

WESTSIDE
Football

VOL 11, No. 3, Thursday, April 13, 1989

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS PUBLICATION



TODD WON'T BACK DOWN

by **Alan East**

EAGLES coach John Todd isn't planning to wilt under the pressure ... in fact, he's going to get tougher.

Two losses from two outings — including a 95-point thrashing from an aggressive Geelong — have raised a few question marks about the Eagles.

Todd — and his football director Brian Douge — have been under fire for their player-selections — and rejections — as they build their 1989 fighting force.

But Todd isn't losing faith. "It's a challenge and I'm confident we'll meet and beat it," he says.

"I accept the responsibility; I'll just have to get tougher. "Maybe I've been too placid this year; I have to close in a little and make sure they don't go to sleep.

"We have to tighten up our attitude; tidy up our discipline and the senior players are the ones not performing all that well."

The Eagles have adopted a closed-ranks situation with media bans on players and their rapid-fire reaction to criticism of their draft selections.

Todd rejects comments about letting good players go — though he is quick to praise former Eagles men now doing well elsewhere.

"DOING WELL"

"It's good to see our players doing well in the VFL," he says, when asked about the match-winning form elsewhere of players like John Georgiades and John Gastev.

"They're not with us anymore and that's that." "We need to regain the arrogance we had last year," says Todd.

"We have to jump on a few toes and maybe I have to lead the way.

"The players must learn to read the criticism of their performances; they turn off the media too much at present.

"I'm not a negative person, so I'm not panicking. It's still likely that only a game or so will separate most of the middle-order sides."

Todd rejects suggestions that the hoodoo of the Sydney Cricket Ground will be a worry for the Eagles this week.

"Hoodoos are only there if you worry about them," he says.

"Records are made to be broken. Sure, we haven't won there in two years, but that can change.

"We are capable of lifting ourselves off the floor."



ED'S IN A WINNING MOOD

IT'S been a long time since Swans' coach Ed Blackaby smiled, let alone laughed. The likeable Blackaby has had it tough at Swans since taking over in 1988. His inexperienced and undermanned Swans finished in the basement last season — so Saturday's upset 41-point win over Perth was good cause to celebrate. Pictured with Blackaby are Andrew Partington and Joe McCormack who also enjoyed the win.

— Picture JULIAN COWAN.

Come Back to... LATHLAIN JOIN THE DEMONS
SPECIAL FEATURE Pages 18-19

Karl must tough it out
KEN PIESSE reports. Back page.

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Zipped up again

EAST Perth defender George Giannakis has a new nickname — Zipper. The rugged back pocket specialist was under the surgeon's delicate hands again after last week's clash with East Fremantle . . . this time time collecting stitches in a gash above his left eye. Giannakis received the injury at the start of the game, but it didn't slow him down at all. He suffered a severe scalp laceration last season that also required a few stitches. Incidentally, Giannakis has switched guernseys from his old No. 33 to No. 7 — the number vacated this year by overseas tourist Lance Kelly. Giannakis says he wore No. 7 right through his junior days and was pleased to have the chance to wear it again.

Bold forecast

PERTH's Joe Santostefano and West Perth's Malcolm Williams are in for good seasons . . . if you believe Radio 6PR critic Rod Brown. The fast-talking former Falcons' president tips the two midfielders to share this year's Sandover Medal. Williams, a fairest and best winner in his year at West Perth last season, looks a real class player and the hard-working Santostefano, who went so close to Eagles selection, is a key performer in Perth's team planning.

Handy half-backs

WHEN clubs look at the statistics of their rivals, they often discover some alarming facts . . . as did the Royals camp when they analysed the East Fremantle figures after their opening-game thrashing. Sharks half-backs Stephen Edgar and Chris Waterman had nearly 70 possessions between them. Both players rebounded strongly out of defence and Waterman's 14 possessions in the third quarter showed his dominant the Sharks were.

Trio on edge

AT least three current West Coast Eagles players will have their fingers crossed that season 1989 turns out okay for them. Chris Lewis, Karl Langdon and Laurie Keene have a pretty big bogey to overcome now that they have been frozen in action in the colour photograph on the cover of the 1989 Football's Who's Who publication (now in the newsagencies). You see, the cover of the 1987 edition had Eagles coach Ron Alexander looking resplendent in full Eagles colour



Willie Rioli ... Different Strokes.

. . . and you know what happened to him! the 1988 Who's Who, in a different version, featured Eagles skipper Ross Glendinning and ruckman Alex Ishchenko on the front cover and defender Mark Zanotti on the back . . . and you know what's happened to that trio!

Wee Willie Rioli

RADIO 6PR commentator Percy Johnson was quick with a quip when he saw dynamite South Fremantle rover Willie Rioli in action against West Perth last Saturday.

The controversial Johnson said: "He looks like 'Diff'rent Strokes' doesn't he, that Willie Rioli." Johnson was of course referring to diminutive actor Gary Coleman who plays Arnold in the prime-time television series "Diff'rent Strokes".

However, South Fremantle general manager Brian Ciccotosto remembers seeing young Willie when he was even smaller.

Ciccotosto said after Rioli's starring three-goal performance: "In 1972 Souths went up to Darwin to play a combined team from the local competition. Willie's eldest brother Sebastian Rioli, was in the team and after the game I met Willie. He was a babe in his mother's arms."

Eagles omen

THE move of the West Coast Eagles to Perth Oval last week evoked some fond memories for assistant coach Barry Cable.

Cable played 42 games for the Royals and was captain-coach in 1978 and '79 and coach in 1980.

The former VFL star with North Melbourne said that the last time he changed in the Perth Oval rooms, his team made the finals.

That must be a good omen for Eagles coach John Todd and his men, despite their crushing loss at the hands of Geelong on Sunday.

Administrators ready

THE WAFL commissioners are keen to vote on the proposed new administration for West Australian Football, incorporating the West Coast Eagles.

The suggestion that the Commissioners and the clubs were stalling on the vote were quashed on Saturday by WAFL chairman, Harry Morgan.

Speaking on the 6WF sports show, Mr Morgan said they would vote when they had all the facts — not presumptions.

"When everyone knows what is expected, then we will vote and we will probably get a majority," he said.

Geelong blitz

GEELONG became the third side to score 10 goals in a quarter against the West Coast Eagles with their third-quarter blitz on Sunday.

Geelong's tally of 11.7 was the second highest ever in a quarter against the Eagles, falling only three points short of Sydney's 12.4 in the third quarter at the Sydney Cricket Ground in July 1987.

The highest quarter tally by the Eagles is the 10.5 kicked against the Brisbane Bears in the first quarter of the game at the WACA Ground in round three last year.

The Eagles' loss was the second-worst in their history. They lost by 130 points to Sydney in 1987.

Close encounters

ST KILDA beat Carlton last Saturday for the first time since round 16 of 1984, but the game continued a trend in contests between the two clubs.

Three of the last four matches between the Saints and the Blues have been decided by four points or less.

Before that Carlton won the previous four games by an average of more than 14 goals.

Panellists stick their necks out

THE controversial panel on radio 6PR's Football Forum were invited to stick their necks out last week and make some predictions for the 1989 season.

The critics will obviously be reminded many times of their forecasts, so we record them here for posterity.

Gary Carvolth: Subiaco will become WA's second side in the VFL.

Ron Alexander: A financial mismanagement scandal will hit football.

Dennis Cometti: Alan Joyce will be reinstated as coach of Hawthorn.

Rod Brown: East Fremantle and South Fremantle will meet in the grand final.

Percy Johnson: The WAFL will get the Eagles licence back — and at their price. East Perth will play off in the grand final.

John K. Watts: I predict that Percy Johnson will say something sensible.

On the outside looking in...

AFTER the drubbing at the hands of Geelong, Eagles coach John Todd locked the door for just a few minutes of private consultation.

Among the eager media personnel awaiting for the losing coach to emerge was former Eagles captain Ross Glendinning, now a Channel 7 commentator.

No doubt Rosco would have found things a little different waiting on the outside and not being able to look in.

But Glendinning would have had a pretty good idea of what was being said by Todd behind those locked doors.

Depth in Tigers camp

IT was unusual to see three members of the West Coast Eagles squad playing in Saturday's reserves match between Subiaco and Claremont.

Andrew MacNish, who played 14 games with the Eagles in 1987, performed well at half-forward for Subiaco, kicking two goals and showing flashes of brilliance that earned him All-Australian honours in 1986.

MacNish is still recovering from an ankle injury that has plagued him since March last year.

Peter Higgins and Peter Melesso, two Eagles yet to make their VFL debut with that club, played in the Tigers forward line.

Higgins was at full-forward and in the ruck, while Melesso kicked six goals from centre-half-forward.

There was nothing political in relegating Higgins and Melesso to the reserves, according to Claremont league coach Gerard Neesham.

Neesham said Melesso lacked match practice, while Higgins was out of form in an earlier practice match against East Fremantle.

Tricky Nicky

THE magical skills of West Australian Nicky Winmar are contributing to the meteoric form of boom St Kilda full forward Tony Lockett.

Lockett kicked nine goals in the first round and 10 in the second to head the goalkicking charts by eight from Fitzroy's Richard Osborne.

Winmar's lightning-quick passes gave Lockett five of his 13 marks on Saturday. It's a combination which, in time, could become as famous as Collingwood's champion pair of the late 60s, Barry Price and Peter McKenna.



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WESTSIDE Football

Publisher: ALAN EAST

OFFICE:

Daily News Building

120 Roe Street Perth,

WA 6000

PHONE: Editorial Advertising

and Distribution

227 6722 FAX No. 227 9487

Correspondence:

P.O. BOX 442 MORLEY, WA 6062

Printed by Vanguard Press

John Street, Northbridge

Distributed by Bell Publishing

54 Hasler Road, Hertsman Business Park

For Subscriptions or Home Deliveries

PHONE: 227 6722

or write to:

P.O. Box 442, Morley W.A. 6062

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A GROUP of young East Perth hopefuls must be wondering what football really was like in the "good old days".

An East Perth reunion on Sunday saw the Royals rookies of 1989 meet and mix with the Mal Brown-coached premiership team of 1972.

The attractive setting of Brown's Peppermint Grove home was the venue for the get-together — which saw many of the East Perth youngsters a little stiff and sore; not so much after the drubbing by East Fremantle, but the heavy 8am training session on Sunday.

The Royals '72 premiership team was well-represented, with just a few Eastern States-based players and a couple of locals with work commitments unable to make it.

Brown, a rare commodity in the world of football, must have been something of a cultural shock for these young Royals.

A coach of no mean credentials, Brown's record is fairly well documented — but the players must have wondered what he really was like back in the 1970s judged on the light-hearted way he introduced his players to the gathering.

Here's a few of the remarks that were printable ...

Alan Quartermaine — married a psy-

Young Royals have a lesson in tradition

by Alan East

chiatrist and even she gave up trying to work him out.

Ken McAullay — surprised to see him here, especially as he had to pay.

Phil Tierney — could really leap tall buildings.

Gary Bygraves — surprised to see that he's delivering messages for the current coach, because he never listened to mine.

Ron Alexander — sorry to hear that he's had to resign as president of the Sacked Coaches Association now that he's back in business as State coach.

Ken Deards — it's great to see him and realise that his shorts would be too big for me now.

And so it went on...
Brown was always the joker in his

playing and coaching days and his blunt, direct manner of speaking meant that you couldn't afford to have a thin skin or be sensitive if you were involved with him in any way.

I'll always remember the day he introduced me to Bygraves, the sharp-shooting half-forward who turn that '72 grand final in East Perth's direction with three brilliant goals in a dramatic burst just after half-time.

"He's the only guy I've seen who can run out onto a ground in front of fifty thousand people and not be sighted for the rest of the day," was Brown's line.

But Brown's humour didn't hurt those Royals of a bygone era ... and there were plenty who could get back at him.

Newly-proposed Football Commissioner, Ken McAullay, for example, commenting on Browns new abode in upper-class Peppermint Grove.

"Now we know where football's monee has gone," quipped McAullay, who was to be congratulated on his new role in football by being thrown, fully-clothed into the pool — and then have the towel that he brought along just in case, thrown in after him!

The doyen of football administrators himself was at the reunion — Fred Book, long-time president and patriarch of the Royals, who was at the helm for that premiership success and featured in many colourful and controversial conflicts with Brown.

"You wouldn't let us have a drink at the club after that premiership," alleged Brown, in what was obviously a burst of short memory.

"I should make you sit there all day and not have one of mine."

Talking about a few absentees, Brown couldn't resist "dobbing" in John Burns — with whom he had more than one run-in.

"Burns rang from Melbourne and asked my receptionist to get me to return the call," said Brown. "And then he spoke for 35 minutes."

And absentees Archie Duda and

Hans Versteegen weren't left out either. "They'll be along for the last 10 minutes when they know they won't have to pay anything," said Brown, who was quickly reminded by several players that he had the longest pockets of them all in those days.

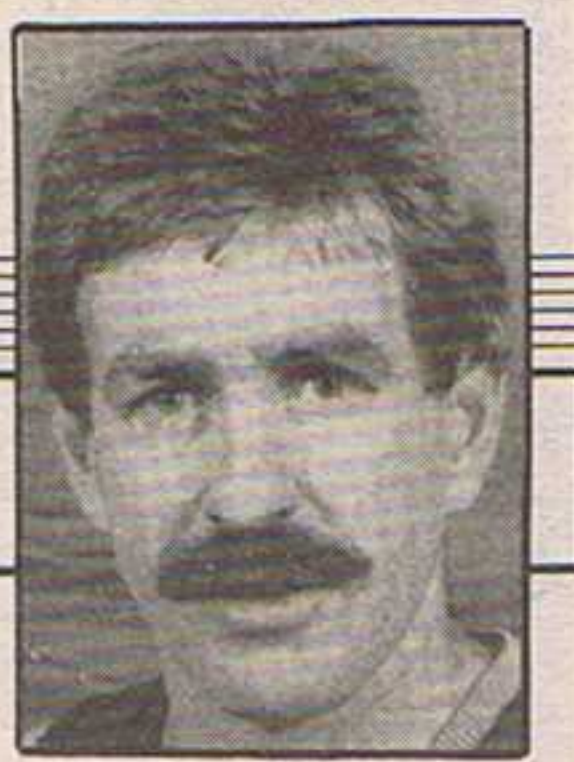
• Pictures — centre pages



Wily Fred Book was always a step ahead of Malcolm Brown ...

ALEXANDER'S ANGLE

By RON ALEXANDER



Changes make life confusing for the players

WITH so many changes taking place in today's football, players are finding themselves teammates one year and opponents the next — and sometimes teammates again.

Confused? Then spare a thought for the players.

Take some East Fremantle players as an example.

Shane Ellis and Ray Sterett were teammates in 1988 and played in three finals series together.

But last Sunday they were a long way from East Fremantle and Subiaco Oval — at Kardinia Park, Geelong, playing against each other.

It wouldn't have surprised to see Ellis the Eagle slip out a quick handball to Sterrett the Cat — especially as Geelong have similar colours to an old East Fremantle guernsey.

And at Princes Park, Murray Wrensted, in his new Collingwood guernsey, teamed up with former teammate-turned-rival Mark Bayliss. They were together at East Fremantle in 1985 before Bayliss switched to South Fremantle and now they are teammates again.

They will find many old mates among the Eagles and other VFL clubs such as Paul Harding (St Kilda), Peter Wilson (Richmond) and Darren Bennett (Melbourne).

It's fun when Mal's in charge

SUNDAY was the reunion of the 1972 East Perth premiership side and it was great to be back among old teammates.

It's been 17 years and most of the players look as though life had been good to them!

Mal Brown, captain-coach of that winning side, introduced each of us to the present-day players and with his usual tact (as much tact as a charging rhino) summed up each player.

He recalled the time Ken McAullay handballed once and he was worried about where John Daniel's hair had gone.

He reminded Gary Bygraves of the only three kicks he had in the grand final (even though they were match-winning goals) and he thanked Derek Chadwick for resigning during the year so they could win a premiership!

There's certainly no hard feelings when you're in Brownies company and it was a day to remember.

Neesham the tormentor!

TIGERS coach Gerard Neesham certainly attracted the wrath of the opposition supporters on Saturday — and the accolades from the Claremont camp.

Why does he generate so much emotion?

Quite simply Gerard uses every trick in the book (and a couple that aren't there) to gain advantage for his side and to hold up the opposition.

When I coached Gerard at East Fremantle in 1985 and 1986, you could always be guaranteed of a full effort. He doesn't concede any situation without a fight and coaches, players, supporters — and even the opposition (begrudgingly) — appreciate that.

Most supporters, if they were honest with themselves, would love to have Neesham in their colours.

Love him or hate him, he's great entertainment value.

Abundant talent on display

THE impressive aspect of the Subiaco-Claremont game last Saturday was the number of talented young players Subiaco and Claremont had on display.

Subiaco have Brett Heady, Dean Kemp and Wayne Golding, who all showed promise, while the Tigers seem to have unearthed a goldmine of young stars.

Brian Beresford was damaging up forward with his raking left-foot; Brendan Barrows was in everything while Gerard Milne and Peter Mann were proving a lively duo to combat and gave the forward line some bite.

Carlo Passera and Tony Evans, in particular, look like being part of the Claremont line-up for a long time.

Dale Kickett and Billy Krakouer knew where the ball was going to fall and were able to swoop on it, pick it up first time and use their good kicking skills to either score or pass to a teammate.



