



WESTSIDE Football

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WHIZ KID



Dashing Brad Rowe...a John Platten look-alike and a perfectly-balanced roving ace.

Sharks rookie ready for the big-time

by GEORGE TEMPLE

FROM carefree surfer to Australia's No.1 draft choice in one season of senior football ... that is the amazing Brad Rowe story.

The mop-haired 19-year-old has dazzled opponents, coaches, spectators — and the talent scouts — with his electrifying roving performances for East Fremantle this season.

The mercurial Rowe is tailor-made for the VFL ... and already two clubs, North Melbourne and Collingwood, have shown an interest in his services — as have the West Coast Eagles.

But Rowe's in no hurry to make the move; he's enjoying club football with the Sharks right now...and a premiership is vital.

"I'm letting the future take care of itself," says the quiet Geraldton youngster who enjoys his job as an apprentice plumber.

"East Fremantle have been good to me and I'm not planning to make any major decisions."

Two of Rowe's main qualities are his speed with foot and hand — factors that enabled Victoria to destroy WA earlier this season — plus his uncanny ability to anticipate the play.

Three years ago Rowe was content with his standard of play with Chapman Valley, in the Great Northern Football League, plus his surfing and his basketball.

But that changed when he came to Perth for State Schoolboy trials. Though he injured himself in the first practice game, he was hooked on the hype of "big-time" football and the next season East Fremantle had the fearless youngster in their net.

That was a well-deserved reward for the Sharks; their recruiting staff had been watching Rowe develop ever since he kicked 127 goals for Chapman Valley in under-10s!

Pictures: JULIAN COWAN



Turn to Page 8 for a look at Bradley Rowe, rover-of-the-future in action.

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UMPIRES ON TENDER HOOKS

VFL umpires Chris Mitchell and Grant Vernon will be wondering what fate awaits them next weekend. These were the men in white who controlled the Carlton/West Coast Eagles clash last Saturday and if recent trends continue, at least one of them will not be in league action in the next round. Darren Goldspink, who umpired in the Eagles win over Footscray the previous week, was not in league action last weekend and before him Gary Foster and Ian Clayton from the Collingwood and Hawthorn matches, were both dropped in subsequent weeks.

Muddy Melbourne

ANYONE who thought that the playing conditions in the Carlton/West Coast Eagles match at Princes Park last Saturday were horrendous were right. Eagles football director and team runner Brian Douge, who played plenty of VFL footy, described them as the worst he had ever seen. And Eagles strongman Adrian Barich, who sunk almost up to his knee in a hole, said that it reminded him of conditions in Canberra. "I've certainly never come across anything like that in the VFL or the WAFL," he said. Barich added that the ground smelt as bad as it looked. "There was a bit of a pong," he quipped. "It smelt as though they had pumped the local sewer straight onto the field."

Problems to continue

WEST Coast Eagles coach John Todd says that his players will have to get used to playing in conditions like those experienced at Princes Park against Carlton last Saturday because they aren't going to get any better. "The curator told me that it will take him up to six months to get the ground right again," Todd said. "One of the problems is the sand that they have been dumping onto the ground to soak up the water. The sand underneath has set rock hard and is not allowing the surface water to seep away. I understand that there's a Teal Cup game at Princes Park this Saturday — they're sure in for something different."



Eagles star Chris Mainwaring is pictured with six-year-old Jeff Costar, of Thornlie, a winner of the Hungry Jack's Eagle-for-a-day contest.

Keene finished for 1989

IT appears certain now that ruckman Laurie Keene played his first and last game for the West Coast Eagles this season in the opening round of fixtures on March 31. Keene underwent surgery for the Achilles injury which has sidelined him this season last weekend. Big Laurie, regarded as one of the VFL's top ruckmen, will be on crutches for two more weeks. Speaking at the regular Monday morning press conference Eagles coach John Todd confirmed that Keene would probably miss the rest of the year.

Eagles to be rested

MOST of the West Coast Eagles high-profile players will be unavailable for Saturday's round of WAFL fixtures. Among those not to play are ruckmen Phil Scott and David O'Connell. Eagles coach John Todd has rested both players because he cannot afford to have them injured with the clash against Hawthorn coming up seven days later. Todd added that the time off would allow Scott and O'Connell to fully recover from their recent injuries. "One of our biggest problems this season has been our goal-to-goal line," Todd said. "Having David and Scotty out against Hawthorn would just make matters worse." Other high profile Eagles sidelined are: wingman Chris Mainwaring (bruised ribs) utility Steve Malaxos (jammed knee), defender Andrew Lockyer (twisted ankle), Michael Brennan (strained hamstring) and Guy McKenna and John Worsfold who have just finished a hectic series of exams.

SMART THINKING

HERE'S a sensible suggestion from Radio 6PR panellist Trevor Sprigg. There will obviously be plenty of controversy this Saturday when Eagles players are entitled to be used by their former WAFL clubs because of the general bye in VFL fixtures. But the difficulty is that some WAFL clubs don't want to bring in four or five — or even more in the case of Claremont and South Fremantle — new players, especially as they will not feature in the club's finals plans. Sprigg suggested that the League allow all teams to use 23 players this Saturday, thus enabling some Eagles stars to at least appear in the league side and give WAFL fans an additional bonus.

HANDBALL HAPPY

EAST Perth have lifted the standard of their football quite considerably since the early games — and their improved handball has been one reason. Players like Andrew Embry (13 handballs) and Butch Baroni (12) were in top form against Perth and midfielders Wayne Dawson and Lloyd Haskett were on both ends of the handpass — sending out 16 and 15 handballs respectively, but also receiving 12 and 11 each.

