looking for some stability in key positions and consistency from their players to recapture their winning formula.

## GAVRANICH ON BOIL

WHEN the State selectors consider making additions (and deletions) to the State squad, Perth's big ruckman John Gavranich must be included.

His return to League football after injury against South Fremantle on Monday showed that he has lost none of his good pre-season form.

He combined very effectively with Dempsey Narkle to dominate the big-man duels. Gavranich's bulk, strength, experience, marking ability around the ground and general team play make him an ideal inclusion.

I know the gentle giant wouldn't even be considering State football. He just wants to play for the Demons every week and give them 100 per cent.

But don't be surprised if the former Teal Cup player represents his State again in 1988. There are no worries about John Gavranich's attitude

## Flashback to 1938 strike

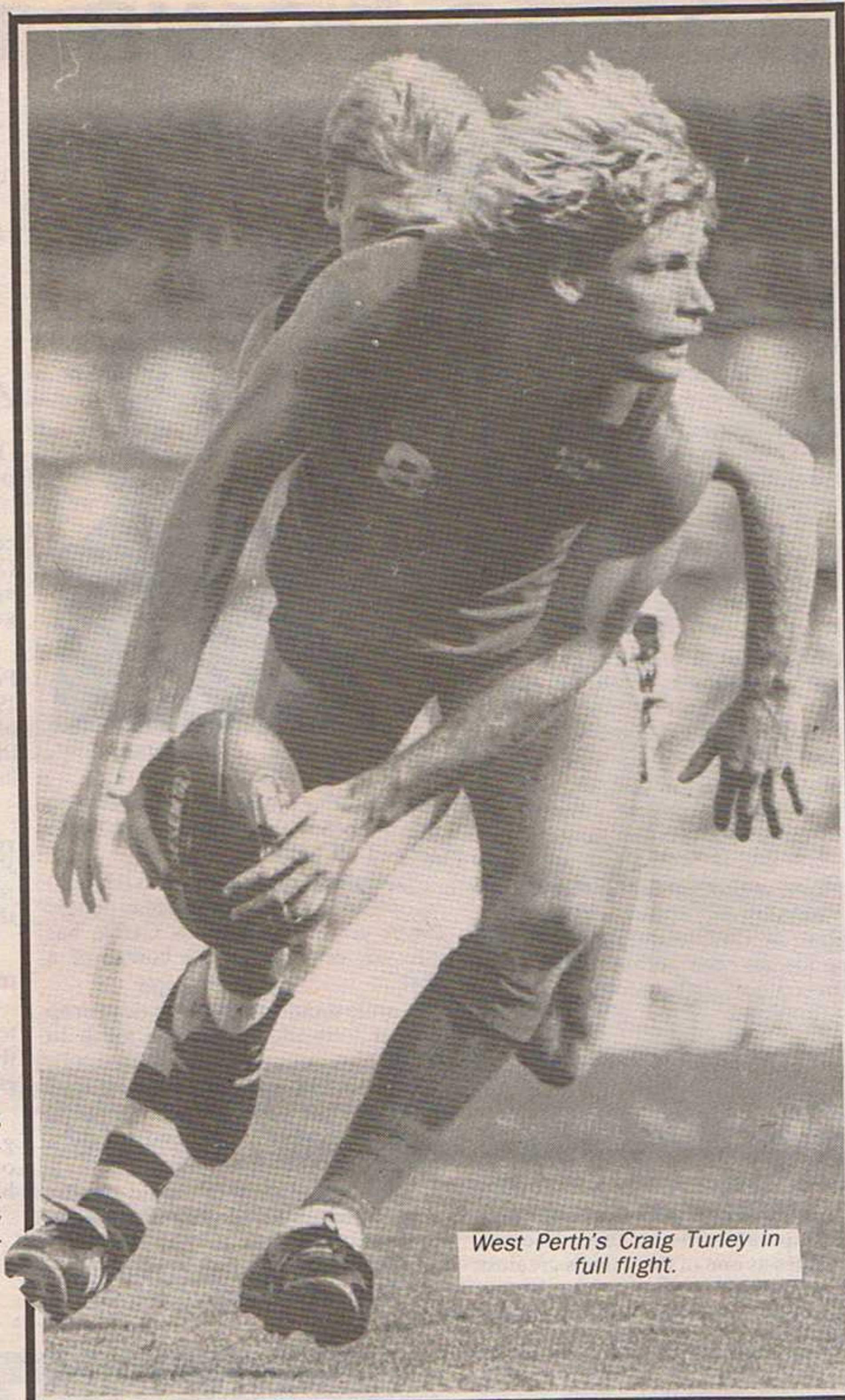
THE last umpires' strike occurred exactly 50 years ago, in 1938, when the failure of the League to increase match payments was the main grievance.

For Round 12 the League were forced to use volunteer umpires. Two of them, Keith Hough and Billy Thomas, were Sandover Medallists. The other two, Johnny Grigg and Frank Morris, were also former League players.

A press report said: "It is regrettable that the umpiring dispute ever occurred. The umpires made a tactical error in introducing their ultimatum when they did."

"One of the admirable features of the impromptu umpiring on Saturday was the sympathetic attitude of the players. There was very little evidence of attempts to profit by the inexperience of the 'stand-ins'."

Two of the regular umpires involved in the dispute refused to handle another game that year.



West Perth's Craig Turley in full flight.

## COLLIE BOYS STAND OUT

THE South West of our State has a habit of producing very good footballers and West Perth have picked up a couple of good ones in former Collie players Darren O'Brien and Neil Jackson.

O'Brien gave a top exhibition on a wing against Claremont. The further the game went, the better he played.

He is a stylish left-footer who has time to deliver the ball and knows how to dispose of it effectively.

I mentioned Neil Jackson last week after watching him in action for the first time and predicted he was a player of the future. Against Claremont, he was even more impressive.

Jackson, cool in a crisis, a good reader of the play, a strong overhead mark and who has good skills with either hand or foot, reminds me of former East Fremantle and State centre-half-back Doug Green, also a country boy.

If Jackson continues his good form it wouldn't surprise me to see him included in the State squad.

## FOOTBALL FACTS

By top WA football historian  
DAVE CLEMENT



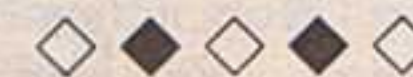
Back in 1915 the first umpires' strike came with just one set of fixtures remaining to be played.

Three 'volunteers' were used. One of them was League secretary Billy Orr, who officiated in all the finals that year.



LAST Monday's double-header at the WACA was not entirely new to League football in WA, as my statistician friend Steve Davies points out.

On July 8, 1922, East Perth 7.11 beat Perth 6.9 and West Perth 7.8 beat South Fremantle 4.11 on the one afternoon at the Claremont Showground.



SUBIACO meet Perth this week for the 256th time and although the Demons' form reads best (144 wins to 111), their meetings at Subiaco Oval produce a remarkable statistic.

Subiaco have played host 120 times and the score stands at 60 all

THROUGHOUT his 251-game career with Subiaco, Austin Robertson kicked a double-figure goal tally 14 times on his way to a League record of 1278 goals.

Strangely, not once did he perform this feat against Perth. The only Subiaco forward to do so was Jack Jemmings way back in 1935.



IN Round five of season 1962 the talk was all about Haydn Bunton, captain-coach of Swans, who thrashed South Fremantle by 78 points before a then record crowd of 14,755 at Bassendean.

A statistician claimed Bunton had 88 kicks for the match, 54 in the first half. Some fans in the McDonald Stand insisted he had more than 100.

(In recent years when a professional statistical service was in operation, Subiaco centreman Peter Featherby was credited with 39 kicks in a game against Perth in 1984.)

# Keene is walking a football tightrope

LAURIE Keene is headed for football oblivion and not even the worries about a lack of playing depth in the Eagles squad can save him.

Eagles coach John Todd gambled with the re-introduction of Keene and John Annear for their first VFL games of the season last weekend. Both disappointed, with Keene, in particular unbalancing the side.

Todd did not have too many options.

With nine players injured and only five other playing WAFL football last weekend, he was stretched to his selection limits.

He picked his best available side against Collingwood and though the Eagles outscored the Magpies in the last half, Collingwood's 46-point half-time lead was too great an obstacle.

Keene had just five kicks and one mark and, like Annear, was obviously short of match practice.

## COMMITMENT

He was used at the centre bounce for a period, when the side's No. 1 follower Alex Ischchenko went to full-forward. But Keene didn't show enough commitment or desire to really mix it with Collingwood's new ruck star James Marlson.

Unless Keene lifts immediately — and already his attitude has angered coach Todd — he'll be permanently back in the WAFL, a great disappointment considering he's just 27 and should be at his prime.

Keene is regarded as a specialist ruckman and doesn't appear mobile enough to be a consistent success up forward.

Keene will be available for Friday's game against Footscray.

Ugle missed selection against Collingwood, but turned in a top game for Swan Districts.

Unfortunately Chris Lewis' groin injury has flared again and there are doubts of him playing in at least the first half of the season.

The Eagles can recover from the Collingwood mauling and a loss at this stage of the season may actually be beneficial; quickly swapping the players back to reality after the heady successes of early April.

## CONFIDENCE

Given a return to a four-quarter commitment, the Eagles can win their next three games and recapture top-of-the-ladder ranking by mid-May.

A 6-1 win/loss record would be a genuine confidence-booster coming into the matches against power teams Hawthorn (round eight) and Carlton (round nine).

The Eagles should re-include Karl Langdon at half-forward for Friday night after he missed last week's game with tonsillitis.