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PLAYER PROFILES

SCOTT WATTERS



NICK NAME: Henry.
FAVOURITE POSITION: Centre.
CURRENT POSITION: Ruck-rover.
NUMBER: 13.
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Fremantle W.A.
HEIGHT: 178cm **WEIGHT:** 79kg
FIRST SENIOR GAME: 1985 South Fremantle.
GAMES PLAYED: 46 South Fremantle, 2 W.A.
FOOTBALL HONOURS: Fairest and best at South Fremantle, 1987.
MARITAL STATUS: Single.
OCCUPATION: Student Teacher.
SCHOOL/S ATTENDED: All Saints College.
CAR: Rover.
FAVOURITE PASTIMES/HOBBIES: Surfing, Golf.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Pasta.

FAVOURITE DRINK: Milk.
FAVOURITE SPORT (OTHER SPORTS): Basketball.
FAVOURITE SINGER/GROUP: Jerry Lee Lewis.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Miami Vice.
FAVOURITE MOVIE: Breathless.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My Father.
MOST ADMIRER FOOTBALLER: Maurice Rioli.
MATCH DAY ROUTINE: Relax, have a hit of golf before the match.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Injuries.
FOOTBALL INJURIES: Ankle.
BIGGEST THRILL: Finals Football.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: The 1987 Derby.
FOOTBALL AMBITION: To win a premiership with the Eagles.

Lance Durack



Full Name: Lance Durack.
Nickname: Pants. **Why:** Rhymes with Lance.
Date of Birth: 11/12/63. **Place of Birth:** Geraldton.
Height: 190cm. **Weight:** 92kg.
Age Started Playing: 10.
Previous Club/s: Rovers in Geraldton.
Junior Club: St Patricks College.
Marital Status: Married to Debbie.
Children: One. **Names/Ages:** Madison (1).
Residence: East Fremantle.
Occupation: Duct Installer. **Place of Work:** Westair.
Other Sporting Interests: Surfing.
Favourite Position: Ruck. **First Position:** Wing.
League Debut: 1987. **Versus:** Perth.

FAVOURITES:

Actor: Micky Rourke. **Drink:** Bourbon and Coke.
TV Show: Faulty Towers. **Food:** Shepherds Pie.
Movie: Barfly.
Music: Neil Young.
Holiday Resort: U.S.A..
Ground: East Fremantle Oval.
Car: F.B. Holden. **Favourite Car:** Porsche.
Career Highlights: State game 1988.
Worst Moment in Football: Losing 1987/88 preliminary final with East Fremantle.
Hard Things in Football: Keeping fit.
Football Idols: Simon Madden, Ken Hunter.
Toughest Opponent: Brad Tunbridge.
Most Memorable Game: Winning 1988 semi final against South Fremantle.
Ambitions: To play VFL.
What do you like about Football: Winning, comradeship.
How do you Mentally Prepare for a Game: Big breakfast.
Who Influenced Your Career: Neil Robinson, a former East Fremantle player coaching at Geraldton.
Guernsey Number: 50 **Any Reason:** Only one available.
Worst Injury: Broken shoulder blade.
Luckiest Break: Joining East Fremantle.



Eagles No. 1 supporter

Hands off our rookies

Time for WAFL to stop VFL pillaging

THE WA Football League must do everything in its power to bring down a new moratorium on player movements into the VFL.

Signs in the opening set of WAFL fixtures last Saturday indicate the local competition is on the verge of a revival.

A batch of promising young footballers displayed their wares and injected new life into the much-maligned WAFL.

Claremont's big win over Subiaco featured the arrival into League ranks of potential new stars Peter Mann, Tony Evans, Brendan Barrows and Gerard Milne.

The Lions didn't have much to roar about at the end of the day, but youngsters Dean Kemp, Steve Rosich and Paul Cox are all young footballers with big roles to play in Subiaco's future.

Victorian clubs are just waiting to pounce on these kids.

THE BUZZ

By football's Mr Flamboyant
PETER BOSUSTOW



The WAFL must re-establish its credibility and status as a league and move quickly to prevent the pillaging that has gone on over recent years.

The loss of players from the WAFL to the VFL has been going on for decades.

Backbone

But the State's premier competition has never lost players in such numbers as to include supplying its own VFL team with rookie recruits.

The WAFL can regain lost prestige if the young stars on display last Saturday — and who will continue to be the drawcards and backbone of football's appeal to the public in 1989 — can be kept here for a few years.

Administrators sold the game down the tube three years ago.

Now is an opportune time for the new administrators — the original sellers all appear to have disappeared from the scene — to stand up to the VFL and keep some of these kids here while the competition regains its status.

South Fremantle coach Stan Magro is one of the first to advise his footballers to advance their status.

Magro would never stand in the way of one of his proteges moving into the next level.

Undoing

But the timing of a young footballer's departure to the "big time" is most important.

Many young players take time to develop and a premature move to the VFL can be the undoing of some of our most promising sportsmen.

Look at the Eagles' recruitment. Many of the new players this year are just not up to VFL level.

And some of the players they took into the nest last year were recruited too early.

Don Pyke, Todd Breman, Troy Ugle and Joe Cormack just are not ready for the tough VFL environment.

Magro and South officials will draw the line at losing Glen Jakovich, Greg Turner and Willie Rioli before they have offered South any service.

Under some provisions of the national draft restrictions, VFL clubs are prohibited from mass recruitment of WA players.

But I've heard on the VFL grapevine that the big Victorian clubs want an open slather that could destroy the WAFL competition.

The WAFL commissioners last year managed to negotiate some drastic restrictions for WA clubs in the first national draft.

They must do the same this year... and more.

MIGHTY PETE

MIGHTY Peter Menaglio deserves a huge pat on the back after his second-half solo display against South Fremantle. He scored his team's two goals in the third quarter as the Falcons went to sleep. A lot more players should follow your lead, Peter.



IT'S good to see that Mr Controversial, Rod Brown, will not be taking any chances on the 6PR Football Forum panel this year. Last year he copped one in the jaw faster than Jeff Fenech could deliver it. But what a character that J.K. Watts is though, eh. When R. Brown esq. donned his helmet in readiness for the show, Wattie gloved him one to see if it really worked.

QUICK FINISH

THE ABC coverage of the VFL games last Sunday must have been controlled by an avid Eagles fan. With two games in progress, the score checks from the Brisbane-Sydney game were regular during the commentary of the Geelong-Eagles match. But the moment the final siren sounded at Kardinia Park, with Eagles some 95 points in arrears, the coverage of the other game ceased. With only a few minutes remaining of that match, you think we could have had summaries of both games — but we had to wait for three hours before getting that at 6pm.

CROSSED WORDS

TWO of radio 6PR's Football Forum panellists were presenting contrasting views on football at last Friday's show from Lathlain Park. Percy Johnson, the champion of WAFL ranks was crossing words with Dennis Cometti, an avowed promoter of National Football. Cometti's argument was that the proposed Channel 7 coverage of VFL games into WA every Saturday would be good for the game. Johnson claimed it would further damage the WAFL. But, as Cometti said, "I want to promote the game generally, not just the WAFL." Who knows how VFL telecasts affect local crowds — without testing the water.

WILLING WORKER

YOU can't keep a good man down, that's for sure. West Coast Eagles chief executive Bill Kerr was chauffeured over to Perth Oval last week and hobbled around with the aid of his walking stick before solving the conflict over the Eagles training ground. Recovering from an apendectomy, the Eagles boss wanted to end the deadlock with East Perth about ground-sharing with the WA's VFL team and he wasn't going to let his slight incapacity hold him back. However, his recovery programme did prevent him from travelling to Geelong for the team's first away game (thank goodness) although he journeyed to East Fremantle Oval instead on the Saturday — to see another debacle. His daily improvement obviously meant that he was the only person in the Eagles camp who felt better on Monday than he did on Sunday.

OLD HABITS

FORMER East Perth president Malcolm Atwell was Bill Kerr's driver last week as the peace settlement between the Eagles and the Royals was finalised. It was ironic to see Atwell's Mercedes parked in the Perth Oval bay marked "president only" Old habits die hard, eh!

MARLOWS

AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES

THE HOOD

WA's most feared football critic



POOR TASTE

HAD a call from a regular contributor to this column who felt that the ABC commentators on the telecast of the Subiaco-Claremont debacle were a little derogatory about the game. Obviously, it wasn't a high-standard game with such a big margin, but they didn't have to harp on it all game, did they? And besides, what about a bit of credit to the Tigers...

HAIR-RAISING

THE closely-shaved head of East Perth's Eagles star Paul Peos was certainly the talking point of the clash at East Fremantle Oval. The Eagles ruck-rover was obviously trying to psyche himself into top form with his skin-head appearance — and he opened the first quarter in blistering style. Radio 6WF callers George Grljusich and Ken Armstrong — both suffering from middle-age hair-thinning problem — were intrigued by Peos' action. As Armstrong said: "It's a terrible waste of a good head of hair."

SUMMER BLUES

THE umpires certainly haven't brushed up on their rules over the hibernation months! That controversial kicking-in-danger rule has definitely been eliminated by the looks of things. There were a number of particularly dangerous cases at East Fremantle and maybe we will have to wait 'til someone gets their head kicked in before the rule is brought back into focus.

HURTING HEROES

IT'S going to happen all season, methinks! Yes, former Eagles players producing match-winning efforts in their newly-adopted VFL colours. First it was John Georgiades for Footscray, then John Gastev for the Brisbane Bears. Thankfully, there's not an Eagles reject in the Sydney Swans side this week!

TOUGH DECISION

HANDY East Perth half-forward Alan Quartermain was reminiscing on Sunday about his ill-fortunes in the year of 1972. He was among the Royals re-living the club's premiership of that year — but bemoaning the fact that he didn't play in the grand final side. He was suspended in the second semi-final — for allegedly striking Claremont's Wayne (Tractor) Reynolds. "I honestly didn't hit him" said Quartermain at East Perth's reunion of that '72 team. "I wouldn't be that stupid to take Tractor on!" But Quarters, the 1975 Sandover Medalist, did admit that he got off an earlier charge that year "when I was guilty".

NO ROOKIE

WEST Perth's Nathan Higgins must have been a quiet achiever in 1988 because the 6PR footy team — Percy Johnson, John K. Watts and Trevor Sprigg — kept referring to him as a first gamer. In fact, Higgins played 11 games for the Falcons last year.

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HARDING A HERO

Cast-off becomes Saints' dynamo

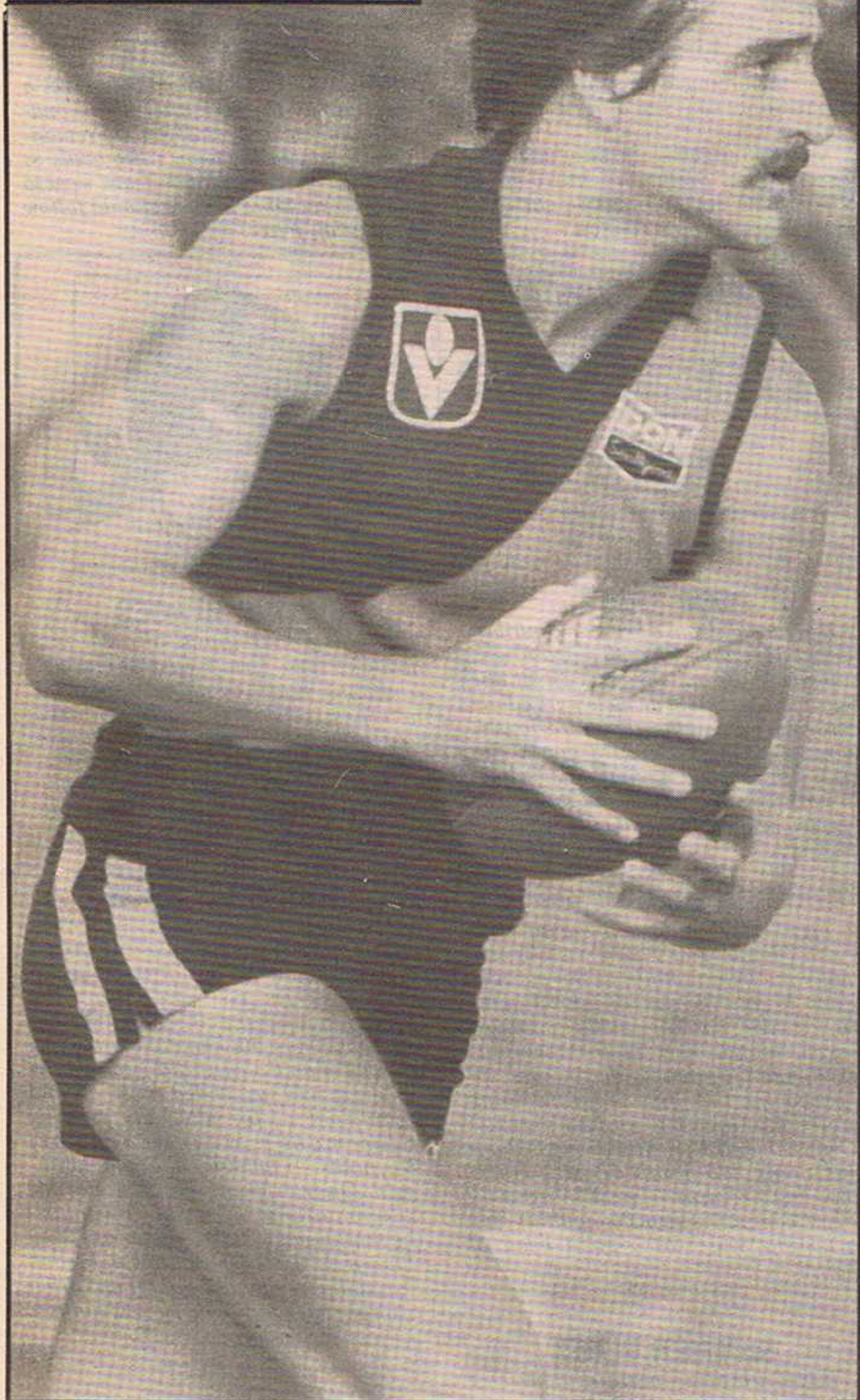
"I KNOW I can play," says Paul Harding, but until this year few Melbourne-based fans agreed with him.

The English-born ruckman, with the impressive West Australian pedigree, botched his chance of stardom with premier club Hawthorn, but now has the role of responsibility he once enjoyed at East Fremantle in the early '80s.

He is leading St Kilda's ruck single-handedly, showing some of the zip and leaping ability which first impressed VFL scouts when he was a teenager.

After just 11 games in two injury-interrupted years with Hawthorn, he's now the leading big man at the VFL's new glamour club.

On Saturday the Saints will attempt to win their third straight game, a feat they last accomplished in their premiership year of 1966.



Paul Harding ... once wooed by Essendon; then a Hawk and now a Saints star.

He's been contesting everything and has made an enormous difference," said his delighted coach Darrel Baldock after St Kilda's boilover win against Carlton.

"He had to be one-out after we lost Bob Jones in the opening round and he's really doing the job for us.

Improving

"He came over from Hawthorn with a bit of a cloud over him but he's improving all the time."

Harding, 25, makes no apologies for his indifferent form at Hawthorn.

He said circumstances — and injuries — were the main reasons for him being sold at the end of 1988.

"I started behind the eight-ball at Hawthorn by missing their pre-season build-up," he said.

"Injuries bugged me from the start. I had a foot injury almost as soon as I arrived and that developed into stress problems. Then I broke a toe.

"When you miss a few weeks, you fall behind the rest of the players and it is hard to make up lost ground."

Harding strained a knee in May last year after some impressive early efforts, and lost his No. 1 ruck spot to Greg Dear. He never made it back into the senior side.

At the end of the season he had corrective surgery for "jumper's knee" — an ailment in which the tendon in front of the kneecap becomes strained.

Salary cap

There's no doubt he would still be at Hawthorn — and probably in the first ruck as a result of the injury to Dear — if it wasn't for the club's salary cap problems, which forced the Hawks to clear Harding, Peter Russo and Robert Handley to St Kilda.

Clearing Harding was a surprise move, considering the Hawks had tried so hard to keep both Gary Buckenara and Harding from joining the Eagles in 1987.

The case went to the Supreme Court and Hawthorn emerged victorious.

Buckenara returned to have a marvellous year, but Harding's injuries never gave him an even chance.

On Saturday against the formidable Justin Madden, a regular State team choice, Harding (196cm and 95 kg) cleverly used his body to buffet his taller Carlton opponent at every opportunity.

Carlton had won the ball out of the centre 10 times to six in the first half, but Harding helped swing the odds in the second.

While his personal statistics were not outstanding (seven kicks, seven marks and five hit outs, compared with Madden's seven, five and 19), Harding's negating tactics worked well enough for his under-rated smaller players to become key men around the centre bounces.

Todd's men lack match hardness

THE West Coast Eagles have hit rock bottom, but don't expect them to be there for too long...

The Eagles players badly lack match practice and conditioning.

Coach John Todd knows it was a mistake for his club not to have a game against another VFL side for three weeks before the first match, but he had no other option.

He said Melbourne clubs were not keen to come to Perth to play scratch games, but it cost the Eagles \$25,000 to travel to Melbourne.

"With the need to meet salary caps and the like, it's very difficult to find that sort of money, especially for a practice match," he said.

I've rarely seen a League team show so little endeavour and enthusiasm for the ball as the Eagles displayed on Sunday at Geelong.