PHOTO ACTION



WELCOME BACK RALPHIE

IT has been one season and 11 rounds of football since high-flying Warren Ralph last played for Claremont's league side. The former goalscoring machine retired at the end of the 1987 season, only to return to reserves action earlier this year. Last Saturday he played in Claremont's 29-point loss at Fremantle Oval, kicking 2.6 and being named among his team's best players. Ralphie, welcome back, the game is better for your return.

Picture: JULIAN COWAN

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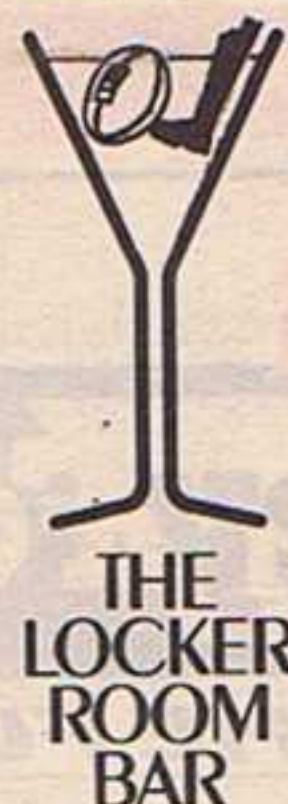
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Talent aplenty in big

MCG clash

THIS Saturday's interstate clash between South Australia and Victoria at the Melbourne Cricket Ground should be a classic encounter.

South Australia have a particularly strong contingent of genuine champion players, with a solid group of seasoned performers to back them up.

Stephen Kernahan, Craig Bradley, Mark Naley, Steven Stretch, Tony Hall, Greg Anderson, Matt Rendell, Darren Kappler, Tony McGuinness, Bruce Lindner and John Platten are just a few stars who come to mind.

Strength

The strength of interstate football in WA and SA isn't comparable with Victoria simply because of the smaller group of players to select from.

For WA and SA to be really competitive, they need a group of champion players in the one era — and also have some luck in avoiding injuries.

Injuries and suspensions don't have the same effect on Victoria.

They may face some problems in replacing champions like the suspended Gary Ablett and Greg Williams and the injured David Rhys-Jones; but it isn't the end of the world when you have a VFL player-base at least four times bigger than SA or WA to call on.

This State-of-Origin clash will be evenly poised with perhaps slight favouritism going to Victoria with their home ground advantage and having genuine forwards in Tony Lockett and Jason Dunstall.

ALEXANDER'S ANGLE

By State coach
RON ALEXANDER



Claremont's ruck worry

CLAREMONT have a definite ruck deficiency with Peter Higgins taking little part this year due to injury.

Rival ruckmen have great difficulty matching South Fremantle's Craig Edwards and East Fremantle pair Brad Tunbridge and Lance Durack.

This could prove to be Claremont's Achilles heel.

Umps can still be human...

IT was good to see an umpire own up to a mistake during the Carlton—Eagles game.

Goal umpire Robin Dalby showed some real intestinal fortitude by changing his decision when he realised that the mud-splattered David Hart had soccered the ball through the Carlton goal; not a mud-covered Blues man.

Well done Robin; to err is to be human!



Back in the old days ... Ron Alexander removes East Fremantle team-mate Peter Wilson from an umpire-confrontation.

Umpires — it's so easy to be biased

UMPIRING has been a contentious issue recently with coaches such as Rob Wiley, Gerard Neesham and Stan Magro unhappy with the whistle-blowers.

Last Saturday, Claremont supporters felt that they had been "hard done by" — but I couldn't agree.

I went to the Claremont-South Fremantle game not really concerned about who won; mainly just to watch a good contest between two talented sides.

When I left the ground I hadn't really thought one way or another about the umpires, Mike Ball and Glen Lee.

Their performance was a steady and unobtrusive one and I was surprised to see some adverse comments about them.

But, not surprising, the criticism came from the losing camp, as these comments usually do.

When I was coaching I made similar adverse comments, particularly in my first two years...and one cost me \$500.

It became obvious that because of my total bias towards one side, I was only seeing half of the picture. So I resolved not to dwell on umpiring and blame them for the mistakes of my team.

With all the emotion of football, this is sometimes hard to stick too. But all coaches should abide by those guidelines.

A coach (and supporters) see almost all the free kicks his team gets as being justified and notices every instance where they might have got a free, but didn't.

He sees some free kicks against his side as being fair, but not in the same ratio as kicks for his team. Coaches rarely see the kicks the opposition could have got, but didn't.

In the end, you have to accept your bias; stop worrying about umpiring and concentrate on the aspects of the game that you can control or influence — your own players performances.

Ralph could be a flag winner

WARREN Ralph came in for plenty of heckling from the vocal South Fremantle supporters as they enjoyed every point he kicked or mistake he made last week.

But Ralph, in his comeback game after a long break, led well and his 2.6 resulted from the fact that he led too far out from his goals and was usually shooting from 50 metres.

It would be dangerous to underestimate Ralph as he was a prime mover in Claremont's 1987 premiership and has led the goal-kicking table in convincing fashion.

Ralph has had to wait till the half-way mark of the season before getting a recall to the young Tigers team. But he may yet have a big say in determining who wins this year's premiership.



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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

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A left footed Featherby?

