



Football's No. 1 supporter

# WESTSIDE Football

TELEPHONE 227 6722

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS PUBLICATION

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## HAWK-POWER...



ABOVE: One of Hawthorn's dangermen, Brownlow Medallist wingman Robert DiPierdomenico. LEFT: Eagles rookie Todd Breman, who was used with success at centre last week.

## ...and they're ready to swoop on the Eagles

**THE** battle-scarred West Coast Eagles are preparing for the worst this Sunday — but there will be no excuses.

The nation's most powerful football team, reigning VFL premiers Hawthorn, are coming to town and will spare no mercy on a crumbling Eagles.

The Eagles 38-man squad has been decimated with at least 12 players under an injury cloud — including vital members such as Laurie Keene, Phil Scott, Murray Rance, Guy McKenna, Steve Malaxos and John Worsfold.

But coach John Todd says there will be no excuses — and he promises a competitive effort against the talent-laden Hawks.

"They are a complete football team," says Todd.

"They are a hard-running side whose defence is awesome and it will be a great game for people to watch.

"We need a lot of public support; the result won't be a formality and our players will be asked to concentrate longer and work much harder than normal."

The absence of fiery forward Dermott Brereton only slightly affects a skilled side that still boasts Jason Dunstall in attack — a match-winner in a Victorian guernsey just three weeks ago.

"They have some great players," says Todd, listing Tony Hall and Gary Buckenara in attack; Chris Langford and Gary Ayres in defence and, of course, Brownlow Medal rover John Platten.

Hawthorn are Australia's most professional football club — and at Subiaco on Sunday they will unleash their best players on an Eagles side with their backs to the wall.

It's real David-versus-Goliath stuff... and still worth going a long way to see.

**INSIDE**  
Monday's Derby...an emotional encounter

★ ★  
The Victorians...they are cutting their own throats

★ ★  
The coaches... a form guide look at the WAFL

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## Double "M" milestones

WEST Perth duo Paul Mifka and skipper Peter Menaglio achieved vastly different milestones in the Falcons convincing 40-point win over South Fremantle at Fremantle Oval last Saturday. While Mifka was making his 100th appearance for West Perth, Menaglio was ending a nightmare. The hard-working midfielder was a member of the 1978 West Perth team who were the last Leederville outfit to get four points from a visit to the Port ground. An elated Menaglio said afterwards: "It's been disheartening to continually lose down there. But that's only made winning so much sweeter. It's a fantastic feeling." However, Mifka didn't think too much about the hoodoo. "I was just thinking about winning and about my 100 games," he said. "Today was excellent, it was nearly as good as winning a grand final."

## Quick turnaround

THINGS happened pretty quickly in the football life of young Nicky Yarran last week. On Tuesday he was a Claremont player, desperately trying to prove that his Medallists Medal form in the under-19s two years ago was worthy of permanent league selection. On Thursday he was training brilliantly with East Perth — keen to prove that his change of club was worthy of league promotion. On Saturday he was roving for the Royals and one of their best players early in the match. "It felt really good out there even though I didn't know the blokes too well," said the 20-year-old. "It will be much better next week." However, the Royals should thank Claremont manager Alan Moore for their star recruit. Yarran originally asked if he could move to his former club Perth. But Moore advised the young dazzler to move to where he had the best chance of getting a league guernsey — East Perth.

## Costly mistake

RADIO 6PR Football Forum panellist Rod Brown is certainly one of the town's most controversial critics ... and he finally admitted one of his mistakes on last week's show. Talking about his days as president of the West Perth Football Club, Brown admitted that he made two mistakes while there — signing the clearances for Derek Kickett (to Claremont) and John Gavranich (to Perth). Rumour has it that he didn't have much choice in the Kickett issue as the coach of the day (John Wynne) simply didn't want him at the club. Some talent!



John Lawrence ... converting his father.

## FAMILY FLAVOUR

DASHING young East Fremantle rover John Lawrence has added more than a touch of brilliance to the Sharks line-up — he's been responsible for at least one new member of the club. The 18-year-old Rossmoyne junior is the son of former Perth premiership defender Ray Lawrence — who is now the holder of a legitimate East Fremantle members badge! Lawrence jnr joined the Sharks camp because all of his teenage footballing friends were doing the same — even though he would have been eligible to play for Perth under the father-son rule with Ray having notched up 114 senior games with the Demons. "Dad did try to talk me into playing for Perth, but I didn't want to know," says John. "I'm happy at East Fremantle — and now he's a member as well." Lawrence jnr says it has been a real advantage having a footballing father — "It has helped me through many of the challenges because he understands."

## Terrific treble

WEST Perth's 40-point win at Fremantle Oval achieved a hat-trick of broken hoodoos this season. While the Falcons had not won at the Bulldogs den since 1978, South Fremantle had earlier ended an eight-year losing streak at Leederville Oval in the first round and also at Bassendean Oval in round seven.

## Competition hots up

LAST Saturday's round of WAFL fixtures has seen the pace hot up for positions in the top four. With top teams Claremont and South Fremantle losing, defending premiers Subiaco, West Perth, East Fremantle and Swan Districts all closed the points gap. While Swans joined the Bulldogs in second place, just one game separates the next three sides. The remainder of the 1989 season looks bleak for bottom clubs Perth and East Perth, who have managed just one win each this year. With 13 games remaining they would need to win 10 to even have the slimmest chance of taking part of the September finals.

