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WESTSIDE Football

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SUPPORT US...OR FORGET US!

By George Temple

Brown calls for some WA support

STATE selector and WAFL Commissioner Malcolm Brown has warned that State-of-Origin football faces a bleak future without public support next Tuesday.

Brown believes that Tuesday's clash with Victoria under lights at the WACA Ground is the most important State match in years.

"The shine has been taken off State football," says Brown.

"It's time we polished it up again."

Brown says that there are a number of critical factors:

*The West Australian public has got used to watching VFL action on a week-to-week basis since the advent of the West Coast Eagles. Hence, support for State matches has declined in the past two years.

*Some VFL clubs encourage their WA players not to play for their State.

*The VFL have continually changed the rules on eligibility of players for State-of-Origin fixtures.

The pinnacle

"State football used to be the pinnacle of any player's career," says Brown, who represented WA 16 times and led the State as captain and coach.

"Players would aim to progress from colts to reserves and then onto league football; aiming to fulfil his ambition to represent his State.

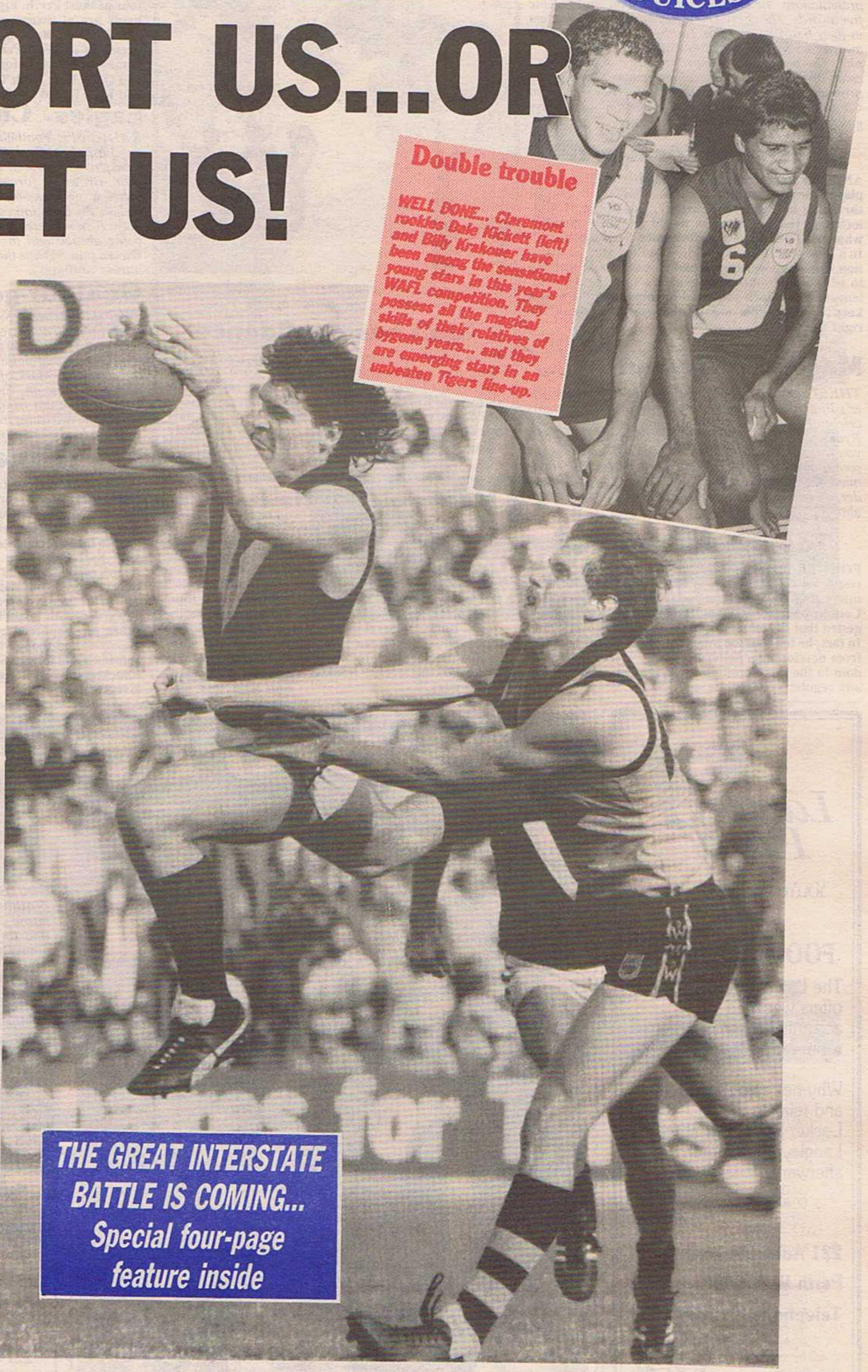
"Now look at what's happening — a South Australian club has stopped Gilbert McAdam from representing WA; that proves how State football doesn't rate with some people."

Enthusiasm

Brown believes that WA's enthusiasm will enable them to beat Victoria.

"Their skill level is probably higher than ours," he says. "We have a few problems in the ruck, at full-forward and around the packs.


"But coach Ron Alexander is a real winner. WA have never lost a State match with him at the helm."



Double trouble
WELL DONE... Claremont rookies Dale Kickett (left) and Billy Krakauer have been among the sensational young stars in this year's WAFL competition. They possess all the magical skills of their relatives of bygone years... and they are emerging stars in an unbeaten Tigers line-up.

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IN THE LOCKER ROOM

Footy gossip from behind closed doors



Big first-up haul ...

EAGLES first-gamer Scott Waters had plenty of booty to remind him of his excellent VFL debut against Fitzroy on Friday night. At the Eagles after-match presentations, he scooped the pool with three of the five awards. The cheer squad voted the 19-kick Watters as their best-player, John Todd gave him the coach's award and he won the club's official best-player trophy. The best mark — appropriately named Macca's catch-of-the-day after the seafood restaurant owned by prominent Eagles backer Denis McNerney — went to Clinton Browning and the goal of the day was always going to be Chris Waterman's.

... but not for Royals

AND talking of rewards, the shattered East Perth players missed out on awards after their 14-goal thrashing by Perth on Saturday. Coach Ian McCulloch said that no trophies would be given out after what he described as a performance "less than good". In a terse speech Macca said: "I can't see the justification in giving awards. We had an enormous incentive to win today, but the players didn't accept the challenge". McCulloch promised members that he would keep turning the playing strength over till he found the right formula.

Magical Demon

THERE were some great goals kicked in Wayne Ryder's 10-goal haul against East Perth when the Demons celebrated their first win at Lathlain Park. The elusive Ryder gave the Royals defenders the run-around and you would never see a better-orchestrated goal than his second-term shot to bring up Perth's 11th. He dummied out of a pack, wrong-footed an East Perth defender, swivelled around and popped it through from about 25-metres out — on his left foot!

Too much flexibility

FORMER player and coach Ken Armstrong, now a respected commentator on radio 6WF, has posed an interesting theory about today's football flexibility. Commenting on the Eagles-Fitzroy match, he suggested that the emphasis on flexibility was over-done. In fact, he felt that too much flexibility restricted sides from developing a pattern of play. "With players seldom in the same position for long, you can't develop any regular system," he said.



On the outside looking in... star Bulldog Maurice Rioli — out injured again.

Rioli has confidence

STAR South Fremantle centreman Maurice Rioli believes that the scores will be reversed when the Bulldogs meet Claremont in Round two. Rioli said that his side would work on the mistakes they made in Albany last Saturday so that they don't make them again next time. Rioli said: "We are good enough to beat every side in the competition. The only way we will lose from now on, is if we beat ourselves".

Menegola Muffs It

SWAN Districts wingman Todd Menegola discovered last weekend that football can be a cruel game. A week earlier, Menegola was being congratulated for a fine debut in Swans shock 22-point win over East Fremantle. Last week he was taken from the ground by coach Ed Blackaby. The 21-year-old could not do a thing right and always seemed to be on the wrong side of the pack. But, as general manager Brian Close said: "An outstanding debut can be a bad thing because it becomes the yardstick by which everyone judges you in the following weeks. Rookies very rarely play well every week."

Buffalo Stampede

Six members of Darwin's Buffalos Football Club, who won the Northern Territory Premiership this year, are now playing the WAFL — two at Swan Districts and four at West Perth. Fintan Maguire and Michael Williams are at Swans, while Greg Woodroffe, Kevin Quall, David Ross and James Sing are making impressions at West Perth. Maguire played 17 league games for Swans before this season, while Woodroffe and Quall have made their WAFL debuts this year — and Ross joined them last Saturday.

Eagles Changes

RADIO 6PR Football Forum panellist Rod Brown, an outspoken Eagles critic, believes that the West Coasters will do well to hold their ship together this year. Brown, a former Falcons president, also predicted a big shake-up in personnel at the Eagles and Indian Pacific Limited, the holders of the VFL sublicense. In reference to IPL chief executive Bill Kerr being abroad and the Eagles recent betting bungle, Brown said: "While the cat's away the mice have made a mess of things".

Goal-for-goal

THE clash between Swan Districts and reigning premiers Subiaco at Bassendean Oval last Saturday was a real goal-for-goal tussle. The biggest margin of the match was the 20-point lead established by the Lions at the 20-minute mark of the third quarter. In the ninth minute of time-on, Swans were trailing by just one point. And apart from Swans opening and finishing bursts, the two teams traded goals throughout the game with the lead changing five times.

Mixed day

SWAN Districts full-forward Darren Williams failed to register a score in his side's 16-point win over Subiaco at Bassendean last Saturday — but, incredibly, he was still in their best players. As Swans struggled to find the consistency which had enabled them to beat East Fremantle a week earlier, Williams contested every ball that came his way. Twice he was outnumbered, but didn't stop contesting to keep the ball in the forward area and both times his efforts were rewarded with goals from team-mates. Three other times he shepherded goals through-twice for Steven Bazzo — and though he failed to take a mark against full-back and former Swans team-mate Tony Cope, he knocked the ball down for rovers Andy Holmes and Greg Walker.

PHOTO ACTION



Cliff shows the Collard style...

SOUTH Fremantle's Collard brothers are proving troublesome for opposition teams... and the grit and determination shown here by Cliff is a reason why. The Quairading trio are playing top-class football this season, staying in the league side on a regular basis for the first time since they all came together in the Bulldogs den in 1986. Cliff, who is 22 next Wednesday, was the last of the brothers to make league ranks, joining Brad (25), who made it in 1984 and Derek (23), who got there in 1985.

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Peake effort

ALEXANDER'S ANGLE

By RON ALEXANDER



BRIAN Peake refuses to lie down. Just when people start to write him off, he produces a best on ground performance and continues to perform each week.

Against West Perth last Saturday he played the sweeper role (defensive ruck rover) and was extremely effective with his ability to read the play.

Peake is a strong mark and constantly holds up the opposition.

He cops a lot of heavy treatment after taking a mark. It seems as though the superstar is fair game for all the up and comers who want to make a name for themselves.

Never underestimate Brian Peake. Perhaps we could use him against the Vics next Tuesday.

Osborne a danger

RICHARD Osborne displayed great skills at full-forward for Fitzroy.

In the right forward pocket on the boundary line, he ran around and on his non-preferred left foot scored a great goal. He displayed great goalsense, whether shooting from a 50-metre set shot or screwing one over his head.

He's going to be a dangerous player in the State of Origin match with the likes of Greg Williams, Gerard Healy, Mark Watson, David Murphy, Barry Mitchell, Dale Weightman, Peter Daicos kicking to him.

Wrap for Worsfold

MICHAEL Conlan had a rare compliment for his opponent **John Worsfold** after the Fitzroy game.

He said: "That John Worsfold can play a bit, and boy is he tough!"

Coming from Mick that's high praise.

Conlan and I played football together for a number of years at Fitzroy.

Conlan's father Neil holds the record for the most State games for Tasmania — 25.

Austin's apples

FITZROY coach Rod Austin has impressed everybody at his new club.

Austin coached Footscray reserves to the 1988 premierships and his credentials in VFL football are good.

He played in the backline for a number of Carlton premierships sides and was also used as a tagger.

He wasn't a flashy player with great skills, but rather a man who optimised his performances by putting great thought into each game and playing within his limitations.

You'd never see him attempt huge marks. Rather he preferred to reduce the likelihood of error by punching from behind and playing percentage football.

As a coach he's quietly spoken and seems to have earned the respect of his players.

When Mick first arrived from Manuka in Canberra, most people thought he was too short and a shade too light for VFL football.

So he embarked on some rigorous weight training and really put on some beef.

When I left Fitzroy, he was lifting 350lb on the bench press — not bad for a half-forward.

COOL GUY

GUY McKenna has been a model of consistency over the past three years.

He always uses the ball well and seems to get a large number of possessions, yet still negates his opponent.

He is a very cool player and seems to be able to do the right thing at the right time.



WA State coach and former Fitzroy captain Ron Alexander talks to current Lions coach Rod Austin.

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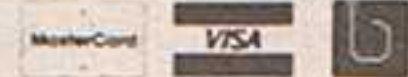
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- West Coast Eagles v Richmond, August 6th.
- West Coast Eagles v Carlton, August 27th.

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You may agree or disagree, but whatever you do, be in the audience 1pm Friday for the 6PR Football Forum. (The show is replayed between 9 and 10am Saturday.)

Our panelists include people like John Watts, Rod Brown, Gary Carvolth, Dennis Cometti, Gerard Neesham, Percy Johnson, Trevor Sprigg and Mal Brown.

Plus special guests and player interviews. It's heaps of fun and there are heaps of prizes. Be there.