Notable exceptions were the hard-working running pair of Steve Malaxos and Chris Mainwaring, solo ruckman Phil Scott and, to a lesser extent, comeback forward David O'Connell, who improved as the match progressed.



ON THE EAST COAST

Leading football journalist and 6NR commentator **KEN PIESSE** reports from Melbourne.

VFL leading goalkickers

Tony Lockett (St. Kilda)	19.11
Richard Osborne (Fitzroy)	11.8
John Georgiades (Footscray)	10.4
Jeff Hogg (Richmond)	9.3
Jason Dunstall (Hawthorn)	9.9
Phil Scott (West Coast Eagles)	8.2
Ian Fairley (North Melbourne)	8.1
Brian Taylor (Collingwood)	8.3
John Gastev (Brisbane Bears)	7.4
Paul Roos (Fitzroy)	7.2
James Morrissey (Hawthorn)	6.4
Darren Morgan (Geelong)	6.2
Bill Brownless (Geelong)	6.6
Philip O'Keefe (Footscray)	6.2
Paul Broderick (Fitzroy)	6.1
Peter Daicos (Collingwood)	6.1
Stephen Newport (Melbourne)	5.2
Gary Hocking (Geelong)	5.2
Paul Couch (Geelong)	5.5
Ross Lyon (Fitzroy)	5.2

How WA players performed in VFL

	Kicks	Marks	H/balls	Score
HAWTHORN				
Gary Buckenara	21	7	14	3.1
MELBOURNE				
Alan Johnson	16	7	6	0.1
Earl Spalding	10	5	1	1.3
NORTH MELBOURNE				
Jim Krakouer	15	2	7	1.0
Mark Hepburn	7	4	2	0.2
RICHMOND				
Michael Mitchell	11	6	11	1.0
Peter Wilson	12	2	5	—
ST KILDA				
Steve Turner	—	—	1	—
Nicky Winmar	18	5	4	1.1
Paul Harding	7	2	7	—
SYDNEY SWANS				
Wayne Henwood	8	5	4	0.1
BRISBANE BEARS				
David Bain	15	7	6	1.1
John Gastev	17	4	3	7.2
Alex Ishchenko	7	4	3	—
Rod Lester-Smith	12	4	5	—
Mike Richardson	13	2	4	1.0
CARLTON				
Jon Dorotich	10	5	1	—
Ken Hunter	11	3	—	—
Peter Sartori	4	3	7	1.0
COLLINGWOOD				
Michael Christian	9	7	10	0.1
ESSENDON				
Darren Bewick	13	3	4	3.1
FITZROY				
Kevin Caton	5	1	—	—
Brett Stephens	13	6	10	—
Wally Matera	14	5	10	2.1
GEELONG				
Mair Bairstow	17	1	16	3.2
Roy Sterett	—	1	4	—

HIT-OUTS: Paul Harding 5; Wayne Henwood 2; Alex Ishchenko 12; Peter Sartori 5.

HOW THE EAGLES HAVE PERFORMED

	1989 Kicks	1989 Marks	1989 H/balls	1989 Score
John Annear	27	4	5	0.2
Adrian Barich	7	1	2	1.0
Todd Brennan	14	4	3	2.3
Michael Brennan	7	3	9	0.1
Joe Cormack	4	1	2	0.1
Shane Ellis	15	5	9	2.0
David Hart	18	6	4	2.2
Laurie Keene	15	8	4	1.0
Dean Ialdley	8	3	5	0.1
Karl Langdon	14	7	6	3.1
Andrew Lockyer	8	2	3	0.0
Chris Mainwaring	27	13	10	0.4
Stephen Malaxos	34	9	11	0.0
Guy McKenna	20	8	16	0.0
David O'Connell	11	4	1	0.2
Paul Peos	8	6	1	0.1
Don Pyke	35	10	10	3.1
Murray Rance	17	14	14	0.0
Phil Scott	23	11	2	8.2
Peter Sumich	14	4	1	1.0
Craig Turley	24	10	8	1.0
Dean Turner	10	3	2	0.0
Troy Ugle	3	0	3	0.0
John Worstfold	25	11	10	1.0

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6NR

Chris Gogos
JEWELLER & VALUATOR

Eagle of the Year

Last week's votes:	PROGRESS
3 Steve Malaxos	5 Steve Malaxos
2 Phil Scott	5 Phil Scott
1 Chris Mainwaring	1 Murray Rance
	1 Chris Mainwaring

This week's broadcast games:-
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WAFL — East Perth v Swan Districts
Sunday — from noon
VFL — Sydney Swans v Eagles

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Sydney have some dynamic problems



VFL PREVIEW

by GARY STOCKS
of The West Australian



AS I sat in the office last Sunday watching the Eagles-Geelong clash on television, a colleague jibed: "I suppose you spend all day Saturday at the abattoir."

The reference was obviously directed at the slaughter which was going on at Kardinia Park.

If it felt bad for those who watched the Channel 7 telecast last Sunday, imagine how it must have been for the players, who were humiliated by one of the classiest combinations in the competition.

When the Cats have control of the ball, they are the most destructive force in the game because they have so many strong-marking players in attack and free-running midfielders.

The task of John Todd and his off-siders this week is to assemble a unit which was totally destroyed and bring them up again in time to play against the Sydney Swans at the SCG.

That is no easy task, but it is not an unfamiliar position for Todd to find himself in. He has been there many times during his long coaching career.

Motivating

The Eagles have never won at the SCG, but that will serve more as a motivating factor than a detraction as the Perth-based VFL club looks anxiously at winning their first match of the season.

So, too, will the fact that for the first time in their short history, the Eagles now find themselves at the foot of the VFL ladder.

It is difficult to imagine the Eagles making wholesale personnel changes because they simply have too many players on the injured list; so they will have to make do with who they have available.

What they need is to get some of their experienced back to form — and quickly.

Though they might have been among the better players for the Eagles in the opening two matches, it is time for Steve Malaxos, John Worsfold, Murray Rance, John Annear, Chris Mainwaring and Laurie Keene to take charge of games.

Desperate

They have done it before and they desperately need to do it again.

The Sydney Swans have not made a brilliant start to the season either, being crushed by the new-look Brisbane Bears last Sunday. But at least they have four points on the board.

The obvious dangers for the Eagles this week are the dynamic midfield runners of Greg Williams and Gerard Healy, two of the all-time great players in the VFL.

Undoubtedly, they will be tagged and probably the tasks will go to Malaxos, Annear or Dean Turner.

But the Swans are far from a two-man team and they have an even spread of talent around the ground through players like full-back Rod Carter, rovers Barry Mitchell and Steve Wright, ruck-rover Merv Neagle and exciting aerialist Tony Morwood.

INTERSTATE UPDATE

by RICHARD CAMM



THE West Coast Eagles' 95-point loss to Geelong on Sunday resulted in the Eagles holding the wooden spoon for the first time.

Before this season, the Eagles had never been in the bottom two positions on the ladder at the completion of a round of fixtures.

Left at start

CARLTON have recorded their worst start to a season since 1978, when they also lost their opening two games, by 77 and 14 points respectively.

Carlton recovered in 1978 to finish the qualifying rounds in fourth position.

Saints on a high

ST KILDA, who will be chasing a hat-trick of wins against Fitzroy at VFL Park this Saturday, last won their two opening games of the season in 1978.

That year the Saints won five and drew one of their opening seven games to be second behind the unbeaten North Melbourne after round seven.

That was the last time St Kilda have been in the top two positions on the VFL ladder. The last time they were on top was after round two in 1974.

Lockett's 400th

ST KILDA full-forward Tony Lockett kicked his 400th goal in VFL football late in the second quarter against Carlton.

Lockett has now kicked 406 goals in 103 games.

The group of six current players who have kicked more than 400 goals includes two WA-born players — Simon Beasley (Footscray) and Brian Taylor (Collingwood).

Lockett's performance in kicking 19 goals in the opening two rounds of the season is the best since Beasley kicked 11 and eight goals in the first two weeks of 1984.

Hafey's hint for the Eagles



HOUGHTON WINES
PRESENT ...

IN THE EAGLES NEST

with 6NR's PETER VLAHOS



THE West Coast Eagles, currently languishing at the foot of the VFL premiership ladder, need to change their football style, according to legendary coach Tom Hafey.

The much-travelled coach believes that the Eagles will stay on the bottom of the ladder after Sunday's clash with the Sydney Swans.

Hafey, who has coached Richmond, Collingwood, Geelong and the Swans, is enjoying his first break from football in 33 years.

But he's still taking a close look at how the teams are shaping up.

He feels that the Eagles are playing the wrong style of game.

T-shirt Tom says the Eagles have to change from their indirect short-passing game.

"At the Sydney Cricket Ground, you play the one long kick out of the centre and into the goal square," he says.

"That was why Warwick Capper was such a success in Sydney. He used his marking ability to capitalise on the direct play out of the centre."

Hafey also believes the Eagles have been far too gentle on their opposition, in their first two matches this season.

"On what I've seen, they are the softest tacklers in the competition," he claimed.

Quick quip by Baldock

ON the flight to Melbourne on Saturday afternoon, the Eagles party were able to listen to the exciting St Kilda v Carlton match from Moorabbin, courtesy of the Australian Airlines entertainment service.

After the Saints had snatched a four-point win to leave the Blues without a victory, coach Darrel Baldock was able to crow a little.

"It's great to win, but after all, we have only beaten the bottom side," was his quip.

Langdon in hot seat

FIERY Karl Langdon has had an indifferent start to the 1989 season.

The Melbourne press were critical of Langdon's performance against Geelong, but Todd was quick to point out that the press had made Langdon a "name player" in the VFL.

According to Todd, Langdon has a long way to go and has much to learn about the tempo of VFL football and needs to work on his game.

Dizzy at home at Geelong

THERE was at least one West Coast Eagle who didn't incur the wrath of coach John Todd after last week's debacle.

The bitterly disappointed Todd had a word of praise for David O'Connell after the side's 95-point loss to Geelong. He said that O'Connell "did okay" at centre-half-forward.

"I thought he was one of our very few winners on the day," said Todd.

O'Connell seems certain to hold down that troublesome position against Sydney on Sunday.

"Dizzy", as he is called by his teammates, felt at home at Geelong.

His father John played with the Cats in the late 1950s and David spent two weeks at Kardinia Park during the 1988 pre-season build-up before he was lured back West to play with the Eagles.



David O'Connell ... earned praise



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- Troy Wale (Eagles) 21 on 18th.
- Dean Smith (Swans) 20 on 18th.
- Jeremy Silcock (East Perth) 19 on 20th.
- John Ball (Subiaco) 21 on 20th.
- Grant Hatch (Perth) 20 on 22nd.
- Jan Neuman (Perth) 24 on 22nd.
- Brandan Ratzlaff (Swans) 20 on 22nd.

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LUNCH
FRIDAYS

DERBY SHOULD BE A THRILLER

IF THE WAFL is to make its threatened comeback with improved attendances this season, much will depend on the drawing power of the Fremantle derby this Saturday.

With South Fremantle breaking a 10-year hoodoo by beating West Perth at Leederville Oval last week and East Fremantle crushing East Perth in the first round, the scene is set for a Fremantle thriller.

It has been said before that if football is healthy, then it is booming in Fremantle. If more than 10,000 fans pack into Fremantle Oval this week, it will do the game justice.

Some of the most exciting talent in the country will be

on display.

South have unearthed a young player of rare potential in Willie Rioli and add the three Collard brothers, speedy wingman Greg Turner, teenage star Glen Jakovich and big-marking forward Stevan Jackson and the Bulldogs are capable of beating anyone in the competition.

East Fremantle have earned billing as the early premiers favourites simply because they have more depth of talent than any other club.

They have stars on every line, many options in attack and one of the most efficient defensive units in the game.

With Chris Waterman approaching his best form, talented midfield players in Eric Cooper, Michael Broadbridge and Peter Quill, the Sharks look a dangerous combination.

Before South can look seriously at winning this match they must cut off East Fremantle's three major avenues to goal — Clinton Browning, who has started the season brilliantly, Brian Peake and the elusive Neil Lester-Smith.

That fire-power up forward, against an inexperienced Bulldogs defensive unit, could be the difference in what promises to be a superb game.

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WAFL PREVIEWS
by Gary Stocks

ROYALS FORTUNES CHANGE RAPIDLY

IT is amazing how a week in football can change a club's prospects.

Take East Perth for example. After winning all their pre-season matches, the Royals were tipped as big improvers.

They ran hard, looked to have found some classy youngsters and confidence was high.

That was before last week's mauling by East Fremantle. Just how much the Royals have improved will be determined this week when their ability to rebound after such a tough introduction will be tested.

Now it is time to play a rejuvenated Swan Districts side which has backed itself to win the premiership. They made a positive step towards winning a \$200,000 bonus when they out-played Perth in Round One.

The Royals pushed Swans to the bottom of the premiership table last year and this match suddenly becomes of paramount importance for them.

To win, they will need Peter Cransberg to dominate at centre-half-forward and will look to Ray Ewen, Peter Miller, Rod Lewis and Paul Moyses to present enough scoring opportunities for East Perth to kick a winning score.

Swans were exciting last week; as exciting as they have been for years.

It is no coincidence that the return of form came with the return of Brad Shine and Don Langford, two men who enjoyed the halcyon days of the early 1980's.

Swans still have an edge in experience in this contest and they should continue to gather momentum by winning this clash.

THE COVERAGE

RADIO

6PR Saturday 11.55am: Richmond v Melbourne. 2.30pm: Perth v Subiaco. Sunday 12.05pm: Sydney Swans v West Coast Eagles.

6NR Saturday 2pm: East Perth v Swan Districts. Sunday 11.55am: Geelong v Eagles.

6WF Saturday 2pm: South Fremantle v East Fremantle.

TELEVISION

Channel 2:

Saturday — South Fremantle v East Fremantle. 2.30pm to regional stations, 4.20pm final quarter metropolitan area.

Sunday — 9am-10am: WAFL Highlights.

TVW Channel 7:

Saturday 5pm — VFL Highlights. Sunday noon: Sydney Swans v West Coast Eagles.

Emu Export present ...
WESTSIDE'S EXPERT SELECTIONS



*Tally does not include VFL tips	Tally	Claremont v W. Perth	S. Frem. v E. Frem.	E. Perth v Swan Dist.	Perth v Subiaco	Syd. Swans v Eagles
RON ALEXANDER	3	Claremont	East Fremantle	Swans	Subiaco	Sydney
ROB BENNETT	3	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Perth	Perth	Sydney
PETER BOSUSTOW	3	Claremont	East Fremantle	East Perth	Perth	Sydney
DAVE CLEMENT	4	Claremont	East Fremantle	Swans	Perth	Sydney
GRANT DORRINGTON	3	Claremont	South Fremantle	Swans	Perth	Sydney
ALAN EAST	3	Claremont	East Fremantle	East Perth	Perth	Sydney
IAN MILLER	2	Claremont	East Fremantle	East Perth	Perth	Sydney
BILL MATHER-BROWN	2	Claremont	East Fremantle	East Perth	Perth	Eagles
GARY STOCKS	2	Claremont	East Fremantle	Swans	Perth	Eagles
GEORGE TEMPLE	3	Claremont	East Fremantle	Swans	Perth	Eagles
PETER VLAHOS	3	Claremont	East Fremantle	East Perth	Perth	Sydney
MOST FAVOURED	3	Claremont	East Fremantle	East Perth	Perth	Sydney

how about you?

Falcons have to rebound

IT was a confident George Michalczyk who took West Perth into their opening game of the season against South Fremantle last Saturday.

Just how much their opening game defeat has deflated the Falcons confidence will be determined when they tackle Claremont, at Claremont Oval on Saturday.

The Falcons flattered only fleetingly last week when they kicked eight goals in the first quarter.

Claremont boast one of the best defensive units in league football.

Kicking goals does not come easily against the fierce-tackling of John Scott and Cameron Lewis, the creative skills of Tony Begovich and Neil Park and the sheer hard work of Carlo Passera.

West Perth fell down badly in attack after quarter-time and they will need to improve dramatically to topple the Tigers.

1989 FORM GUIDE

(Figures in brackets are winning (W) or losing (L) margins).

SUBIACO L (69)
CLAREMONT W (69)
EAST FREMANTLE W (91)
EAST PERTH L (91)
SWAN DISTRICTS W (43)
PERTH L (43)
WEST PERTH L (43)
SOUTH FREMANTLE W (43)

Demons will be tough

IT HAS been a long time since Subiaco performed as badly as they did when humbled by 69 points by Claremont last Saturday.

Whether that was just a bad day or an indication that the Lions are set for a slide down the ladder will be determined when they play Perth at Lathlain Park on Saturday.

It will be an emotional return to Perth's home ground and teams who play with feeling and tradition are extremely difficult to beat.

The Demons were on the receiving end of some of that hype last week when they played Swans just a couple of days after the club had backed themselves to play in and win this year's grand final.

Perth and Subiaco both fell victim to wasted opportunities. They could get the ball into attack, but they could not capitalise on the opportunities.

For now let us imagine that Subiaco simply had a bad day last Saturday. But Perth still have plenty of talent within their ranks and have the capacity to send Subiaco into the third round without a win against their name.

WHO PLAYS WHERE



WAFL — Saturday, April 15 (Round 2).

Claremont vs West Perth, at Claremont Oval.
South Fremantle vs East Fremantle, at Fremantle Oval.
East Perth vs Swan Districts, at WACA.
Perth vs Subiaco, at Lathlain Park.

VFL — Sunday, April 16 (Round 3).