## Peos on way back

WOUNDED Eagle Paul Peos shouldn't be out of the VFL action for much longer. The handy utility player badly damaged a shoulder in the opening WAFL game of the season playing for East Perth and he returned to competitive action with the Royals last week. With the late clearance of Claremont rover Nicky Yarran, Peos was left out of the seniors — and played his first-ever reserves game. "It certainly felt different," said Peos, who had graduated direct from country football to East Perth's senior side on his arrival at Perth Oval in 1986. But it didn't stop him from being a dominant player, helping the side to an upset win over East Fremantle and receiving the club's best-player trophy with his 30-kick effort in the centre.

## Player share-out

IS it time for the WAFL to have a player-distribution session? That's what East Perth's chairman of selectors Jim Haines thinks anyway. Haines, a former Royals player and administrator, says that the WAFL needs a competitive East Perth, mainly because they have one of the biggest followings in football. "Right now, we lack players," he says. "There would be six players in the East Fremantle reserves side who would probably rank among our best if they were cleared to us." Haines suggested East Perth lacked "aggressive and vocal" players on the field and it was in the League's best interests to try and balance up the competition.

# PHOTO ACTION



## Royal Rose is blossoming

EAST Perth's rookie full-back Gavin Rose has one of the best kicking styles in the WAFL — as this Julian Cowan Photo Action confirms. Rose, a 19-year-old from Bayswater, has held down the tough custodian's role in every game this season ... and that means he's under attack for most of the match. His raking left-footed kicks often send the Royals back into attack and he is a shining light in the Perth Oval camp.



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# No justice for Eagles

**ALEXANDER'S ANGLE**

By State coach **RON ALEXANDER**



IT WAS interesting to contemplate the ramifications of the send-off rule being applied in the game between St Kilda and the West Coast Eagles.

Guy McKenna was clearly best on the ground in the first quarter until KO'd by Tony Lockett, who was subsequently suspended for four weeks.

I'm sure that St Kilda were devastated but probably relieved that it was only four weeks.

Footscray, Richmond, Hawthorn and Melbourne — the clubs that St Kilda play over the next month would be delighted.

All of this is little value to the Eagles. If Lockett had been sent off, the game would have been a lot closer and some justice might have prevailed.

## Touch of deja vu

*THIS week the Eagles play top side Hawthorn and many people will have written of their chances.*

*The same thing happened in 1987. Injuries to Ross Glendinning, Steve Malaxos and a number of other players supposedly left the Eagles undermanned after Carlton had a win at Princes Park and we were facing Hawthorn on their home ground on Anzac Day.*

*While the Eagles were training at Princes Park on the Friday, some bright spark played the Last Post over the loudspeaker system.*

*This little attempt at humour didn't go down too well with the players and they responded with a good, even team performance to down Hawthorn by 12 points.*

*This week the Eagles have nothing to lose.*

*Often they play as though the world will come down on them if they make a mistake.*

*Well it won't, and if they combine and just play to their ability and for each other they will surprise a lot of people.*

## Six teams to fight it out

THE WAFL is certainly in great shape as far as the closeness of the competition is concerned.

The top six teams look set for a long, protracted fight for the final positions.

Claremont, who suffered a surprise loss to Subiaco, won't be unduly worried by this loss.

It will wake up the few who were riding on their teammates' backs.

A number of Claremont players attempt to draw opponents and use handball and other aspects which Gerard Neesham is able to perform to perfection.

Gerard is able to handle the ball with finesse and hold on to it longer while drawing opponents away from potential handball targets.

Some of his players, in trying to emulate their more-experienced coach, are allowing good tackling sides like Subiaco an extra chance to take the ball off them.

It also results in the ball travelling more slowly into the forward line.

The TV replay tells the story... and St Kilda's No. 4, Tony Lockett, walks away from a prostrate Guy McKenna.

## New-look Shark

*WHO'S the new face in the Sharks camp?*

*Footy fans had a second look when this handsome footballer stepped out in Sharks gear recently... he seemed a little hard to recognise.*

*But closer examination revealed that it was former skipper George Christie; back in action after injury and looking completely different without his customary moustache.*

*"It's the first time I've shaved it off in about eight years," says Christie, who is well-pleased with his return to form after missing the opening four games.*



### JOIN THE BOYS FOR FOOTBALL FORUM.

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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

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



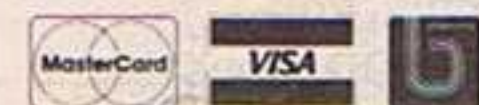
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# PLAYER PROFILES