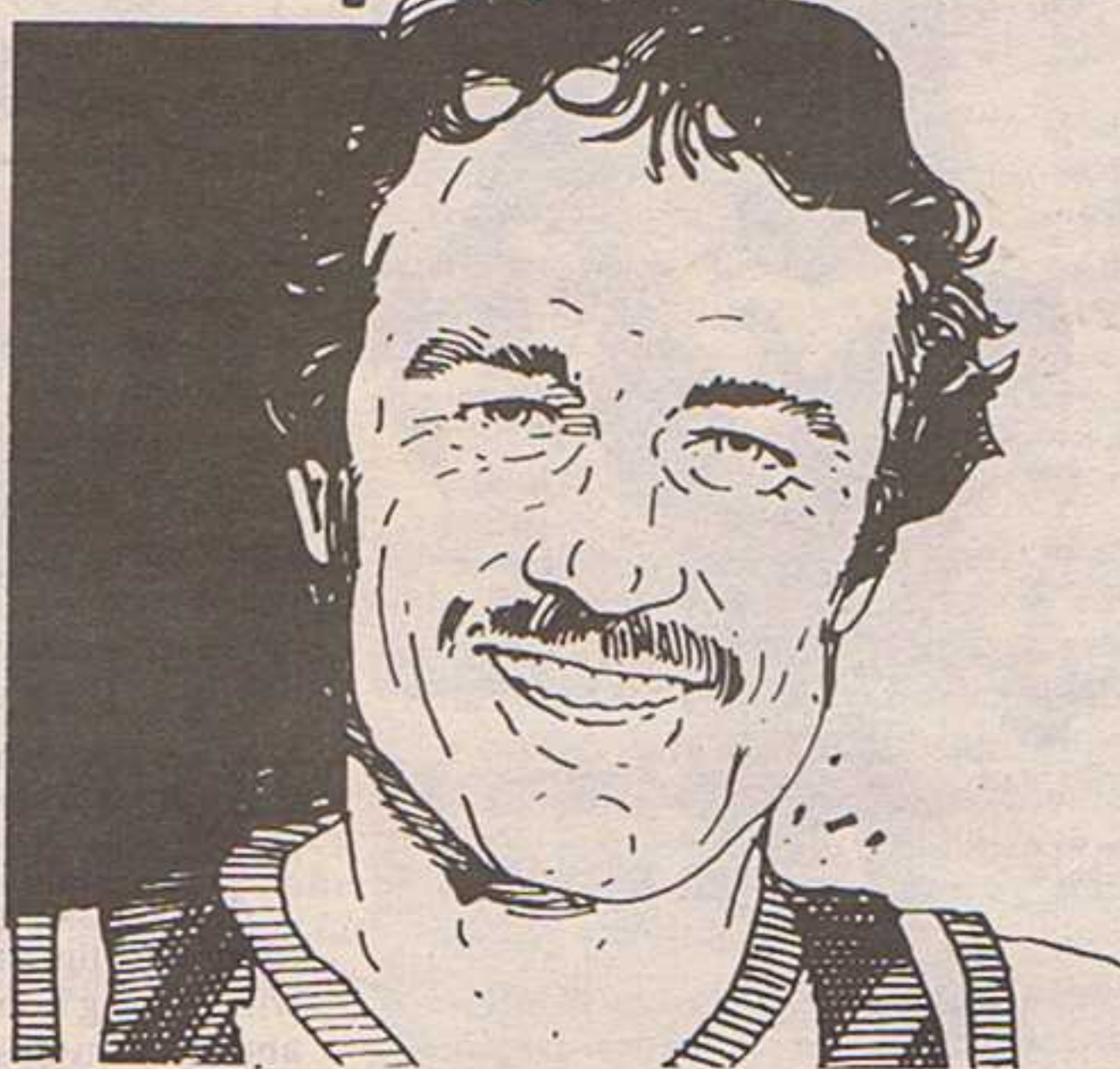
His bounce and aggression was missed against Collingwood and Ross Glendinning was shifted to centre-half-forward at stages to provide a lift.

The skill of Andrew Lockyer will be a further bonus once he recovers from injury.

Talented backman Guy McKenna was hoping his injured ankle was only a minor problem. He showed



From leading football journalist and 6NR commentator **KEN PIESSE** in Melbourne.



Laurie Keene ... could be heading for football oblivion unless he lifts his rating.

great courage to remain on the field after appearing to sustain ligament damage in the first quarter and he didn't leave the field until the final term.

Michael O'Connell needs to improve his form up forward. He took only two marks against Collingwood and didn't get a kick in the last half.

Eagles officials were disappointed with the standard of the umpiring last weekend. Collingwood received 42 free kicks to 20, an abnormal discrepancy. However, the Eagles tended to play from behind and weren't as desperate for the ball.

It should be a transformed team which takes on under-rated Footscray at the WACA Ground in round five.

# Stats big deal with players

By **RICHARD CANN**  
Eastern States  
statistician for the  
West Coast Eagles.

FOOTBALLERS are invariably interested in statistics. Usually the standard statistics — kicks, marks and handpasses — hold most interest.

Football coaches' interest in, and reliance on, statistics tends to vary more. Some coaches place considerable emphasis on player statistics.

David Parkin was said to have had one statistician for each player when he was coaching at Carlton.

Ron Barassi, at Melbourne, insisted on kicks being recorded in five categories — to Melbourne, to Melbourne's advantage, neutral, to the oppositions advantage, or to the opposition.

## VAST ARRAY

Marks were contested or uncontested; knocks-on were recorded as to the ground or in the air, leads and runs past were among the vast array of statistics Barassi had recorded by his dozen or so statisticians.

Football coaches and footballers seem to be unable to resist inquiring about statistics.

Darrel Baldock and his St Kilda players were at Victoria Park on Saturday to watch the West Coast Eagles take on Collingwood.

Baldock, and players such as Nicky Winmar, Steve Turner and Rod Owen (all named in St Kilda's best in their win over North Melbourne the previous week) are no different to the norm.

"How many of your guys haven't had a touch yet?" Baldock asked.

"What are Scott's stats?" asked one of the players. "He's having a bit of trouble with Taylor".

Phil Scott, at full-back, had his work cut out on Collingwood's Brian Taylor, who had kicked 3.3 to half-time. Statistics weren't going to make the story any different.

## QUESTIONS

More questions following. Despite his initial interest in the half-time statistics, it became obvious that Baldock is not in the Parkin or Barassi mould where statistics are concerned.

On being told that Eagles' coach John Todd isn't concerned with individual player statistics, Baldock looked at his players (who probably don't subscribe to this aspect of the Todd football philosophy) and smiled.

"He must be a good coach then," he mused.

★★★★★

THE West Coast Eagles have now played at least one match on the home grounds of the 11 Victorian-based clubs. The loss to Collingwood at Victoria Park on Saturday gives them the dubious distinction of losing their first game on each of the seven grounds shared by the Victorian-based clubs. The Brisbane Bears, in contrast, won their debut games on both the Melbourne Cricket Ground and Kardinia Park.

★★★★★

THE 1988 VFL season has yet to produce a game with a margin of a goal or less. This contrasts with the 1987 home and away matches which featured 20 games, including three in round 22, where the margin was a goal or less.

The West Coast Eagles played in five such games last season winning against Carlton (3 points) and Hawthorn (1 point), and losing to Essendon (5 points), Geelong (6 points) and Richmond (4 points).

It is probably no coincidence that the two close games the Eagles won were in Perth; the three they lost were in Victoria.

# Binks supports two umpires

CENTRAL umpire Adam Binks, whose collapse in an under-19 match precipitated last weekend's strike controversy, believes that the incident could have been avoided had the two umpire system been in effect.

Binks passed out with heat exhaustion in the dying minutes of the Perth versus East Fremantle colts clash in the first round of fixtures this season.

He was forced to have emergency medical treatment at the ground and spent the night recuperating in the Royal Perth Hospital.

A full recovery was achieved this week when Binks began training again with the umpires squad and officiated in the Sunday Football League last weekend.

He believes that greater concentration is required under the one-umpire system and more running is demanded of the umpire.

Binks agrees that the main reasons given by the WAFL for justifying the one-umpire system in under-19s matches was that it gave young umpires greater responsibility.

He also believes there is no shortage of central umpires at present and this cannot be offered as an excuse for turning out only one umpire for a colts match.

Since his collapse almost a month ago, Binks lost over half a stone in weight, but is confident of resuming his normal umpiring duties this week.

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The progressive statistics tally for the Eagles players is as follows:

	1988	1988	1988
	Kicks	Marks	H/Balls
John Annear	5	0	8
Michael Brennan	42	13	9
John Gastev	51	19	31
Ross Glendinning	44	34	12
David Hart	58	14	18
Brett Hutton	5	3	0
Alex Ischchenko	28	26	28
Laurie Keene	5	1	2
Dean Laidley	47	16	13
Dwayne Lamb	60	16	37
Karl Langdon	24	10	5
Andrew Lockyer	23	14	6
Chris Mainwaring	61	15	22
Stephen Malaxos	19	4	11
Guy McKenna	22	14	37
Geoff Miles	35	18	21
Michael O'Connell	36	24	8
Paul Peos	15	8	6
Murray Rance	41	13	19
Phil Scott	29	16	12
Dean Turner	55	14	28
Troy Ugle	14	2	9
John Worsfold	78	22	21
Murray Wrensted	48	9	19
Mark Zanotti	43	15	26

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# TIGERS REBUILD AGAIN

REIGNING premiers Claremont plundered 19 wins and a draw from their 21 qualifying games last season, thanks mainly to a core of young players.

Coach Gerard Neesham will be hoping for the same kind of development from a new batch of youngsters as the Tigers try to recover from a serious drain of experienced players in 1988.