Sydney Swans vs Eagles, at SCG, Sydney.



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Old age — and the draft — balances the VFL battle

TAKING STOCK

by **GARY STOCKS**
of *The West Australian*



IT IS unusual to scan the VFL ladder in search of perennial finalists Carlton and have to go down past such teams as St Kilda, Fitzroy, Footscray, Richmond and North Melbourne eventually finding the Blues in 13th place.

But even this early in the season it could be a sign of the times.

Football in the 1980s has been dominated by three VFL clubs — Carlton, Hawthorn and Essendon — who had big cheque books and paid for the best players from South Australia and WA.

No longer can those financial clubs maintain their standing at the top simply by being the richest — and the VFL administrators must be rubbing their hands in delight.

With Richmond and St Kilda, in particular, making bright starts to the season, the VFL draft is showing all the signs of producing the results for which it was designed.

For too long the rich have got richer and the poor have grown weaker.

Now that the best talent in the country no longer is swallowed up by the more powerful of clubs the competition is evening out. The draft has been a god-send.

With the club finishing last at the end of one season now getting first choice of the draftees for the following year, a great levelling-out has taken place.

It is now interesting to have a look at Carlton and Hawthorn, the powers of VFL football for the past five years.

No longer can the Blues and Hawks produce the cheque book and buy the stars from the SA or WA State teams and they are showing signs of relinquishing power.

Age could be catching up with the established stars in both camps and they are going to find it increasingly difficult to maintain their high-profile in the competition.

At Hawthorn, stars like Michael Tuck, Gary Ayres, Gary Buckenara, Robert DiPierdomenico, Chris Mew, John Kennedy and Peter Schwab are starting to reach the twilights of their careers.

The average age of those seven players is about 29, with Tuck approaching his 36th birthday, being the oldest and Mew, at 27, the youngest.

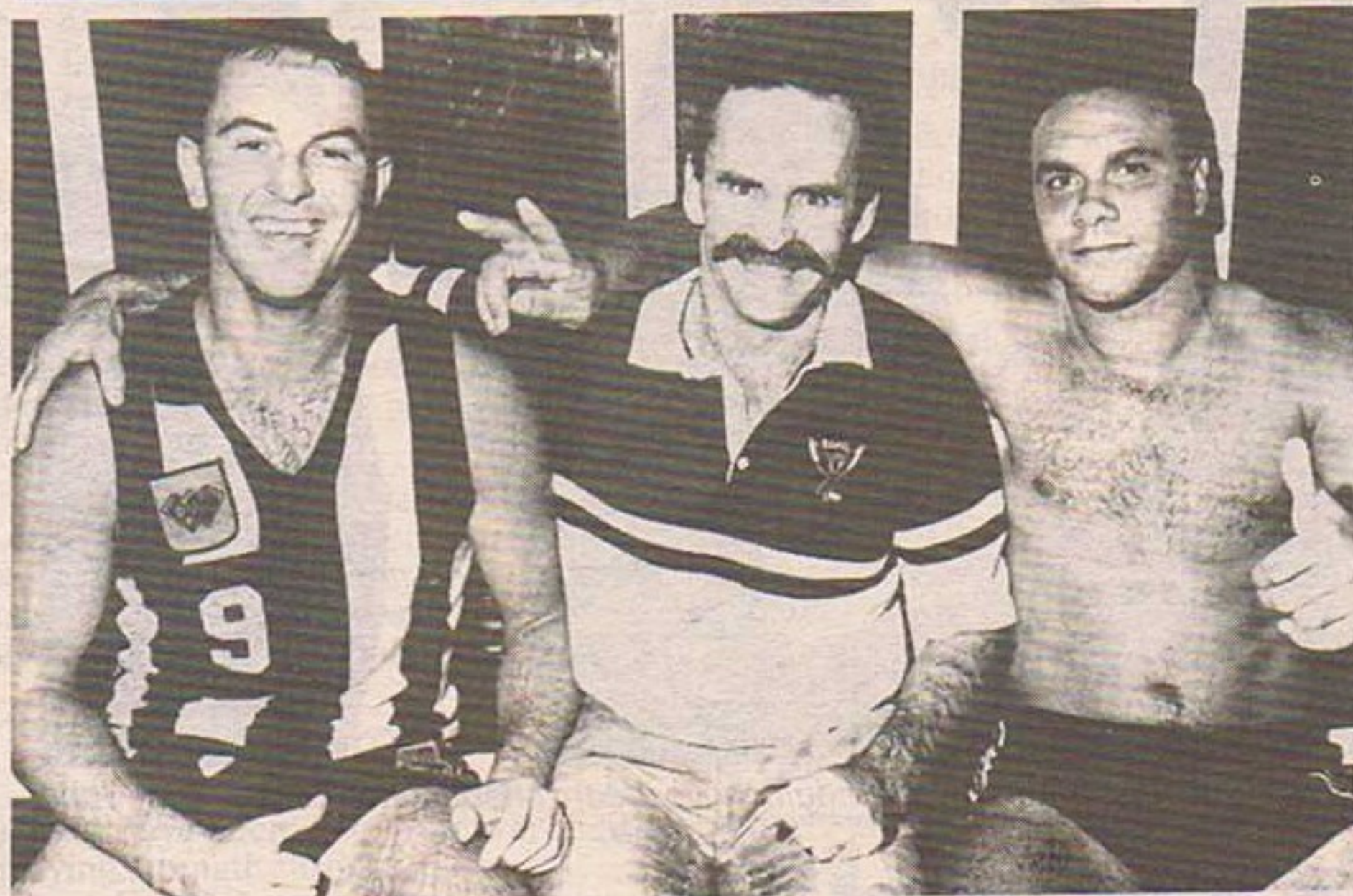
They are the hard corps of experienced players who have lifted the Hawks out of trouble — on the few occasions when they have been in bother — in the last few years.

At Carlton, a similar situation exists with players like Ken Hunter, Wayne Johnston, Wayne Blackwell, David Glascott, Mark Naley and Justin Madden a lot closer to the end of their careers than they are to the start.

The WAFL has considered implementing a draft system in the domestic competition and that would seem to be a smart move, judging by the early evidence of the VFL draft.

For too long now Subiaco, Claremont and East Fremantle, boosted by larger country and metropolitan numbers in their zones, have had a walk-up start to their team rebuilding.

It is time for the WAFL to consider moves to bolster the three Perth sides, Swan Districts and South Fremantle.



Ed Blackaby with two of his match-winners Darren Williams (left) and Danny Penny.

STRAIGHT TALKING

With Claremont coach **GERARD NEESHAM**



Chance to catch up with Kickett

THE Eagles' next home game may give us the opportunity to see the mercurial Derek Kickett back in action for the first time since the 1987 grand final.

His early pre-season form had been excellent until he broke a bone in his hand in a scratch match.

He has played his last two games in the reserves and should be looking at a berth in the League side along with Phil Krakouer.

The North Melbourne half-forward line could read Phil Krakouer, Hepburn and Kickett opposed to McKenna, Rance and Miles, five of the six players coming from Claremont.

Full-backs must hit the target

It is important for a full-back to be able to kick over long distances.

I can still recall Brian Sarre, Con Regan and John Grieve using the mighty drop kick from goal and lobbing them into the centre.

During my career I have been fortunate enough to be on the end of three of the best kicking full-backs in a game where distance isn't the only attribute required.

Tom Mullooly, Andrew Lockyer and John Scott all have the capacity to pinpoint the ball with incredible precision, be it 10m or 70m.

The ability to kick a low, hard, short pass is more difficult than the longer kick as failure will certainly result in a shot at goal by the opposition.

To have good vision, identifying the person in the best position early enough, is something that is developed along with the kicking and Mullooly and Scott both excelled in this area.

Penalty should fit the crime

AFTER fronting the tribunal on Monday for what I regarded as a frivolous report it became obvious to me that our rules do not allow for an intermediate penalty as in most sports.

Mike Ball saw the act as deliberate and reported it by the letter of the law.

By the letter of the law I was found guilty but because of the mild nature of the offence, a caution was given.

In basketball, a deliberate foul results in two shots at goal.

It would seem to me that if a foul was deemed deliberate, a 50m penalty should apply.

In this case a 50m penalty would have resulted in a goal and something that did not warrant a report, but needed more than a free kick, would have been dealt with there and then.

SWANS ON THE REBOUND

IT was good to see Swan Districts, my old side, bounce back after a couple of average seasons.

The difficulties encountered by having players not available for training with the rest of the team and then be available for games can be very disruptive.

Ed Blackaby had players coming from Bunbury as well as from the Eagles and this would have made it virtually impossible, to mould his side.

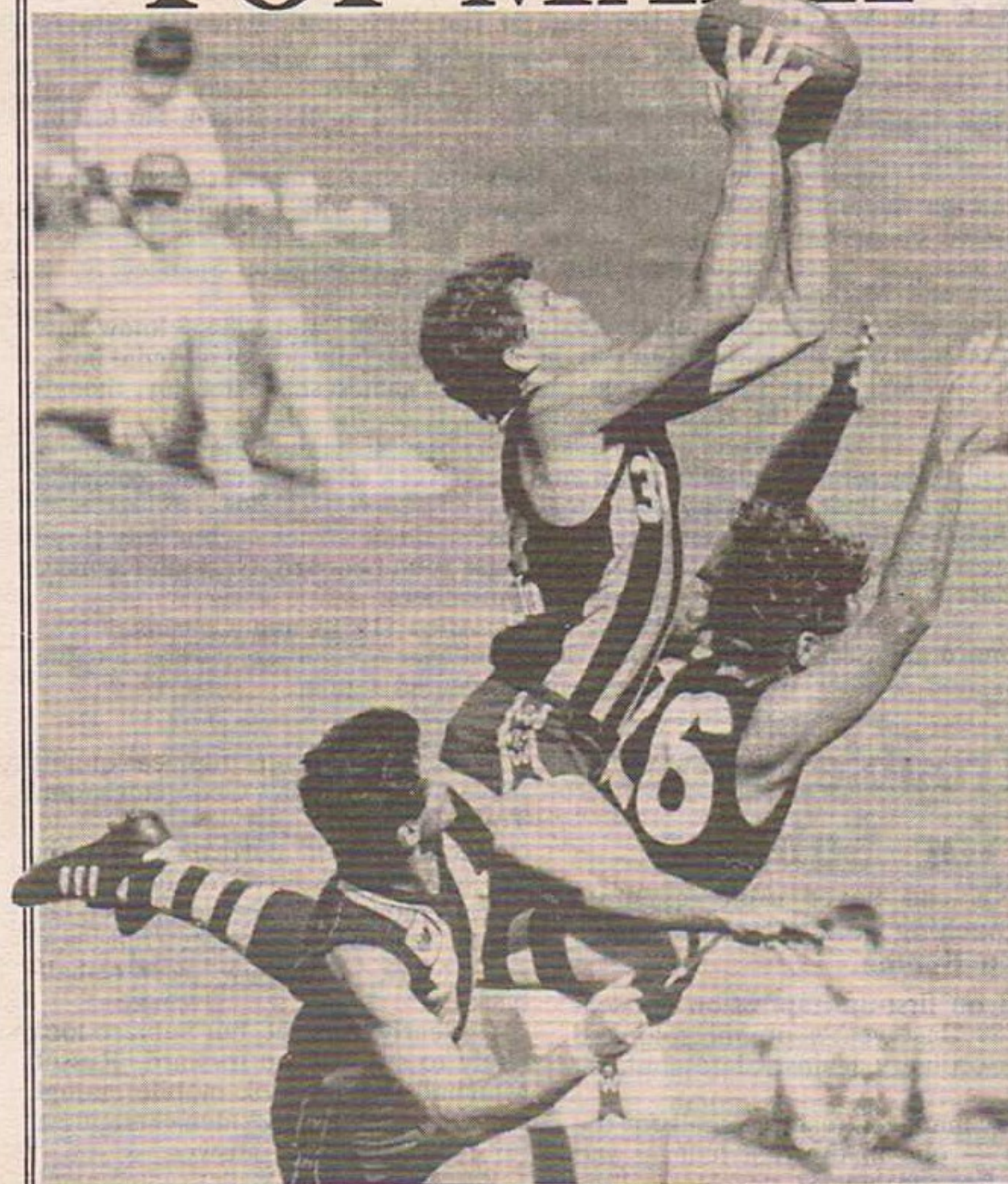
Players such as Geoff Passeri, Andrew Holmes and Mick Grasso are into their third season of League and will offer the club a great deal more this year.

Add the names of Bulldog Brad Shine, Don Langsford, Peter Ware, Danny Penny, Len Gandini, Troy Ugle and, on paper, you have a very healthy line-up.

The icing on the cake will be if they have access to Brent Hutton, Joe Cormack and Don Holmes from the Eagles, which is a likely proposition.

I think they will win more than they lose and will pose a real threat to anyone come September.

"TOP MARK"



Subiaco's Tony Cope soars high over team-mate Clinton Brown and Claremont's Dean Farmer.

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MAGIC MEN!

Great skills from some famous names

THE majestic skills of former Claremont stars named Kickett (Derek and Larry) and Krakouer (Jimmy and Phil) still linger as memories of their football are revived each week.

Last week the names were to the fore again with the Tigers in the form of Billy Krakouer and Dale Kickett.

The pair combined midfield and especially up forward to produce some dazzling football against Subiaco.

The confidence with which they approach the ball, their one-grab ability, balance, agility and ability to dodge, weave and thread through a goal or pick out a team-mate is amazing.

It is great to see such good skills from young players.



Claremont pair in good debut

CLAREMONT have produced some outstanding young footballers in recent seasons and looking at them last Saturday, the list will continue to grow.

Four newcomers all impressed greatly.

Peter Mann (centre-half-forward), Gerard Milne (full-forward), Brendan Barrows (half-forward-flank) and Tony Evans (utility) showed a mature capacity to handle their league debuts.

Their endeavour and team contribution was to be admired and Mann was particularly impressive at centre-half-forward.

That is a difficult position to hold down and Mann displayed fine forward-line qualities. He attacked the ball strongly, showed good ability to read the play and share the ball and, above all, he has a good pair of hands overhead.

Mann and Milne both need to work on their recovery, which will quickly improve, but coach Gerard Neesham must have been pleased with his first-gamers, who will be given plenty of opportunity to improve at league level.

TIGER TYROS

There's no shortage of talent at Claremont — and these four rookies confirmed that in their WAFL debut last Saturday. From left, the debutants are Peter Mann, Tony Evans, Gerard Milne and Brendan Barrows.



Eagles in trouble up forward

IT'S easy to criticise after the event, but John Todd must be having a good, hard look at a few "ordinary" Eagles players after their performance against Geelong.

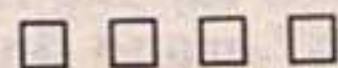
The general lack of aggression and commitment to get the ball seemed to be infectious; too few were doing the work.

Too many players were not prepared to work hard enough, especially to get to the fall of the ball up forward and the ability to work out of the centre square was virtually non-existent.

It doesn't need me to relate this message, but last week's effort means that the Eagles are looking down the barrel at 3-0 record with a loss in Sydney.

Players never lose their ability; only concentration and enthusiasm.

However, you get another chance every week to prove yourself in this game and it is amazing how form can change — and what a win can do for confidence.



Bell makes his mark

FORMER Perth ruckman Ken Bell has emerged from a stint in the Sunday League to play his first game for Swan Districts against his former club last Saturday.

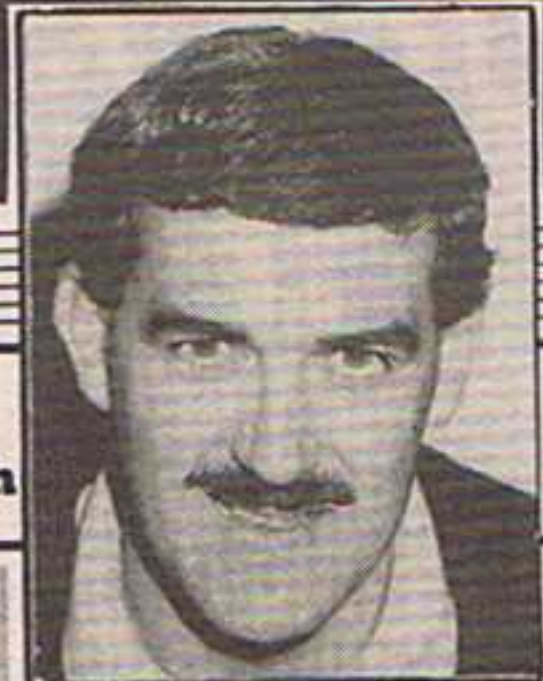
Bell was a key factor in Swans runaway victory when he rucked tirelessly all day and showed great enthusiasm for his work.

Bell always had a great capacity for hard work and though he was a better-than-average reserves performer, he found league openings at Perth limited.

I'm pleased to see him produce a good effort first-up and I wonder if he still retains his nickname from his Lathlain Park days — Bombay Bell!

IAN MILLER

Former VFL, WAFL star Sandover Medallist and league coach



Bryan Cousins (right) ... he could have been sharing the Medal with John Ironmonger.

Medal losers can now be winners

WILL the WAFL follow the lead of the VFL and award Sandover Medals to those men beaten on a countback over the years?

The VFL discarded the countback system for the Brownlow Medal in 1980 and have now awarded medals to all those players who tied for the award, but lost on a countback.

The WAFL followed the VFL lead in 1983 when they dropped the countback system after Bryan Cousins and John Ironmonger tied, with Ironmonger getting the award on a countback.