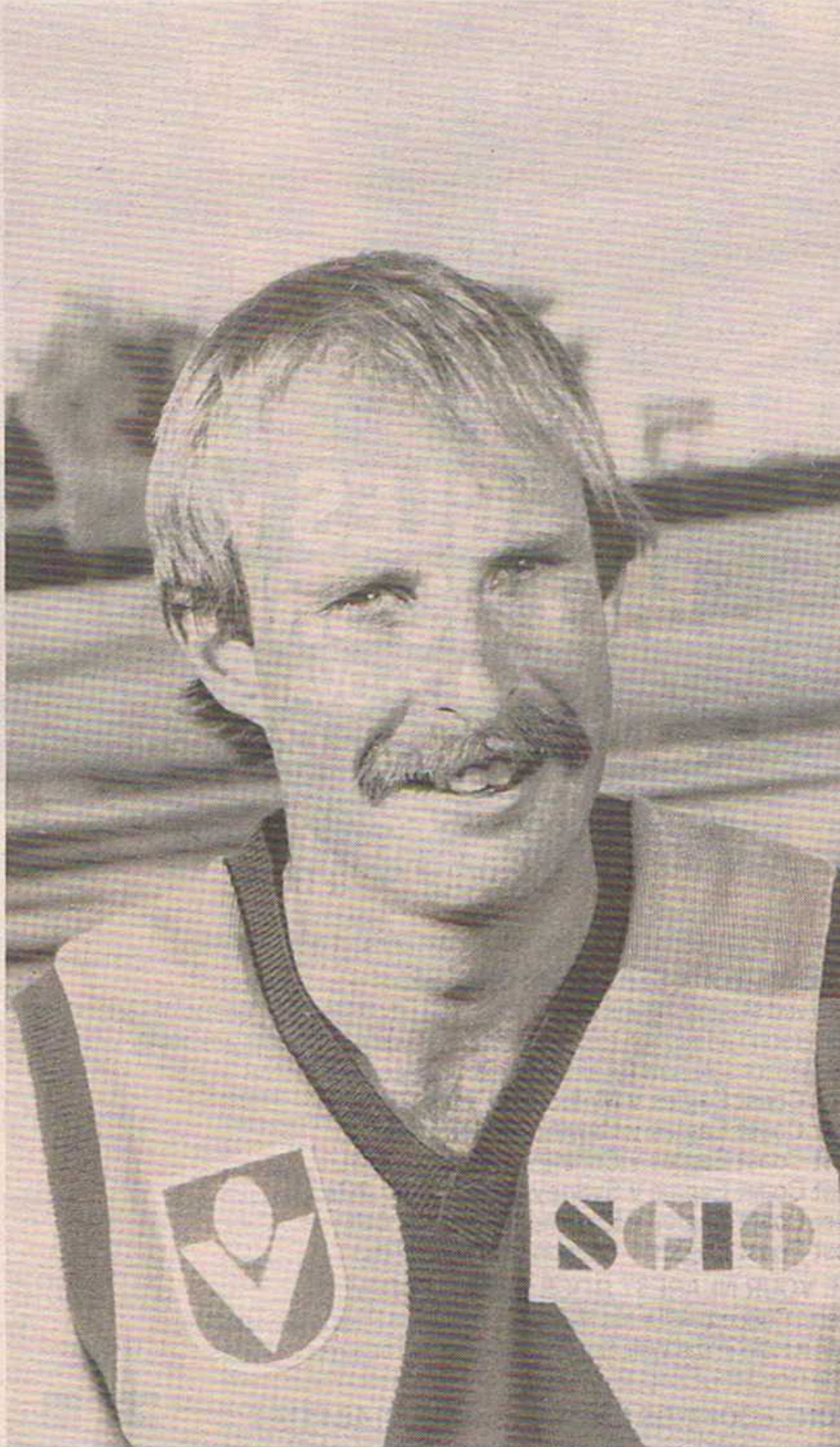


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PLAYER PROFILES



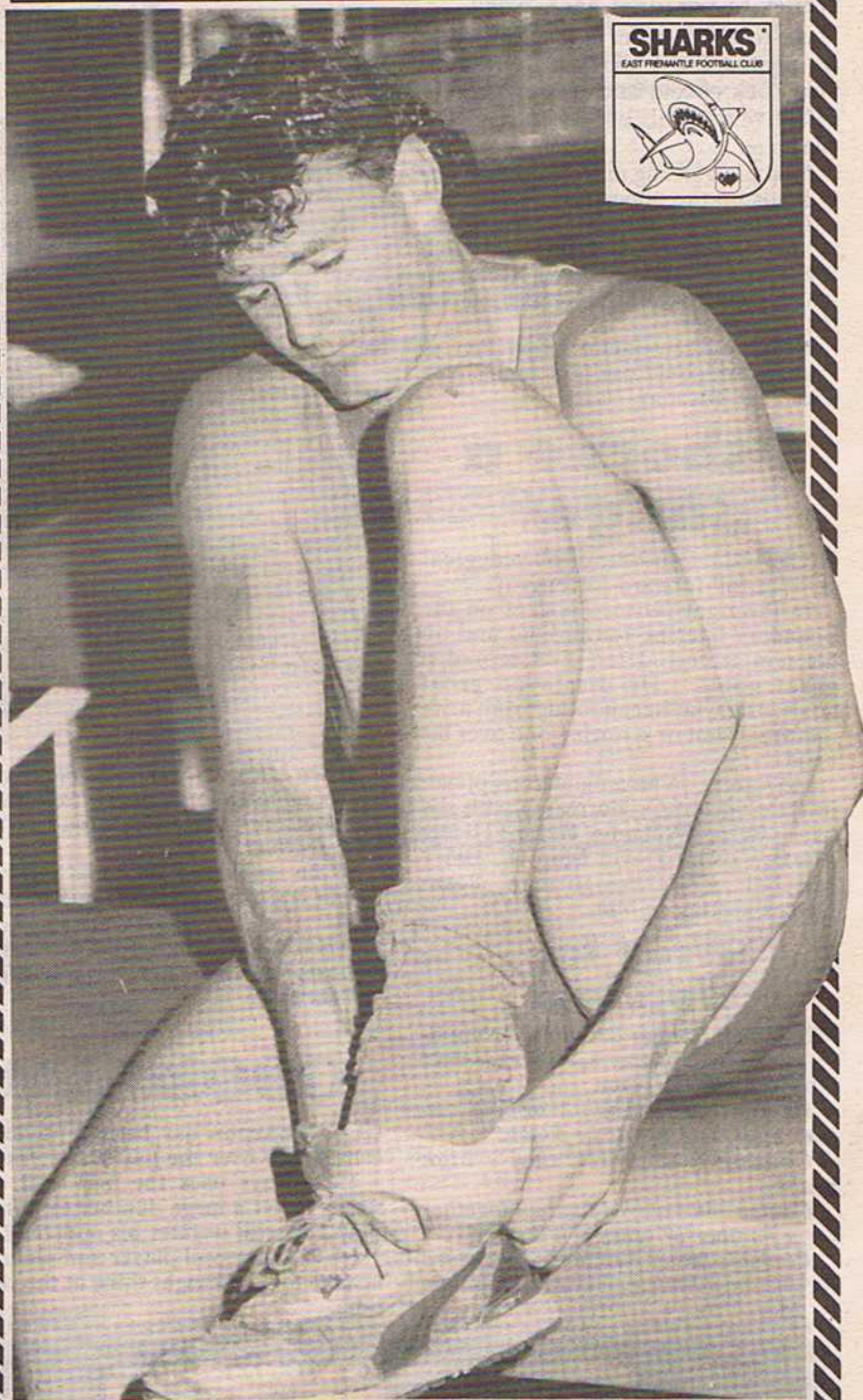
SHANE ELLIS



NICK NAME: Don't have one.
FAVOURITE POSITION: Half-Back
CURRENT POSITION: Half-Back
NUMBER: 22
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Perth
HEIGHT: 175cm **WEIGHT:** 85kg
RECRUITED FROM: East Fremantle/
 Mt Pleasant
FIRST SENIOR GAME: East
 Fremantle 1980
GAMES PLAYED: 6 Eagles, 156
 East Fremantle, 5 W.A.
FOOTBALL HONOURS: East
 Fremantle fairest and best 1982,
 1988
MARITAL STATUS: Married to
 Wendy
CHILDREN: 1 daughter, Kristy
OCCUPATION: Physical Education
 Teacher
SCHOOL/S ATTENDED: St Brendans
 College; Rossmoyne High
CAR: Commodore
FAVOURITE PASTIMES/HOBBIES:
 Golf, Tennis

FAVOURITE FOOD: Chicken
FAVOURITE DRINK:
**FAVOURITE SPORT (OTHER
 SPORTS):** Golf, Tennis
FAVOURITE SINGER/GROUP: Pink
 Floyd
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: LA Law
FAVOURITE MOVIE:
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:
 My coaches and my father
MOST ADMIRED FOOTBALLER: Tim
 Watson
MATCH DAY ROUTINE: Nothing
 different
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing
 Grand Finals with East Fremantle in
 1984, 86
FOOTBALL INJURIES: Nothing major
BIGGEST THRILL: Winning Finals
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: 1986
 State Game, WA versus South
 Australia
FOOTBALL AMBITION: To play
 consistent football

Brad Tunbridge



Nickname: Tunny. **Why:** Surname.
Date of Birth: 26-1-64. **Place of Birth:** Mullewa.
Height: 198cm. **Weight:** 100kg.
Age Started Playing: 14.
Previous Club/s: Mullewa, Cunderdin.
Junior Club: Mullewa.
Marital Status: Single.
Residence: Palmyra.
Occupation: Driver **Place of work:** Mobitow.
Other Sporting Interests: Basketball, swimming, fishing.
Favourite Position: Ruck. **First Position:** Full-back.
League Debut: 1986. **Versus:** Swan Districts.

FAVOURITES:

Actor: Clint Eastwood. **Drink:** Scotch/dry.
TV Show: Professionals. **Food:** Seafood.
Movie: .
Music: Everything.
Book: .
Holiday Resort: Up North.
Ground: East Fremantle Oval.
Car: Commodore. **Favourite Car:** Commodore.
Career Highlights: 1st game.
Worst Moment in Football: The moment my knee went.
Hard Things in Football: Talking.
Football Idols: Peter Wilson.
Toughest Opponent: None.
Most Respected Opponent: .
Most Respected Umpire: .
Most Memorable Game: 1st game.
Ambitions: Play VFL football, help the sharks to a 1989 grand
 final win.
What do you like about Football: Playing.
How do you Mentally Prepare for a Game: Just turn up.
Who Influenced Your Career: My Father.
Guemsey Number: 48.
Any Reason: Don't like changing numbers.
Worst Injury: Knee.
Luckiest Break: When Paul Harding injured himself which gave
 me the opportunity in the league side.



Eagles No. 1 supporter

THE SWANS REVIVAL

Walker shows his strength

BEHIND the dynamic Swan Districts revival in 1989, is a quiet achiever.

Swans president Bill Walker is a man who has plenty to say when the time is right.

He was one of the few who stood up to be counted when the decisions were being made three years ago for the WAFL to join the expanded Victorian Football League.

And Walker, who predicted all the traumas that the local competition now faces, has been proven dead right.

But another tough stance Walker took, as recently as midway through last season, was a bit closer to home.

Amid a disastrous run of pathetic performances in all three grades by his beloved black and whites, Walker refused to bend in his confidence of appointed coach Ed Blackaby.

Player upheavals, a lack of player strength and living in the wake of a successful decade under John Todd, Walker refused to replace Blackaby — he vowed that under his leadership, no coach would ever be sacked.

Campaign

Blackaby responded to the support from his president and together they embarked on a recruiting campaign that has resulted in the Bassendean-based club's return as a power in the opening rounds of 1989.

Blackaby himself made enormous sacrifices — and he has earned the total respect of his players.

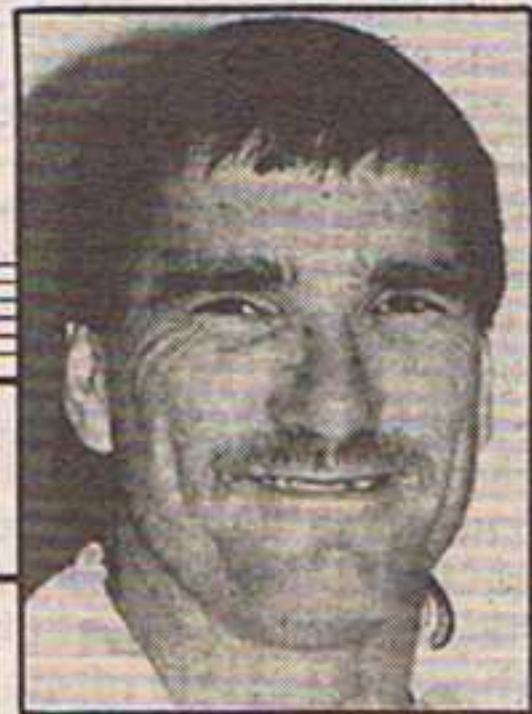
The gamble by Blackaby to resign from a comfortable job with a leading transport company; take a huge reduction in pay and devote himself to lift Swans out of the doldrums, deserved success.

Blackaby and his countless scouts were seen, as early as last June, hovering around Sunday Football League matches, country centres and the Saturday amateur competitions looking for players.

Walker and general manager Brian Close provided the facility of Bassendean Oval to prospective footballers and Blackaby offered the guarantee: "Things will be better in 1989."

THE BUZZ

By football's Mr Flamboyant
PETER BOSUSTOW



And now Swans are delivering a real shot-in-the-arm for football in this State.

Blackaby enticed Maddington's Darren Williams back to the club, along with Shaun Davey, former Perth big-man from Kalamunda Ken Bell and Mukinbudin centrelineer Todd Menegola, who have all taken to senior footy like veterans.

To encourage Don Langsford and Peter Hodyl to the club for another burst of league footy was a masterpiece.

Walker, as one of the game's most decorated footballers, knows what a player wants out of his club and he provided a perfect rod to strengthen Blackaby's back.

Just as John Cooper, the Swans president who refused to sack Todd after his disastrous early years with the club in 1977 and '78, was the chief administrator behind the golden years of the 1980s, Walker is behind the revival under Blackaby.

Maybe battling clubs like Perth and East Perth can take a look how Swans have survived and adopt a similar approach.

This time last year the writing was on the wall for Swans. They eventually finished last in every grade but currently lead the under-19s, are fourth in the reserves and second on the league table.

This time last year, Swans talent scouts were already talking with prospective recruits in the city, country and Brad Shine in Melbourne.

I wonder where East Perth's talent scouts will be next weekend?

COMMON NUMBER

A FEW weeks back we had a Saturday afternoon situation where a number of WAFL games had similar margins towards the end of the final term — making for exciting finishes all around. Last Saturday all four WAFL games had 13 as the common number going into time-on in the final term. Claremont were holding grimly to 13-point margin over South Fremantle; East Fremantle had suddenly lunged to a 13-point break over West Perth; Swans had snuck out 13 points in front of Subiaco — and luckless East Perth were 13 goals behind Perth!

MEDIA BAGGING

THE popular topic of bagging the media has occupied the attention of a lot of football people in the last week — especially those up in King's Park Road. Week after week the media have been criticised for the way they have handled the Eagles' failures — either boosting up the players too much, or not giving them enough exposure. Channel 7's Dennis Cometti (who, as a former player and coach of West Perth has seen both sides of the debate) put his finger on the Eagles problem when a guest of 6PR's Football Forum on Friday. He said that too many media guys were waiting to "square off" with the Eagles. "They have been bagged too much," he suggested. "They have been waiting to hit back. Last week was a classic example as the Eagles bagged the media early in the week, but then desperately wanted them back on-side by the end of the week to help them get out of the betting fiasco."

RETALIATION

AND on the same topic ... the Eagles attempts to blame the media for the Brisbane Bears betting scandal was so stupid it was almost funny. Two players and the coach had been on national television after the win, boasting about the bet; they admitted the wager at a Monday press conference and another player confirmed it in a newspaper interview. So it was a bit hard to swallow when an official Eagles statement said that it was "a joke" and John Todd had thrown the line out to "extend the imaginative reporting of the local media". The Eagles ducked and dived around the issue all week instead of just coming out and admitting that they had placed the bet not realising it was against VFL policy. That would have been the end of it. Trying to find scapegoats — including blaming a poor voluntary official — doesn't help the club's credibility, especially when blatant lies are involved.

MARLOWS AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES

THE HOOD

WA's most feared football critic



PANEL PEOPLE

TWO Perth media men found themselves in the hot seat when they went to Albany for last week's Claremont-South Fremantle clash. Albany's "Mouth-from-the-South" Gary Pollett (centre), of Rainbow Radio 6VA, stirred up a controversial panel show with support from (pictured from the left) Claremont's Tony Beers, Gary Stocks, of The West Australian, Peter Sweeney, of the Sunday Times and Brian Ciccotosto, South Fremantle's general manager... much to the delight of a big crowd at Ryan's Premier Hotel.

LAUGHING MATTER

THERE wasn't much to smile about in the East Perth camp on Saturday evening after their fifth straight loss — and in a fairly humbling manner. But the members and supporters back at the Perth Oval social rooms did, at least, find a bit of humour in their day. It was the 43rd birthday of long-serving "odd-job" man Kelvin Sinclair. The players had chipped in and organised a "stripper" — and Two-Ton Tessie, as she was known, brought the house down as she thoroughly embarrassed poor old Sinkers.

FRIENDLY FOES

IT was amazing to see former South Fremantle team-mates Scott Watters and Wally Matera have a real go at each other early in the Eagles-Fitzroy clash at the WACA Ground on Friday night. Watters, making an impressive debut for the Eagles, tagged the former West Coast rover and didn't give him room to breathe all night. The first-quarter clash was no joking matter as they came up slugging after a fierce midfield battle.

No Justice

The subject of umpires is starting to wear thin! Come on Ron Buckley, sort your lads out. You were at Bassendean Oval last week, so I hope you were as annoyed at the umpires as I was. They didn't reward good tackling with free kicks and, in fact, invariably gave the free-kick the other way — mostly against Swans, who are a hard-tackling side. As shown by the ratio of free kicks (Subiaco 28/Swans 10), the Lions were rewarded for their "soft" football.

CHANGES LOOMING

ACTING WAFL chief executive Brian Cook hasn't shirked any of his responsibilities sitting in football's hot seat — and being a guest on the volatile 6PR Football Forum panel last week was no exception. Panellist Rod Brown and special guest Dennis Cometti had fired in a few barbed questions about the proposed Football Commission and Cook didn't dodge the issue. When asked bluntly if there was some problem with the proposed make-up of the Commission's personnel, Cook admitted that there had been discussions with the Government on possible changes. So maybe someone in the chosen five is going to get the chop! Who will it be — Terry O'Conner, Harry Morgan, Bill Kerr, Merv Cowan or Ken McAullay?

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Falcons need a reviver

ONE of the important factors in the WAFL attendance increase this year has been the form of clubs with large supporter bases.

This week two of the club's with the strongest local following — West Perth and Swan Districts — will lock horns at Leederville in what promises to be an intriguing contest.

Both Swans and West Perth are emerging as forces to be reckoned with this season after several years in the doldrums and that should ensure a vocal crowd.

Though they have contributed more competitive efforts this season, West Perth have not yet convinced all that they are capable of making the top four.

In matches against East Fremantle and South Fremantle, two sides likely to be playing in the finals, the Falcons have bombed out badly in the second half after establishing early control.

Challenge

They cannot afford to do that against Swan Districts if they are to maintain their challenge for a place in the top half of the premiership table.

On the opening day of the season, the Falcons started with a blistering eight-goal first term, but capitulated in the second half. Against East Fremantle last Saturday, they held a commanding 20-point three-

quarter time advantage, but slipped to a miserable 25-point loss.

That eight-goal last quarter turn-around jolted West Perth coach George Michalczuk and now it is time for his players to stand up and be counted.

The Falcons can prove they are worthy finals contenders by winning this match, a clash which promises to rival last week's South-Claremont game in Albany as one of the most enthralling of the season.

Swan Districts have been superb under the direction of Ed Blackaby this year, losing only to top team Claremont in their first five games. That will be a strong test for West Perth.

SCIO

Football's No. 1 supporter



PREVIEWS

by Gary Stocks

Demons get chance to repeat good form

PERTH will get the chance to gauge just how good their 75-point demolition of East Perth last Saturday really was when they tackle league leaders Claremont at Lathlain Park.

It is amazing what a little confidence can do and with Mark Watson, Wayne Ryder and Adrian Barich producing efforts close to their best, the Demons can still make a charge at a place in the top four.

They have their first premiership points on the board and that must be a relief for Perth coach Robert Wiley. It would have been disastrous for him to take on Claremont without a victory to his name.

But it is still a daunting task.

Claremont coach Gerard Neesham and clever rover Peter Thorne were at their enterprising best when they beat South Fremantle last Saturday and, combined with the youthful talent at the club, they take on the shape of a team of all-conquering capacities.

Perth will again need Ryder to provide them a focal point in attack after kicking 10 goals against East Perth and must subdue Claremont's midfield talents with the likes of Kim Fancote, Watson and Barich — if available.

THE COVERAGE

RADIO

6WF — Saturday noon: Richmond vs Eagles. Saturday 2.20pm: Claremont vs Perth. Tuesday 6.25pm: WA vs Victoria.