The Tigers have not worried about a wholesale recruiting drive — and why should they considering the talent flowing through the under-19s and reserves.

While players such as Ben Allan and Don Pyke adjust immediately to the tempo of league football last season, it will be interesting to see if the new crop show the same adaptability.

Nicky Yarran comes to mind as one likely to do just that.

The slightly-built rover polled an amazing 64 votes in last year's Medalists Medal for the colts fairest and best and won by 30 votes from his nearest rival.

Yarran made his league debut against Subiaco last week and was impressive around the ground and in front of goals in pre-season games.

Yarran reminds of another slightly-built Aboriginal who won the Medal-



Todd Beveridge ... ready for league.

lists Medal in 1979 — and the Sandover Medal in 1982 — Phil Narkle.

A well-known name who has been hovering around Claremont Oval for several seasons is Bill Krakouer.

Krakouer is pint-sized and doesn't possess quite the same skills as his famous brothers, although he will vie with Yarran throughout the season for a roving berth.

Eye-catching 18-year-old Scott Edwards is another player the Claremont hierarchy have been monitoring closely.

Edwards is a dashing half-back who has quickly secured a regular berth and looks in the style of his father, Tigers premiership centreman Dale Edwards.

Highly under-rated ruck-rover Steve Goulding has returned to his native Tasmania and left a big hole in the following division.

Ryan Dhue started the 1987 colts season in a blaze of glory, booting 10 goals from full-forward against Perth.

## CLAREMONT PRODUCE THEIR OWN TALENT

### KNOW YOUR CLUB

By RON McDONALD  
of The West Australian



However, Dhue can be used in a variety of roles and has already shown his style in the seniors.

While the young talent is causing the most excitement at Claremont Oval, the return of one of it's fairest and hardest working players has been a real boon for the club.

Mike Aitken returns via a couple years at Carlton and a year studying medicine in the UK.

Aitken can be used in most key positions and his presence and experience will be a big bonus for Gerard Neesham and his young side.

The Tigers have also picked up Jeff Jones from Albury-Wodonga.

#### CHAMPION

Jones has impressed on a wing in pre-season matches and is built in the same mould as Collingwood champion Peter Daicos.

The young man who will wear Goulding's number this season is hoping to follow in his illustrious footsteps.

Matt Elliott is also a ruck-rover and will push hard for permanent league selection.

And the list of highly promising players goes on — just look at centre-half-forward Damon Buckley.

Buckley has represented WA at both State schoolboy level and Teal Cup level and it would seem that progression to league ranks is a natural step.

While not as well recognised as Yarran, Krakouer or Edwards, Buckley could prove to be the pick of the crop.

The Tigers are fortunate to boast another key attacking player in Craig Clarke.

Clarke broke down in a Kresta Cup game last season and found it tough to force his way into a Claremont side that was taking it all before them.



Nicky Yarran ... a potential star.

The blue and golds may be a little short on ruckmen this season, which could see Rob Fitzgerald or John Brearley given the opportunity.

Fitzgerald played strongly in Claremont's reserves premiership side last year and is on the verge of a league debut.

Brearley is still young and raw, but opportunity is a great thing.

Phil Gilbert is a strong player from Mt Barker who never shirks an issue and has made several attempts to break into the league side.

Others on the fringe include Andrew McGovern, Nick Morgan, Bob Malone and Todd Beveridge.



Scott Edwards ... making an immediate impression.

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# EMU EXPORT LAGER

## Swans have reaped a good country harvest

SWAN Districts have an exciting bunch of young players at the club who are sure to provide plenty of competition for places in the league side and opposition teams.

A tall, rangy teenager from Bunbury has already emerged as a huge bonus for the black and whites.

Steven Bazzo has been constantly under the notice of Swans officials since his debut with South-West side Carey Park.

Young Bazzo (19) played in a premiership with the club in 1986 and found out how tough it can be to play in a losing preliminary final team last season.

Bazzo narrowly missed winning his club's fairest and best award last season, when four players finished within a game's worth of votes of each other.

### KNOW YOUR CLUB

By **RON McDONALD**  
of *The West Australian*



He is tall for a wingman, well over 182cm (6ft) and has good speed, kicks well and likes to be where the ball is.

While Bazzo was hardly under notice in the pre-season, his Carey Park teammate and the man who pipped him for the fairest and best last year, **Kurnut Thorne**, was starring.

Thorne booted 20 goals in three intra-club games and then amassed 10 goals in his Kresta Cup debut against West Perth.

The fast leading 23-year-old with a kick like Kevin Caton then suddenly found out all about the vagaries of league football.

He struggled in the following two pre-season outings and couldn't get

near the form he showed earlier against West Perth in the opening round and was dropped the following week.

But Thorne has a sensational leap and was the most charismatic personality in the South-West for a number of years, where he kicked 113 goals last year.

Providing he keeps knuckled down to the task, like he showed in the reserves, Thorne is sure to have an impact eventually.

One of the surprise cards at Bassendean has been the emergency of nippy rover **Austin Ietto**.

Ietto played one senior game with Swans in 1985 — when they lost by 20 goals to South Fremantle — and returned to Harvey-Brunswick.

#### BACK AGAIN

However, he was enticed back to the club this year and put in a great showing first up against South Fremantle in his league debut.

Ietto knows no fear and is also sharp around the ground — good attributes for a rover.

Another nippy little player, **Brett Glass**, made his league debut in the first game of the season against West Perth.

The former Northam player was impressive in the reserves last season and must have been unlucky not to have made his debut earlier.

With Andy Holmes, Greg Walker and Ietto around the club, Glass adds depth to the little man department.

Matt Stevens has made the journey from Esperance to join brother Stuart and get his first taste of league football against South Fremantle.

Young Matt can play in a variety of positions and has already demonstrated good poise under pressure — something that must delight coach Ed Blackaby.

Yet another promising teenager from Bunbury should also make his presence felt during the year.

Big **Craig Ranson** is a Teal Cup product and has the capacity to play in a variety of positions.



Jamie O'Donohue ... big, strong ruckman with a strong pair of hands.

He was tried on a wing during Swans' pre-season campaign and showed enough form to warrant serious selection.

**Ian Bennell** played with South Bunbury last season and has the capacity to kick goals as a wingman or forward pocket.

Though his slight size may go against him, Bennell always gives 100 per cent and will make the most of any opportunities that go his way.

Esperance forwards **Craig Treleven** and **Mark Quinlivan** must also come under consideration later in the year.

Full-forward Quinlivan has been made captain of the reserves, while Treleven is a goalkicking specialist off a forward flank.

**Jamie O'Donohue** and **Bob De Graaf** have played a couple of league games, but look set to develop this year.

De Graaf has come along in leaps and bounds and his tireless attitude has seen him overcome the odds in both the ruck and a tough centre-half-forward position.

O'Donohue is a big, strong and mean ruckman who could be used to advantage in a forward or back pocket with his marking power.

Two other players to watch are **Simon Moss** and **Wayne Morey**.

The solidly-built Morey has been around Bassendean for a while, but is a real goer.

His efforts are sure to eventually be rewarded.

Moss, a State under age water polo player, is a solid young half-back and could also be given a chance in higher ranks before the season is out.



Kurnut Thorne ... exciting potential who is taking time to adjust to the faster tempo of the WAFL.

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# The day the p took over



Ron Alexander and his Subiaco Junior Council partner Darren McPartland warm up before the Perth-South Fremantle clash.

BIG Ron Alexander on the side of the umpires! If you said that five fans would have laughed at you.

But on Monday the former East Perth, Fitzroy and East Fremantle took a thick of the action, this time as an umpire refereeing the fistcuffs.

Alexander was one of several past players who replaced the striking traditional fourth round of WAFL football.

The former footballers, junior council and country umpires did a fine tradition of the game must go on.

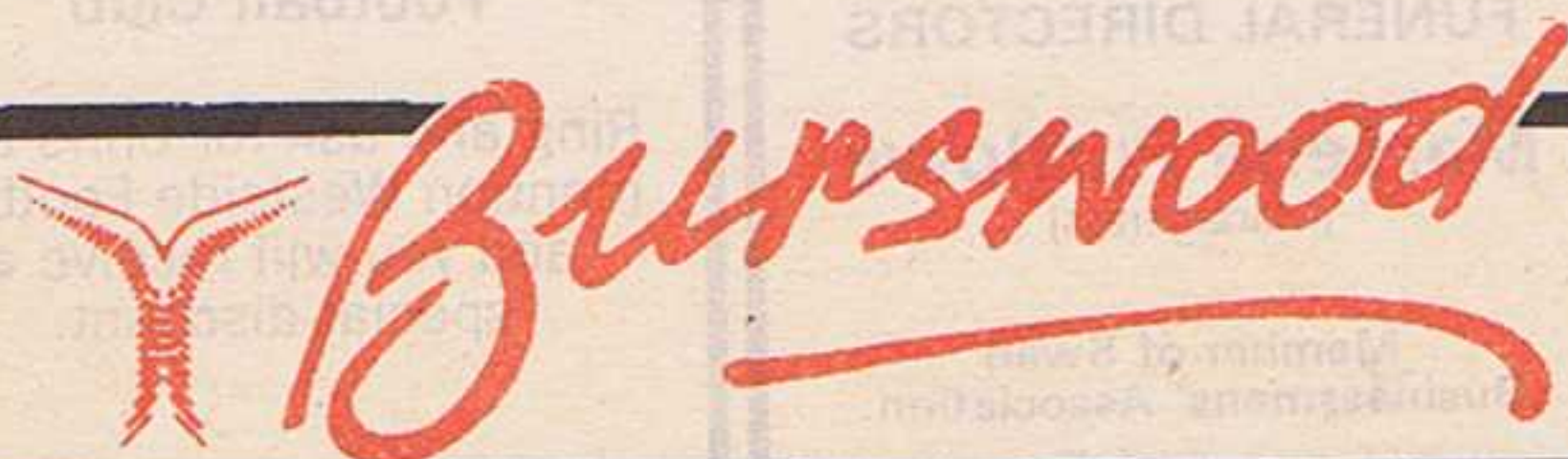


Former star South Fremantle rover Noel Carter tells the play during game.