The next year there was an incredible three-way tie with Peter Spencer, Steve Malaxos and Michael Mitchell all receiving Medals.

Having sat next to Cousins at the Medal counts in 1983 and 1984, I know how he felt on both occasions...and I'm sure he would gratefully accept a Medal now.

The other six players to also lose on a countback should share that joy, though it can never replace the thrill of having won it on the night.

Certainly, all seven players are no less worthy Medallists than those with whom they polled the same number of votes and the WAFL, on this occasion, could do well to follow their Victorian counterparts.

If that becomes the case, seven new medals would be struck — but only three new faces could join the Medallists Club because John Leonard, Graham Farmer, Ray Sorrell and Bill Walker are already members.

The others are Cyril Hoft (1921), Frank Allen (1950) and Cousins.

Leonard and Sorrell would become dual Sandover Medallists; Farmer a triple winner and Walker would have an unprecedented fourth.

Trouble spots for Subiaco

ONE can never under-estimate the coaching qualities of Subiaco's Haydn Bunton.

But on first-up impression for season '89, last year's premiers looked rather ordinary against Claremont last week.

They managed just five goals for the game — one in the first half — and there lies the biggest problem, filling the key trouble-spots of centre-half-forward and full-forward.

It is not easy to replace quality players like John Georgiades and Todd Breman.

Georgiades, in particular, was the key to Subiaco's forward line in 1988.

Claremont's defence dominated last week, led by John Scott (full-back) and Mark Brayshaw (centre-half-back).

It is early days yet, but Subiaco look likely to struggle up forward. Russell Marshall doesn't look mobile enough and you can't use ruckmen changing at full-forward as the answer.

Players like Rod Willet (when available) and defender Clint Brown could find themselves in front of goals again.



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Eagles weaknesses were on display

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BENNETT'S BURST

By **ROBERT BENNETT**
of The Sunday Times



IF their first two performances are an indication of what is to come, then the Eagles face a bleak start to the 1989 season ... one that could leave them anchored near the bottom of the premiership ladder with little chance of making the finals.

For a team to be so soundly beaten, yet have almost as many kicks as Geelong on Sunday, indicates a lack of their use of the ball.

But the glaring weakness that came through against the Cats is the lack of a key forward.

This was predictable at the start of the season with the retirement of Ross Glendinning.

Unless the Eagles can rectify the situation — and rectify it fast — then they could be in for a dismal season.

It's easy to be wise after the event, but the criticism has been constant that the Eagles did not recruit judiciously this season.

They enlisted too many brittle players to succeed in Melbourne.

Sure, they'll still be hard to beat at home. But whereas the Eagles should have been able to use last season as a launching pad to consolidate on that performance, they look as though they may have regressed.

Perhaps they were lulled into a false sense of ability by their early pre-season form; perhaps they are bereft of talent because of injuries; but perhaps they aren't as good a team as last year.

Bolstered

Most VFL sides who struggled last season have been able to bolster their playing strength through the draft.

The Eagles have made some gains, but not where it really counts — in attack, which was their Achilles heel last year.

It was obvious to a blind man that so much depended on Glendinning at full-forward. Without him, there isn't anyone capable of taking a strong Tony Lockett or Jason Dunstall-type mark.

But centre-half-forward is also a problem.

That's going to be the challenge to John Todd and Co. in the next few weeks.

To find two key attacking players, who like Bill Brownless last week, can give opposing defenders a headache.

Ironically, they may be forced to use their two key defenders, Andrew Lockyer and Murray Rance 'up forward.

Prospect

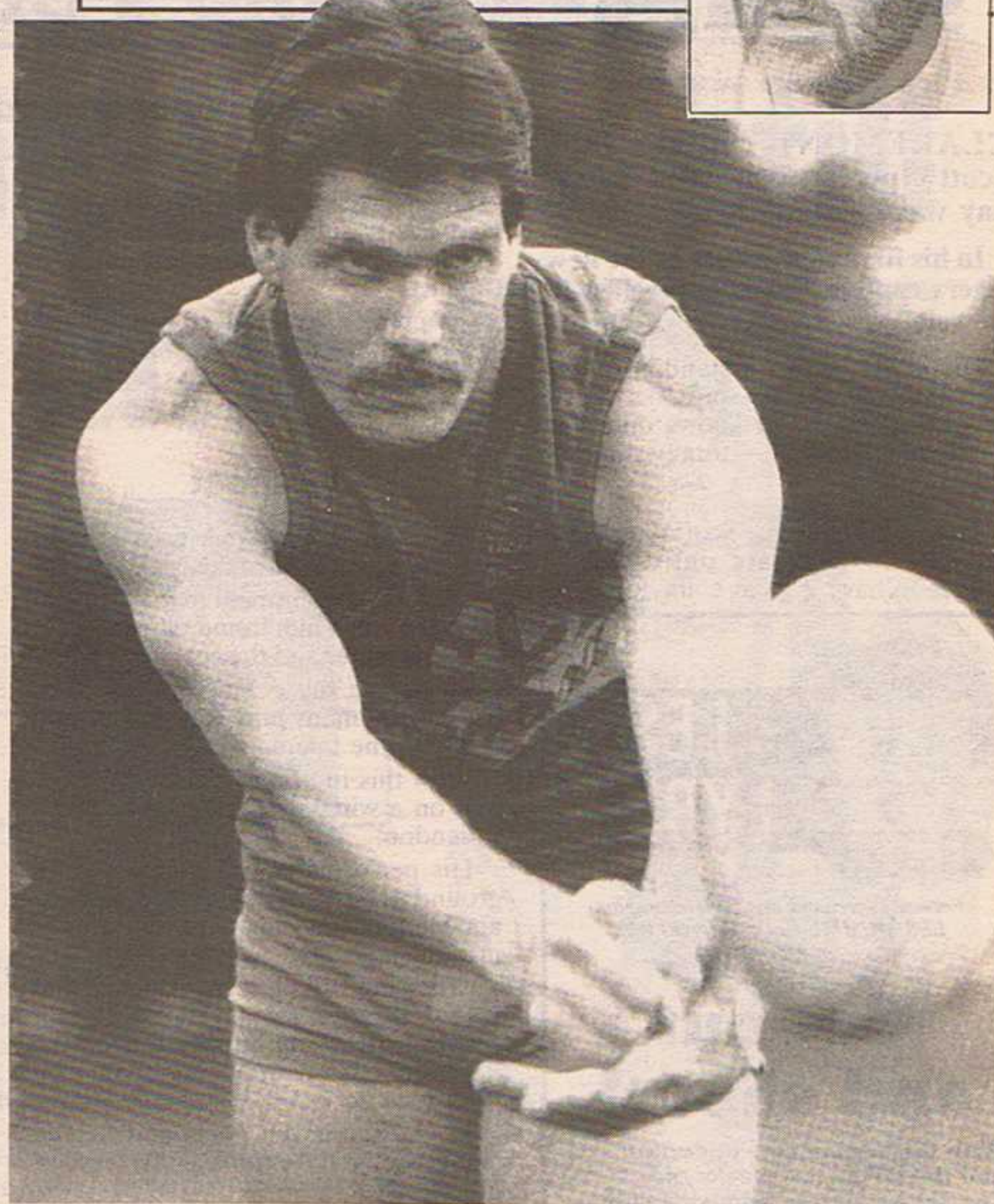
Lockyer seems to be the best prospect for full-forward, but is it a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul, particularly as there are so many talented and dangerous full-forwards in the VFL.

Lockyer did a great job against a tide that rushed in his direction all day.

The Eagles don't lack mid-field players. Their method out of defence to the centreline is good. It's the way the ball ricochets into their defence once they do breach their half-forward line.

Too many of their players — and David O'Connell, at centre-half-forward was a prime example (though an excuse could be made for him making a return to football) — did not hold their marks and then allowed the ball to be whipped away without any real pressure.

This was never more evident than when defender Gary Ablett was able to grab the ball, streak down the ground and kick a goal.



Andrew Lockyer ... forward line hope.

Things that give me FROM WHERE I SIT a kick

Wheelchair sports critic **BILL MATHER-BROWN**



I CAN'T get used to the idea that the only kick of real value is the drop punt and I have a feeling that, at long last, a few players are coming to the same conclusion.

The torpedo punt is still in demand and is often used when distance is required, but the stab and drop kick is still frowned upon.

I wonder how long it will be before a bright young lad decides to thrill the crowds with some of the scintillating ball disposal skills of the past.

John Todd laments the inferior disposal of most of today's players.

When I look back at how brilliant he was, with either foot, it surprises me that the teams he has coached are no better than the opposition when it comes to the kicking.

Of course he is not in a position to go back to the skills that senior players should have picked up in their junior years.

Morale

When they come to him now he is more intent on building team morale, welding combinations and striving to be tactically better than the coaches of rival sides.

Age also precludes him from taking the Langdons, Lambs or Scotts aside and showing them how to bang a 60 or 70-metre drop kick straight into an attacking position or through the goals.

It has been said that the game is moving too fast for a player to get balanced well enough to drop kick.

This is rubbish, and if you do what I did and pay particular attention to the number of times a player is out on his own, then you will conclude, the same as I have done, that he has more than ample time to execute any kick in the book.

Somewhere along the way the junior coaches have been fed a line to the effect that the game has changed so much that they shouldn't worry about kicking arts any more, but just concentrate on getting the ball forward.

I think it is time those same junior coaches woke up to themselves and started to appreciate the wizardry of natural ball getting skills topped off with a variety of different kicks.

I can recall certain individuals for their ability to get rid of the ball in a manner that attracted my close attention.

Accuracy

I can't think of the drop punt without visualising Austin Robertson and the way he could turn the ball, almost slowly, end over end with deadly accuracy.

The drop kick had some brilliant exponents. Most of the full backs could cover great distances, more than today's average full back.

Ray Schofield and Brian Sarre are two who could get value for their kicks and the likes of Ray Sorrell, Graham Farmer and John Todd were worth going a long way to see.

I often think of the times I saw Mel Whinnen zoom out of the centre of Leederville Oval and set up a scoring opportunity.

The torpedo punt is still used, but only one full-forward had it down to perfection and that was South Fremantle's Bernie Naylor.

He was almost as deadly with it as Austin Robertson with the drop punt. Bernie, though, could kick farther.

Stab kicking had some really brilliant exponents who could use it with devastating effect.

Stock in trade

Jack Sheedy was superb and powerful enough to hit a fast lead over a good distance. Steve Marsh could pinpoint it unerringly.

Most champion rovers and centre-line players had it as part of their stock in trade.

Players receiving the ball appreciated the stab kick. It came in hard, fast and accurately and didn't drift about to the same degree as drop punts tend to.

In the East Fremantle rooms before a final last year I asked Chris Waterman if he could stab kick.

He paused for a moment and then, with thoughtful deliberation, did an awkward looking stab pass across the room.

In a club that has short passed its way into the record books and ridden on the back of the stab kick for most of its history, it was a little disconcerting to an old supporter like myself.

Memories

If there is a good junior around who wants to be labelled a spectacular superstar of the future, here's my advice. Get one of the old masters to show you how to drop or stab kick and use a few of them in your first league game.

You will not only revive some magic memories but you will have the older members of the media raving and the newer generation of supporters lauding your spectacular innovations.

You won't be detracting from the game. You will be reintroducing the football public to some of the more spectacular sights of a great game.

High marking is great, tough contact is brilliant, fast turns are wonderful to watch but devastating kicks by players who can really kick 'em take the breath away.

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Eagles run out of players

THE Eagles are facing more than their share of problems at present, with their 40-man squad already reduced to 38 because of some last-minute draft hitches.

This week's count still had 11 players on the injured list, but coach John Todd and his selectors are hopeful of having at least three of those men available for this Sunday's Sydney Swans game.

Star ruck-rover Dwayne Lamb is one of those on the injured list — and missing games is something Lamb seldom does.

Long run

During his 133-game career with Subiaco, Lamb never missed a match and, in fact, strung together 151 games in a row before injury cost him an Eagles game against Carlton in 1987.

He is the only Eagles player to play in every game last season and only missed the one the year before.

So it is with some degree of frustration that he is currently on the sidelines with a broken wrist — having it re-set for a second time.

Here is the current situation regarding the Eagles injury list:

Injuries from the Geelong game:

- Laurie Keene — strained left Achilles heel, out for two weeks.
- Murray Rance — strained knee, should be fit.
- Andrew Lockyer — bruised left calf, should be available.
- Chris Mainwaring — bruised ribs, should be available.
- Phil Scott — bruised left arm and right thigh, should be available.



UNUSUAL SIGHT... Eagles star Dwayne Lamb in a red "injured" jumper.

Other injured players:

- Geoff Miles — left hamstring, another week.
- Brent Hutton — right hamstring, one more week.
- Chris Lewis — left hamstring, one more week.
- Don Holmes — right groin strain, at least one more week.
- Dwayne Lamb — broken scaphoid, another two weeks.
- Scott Watters — should be available after recovery from a hamstring and calf injury.

Coaches will be monitored

COACHING accreditation is now compulsory for all junior football coaches, but attending a coaching course does not, unfortunately, guarantee that coaches will automatically coach more effectively.

This is one reason why the Town and Country Football Development Trust is launching the Coach Monitoring Scheme this season.

Another reason is the disturbing fact that a recent investigation revealed that most children and adolescents believed that the coach was the major reason why players chose to drop out of or remain in football.

Coaching accreditation was one step taken by the FDT to change this situation and the new Coach Monitoring Scheme is another.

The scheme involves one coach with-in each competition being appointed as a monitor and observing and reporting on other coaches, including such things as their codes of behaviour, training programmes and match performance.

A pilot study was conducted in the South Fremantle Junior Football Council last year and results showed a wide acceptance of the scheme.

Questionnaire responses from the 12's competition showed about 74 per cent had played football in 1987 and 82 per cent indicated they would like to play in 1989.

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presents ...

Other codes can help footy

ONE of the more interesting aspects of Coach Education now emerging at various courses relates to the origin of the lecturers and their relationship, if any, to Australian Football.

In the past, we have tended to use lecturers from within our own sport.

This attitude of staying in the influence of Australian Football has been nurtured by a belief that a unique body-contact sport indigenous to Australia, could not conceivably gain by an exposure to techniques and concepts formulated for other sports.

Things are changing — and for the better.

Recent coaching courses engaged lecturers with no real interest in Australian Football and no technical knowledge of the game. Notwithstanding this, the lecturers were excellent and presented refreshing new ideas for consideration.

There is no doubt that we can learn from other sports.

PREPARATION

One interesting aspect was revealed by several lecturers on the psychological preparation of players.

There is a school of thought among eminently-qualified people that, in order to attain a uniformly desirable pre-match state of mind, it is essential for a physical division of personality groups for part of the pre-match build-up.

Who said that ...

"It's still Australia's greatest game," Former East Fremantle champion Ray Sorrell on radio 6NR.

"We were right out of kilter last week. At least this week we resemble our side of last year." Eagles coach John Todd before the Geelong game.

"I'm very proud that another player will be wearing the guernsey." Former Claremont champion Graham Moss, presenting guernsey No. 25 to Tigers rookie Peter Mann.

"I don't mind going through the rebuilding phase provided the team wins their share of games." Subiaco coach Haydn Bunton previewing the season.

"The longer they dilly-dally, the harder it is going to be to put everything together." Sports Minister Graham Edwards urging the WAFL Commission to adopt the proposed Independent Football Commission.

"If footballers want to fight, they should take up boxing." Subiaco coach Haydn Bunton, on moves by the eight WAFL coaches to introduce tougher discipline among their players.

"I was disgusted by the arrogance and the lack of understanding in the comments." WAFL Commissioner Mal Brown, replying to criticism from Sports Minister Graham Edwards.

"Channel 7 maintained that live telecasts of VFL matches would not affect local attendances, but we were not prepared to take the risk." WAFL chief Brian Cook, turning down a request by Channel 7 for more VFL telecasts.

"He'll spend a couple of weeks in the reserves and hopefully be ready for a return to the seniors." Perth coach Robert Wiley on the return to the fold of Dempsey Narkle.

"Having been caught once, WAFL administrators are understandably shy about rushing into a similar agreement." Robbie Burns, writing in the Daily News on the WAFL's postponement of the adoption of the new Football Commission.

"I'll know a little more about what we're up against after this weekend." East Perth coach Ian McCulloch, previewing the season.

"Given our fairly encouraging pre-season form, the effort today was disgusting." Ian McCulloch, after the Royals 91-point loss to East Fremantle.

"The budget has been reduced, but we are using our money more wisely." WAFL acting chief executive, Brian Cook, on prospects for the League's finances.

"This is the greatest fillip our club could receive and I think our chances are very good." Swan Districts president Bill Walker commenting on a \$200,000 insurance incentive to win the 1989 premiership, or \$100,000 for making the grand final.

"I thought it best to get over here and get into it." Murray Wrensted on his arrival at Collingwood.

"That was ludicrous media hogwash because we played soft football for only 15 minutes in the second quarter." Geelong coach Malcolm Blight on criticism of the team's narrow opening-round loss to North Melbourne.

Early start at two grounds

START times for the Under-19s and reserves matches at Fremantle Oval and Lathlain park will be 15 minutes earlier than usual this Saturday.

The Under-19s will start at 9.15am and the reserves at 11.30am.

There will be a parade of juniors before the South Fremantle/East Fremantle derby at Fremantle Oval and a band parade at Lathlain Park to mark Perth's return to their former home.