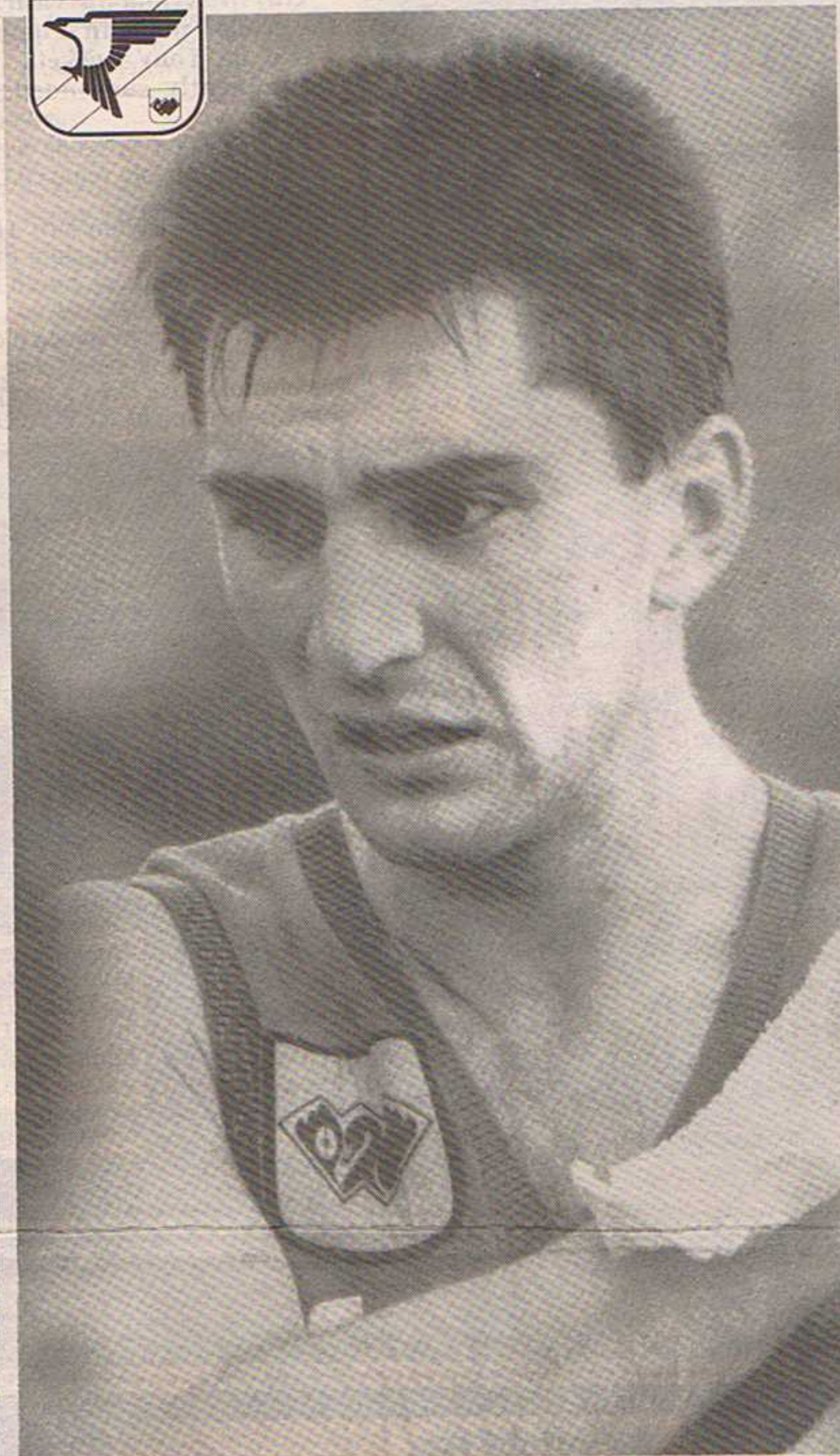
## Dwayne Lamb



**NICK NAME:** Lamby  
**FAVOURITE POSITION:** Ruck Rover  
**CURRENT POSITION:** Ruck Rover  
**NUMBER:** 5  
**DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:** 20/12/61 — Perth, W.A.  
**HEIGHT:** 180 cm **WEIGHT:** 83 kg  
**FIRST SENIOR GAME:** 1980 Subiaco, 1987 Eagles  
**GAMES PLAYED:** 48 Eagles, 133 Subiaco, 8 W.A.  
**FOOTBALL HONOURS:** Subiaco fairest and best 1982, 1984, 1985. Simpson Medal, 1988, Subiaco Premiership 1986, Channel 7 6IX, 6PR Footballer of the Year 1985  
**MARITAL STATUS:** Yes to Joanne  
**OCCUPATION:** Sales representative  
**SCHOOL/S ATTENDED:** Balcatta High  
**CAR:** Telstar  
**FAVOURITE PASTIMES/HOBBIES:** Surfing, tennis, golf  
**FAVOURITE FOOD:** Roast Lamb  
**FAVOURITE DRINK:** Milkshake  
**FAVOURITE SPORT (OTHER SPORTS):** Tennis

**FAVOURITE SINGER/GROUP:** John Cougar, Eurythmics  
**FAVOURITE TV SHOW:** Perfect Strangers  
**FAVOURITE MOVIE:** Fish Called Wanda  
**BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:** My father, all my coaches and my wife  
**MOST ADMIRER FOOTBALLER:** Ross Glendinning  
**OPPONENTS YOU ADMIRE:** Gerard Healy (Sydney Swans)  
**MATCH DAY ROUTINE:** Relax, read paper, watch FMTV  
**BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:** Elimination Final in 1988  
**FOOTBALL INJURIES:** Dislocated shoulder, broken wrist.  
**BIGGEST THRILL:** Playing in the 1985 grand final with Subiaco  
**MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:** Winning the 1986 grand final with Subiaco  
**FOOTBALL AMBITION:** To play consistently with the Eagles and win a premiership