Sitting on the bench were three former football faces from the past — (from left) boundary umpire Andy Hocking, who returned to the game after 17 years, Umpires Board member Bryan Cousins and former Perth and East Perth star John McGuire, who was an emergency umpire.

Boundary umpire Wayne Bradshaw looks like he's done this before.



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# players er!

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 fistcuffs.  
 the striking umpires in an his-  
 res did a fine job in the finest



Big Ron Alexander towers over the players  
 as he tries to break up an ugly melee.



David Fletcher, from junior ranks, holds the  
 ball aloft to start the West Perth-Claremont  
 clash.



David Fletcher signals a mark, watched  
 by Noel Carter with West Perth wingman  
 Sean King in the background.

**JULIAN COWAN  
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It's on sale in your newsagency now for just \$3.95 a copy, or available from Westside Football, PO Box 442, Morley 6062, at just \$4.50, postage paid.

## ASSOCIATION GETS GOING AGAIN

SWAN Districts utility player Len Gandini is the new president of the WAFL Players' Association and is keen to revive the organisation.

The Association went into remission in 1987, but Gandini feels that the organisation can play an important role in football when it comes to expressing the views of the players.

Most of the WAFL clubs have rallied to the cause to revive the association, with delegates from six of the eight league clubs being represented on the committee.

The Players' Association supported the action taken by the Umpires' Association last week, but at no stage threatened to boycott matches, as was reported.



## ROYALS ROLL-UP

EAST Perth had an excellent roll-up to their recent life members night — with six former captains of the Royals in attendance. It's one of the most popular nights at Perth Oval and the past captains who indulged in some reminiscing were Chris Allen, Mal Atwell, Mal Brown, Greg Walsh, Jim Spencer and Brad Smith. Incidentally, there were a few prominent names among the people who didn't have the courtesy to reply to the invitation. ... they know who we're referring to!

Our Royals photograph comes from another recent function when former club great and all-time champion Graham Farmer presented youngster Alan Cransberg (complete with his Royals bush hat) with guernsey No. 42 for this year.

## OVERDUE DEBUT

THE exciting debut of West Perth's Shayne O'Neill impressed many people at the WACA Ground on Monday — but the two men closest to the rookie weren't all that surprised. Falcons coach Bruce Monteath and his team manager Greg Simpson had O'Neill under their control when they combined to take the Claremont under-19s side to a premiership in 1986. When Monteath and Simpson moved to Leederville to take over the Falcons league side, O'Neill was one of the rookies they took with them — and since then they have been patiently awaiting the right time to introduce him to league ranks. The 20-year-old bank officer has ample potential to develop into a key forward.

## BIG KICKER

NICK Morgan may not be a name that readily springs to mind in football achievements, but the 19-year-old Claremont player has attained one feat that stands head and shoulders above any other player of his age.

He has officially the longest kick in football in Australia by a colts player (under-19).

Nick achieved this feat last year when he pulled on the boots during the half-time interval of the WA versus Victoria State of Origin clash for a kicking competition.

His first two kicks were pretty ordinary by his own standards, but the third, a spiral torpedo punt, rocketed off his boot to break Wayne Harmes' 10-year-old record.

Nick is currently playing in the Claremont reserves team but hopes to make it to league level.

Perhaps Gerard Neesham could kill two birds with one stone by placing him at full-back and using him as a goalkicker!

## ON THE BALL

By MIKE KNUCKEY



## BARRETT'S ROLE

FORMER South Fremantle and State back-pocket player Rod Barrett has taken on a new challenge at Wesley College — his employer of the last 12 months.

Barrett is a maths teacher at Wesley, but has been handed the task of coaching the school under-15s team.

Not so bad you say? Well it is when you consider that last season they played 15 games and lost 15.

However, the greying veteran does not look on it as a daunting task when he comments: "Everything is in my favour, if we win a game — I'm a hero!"

Barrett has spent the last three seasons at Armadale in the Sunday Football League.

Ironically, they too were bottom of the table when he started his coaching stint there in 1985, but improved to finish in the top half of the table.



Oh, no ... it couldn't be that bad! Falcons skipper Peter Menaglio holds his head in despair. But he needn't have worried ... West Perth did it well.

## OUCH ... that hurts!

Mark Hann ... a star player for Claremont this season, receives some treatment from Tigers head trainer Ron Chapman.



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Footy bingo every Tuesday, 8pm. Bingo Centre, 496 Guildford Road, Bayswater.

**EVERY MONDAY & WEDNESDAY:**  
Eagles training.

**THURSDAYS:**  
Club Night Membars Bar.  
7pm — Members Jackpot Draw.  
7.30pm — Announcement of League Side.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30:**  
10am — Under 19s  
12.10pm — Reserves  
2.20pm — League

6.30pm Presentation of Trophies, Members Bar — Perth Oval.  
Royals Bush Hats — \$39.00 each from club office  
Key Rings/Badges — \$5 each from club office

**THURSDAY, MAY 5:**  
5pm to 7pm — Royals Quarter Century Club Function — President Lounge.

**MONDAY, JULY 4:**  
Royals Ball — Pagoda Ballroom. Before State-of-Origin game WA v Victoria.  
Raffle Tickets  
Members please return — Drawn Saturday May 14.



# Another Sidebottom at Swans

LAST week we spoke of several promising players with celebrated football names who are working their way up through the minor grades.

Well, here's a couple more to keep your eye on.

Sixteen-year-old rover Michael Sidebottom has to live with a well-known football name.

To begin with his father Dave played 129 games with Swan Districts in the 1960s, highlighted by a premiership in 1963. He has since coached the Swans colts and is currently chairman of selectors at the club.

Michael's cousins have also been well represented at the club.

Garry Sidebottom played 114 games with Swans and many more with VFL sides St. Kilda and Fitzroy. He is now playing at Geraldton, in the Great Northern League alongside old team mate Barry Kimberley and they have recently established a business together in the area.

More cousins in Wally and Allan Sidebottom have had careers with a few ups and downs.

Both have been plagued with injuries which has forced Wally into retirement and a fractured cheekbone is currently keeping Allan out of action.

## ON THE BALL

By MIKE KNUCKEY



Greg Carpenter ... double celebration.

### DOUBLE DATE

NEWLY-appointed Subiaco vice-captain, Greg Carpenter, had another milestone to celebrate when he played his 50th game for the club against Swan Districts.

Carpenter also had the distinction of leading the side that day in the absence of skipper Neil Taylor. Carpenter has now played 107 games with both Subiaco and former club East Perth.

### GOOD NEWS

IT'S early days yet, of course, but the WAFL is hoping that the eight member clubs can have some better news down the financial track this season. After cutting last year's dividends from the League quite drastically, the clubs were told to budget for \$130,000 in receipts this year. However, WAFL chief Peter Cummiskey says that the League is now hoping to do much better than that if the improved attendance figures of the opening few weeks are maintained. "We would like to do in excess of \$150,000," he said.

### BUZZ'S ROLE

PETER Bosustow will take over the reins as coach of Canning, in the Sunday Football League.

The Buzz is still undecided about his football playing future and will start his new role as a non-playing coach.

He has opted out of the scene at Perth while a nagging ankle injury keeps him off the track, but he could be seen in action in the Sunday League.

Controversy has surrounded Canning in recent weeks following their dismissal of appointed coach Peter Thomas on the eve of their first game.

Both parties have sought legal advice over the issue and it is believed Canning have offered Thomas a sum of money as a consolation payment on his contract.

Canning officials decided that it was in the best interests of the club to replace him pre-season, rather than wait till the season got under way.

Perth reserves coach Tom Mullooly helped out in the meantime till Bosustow decided to take on another chapter in his football career.

Bosustow is tipped to pull on the boots before the year is out.

### CUP TRIALS

TEAL trials will begin this Sunday at Subiaco Oval with between 60 and 80 youngsters vying for this year's 25 spots in the team.

Coach Greg Brehaut and co-selectors Trevor Nisbett, Brian Ciccosto and Peter Mahoney will have the difficult job of making these selections.

Football Development Trust coordinator and Westside Football columnist, Grant Dorrington, is organising the Teal Cup and he is keen to be part of another successful campaign this year.

### WAFL LEADING GOALKICKERS

15: Todd Breman (Subiaco); 14: Neil Lester-Smith (East Fremantle); 13: Paddy Madaffari (West Perth); 12: John Georgiades (Subiaco); Brad McDougall (Subiaco); 11: Craig Edwards (South Fremantle); Allen Daniels (Perth); Peter Melesso (Claremont); 10: Mick Rea (Perth).



### BROWN'S BIG DAY

POPULAR defender Clinton Brown will notch up his 150th game with Subiaco this week when he runs onto Subiaco Oval to play Perth.

The 26-year-old policeman is in his ninth season of league football and has developed into one of his club's most reliable players.



What a winner! Lovely Perth model Alex Spargo supported the winning team. Alex is commuting from Sydney to home to catch some real football.

### MULLOOLY ROOKIE

GOOD judges in the Swan Districts camp hold high hopes for young Darren Mullooly, a gifted 17-year-old half-forward who plays in the Under-19s side.

He is a nephew of Tom Mullooly, who was a champion full-back for Swans and represented the State at the age of 17 years.