After 4 seasons, people are just beginning to realise how good Brad McDougall is.

His exceptional ball skills now have people comparing him with Featherby, and there must be a few coaches around town who wish their centreman or ruck rover could score some of Brad's spectacular left foot goals.

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: Brad McDougall
Centreman/Ruck Rover for Subiaco.

THOMPSON WAFL 2859

PLAYER PROFILES

Shane Cable



NICK NAME: Cabes
FAVOURITE POSITION: Centre
CURRENT POSITION: Wing/
 Centre
NUMBER: 32
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:
 Melbourne
HEIGHT: 182cms **WEIGHT:** 74kg
RECRUITED FROM: Perth/St
 Norbets College
FIRST SENIOR GAME: 1987
 Perth
GAMES PLAYED: 1 Eagles, 28
 Perth
MARITAL STATUS: Single
OCCUPATION: Bank Clerk
SCHOOL/S ATTENDED: Too many
 to mention
CAR: Ford
FAVOURITE PASTIMES/HOBBIES:
 Cycling, Bodybuilding
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak

FAVOURITE DRINK: Water, Fanta
**FAVOURITE SPORT (OTHER
 SPORTS):** Cycling
FAVOURITE SINGER/GROUP:
 Tracy Chapman, Proclaimers
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Growing
 Pains
FAVOURITE MOVIE: Color of
 Money
**BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON
 CAREER:** My father Barry
MATCH DAY ROUTINE: Alex
 Jesaulenko, Dermott Brereton
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:
 Poor performances
FOOTBALL INJURIES: None
BIGGEST THRILL: Selection in
 the Eagles Squad
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:
 First senior game, both WAFL
 and VFL
FOOTBALL AMBITION: To win a
 premiership with the Eagles.

Jeff Moore



Nickname: Moorey. **Why:** Surname.
Date of Birth: 30-12-67. **Place of Birth:** Kenwick.
Height: 173cm. **Weight:** 73kg.
Age Started Playing: Nine.
Previous Club/s: Kenwick.
Junior Club: Kenwick.
Marital Status: Single.
If Not Married — Girlfriend's Name: Lisa.
Residence: Kenwick.
Occupation: Roof/tiler.
Place of Work: Bristle.
Other Sporting Interests: Indoor Cricket.
Favourite Position: Rover. **First Position:** Wing.
League Debut: 1989. **Versus:** Swan Districts.

FAVOURITES:

Actor: Clint Eastwood. **Drink:** Beer.
TV Show: Miami Vice. **Food:** Italian.
Movie: An Officer and a Gentleman.
Music: Rock 'n roll.
Book: The Outsiders.
Holiday Resort: Horrocks Beach.
Ground: Lathlain Park.
Car: Commodore. **Favourite Car:** Porsche.
Career Highlights: League debut, 1988 Kenwick fairest and best.
Worst Moment in Football: Haven't had a bad moment.
Hard Things in Football: There all hard.
Football Idols: Hawthorn stars Leigh Matthews and Peter
 Knights.
Toughest Opponent: All tough.
Most Respected Opponent: None.
Most Respected Umpire: .
Most Memorable Game: League debut.
Ambitions: Become a league regular at Perth and play VFL.
What do you like about Football: Comradship.
How do you Mentally Prepare for a Game: Relax and watch TV.
Who Influenced Your Career: Father Garry and my girlfriend.
Guernsey Number: 30.
Worst Injury: Broken Nose.
Luckiest Break: Getting a league game.

Eagles No. 1 supporter

Now Falcons can prove their claim

SCIO

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PREVIEWS

by
Gary Stocks

Demons face Tigers on the rebound



Cam Lewis key defender

PERTH celebrated a hard-earned victory over East Perth last Saturday night, but now they must face an even tougher assignment in league football — they meet Claremont on the rebound.

And it won't just be the normal powerful team which has lost two of their first 12 games; but a combination bolstered by the return of at least one or two Eagles players, though Gerard Neesham has been spared some selection dilemmas with most of the Tigers/Eagles "resting."

By comparison, Perth will only get back Adrian Barich and that makes life a little difficult for the Demons.

BULLDOGS TOO SKILLED

EAST Perth's improved form will be put to the test this week when they play South Fremantle at the WACA Ground.

The Bulldogs were in high spirits after beating Claremont last Saturday, while East Perth fell for the three-card trick and, after showing promise against some highly-credentialed teams, they lost a match that they were expected to win.

With South gaining star Eagles Peter Sumich and Stevan Jackson, with East Perth having only Paul Peos back, the likelihood of a Royals victory is remote.

The Royals work hard, but they might find that they do not have the finesse to match it with the skilled Bulldogs.



LES'S LYRICS

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

Time to charge the batteries

To all beloved sports fans
It is that time of year.
To sit back and watch the tele
Relax with a can of beer.

If it's not the ongoing Test
It's the Wildcats doing well.
Or — will the Eagles get up
Only time will tell.

Added to this sporting feast
Top tennis to the fore
Good watching early hours
But oh my eyes are sore.

Mind you — No complaining
With all my teams on a roll
The only thing that is suffering
Is the battery in the remote control.

ALMOST since the 1989 season opened 13 weeks ago, West Perth have been clinging faintly to the hope that they could force their way into the top four.

Even after the defeat by East Fremantle last week, the Falcons maintain that they still have what it takes to play in the finals series.

This Saturday the Falcons get the opportunity to back up their ambitions with performance and prove they are genuine finals contenders and worthy of replacing Swan Districts in the top half of the table.