Bounce times at the WACA Ground and Claremont Oval remain the same.

The national view

by JOHN WARREN

Another obvious area where Australian Football coaches can glean useful knowledge is athletics.

The ability to run and the requirement to be satisfactorily conditioned are of paramount importance.

This specialized knowledge can only come from people associated with athletics.

Consequently, our sport is utilizing the talent of such people and we are also looking to rugby for specialized tackling techniques — and they engage our people to teach them how to kick.

A healthy unbiased interchange of ideas between sports — and the various personnel associated with them — can only be of benefit in the constant search for improvement.

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Together again ... the 1972 half-forward line of (from left) Gary Bygraves, John Daniel and Phil Tierney.



The old and the new — Paul Moyses, Gary Gillespie, Dean Bertram and John Hayes.



All eyes on the coach ... Peter Barr, Gary Bygraves and Derek Chadwick listen to "coach" Mal Brown — once again.

DO Y REMEM

It was a day of reminiscing as the East Perth reunion — and tell tales of glory to the y
The club's 1972 captain-coach, Mal Bro
were some pleasant moments in memory la
These photographs tell the story ...



Your turn ... big Ron Alexander wasn't used to sharing the ball around too much in his career, but when he was at full-forward — with David Whittle on one side and rover Robert Armanasco on the other — he was in a generous mood.

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YOU MBER?

Perth premiers of 1972 got together to host a
the young Royals of '89.
Brown, was hosting the function — and there
y land ... and plenty of hints for the new boys.



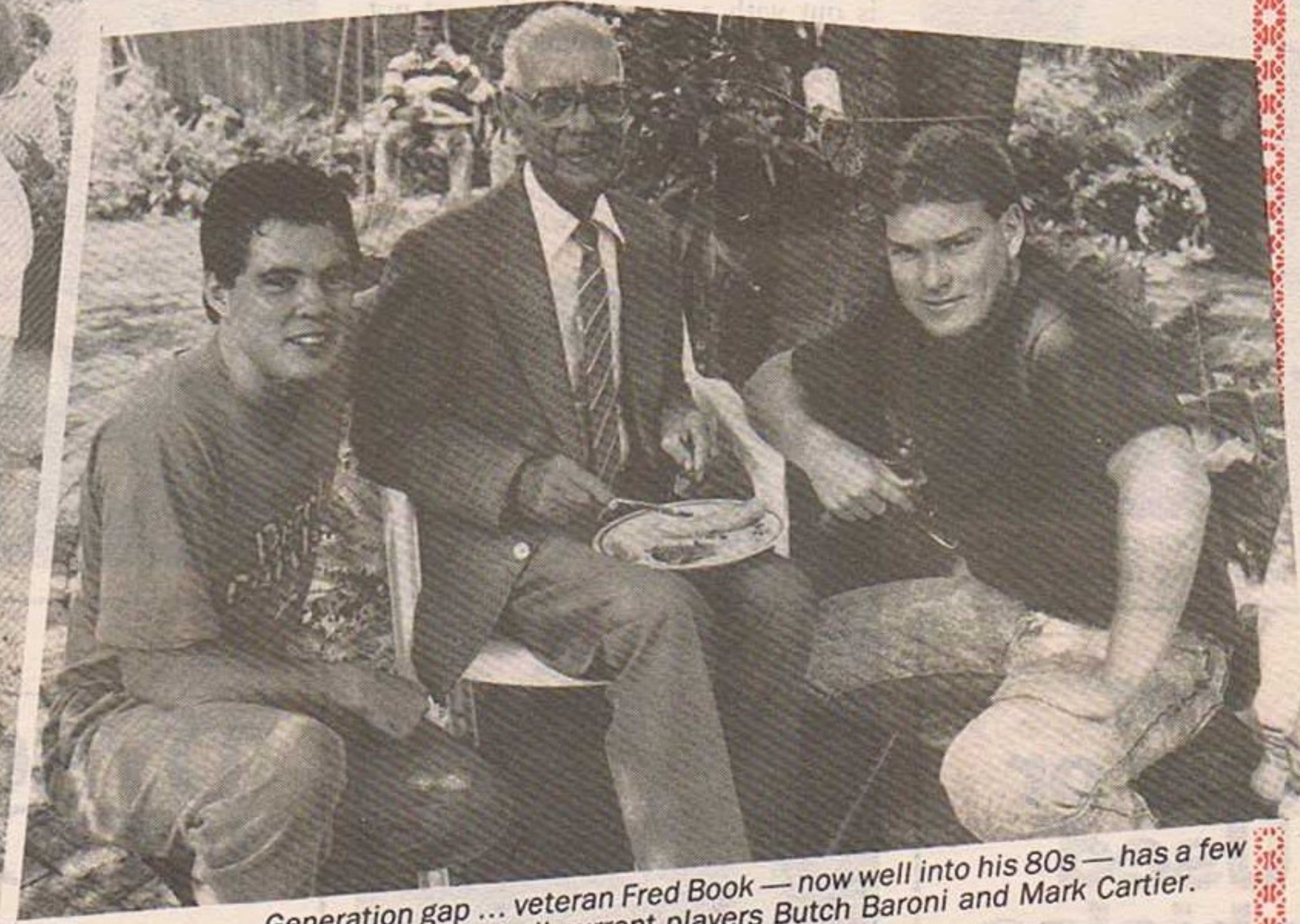
Talking tactics ... former centre-half-forward John Daniel gives current forward Peter Cransberg some tips.



Now listen, son ... here's how you do it. That's Ken KcAullay telling rookie defender Gavin Rose how to play the game ... with Laurie Kennedy lending support.



Tough guys ... current defender George Giannakis met up with Ken Deards, a fearless defender of a bygone era.



Generation gap ... veteran Fred Book — now well into his 80s — has a few glory tales to tell current players Butch Baroni and Mark Cartier.

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FALCONS HAVE PLENTY OF INCENTIVE

YOU only have to look around the changerooms at Leederville Oval to understand the message new West Perth coach George Michalczyk has given his players this season.

The walls are littered with enlarged reproductions of the football media's 1989 predictions . . . with many suggesting that the Falcons are likely wooden spooners.

Michalczyk does not agree; he says the media have not done their homework properly.

"Other clubs have lost a lot of players over summer," Michalczyk said. "Our gains far outweigh our losses."

However, the absence of players like Phil Bradmore, Gavin Wake, John Gastev and Craig Turley was evident last Saturday when the Falcons threw away a promising start against South Fremantle.

Michalczyk is the first to admit that West Perth's second half was insipid, but he quite rightly claims that his team should not be judged on one game.



Justin Drifill... youngster from Collie with a big future.

KNOW YOUR CLUB

By George Temple



"I believe we can make the four this season," he said.

"I put the critics opinions up in the changerooms to show the players what they think about us. I hope they will go out and prove them wrong."

"I must now question whether the players understand what I require of them. I want them to want success; that means contributing throughout the game."

"When the game, or their form, looks like slipping, they must meet that challenge — that's when good players become great players."

Michalczyk's prize recruit this season is Damon Buckley, an 18-year-old from Claremont currently serving the second week of a two-match suspension. He was the All-Australian centre-half-back in the 1987 and '88 Teal Cup carnivals and played one league with the Tigers last year.

Another big man addition is New South Wales ruckman Barry Denton, whose 101kg frame will provide strong support for Craig Nelson and Bruce Jackson.

Denton, recruited from Parramatta, is out with a sprained ankle and not likely to play for at least two more weeks.

Rover Troy Sheppard, from Collie, is also on the verge of league selection and will join fellow recruits John Riggs, from the Victorian Country League and Oral McGuire, who has been



directed to Leederville by Karratha-based John Duckworth after making an impressive debut with Perth in 1982.

Riggs has also tasted VFL action. In 1984 the 26-year-old ruck-rover played eight games with St Kilda.

Sixteen-year-old Justin Drifill, from Collie, shapes up as a good prospect on the wing and the Falcons welcome the return of Chris Davies, after three years with Thornlie Amateurs.

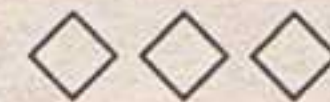
Last Saturday it was left to half-forward Paddy Madaffari and captain Peter Menaglio to kick West Perth's goals.

The likely return of Warren Taylor, after his eight-goal haul in the reserves, should provide Michalczyk's men with a positive avenue in attack.

If the Falcons can reproduce the form they showed in the opening term, Michalczyk's opinion of the media's research, could be vindicated.



John Riggs... former St Kilda ruck-rover.



Chris Davies... back at the club after three years with Thornlie.



Warren Taylor... kicked eight goals in the reserves last weekend.

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"Support those who support us"

Bunton's young Lions still have plenty of time

THERE'S an old saying — never kick a good man when he is down — and that certainly applies to Subiaco.

Just one game into the season and already the 1988 premiers have been drop-kicked out of the final-four calculations by some critics.

Lions coach Haydn Bunton is an astute thinker and while he concedes that Subiaco were totally outclassed by last year's finalists, Claremont, at League Headquarters last Saturday, he says there is still 20 preliminary games to go.

That's plenty of time for his rookies to develop into league footballers before the finals — when Subiaco are always at their best.

Players like Clint Brown, Greg Carpenter, Mick Lee, Shane Cocker, Brian and Neil Taylor and Rod Willet are all finals veterans and experience in the cut-throat rounds is irreplaceable.

Bunton's immediate task is to find replacements for the established league players he lost over summer.

Todd Breman (Eagles), John Georgiades (Footscray), Ian Dargie (St Kilda), Greg Wilkinson (retired), Kevan Sparks (Federals, Northam), Michael Mort (Boyanup-Capel-

KNOW YOUR CLUB

By George Temple



Dardanup in the South-West) and Brett Hutchinson (Sydney) have all gone.

However, this is nothing new. Subiaco have suffered player losses before over summer, but the Lions have still

managed to play in the last four grand finals.

Bunton has always found replacements and he is confident of doing so again.

"The club's depth will stand us in good stead," he says.

"We've developed a nucleus of good running players and they are the immediate key to any success we will have."

The Taylor brothers, Paul Cox, Mick Lee and the Kemp brothers, Dean and Gary, head Bunton's list of small-man strength.

"Cox will be a good league footballer," says Bunton.

"He's a goalkicking rover and a hard worker."

Cox made his debut last season, playing six games towards the end of the season, but missing out on the grand final with the return of the Eagles players.

Outstanding

Garry Kemp played 15 games last year and younger brother Dean made his debut last Saturday. Like Garry, Dean is a wingman/rover from Railways, in Kalgoorlie with outstanding skills and real pace.

To this department you can add Gavin Keyser, who played six games in 1988, Glen Hutchison (14 games) and Ian Dargie's brother Craig, who is likely to force his way into the side later this year.

The Lions are not light-on with big men, either — and they are big.

Nineteen-year-old Steve Rosich, is an exciting proposal at 183 centimetres. A product of the club's Under-19s, he is rated as an outstanding utility player with excellent all-round skills.

Rosich made one appearance for the Lions in 1988, but is expected to play a more important role this year.

Shane Cocker and Graham Jones will lead the Lions ruck and there is plenty of back-up with 19-year-olds Graham Garnaut and Stephen Hooper, plus Jonas Linberg, 20, who are all 195cm tall.

While Hooper is primarily a ruckman, Bunton believes that Garnaut and Linberg could develop into powerful key-position forwards.

"We will make sure all three youngsters get a guernsey before the end of the season," says Bunton.

Concerned

After losing so many players to the VFL Bunton is naturally concerned about his young prospects.

"We certainly want to retain them and develop them ourselves," Bunton said. "I hope that the VFL prefer ready-made players rather than taking young guys into their own reserves and Under-19s competitions."



Dean Kemp... made his debut for Subiaco last Saturday.



Steve Rosich... exciting utility player.

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Henry recalls the emotion

ERN Henry, the long-serving coach of Perth, clearly remembers the emotion surrounding the move to Lathlain Park.

"It was a big day," he says.

"We knew that the club had to develop an identity out in the suburbs and it was important for our future growth that local clubs had a senior club to look up to.

"The move also gave our players a better ground surface to train and play on.

"It was all very well to claim a home ground advantage with the WACA Ground, where many teams failed to come to grips with the slippery, muddy surface.

"But it affected our players because they trained there all week as well and I'm sure that made them leg weary," he added.

Many Stars

It was noticeable that in the next few years after moving to Lathlain, that Perth produced a host of very skilled players.

Stars like Barry Cable, Pat Dalton, Paddy Astone, Graham Jenzen, Frank Pyke, Bob Page and Ray Mills, for example, were all quick-moving players who excelled on the dry, hard surface.

It was a real emotional day on that Anzac Day, with a special flag-raising ceremony and so forth.

Henry, coach of Perth for 11 years in two stints — including their famous 1955 grand final win — says that the club had to turn their back on a lot of tradition by leaving the WACA Ground.

New era

The club had been based at the WACA since 1937 and though the move to the suburbs was a wrench, Henry says that it didn't take long for Perth to welcome in a new era.

"Very few of us were happy about leaving the WACA as it had some nostalgic memories. But one of the great things about football is the pride and loyalty that can be generated in your district.

"Perth quickly developed a new identity and I'm proud to have been part of that era.

"It was strange moving back to the WACA two years ago," he says "It wasn't quite the same; we couldn't get that old feeling back again and I'm pleased that the team is returning to Lathlain Park."

Close calls

THE switch to Lathlain Park in 1959 was to trigger a series of thrilling matches for Perth.

They celebrated the opening day — Anzac Day, April 25 — with a four-point win over Swan Districts, surviving a free kick shot at goal by Swans forward Roy Arthur that resulted in a minor score only.

A week later, again at Lathlain, the fans held their breath for more than 100 minutes and East Fremantle sealed victory in the last five minutes.

The next week the Lathlain Park fans saw ace Demons rover Dick Walker steer through a goal to bring up a heart-pounding five-point win over Subiaco — with just 30 seconds to play.

What a way to christen football's newest ground — three high-class matches watched by 26,000 people.

Goal-scorers

DASHING half-forward Don Dalton was Perth's leading goal-scorer in 1959.

He posted 40 goals, finishing just one ahead of Willy Tussler and Bill Towers, with 39.

In a season when Perth didn't have a recognised spearhead, players like Dick Walker (25 goals), Frank Pyke (24) and Bob Coleman (24) all contributed to weekly scores.

President's role

THE year of 1959 was a memorable one for Perth — and much credit was due to president E.W. (Brusher) Jones, who was serving his seventh year in the chair.

He was instrumental in orchestrating the move to Lathlain Park and the obtaining of a club licence for their new premises.

In addition, he played a leading role in staging Perth's jubilee celebrations.

Brusher Jones had first taken over as president in 1951, relinquishing the post in 1956 and '57 to former secretary Pat Fogarty, before returning to the chair in 1958-59, when Fogarty once again took over.

Player tallies

BACK in 1959, Perth used 32 players in their league side for the season, a year when they finished fourth.

The Demons finished fourth with 12 wins and nine losses in the qualifying



Ern Henry... first coach of a Perth team at Lathlain Park.

games and then lost the first semi-final.

The only players to feature in all 22 games were Peter Coventry, Frank Pyke and Reg Zeuner.

It was a big year for Pyke — the father of current West Coast Eagles rover Don Pyke — as it was his senior debut and he became one of football's few players to play every game in his initial year.

Milestone men

A NUMBER of experienced Perth players passed memorable milestones in the season of 1959.

Veteran Reg Zeuner, in his 11th season, joined the 200 Club and Frank Walker passed the 150-game tally.

Reaching the century of games in that season were Peter Coventry, Roy Harper and Charlie Skehan.

Big business

MONEY was seldom a topic of conversation 30 years ago when footballers virtually played for the love of the game.

Perth's 1959 Players Fund reported a successful year of activity and a payout of five pounds per winning game was made to all league players.

Club membership cost just six guineas and a healthy total of 450 people paid that sum to join the club. In addition, several fans became badge members at just one pound each.

Familiar names

THERE'S several familiar names among the support staff at Perth this season as the club returns to Lathlain Park — names that were there 30 years ago also.

Ted O'Callaghan has returned to Perth this season as head trainer and it was back in 1959 that he was one of the strong group of trainers tending to the players.

Len Waldock, who is still the league team's official timekeeper, also had that job back in 1959, as did Jim Hoare, who is still the reserves timekeeper.

Radio show

RADIO 6PR, one of the staunch supporters of football in the local media, were to the fore back in 1959 as well.

One of the highlights of the week as far as Perth fans were concerned was the weekly Demons Show, a 15-minute segment on Friday evenings.

Perth vice-president Bob Thompson produced the show and the club had a variety of sponsors backing the popular segment that featured live interviews with players and officials.

The famous voice of Oliver Drake-Brockman compered the show.



Don Dalton... Perth's leading goal-kicker in 1959.

BREEDING GROUND


PERTH were long-regarded as having one of the best junior development areas after they moved to suburban Lathlain Park.

It's interesting to note that the winner of the fairest and best award in their under-18s competition in 1959 was Pat Dalton — who went on to play 217 games and win a Sandover Medal for the club.

Best of luck to the Demons from ...

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Seven years of planning rewarded



THE move the Lathlain Park was a momentous occasion in the history of the Perth Football Club and culminated more than seven years of planning.

It was back in October, 1952 that club president E.W. (Brusher) Jones, secretary Pat Fogarty and WA National Football League secretary W.R. Orr set out to find a new home for the club.