Tom went on to play 246 games, enjoying Swans '82 and '84 premierships, but missing the glory in 1983 with an injury. He has since begun a coaching career at Perth, taking on their reserves side and winning three of their first four matches.

### BIG NIGHT

SWANS members shouldn't forget their tickets for comedian Col Elliot's night on May 8. Tickets are selling fast but there are still a few left for what is bound to be an entertaining evening, starting at 7pm in the clubrooms.

### FALCONS RECRUIT

WEST Perth picked up a new recruit for the future when Jacob Foley, all 7lb 1oz of him, arrived in the world last week. Falcons ruck star Dan Foley was a proud man when his wife Carleen produced the grandson to former West Perth ruck legend and Sandover Medallist, Brian (Blue) Foley.



Swan Districts president Bill Walker even helps out injured players at the club ... this time youngster Stuart Stevens.



## THE FALCONS

**GLAMOUR ON THE CATWALK**  
Magnificent Models  
Handsome Footballers  
Staging a great extravaganza  
**FASHION PARADE**

Tuesday, May 4th  
Social Lounge  
Commencing 7.30pm  
fashions by **FERNANDOS LOGO**  
**TONY BARLOWS**

See also in action  
**JOHN GELAVIS — STATE AEROBIC CHAMPION**  
Tickets only \$6 Supper provided  
Mountway City Hyundai — Major Sponsor  
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## SOLAHART SUPPORTS



The Subiaco Football and Sporting Club Inc.

The Subiaco Football Club acknowledges the continued support of Solahart in its Junior Football Development Programme for the next three years.

*It pays to have a*  
**SOLAHART**

## South Fremantle



### MEMBERS & GUESTS

Friday night is  
**JACKPOT NIGHT**

Members must be on premises to claim  
**JACKPOT**

This is proving to be a great night for all. See you at the club.  
May 21 — Join Bushband  
"PIONEERS" at our  
Bicentennial Bash  
Meal to be served.  
Period costumes optional.  
Phone office or bar for bookings.

**335 1555**  
**BINGO THURSDAY EVENINGS**  
**EYES DOWN 8PM**  
Support your club  
"Commitment 88"



# Ansett angry at merger rumours

**NORTH Melbourne president Bob Ansett has reacted angrily at suggestions that the Kangaroos will move north to Sydney to merge with the Swans.**

Melbourne radio stations aired the rumour consistently over the weekend as the drama of the Swans financial woes unfolded.

Ansett, who has virtually pledged his Budget Rent-a-Car enterprise to help keep the 'Roos alive, stormed into the radio commentary box at VFL Park to deny the rumours.

The ABC commentators had been discussing the move when Ansett left the VIP area and marched up to the Press Box to demand a retraction on air.

"You can't say those things unless there is some validity for such a statement and there's no validity at all," he said.

## SHAREHOLDERS

"We are a public company with about 500 shareholders and that sort of rumour can have an effect.

"If that sort of rumour was made about any other public company, the National Companies Commission would take action.

"Unless you have evidence of a merger, you can't say those things; they

definitely have an effect on share prices."

North Melbourne shares have dropped to around \$1.06 each — badly affected by the share crash of last October.

However, Ansett says that they made a profit of \$90,000 last year, they had money in the bank and were in a sound financial position.

Rumours began in Melbourne that a "low-support" club might head north to amalgamate with the Swans, paving the way for the entry of a South Australian club next season.

"That's one of the things wrong with football," says Ansett. "Unless you've got evidence about such things, you just can't start rumours."

## Todd not impressed with the Magpies

**WEST Coast coach John Todd was a beaten man after the Collingwood Magpies had mauled his high-flying Eagles — but he wasn't giving the victors any great praise.**

Helped by the majority of the 26,276 people crammed into Victoria Park, the Magpies ran away with the four premiership points with a comfortable 39-point margin.

But Todd felt that it should have been a lot more — and he said so.

"They should have beaten us by 15 goals," said Todd.

"Maybe they haven't got the killer instinct people think they've got.

"We didn't win in a single position, yet the margin was still only six goals. They don't go on and crush the opposition when they have them on their knees."

Todd's comments about the possible winning margin at least had rival coach Leigh Matthews in agreement.

"Yes, we should have won by a lot more — 20 goals," said Matthews.

"Our stats show that we had more than 100 more possessions than the Eagles."

## BEASLEY KICKS HIMSELF INTO RECORD BOOKS

**FORMER West Australian ace goalkicker Simon Beasley kicked himself into Footscray's record books last weekend ... but hardly anyone noticed the feat.**

The Bulldogs put up a lamentable performance against North Melbourne, losing by 38 points, with Beasley kicking four goals.

His effort took his tally in seven seasons with Footscray to 494 goals — equalling the club record held by Kelvin Templeton.

Beasley arrived at Footscray in 1982 after a controversial clearance by Templeton to Melbourne in a \$500,000 deal that also involved Brownlow Medallist Peter Moore.

Beasley (31) was considering retirement this season, but was persuaded to stay in action for another year, particularly when Murray Rance and Andrew Purser returned to WA.

His 494 goals have come from 131 matches, compared to the 143 games Templeton played, though he did play many matches at centre-half-forward, particularly in 1980 when he won the Brownlow Medal.

Beasley gets his chance to break Templeton's record when the Bulldogs play in Perth this weekend.



Collingwood champion Peter Daicos feeds out another handball watched with a look of despair, by his opponent Murray Wrensted. Daicos was at his inspirational best for the Magpies in their convincing win over the Eagles.

## MOSS GETS A HIGH RATING

**GRAHAM Moss, the first WA player to win the Brownlow Medal, the VFL's highest individual award, has featured prominently in a poll of great players.**

The Sunday Observer newspaper asked its columnists to pick a player who left a lasting impression for the way they played the game.

Des Tuddenham, one-time Collingwood champion and former Essendon coach, rated Moss the ruckman as his most memorable player.

Tuddenham was captain-coach of the Bombers when Moss transferred there in 1973 and went on to win the Brownlow Medal in 1976.

Tuddenham said that from the first day he met Moss, the big ruckman had his total admiration.

"The moment he walked into the room he looked a leader," said Tuddy. "And when he was best-on-ground in his first game — against Richmond when he murdered Brian Roberts and Michael Green — I knew he would be a sensation."

Tuddy said that Moss possessed the perfect temperament; had all the skills and led by example.

He also revealed that the Claremont champion was originally tied to St Kilda — but was won over with a beer or two in the boot studders room at Essendon one Sunday morning.

And on that note, Tuddenham finished up with a quote Mossie will love: "Oh, and he wasn't a bad drinker either. Somehow it never seemed to affect him."

## BEARS BACK-UP

**THE Brisbane Bears are keen to field a reserves side in the VFL.**

Bears coach Peter Knights sees a reserves side as being vital to the long-term development of the Brisbane-based club.

He suggested that the Bears should aim to field a reserves side next season and felt that there were plenty of young players in the Queensland league who looked promising enough to make up the side.

Bears officials feel that the club's back-up players outside the top 20 or so aren't getting tough enough competition in the QAFL.

## JACKO'S RETURN

**THE apparent return to VFL ranks of Mark Jackson attracted a variety of comments from the critics — mostly sceptical.**

But TV and newspaper critic Bob Skilton felt that it mightn't be such a bad move.

"As Tom Hafey said last week, the Swans aren't making the sporting pages these days," said Skilton.

"All he wants Jacko for is the publicity and if he can put bums on seats, then the Swans would play better football."

But Skilton also added that Jacko couldn't simply be a clown — he would have to kick goals. And if he did get fit and dedicated, he could be a problem for a few rival defences.

## HARMES' FUTURE

**THE playing future of Carlton's iron-man, Wayne Harmes, is still up in the air.**

The nuggetty half-forward was included in the Blues team that thrashed the Sydney Swans last Sunday — but he's still not a definite tenant at Princes Park.

Behind-the-scenes negotiations have indicated that Harmes could be heading to Brisbane to join the Bears.

Victoria's Sunday Press sports editor Scot Palmer suggested last week that Harmes' recent good form was a problem the Blues — or the Bears — didn't count on.

Three clubs showed interest in Harmes and if he moves to Brisbane he will renew acquaintanceships with former Blues Mark Maclure, now the assistant coach, and one-time Blues football manager, Shane O'Sullivan, now the Bears general manager.

## How WA players performed in VFL

	KICKS	MARKS	H/BALLS	SCORE
<b>HAWTHORN</b>				
Gary Buckenara	18	8	7	2.3
Paul Harding	5	2	4	—
<b>MELBOURNE</b>				
Warren Dean	1	—	—	—
Alan Johnson	13	5	1	0.1
Earl Spalding	11	2	4	0.2
<b>NORTH MELBOURNE</b>				
Jim Krakouer	10	1	9	3.0
Phil Krakouer	12	3	9	—
<b>RICHMOND</b>				
Michael Mitchell	11	1	8	1.0
<b>ST KILDA</b>				
Steve Turner	5	2	2	—
Nicky Winmar	17	5	2	3.0
<b>SYDNEY SWANS</b>				
Wayne Henwood	10	4	3	—
<b>BRISBANE BEARS</b>				
Brad Hardie	13	2	5	0.4
Ken Judge	7	2	3	—
Mike Richardson	16	6	10	—
<b>CARLTON</b>				
Wayne Blackwell	14	7	11	2.0
Richard Dennis	13	6	8	1.4
Jon Dorotich	8	5	4	—
Ken Hunter	7	6	9	3.0
Brad Shine	12	6	4	0.1
<b>COLLINGWOOD</b>				
Michael Christian	10	7	2	—
Craig Starcevich	10	5	2	0.1
Brian Taylor	10	7	6	3.6
<b>ESSENDON</b>				
Bill Duckworth	9	3	7	—
Darren Bewick	22	7	4	3.9
<b>FITZROY</b>				
John Ironmonger	2	1	7	—
<b>FOOTSCRAY</b>				
Simon Beasley	4	2	1	4.0
Phil Cronan	9	3	1	—
<b>GEELONG</b>				
Mair Bairstow	18	4	12	1.1

HIT-OUTS: Paul Harding 9; John Ironmonger 22; Michael Christian 5; Steve Turner 6.