6PR — Saturday 11.50am: Richmond vs Eagles. Saturday 2.15pm: West Perth vs Swan Districts. Tuesday 6.15pm: WA vs Victoria.

6NR — Saturday 11.55am: Richmond vs Eagles. Saturday 2.20pm: Subiaco vs East Fremantle.

RADIO WEST — Saturday 2pm: South Fremantle vs East Perth.

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 2: Saturday — West Perth vs Swan Districts, 2.15pm to regional stations; 4.10pm final quarter metropolitan area. Sunday — 9am-10am: WAFL highlights.

CHANNEL 7: Friday — 8.30pm: Sydney Swans vs North Melbourne. Saturday noon: Richmond vs Eagles, including highlights Hawthorn vs Fitzroy. Sunday noon: Brisbane Bears vs Essendon. Tuesday 9.30am: Replay WA vs Victoria.

Emu Export present ... WESTSIDE'S EXPERT SELECTIONS



*Tally does not include VFL tips	Tally	Claremont v Perth	Subiaco v E. Frem.	S. Frem. v E. Perth	W. Perth v Swan Dist.	Richmond v Eagles
RON ALEXANDER	16	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	Swan Districts	Eagles
ROB BENNETT	14	Claremont	Subiaco	South Fremantle	West Perth	Richmond
PETER BOSUSTOW	14	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	Swan Districts	Richmond
DAVE CLEMENT	16	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	West Perth	Eagles
GRANT DORRINGTON	15	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	Swan Districts	Eagles
ALAN EAST	13	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	West Perth	Richmond
IAN MILLER	12	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	Swan Districts	Eagles
BILL MATHER-BROWN	12	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	Swan Districts	Eagles
GARY STOCKS	14	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	West Perth	Eagles
GEORGE TEMPLE	15	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	Swan Districts	Eagles
PETER VLAHOS	12	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	Swan Districts	Eagles
MOST FAVOURED	14	Claremont	East Fremantle	South Fremantle	Swan Districts	Eagles



how about you?



BULLDGOS HAVE TOO MUCH FOR ROYALS

THE first five games of the season have been frustrating for East Perth supporters. There is no hint that the sixth game will produce any joy.

The Royals are obviously a much better combination than have shown in the early stages of the season, but they will need a strong improvement to finish close to South Fremantle at Fremantle Oval this Saturday.

The Bulldogs have shown strong character in their performances this season, their only loss coming at the hands of Claremont last Saturday, in Albany.

The impressive part of the South Fremantle effort has been their never-say-die attitude which saw them fight on for strong wins over Subiaco and East Fremantle and fight back from a position where it would have been easy to collapse under pressure against Claremont.

Sharks can reverse trend

IT has been rare in the last few seasons that East Fremantle have emerged from an important show-down with Subiaco as the victors.

Lions coach Hadyn Bunton has consistently come up with the formula to unsettle the Sharks — particularly in final round matches.

Bunton must almost be at the bottom of his bag of tricks as Subiaco have won only one of their first five matches and there appears to be a strong hint that an exciting era at the club is now coming to a close.

Two premierships in three years has been a reward most people believed Subiaco could not achieve when their grand final appearances have come around.

But there is one thing we have all learned — and that is never underestimate Bunton. While it appears things have hit rock-bottom at Subiaco, it has seemed that way before.

However, this time East Fremantle look equipped to extract some revenge at Subiaco Oval.

WHO PLAYS WHERE



WAFL — SATURDAY, MAY 13 (ROUND 6)

Claremont v Perth, at Claremont; Subiaco v East Fremantle, at Subiaco; South Fremantle v East Perth, at Fremantle; West Perth v Swan Districts, at Leederville.

VFL — SATURDAY, MAY 13 (ROUND 7)

Richmond v Eagles, at VFL Park.

1989 FORM GUIDE

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

SUBIACO L(69) W(39) L(6) L(50) L(16)
 CLAREMONT W(69) W(42) W(46) W(93) W(20)
 EAST FREMANTLE W(91) L(20) W(92) L(22) W(25)
 EAST PERTH L(91) L(47) L(24) L(93) L(75)
 SWAN DISTRICTS W(43) W(47) L(46) W(22) W(16)
 PERTH L(43) L(92) L(92) L(45) W(75)
 WEST PERTH L(43) L(42) W(24) W(50) L(25)
 SOUTH FREMANTLE W(43) L(20) W(6) W(45) L(20)



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Expatriate pair will worry Eagles

INTERSTATE UPDATE

by RICHARD CAMM



Losing score is a record

GEELONG'S score of 25.13 against Hawthorn (26.15) last Saturday is a record losing score in the VFL.

Previously, the record was held by Fitzroy, 23.19 against Melbourne 24.23 in Round 2 of 1978.

The aggregate of 334 points is the third-highest in a VFL game. The record of 345 points was set when St Kilda kicked 31.18 to defeat Melbourne (21.15) in Round 6 of 1978. Hawthorn lost by 39 points to Richmond in 1985 when the aggregate was 337 points.

Saturday's game was the first in which both sides scored over 160 points.

HAWTHORN'S victory over Geelong was the Hawks best recovery from a half-time deficit. They trailed by 49 points at the long break — previously their best comeback was from 40 points down against Melbourne in Round 13 of 1973.

Collingwood are the only team to have won a VFL game after being over 50 points behind at half-time. They trailed St Kilda by 52 points in 1979, before winning by seven points.

The most famous comeback in VFL history also occurred in 1970. Carlton trailed Collingwood by 44 points at half-time of the grand final — but eventually ran out 10-point winners.

CLYDE McKenna, of Kellerberrin, recently pointed out that former Subiaco player Lou Daily posted a big goal tally on his VFL debut.

Daily kicked 10 goals in his first game for Geelong, against St Kilda, at Corio Oval (then Geelong's home ground) in the opening game of 1934. He played in a forward pocket, lining up alongside former Claremont player George Moloney, who kicked three goals.

Daily, however, had made his VFL debut the previous year for Collingwood, who had recruited him from WA. A lack of employment opportunities caused him to move to Geelong in 1934.

FITZROY became the sixth visiting VFL side to win in Perth. Of the teams yet to win in Perth, five — Melbourne, Collingwood, Footscray, Richmond and Geelong — still have an opportunity to do so in 1989.

The Eagles and Footscray are the only sides yet to win a game at the Sydney Cricket Ground and only Melbourne and Richmond are yet to record their first victory at Carrara Oval.

927 GNR

Chris Gogos
JEWELLER & VALUATOR

Eagle of the Year

Last week's votes: PROGRESS
8 Phil Scott
3 Chris Waterman
2 Scott Watters
1 David O'Connell
6 Steve Malaxos
5 Guy McKenna
4 Murray Rance
3 Chris Waterman

This week's broadcast games:-
VFL — Saturday — from 11.55pm:
Richmond vs. Eagles
WAFL — Saturday — from 2.20pm:
Subiaco vs. East Fremantle

Tune into Saturday's Countdown to the Bouncedown with Colin Minson from 1 pm.

927 GNR

VFL PREVIEW

by GARY STOCKS
of The West Australian



Scott Watters... showing the after-effects of an outstanding VFL debut.



THE energy, enthusiasm and sheer skill of expatriate West Australians Michael Mitchell and Peter Wilson are two hurdles the West Coast Eagles must overcome if they are to beat Richmond at VFL Park this Saturday.

Both Mitchell and Wilson are two of the VFL's most exciting prospects and with selection in the WA team to play Victoria on the line, both will be looking for strong efforts.

It is well documented around Australia that the Eagles have been inconsistent this year.

Being one of the glamour teams of the VFL — and one most Victorians love to hate — has meant that every time the Eagles fail, there are plenty ready to sink the boots in.

But Richmond have also been topsy-turvy. One week they are brilliant; the next very forgettable.

Poor effort

In one of the best displays of the season, they beat North Melbourne a fortnight ago, only to turn in one of their poorer efforts when comfortably beaten by Carlton.

That form has become acceptable in Melbourne because the Tigers, under coach Kevin Bartlett, are a developing side with a wealth of young talent. One of the side-effects of slotting into that category is that young players are inconsistent.

VFL leading goalkickers

Tony Lockett (St. Kilda)	43.16
Richard Osborne (Fitzroy)	33.24
Jason Dunstall (Hawthorn)	30.18
Jeff Hogg (Richmond)	23.13
Brian Taylor (Collingwood)	23.15
Ian Fairley (North Melbourne)	18.4
Paul Salmon (Essendon)	18.6
John Georgiades (Footscray)	17.10
Steven Kernahan (Carlton)	15.12
Gavin Exell (Geelong)	14.6
Mark Arceri (North Melbourne)	12/3
James Morrissey (Hawthorn)	12.6
Gary Buckenara (Hawthorn)	12.7
Darren Morgan (Geelong)	12.10
Simon Beasley (Footscray)	12.9
Phil Scott (Eagles)	11.3
Leon Higgins (Sydney Swans)	11.5
Nicky Winmar (St. Kilda)	11.7
Karl Langdon (Eagles)	10.4
Darren Bennett (Melbourne)	10.5

Perhaps that is also a problem with the Eagles this season. They have been forced to "blood" many of the young players in their squad and with the season just six weeks old, they have used each of their five pre-draft recruits.

The last in that line of players, Scott Watters, was remarkable in last week's loss to Fitzroy. He followed Craig Turley, Stevan Jackson, Peter Sumich and Don Pyke to make his debut this year.

Those five players ideally would have been used in developing roles this year, with the occasional taste of senior football.

Instead, Sumich has played every game when fit, Turley has played all but one game and is yet to experience a VFL victory, Jackson has played the last two matches and Pyke has played all games.

Memories

Those senior players in the Eagles squad are bound to have long memories and they will realise that they have a score to settle with the Tigers.

Apart from beating Richmond on their VFL debut at Subiaco Oval on March 29, 1987, the Eagles have been

HOW THE EAGLES HAVE PERFORMED

	1989 Kicks	1989 Marks	1989 H/balls	1989 Score
John Annear	70	15	19	0.3
Adrian Barich	27	5	9	1.1
Todd Breman	16	4	4	4.3
Michael Brennan	61	12	21	1.3
Clinton Browning	20	10	6	3.1
Joe Cormack	8	2	2	0.1
Shane Ellis	48	18	20	8.4
Richard Geary	0	0	1	0.0
David Hart	76	24	24	5.7
Stevan Jackson	22	12	10	8.2
Laurie Keene	15	8	4	1.0
Dean Laidley	22	5	9	0.1
Dwayne Lamb	31	8	3	4.1
Karl Langdon	44	19	15	10.4
Chris Lewis	33	14	7	3.3
Andrew Lockyer	39	14	10	0.1
Chris Malmwing	90	31	28	0.4
Stephen Malaxos	69	23	34	0.3
Guy McKenna	68	32	36	0.1
Peter Melesso	5	4	0	1.1
Geoff Miles	15	6	7	0.0
David O'Connell	38	21	9	2.4
Paul Peos	8	6	1	0.1
Don Pyke	77	23	28	7.5
Murray Rance	60	40	35	0.1
Phil Scott	38	21	7	11.3
Peter Sumich	14	4	1	1.0
Craig Turley	56	20	23	1.0
Dean Turner	47	19	7	1.3
Troy Ugle	3	0	3	0.0
Simon Waterman	30	15	11	4.2
Scott Watters	19	2	9	0.0
John Worsfold	89	39	34	1.0

How WA players performed in VFL

	Kicks	Marks	H/balls	Score
HAWTHORN				
Gary Buckenara	20	5	2	5.2
MELBOURNE				
Earl Spalding	7	4	5	0.0
NORTH MELBOURNE				
Jim Krakouer	15	4	1	1.2
Mark Hepburn	3	2	6	0.0
Derek Kickett	14	3	5	1.5
RICHMOND				
Michael Mitchell	12	8	10	2.1
Peter Wilson	11	5	10	0.0
ST KILDA				
Nicky Winmar	13	4	2	2.4
Paul Harding	9	4	9	—
SYDNEY SWANS				
Wayne Henwood	11	4	3	4.2
BRISBANE BEARS				
David Bain	19	5	7	—
Brad Hardie	10	3	3	0.1
Alex Ishchenko	7	4	1	1.0
Rod Lester-Smith	5	2	1	1.0
CARLTON				
Richard Dennis	11	7	5	1.3
COLLINGWOOD				
Michael Christian	11	3	7	—
Craig Starcevic	12	6	5	2.1
FITZROY				
Brett Stephens	12	4	6	0.1
Brad Edwards	3	3	10	—
Wally Matera	13	2	4	1.0
FOOTSCRAY				
Simon Beasley	8	6	2	3.3
John Georgiades	4	3	2	1.1
GEELONG				
Mark Bairstow	21	6	14	0.3

The Hardy Collection

Winner of 87 awards, it's perfect for your palate.

This week's top performer with the West Coast Eagles was:-

SCOTT WATERS
with 19 kicks, nine handballs and two marks.

Great sight — no kidding

ONE of the most positive aspects of the season so far has been the return of school children to WAFL football.

Every Saturday hundreds of kids can be seen entering league grounds with their parents or mates.

At each break the oval is covered with young players eager to show their skills on the ground where the league players are in action.

Over the past decade the kids of our game have been 'left out.'

Rules had been made to stop them playing on the ovals.

Security personnel were employed to keep the kids off.

I can remember as a kid going with my father every Saturday to watch our favourite team, the Royals.

I was always waiting for the siren to sound so that I could get on to the ground and pretend to be my favourite league player, who at that time was Graham Farmer.

When you consider a league game can take the best part of two hours it is a long time to keep young people occupied or interested. Mum and Dad can't watch the game if the kids are bored.

Influence

Nowadays young children can have a kick every half-hour during the breaks.

They enjoy the experience and have had a big influence to the return of crowds to WAFL grounds.

When the kids come, so do their parents.

The Football Development Trust had identified the need to get young people back to WAFL games.

With this in mind, Town & Country (WA) were only too keen to provide entrance tickets for all youngsters to get into games free.

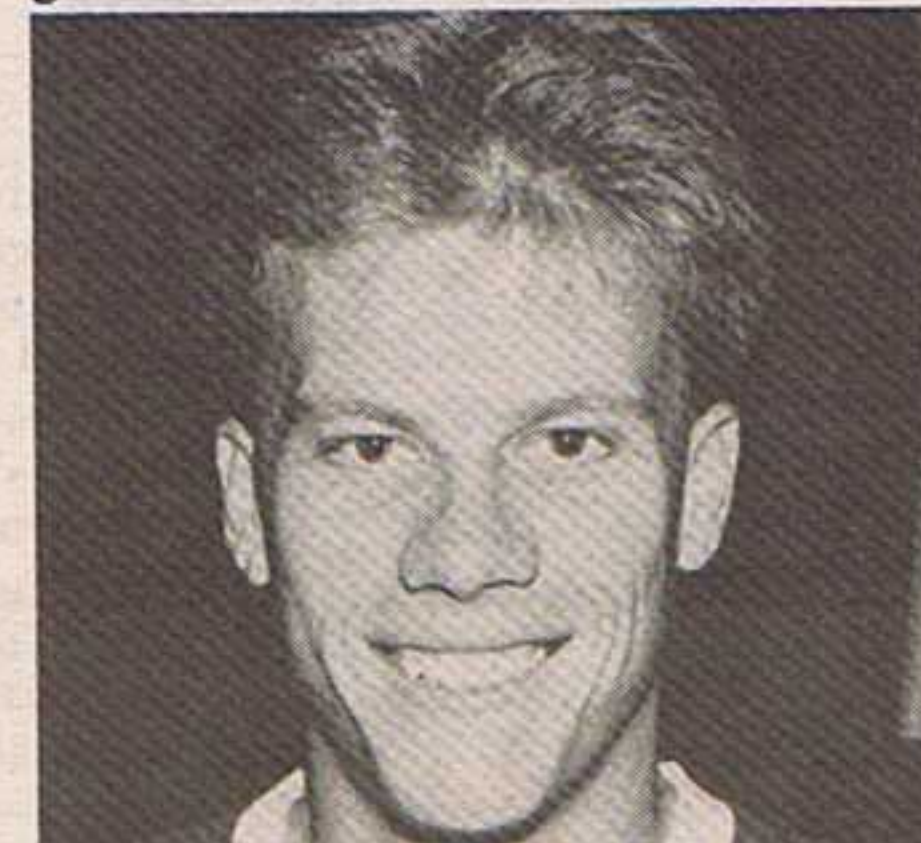
DORRO'S DIARY

By GRANT DORRINGTON



These tickets are given to every child visited by the FDT development programmes.

Getting boys and girls back to the game has been a winner.



Michael Broadbridge... a WAFL hero.

It is the basis on which senior football can build the return of crowds.

We need new heroes developed and the only way to do this is sell the image to the kids.

The sooner they see Michael Broadbridge, Ben Allan, Willie Rioli, Geoff Passeri and the rest as WAFL heroes, the stronger our game will grow.

So far the crowds for '89 are up on last year. Through proper planning and hard work, WAFL football will regain its old standing with the public.

A letter to the "Bomber"

FROM WHERE I SIT

Wheelchair sports critic BILL MATHER-BROWN



Give it away now

DEAR Bomber,

Having followed East Fremantle for more years than I care to admit, I have seen all of our champions come and go since the early fifties.

Jack Clarke, Norm Rogers, Ray Sorrell, Alan Preen, the Regans and many more.

All of them gave East Fremantle the service that great clubs expect of champions and in return, East Fremantle gave every one of them the opportunity to indelibly carve a niche in football's Hall of Fame.