They inspected various sites in the club's district, which had been designated as east of the Causeway and with the assistance of the Perth City Council, the land at Lathlain Park was selected.

The land was levelled in 1952 and in the following month the ground was grassed, reticulated and fenced.

By 1955, the club and the Council had reached agreement on a grandstand and the building was due for completion at the start of the 1957 season.

However, loan monies were hard to come by and eventually the building did not start till October, 1958, with Allwood and Sons, prominent building contractors of that era, doing the work.

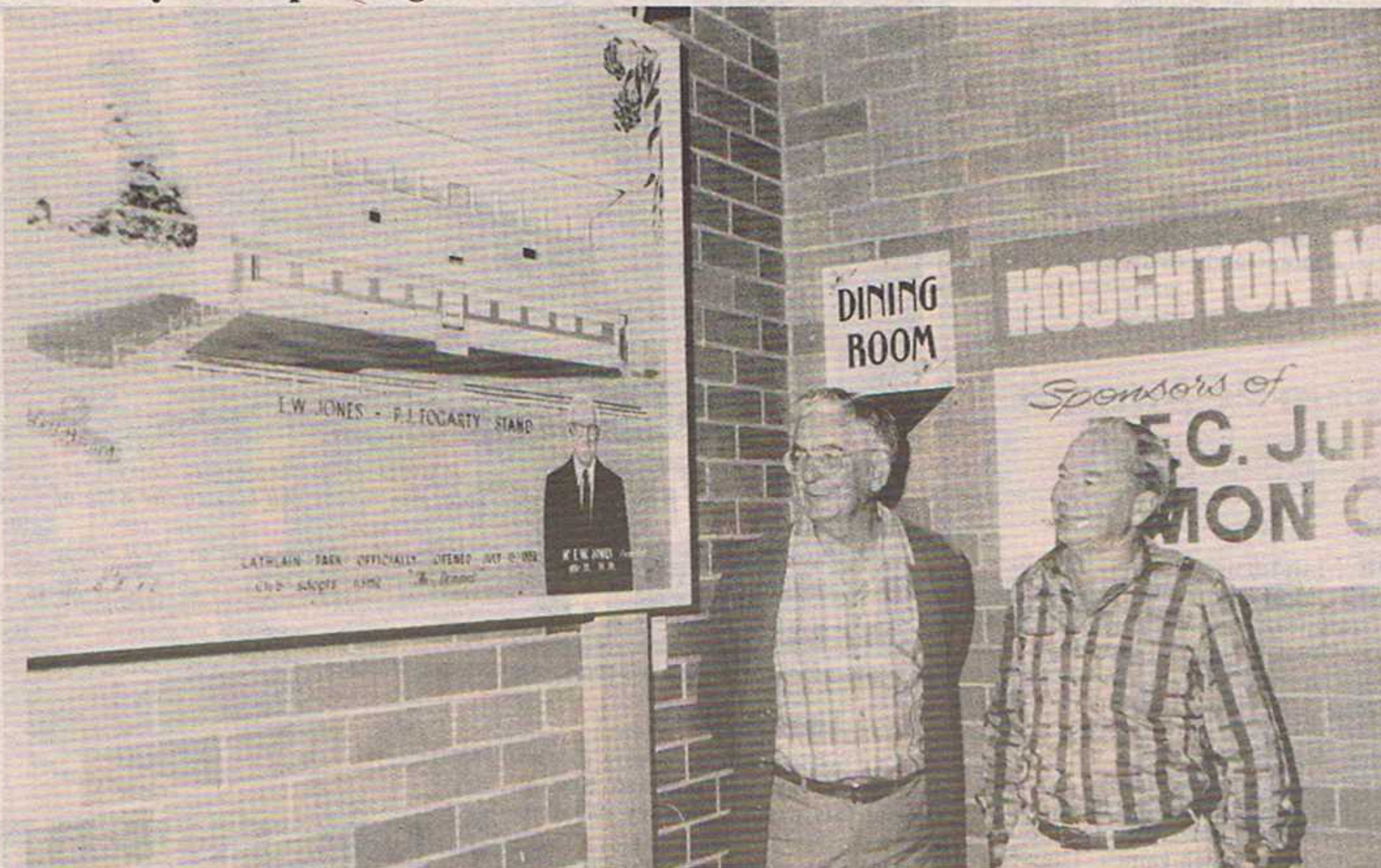
Enthusiastic

The firm's principal, Lloyd Allwood, was a most enthusiastic worker, going out of his way many times to satisfy the club's requirements. All he asked for in return for the many favours was an old football for his son — which club secretary Pat Fogarty was happy to oblige with.

"I had the pleasure in giving him one from our small supply," wrote Fogarty in the club's annual report.

The ground was first used on Anzac Day, April 25, 1959 and was officially opened on July 13, by the Lord Mayor, Harry Howard, who paid glowing tribute to the club for their foresight in providing members with such a magnificent facility.

The move to Lathlain was seen as a necessity to give Perth an identity in their district. It had an immediate affect on junior football, with new clubs like Manning, Carlisle and Collier and older clubs like Victoria Park, South Perth and East Vic Park flourishing with a focal point in their district.



Two long-serving Perth stalwarts Tom Grace (left) and Bernie Hughes admire a wall mural at Lathlain Park which depicts the opening in 1959.

Harper set the standard

THE year of 1959 was a big one for Perth veteran Keith Harper (pictured right).

Not only was he captain of the side as the club made its pioneering move into the suburbs, but he went on to win Perth's fairest and best award for the season.

In a year when he took his games-played tally to 225, the dashing wingman was leading the side for the fifth year in succession.

He polled 51 votes to win the fairest and best by 11 votes — from brother Roy.



Optimism abounds at Lathlain

THE air of optimism at Lathlain Park this season extends to more than the players, Perth general manager Howard Manley said this week.

More than 100 club members helped upgrade facilities at Lathlain Park over the weekend of February 25 and 26.

"They replaced floor coverings and revamped the sponsors area," Mr Manley said.

"Some walls, seating and woodwork also got a lick of paint. Lathlain will look great for our first bouncedown on April 15."

Mr Manley added that both membership and sponsorship have increased this year.

"A lot of members who left the club during our two seasons at the WACA Ground have returned to us," he said.

"That's a good indication that we've made the right decision."

"I think that two years is a pretty good trial. We gave it a go, and it didn't work out for Perth."

The return to Lathlain has resulted in another windfall for the Demons — an additional \$20,000 in sponsorship revenue.

Mr Manley said that sponsorship this season will pass the \$140,000 mark.

"That has a lot to do with us returning to this ground as well," he said.

"A number of our minor sponsors, who withdrew their support at the WACA, are again showing an interest in us."

Perth's major sponsors are Pennant Holdings Ltd, Mullins Investments and Bond Brewing.

WILLING WORKERS

TWO names still common in football were an important part of Perth back in 1959.

Long-serving secretary Jack O'Dea, who retired recently but maintained links with the club as league team manager and Bob Miller, currently a part-time media man and father of Sandover Medallist Ian, were the two Perth delegates to the WANFL.

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Eagles rookie in new colours

WEST Coast Eagles rookie Scott Williamson quickly found his football feet when he was allocated a new home at Perth Oval last week.

Williams, an 18-year-old from Wangaratta, Victoria, was allocated to East Perth and arrived at Perth Oval to train with the club's colts side for the first time on Friday night.

He lined up at centre-half-forward in the under-19s on Saturday and was a key figure in the impressive victory over East Fremantle.

"The players really made me feel welcome," said Williamson at the club on Saturday night when he was presented with a trophy for his effort by Under-19s coach Greg Henderson. "I certainly didn't know too many blokes before the game, but I was made to feel at home and I really enjoyed the win."

Sharks launch new club

THE Mandurah Sharks, the first WAFL supporters club outside the metropolitan area, will be launched in the town tonight (Thursday).

As many as 60 former affiliated East Fremantle members living in Mandurah are expected to attend the launch at the Brighton Hotel.

The club has been formed because there are many Sharks fans in the Mandurah area reluctant to travel to the city individually to watch games. They can now share cars or hire a bus.

East Fremantle president Hans Beyer and general manager Bob Uitenbroek will be among the many VIP's at the meeting.



COMING EVENTS

PLAYERS REVIEW

Sunday May 7th
Club opens 3.30pm, show starts 5.00pm followed by a disco. \$10.00 per head. Phone Ray or Des on 279 8818.

Saturday 15th April
Trophy presentations following East Perth game for all grades back at the clubrooms at 6.30pm. Join the players — help support your club.

Wednesday 19th April
SWAN BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION MAFIA NIGHT
Gambling, Entertainment, Drinks and Food.
Cost: \$25.00 per head.
Bookings only — NO door sales.
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Your chance to enjoy the game, join the after match presentations and win some money at the tables.



KING CARVOLTH

RADIO 6PR personality Gary Carvolth can rightly call himself the King of WA football.

Carvolth, chairman of the 6PR Football Show, was chosen by the Football Development Trust as the media personality who has done most for promoting the

game in recent years.

In receiving the award, Carvolth said he was accepting it on behalf of his entire radio station.

"Nothing can be achieved without the help of colleagues and the people behind the scenes," he said.

Thorne AWOL

SWAN Districts will be having discussions with wayward forward Kernut Thorne this week ... if they can find him.

Thorne played one game for Swans in 1988 before returning to his home town of Bunbury.

However, this season, after doing all the pre-season work with Swans it was thought that Thorne would settle down in the city, but this seems not to be the case.

The highly-rated goalkicker travelled with Swans to Bunbury for their pre-season clash with Subiaco — and there he stayed.

Swans general manager Brian Close said the club would be speaking to Thorne this week to discuss his current difficulties.

Brown's in an elite group

MALCOLM Brown has carved many a niche in football history during his colourful career as a player, coach and administrator.

He was the centre of attention on Sunday when he hosted a reunion of the 1972 East Perth premiership team — which he captain-coached — when they got together with the young Royals of 1989.

The day produced plenty of memories — particularly one relating to Brown himself.

Though he won the Sandover Medal in 1969 — the year many considered that he played his best football at centre-half-forward — in the 1972 season didn't turn out all that bad either.

Brown dominates the Royals honour roll for that season (as published in Football's Who's Who) by having his name in the four columns listed for coach, captain, fairest and best and leading goalkicker.

Only two other players in WA football history have achieved that quadruple in the one season — the legendary Haydn Bunton senior at Subiaco in 1938 and again in 1941 and Hassa Mann at South Fremantle in 1969.

Brown's feat in being the team's leading goalkicker — with 51 goals — came at a time when the Royals had some pretty handy goalkickers such as Phil Tierney and Archie Duda (who both topped the 100 goals in other seasons) and Gary Bygraves.

Brown played as a ruckman that season, but with big men like, Eddie Pitter, David Whittle and the young Ron Alexander also in the side, the rucks changed at full-forward a lot.

ON THE BALL

with GEORGE TEMPLE



EDWARDS SPARKS THE REVIVAL

SOUTH Fremantle ruckman Craig Edwards, the club's fairest and best player in 1988, made a stirring fightback against West Perth last Saturday.

The 192cm ruckman must have wanted the ground to open up and swallow him in the first quarter. Edwards was losing in the ruck, he made three handpasses to the opposition, got caught with the ball twice and when he did mark defence, his in foot-pass went out of bounds on the full.

However, his final three quarters helped turn the match the Bulldogs way. As he changed his tactics in the ruck, his team's fortunes improved. He dominated against Craig Nelson and Bruce Jackson to be among South Fremantle's best players and help revive the Bulldogs from a 26-point first quarter deficit to a resounding 43-point win.

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John Old, coach of Lower South West, points to the flanks.

Royals win S-W trophy

EAST Perth's Under-19s proved too strong for a combined Lower South West Under 22 side to win the WA Chip and Pulp Shield Challenge by 27 points at Manjimup's Rae Park recently.

Royals dominated the match through Aaron Gale, Charles Gow and Darren Christianson and it was only some fine work from Kevin Terardi, Nigel Reeves and Steven North, plus some accurate kicking at goal that kept the country team in the hunt.

The fourth annual meeting between the two sides saw East Perth stretch the head-to-head scoreline to 3-1 courtesy of their 14.11 (95) to 11.2 (68) win.

The Royals also included LSW recruits Grant Johnson (Manjimup Tigers), Max Rees (Manjimup Imperials), Marcus McQueen and Ben Palmer, both from Bridgetown, in the team.

Lower South West has proved a profitable zone for East Perth, producing such league players as Paul Peos (Deanmill) now with the West Coast Eagles, George Giannakis (Imperials), Andrew Embry (Boyup Brook) and Michael Chalmers (Bridgetown).

Included in the current league squad are Darren Crook (Imperials) and summer recruit Peter Adams (Deanmill).



East Perth coach Greg Henderson asks for more commitment.

Double trouble in Royals camp

EAST Perth pair Paul Peos and Rodney Lewis were both carrying shoulder injuries after the torrid clash with East Fremantle.

Peos copped a dislocated shoulder in the closing minutes and was in considerable pain after the game as he had it placed in a sling.

Lewis, a prolific ball-getter in the game, had been carried off in the third term and taken to hospital when it was discovered that he had dislocated his collarbone.

Peos was in no mood to elaborate on his shaven-head appearance, obviously out to toughen up his image and convince Eagles coach John Todd that he is a worthy regular in the VFL side.

"I just felt like doing it," was his terse comment after the match when asked about the haircut.

NEW MANAGER

BOB Simpson (not the cricketer) is the new East Fremantle Under-19s team manager. Simpson replaces Steve Nugent, manager for the past four years, who has been transferred in his employment to Karratha.



Geddes gets Swans going

ANDREW Geddes, the young West Coast Eagle allotted to Swan Districts, made an impressive WA debut in the Under-19s against Perth last Saturday.

Geddes was among the many Swans who starred in their 12-goal win over the Demons... a big form reversal on last year.

Winning just one game in 1988, Swans were the easy-beats of the competition. On Saturday they fielded 16 of their 1988 squad to totally blitz Perth from the first siren.

Geddes was used by coach Kevin Bolton as a ruck-rover, wingman and half-forward. He showed good skills on and off the ball, further enhancing his reputation as a future Eagles league player.

Others to shine for Swans were Glen Dearing, David Callow, Sean Stanley, Wade Montgomery, Shane Marshall and Derek Markwell.

MEET THE PLAYERS

SUBIACO members and supporters can meet and mingle with the players on April 30.

The Lions league players will be at a "Meet the Players" function in the Subiaco social hall from 9am to noon. The cost is \$10 and includes beer, chicken and chips.

GAMING NIGHT

IF you like to gamble — and if you picked the Royals to beat East Fremantle you certainly do — then Perth Oval could be the place to get your money back this Saturday.

After the presentation of trophies at 6pm, East Perth have organised a gaming night in the club function hall.

"TOOFLESS" SHARK

EAST Fremantle club dentist Bill Derner may get an unusual call from Sharks general manager Bob Uittenbroek this week. It seems that a certain Shark has lost a couple of "teef". The Shark in question hangs in the East Fremantle social rooms and someone has soured a couple of his pearley-whites. Mr Uittenbroek would like them returned, but failing that, he is looking for donations from local fishermen who may be able to provide him with some Shark teeth.

DEAD-EYE MICK

EVERY season there is a handful of players who kick a goal with their first punt in league football. Well, here is one player who did better.

Swans Mick Hastie, coming on as an interchange last Saturday, kicked three goals with his only three kicks in the game. An encouraging debut for the 19-year-old utility from Carey Park.

NO LAUGHING MATTER

EAST Perth under-19 player Phil Dikoli will be out of action for the next three months after breaking his jaw in a pre-season practice match ... but he still managed to laugh.

East Perth sent an under-22 team to play the South-West, but unluckily for Dikoli, he ducked into a player running in the opposite direction.

However, on the bus trip back to Perth the youngster showed plenty of Royals spirit. Tongue in cheek, he apologised to under-19 selector Jack Clayton for not being able to sing the club song.

BROOKS BACK

EAST Perth will lose recruit Ashley McPhail for up to 10 weeks as he undergoes some exploratory surgery on his knee.

However, the Royals have welcomed back league player Nathan Brooks, who was out for five weeks with a compound fracture in his right hand. A pin inserted in the hand was removed last week enabling a return to the Royals reserves side last Saturday.

ON THE BALL

by GEORGE TEMPLE

SPAGHETTI MUNCH

SPAGHETTI lovers everywhere should get along to Leederville Oval this Saturday night.

West Perth have organised a Garlic Munchers Spaghetti Night in the club's social hall starting at 7.30pm.

The \$12.50 door charge includes all the spaghetti and meatballs you can eat — plus entertainment from a live band. And if you just want to meet the players, they will be there too!

OFF TRACK

WEST Perth centre-half-forward Gary Holden is training away from Leederville Oval for the next three weeks owing to work commitments.

Holden, who showed good touches against South Fremantle last Saturday, is working in Geraldton and training with Brigades.

However, he will be commuting to Perth for league games at the weekend.

EAGLES ON SCREEN

THE West Coast Eagles will make their 1989 "big screen" debut against the Brisbane Bears at Leederville Oval on April 30.

West Perth, in association with Western Technologies, will erect a three-metre square television screen in the club social hall for all the Eagles Eastern States Sunday games.

Doors will open at 11am and there will be additional entertainment and food available across the bar.

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... AND OTHERS TOO

SWANS recruit Chris Stannage was rushed to Royal Perth Hospital by ambulance after fracturing a vertebrae in his neck during last Saturday's reserves match against Perth.