# AMATEUR NEWS

A roundup of news from the West Australian Amateur Football League

## Trinity-Aquinas too powerful

TRAILING by two goals at half-time, Trinity-Aquinas shot into top gear and powered their way to a 30-point victory over Mt Lawley.

The Old Boys were sparked by Phil Green and Brad Calvin, who came alive in the third term and linked defence and offence with brilliant effect.

Ruckman Jeremy McGrade dominated all day, bringing his smaller players into the game to give them the edge over the Hawks.

Mt Lawley had none better than All-Australian full-back Wayne Hardman, who received solid support from Bill Armstrong, Lloyd Haskett and Mick Gianotti.

University did not take long to come to form with a solid 23-point win over North Beach.

### TALENT

University have taken a couple of games to mould as a team but have improved each week and will continue to do so with so much talent available.

Rover Craig Nelmes has proved to be their recruit of the year. He has been in University's best-player list in all three matches.

Nelmes received the ball constantly from ruckman Aaron Devitt, who was on top all day and who is sure to become a star in the Amateur League.

North Beach were two goals up in the last quarter but they were completely outplayed.

Best for the Beach side were centreman Craig Dargie, ruckman Gary Tait and ruckman Mark Kiely, who contributed four goals whilst resting in the forward line.

Wembley continued their resurgence as a force in A-Grade with another resounding victory, their victim this time being North Fremantle to the tune of 99 points.

### UNBEATABLE

The Magpies had a magnificent centreline and following division that were unbeatable and will be a constant source of worry for opposing sides.

Kevin Kosovich continued in great style in the ruck and was well supported by rover Kevin Symonds. Centreliners Grant Callaghan and Steve Barnes won everything that came their way.

North Fremantle's Drew Herrington and Brett Mudie battled stoutly but were unable to lift an undermanned side.

Old Wesley broke through for their first win of the season with an eight-goal last quarter to beat West Coast by 13 points.

Coach Barry Quick moved Keiran Hobbs to full-forward and Steve Whittleston into the ruck and these moves sparked an amazing turnabout to Old Wesley's fortunes.

### EFFECTIVE

Good players for Old Wesley were Peter Wilson, Greg Chatfield and Steve Clarke, while Scott Spalding was also effective in his A-Grade debut.

Best for the Coast were Richard Bevan and Steve Leishman with Warner weighing in solidly for four quarters.

Nollamara maintained their unbeaten sequence by outclassing Scarborough by 64 points.



by  
**TREVOR SCHORER**

Former State player Ed Bencic put in a polished performance to be his side's outstanding player..

Following closely in Bencic's footsteps were Phil Beatty and Scott Warner, two very consistent players this season.

This week Nollamara should have no trouble with North Fremantle, Old Wesley will be too good for Scarborough and Trinity-Aquinas, on form, should beat West Coast.

The other two games see Mt Lawley playing North Beach while University come up against Wembley with both matches able to go either way.

### RESULTS AT A GLANCE

(A GRADE)  
Wembley 23.11 b North Fremantle 7.8  
University 16.14 b North Beach 11.21  
Old Wesley 16.9 b West Coast 14.8  
Nollamara 21.18 b Scarborough 12.8  
Trinity-Aqui. 14.11 b Mt Lawley 9.11

### THIS WEEK'S A-GRADE

North Fremantle vs Nollamara, East Fremantle Oval; Scarborough vs Old Wesley, Leederville Oval; Mt Lawley vs North Beach, Bassendean Oval; University vs Wembley, Perth Oval; Trinity-Aquinas vs West Coast, Lathlain Park.

## Amateurs help the ladies kick off

### WOMEN PLAY

THE WA Women's Football League kicked off the 1988 season with an exhibition game at Hamer Park last Sunday.

The ladies have been under the tuition of State amateur coach Ralph Needham and the Football Development Trust's Brian Douge in the past month and have improved their skills level.

The WAWFL will be administered by the Amateur League, giving them a solid base in their inaugural year as a league.

League president Joanne Huggins said she was pleased with the first-up effort but more coaches will be needed for the four teams — Mt Lawley, Carlisle, Innaloo and Melville before the season starts.

### Details:

Mt Lawley 9.5 b Carlisle 5.8. Best: Mt Lawley, Jenny Benpasquato, Lynlee Taylor, Mary White. Carlisle, Laura Nussbaum, Julie Bullen, Lyn Kay.

### ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### MILESTONES 100 GAMES

**PETER WEIR** (Wanneroo)  
PETER joined the Greenwood Football Club in 1979 and was the fairest and best for the club that year. He played 58 games with them before Greenwood folded in 1982. Peter then joined Wanneroo in 1985, where he was a member of their J-Grade premiership side.

He was the captain of the L-Grade team in 1986 and has fluctuated between L and F grades since then. Peter has been a good club man with the 'Roo's and would be sadly missed as a player should he decide to retire at the end of this year.



Action from the Trinity-Aquinas versus Mt Lawley match at Fremantle Oval last Saturday... with Tony Williams of Mt Lawley (left) and Trinity-Aquinas pair Gerry McGrade and Lloyd Haskett contesting a marking duel.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**A COLTS:** Old Wesley, having made steady improvement over the last two weeks, narrowly lost to West Coast at City Beach Oval.

Led by Mark Strauchan, arguably the best colts ruckman in the league, Old Wesley were the better side.

Midfielders Peter Hamersley and Cameron Brown were winners across the centre, but the inexperienced forward line failed to cap off their good work.

Old Wesley are about to break through to get their first premiership points and should not be taken lightly by any side.

**B COLTS:** Curtin (10.11) defeated MHWP (5.6) in a one-sided affair at Les Lilleyman Reserve.

This win was made even more impressive considering Curtin played with only seven men. With the emphasis on hard running and being first to the ball, Curtin did not let MHWP into the game.

Curtin looked to have the game won at three-quarter time and pulled away to win by 35 points.

Richard Willis-Jones and Arron Collar, both with three goals and Damien McCarthy (two goals) were the better players for Curtin.

**G-GRADE:** A poor first-quarter cost Wanneroo the game against Collegians-Old Scotch at College Park.

The Roo's, with good players in back pocket Mark Nanovich, centre-half-forward Greg Campbell and ruck-rover Gary Klingenbeck fought back but could not overcome the strength of Collegians.

Cameron Henley, in the ruck, was also a good performer for the Roo's.

Wanneroo's record this year is not good, but if they are able to put in a full four-quarter effort, they should be able to trouble most side in the G-Grade.

**F-GRADE:** Old Wesley, relegated from E-grade last year, are showing they have every intention of being promoted again with a convincing win over John XXII at Collins Oval.

Dual fairest and best winner for the Old Boys, Ian Johnson celebrated his 100th game with a solid performance, while Ken Pride strengthened his chances for A-grade selection with a seven goal effort.

Captain-coach Dave Stedman is happy with the depth at Old Wesley and believes his team is a final five chance.

Other good players for the Old Boys included Mal Harris, Graham Northover, Eddie Willmont and Matt Hopkins.

**L-GRADE:** Wanneroo inflicted a 103-point defeat on Brentwood at the Wanneroo showgrounds.

After a reasonably even first quarter, Wanneroo unleashed a 10-goal second-quarter to set up the pattern for the rest of the game.

Ray Connolly, playing his first game, kicked seven goals, while centreman Peter Weir celebrated his 100th game with a solid performance.

Full-forward Mark Hodgeson and ruck-rover Graham Jones were also good players for the Roo's.

Wanneroo, pleased with their start to the 1988 season, must keep in mind that they have only played the lower sides and should not get complacent.

**D COLTS:** Forrestfield proved far too strong for the young and inexperienced Wanneroo side in winning by 134 points at Hartfield Park.

Wanneroo have played all the top sides so far this season and are struggling for form.

However, the signs are there for a winning combination. Better players for the Roo's included Roo Tanner, Paul Mairdock, Peter Pajune and Lance Gillian.

### NOTICE BOARD

THE Curtin Football Club will hold a car rally on Sunday, May 15. Further details will be published later.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE Old Wesley Football Club will be running a "Topsy Turvy" night at Sandgate Hall in South Perth. All members and supporters are asked to attend and visitors are welcome. For those who are unaware, a "Topsy Turvy" night is where the "blokes" dress up as "sheilas" and visa versa.

### INFORMATION REQUIRED

Information on game scores, best players, goal scorers and how your game was won or lost is required between 9-10 Sunday mornings:

A1-grade - Trevor Schorer — Phone 276 7171  
B1 grade - Peter Rush — Phone 277 2260  
Other grades - Dave Eggleston — Phone 342 8749

\*\*\*\*\*

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# RIOLI WORKS HARD FOR ABORIGINAL SPORT

**SOUTH Fremantle champion Maurice Rioli and Brownlow Medal runner-up is not just a good footballer — he also works hard to promote Aborigines in sport.**

On his return from Melbourne Rioli was approached by the Department of Sport and Recreation to become their first sports consultant for Aborigines.

Rioli returned to Perth this year after a six-year stint in Victoria where he played for Richmond and worked for the Victorian Department for Sport and Recreation to help Aborigines in sport.