They have to play the team they hope to replace — and that's one of league football's toughest assignments, beating Swan Districts at Bassendean Oval.

Swans level of performance has faltered after winning five of the first seven matches. But they showed great determination to stave off a determined bid by Subiaco in last week's clash.

That effectively ended the hopes of the defending premiers and now Swans want to kick the dog which has been snapping away at their heels for the last few weeks.

The return of Kevin Caton has given Swans a boost and he could prove to be the difference this week in a match where both sides lack goal-kicking power.

Caton and Andy Holmes are genuine dangers in attack, while West Perth have been struggling all season to find a reliable avenue to goal.

The Falcons have relied heavily on the input of Paddy Madaffari and Malcolm Williams and if those players are nullified, West Perth struggle to kick a winning score.

Emu Export present ...
WESTSIDE'S EXPERT SELECTIONS

*Tally does not include VFL tips	Tally	Claremont v Perth	E. Perth. v S. Frem.	E. Frem. v Subiaco	Swan Dist. v W. Perth	Vic. v SA
RON ALEXANDER	32	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
ROB BENNETT	30	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
PETER BOSUSTOW	33	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	West Perth	Victoria
DAVE CLEMENT	31	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
GRANT DORRINGTON	33	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
ALAN EAST	30	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
IAN MILLER	27	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
BILL MATHER-BROWN	28	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
GARY STOCKS	36	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
GEORGE TEMPLE	34	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	South Australia
PETER VLAHOS	29	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria
MOST FAVOURED	33	Claremont	South Fremantle	East Fremantle	Swan Districts	Victoria

how about you?

THE COVERAGE

RADIO

6PR — Saturday Noon: Victoria vs South Australia, 2.20pm: Swan Districts vs West Perth.
6WF — Saturday Noon: Victoria vs South Australia, 2.20pm: East Perth vs South Fremantle.
6NR — Saturday 2.00pm: East Fremantle vs Subiaco.
REGIONAL RADIO WEST — Saturday 2.20pm: Perth vs Claremont.

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 2: Saturday 2.15pm: (Regionals only) Swan Districts vs West Perth, 4.20pm: Live to Metropolitan area.
CHANNEL 7: Saturday 10.30pm: Victoria vs South Australia, Sunday 11.25pm: Tasmania vs Victoria.

WHO PLAYS WHERE

Flashback...

WAFL — SATURDAY, JULY 1 (ROUND 13)

Perth v Claremont, at Lathlain Park;
East Fremantle v Subiaco, at East Fremantle Oval; East Perth v South Fremantle, at the WACA; Swan Districts v West Perth, at Bassendean Oval.
Victoria v South Australia, at MCG.

The last time these two teams met was Round 6 on May 13 and this is how they finished (with home teams mentioned first):

Subiaco 18.14 East Fremantle 16.11 — Subiaco won by 12 points.
West Perth 15.24 Swan Districts 17.13 — Swans by one point.
South Fremantle 18.18 East Perth 11.12 — Souths by 48 points.
Claremont 18.25 Perth 18.10 — Claremont by 15 points.

1989 FORM GUIDE

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

SUBIACO L(69) W(39) L(6) L(16) W(12) L(5) W(30) L(4) L(60) L(41) L(6)
CLAREMONT W(69) W(42) W(46) W(93) W(20) W(15) W(43) L(30) W(80) W(48) W(22) L(29)
EAST FREM. W(91) L(20) W(92) L(22) W(25) L(12) L(43) W(52) W(5) W(27) W(30) W(48)
EAST PERTH L(91) L(47) L(24) L(93) L(75) L(48) W(5) L(52) W(20) W(6) L(22) L(4)
SWAN DIST. W(43) W(47) L(46) W(22) W(16) W(1) L(25) W(75) L(20) L(48) L(30) W(6)
PERTH L(43) L(92) L(92) L(45) W(75) L(15) L(36) L(75) W(4) L(27) L(50) W(4)
WEST PERTH L(43) L(42) W(24) W(50) L(25) L(1) W(36) W(40) L(80) L(6) W(41) L(48)
SOUTH FREM. W(43) W(20) W(6) W(45) L(20) W(48) W(25) L(40) L(5) W(60) W(50) W(29)

Subi can't beat odds this time

John Sullivan
Lions star



SUBIACO have made something of a habit of beating East Fremantle when the form and the odds suggest otherwise.

However, rarely have the odds been stacked against them and the form been so low as they are right now.

Granted, Subiaco will be bolstered by the probable return of Karl Langdon and Todd Brehman, but that might not be enough to turn victory their way.

Subiaco have won only three of their first 12 matches, losing another close one last Saturday and they don't appear to have the spread of class required to repeat their effort earlier this season when they beat the Sharks.

East Fremantle will offset the Subiaco player gains with some of their own and they should have enough talent to ensure they win this contest.



Angelo Del Borrello

A. DEL BORRELLO & ASSOCIATES
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CALLING OUR COACHES

WITH WA football seemingly settling into an acceptable working order following the Government's appointment of the Football Commission to run the game, it's time for another body to make a stand.

Coaches of the eight WAFL clubs need to set the on-field part of the game on the right path as we head into the 1990s.

The coaches — Haydn Bunton, Gerard Neesham, Stan Magro, Rob Wiley, Ian McCulloch, George Michalczyk, Ed Blackaby and Graham Melrose — should form a united strategy on rules and regulations to be adopted by all football bodies in this State.