It is claimed by many that you are the greatest East Fremantle footballer of all and, if records stand for anything, then the six Lynn Medals, East Fremantle's fairest and best award, the 1977 Sandover Medal for the best footballer in WA and the 1979 Tassie Medal for the best player in Australia, go a long way to supporting the argument.

Like thousands of fans I have derived a lot of pleasure from watching you play, particularly when you were at your top and showing the skills that only superstars possess.

Memories

Because of the many memories, seven goals against the Vics for instance, it saddens me to see you struggling to hold your place in the East Fremantle line-up. I believe you should have called it quits at the end of last season.

I have had a long association with the sporting world and what I am writing is not being set down without a lot of thought.

I do not believe you should be destroying some wonderful memories by picking up the odd kick or being beaten by players who, a few years ago, would not have known where you or the ball went.

It is my belief also that your determination to stay in league football is hav-

ing a detrimental effect on the playing performance of East Fremantle.

Every East Fremantle supporter, and your teammates too, are prepared to try to run you into form.

Blind eye

While they are turning a blind eye to the tell-tale signs of time, the blue and whites are being backed into a corner.

Do they stick with you and hope for the best or does somebody, probably the coach, have to take you aside and tell you that your days of playing league football are over?


As you are a former club champion, a captain and a footballer who has had a profound influence at East Fremantle, I wish you would concede the point to Father Time and withdraw from the playing arena in the way one would expect of a man of your stature.

All the best, Bomber. Thanks for some wonderful memories.

HOUGHTON WINES PRESENT ...

IN THE EAGLES NEST

with 6NR's PETER VLAHOS



Matt Rendell mystery

FITZROY'S eight-point win over the West Coast Eagles was an excellent performance considering the Lions had not previously won in Perth and did it without their captain and best player Paul Roos and top ruckman Matt Rendell.

However, a strange set of circumstances developed at Fitzroy's training on the Thursday before the match.

I went along to watch Fitzroy on the track and noticed that Rendell was not doing the preliminary warm-up with his teammates.

So I asked chairman of selectors Geoff Southby and assistant coach Robert Shaw if the former South Australian had made the trip.

Southby said nothing and Shaw, in a muffled voice, replied: "He's still in the changerooms."

Satisfied with the response, I continued to watch the workout but still there was no sign of Rendell.

After discussing the situation with fellow 6NR commentator Kim Haggdon, we decided to front new Fitzroy

coach Rod "Curly" Austin, who confirmed that Rendell was a late withdrawal and had not made the trip.

It surprised me that Shaw should make his comment, leading me to wonder whether Fitzroy were trying to pull a fast one only hours before the start of the match.

New role for Lewis

YOUNG Eagles player Chris Lewis has started work jointly with the Ministry of Sport and Recreation and Football Development Trust.

Lewis is being used as a role model in coaching Aboriginal children how to play Aussie Rules.

He is working with his boyhood football idol, South Fremantle's Maurice Rioli, and John McGuire (East Perth), who are both employed by the Ministry, and Barry Cable, who conducts coaching clinics for the FDT.

John Annear is close to completing a physiotherapy course. When he does the Eagles aim to employ him as part of their football organisation.

He would team up with head physio Brian Edwards.

Eye for talent

MICK Moylan, the Eagles' recruitment officer, has good reason for having felt proud during the past two weeks.

Two players he has nurtured, Stevan Jackson and Scott Watters, made impressive debuts in the VFL.

Moylan was confident that would happen when he first spotted Jackson and Watters playing in the South Fremantle Junior Football Council competition some years ago.



Now it's uphill all the way

EAGLES vice-captain Steve Malaxos, who missed last Friday's match, admitted afterwards that that some of the players had misgivings about the team's chances of making the final five this season.

Malaxos, who is sidelined with a hamstring injury, said that doubts had crept into some players' minds after four losses at the start of the season.

Victory over the Brisbane Bears helped to rekindle optimism, but, according to "Stavros," the run of wins would have had to continue for the players to believe a finals appearance was still a possibility.



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Lee Cox (Perth) 19 on 16th
Andrew Brice (Subiaco) 21 on 16th
Geoff Passeri (Swans) 20 on 16th
Cliff Collard (South Frem) 22 on 17th
David Elliott (West Perth) 18 on 18th
Brandt Soffley (East Perth) 19 on 19th

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Perfect 10 for Ryder

FOOTBALL FACTS

By top WA football historian
DAVE CLEMENT



Right formula

PERTH sharpshooter Wayne Ryder became the first player to kick 10 goals in a game since round 21 in 1987 when Subiaco's Todd Breman reached double figures at Leederville Oval.

Ryder is the first Demon for 10 years to bag 10.

The last double-figure goalkicker out Lathlain way was the mercurial Murray Couper against West Perth in 1979.

Couper is currently coaching the Perth under 19s.

Hawks grounded

HAWTHORN may well be the strongest VFL club in the 1980s but they really struggled before winning their first premiership in 1963.

They lost every game in 1928 and again in 1950.

This could be why they do not have a big following in Melbourne.

It's tradition

BEFORE the Eagles and Bears came along there had been a former Collingwood player as coach at every VFL club.

In WA there is a similar situation. The seven other clubs have at some time been coached by a former East Fremantle player.

THE most successful league club in post-war football since 1945 is Port Adelaide with 15 premierships.

In those 45 seasons Port have had only seven different coaches.

In the same period Norwood have also had only seven coaches for seven flags.

Subiaco and East Fremantle have used three times as many coaches in the same era.

Former Subiaco player Neil Balme, who originally went to Richmond, is now coaching in his 10th year at Norwood.

This makes him the only league coach in Australia to hold his job with one club during the 1980s.

Richmond and Sydney Swans have had six different coaches in this decade.

Hoodoo ground

SWAN Districts travel this week to Leederville, a ground that must rank as their hoodoo venue.

Since they entered the league in 1934, Swans have managed only 15 wins from 77 visits there.

Up to 1962 the Bassendean boys had only won four games, going from 1938 to 1956 without winning.

Rance deserves better memories

THE cliché that says it couldn't happen to a nicer bloke is generally a sarcastic and derogatory comment.

But in this reference, it is genuine. When Murray Rance was run-down in the dying seconds of last Friday night's clash with Fitzroy, it really was a case that it couldn't have happened to a nicer bloke.

It was sad watching the West Coast Eagles—Fitzroy clash at the WACA Ground and see Rance claimed in a desperate tackle which resulted in Fitzroy breaking away to goal and take a match-sealing nine-point lead.

Watching the news on Saturday night, coach John Todd revealed that Rance had shed a tear after the loss — proving that his players really hurt after a defeat which should have been avoided.

Let's hope that Rance's emotion last Friday night does not detract from his future performances with the Eagles.

Judgement

When the Eagles recruited Rance from Footscray last season, I was one of the many critics who felt that he should not have been a high-priority player for the Eagles.

A season and six games down the track and one must bow to the judgement of the Eagles hierarchy.

Rance has been a superb player for the Eagles and when he was honoured with the captaincy of the WA-based VFL club, there were murmurs from outside suggesting that other players should have been given that responsibility.

But, on reflection, Rance has proven that he has all the qualities of an outstanding leader. He is popular with the players and coaching staff, sets a fine on-field example and is among the most experienced VFL combatants in the squad.

Every once in a while a player has a day he would rather forget — some have more than others.

Obviously Rance would like to demolish any memories he has of the game against Fitzroy, and that he will be remembered at the end of this season, not for Friday's sad tale, but rather for his outstanding start to the season.

Outstanding

It was Rance, more than any other player, who shone when the Eagles could not win a game and his form at centre-half-back was outstanding.

Since then he has also been used in a pinch-hitting role in attack and maybe the Eagles would be best served by playing Rance in defence.

TAKING STOCK

By GARY STOCKS
of the West Australian



His marking in the early part of the season has been exceptional and he has repelled many opposition attacking moves.

If the Eagles are to pick up the pieces and, to use a Todd phrase, put humpty dumpty back together again, then Rance is one man who must provide the glue that binds them into a unit.



Murray Rance... great start to 1989.

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EXPERIENCE TELLS

PUMA Presents

Swans trio play a steadying role

IT'S obvious that one of the key reasons for Swan Districts current run of success is the team's hard-core of experienced players.

Three players who have returned — new skipper Brad Shine, former captain Don Langsford and Peter Hodyl — are playing a steadying role in the young side.

I've watched Swans three times this season and it's been at the crucial stages when the on-ground influence of the trio has been to the forefront.

In the last two weeks, against East Fremantle and Subiaco, the game has been up for grabs in the last quarter and the trio have played their decisive role.

Langsford, an inaugural member of the West Coast Eagles squad, has been tremendous with his on-field role.

His return to the club is a real bonus as he is their most experienced player, with more than 200 games and is an unobtrusive hard-worker who can adapt to any position.

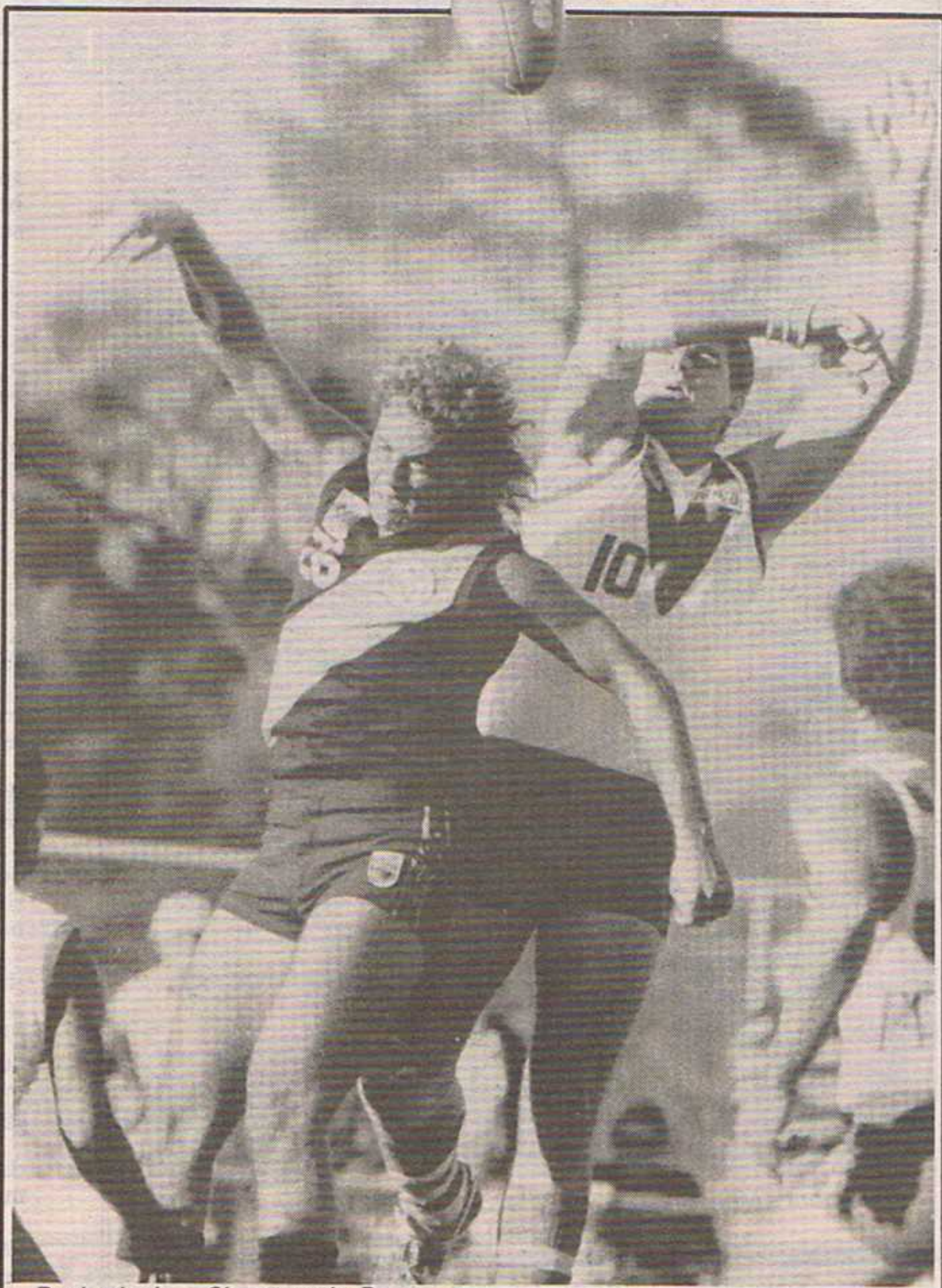
Langsford's ability to read the play and dispose of the ball efficiently makes him a real winner for coach Ed Blackaby.

Langsford celebrated his 30th birthday last Sunday — and he deserved to celebrate after helping guide the team to a tense victory over the defending premiers, Subiaco.

Judging on his current form, the quietly-spoken pharmacist has plenty more years of football ahead of him — especially if he can mix up his own "youth elixir".

IAN MILLER

Former VFL, WAFL star
Sandover Medallist and league coach



Ruck clash... Claremont's Dean Farmer and South's Craig Edwards clash in Albany.

Beware the angry Lion

WHO would have predicted pre-season that Subiaco would be languishing down the ladder with just one win from five outings?

The Lions are undoubtedly struggling, but they're not far away from winning form, so beware!

They were in a position to gain the points against Swan Districts last week, but they struggled up forward when it counted.

Brad McDougall was outstanding in the centre, but faded late in the game; wingman Dean Kemp looks a bright prospect; brother Garry played well in midfield, as did Brett Heady.

Seasoned players such as Andrew Macnish, Brian Taylor, Mick Lee, Tony Cope, Graham Jones and Alex Rattray all showed good form, which is encouraging for coach Haydn Bunton.

The key forward positions are a worry for Subiaco.

Max Heiden's Tyrepower presents

MILESTONE MEN

50 GAMES

- 49 Peter Melesso (Claremont)*
- 48 Peter Owens (Claremont)
- 47 Scott Watters (South Frem)*
- 47 Mark Brayshaw (Claremont)
- 47 Jon Derecourt (East Frem)
- 47 Andy Holmes (Swan Dist)
- 45 Mick Grasso (Swan Dist)
- 45 Joe Cormack (Swan Dist)

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than current club as follows: Scott Watters — 46 South Fremantle, 1 Eagles; Peter Melesso — 40 Claremont, 1 Eagles, 1 Sydney Swans, 7 St Kilda.

100 GAMES

- 99 Craig Nelson (West Perth)
- 98 Adrian Barich (Eagles)*
- 98 Ray Holden (West Perth)
- 97 Glen Bartlett (East Perth)*
- 93 Bryce Foreman (East Frem)*
- 92 Tony Beers (Claremont)*

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than current club as follows: Adrian Barich — 28 Eagles, 70 Perth; Bryce Foreman — 79 East Fremantle, 12 Perth; Tony Beers — 85 Claremont, 7 Collingwood; Glen Bartlett — 93 East Perth, 4 Eagles.

150 GAMES

- 149 Don Holmes (Swan Districts)
- 144 Kim Hetherington (Swan Districts)
- 142 David Rankin (East Frem)*

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than current club as follows: Kim Hetherington — 91 Swan Districts, 53 East Fremantle; David Rankin — 132 East Fremantle, 10 Fitzroy.

200 GAMES

- 198 Grant Campbell (East Perth)

300 GAMES

- 282 Brian Peake (East Frem)

350 GAMES

- 348 Brian Peake (East Frem)*

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than current club as follows: Brian Peake 282 East Fremantle, 66 Geelong.

Stiff test for WAFL loyalty

THIS Saturday's football will be a stiff test for the WAFL as far as attendances go.

The West Coast Eagles play Richmond in Melbourne and the match will be televised direct to Perth — clashing with WAFL club games.

However, I believe that the WAFL will survive ... and survive well. Club football has built up an improved following in recent weeks, with some tighter competition and many exciting new players.

The WAFL has tried two country games and two outer-suburban fixtures and survived the test, but I do believe they need to examine the results closely before deciding on next year's draw.

Rookies stake State claims

DON'T be surprised to see at least four — and up to seven — WAFL club players in Tuesday's State-of-Origin clash.

A number of locals have been in good enough form to warrant inclusion and certainties should be big man Craig Edwards, classy midfielder Ben Allan, exciting rover Brad Rowe and the physically-strong Lance Durack.

Other possibilities are Peter Matera, John O'Sullivan and John Scott. But time will tell. Either, way it'll be a great interstate game — they always are when the Vics are in town.



Brad Rowe... classy rover.

Waterman grabs his opportunity

FOOTBALL is a game of opportunity and when you get your chance, you have to go for it!

That is exactly what young Eagle Chris Waterman has done in the past two games.

The skilful midfielder has literally been waiting in the wings, but he made the most of his opportunity two weeks ago when he went into the side for the Brisbane Bears clash.

And last Friday night he went on with that form against Fitzroy and many critics rated him as the team's best player.

He was in everything; prepared to commit himself in the packs; had immaculate disposal and kicked three goals with some excellent follow-up football.

Waterman had a good duel with Matthew Armstrong, even though they played wide of each other.

Another strong performance from Waterman against Richmond this week and he could be vying with Claremont's classy centreman Ben Allan for a berth in Tuesday's State side to play Victoria.

Oh, how fortunes can quickly change!

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Eagles lack a little magic

OH, for a bit of magic!

The difference between the West Coast Eagles and Fitzroy last Friday night was Richard Osborne. If he had been in front of Eagles goals, then there is little doubt that the home side would have won.