As part of his commitment to promote Aboriginal sport, Rioli is this week hosting the Tiwi and Bardi Aboriginal tour, a special sporting and cultural exchange between Perth's elite sportsmen and two Aboriginal football teams from WA's remote North West.

Rioli is from the Tiwi community of Melville Island, and the Bardi team represents the Bathurst Island and Lombardina Aboriginal communities of the North West Kimberley region.

According to Rioli, both teams are highly skilled and talented sportsmen who come from an area "which produces top footballers and where they reckon football started".

by

**DENISE MURPHY**



Maurice Rioli ... a hard worker for Aboriginal sport.

## CURTAIN-RAISER

The teams are funded by their own communities and the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, and will play against each other as the curtain-raiser to the Eagles versus Footscray match at the WACA Ground on Friday.

Rioli said the teams would be here for a week and would participate as guests of the Football Development Trust, South Fremantle Football Club, the Wildcats, the Eagles and the Department of Sport and Recreation.

He said the group had initially approached the FDT to ask for assistance in setting up a football match as a curtain-raiser to the Eagles as part of the Aboriginal contribution to the Bicentennial year celebrations.

Grant Dorrington, from the FDT, then investigated the possibilities and arranged an itinerary which naturally involved Rioli.

Rioli said many of the players had not been to Perth before or felt such cold weather.

"The city will be like a jungle to them. They have never played on a surface like the WACA before and they are looking forward to the game," he said.

Rioli said ordinary footy boots would only slow the players down, so both teams would play in bare feet.

The itinerary includes training sessions with John Todd, Barry Cable and Ross Glendinning, a basketball session with the Wildcats, ten-pin bowling and indoor cricket games (two sports Rioli says, the Aborigines may not have experienced) and a reception and lunch at the Superdrome.

## PORT TOUR

The Tiwis and the Bardis trained with Stephen Michael at Fremantle Oval this week and were then taken on a tour of Fremantle.

Later they were guests at a players' tea.

Many of the visiting players are artefacts and brought with them examples of their screen printing, artefacts and pottery.

Rioli said the tour was an important sporting and cultural exchange that would create an awareness of traditional Aboriginal communities. The motivation and organisation of the traditional communities to promote their keen interest in general community sports was a credit to Aboriginal peoples.

## Footy keeps Alison busy

**AT the ripe old age of 22, Alison Moore has already achieved two first in the male dominated world of football.**

Alison, a physical education teacher at John Curtin Senior High School, has been an umpire with the Metropolitan Football League for three years and is coach of her school's CIG football team.

The CIG Shield competition is open to secondary school students in years eight, nine and 10. There are more than 100 metropolitan schools competing this season.

Teaching, umpiring, and now coaching take up most of Alison's time. She trains twice a week with the MFL umpires, runs the boundary on Saturdays for the WA Amateur Football League and again on Sundays for the Sunday League.

Alison said her umpiring experience would certainly help her coaching.

"I will encourage the kids to respect the game by playing to the umpire rather than against him," she said. "I would like to see more people play the game just to enjoy it. So many people forget that."

Alison says her CIG team players are talented and very keen but they need to

contest harder for the ball and back each other up more.

"All sports are the same," she said. "The kids have to learn to get in front to get the ball and to know when an umpire is going to award a free-kick or give a penalty."

## TRAINING

John Curtin's CIG team will meet Kwinana in their first game on May 5. Most of the players are already training two nights a week for other football commitments, so training at school will be limited to lunchtimes.

Alison believes coaches should not expect young players to train four nights a week.

"They should be allowed to experience different sports and to play for fun," she said.

It was important for parents to remember this and to help the coach develop sportsmanship early in a child's sporting career.

There will be no discrimination against girls either. Alison has actively encouraged female students to train with the CIG team if they are interested. If they are good enough, they will get a game, she says.

**KEEP IN TOUCH...**



JUNIOR football clubs and councils can provide news items for this page by telephoning IAN CLARK on 294 3860.

## Town and Country WA Little League results

**CLAREMONT** and West Perth fought out a thrilling draw in last week's Town and Country WA Little League matches.

Best players for the Falcons were Brendon Sheppard, Thomas Atkinson and Carl Manna, while Claremont's best were Demir Alisa, Brett Gerloff and Marc Ford.

Swan Districts beat East Perth, with Greg Callaghan, Barry Rayment and Paul Songiovanni best for the winners and Glen Britten, Michael Wiczorek and Bradley Menner doing well for the Royals.

South Fremantle, with Clem Michael, Cameron Coughlan and Dwayne Parker playing well, beat Perth, whose best were Leon Thomas, Brett Jones and Travis Szesesmy.

Subiaco downed East Fremantle with the Lions best being Bradley Pears, Jason O'Neill and Daniel Gretton, while Maitland Woodcock, Leon Chapman and Shaun Drage were best for the Sharks.

## STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

**THE Hills Association** has rearranged their 10s and 12s grades fixtures so that a minimum of four clubs will play on the same oval over two hours of football.

The main reason for this change is: —

1. 10s to learn from 12s.
2. Club canteens will financially benefit.
3. Atmosphere for all parents and boys.

Junior parade day will be on Saturday, May 21 at Bassendean Oval.

This season has seen girls put on football boots and play Australia's No. 1 sport. Girls playing 10s and 12s have acquitted themselves well, both on and off the field.

## PLAYERS WANTED

PLAYERS are needed for Sorrento-Duneraig teams. Training is on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Marmion Oval, Duneraig. All grades are still needing players. Please contact Dennis Heaney at 447 2626.

## WHERE AND WHY

**WHERE** are our up-and-coming future footballers?

Are our youngsters becoming overruled by the hierarchy of the junior clubs, who may sometimes forget why boys take part in our great game:

1. Enjoyment of playing.
2. Competitiveness. Two main reasons which have made this game such a great sport.

Hopefully, our junior officials are not becoming too obsessed with too many guide lines, which has forced parents and boys to give away the game or turn to another sport.

Basketball, soccer, hockey and many more sports have attracted boys away from football.

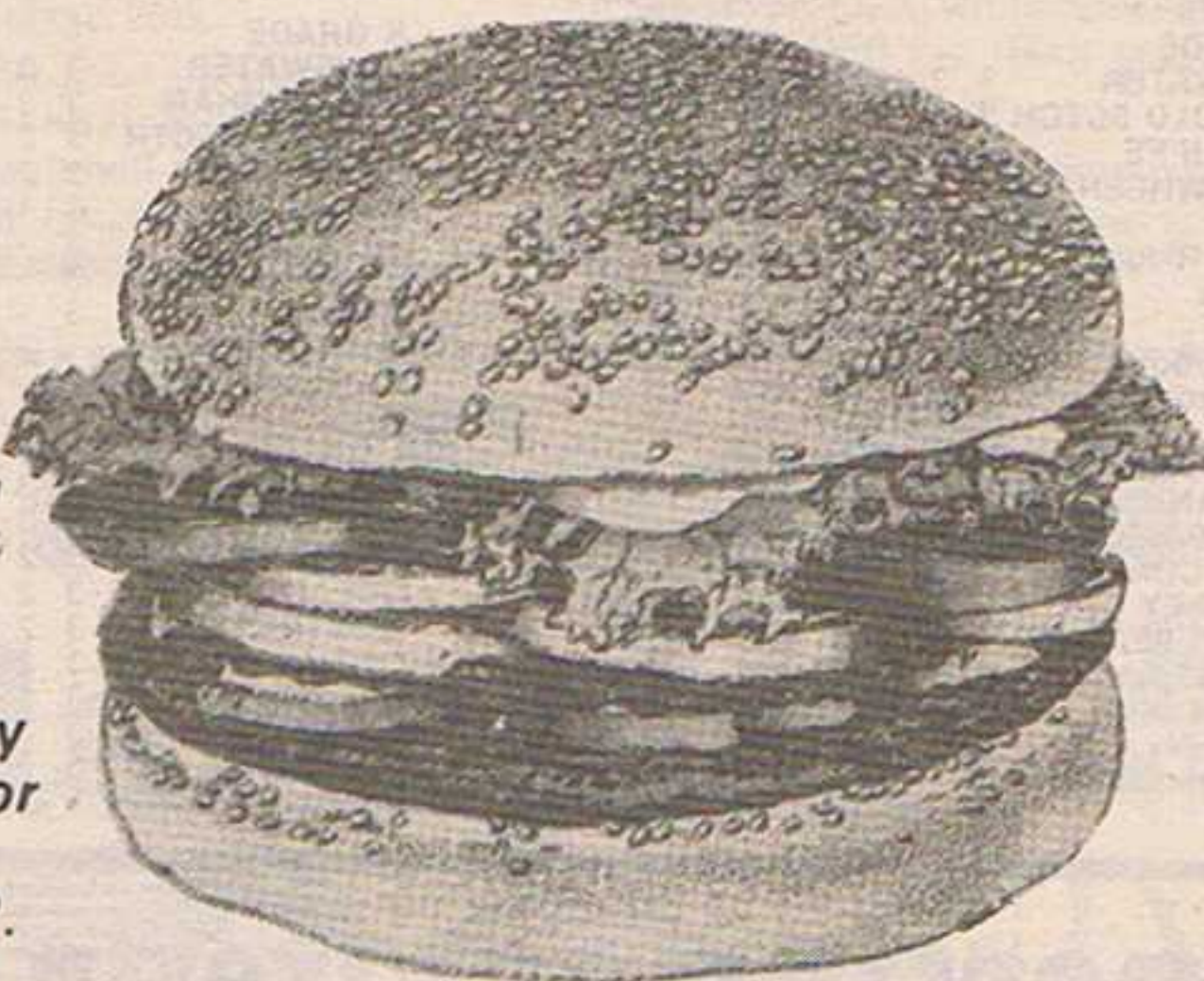


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# Two umpires are needed in Under-19s

IT'S time for the WAFL to bow to the wishes of the men in white and reintroduce the two umpire system in the Under-19s competition.