Stannage remained in hospital under observation until Monday afternoon. The 19-year-old is not expected to return to training for at least 10 weeks.

Swans also lost utility Shane Renfree with a broken wrist in the league game.

"HAMMED" IN

PERTH league team manager Peter Pope really "hammed" it up at the season's first 6PR Footy show at Lathlain Park last Friday. Pope went outside the social hall looking for a friend when a doorman thrust some tickets into his hand. He later won a 9kg Watsonia ham during John K. Watts half-time prize-giving segment.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

NORTH Midlands Football League secretary Ted Duffy and wife Betty celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Tuesday. The couple were married in Three Springs on April 11, 1939 and for Ted this is the first of two golden anniversaries this year. His second will be in March when he celebrates 50 years as secretary of the league. Among those wishing the couple well was the East Fremantle Football Club, the WAFL zone club, who sent a congratulatory telegram.



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6pm — After the match trophy presentation, Perth Oval.

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Join the fun and win \$, win \$.

MONDAY 24th APRIL Quiz night — Dianella Hotel.

MONDAY 3rd JULY Royals Dinner/Ball.

ROYALS BINGO

— Every Friday night 8pm at Cannington Central.

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AMATEUR NEWS

A roundup of news from the West Australian Amateur Football League

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL COACHES TRAINING SERIES

Fitness for football

TODAY'S modern and relatively easy lifestyle encourages many footballers to relax over the summer months.

Regaining fitness to the standard required in football today can then be a difficult and painful task.

To take part in football, a player requires adequate fitness levels in speed, stamina, strength and suppleness.

If football fitness is not achieved in these areas, players will become fatigued and their skill level will fall.

Coaches should follow a four-step plan when developing team fitness.

1. Progressive overload

For an individual to increase his fitness level, he must increase training loads. The human body adapts quickly to any load placed upon it.

Increases need to consistently be made for improvement in fitness to occur and progressive overload should occur in duration, frequency and intensity of exercise.

2. Interval training

Football requires intense effort, followed by rapid recovery, before applying more effort. In training, this can be simulated, using interval techniques. A general rule is to allow recovery time of three times the duration of the effort time.

As players become fitter, the recovery period can be reduced to increase workload.

3. Specificity

Footballers require fitness for football, therefore, running many kilomet-

res at the one time is not applicable. Once a general level of fitness is achieved, skills work and training drills should be used for increasing specific fitness exercises.

Coaches need to be able to justify all drills and fitness exercises to their players as useful to their football.

4. Regularity

It is necessary to improve and maintain fitness over a regular series of training programmes. The components of fitness can only be developed if training is scheduled regularly.

5. General fitness programme

Many amateur footballers continue to take part in sport during the summer months, while others prefer to relax. The months from October to February represent the foundation period and players should be encouraged to maintain some level of fitness.

February and March signal a return to regular training for footballers.

This period is known as the preparation period when players should improve their general level of fitness using the techniques outlined earlier.

As the season approaches, a gradual change should occur to incorporate football skills training and football specific training.

During the season, training should be appropriate to football — known as the competitive period.

Team skills and fitness should also be incorporated during this stage.

REF: Wayne Loxley, Football Development Trust reserves coach, Subiaco; fitness consultant to all WAFL clubs, National Football League of Australia (1987) "Coaches Manual".

HIGHLIGHTS

WEMBLEY kicked off the season with a record score over D-grade finalists Brentwood. The Magpies amassed 41.21 to Brentwood's 6.8.

Wembley's Murray Ekert and Chris Phatourous both kicked seven goals, while Stuart Penny finished with six goals.

Marco Bevilacqua was voted best player afield, closely followed Mark Maxwell.

First-year coach John Avenell also had the D colts firing well, beating Ocean Ridge 24.8 to 1.5.

Full-forward Tony Greenham led his side in attack by kicking 10 goals straight.

In other games, Wembley H-grade 27.33 defeated Mt Lawley 6.6.

Wanneroo G-grade opened the season with a win over North Fremantle No. 2 by 97 points.

Centreman Steven Game led by example and finished with six goals. J.

Shaw and J. Game were unbeaten in the ruck and put the roo's into attack on many occasions.

Full-back G. Potter was solid in defence, repelling many of North Fremantle's forward moves to also be voted in his side's best players.

Wanneroo K-grade gained four points by downing Carlisle 21.9 to 11.4.

Follower Elliott Reid showed his talent by kicking six goals and being voted best on ground. He was well supported by Brent Carey and full-forward D. Powell, who kicked seven goals.

In the colts, Wanneroo were not so fortunate and were defeated by Lynwood/Ferndale.

Lynwood kicked away in the first quarter, outscoring the Roo's six goals to one. Wanneroo refused to give in and the last three quarters were reasonably even. Better players for the Roo's were C. Woodley, J. Anderson, M. Buddridge and T. Neville.

Westside Football has limited supplies of the Aussie Rules book "Learn to play the Freddie Football way" available at reduced rates for orders of 10 or more — just \$1 a copy.

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Football is a big industry

THE development of junior football in this State is a big industry, according to Dr Peter Tannock, the Chairman of the board at the Town and Country Football Development Trust.

"This year something like 50,000 people in WA will play football regularly," said Tannock "and there will be 1,000 umpires and 2,000 coaches."

"His is in addition to the people employed in football areas such as the FDT and the enormous amount of voluntary and community workers at local level."

Tannock says these people are the beginning of the development of this industry and their involvement with the game at the grass-roots level is crucial to its future.

If the money being spent on junior football this year is any indication of the future of the game, then the prospects are looking bright.

DEVELOPMENT

This year the FDT will spend about \$800,000 on football development, which will be distributed carefully in a number of directions.

Of this amount, the WA State Government has put up \$250,000; money that is put into many areas including the

Quit Cup sponsorship from the Health Department.

Toyota Australia has contributed \$50,000 to set up the Toyota Cup, a new community under-17s competition. Another \$25,000 has been put into junior football by the company in the form of their own costs and corporate dealer contributions from 12 local Toyota dealers.

Other companies who will play a major part in football development this year are Town and Country (WA), Hungry Jacks, the Primary Industry Bank of Australia and Commonwealth Industrial Gases (CIG).

Tannock says the support that these companies give junior football is an indication of the confidence they have in the future of the game.

"We think that the game in WA is not only alive and well, but has a great future," says Tannock.

"We know we're under challenge, but we feel confident about football's future. There has been a sharp up-turn in the level of participation from the juniors in the last year or two and this is a symbol of our increased confidence."

FDT men tour Geraldton area

JUNIOR footballers in Geraldton and surrounding areas have been treated to a wealth of football experience and coaching this week with visits from East Fremantle players, personnel and co-ordinators from the Town and Country Football Development Trust.

The Mid-West tour will conclude tomorrow with the Hungry Jack's lightning carnival, the first-ever primary schools competition in a country area.

East Fremantle senior players Clinton Wolf, Michael Taylor and Craig MacLean, along with Sharks Development Manager, Clinton Pike and FDT personnel Gerard McNeill and Barry Cable combined to conduct super clinics and a Level One coaching course.

Areas covered include Geraldton, Mullewa, Morawa, Carnamah and Northampton and McNeill and Subiaco's Football Manager, Trevor Nisbett, will conduct a coaching course in Moora tomorrow and Saturday on their way back to Perth.

The touring part also found time to train the zone's "Shark Pack", a squad made up of the best 15 and 16-year-olds in the area, who will represent their zone in the 1989 Primary Industry Bank of Australia Championships in Perth on May 27 and 28.

This year's carnival will be the biggest ever thanks to the sponsorship of PIBA and it is hoped that this new support of the "Country 17s" will encourage more country footballers to play the game.

PIBA's sponsorship came to the rescue of the carnival, which was in doubt because of the high cost of bringing the teams, officials and umpires to the city for the weekend.

Quit premiers in winning form

THE 1989 Quit Cup got underway last Wednesday with hard-fought games and a record number of 63 teams taking part.

Last year's premiers in the Barry Cable Division, Hamilton Hill, got off to a good start, beating Applecross 8.10 (58) to 1.3 (9). The 1988 winners in the Graham Farmer Division, Eastern Hills, beat Mt Lawley 5.5 (35) to 2.5 (17).

Other round 1 results were:

North West — Barry Cable div: Warwick 12.10 b Churclands 2.4; Newman 10.7 b Carine 7.4; Graham Farmer div — Blue: Sacred Heart 10.6 b St Marks 0.4; St Stephens 22.19 b Wanneroo 0.1. Black: Balcatta 7.4 b Servite 6.7; Greenwood 13.8 b Swanbourne 7.2; Scarborough 5.8 b John XXIII 3.4. South West — Barry Cable div: Hamilton 8.10 b Applecross 1.3; Rossmoyne 7.5 b John Curtin 5.7. Graham Farmer div: Safety Bay 9.10 b Corpus Christi 2.2; All Saints 5.15 b Melville 4.5. North East — Barry Cable div: Swanview 9.12 b Lockridge 2.2; Girrawheen 13.5 b Hampton 3.4; Eastern Hills 5.5 b Mt Lawley 2.5. Graham Farmer div: Governor Stirling 9.12 b Morley 0.3; La Salle 7.10 b Swan Christian 4.6; Cyril Jackson 7.8 b John Forrest 5.8. South East —

Barry Cable div: Kelmscott 9.5 b Thornlie 2.0; Wesley 13.2 b Lynwood 0.2; Gosnells 6.9 b St Norberts 6.2; Mazenod 6.9 b Forrestfield 5.4. Graham Farmer div: Kalamunda 9.2 b Armadale 6.1; Clontarf 3.2 b Kewdale 2.6; Maddington 15.4 b Rehoboth 1.2.

Tribute for Royals rookies

EAST Perth's two debutants in last week's clash with East Fremantle — Steven Wasley and Gavin Rose — came in for special praise from coach Ian McCulloch at the after-game presentations.

The two tall youths — both products of the Royals junior district — received trophies from McCulloch, along with George Giannakis, rated as the team's best player.

Wasley, a gangly ruckman, is the first junior from the Noranda club to graduate to league ranks, while Rose, who looked polished at full-back, comes from Bayswater.

Wasley particularly, was handed a tough job — leading the ruck against the Sharks heavyweights Lance Durack and Guy Baxter.



Two youngsters giving it their all at Subiaco Oval last Saturday.

SUBIACO had a first-up win in the Town and Country Little League last Saturday.

Led by Hollingsworth, Spikker and Alanigan, the Lions roared home to beat Claremont at League headquarters. Best for the Tigers were Stephens, Angove and Gorton.

Good work around the ground by Anderson, Walker and Morien enabled East Fremantle to score a home

Toyota Cup matches start

FOUR of the six zones in the inaugural Toyota Cup got off to great starts last Sunday.

Round 1 results were:
CLAREMONT TIGERS CUP — Marist 8.13 d Carine 8.12; West Coast 23.19 d Scarborough 7.1; Hawks 12.23 d North Beach 6.5.

SUBIACO — Whitfords 24.15 d Kingsley 9.11; Warwick 25.13 d Wanneroo 6.6.

EAST/WEST PERTH — East Perth/Highgate 11.12 (Best: Smith) d North Innaloo 8.12 (Donaldson); Osborne Park 12.11 (Gianopolos) d Noranda 5.11 (McNight); Bombers 11.11 (Mallis) d East Perth/Highgate 8.2 (Martella); Swanleigh 13.8 (Reid) d Cougars 9.6 (Templeton); Bayswater/Morley 24.26 (Fitzgerald) d Balga 0.1 (Earnshaw).

SOUTH SUBURBAN/PERTH — Armadale 10.10 d Forestfield 1.2, Gosnells 31.20 d Forestdale 4.2; Thornlie 10.14 d Kelmscott 4.4; Kenwick 14.7 d Roleystone 12.5; Belmont 14.14 d Maddington 7.7.

Town and Country Little League

win over East Perth. Royals showed determination, particularly Castle, Curnum and Webb.

Swan Districts made it a trifecta for home cubs on Saturday. Adamson, Hale and Evans were their best players as they out-pointed Perth at Bassen-dean. For the Demons, Close, Bentley and Bonnaghan shone.

South Fremantle were the only club to win on foreign soil. Burrige, Salerno and Teague led their charge at West Perth, whose best were Ugle, Keeley and Wilson.

Parade at the Derby

THE South Fremantle Junior Council will hold a "Parade Day and Tin Shake" at Fremantle Oval this Saturday before the start of the Derby.

This has been a major fundraising event of the South Fremantle Junior Council over the years and up to 300 youngsters, aged between 8 and 16 years will take part.

Last year the parade raised about \$1,200 and the money raised goes towards trophies, field days and other activities.

HONEYMOON'S OVER

IT looks as though the honeymoon between the West Coast Eagles and the Perth media could be coming to an end.

The party line from Kings Park Road isn't now automatically being processed by a hard core of the more influential reporters and journalists in the city.

Increasingly, a lot of the Eagles blurb is being scrutinised and interpreted before going to air or finding its way into print.

In the long run this change in stance is likely to benefit both the media and the Eagles.

Trivial

THE problem with a one-team town is that in the media's chase for angles and its need to fill space, the trivial, both good and bad, often takes centre stage.

I've said it before but I'll say it again...the media has no responsibility to promote a sport or a team even if it happens to be a home-town team.

Of course a large section of the media will support the team simply because they as individuals have enough civic pride to want the locals to do well, plus the majority of their viewers, readers or listeners are supporters, so that makes it good business.

Media takes harder line

with Eagles

COMETTI

By Channel 7 commentator
DENNIS COMETTI



The problem here is the odd dissenting voice can run the risk of being left out in the cold.

If clubs or individuals play favourites editors start to wonder why their man on the beat is missing the stories.

Risk

IT'S a two-edged sword. Sometimes the club, any club, can bring a reporter or journalist to heel but then again, they run the risk of stirring an even more strident critic.

While all that is common to any big city with a team in the national spotlight, I can sense a little stirring around Perth at the moment.

In Monday's West, the paper's sports editor, Len Findlay was moved to comment on 'sanitised pap.'

THE Eagles, I'm sure, would be quick to point out that being the only team in Perth is no bed of roses.

The constant demands, the constant repetition and that feeling of always being under the microscope is enough to make even Con the Fruiterer reclusive.

Spoilt

If looks as though both sides are standing back and reassessing their positions.

For too long the Eagles were spoilt. They were guilty of manipulating the media (if they're any sort of a club they'll continue to try), but in many cases they were dealing with a group of partisans who were more than happy to be shaped and used.

The hardening of the media attitude 'against' them may surprise the Eagles hierarchy but they're a professional outfit which, in looking for an edge, has rekindled another healthy professionalism.

Karl must 'tough it out'



Leading football journalist
KEN PIESSE
 reports from Melbourne

"The Swans seem to play pretty well up there. They seem to win the majority of their games in Sydney, so it'll be a tough game. But what game isn't?"

Asked why he hadn't removed the disappointing Langdon from Kardina Park on Sunday after his half-hearted attempt at trapping the ball from a kick-off cost the Eagles a goal, Todd said Langdon — and others — must be prepared to "tough it out".

"Langdon is a player who was given a lot of exposure by the media last year," Todd said. "They said how good a player he was. But he's got a way to go."

"Sometimes we're inclined to pick a player out for a particular reason — his blond hair or whatever — and we run with him."

"He was getting only about five possessions a match last year."

"I'm going to let him tough it out, just as a few others must also tough it out."

"They (Langdon and Co.) can be exposed to a point where the media is not going to miss them. Sooner or later the players will be pin-pointed for their glaring faults."

"That's the only way a player will get through."



Karl Langdon ... under pressure.

CORNERED Eagles coach John Todd says Karl Langdon has been over-rated and many of his other players lacked the mental toughness to avoid the Eagles' most embarrassing drubbing of their short VFL life on Sunday.

"They were a bit dull upstairs," he said after Geelong's 95-point win. "We expected a bit more considering the seriousness of the game."

He said unless the players responded immediately, the club faced another humiliation against the Sydney Swans this weekend.

"Sydney hasn't been a happy hunting ground for us," he said.

To see them play away,



you should see us now.

ITINERARY 1.

FRIDAY 12 MAY 1989
 DEPART Perth 5.15pm TN19
 ARRIVE Melbourne 10.30pm

SATURDAY 13 MAY 1989
 Richmond vs Westcoast Eagles

SUNDAY 14 MAY 1989
 Melbourne Tigers vs Wildcats
 DEPART Melbourne 7.00pm TN14
 ARRIVE Perth 8.45pm

ITINERARY 2.

FRIDAY 23 JUNE 1989
 DEPART Perth 7.50pm TN9
 ARRIVE Melbourne 1.05pm
 North Melbourne vs Wildcats

SATURDAY 24 JUNE 1989
 Carlton vs Westcoast Eagles

SUNDAY 25 JUNE 1989
 DEPART Melbourne 7.00pm TN14
 ARRIVE Perth 8.40pm

PLAYING DATES

EAGLES	WILDCATS
9 April	Geelong
16 April	Sydney
23 April	Brisbane
30 April	Richmond
7 May	St. Kilda
14 May	Carlton
21 May	Hawthorn
28 May	Essendon
4 June	Footscray
11 June	Flinders
18 June	Collingwood
25 June	Adelaide
2 July	Melbourne
9 July	Brisbane
16 July	Melbourne
23 July	Melbourne
30 July	Sydney
6 August	Carlton
13 August	Hawthorn
20 August	Essendon
27 August	Footscray
3 September	Collingwood
10 September	Melbourne

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