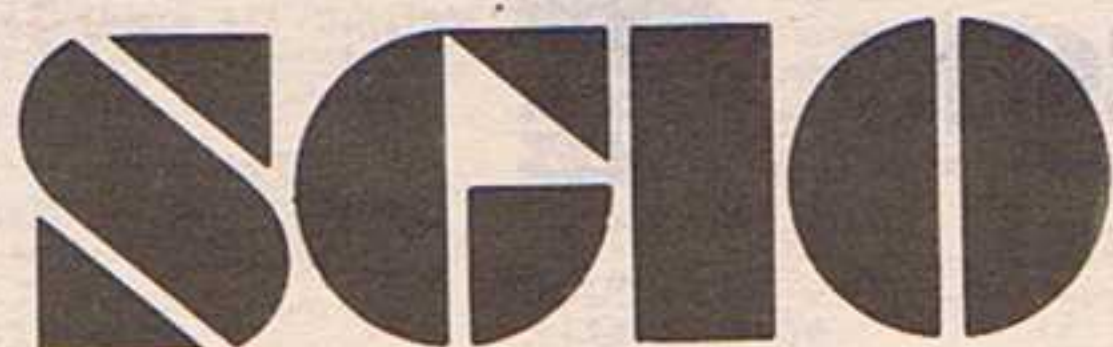
## Paul Hasler



**Nickname:** Porky. **Why:** Used to be a bit chubby.  
**Date of Birth:** 8/8/65. **Place of Birth:** Subiaco.  
**Height:** 183cm. **Weight:** 83kg.  
**Age Started Playing:** 9.  
**Previous Club/s:** Nil.  
**Junior Club:** Osborne Park.  
**Marital Status:** Single. **Girlfriend's Name:** Jacqui.  
**Residence:** Yokine.  
**Occupation:** Sales representative.  
**Place of Work:** Murfett Regency.  
**Other Sporting Interests:** Golf, cricket.  
**Favourite Position:** Half-back flank. **First Position:** Back pocket.  
**League Debut:** 1987. **Versus:** Swan Districts.

### FAVOURITES:

**Actor:** Clint Eastwood. **Drink:** Southern Comfort/Coke.  
**TV Show:** —. **Food:** Anything.  
**Movie:** Beverly Hills Cop.  
**Music:** Jimmy Barnes.  
**Holiday Resort:** Gold Coast.  
**Ground:** Leederville Oval.  
**Car:** Nissan Pintara. **Favourite Car:** Ford Falcon.  
**Career Highlights:** League debut in 1987.  
**Worst Moment in Football:** Being told that I'd never make league ranks.  
**Hard Things in Football:** Training.  
**Football Idols:** Bill Dempsey, Peter Menaglio.  
**Toughest Opponent:** All tough.  
**Most Respected Opponent:** Respect them all.  
**Most Respected Umpire:** —.  
**Most Memorable Game:** First league game.  
**Ambitions:** To play VFL, play for WA and win a premiership with West Perth.  
**What do you like about Football:** Club atmosphere.  
**How do you Mentally Prepare for a Game:** Relax.  
**Who Influenced Your Career:** Bill Dempsey, my father Lewi.  
**Guernsey Number:** 46. **Any Reason:** What I got.  
**Any Superstitions:** None.  
**Worst Injury:** Sprained ankle cost me six weeks.  
**Luckiest Break:** The arrival of Bruce Monteath at West Perth.



# Eagles No. 1 supporter



















# FREMANTLE FEVER

The old  
Derbies  
could be  
tough...

Cicco recalls a  
recent classic...

THE traditional Derby battle has produced some pretty tough clashes over the years.

Current South Fremantle general manager Brian Ciccotosto, a campaigner in plenty of Derbies in his 211 games with the Bulldogs, recalls one particularly tough game.

"I think it was around 1974 and I had copped a broken nose against Swans the week before," says Ciccotosto.

"Naturally, the word got around Fremantle and good old Gary Gibellini made sure he landed one right on the nose early in the match.

"There was an all-in brawl which really set the scene for a tremendous Derby.

## Stretchers

"Souths winger Tony Morley and current East Fremantle coach Graham Melrose were both carried off on stretchers.

"Toby Watson was the East Fremantle runner and Tony Ryan was ours and they were a couple of tough customers. They got into the brawl right in front of the East Fremantle members and it was a pretty electric afternoon.

"We had been invited upstairs for a drink after the game, but when we won and in view of all the fights, it was a bit dicey. But we still went and everyone ended up good mates.

"That's how Derbies used to be played...it was all part of footy."



Brian Ciccotosto... a Derby fan.

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NO love lost in Derbies... that's for sure. BELOW: Former Sharks captain-coach Ron Alexander tangles with South Fremantle champion Stephen Michael.

...and Jack Lee goes back further

FORMER sports writer and football historian Jack Lee has many vivid memories of Derby battles.

A renowned East Fremantle man, Lee has written historical books about both clubs...but he'll be barracking for the Sharks on Monday.

Now a sprightly 82, Lee recalls a 1929 Derby as one of the all-time greatest.

"It was headlined as 'football or football-brawl' and that was quite right," says Lee.

"It was a case of plenty of both — great football and heaps of fights. At one stage every player except one on either side were brawling and the umpires had a heck of a time sorting it out.

"East Fremantle won the game 8.18 to 7.11, but no-one knows who won the fights.

## Wharfies

"The players in those early days were men of great physical strength; wharfies who lumped 180lb bags of wheat around or shovelled coal all day.

"They had short fuses and bad tempers and they often took it out on the footy field. There would be wharfies in both sides and if one hit another, the battle would quickly even itself out.

"They were as tough as old boots and it was real enemy stuff for the weeks in between the Derbies."