Andrew Lockyer was a solid defender, but you wouldn't think so, considering he had six goals kicked against him. But some of the things Osborne did were pure magic.

And that's where the Eagles are lacking.

They simply don't have anyone in the side capable of doing something sensational to lift a side — an opportunist who can capitalise on a mistake.

Chris Lewis had the magic last season, but it's not there at the moment.

Knives

The knives are starting to be sharpened in respect to John Todd. In fact, there are some in the Eastern States who can't wait for him to fall on his face.

If the Eagles continue to lose, then there will be calls for him to be axed.

Todd is aware of this. But is it his fault the side is not winning?

The coach normally should carry the can for a team's performance.

Yet, even though the Eagles have only beaten the Brisbane Bears, their performances have been better than they look on paper.

In most matches, they have been very competitive early.

The lack of a forward capable of taking a strong mark was their downfall against Fitzroy.

You don't produce a player of Osborne's skill over night.

It's unfortunate that Stevan Jackson was given such a big wrap after his first-up performance against the Bears.

All of a sudden he was the answer at full-forward.

Jackson has enormous talent and showed his value to the team by the way he performed in the ruck when shifted from full-forward.

But quite simply, it is very difficult for one player to beat more than one opponent who are intent on spoiling and are of the calibre of Gary Pert.

Jackson is going to be a very good player for the Eagles, but he should not be seen, or expected to be the person who is going to patch up the glaring weakness at full-forward that has been exposed since Ross Glendinning left the side.

The Eagles face a barren season unless they can find a remedy to their lack of consistent goalkickers — that's Todd's big challenge.

The method into attack against Fitzroy was difficult to understand... having two big men standing together in the goalsquare.

If that tactic is to be adopted then the Eagles need someone like Lewis up forward. At least he can lead out, dragging another player with him so it then becomes a one-on-one contest.

I believe that the Eagles have conceded a big home-ground advantage by playing at the WACA.

This may sound strange considering their success there last season.



Karl Langdon... a raspberry.

But, perhaps it's because it has a spongier surface, Melbourne-based clubs seem to have the legs that more often than not are lacking at Subiaco Oval.

Another reason is that they don't seem to set the same kind of run around there as they do at Subi, which can take its toll on the harder surface.

Despite their indifferent form, the match against Hawthorn at Subiaco in a couple of weeks, could be the game that sees the Eagles break their drought against Melbourne based teams.

I feel sorry for Karl Langdon. The way the crowd gave him the raspberry against Fitzroy — they cheered each time he was dragged from the ground — shows how fickle the public can be.

Langdon is not playing well at the moment. It's to be hoped that he recaptures the form that made him such an exciting and valuable player for the Eagles last season.

FAI CAR OWNERS' MUTUAL presents ...

BENNETT'S BURST

By ROBERT BENNETT
of The Sunday Times



Dejected Eagles, (left to right) Murray Rance, Clinton Browning and Chris Lewis after last Friday's loss.



STRAIGHT TALK
TYRE & BRAKE

Presents...

STRAIGHT TALKING

With Claremont coach
GERARD NEESHAM



THE question of the West Coast Eagles establishing a VFL reserves side is a hot topic at present — but a few critical questions must be asked first.

People who feel a reserves side would be the panacea to solve all problems, should ask Fitzroy or Footscray what it has done for them.

These are some crucial questions that must be answered:-

1. What effect will it have on the local competition?

The WAFL has stood up quite well since the introduction of the Eagles, but to take another 20 players out of the competition would have a very telling effect.

2. Would it keep more players in WA?

Under the recruiting rules, the Eagles can only draft two players next year, which leaves the gates open for another exodus of young talent to the East. A reserves side would, at least, keep more players in WA, even if they are playing VFL reserves.

3. Is it advantageous to the Eagles?

The obvious answer is yes. But ramifications may reverse that decision. The base of the Eagles has been the WAFL...and on that base they beat Carlton twice and Hawthorn once (grand finalists) in their first year and finished fifth in their second. To allow our competition to be devastated to the level of Tasmania would have long-term effects; we should be able to draw our players only from WA and still succeed.

Do we need an Eagles reserves side

The Brisbane Bears cannot send their players back to a competition of quality, nor can they accrue the large talent base that is available to the Eagles through the WAFL.

It is not "ideal" for the players not getting a game to come back to the local competition, or for the WAFL clubs to accommodate them. But if it is best for football in WA, then so be it.

4. What of the cost?

To put an extra 22 people on a plane every second week would put a great deal of strain on the financial coffers, but nothing that could not be overcome by sponsorship. My understanding is that the Eagles would have to front the cost of visiting teams. It would be financially suicidal to pay for opposing sides (they travel once a year) and unacceptable from a State point of view. They bluffed us totally with the licence; surely not this.

From a coaching point of view, I wouldn't see it as an unacceptable thing to be without a reserves side when you have players like Peter Sumich, Don Pyke, Scott Watters, Stevan Jackson and Craig Turley available each year from the local competition.

What I do find unacceptable is the fact that we can only access two players next year and that there is still no age or game restrictions on players leaving the WAFL to join other VFL clubs.

The WA competition should be for our WA-based VFL team and eventually for our NFL team.

If the rules regarding the number of players we can access are not changed, then the FDT and the eight WAFL clubs are simply providing players for the VFL that we can have once a year at State-of-Origin level.

A truly national competition will see all representative teams have their local competition as a base, not a second or third side as is happening presently.

We are already in the best position with the Eagles supported by the WAFL. Just a change of ruling is all that is required.

"Why don't you test them"



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Nicholas, the young veteran,

finds consistency



ON THE BALL
with ALAN EAST

PERTH defender Warren Nicholas is one of those players who has taken on "veteran" status this year simply because he has been around for ages, so it seems.

But, amazingly, the blonde-haired dasher is still just 21 years of age!

After making his league debut back in 1984 as a 16-year-old, Nicholas has now played 61 senior games and is developing into one of the Demons most consistent players.

However, there have been times in the mid-1980s when it seemed as though the youngster would fail to live up to his early potential and drift into football's wilderness.

Fortunately that didn't happen and the former Kenwick player now has his sights firmly set on carving out a solid WAFL career — and opening up the way into the VFL.

Consistency

"I made up my mind to develop consistency into my football this year," says Nicholas, whose role at centre-half-back last Saturday helped close

out East Perth's dangerous forwards Peter Cransberg and Grant Campbell.

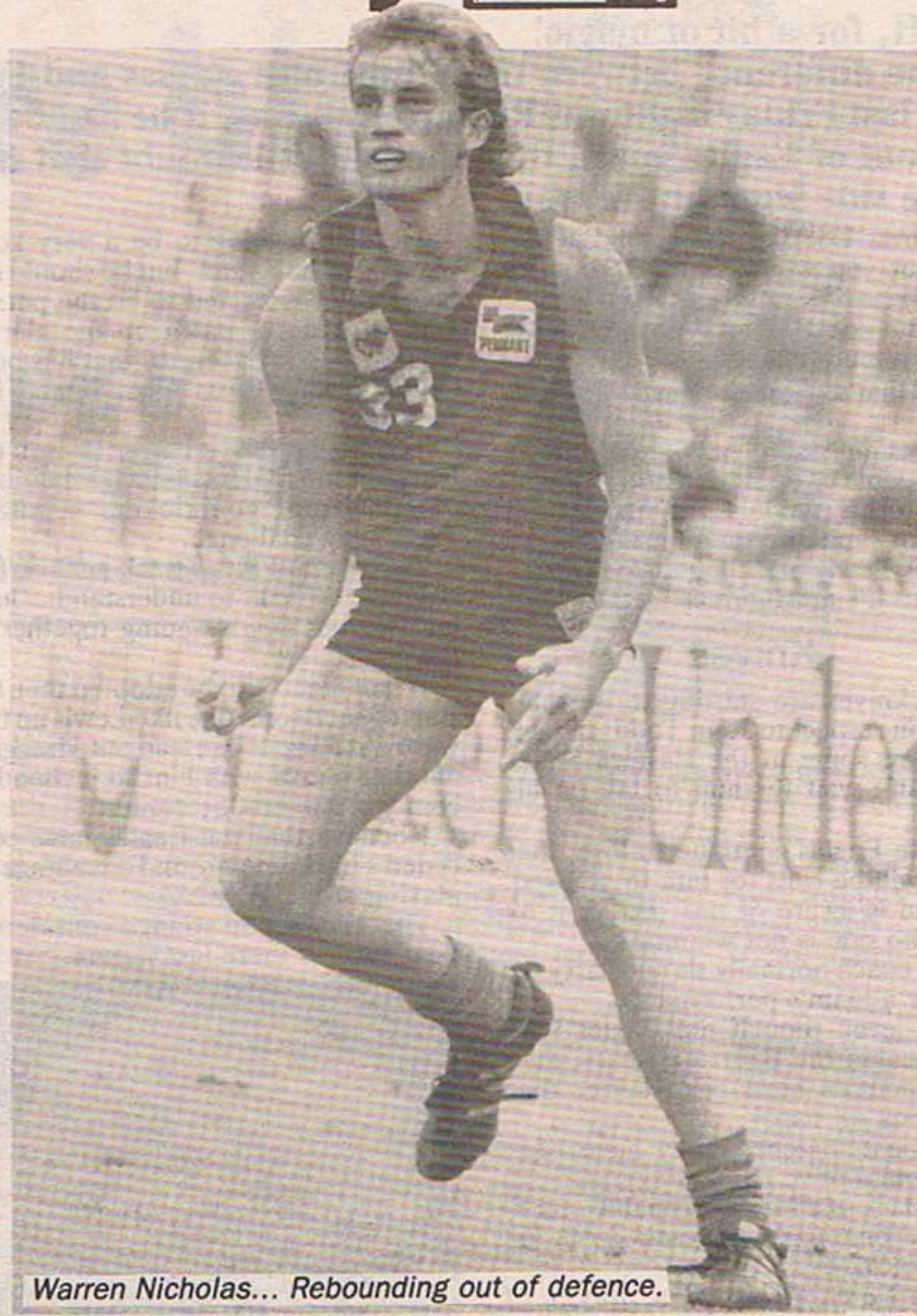
"I'm trying to attack the ball a lot more directly; to go out and meet it."

And that's how he played the classic defender's role at Lathlain Park last week, shadowing the talented Cransberg out of the match and rebounding many of East Perth's attacking moves into forward-line thrusts for the Demons.

"I'm pleased with my recent form," says Nicholas. "Looking back, I now wish I had played more games when I was younger; I'd feel even more confident."

"But I've been working hard on my mistakes and I'm pleased with the way things are going."

"I definitely haven't ruled out a VFL career — someone just has to ask me."



Warren Nicholas... Rebounding out of defence.

Subiaco to stick with new forward

OUT-of-form Subiaco are looking to 195cm ruckman Graeme Garnaut to solve their goalscoring problems.

The 19-year-old Garnaut has been used by coach Haydn Bunton at full-forward for the last two weeks, with limited success.

But the rookie, who registered six points with his first kick in league football against West Perth 10 days ago, believes he can answer the SOS.

"Bunts has given me every opportunity," Garnaut said. "He has told the other players to kick long and high towards me, so I can use my height to an advantage."

"Playing full-forward is a challenge and once I adjust to the faster tempo of league football, I'm certain I'll be able to meet it."

Ruckmen

"Naturally I prefer playing in the ruck, but with Shane Cocker and Graham Jones in the side, it's good just to be in the 20."

Garnaut was full of praise for his Swan Districts opponent Greg Jones, who is five centimetres shorter than the Lion.

"He's fairly quick for his size and and he played close to me all day," said Garnaut. "I learnt from playing against him."

In his debut — and at times last Saturday — Garnaut created several scoring opportunities for his teammates.

Brothers, Neil and Brian Taylor both scored goals after Garnaut knocked the ball their way in the marking duels.

Jacko's coming back to town!

EFFERVESCENT "Everready" Mark Jackson, one of football's biggest characters, is ready to make a knock-out return to Perth. But not to play football. Jacko, who is pursuing a professional boxing career in Melbourne, is hotly tipped to fight on the next Tony Jones card in a few months time. The peroxide-blond mega-mouth has been in contact with his Perth connections, who have got the okay from Jones' fight promoters.

Medal men in good form

TWO of the game's most exciting little men have attracted the most interest in early-season unofficial betting on the 1989 Sandover Medal.

Claremont's classy centreman Ben Allan is the nominal favourite at 4/1, while South Fremantle rookie Willie Rioli is at 6s.

The only other players at single-figure quotes are also little men — Tigers pair Dale Kickett and Mark Hann at 7s and East Fremantle Brad Rowe at 8s.

South Fremantle's veteran skipper Maurice Rioli is quoted at 10s and it would be an amazing coincidence if the two Darwin brothers quelled the Medal — with their 15-year age difference.

Previous runners-up Craig Edwards (South Fremantle) and Shane Cocker (Subiaco) are at 10/1 and 14/1 respectively, while the 1987 winner, Perth's Mark Watson, is at the attractive odds of 16/1.

West Perth veteran Peter Menaglio — whose skills certainly deserve recognition with a Sandover Medal — is at 12/1; along with the Bulldogs rookie Peter Matora and Claremont big-game player Peter Thorne.

Maroni on the way back

Eric Maroni, one of East Perth's surprise-packets in his debut year last season, is on the way back to the league side.

The 10-year-old utility player from St Marks College returned to action in the reserves on Saturday after a long injury break and picked up a trophy as one of the team's best players.

With the Royals lacking a lot of mid-field run, it wouldn't surprise to see him brought straight back into the side.

Another reserves player pressing for league inclusion is Ross Cleaver, who has impressed with his fervent desire to get the ball — and let nothing stand in his way.

After winning the club's trophy for the reserves best player on Saturday, Cleaver made it a double when he won the door prize raffle as well — a carton of Emu Export to share with his teammates!



ROCK & ROLL NIGHT

Saturday 13th May 1989
(dress as the opposite sex)

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Home game presentations
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7.30pm — Announcement of league side — Ian McCulloch

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WA v Victoria
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TIME FOR WA TO SHOW PRIDE

WESTERN Australia must gamble boldly next Tuesday if our interstate pride is to be restored.

The WA selectors must opt for dedicated youth — players seeking to make a name for themselves on the national scene — if victory over Victoria is to be achieved.

The clash at the WACA Ground — the first under lights against Victoria — is a desperate attempt to revive public interest in State-of-Origin football.

WA's interstate record in the last two years has been pathetic, losing to Victoria three times, South Australia twice and NSW once.

It's time to re-evaluate the type of player WA has been selecting under the State-of-Origin concept.

Some of those who have worn the once-cherished black and gold guernsey have let the State down and new blood is needed.

State coach Ron Alexander, who has a 2-0 win/loss interstate record with his 1986 Australian championship success, says that he will opt for players in form on Tuesday night — regardless of whether they are Eagles, WAFL or Victorian-based.

"I played in the first State-of-Origin game back in 1977 and I know the tremendous feeling we generated then for WA," says Alexander, taking on an independent coaching role for the first time.

"We really believed in the cause and those of us who came back from Victoria to represent WA were absolutely determined to win.

"We are equally determined that this team will regain WA's rightful place as the nation's top football State; after all, we won the Australian championship four times in seven years recently."

Alexander's initial 39-man squad contained eight WAFL players, 14 Eagles and 16 VFL expatriates, plus Gilbert McAdam, now based in South Australia, but never a genuine consideration.

Most of the expatriates should be overlooked; only a handful of them would have the real desire needed to help WA restore football pride.

Many of them, naturally, have club football as their current priority. And some just don't possess that WA loyalty.

To justify the current push to restore the WAFL to a credible level, the selectors must include a few locals; they are certainly as good in terms of skill and potential as some players in the VFL.

They just haven't had their opportunity yet. Tuesday could be their big chance.

There are a few surprise selections there, but I'm looking for players who have that ability to fight when the chips are down.

Andrew Lockyer is the only real contender for the full-back role and Dwayne Lamb returns to his original back-pocket spot where he made his name as a "sweeper."

Michael Christian is the in-form defender of the VFL, while in contrast Ben Allan gets the nod in the centre as the WAFL's most talented midfielder.

Centre-half-forward poses a problem, but I've over-looked in-form Earl Spalding in preference to Stevan Jackson, the State's most exciting rookie.

by **Alan East**



And with Gary Buckenara, Peter Matera, Chris Lewis and Nicky Winmar to flank him, there's no shortage of support.

Darren Bennett deserves a chance to show what he is made of at full-forward, but Craig Edwards is on stand-by on the inter-change bench.

Harding's ruck back-up can come from either Edwards or Jackson, which leaves room for another "burst" player such as Wilson or Worsfold to get a guernsey.

This is the side I would like to see represent the State at the WACA Ground:

- BACKS:** Dwayne Lamb, Andrew Lockyer, Guy McKenna
- HALF-BACKS:** Michael Brennan, Michael Christian, John O'Sullivan
- CENTRES:** Michael Mitchell, Ben Allan, Chris Mainwaring
- HALF-FORWARDS:** Nicky Winmar, Stevan Jackson, Gary Buckenara
- FORWARDS:** David Hart, Darren Bennett, Chris Lewis
- RUCK:** Paul Harding, Mark Bairstow, Don Pyke
- INTERCHANGE:** Craig Edwards, Peter Wilson, Peter Matera, John Worsfold



WA coach Ron Alexander... out to maintain his good record.

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N.B. All tickets pre-purchased will incur a \$1 booking fee. BOCS credit calls will incur a further \$2 service fee per transaction.

Ticket prices have 2 components:
 1. A general admission fee for entry into the ground.
 2. A seating fee, dependent on where you choose to sit.