There has not been a clear explanation as to why the two umpire combination was dropped, though the League say that it was a cost-saving exercise.

The pace of Under-19 football is too quick for one umpire to handle and already the number of minor behind-the-play incidents has increased.

Young players need to have the rules of football enforced at an early age, but with only one umpire in control, players can sometimes get away with undisciplined errors.

The near-fatal incident involving umpire Adam Binks in the Under-19 game between East Fremantle and Perth should be reason enough for the WAFL to change their mind.

East Fremantle Under-19 coach Kerry Coates witnessed that incident and was frightened by what he saw.

He believes that some U-19 umpires are being pushed to exhaustion point and this is where problems can occur.

Coates also points out that umpires are prone to make errors when they are tired, just as players are.

Perhaps the WAFL should consider thoroughly discussing changes to the game with umpires, players and the paying public in future.

## ROVING STAR

**CHRIS Stagg** has been one of East Fremantle's best players of the season.

The tenacious rover has set the example for courage and determination and has also shown a knack for goalkicking.

Stagg's elder brother Nick represented the Sharks Under-19 side last season.

## COLTS CORNER with BEN STINGA



Kerry Coates ... worried over umpire's incident.

## BIG APPETITE

**EAST Fremantle Under-19 forward Matthew Congleton** may be eating his way out of form.

The talented former All-Australian Teal Cup representative missed most of the pre-season with back troubles and has since put on a bit of weight.

Coates says that Congleton is working hard on the training track, but describes him as a "mad eater" and this seems to be hindering his progress.

Congleton is sure to rebound, but to do this he must work hard in his own time and at training.

## DUAL SPORTS

MOST dual sportsmen or women are faced with a tough choice at some stage in their careers.

Not so Damon Morris, the Subiaco Under-19 rover and Wanneroo baseball catcher.

He is eager to establish himself with Subiaco and will terminate his promising baseball career if he has to.

A self-confessed slow coach, Morris possesses great determination and makes up for his lack of pace by fighting hard for every kick.

Strength and elusiveness are also prominent features of the former Warwick junior.

# Wiley leads the way in reserves

THE old term — "There is no substitute for experience" — was well and truly in evidence in the Perth-South Fremantle reserves game last weekend.

Perth had Robert Wiley, Kim Fancote, Rod Bogaards, Ian Newman and Dean Farmer in their line-up and all five contributed strongly in the Demons 10-goal win.

League coach Wiley made an auspicious return to competitive football, picking up 26 possessions and kicking four goals in a typically polished display.

Fancote showed he is ready to return to the senior side by gathering 37 possessions in a best-on-ground performance.

Bogaards, who has been out of action with a thigh injury, began the game slowly at centre-half-forward before being moved into defence close to half-time.

He lifted after half-time and used his pace and strength to instigate many Demons attacks.

Newman played his first game for the season and kicked three goals.

Perth reserves coach Tom Mullooly believes that Newman may need a few more games at this level before he will be considered for league selection.

Farmer, back for his second game after serving a two week suspension, peeled off 19 effective handpasses and looks ready for another assault on league football.



Rod Bogaards ... back in action.

## RESERVES ROUNDUP with BEN STINGA

### Howlett shines at West Perth

**GAVIN Howlett**, sacked by East Perth early last year, is having another crack in the WAFL, this time with West Perth.

The hard-running midfielder has been one of the Falcons best players in the reserves and is now under consideration for a league berth.

Howlett's move to Leederville has added depth to the Falcons running brigade and it is hard to imagine why his services were not required at East Perth.

West Perth reserves coach Lloyd Christopher agrees. He is impressed with Howlett's skills and has found him to be quiet, attentive and eager to do well.

His application and discipline has also been very good.

Christopher is also impressed with new West Perth league player Gavin Biffen.

The strongly-built midfielder first came under Christopher's notice last season when he travelled from Merredin to play a handful of reserves games.

Work commitments forced Biffen to return to the country, where he continued to be a dominant player.

Fortunately for the Falcons, Biffen received a work transfer which enabled him to take part in all pre-season training.

His form in the reserves was good enough to earn him a league berth and last Monday he contributed strongly in the Falcons big win over Claremont.

## LETTO REBOUNDS

**TROY Ugle's** late entry into the Swan Districts league side on Monday naturally forced one unlucky player out.

That unfortunate player was Austin Letto, a speedy rover who has been performing solidly in the reserves.

To his credit, Letto rebounded with a best-on-ground performance in the seconds, much to the delight of coach Tony Micale.

Letto's character and commitment is sure to put him in line for another crack at league football in the near future.

## CLOSE GAMES

**ALL** games in round one of the First XVIII's Quit Cup competition got off to an exciting start.

Of the 31 matches played, many were closely contested with only a few points separating the teams.

Graeme Hadley, co-ordinator for the Metro South East Region, reported a great start to the eight games played in that area.

He said the Maddington versus Kewdale game in the Graham Farmer division ended with only one point the difference in Kewdale's favour.

The Maddington Quit team was managed totally by students, even down to the hockey player who goal umpired and the qualified first aid officer, student Norman Bernhardt, who obtained a first aid certificate in his own free time so he could service his school's team.

Mr Hadley said the efforts and energy of all students and staff was great for school spirit.

# WAFL JUNIOR COUNCIL BOARD 1988

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# IT'S TRIAL BY VIDEO



Darren Bewick ... a real star with Essendon.

## VFL does quick about face over reports

IN recent weeks the VFL did it, the WAFL did it and I'm sure there is more to come.

I'm talking about the use of video replays to instigate tribunal proceedings against players.

There's no doubt videos are a tool available to League officials that must be used but the recent Rod Grinter case highlighted a major swing in VFL attitude in a short space of time.

### ARGUMENTS

Last May Fitzroy's Darren Kappler was knocked out in a match at the MCG. The commission declined to investigate the incident.

Chairman Ross Oakley's arguments against an inquiry were basically the same as those used unsuccessfully by Melbourne in an effort to prevent any action against Grinter.

Last year Oakley said that an umpire saw the incident involving Kappler and awarded a 15-metre penalty. Because there were several other umpires in close proximity and none had laid a report he felt the matter should remain closed.

Try as they might, Melbourne

## COMETTI

By Channel 7 commentator DENNIS COMETTI



## BEWDIE BEWICK

COVERING the game out at Moorabbin on Monday gave me a marvellous opportunity to observe first hand the improvement in former West Perth youngster Darren Bewick.

He was close to best on ground in Essendon's slogging win over St Kilda.

Bewick chose to sign with Essendon in 1986 rather than play with the Eagles and on what he showed on Monday don't be surprised if the gifted redhead becomes one of the most highly regarded recruits to play in the VFL in many years.

Bewick has become a real 'burrower,' and a ball-getter with his skills must surely be on the road to stardom.

couldn't get that to wash last week. Grinter's clash with Footscray's Terry Wallace received plenty of television time ... time that made the VFL feel uncomfortable and rightly so.

### IMAGE CONSCIOUS

Just what has led to this major about-face from the commission in less than 12 months?

Clearly the VFL is getting more and more image conscious. The sight of players being stretchered from the ground in prime time does nothing to provide players of the future.

On Anzac Day another two were stretchered off. At least one case may be taken further.

Grinter might regard himself as a scapegoat and the VFL, through its tough action against him, may have been hoping that the players would get the message. But obviously the message will continue to be best delivered by the videos themselves for some time to come yet.

## Strike didn't prove a thing

THE umpires strike last weekend was surely one of football's most ludicrous exercises in stupidity.

Strikes seldom achieve anything.

They are designed by one party or another — or sometimes both — to try and prove a point.

The fact that they inconvenience everyone else, including the people they are trying to serve, is often overlooked in the stubbornness that surrounds the whole issue.

There's no point in taking sides in this issue; both parties were wrong.

The Umpires Association should never have escalated the issue into the league and reserves ranks. It was a dispute involving under-19s and that's where it should have stayed.

The WAFL should never have allowed itself to be backed into such a tight corner. The negotiating expertise that is available at League headquarters should have averted such an extreme move that put our weekly football in jeopardy.

### Examples

It's no use saying that the fill-in umpires were capable men or that they did a good job.

The fact is that the standard of our league football was threatened by giving control of the four games to men who had seldom, if ever, blown a whistle.

There were enough examples of potential trouble in the reserves and under-19s last weekend, with inexperienced men in control, to confirm that it was a dangerous exercise.



## AND LASTLY

with ALAN EAST

For example, we saw one situation where a stand-in goal umpire signalled a point; the field umpire felt it was a goal and ran back to the centre. Confusion reigned and finally the goal umpire changed his mind — in a match that had a two-point margin at the final siren.

Then we saw an altercation where the stand-in umpire manhandled a player ... surely a procedure fraught with danger.

Boundary umpires were often well behind the play; out-of-bounds decisions were questionable; goal umpires were under pressure and some situations were almost laughable.

Not a good example of football as it should be seen.

The whole issue should never have arisen.

While the League was indulging in a cost-cutting exercise by returning to the one-umpire system in the under-19s, it was taking a short-sighted view of football.

Why, people may ask, do young footballers learn to play under the two-umpire system in the 17s grade, graduate to under-19s with one umpire and then go further up the ladder to reserves, where two umpires are in control?

The whole dispute was as bewildering as some of the umpires' decisions!

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## Kicking football into the future