Lee still gets a real buzz out of watching Derbies and says that the feeling in current clashes between the two Port sides is as strong as ever.

"And the football can be just as tough," he added.



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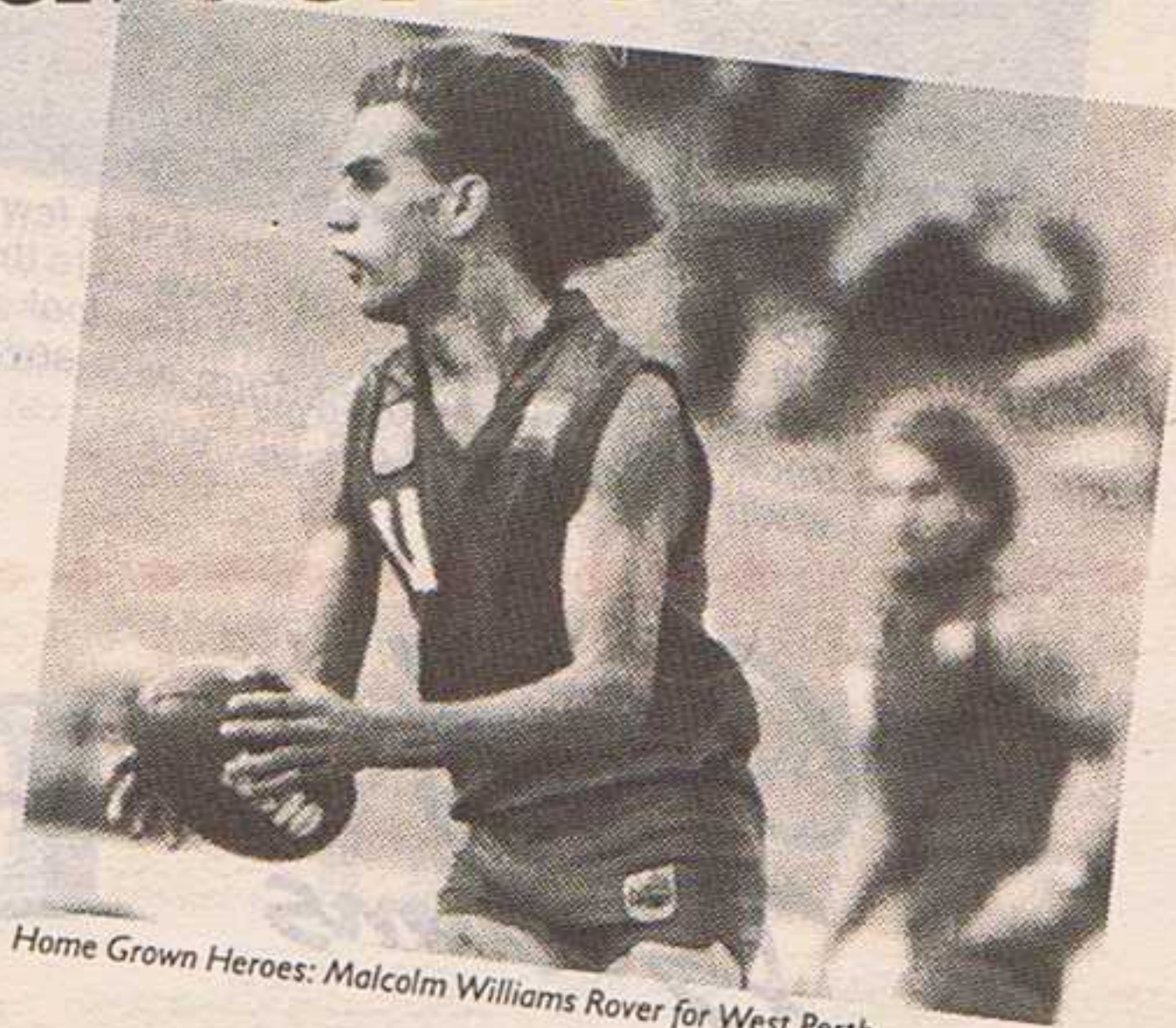
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## Is this young Falcon as good as the old Cardinal?

Some people reckoned there was nothing better than chewing on a pie and yelling CARN' THE CARDIES as Watling ran and ran, grinding another player into the ground.

Well at Leederville that thrill is back, young Malcolm Williams' energy, speed and plain slipperiness makes tackling and tagging him a real test of a player's endurance. So if you like one on one duels in your footy come and see young Malcolm outplay the opposition.

Don't believe it? Well, get to a game and check it out for yourself; you know it's never the same unless you're there at the game.



Home Grown Heroes: Malcolm Williams Rover for West Perth.



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Eastern Highway, Victoria Park, Perth,



## POI WAY

THE WAFL competition is rounding the football bend as the teams race into the second series of fixtures ... and the rush out of the barrier stalls has provided some mixed reactions from the eight coaches.

Pre-season betting saw East Fremantle at odds-on to be the pace-setters, while Subiaco were short-priced, as were Claremont. Perth were fairly tight in the market, while South Fremantle were also being specked confidently. West Perth and Swan Districts were at long odds to do well and East Perth were always at an attractive price.

But eight games down the track, the book-makers have revived some of their thinking...

Pictures: JULIAN COWAN

GRAHAM MELROSE ... the Sharks aren't giving their backers a lot of confidence at present, especially those who took the short odds based on their huge talent. But they're still in the race and only have to regain their best form to be in the finish.