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Adults	\$8.50
Concessions	\$3.50
Children Under 15	\$1.00
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Lillee Marsh Stand (Ground Level)	\$8.00
Inverarity Stand (Upper Level)	\$8.00
Inverarity Stand (Ground Level)	\$5.00
South West and South East Perimeter	\$5.00
Behind Goals (Blocks 16, 17, 18 & 19)	\$2.00

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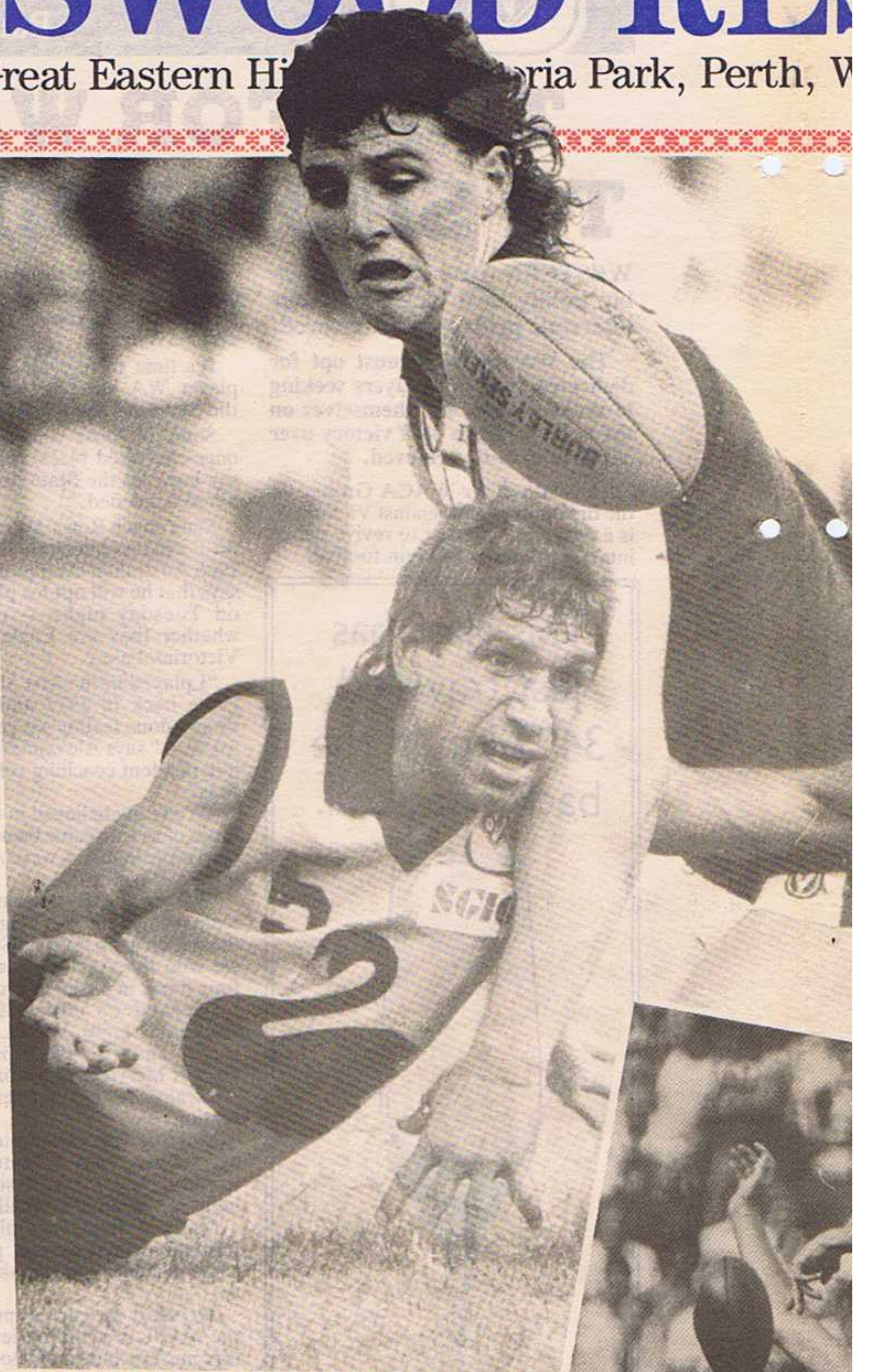
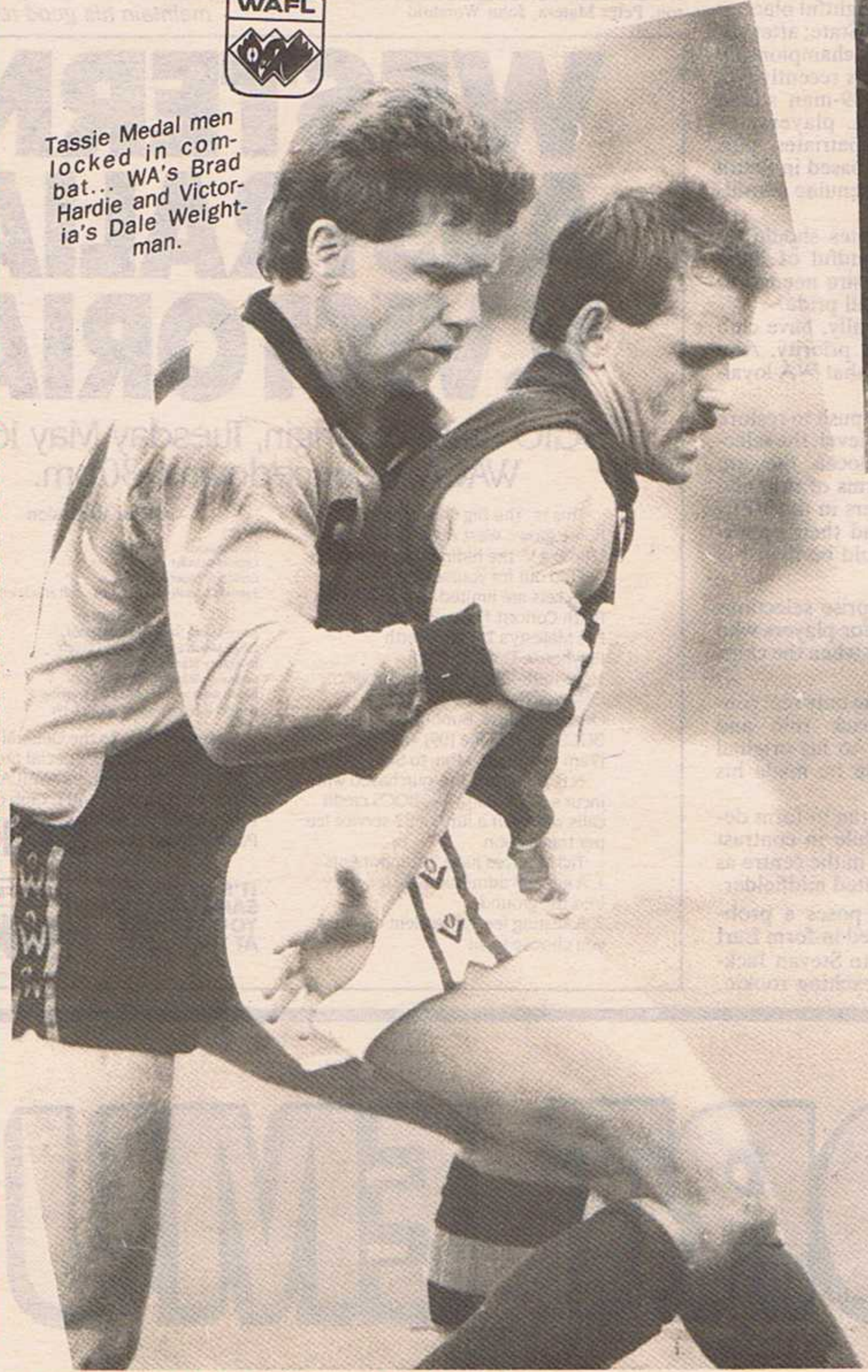
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Steve Curtis captures the game's all-time veteran, Kevin Bartlett.



Tassie Medal men locked in combat... WA's Brad Hardie and Victoria's Dale Weightman.



Jim Krakouer knows where the ball is... but Gary Lyon isn't letting him get it.



LES'S LYRICS

Former Claremont and State champion LES MUMME has a different look at football.

The Vics we love to hate

State-of-Origin football is no place for the weak or lame W.A. versus Victoria The epitomy of our game.

The Vics have got some stars Madden, Salmon and more. With Healy, Williams and Ayres They're sure to get a score.

But with our young talent Allan, McKenna and Pyke. All fighting for their State. The Vics may take a hike.

So get there early on Tuesday They're sure to shut the gate. As all good Sandgropers know It's the Vics we love to hate.

Different directions... that's WA's Graham Moss and his Victorian rival, Gary Dempsey.

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THERE'S nothing like the sight of a Victorian guernsey to stir the adrenalin of a West Aussie... and there will be 22 of the Big White Vees at the WACA Ground on Tuesday night.

Interstate football has taken on a new look in the last decade with State-of-Origin selection allowing players to represent their home State.

Tuesday's rendezvous at the WACA will see 44 of the best players in Australia locked in mortal combat — and West Aussie pride will be on the line.

These pictures from our files capture some of the excitement and drama of recent interstate battles.



Come back... Victoria's Andrew Bews makes it hard for WA's Michael Mitchell.

*WA's Gra...
al, Gary*

Trainer Darryl Foster attends to Peter Wilson and Chris Mainwaring.

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Victorian coach Billy Goggin... keen to prove who is tops.

Vics are favoured... but problems aplenty

VICTORIA'S selectors are likely to gamble with the fitness of charismatic key forward Dermott Brereton for Tuesday night's State-of-Origin challenge in Perth.

The lack of in-form specialist rovers and the struggle to find attacking back-ups for Tony Lockett (if he's forgiven for missing training) are among major Big V problems.

Brereton kicked five goals last week in his fourth game back. However, the back problem which is threatening his long-term career is still a worry and he's not as flexible — or as fit — as he could be.

The champion centre-half-forward wants to play, especially after the controversies of recent State matches when he has either been overlooked at the 11th hour or hasn't fired to his full potential.

The Victorians do not have a lot of options, or alternatives, if Brereton doesn't play.

Lockett and Jason Dunstall have both dominated at full-forward this year and are so good there that they rarely are called upon to play anywhere else.

Paul Roos, named at centre-half-back, is capable of playing up forward, but probably is more value in defence.

There have been some big names omitted from the State squad, including Collingwood's Darren Millane and Sydney Swan skipper Dennis Carroll.

After a near best-of-field performance on Saturday, Millane deserves to be re-included.

The most consistent centre-half-forward in the competition has been Melbourne's Earl Spalding — and he'll be in WA's side come Tuesday night.

The lack of rovers is a further problem.

Ineligible

The best come from South Australia and are therefore ineligible. Sydney's Barry Mitchell has had injury problems. So has likely skipper, Richmond's Dale Weightman.

Mitchell had 32 possessions in a losing side at Moorabbin at the weekend, but Weightman had just eight, playing off the interchange bench. State captain in recent years, he is unlikely to play.

Newcomers on Tuesday are likely to be Hawthorn's Andrew Collins, North Melbourne's Wayne Schwass and Fitzroy's Matt Armstrong. All are young, quick and versatile.

The omission of star Magpie Peter Daicos may surprise.

However, he had a quiet game on Saturday and after struggling for speed in previous State games, he is not in the "good books" of the State selectors.

Football legend Ron Barassi, one of the four-man selection panel, concedes that Daicos has masterly skills once he gets the ball, but at State level he tends to lack the ground speed necessary to gain possession.

"People shouldn't forget that these games are played at grand final pace. They are unbelievable games," Barassi said.

Brownlow Medallists Gerard Healy and Greg Williams, from the Sydney



KEN PIESSE looks at the Victorian team for Tuesday's interstate game.

Swans, pick themselves automatically as the No. 1 ruck-rover and centreman.

Richard Osborne, the second leading goalkicker with 39 goals in six rounds, seems certain to play ahead of Dunstall because of his greater versatility.

He kicked six goals in a best-of-field effort against the Eagles last Friday and is playing the most consistent football of his life.

The Victorians start favourites for Tuesday's game, which is being billed in Melbourne as the secondary State game of the season — the highlight to come on July 1 when the powerful South Australians come to Melbourne.

This is how the VFL could line-up:-

BACKS: Andrew Collins, Chris Langford, Gary Ayres

HALF-BACKS: Shane Morwood, Paul Roos, Brett Lovett

CENTRES: Wayne Schwass, Greg Williams, Gavin Brown

HALF-FORWARDS: Garry Lyon, Dermott Brereton, Gary Ablett

FORWARDS: Richard Osborne, Tony Lockett, Matthew Armstrong

RUCK: Jim Stynes, Gerard Healy, Barry Mitchell

INTERCHANGE: Andrew Bews, Jason Dunstall, Simon Madden, Peter Daicos.



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Bulldogs men are big contributors

MEMBERS of the support staff at South Fremantle are not just Saturday-afternoon workers — they contribute in a variety of ways.

One example is trainer Darryl Foster, whose love for the job has helped him develop a new product called Frostpak, which is proving invaluable in the treatment of injuries.

Frostpak enables ice to be contained on an injury under compression, which increases the effectiveness and eliminates the need for metres of costly strapping.

"With normal ice packs, you lose compression as it melts and slides off the area that needs treating," said Foster.

Frostpak is a strong, lightweight nylon material in a bag with a zipper and velcro tabs. There are Frostpaks for many different injuries and it is now being used by other WAFL and VFL clubs and the racing fraternity.

Mr Foster, one of the eight Bulldogs trainers, said three of the first four horses across the line in this year's In-

terdominion final at Gloucester Park were all treated with Frostpak.

Boxing

A well-known name among South Fremantle's staff is Laurie Flanders, trainer of world ranked professional boxer Tony Jones.

However, contrary to most people's belief, Flanders says that his job is not to toughen up the Bulldogs.

"When I started here in 1973, it was because the players didn't have a second sport," he says. "So when they got injured, they soon got out of condition."

"But with boxing, even with a lot of leg injuries, they can still spar and maintain their fitness. At the same time, it quickens their hand and eye co-ordination."

"Boxing also builds character. It is very important for a young man to be

able to hold his hands up and stand his ground if necessary."

One South Fremantle player who agrees with that philosophy is their current captain Maurice Rioli. The star centreman was one of Australia's leading amateur pugilists before deciding to concentrate on football.

Another to benefit is football's former clown prince Mark Jackson, who is now actively pursuing a professional boxing career in Melbourne.

"Stupid"

"Boxing gave Jacko some direction in life," Flanders said.

"Before he got into boxing, he did some stupid things on the field, but af-

ter that he grew up a bit.

"Stephen Michael also liked to work-out before going onto the field. It used to psyche him up for the game."

Flanders, the West Coast Eagles boxing instructor last year, attends South Fremantle training three nights a week and conducts their pre-match warm-up every Saturday.

The league team manager is volunteer Santo Pasqua, who spends up to 20 hours a week assisting coach Stan Magro.

Pasqua prepares team sheets, liaises with the media and performs numerous other tasks that Magro does not have the time to do.

It is an onerous job that requires a lot of commitment, but as Pasqua says: "I do it because I love the club and love the game."



KNOW YOUR CLUB

By George Temple



Assistant coach Jim Hurst (left) and team manager Santo Pasqua.



Head trainer Tom Bottrell tends to Derek Collard as boxing instructor Laurie Flanders looks on.



Trainer Darryl Foster with his Frostpaks

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VETERANS THRIVE IN DEMON-LAND



KNOW YOUR CLUB

by **GEORGE TEMPLE**

VETERAN propertyman Arthur Ransted is one of Perth's most dedicated volunteers — and the 60-year-old makes no bones about the fact that he is happy to be back at Lathlain Park.

On match day, a propertyman's job is an all-day affair.

He is one of the first into the changerooms and is certainly the last to leave — with boxes of lost boots and clothing to prove it.

"For the past two years, every match was like an away game to me," he says.

"It's my job to make sure that all the kit is at the ground on time and so it didn't matter if we were playing at Fremantle or the WACA Ground, I still had to come to Lathlain first to collect everything.

"Now we're back at Lathlain, I don't have to do that for home matches."

But don't misunderstand Ransted — he's not complaining and he has no plans of retirement.

The stalwart propertyman joined the Demons back-room staff 25 years ago as a bootstuffer, holding that job for a decade before taking over his current role.

He attends all training sessions, spending up to 25 hours a week in the locker room.

While Ransted might be a long-serving volunteer, he is certainly not the oldest — Perth trainer Paddy Doolan is 82 years old.

And the players say: "If you haven't been rubbed down by Paddy Doolan, you have never been rubbed down."

Doolan is a dedicated red-and-black man, having followed the colours all his life, starting as a boy with Mines Rovers in Geraldton.

He later coached the Mines reserves to three premierships and he was also the boxing instructor at the Geraldton Police Boys Club.

Doolan joined Perth as a trainer 15 years ago, when he and his wife moved to Perth to be closer to their family.

"I immediately came to Perth because they were red and black," he said.

Doolan is a life member of all three clubs.

Three roles

School-based police officer Peter Pope wears three caps in Demonland. He is the league team manager, president of the Perth Junior Football Council and director of junior development.