The 50-metre rule; the enforced kick after a free-kick; a consistent ruling on the holding-the-man/holding-the-ball rule and many other controversial aspects of umpiring must be addressed for a start.

The rules concerning penalties for infringements on the mark — handballing from a free-kick for example — are not the same in some leagues outside the WAFL.

There must be consistency throughout the State.

But the direction leagues take

It's time for some leadership

must be established by the senior coaches.

The sooner the eight WAFL coaches determine a strategy, the sooner the game at the developmental levels can establish an acceptable consistency.

A barrier to such direction taking place, is the pig-headedness and club-oriented narrow-mindedness of some league coaches.

Some coaches have already indicated a reluctance to attend organised meetings. Others have indicated a complete ignorance of any attempt by the likes of Football Development Trust people such as Grant Dorrington and Gerard McNeill to attend any meetings to discuss policy and requirements of football consistency.

Umpires coach Ron Buckley was quoted recently that he initiated a meeting with coaches early this season — but only one league coach turned up!

Too many coaches are interested

THE BUZZ

By football's Mr Flamboyant
PETER BOSUSTOW



only in their own clubs' position on the premiership ladder. In some cases, that is understandable; some of them are concerned for their jobs next year.

But around the many troubles that confront a league coach, is the need for the game to survive.

Coaches would not be required to discuss team policy or tactics.

But there is the need for all coaches to reveal their feelings on certain issues that are inconsistent in the field of play and for the subsidiary leagues such as Amateurs, Sunday League and the numerous country leagues to follow, according to the standards and requirements of the State's highest league.

Any meeting of the coaches should also investigate the administrative direction of football and perhaps even consider the role of the media in promoting the game and taking it to the people and, more importantly, to the potential stars of the future.

League coaches, particularly Bunton who is the most experienced and Neesham, who is directly involved

with the media and totally understands the needs of the scribes to getting news, are best placed to offer football good advice on how the game can be promoted — and survive.

A meeting of league coaches, respected administration personnel and some leading media representatives would be unique and a step in the right direction to put football on a unified path as the game heads into another decade.

There has been a lot of hype and emotion in the past decade, particularly the past three years, over the future of the game.

If football is to survive, it needs unity.

Sunday Football has been able to cope with some of the challenges the 1980s has offered and benefitted greatly by a coaches meeting early this year when many things were thrashed out and adopted for the sake of unity.

If it can be done at one of the lower levels, it can be done at the top.



Demons coach Rob Wiley says thanks to rookie Warren Mahoney

ROOKIE'S REVENGE

PERTH rookie Warren Mahoney certainly stood out at the WACA Ground on Saturday, being the only player in the sunny conditions to wear a long-sleeved guernsey. East Perth players (not to mention their supporters) got a little tired of seeing the No. 16 jumper tearing around the ground as he played well off a wing. And a few Royals officials were probably spitting chips as well. The former Geelong West youngster was directed to Perth Oval last summer by one-time Royals champion Gary Malarkey — but in the coaching changeover at East Perth he was given the cold shoulder, so he followed up a suggestion to look up Bryan Cousins at Perth... and the Demons did the rest.

Jaws open up...

JUST when Eagles coach John Todd thought it was safe to step back into the world of the media...the jaws have bitten again! Monday's regular press briefing ended abruptly when Todd figured in a heated debate with Channel 10 interviewer Peter Ensel — ill-feeling that has simmered all year. A tongue-in-cheek question from Ensel about the success rate of Alex Jesaulenko since taking over at Carlton brought a sharp retort that basically questioned Ensel's sporting prowess more so than answering the query. Some pushing and shoving resulted and the two men adjourned to Todd's room for further "discussions". When it's recalled that Channel 10 seriously considered boycotting the Eagles pre-season because of bad relationships, the boys out at Tuart Hill will monitor this one closely.

TURN-COAT

RADIO 6PR's controversial critic Rod Brown has turned turtle — he's now supporting West Coast Eagles chief Bill Kerr! Brown admitted on last week's Football Forum show that he's changed his mind about Kerr's influence and believes that he's now doing a good job. "I've had a bit to do with him recently and I must admit I've changed my views," he said. "Football's all the better for having Bill Kerr at the top," he said.

CLUB LOYALTY...

EVEN the West Coast Eagles have lost track of player-movements between their camp and WAFL clubs. A bulletin issued this week suggests that Eagles skipper Murray Rance would be available to return to East Perth to play subject to a fitness test. Swans might have something to say about that!

TOUGH AFTERNOON

CLAREMONT players certainly had a "dog" day afternoon when they were mauled by the South Fremantle Bulldogs at Fremantle Oval last Saturday. While South played extremely well to win, the Tigers were a little off their game — as the worst mistake of the year confirms. Tigers skipper John Scott was kicking out after a Bulldogs point — and kicked straight to the man on his mark, Glen Jakovich, who posted an easy goal!

SICK SIREN

THE siren at Leederville Oval has caught a dose of the latest influenza virus which has hit Perth. Listening to it at the West Perth/East Fremantle game last Saturday, it sounded way off colour. Instead of being a loud siren, it was more of a feeble buzz and had there been a roaring crowd, the umpires would have struggled to hear it.