HAYDN BUNTON...the Lions are a bookies' nightmare; just when they seem finished, up they bob at handsome prices. Never under-estimate a proven stayer could apply to Subiaco, who have an interesting blend of youth and experience and can still figure in the finish.



ROB WILEY ... the Demons have left a few supporters with burnt fingers as they fail to live up to the promising form shown last season. While they look good on the track, they just cannot perform with any consistency when the pressure is on.



GERARD NEESHAM ... the Tigers have certainly rewarded their loyal backers with an unblemished first series and just the one loss last week — at an opportune time, maybe! They are deservedly premiership favourites and any attractive odds should be snapped up.



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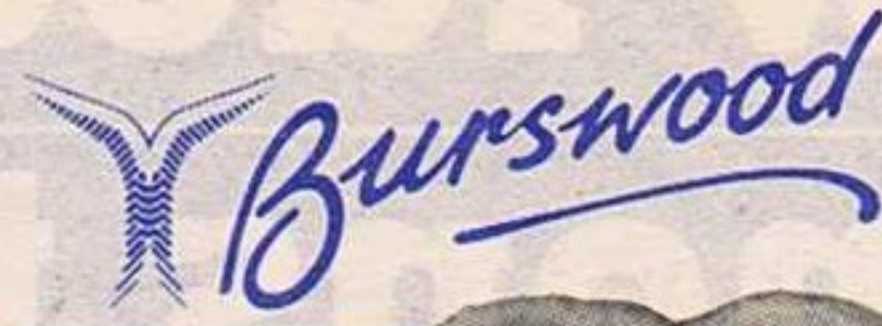
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## WANT THE HOME...



**IAN McCULLOCH** ... the rookie Royals have a write-your-own-ticket on them as they struggle to be consistent and even competitive. With one win from eight outings, their form is hardly inspiring as they lack stamina and experience.



**ED BLACKABY** ... the Swans are ready to reap a rich harvest for the long-odds punters who gambled on their ability to revive after finishing last in 1988. A solid summer preparation is paying dividends and they are poised right behind the pack as the top teams head for home.



**GEORGE MICHALCZYK** ... the Falcons punters are all smiles as they look at the attractive odds they got for the '89 race. But they still have a few hurdles to jump and it will be interesting to see if they are on the pace at the home turn ... or will their inexperience count against them.



**STAN MAGRO** ... his brilliant Bulldogs have firmed considerably with some exciting wins. They were brilliant out of the barriers, burning off talented opposition and now the staying power of their experienced performers will be put to the test in the heavy winter going.

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# Volunteers thrive at Bassendean



**KNOW YOUR CLUB**

by **GEORGE TEMPLE**



Bar manager John McCue.

**YOU** certainly have to be a dedicated worker to survive in football these days.

And they don't come any more dedicated than the small administration team at Swan Districts.

No longer do WAFL clubs boast six to 10 men/women office teams. Today's clubs are trimmed to the bone and everyone is a utility worker.

The man in charge at Bassendean is general manager Brian Close and the versatility he showed as a league player with Swans (and South Fremantle) helps him play various roles off the field.

He's the marketing manager, financial manager, football manager, football development co-ordinator and, occasionally, league team runner.

## Assistants

Mr Close's chief lieutenant is office manager Heather Appleby, while long-serving John McCue continues to run the bar and social areas. Mr Close is also assisted by voluntary treasurer, Alan Gosling, one of the typically-dedicated unsung heroes in club administration.

A former Swans player and professional runner — he won the Northam,

Speedway and Cannington Gifts as a youngster — the 62-year-old Mr Gosling still possesses the determination that carried him to football and athletic triumphs.

Within days of a recent operation, the jovial figures man was back balancing the books at Bassendean Oval.

"I've always come in on Thursdays and I didn't see any reason to change the habit," said Mr Gosling, who is a former president and life member of the Past Players Association.

One man who is particularly enjoying the Swans revival is bar manager John McCue, who has been in the job for 12 years.

He says that the after-match crowds in the function rooms at Bassendean are reminiscent of the premiership days of the 1980s.

## Big crowds

"The bar turnover is up 30 per cent on last year," said a joyous Mr McCue. "Anything up to 600 people come upstairs for a drink and to watch the trophy presentations after home games. You really can't move for all the people."

Mrs Appleby, an avid horsewoman, has been with Swans since 1986 and her roles have been many and varied.

Apart from handling the hectic telephone switchboard and the busy reception area, she is also office secretary and is responsible for all internal administration, backed up by some assistance from volunteers.

And volunteers, as in all WAFL clubs, is something that Swans have a lot of this year.

## Pensioners

There are 48 in total, many retired pensioners who spend hours working behind the scenes doing the onerous tasks that the professional team just don't have time for.

"They get a lot of enjoyment out of it and we couldn't get by without them," Mr Close said.

"Football is for the people and the community, as well as the players and spectators."

Mr Close says that Swans are weathering the current financial turmoil well and recorded their seventh consecutive profit in 1988.

"And this year looks promising as well," he said.



Swans volunteers Mavis Pauly (left) and Marj Dowell help in the office.



Swans stalwarts Heather Appleby and Alan Gosling.

"We've had more than 3000 members sign on this season — and we only budgeted for 2500."

"This proves that people are coming back to local football now that the hype over the West Coast Eagles has died down a bit."

Swans had more than 5000 members at their peak in 1986, but slumped to just 1500 last season.