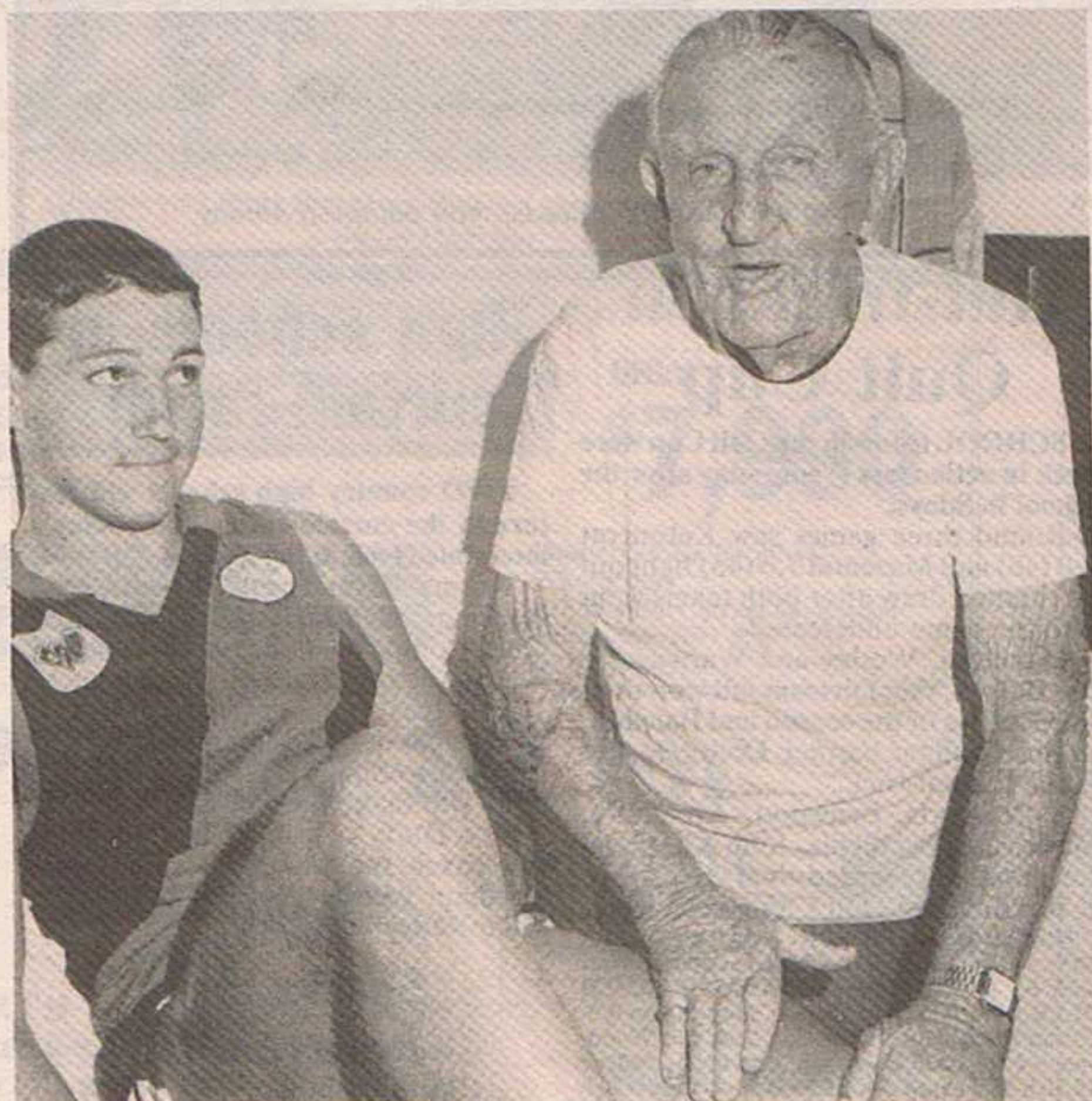
Pope first volunteered his help two years ago. He started as Ransted's assistant in 1987 and last season he took over the reserve propertyman's job.

He is also coach of Girrawheen High School's CIG football team.

"Last year," Pope laments, "we were beaten in the quarter final by Hamilton Hill. A youngster named Glen Jakovich (now a league player with South Fremantle) over-ran us in the fourth quarter!"



Team manager Peter Pope.



Veteran trainer Paddy Doolan gives John Clarkson the Demons rub-down.



Propertyman Arthur Ransted hands Tony Tomizzi his league guernsey.

Best of luck to the Demons from ...

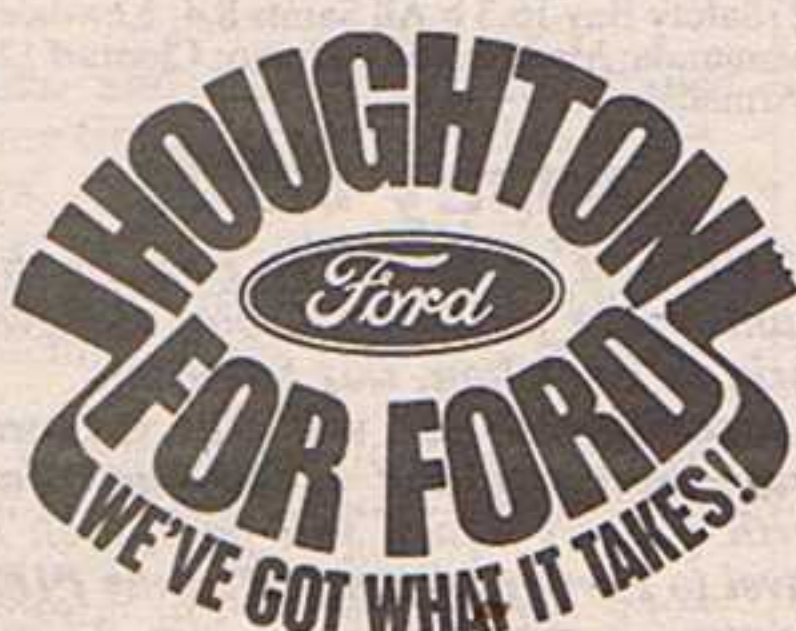
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Kicking football into the future



TANIA ARMSTRONG reports on the Town and Country Football Development Trust activities.



State junior series admits new teams

THE field in this year's State junior football championships has been bolstered by the inclusion of a South Suburban team and 10 country sides.

These teams, in addition to the eight representative sides from the WAFL clubs, will battle for the championship in the 14 year-old age group at metropolitan grounds on June 4 and 5.

"We are ecstatic about the decision," said Kevin McManus, secretary/treasurer of the South Suburban Junior Football Association.

"And we are positive that we can justify our inclusion.

"The association has been attempting to get into the championships over the past four or five years, but this is the first time we've been successful," he added.

The SSJFA is made up of 85 teams and squads of 13 and 14-year-olds will begin training this week.

Former Thornlie junior coach Rick Kleywig will coach the 14s team and Huntingdale coach, Keith Mills, will coach the 13s.

League zones

As the SSJFA is in the Perth Football Club zone, the boys will be given the opportunity to decide whether they play with the South Suburban side or Perth.

"It is purely up to the players," said McManus. "Players zoned to Perth, East Perth or Swan Districts can make a choice of who they want to play with."

"We have maintained this attitude over the years and we won't put pressure on any players."

Country associations were invited to take part in the 14s age group and the junior associations who accepted were: Central Great Southern; Great Northern; Goldfields sub-juniors; Norseman; Bunbury and Districts; North Midlands; Upper Great Southern; Murray-Mandurah and Busselton.

Forrestfield win thriller

TOYOTA Cup sides Kelmscott and Forrestfield, both chasing their second win of the season, fought out one of the closest games seen in the South Suburban/Perth competition.

Forrestfield were a determined side in the dying minutes as they held on to record a one point victory — 10.5 (65) to 9.10 (64).

In another close game, Bassendean notched their first victory with a three-point victory over Eastern Hills, in the Swan Districts zone.

Last Sunday's Toyota Cup results were;

Tigers Cup — Karrinyup 16.17 (best: Rodgers) d West Coast (Cook), Carine 23.18 (Clatworthy) d Hawks 5.3, Marist 19.16 (Davidson) d North Beach 4.9.

South/East Fremantle — Ferndale 20.17 d Cockburn 5.6, Karoonda 13.13 d Rossmoyne 8.8, East Fremantle 12.7 d Applecross 8.10, Kardinya 23.12 d Willetton 7.4.

Swan Districts — Swanview 12.19 d Redcliffe 5.4, Bassendean 9.12 d Eastern Hills 9.9.

East/West Perth — Osborne Park 14.6 (Ivulich) d Bayswater/Morley 6.7 (Rodgers), Noranda 20.15 (Wilkinson) d Swanleigh 3.2 (king), Bombers 11.18 (Kanton) d North Innaloo 8.5, Cougars 29.8 d Balga 6.7, Swanleigh 17.10 (Crawley) East Perth/Highgate 1.8 (Philip).

South Suburban/Perth — Roleystone 18.16 d Maddington 3.6, Armadale 13.5 d East Victoria Park 7.8, Belmont 27.21 d Forrestdale 1.3, Forrestfield 10.5 d Kelmscott 9.10, Gosnells 13.16 d Kenwick 11.9.

Subiaco — Northern districts 36.23 (Perrie, Shepherd, Snow, Loaring, Davis) d Wanneroo 1.0, Kingsley 17.24 (Kane, Shelley, Drewitt, Hannan, McComish, Dohlar) d Warwick 12.5 (Avairy, Rogers, Thorn, Slater, Cross).

Town and Country Little League



The Town and Country Little League action in Albany.

Hat-tricks in Quit Cup

SCHOOL teams in the Quit Cup were back in action last Wednesday after the school holidays.

Round three games saw Kelmscott 8.0 (48) and Mazenod 7.6 (48) fight out an exciting draw after both teams went into the game undefeated.

Hamilton, Wesley and Warwick, in the Barry Cable Division, all won their third games of the season and Balcatta, in the Graham Farmer Division, also made it a hat-trick.

St Norberts, Lynwood, Aranmore, Woodvale, Prindiville, John XXIII and Leeming all recorded their first wins.

Round three Quit Cup results were:

NORTH WEST REGION — BARRY CABLE DIV: Aranmore 15.10 b Churchlands 3.2; Warwick 6.7 b Newman 5.3. **GRAHAM FARMER BLUE DIV:** Duncraig 15.15 b Saint Marks 0.3; Ocean Reef 15.10 b Saint Stephens 4.4; Woodvale 9.4 b Sacred Heart 6.5; Prindiville College 12.10 b Wanneroo 6.4. **BLACK:** Balcatta 10.16 b Swanbourne 4.1; Servite 7.12 b Scarborough 0.5.

SOUTH WEST REGION — BARRY CABLE DIV: Hamilton 16.8 b John Curtin 2.2; Applecross 16.12 b South Fremantle 1.1; Kelmscott 8.0 drew Mazenod 7.6; Wesley 7.13 b Gosnells 2.2; Saint Norberts 15.7 b Forrestfield 9.1; Lynwood 11.10 b Thornlie 4.1.

GRAHAM FARMER DIV: Corpus Christi 10.11 b St Brendans 1.3; Leeming 8.8 b Melville 4.2; Safety Bay 16.3 b All Saints 8.4; Kewdale b Kalamunda; Maddington b Como; Clontarf 12.3 b Armadale 2.2.

Country battle

THE best under-17s in East Perth's country zone will be on display at Bovell Park, in Busselton, this Saturday.

A south-west side will play a Lower South-West side and a combined East Perth country squad will be chosen to travel to Perth and compete in the PIBA country championships on May 27 and 28.

High schools in curtain-raiser

TWO country high schools will feature in the curtain-raiser to Tuesday's interstate clash at the WACA Ground.

Teams from the Merredin and Northam senior high schools will play a Quit Country Challenge before the WA vs Victoria State-of-Origin match.

The Eastern Districts Football League has donated \$400 towards Merredin's travelling costs and a bus-load of 50 will make the journey to Perth.

Ken Duffy, coach of Burracoppin, will coach the wheatbelt side, while Northam will be coached by teacher Mike Redwood.

Sharks clash in Geraldton

EAST Fremantle's most promising juniors will be in action in Geraldton on May 20 when the club's metropolitan Shark Pack clash with its country equivalent, the Geraldton Shark Pack.

The city Sharks, coached by former Swan Districts player Ken Ferguson, will travel north by bus to play the Geraldton juniors, who are coached by former North Melbourne and Swan Districts player, Maurie Drennan.

The match is part of their preparation for the PIBA country championships on May 27 and 28.

MILESTONES

Congratulations to Gosnells player Robert Bernadini and David Snow of Northern Districts who both played their 150th games last Sunday.

Teal Cup trials are underway

HAVING to sift through about 200 hopeful teenagers at metropolitan Teal Cup trials are a thing of the past because of the Town and Country Football Development Trust's talent identification schemes.

A great deal of time and effort is saved thanks to the programmes and the results were seen in action last weekend.

Seventy of WA's most promising junior footballers played the first of three practice matches at Leederville Oval last Sunday, with Perth Oval the venue this Sunday and Leederville Oval once again the week after that.

"Gone are the days of five years ago when we had to sort through loads of boys in one weekend," said Grant Dorrington, General Manager of the FDT.

"The clubs nominate their best youngsters and these 60 or 70 boys are invited to try out."

Last Sunday morning, players showed selectors their talent when a combined team from East Perth, West Perth, Swan Districts and Perth played a combined side from Claremont, Subiaco, East Fremantle and South Fremantle.

Dorrington says that boys who were not obvious choices would be closely monitored during the trials to give everyone an equal chance of selection.

"Players like Greg Turner and Glen Jakovich, who are already playing league football, will come along each weekend, but won't play in the matches," said Dorrington.

Automatic

"They will act as waterboys and runners and, barring injury, they should be automatic inclusions in the side.

"Every boy will walk away from the trials knowing that they got every chance to prove themselves."

The Teal Cup squad will be chosen after a metropolitan all-stars team play the country all-stars later this month and the championships will take place in Melbourne in June and July.

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BARE MARGINS IN TWO GAMES

A FORCED point by Claremont full-forward Todd Ridley turned out to be the winning score at Fremantle Oval on Sunday when the Tigers beat South Fremantle in a cliff-hanger, 14.17 (101) to 14.16 (100).

"A combination of points won us the game," said Claremont coach John Dimmer. "We hit the post and then Todd punched the final point through from about 10 metres out."

Though Claremont were four points in front at half-time, Dimmer felt that the Bulldogs were unlucky to lose as they were the better team on the day.

"South Fremantle were in front for most of the day and they outplayed us in the first and third quarters," said Dimmer.

"One of the highlights of the match was the way they moved the ball around."

Inaccurate

"Only Souths inaccurate kicking kept us in the game. But to the guys credit, they battled it out and recorded a great victory."

Dimmer praised former Claremont captain Tony Beers, who played in an unusual position in his third reserves game since recovering from a knee injury.

"Believe it or not, Tony played in the ruck, as we were a bit light on. Another week or two in the reserves will be all he needs before he can return to league football," said Dimmer.

"Nicky Yarran has also put in two good games and if he maintains his form, he'll be back in the league side soon."

High standard

"The game was of such a high standard that it was a pity we had to play on a separate day to the league game, as it would have been a great curtain-raiser."

The same one-point margin separated Perth and East Perth at Lathlain Park, with the Demons winning 17.13 (115) to 17.12 (114) with the last kick of the game.

At the other end of the scale, Swan Districts easily accounted for Subiaco at Bassendean Oval 23.21 (159) to 9.11 (65) and West Perth beat East Fremantle by a convincing 70-point margin on the Sharks home ground, 20.17 (137) to 9.13 (67).

Ruckman's snap wins the game

LANKY Perth ruckman Ian Newman twisted and turned like a rover to help the Demons stay on top of the Prime Reserves ladder on Saturday.

The Demons were in real trouble against bottom-side East Perth, heading into time on 17 points in arrears.

But two quick goals left them in with a real chance and when Newman showed great agility to gather the ball in a forward pocket, spin goalwards and snap truly like a rover, victory was achieved just as the siren sounded.

It was a shattering defeat for the plucky Royals, whose reserves side are also still searching for their first win and were about to receive a massive morale-booster at the expense of the top side.

However, it was fitting revenge for Perth, who had lost a similar game to East Perth at the WACA Ground last season when the Royals stormed home and won right on the siren — again, with a lanky big man kicking the winning goal, Steven Wasley that time.

By **TANIA ARMSTRONG**



Prime RESERVES



Nicky Yarran... in form again.

Helping hand

Sidelined Subiaco player Mick Jennings gives young Rebecca Manley a hand with her kicking technique under lights at the WACA Ground last Friday.

Jennings was one of eight WAFL players who conducted mini-football clinics during the half-time interval of the West Coast Eagles vs Fitzroy clash.

Hundreds of eager youngsters took to the field to receive some handy advice and take part in the activities organised by the Town and Country Football Development Trust.



League ruling spurs Demons

A WAFL ruling that took Perth's four premiership points away, spurred the Demons to a two-goal victory over East Perth at Lathlain Park last Saturday, 11.12 (78) to 9.12 (66).

The WAFL ruled that Perth played an unregistered player when Paul Maindcock took the field against Subiaco on April 15.

"We reluctantly had to take the premiership points away," said John O'Connell, WAFL Football Manager.

Perth Colts coach Murray Couper, said that it was a major setback for the team and was a big disappointment for the players and the whole club.

"I can't really say much about the ruling, because the club will be appealing," said Couper.

"It was imperative that we won on Saturday if we were going to make anything of the season and the guys went out with the right attitude and came up trumps."

Couper was pleased with the win and one of the highlights was the way the players shared the football around.