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THE HOOD

WA's most feared football critic



VIC INFLUENCE

THE West Australian Teal Cup squad will be strongly protected by a "team" of security guards in Melbourne this week as WAFL development officers keep the talent scouts away from tomorrow's stars. East Perth's DO is Andrew Komp, a Victorian actually, who'll be in Melbourne looking after the Royals interests — we hope! His comments on Radio 6NR last week were a little puzzling. When asked what he thought of WA's chances he said: "I hate to say it, but they have a good chance." Was he resenting WA's prospects, or did he just get the question mixed up and refer to Victoria by mistake?

RUNNING BATTLE

EAST Fremantle runner Peter Thomas is in the news again and for a similar reason as he was mentioned here last time! The last occasion was when Thomas was warned by umpire Grant Vernon for becoming involved in a player fracas in the Fremantle Derby on June 5. This time he and West Perth runner Liam O'Connor shared shoves midfield at the 14-minute mark of the second quarter of last Saturday's game at Leederville Oval. Tempers were frayed among players on both sides in this match, but this time Thomas escaped the wrath of the umpire. Runners really do get in the way, don't they?

FALCON WAGS

LOVE them or hate them, there are some funny wags at Leederville Oval. Two comments from the members area during the West Perth/East Fremantle clash last Saturday are worth a mention. As the Sharks Little Leaguers were waiting to go onto the field they sat down near the boundary line which prompted the comment: "How many interchange do you want Melrose." The other "funny" delivered in the closing minutes was directed at out-of-touch East Fremantle ruckman Brad Tunbridge, who had dropped several marks. The wag said: "Get a texta colour out there quick so that he can mark something."

DOUBLE DECISION

DECIDING when a player has deliberately put the ball out over the boundary line is one of football's most controversial decisions. Field umpire David Johnson gave Royals fans some heartburn at the WACA Ground when he penalised an East Perth player under a heavy tackle for shoving out a handball that dribbled over the line. Shortly afterwards Johnson ignored a huge thump from a Perth ruckman in the same spot contesting a boundary throw-in that went straight back over the line. What's the difference, ump?

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BATTLE OF THE CHAMPS

Vics favoured in SA grudge match

South Aussies in big build-up

WEATHER conditions which have played havoc in the VFL club competition in recent weeks will be a key factor in Saturday's interstate clash-of-the-decade.

The first-ever State-of-Origin match in Melbourne between Victoria and South Australia is being billed as the battle to determine Australia's real football champions.

The rival selectors will keep a close eye on the weather as they finalise their 22-man squads for the MCG clash — the first in Melbourne for 18 years.

The absence of Victoria's "Big Three" — skipper Greg Williams, reigning Brownlow Medallist Gerard Healy and the suspended Gary Ablett — hasn't worried football bookmakers who have the Vics as 5/2-on favourites to beat the Croweaters, who are at 7/4.

But not everyone agrees with the odds — including Healy, who says that the Victorians should be underdogs after SA's recent fine record against them.

The inclusion of Tony Lockett for his first game in more than a month — along with the elevation of Dermott Brereton from the Victorian "B" team which plays Tasmania on Sunday — are crucial factors in favour of the locals.

The Victorians regard the game as a "grudge" match...and the South Australians see it as the battle for national honours.

Likely Vic skipper Dale Weightman says:

"We've got a lot to give back to them. We're keen to do well and give them a hell of a hiding."

VFL Commissioner Alan Schwab is hoping for a crowd of 65,000 — but continued Melbourne rain could reduce the fans by 15,000; this isn't a time for dedicated club loyalty.

Changes

The weather conditions could force the Big V selectors to make 11th-hour changes to their combination, which is

Vics favoured in SA grudge match

OUR Eastern States expert, 6NR commentator **KEN PIESSE**, previews Saturday's clash between Victoria and South Australia — the first interstate game in Melbourne for nearly two decades.



ON THE EAST COAST

already geared up to stop the run of SA's small players.

At least one tagger, Melbourne's Steve Newport, is likely to play; he'll stand SA centreman Craig Bradley.

There is also consideration being given to bring in a specialist stopper for Tony McGuinness; a job that could go to Geelong's Andrew Bews.

But that still leaves dangerous John Platten and his SA mate Mark Naley.

"These aren't exhibition games anymore," said the injured Healy, who would have skipped the Vics if he had been available.



John Platten...he'll be donning a SA guernsey

HOW THE EAGLES HAVE PERFORMED

	1989 Kicks	1989 Marks	1989 H/balls	1989 Score
John Anear	138	37	41	4.3
Adrian Barich	59	10	19	1.1
Todd Breman	100	35	22	6.11
Michael Brennan	113	37	37	2.3
Clinton Browning	25	12	6	5.1
Shane Cable	4	2	3	0.0
Joe Cormack	8	2	2	0.1
Shane Ellis	59	20	20	8.4
Richard Geary	0	0	1	0.0
David Hart	138	35	37	8.11
Peter Higgins	6	5	2	0.0
Brent Hutton	33	19	8	0.1
Stevan Jackson	64	35	29	20.10
Laurie Keene	15	8	4	1.0
Dean Laidley	65	17	27	0.1
Dwayne Lamb	122	41	61	5.4
Karl Langdon	47	20	15	10.4
Chris Lewis	126	49	47	11.8
Andrew Lockyer	76	35	28	4.5
Chris Mainwaring	188	59	73	1.12
Stephen Malaxos	131	47	71	3.7
Guy McKenna	130	75	112	0.1
Peter Melesso	5	4	0	1.1
Geoff Miles	77	35	36	3.0
David O'Connell	102	66	30	2.7
Paul Peos	18	13	3	0.3
Don Pyke	166	50	61	13.15
Murray Rance	75	44	44	0.2
Phil Scott	77	36	25	12.3
Peter Sumich	85	32	5	18.7
Craig Turley	96	29	33	2.2
Dean Turner	113	36	32	6.7
Troy Ugle	3	0	3	0.0
Chris Waterman	92	34	26	9.3
Scott Watters	35	7	20	3.0
John Worsfold	155	64	52	3.2

"There is a lot of prestige at stake and if that means taking out opposing players with the use of taggers, then so be it."