## Sponsorship

But despite this drop, Swans have continued to fare well in the hunt for sponsorship dollars.

They have just negotiated a further three-year deal with major sponsor Bond Brewing.

"That makes them our major sponsor for six successive years," Mr Close said.

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Swans GM Brian Close.

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# Bulldogs get the "Sing-King" feeling

## ON THE BALL

by GEORGE TEMPLE



Rookie James Sing.

SOUTH Fremantle got a "sing-ing" feeling as fifth-placed West Perth ended a 10-year losing streak at Fremantle Oval to convincingly beat the Bulldogs by 40 points last Saturday.

Among the better players were 19-year-old debutante full-forward James Sing and former West Coast Eagle Sean King.

Though Bulldogs full-back Steven Grant had the better of his duel with Sing, the rookie from Buffalos, in the Northern Territory, kicked three goals and did enough to suggest that he is a player of the future.

Sing, who kicked West Perth's third, sixth and 12th goals, said that he was nervous going into the game.

"I watched how South Fremantle roughed up Peter Menaglio last year," he said. "And I was afraid that they would try and do that to me because it was my first game."

"But I enjoyed it after a while."

"Peter Menaglio was a big help the way he encouraged and talked to me during the game. He's a great player."

"I couldn't expect too much from my first game because I've hardly played with them this season," said the young forward.

And while Sing was really in tune, King was reigning supreme.

He was his team's leading possession-getter with 31 touches — 24 kicks and seven handballs — and took 12 marks around the ground.

King gave an influential ruck-roving performance, getting kicks in defence and the forward line, where he helped himself to 3.4 in windy conditions.

"When I got my final goal (West Perth's 11th in their 12-goal haul) I was elated," he said. "I knew we couldn't lose from that position."

"I feel really great and I'm sure our win was helped because we trained at Britannia Reserve (in Mt Hawthorn) during the week."

## Spongy

"The grass there was spongy, just like Fremantle Oval, so we knew what to expect and how the ball would bounce."

The 24-year-old utility said that the Falcons were now ready to claim a place in the finals.



"Veteran" Sean King.

## Kemps show they mean business

SUBIACO half-forward Dean Kemp hasn't taken long to establish a partnership with ruck-roving brother Garry.

But the partnership extends beyond football.

The Lions duo, who have that brotherly knack of finding each other with a hand or foot pass on the field, not only share a house with third brother Wayne, but the Kalgoorlie trio are partners in the Gwelup Deli, in North Beach Road, Gwelup.

The Kemps went into business seven weeks ago and according to Dean, it's the right sort of preparation for training with Haydn Bunton.

"It keeps us on our toes," he said.

Garry Kemp made his league debut last year and has developed into a key member of Bunton's team. An aggressive ruck-rover, he has also been used effectively at centre-half-forward where he uses his strength to out-position opponents.



The Kemp trio (from left) Wayne, Garry and Dean in their Gwelup deli.

The brothers played one season of football together with Railways in Kalgoorlie before Garry, 25, made the move to Subiaco in 1988.

Dean, Railways fairest and best player last season, followed Garry down this year and has been used mainly off the bench onto a half-forward flank.

He was in blistering form in the Lions 12-point win over East Fremantle three weeks ago and was again among their better players in the loss to East Perth

and the win over chart-toppers Claremont last Saturday.

Dean, 20, says that he does not deliberately look for his brother on the field.

"He just seems to be there," he said. "We are able to read each other's game well."

## Proud

Wayne Kemp, who has not played football since a motorbike accident eight years ago, is extremely proud of his brothers' success.

However, tongue-in-cheek, he says that they have to retire from football and concentrate on the business if they haven't made VFL ranks by the time they are 29!

"It's long hours doing this by yourself," Wayne said.

## Grasso ready for a return

SWAN Districts defender Mick Grasso seems to be giving the A-Okay sign for his impending return to football. However, Grasso, who is expected to play reserves, is still sporting the plaster that he was forced to wear after breaking his thumb in training five weeks ago. The 1988 Swan Medallist says that he can't wait to get back into action. "But getting my league spot back could be difficult," the speedy back-pocket said. "The lads are playing so well together I may have to wait."



Mick Grasso... on the way back.

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## Tough draft choices for

## Eagles

THE 1989 season is not yet at the half-way mark and already the West Coast Eagles are planning for the future as they accept the fact that they have no chance of making the final five.

The Eagles will be fighting with the VFL to have five pre-draft player selections again this year — and judging on their early performances, they will have little trouble getting what they wish.

The VFL administrators are aware of the importance to maintain high standards outside of Melbourne — that's why they have worked so hard to keep the trouble-ridden Sydney Swans afloat and why they must give the Eagles special consideration.

### Local talent

It makes sense for the Eagles to retain a high percentage of local talent in their ranks.

This year the Eagles picked up five priority recruits, two of whom, Scott Watters and Stevan Jackson, were aged in the 16-19 bracket. The same criteria is likely to apply this year, though the Eagles want to get out of the draft system which penalised them this year when they had to throw players into the internal draft who they did not want to lose.



Ben Allan ... ready-made.

The Eagles recruited wisely in their early draft, picking up Jackson, Watters, Don Pyke, Craig Turley and Peter Sumich.

### Experience

But losing valuable experience from the squad in the March internal draft has been a major reason behind the Eagles slide.

It is possible the Eagles could be forced to make a choice between Claremont centremen Ben Allan and East Fremantle rover Bradley Rowe should they again recruit on the same terms as 1988.