UNDER 19s

"Another highlight was Darren Rigby's 23 kicks out of the centre," said the Perth premiership player.

"It's going to be a long, hard year for us and so far we've had a variety of good players."

Consistency

"The hard thing to get from young players is consistency in their performances, but I've been pleased with the team's attitude."

"Winning doesn't particularly worry me; I'm looking at developing players that the club can expect to benefit from over the next 10 or 12 years."

"I've got about seven guys playing reserves and that's what it's all about."

Ben Collins kicked five goals for Perth, while best for East Perth were Clint Walker, Philip Tinker and Gary French.

Swan Districts scraped home by six points over Subiaco at Bassendean, 7.15 (57) to 8.3 (51).

Claremont easily accounted for South Fremantle 19.13 (57) to 8.7 (54) and East Fremantle scored their second win of the season, defeating West Perth 16.18 (114) to 10.5 (65).

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AMATEUR NEWS

A roundup of news from the West Australian Amateur Football League

Court helps North Beach to big win

NORTH Beach, helped by the signing of former Claremont ruckman David Courty with a six-goal contribution, demoralised Wembley by 34 points in Saturday's A-grade games.

Court and Dave Higgins will form the most lethal ruck division in the competition and should lead the W.A. side in June.

The game was even up till half-time, with only two points the difference. But North slammed on eight goals in the third term to take the steam out of their opposition.

Rover Gavin Perry enjoyed the ruck dominance, gaining many possessions, while defenders Paul Bidstrup and Tim Barns were extremely effective.

Wembley again relied on the same key players in Dobbie Callaghan, Grant Ryan and Kevin Symonds, with Warwick Whisson and veteran Bill Payne producing some useful play.

Close call

Nollamara almost lost to University after opening up a comfortable lead at half-time.

Nollamara eventually ran out winners by 21 points, mainly through Wayne Desmond, Eddy Bencic, Dave Davies and captain-coach Mick Rea, who kicked six goals at full forward.

University started with Simon Lill at full forward, but soon had him at centre-half-back to stem the tide and he proved to be best on ground.

Lill received solid support from brother Mike, on a half-back flank and rover Eric Haywood.

Tough battle

Mt. Lawley had a hard-fought five point win over Trinity Aquinas, with both defences limiting their opponents to just eight goals each in fine conditions.

The Hawks half-back line was extremely efficient and well-led by former State defender Bill Armstrong.

Trinity-Aquinas' best was another former State centre-half-back in Jeremy McGrade.

Mt. Lawley's Mark Waideman, Geoff Horton and exciting utility player Kevin Copeland were mainly responsible for their win.

Extra course planned for coaches

DUE to the large number of coaches who require accreditation, it has been necessary to schedule another course in May.

LEVEL ONE

The course is on consecutive Monday and Tuesday nights and has been designed for your club's coaches, other than the senior team coach.

It is envisaged that on the two Tuesday evenings (training nights), your senior team coach will take control of all the club's players.

Many coaches have already notified this office of their intention to attend the June 2 and 3 course. If any would prefer to attend the May course please contact the office.

No more coaches will be registered for the June course.

Remember, all WAAFL coaches need to be accredited before June 30.

The details of the May course are below. Any queries, please contact the WAAFL on 382 1799.

DATES AND TIMES: Monday May 22, Tuesday May 23, Monday May 29, Tuesday May 30 — 7pm-10pm.

VENUE: WAFL Headquarters, Subiaco Oval.

COST: \$30 (includes supper).

TIMETABLE: Monday May 22 — 7pm-8.15pm Practical Coaching Techniques. 8.30pm-10pm Laws of the Game.

Tuesday May 23 — 7pm-8.15pm Skills 1. 8.30pm-10pm Psychology.

Monday May 29 — 7pm-8.15pm Skills 2. 8.30pm-10pm Prevention and Treatment of Injuries.

Tuesday May 30 — 7pm-8.15pm Fitness for Football. 8.30pm-10pm Role of the Coach.

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Maylands too tough for Swan Athletic

B-GRADE

by **PETER RUSH**



MAYLANDS over-ran an undisciplined Swan Athletic in a brutal last quarter to run out convincing winners in Saturday's B-grade game of the day at Gibney Reserve.

After holding a lead of 22 points at half-time, the Rams let Swan Athletic back into the game and held a slender one point lead.

After a few fiery clashes early in the last quarter — involving Swan Athletic ruckman Lou Erceg — the Rams remained cool and won by six goals.

Harley Hayward was in top form at centre-half-back, receiving support from flankers Rob Mulder and Ray Wilkison.

Ruckman Ross Carlweson and Paul Carlson had the better of Swans big man Matt Vichkivich and Erceg.

Ossie Dikolli was a dangerous midfielder, as was Paul Naughton, while Peter Rush chipped in with 4 goals up forward.

C.B.C. caused a boilover by defeating top side Bayswater by six goals.

After trailing for 2½ quarters, C.B.C. stormed home to record their first victory of the year.

The Old Boys had points to prove after several dismal performances and did this by being more desperate in a solid team.

Ruck-rovers Richard Zumach and Joe Lawrence gave C.B.C. plenty of drive, while Vernan Newton, Mike

Snell, Jerry Hart and Tony Hegarty all contributed. With Paul Piggott back from South Fremantle, C.B.C. look stronger and should worry a few sides.

Collegians Old Scotch moved a game clear on top with a 39-point victory over a rugged Cockburn Lakes combination. Full-forward Adam Hdyock continued his goalkicking form, finishing with 6 goals, showing that he is the competition's most dangerous forward.

Murray Brewer and Joh Muir were useful followers, while Mark Tory 4 goals Michael Bowden, Rodger Sharp and Andrew Piney provided the Lions with plenty of impetus.

Phil Botsis is slowly getting Mt Lawley in form as their 4 goal victory over Dianella showed.

Dianella have also started the season slowly but should get better as the season progresses. Best for them on Saturday were Greg Hollins, Derrick Little, Kelvin Reynolds, Jack Besch and Pat Mullalhy.

With David Fare, Paul Hart, Brad O'Brien and Brett Carsen to come into the side, the Panthers will be a lot stronger.

North Fremantle were easy winners over an injury-riddled Curtin. Best for Curtin were Brendan Taylor, Dave Hodge and Martin Horack.

Getting tighter

With the competition getting tighter this week's round will provide some interesting clashes.

The North Fremantle-Bayswater duel is the game of the day and should prove to be a torrid affair.

The Magpies, led by Drew Herrington, Dave Reed and Paul Hurst and with the advantage of Gil Fraser Reserve, should win.

Collegians Old Scotch versus Swan Athletic could be another fiery affair.

Lions coach Jerome Griffen has his new side sitting on top of the ladder and he will be keen to prove to his old club that he made the right move in switching.

Maylands and Mt Lawley games are always hard fought affairs and with both sides in form, this one should be no different.

Cockburn Lakes should beat the ailing Curtin and C.B.C. can win a close game against Dianella.

A-GRADE

by **TREVOR SCHORER**



Trinity-Aquinas received fine games from wingers David Talalla and Kent Hunter, with Dominic Dwyer proving to be their most consistent player.

West Coast were too strong for Old Wesley, winning by 62 points and moved closer to the top five.

The Coasters now have three wins and are only separated from second spot by percentage, even though they are sitting sixth.

Best for West Coast were Fisher, Richard Toovey and Cam Tweedie, while Peter Wilson, Greg Percival and Peter Cutler were Old Wesley's best. Scarborough crushed Innaloo by 69 points in a one-sided affair.

Scarborough have been the big improvers of the 1989 season and are a real threat for the flag.



University coach Bruce Robinson (centre) urges his players on.

QUICK DIVIDEND

GRANT Dorrington, general manager of the Football Development Trust was guest speaker at the North Beach club last week — and his talk on football attitudes paid immediate dividends, with three of the five teams successful last start.

The club was fortunate in gaining a speaker of that calibre and appreciates the time given by him.

ATTENTION ALL A-GRADE CLUBS

ALL A-grade scores are to be rung through to Bruce Wainwright on 447 3502 by 5.30pm every Saturday.

This is to enable Tony Carr, from 6PR, to do a summary on the A-grade fixtures between 6pm and 6.10pm.

Home clubs should also include three best-players from each team and major goal scorers (four goals or more) including player's christian and surnames.

All clubs wishing to submit notes for the highlights section for other grades must go through Neil Costly in the Amateurs League office.



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Football goes south



ALL roads led to Albany when the Southern Districts League hosted the WAFL fixture between Claremont and South Fremantle last Saturday. Westside Football photographer JULIAN COWAN was there to capture the atmosphere. ABOVE: The Raiders, Albany's State league basketball side, take part in a pre-match parade. BELOW: The unbeaten Tigers roar into action at Collingwood Park. RIGHT: And the fans loved it... blowing her trumpet is Joanne Chester, 13 and lending vocal support is Carol Kennedy, both Bulldogs fans from Forrestfield.



Carey Park win with last kick

SUNDAY'S fifth round of SWNFL fixtures confirmed the widely-held view that season '89 will be the most evenly contested for years.

With the top five teams drawn against the bottom five, the round had been billed by critics as an ordinary set of fixtures.

Results proved otherwise when three of the top dogs went down.

At Kelly Park, in the match of the day, Carey Park goalied on the final siren to beat Bunbury 13.19 to 12.20.

The Panthers looked the better side early with Shaun O'Callaghan dominating at centre and directing play through Michael Lane at centre half-forward.

Sloppy

Both coaches would have been disappointed with their teams. Sloppy hand passing, poor disposal and goal-front inaccuracy were spoiling the game as a spectacle.

Angelo Conti, coming out of a back pocket on to the ball, was picking up kicks and taking the ball from the packs.

Sparks was playing strongly and Chris Slater, at centre-half-forward, continued his dominance for Bunbury.

At the other end of the ground the Carey Park forwards were also on top.

With Bulldog David Morgan off the ground injured, Kurnut Thorn found life easier and started to exert his influence on the game with Sean Widderson and Peter Narkle providing strong support.

With Carey Park trailing by a solitary point, Thorn kicked successfully for goal right on the siren to give his side a five-point victory.

League leaders Harvey-Brunswick continued their unbeaten run when they beat Boyanup-Capel-Dardanup 17.15 to 8.13 at Boyanup Oval.

Captain-coach Mark Skehan led his side by example and with Host, Sloan and rover Tony Strano all contributing strongly, the Lions proved too strong for the Cardinals.

South West League

	P	W	L	For	Agst	%	Pts
Harvey-Brunswick	5	5	-	672	261	257.4	20
Collie	5	4	1	481	397	121.1	16
Mines Rovers	5	3	2	548	506	108.3	12
Donnybrook	5	3	2	413	522	79.1	12
Bunbury	5	2	3	514	354	145.1	8
Carey Park	5	2	3	501	473	105.9	8
South Bunbury	5	2	3	490	464	105.6	8
Busselton	5	2	3	490	464	105.6	8
Boy-Capel-Dard	5	2	3	409	580	70.5	8
Aug-Marg Riv	5	-	5	289	635	45.5	-

DEVAUGH

BCD were well served by defender Larry Patane, half-forward Peter Adams and the diminutive Jamie Ninnette.

Saints win

Collie, at home to luckless Augusta-Margaret River, recorded their fourth win of the season, scoring 13.18 to 8.5.

Despite a spirited third-quarter effort by the Hawks, Collie coasted home comfortably.

Tony Evans, Greg O'Brien and David Hollins set the pattern for the Saints.

Tim Hallyburton in defence and Brad Kevill were solid performers for Augusta-Margaret River.

Mines Rovers were firm favourites when they travelled to Busselton, but a brilliant performance by ruck-rover Ross Gibson (six goals) helped the young, inexperienced home side to take an early lead 7.7 to 2.2.

Having established this lead the Magpies maintained their advantage and withstood a last-quarter challenge from the Miners to win 17.19 to 13.14.

Under the guidance of Peter Featherby, Busselton are developing a running game that typifies the style of their coach.

Donnybrook met reigning premiers South Bunbury at league headquarters in a tough encounter.

Although Souths appeared to have a slight edge for most of the game, Donnybrook again showed their characteristic strong finish to overpower the Tigers and win 16.17 to 12.14.

Boddington just survive

BODDINGTON survived a bout of inaccurate kicking to narrowly beat Wagin by one point in last Sunday's Upper Great Southern League.

Boddington moved into second spot with their 31.21 to 15.8 victory.

The reliable Mal Perry played strongly for the victors along with Gary Rogers, while Craig Sherry (four goals) was a reliable spearhead.

Ian Goulden and Brett Bilston were best for Wagin, while Gino Matera (five goals) showed some of the form displayed by his more illustrious older brothers.

Pingelly (12.22) opened their winning account at the expense of the hapless West Arthur (8.10).

Brett Blechyden (three goals) played strongly, along with the evergreen Michael Page. Brothers Brett and Mark Duffield, who each bagged three majors, were West Arthur's best.

Early-season trendsetters Williams (23.15) stopped the previously unbeaten Railways (11.12) and sent them tumbling to third spot with a runaway 75-point victory.

Anthony Dowling (five goals) led the way for Williams, ably assisted by Matthew Bradley and David Kane (seven goals).

Former East Perth defender Andrew Maughan (four goals) battled gamely for the losers.

In the surprise results Wickepin (12.11) accounted for Towns (8.11) and moved into fifth spot, thanks to a fine team performance led by David Benier, Gary Long and Greg Whie (four goals).

Rovers show their style

CENTRALS Midlands pace-setters Rovers showed their style in magnificent conditions to thrash Dandaragan by 13 goals on Sunday.

Rovers held top spot with their 16.21 to 5.8 victory, but Warriors kept right with them as they downed Bindí-Miling 27.21 to 4.6

Kent topple Jerramungup

HIGH-flying Jerramungup crashed to their first defeat of the season when they lost to third-placed Kent last Sunday.

The 15.14 (106) to 9.12 (66) win lifted Kent from third to second place.

League leaders Newdegate remained unbeaten after three rounds with a crushing 30.16 (196) to 3.9 (27) win over Ongerup.

The day's highest scorers were Borden, who kicked 32.34 (226) to Pingrup's 9.4 (58).

Gnowangerup made it two wins for the season by beating basement side Boxwood Hill 23.22 (160) to 8.14 (62).

Kats stay unbeaten

THE Karratha Kats, tipped to be the power side in this season's North Pilbara League, remained unbeaten when they clashed with South Hedland on Sunday.

The Kats won 19.14 to 16.18 and have been joined at the top of the table by Rovers, who also stayed unbeaten with their 20.8 to 14.10 win over Wickham.

Dampier posted their first win, leaving Falcons on the bottom with a 14.15 to 8.8 result.

The three top teams face the bottom three this Sunday with Rovers playing Falcons, Karratha Kats meeting Wickham and South Hedland hosting Dampier.

RULE - BENDING

WHILE the WAFL queried the status of Jason Dunstall, Gavin Croisca and Matthew Armstrong for their selection as "Victorians" in Tuesday's State of Origin match, the VFL and South Australia were striking a rather unusual deal.

The SANFL has agreed to let the Vics select any South Australians playing in the VFL who aren't picked for their home State, to play for Victoria.

With the Vics struggling for quality rovers, this agreement could be quite a bonus.

Whether the SA selectors can fit John Platten (subject to fitness), Tony Antrobus, Tony McGuinness and Mark Naley into their final squad remains to be seen.

You would imagine they could, but it raises some interesting possibilities.

It also says something about how the Vics and the South Australians are looking at State-of-Origin football.

Clearly they see it as a showcase for the game, one which in the future, could see a former star in one State playing against it, even under a State-of-Origin format.

What the WAFL is saying about Dunstall, Croisca and Armstrong is right in as much as the rules governing State-of-Origin competition need to be spelt out a lot more clearly.

State-of-Origin rules are a little confusing!

At the moment, the States seem to make up the rules to suit themselves in the weeks leading up to a game.

WA has selected Geoff Miles in past seasons and only last week introduced another odd twist with the naming of Gilbert McAdam in the squad.

Obviously the Darwin-bred and Adelaide-based McAdam was used as a publicity stunt, but — like the two Queenslanders and the Tasmanian the WAFL were quizzing the Vics about — the problem was never of McAdam's making.

In fact, if we start counting the QAFL as reason enough to banish Dunstall, they could counter with McAdam's history in the Northern Territory.



Geoff Miles... allowed to play for WA.

Maybe he was chosen as a trade-off, but if that were the case, the message was lost on Central District and the VFL.

Throughout all the massive upheaval in football over recent years, the one unshakable strength has been the attitude of the players. Whether in the VFL or the WAFL, the players have got on with playing the game and been fantastic.

Some of their needs should now be looked at.

Not only is State-of-Origin eligibility an issue, but an in-season VFL draft must be introduced for next season.

The sacking of five Brisbane Bears, including senior players Frank Dunnell and John Fidge, last week has highlighted an obvious need.

With the advent of the November and March drafts, players have been denied any further movement.

The June 30 deadline no longer exists and the Bears decision has put five careers on hold until next season...perhaps in a couple of cases (Fidge and Dunnell) careers have been ended.

A lot of quality players are going around in the reserves in Melbourne and a June 30 deadline could aid them and at the same time help all clubs.

The top clubs would probably find this free trade more beneficial than the draft.

In the Eagles case, for instance, a fourth-round pick in the next November draft, for the Bears John Fidge, would seem to benefit all three parties.

Hopefully this sort of thing will be in place by next year.

COMETTI

By Channel 7 commentator DENNIS COMETTI



Gilbert McAdam... was he a trade-off?

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