The Victorians believe they can beat SA everywhere and if they can break-even against Messrs Platten, Bradley, McGuinness, Naley and Co. they will be assured of a morale-boosting victory after three consecutive losses to SA.

The Big V selectors have gone for pacy in-form types and insisted on the two-pronged full-forward line with Jason Dunstall next to big Lockett.

The pair have kicked 135 goals between them this year — at an average of six a game — and will need to be closely watched.

Port Adelaide's Greg Phillips could be the man to tackle Lockett, with Melbourne's Danny Hughes opposed to Dunstall.

Prolific

Geelong's prolific kick-winner, centreman Paul Couch, could make his interstate debut and Hawthorn's mobile follower Greg Dear is also likely to play, ahead of veteran and regular All Australian Simon Madden.

Likely Big V skipper Weightman and Sydney Swans rover Barry Mitchell have big roles if the Victorians are to win.

Both have shaken off injuries this season and will need to run hard on the ball to match the skilled opposition.

The charismatic Brereton has had only one game back after a three-match suspension, but seems certain to be included, particularly with the suspension of Brownlow Medal favourite Ablett.

"If I do play, I'll be giving it my all," Brereton said.

"State games are special occasions. All the players think that. And we know we must play at our top to knock them off."

If the Victorians go for only one on-field ruckman — the in-form Dear — then there will be at least one other big man in the 22, Geelong's Barry Stoneham, Melbourne's Jim Stynes or Carlton's Madden.

Tough

It shapes as a fantastic match, one which is sure to be tough and unrelenting.

For the South Australian players not involved in the VFL, it's their chance to compare their own standard with that being played by their former club mates who have crossed the border.

Likely line-up

VICTORIA
 Backs: Andrew Collins, Chris Langford, Gary Ayres.
 Half-backs: Tim Watson, Shane Morwood, Brett Lovett.
 Centres: Andrew Bews, Paul Couch, Gavin Brown.
 Half-forwards: Garry Lyon, Dermott Brereton, Robert Scott.
 Forwards: Barry Mitchell, Jason Dunstall, Tony Lockett.
 Followers: Greg Dear, Steve Newport, Dale Weightman.
 Interchange (from): Barry Stoneham, Darrin Pritchard, David Murphy, Neville Bruns, Jim Stynes.

THERE is a sense of urgency and desperation among South Australians as they prepare for Saturday a clash with Victoria at the MCG.

Former West Perth coach Graham Campbell, now a TV and radio commentator in Adelaide, says that the match is being billed as more than just another interstate clash.

"It's been promoted as one helluva challenge for the South Aussies," says Campbell.

"It's their big chance to finally show Victorian people that they can play football."

It's the first time in 18 years that they have played an interstate game in Melbourne and though the South Aussies have won their last three clashes with Victoria in Adelaide, they are not over-confident.

"The home-ground advantage and the home-town crowd will be two hurdles the South Australians have to beat."

Vic players

Campbell believes that only about seven players will come from SANFL ranks to join the Adelaide players currently based in the VFL.

And most of the locals will be from Port Adelaide, the unbeaten league leaders coached by State coach John Cahill.

Campbell rates Port full-back Roger Delaney and their full-forward Scott Hodges as top players and almost certain to get Cahill's nod for the interstate battle.

North Adelaide midfielders Darren and Andrew Jarman should be included, as will team-mate and ruckman Michael Redden, plus Norwood's Michael Aish, who looks a likely captain.

The SA selectors will naturally take their rovers from VFL ranks with John Platten, Mark Naley and Tony McGuinness all logical choices.

Carlton's ace Stephen Kernahan will relish an appearance in a SA guernsey and the form of ruckmen Matt Rendell and Mark Mickan will please the selectors.

Campbell says that the SA build-up has been a good one ... but he tips the Vics to win by 11-20 points.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Backs: Bruce Abernethy, Rodger Delaney, Greg Phillips.
 Half-backs: Greg Whittlesea, Craig Kelly, Steve Stretch.
 Centres: Greg Anderson, Craig Bradley, Grant Fielke.
 Half-forwards: Tony Hall, Steve Kernahan, Andrew Jarman.
 Forwards: Mark Naley, Scott Hodges, Bruce Lindner.
 Followers: Michael Redden, Tony McGuinness, John Platten.
 Interchange (from): Michael Aish, Mark Mickan, Darren Jarman, Rudi Mandemaker, Keiran Sporn.