Just as Sumich stood out as a high-priority pre-draft choice last year, so too does his former South team-mate, Peter Matera this year.

### TAKING STOCK

By GARY STOCKS  
of the West Australian



Matera is a logical No. 1 draft choice, though he says he would like to play with his brother Wally at Fitzroy.

The ease with which he adjusted to State football a few weeks ago suggests he has the class to succeed at VFL level.

The Eagles have had problems in the ruck this year with injuries to Phil Scott and Laurie Keene, so it makes sense to hunt for a ruckman and the young man who would have been signed up by the Eagles last year, except for a pre-season injury — Brad Tunbridge — is a likely recruit.

Though he has played mainly at full-forward since returning to action with East Fremantle, he has shown that his knee injury can stand up to league football and he is essential.

### Decision

That makes the third choice a toss-up between Allan and Rowe and the Eagles face a difficult decision.

Allan has played high-quality football as a centremen for Claremont for three years and Rowe has burst onto the scene this year.

Rowe might need another season in the WAFL to enhance his development, though convincing young players of that argument is not easy. Understandably, they are anxious to play at the highest level.

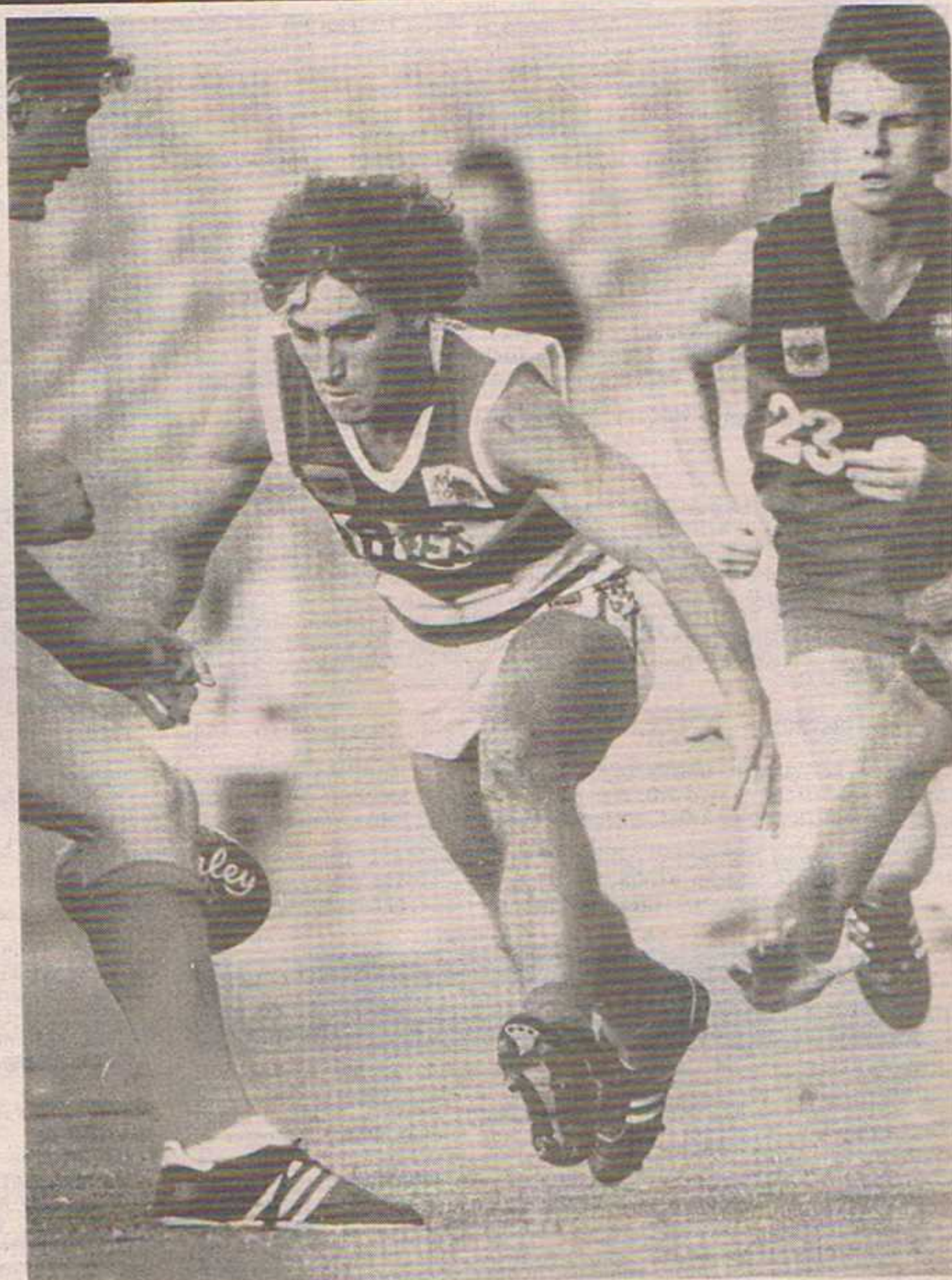
That brings us to the two players aged under 19. Young East Perth ruckman Lee Walker must be a high priority after being an outstanding player in State under age teams.

Good judges of football talent expect him to be a player of the future — though injury is hampering him at present.

And Claremont centre-half-forward Peter Mann has also shown enough in his first season of football to suggest that he could compete with success at VFL level.



Peter Matera ... No.1 choice.



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