How WA players performed in VFL

	KICKS	MARKS	H/BALLS	SCORE
HAWTHORN				
Gary Buckenara	16	2	10	1.1
MELBOURNE				
Warren Dean	6	2	2	1.0
Alan Johnson	16	2	1	1.1
Earl Spalding	10	5	3	1.0
NORTH MELBOURNE				
Jim Krakouer	9	2	5	0.2
Phil Krakouer	9	3	4	3.1
Derek Kickett	9	1	5	0.2
RICHMOND				
Peter Wilson	5	2	2	—
ST KILDA				
Steve Turner	5	2	—	—
Nicky Winmar	21	6	5	1.3
Paul Harding	11	5	3	—
SYDNEY SWANS				
Wayne Henwood	11	8	5	3.2
BRISBANE BEARS				
David Bain	10	2	3	—
John Gastev	16	1	3	0.1
Brad Hardie	10	4	1	2.5
Rod Lester-Smith	10	3	2	0.1
Mike Richardson	16	4	6	—
CARLTON				
Wayne Blackwell	10	2	4	—
Richard Dennis	3	1	—	—
Steve DaRui	11	3	2	—
COLLINGWOOD				
Mark Bayliss	7	5	3	2.4
Murray Wrensted	16	4	9	0.2
FITZROY				
Brett Stephens	9	4	5	—
Wally Matera	9	4	5	—
GEELONG				
Mark Bairstow	14	7	6	—

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

DWAYNE LAMB
 with 19 kicks, five handballs, four marks.

ROVING ROWE

EAST Fremantle's whiz-kid Bradley Rowe is rated as one of the most exciting little men to emerge in WA football in the last decade.

Current East Fremantle director Ray (Oscar) Howard was also an outstanding rover with the blue-and-whites and has watched Rowe's progress closely.

Last Saturday I went to Leederville Oval with Howard explicitly to watch Rowe take on West Perth.

With his right ankle strapped — the legacy of an injury from his Geraldton days — Rowe was given five minute bursts on the ball throughout the match.

But whether he was roving or resting in a forward pocket, you could always sense that he was about to do something special.

Handball

Two deadly Rowe handpasses resulted in goals to Neil Lester-Smith and Brian Peake in the opening term and he joined the scoring off his own boot when he hit the post at the 26-minute mark after running away from opponents on the right wing.

"His pace off the mark then was explosive," said Oscar. "His chasers never got close to him."

By his own standards, Rowe had a quiet second term. But it was his anticipation of where the ball would drop that gave him the Sharks 10th goal.

With the ball pumped high into the goal area, Rowe was waiting behind the pack — and made no mistake from two metres out when it spilled over into his waiting hands.

That was followed up four minutes into the second term by his second goal when Falcons rival Sean King tried to handpass out of trouble. Rowe, on the ready, intercepted, eluded another op-

Sharks

star is

all

class

by
GEORGE TEMPLE

Brad Rowe...with the Foundation Derby Cup after another great performance.



ponent and goaled with pure rover opportunism.

He was anticipating West Perth again six minutes later.

Rebounding out of defence, he burst between two Falcons to intercept a handpass and his unerring footpass found Peake leading from full-forward. The goal was a formality.

Just minutes before three-quarter time he took Brad Tunbridge's ruck tap-out, sprinted away from opponents and perfect disposal lead to a Clinton Browning goal.

Said Oscar: "He really came to life in that quarter. Brad demonstrated how he likes to use his dash, then steady and deliver the ball upfield."

Rowe delighted the East Fremantle fans in the final quarter by running down West Perth's favourite son, skipper Peter Menaglio. The Falcon star

was dashing away from the pack when East Fremantle's John Platten look-alike quickly reined him in and earned a free kick for holding the ball.

"With his ability Brad would go straight into most VFL teams," Oscar said. "He has all the characteristics shown by the key players in VFL teams that have played the Eagles this season."

Those words were echoed by veteran Peake — the stalwart Shark who left his mark on the VFL after a 66-game spell with Geelong.

Tribute

After the Sharks win Rowe paid tribute to Peake.

"Bomber has been a big help to me this season. He takes me aside at training and tells me little things that help improve my game."

And Bomber added: "His talent is unlimited. Brad just has to learn to curb his fearless enthusiasm and turn it into creative football."

Another of Rowe's mentors is father John, who journeys from Geraldton every weekend to watch his son ... a trip that could be a bit hard next season if he's in the VFL!

"TOP MARK"

Big South Fremantle ruckman Craig Edwards pulls in one of his many strong marks opposed to Claremont's Peter Mann.



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Sharks can post their 250th win

EAST Fremantle look set for another milestone this week with victory giving them their 250th win at East Fremantle Oval.

Included in the tally is their record at that ground in the 1906 season when they temporarily made their home there.

Subiaco have a bad record at East Fremantle, having won only 11 out of 55 games there. In fact, their first 25 games there produced only one win and in the 1980's they have only won there twice.

Goal shortage

LAST week's Footscray-Essendon game failed to produce a goal in the third quarter ... a rare occurrence, but with a recent one for the record books. Just last year Subiaco and East Fremantle could only manage one point each in a quarter when the Lions won 6.7 to 3.9. The only other goal-less quarter in the last 60 years was in 1950 when Claremont added two points to West Perth's in a 3.13 to 3.8 victory.

National coaches

WHILE there is still much talk about the VFL becoming a truly national competition, the coaching ranks are starting to achieve a national flavor. There is a South Australian in Malcolm Blight at Geelong, a Tasmanian in Darrel Baldock at St Kilda, a West Aussie in John Todd with the Eagles and from the ACT returns Carlton coach Alex Jesaulenko.

INTERSTATE UPDATE

with
RICHARD CAMM



Eagles set records — in the mud

THE Princes Park mud — conditions quite foreign to the West Coast Eagles — resulted in WA's VFL team recording their lowest score.

Previously the Eagles lowest score was 6.13, against St Kilda at Moorabbin in May, 1987. On that day, the Eagles scored only one goal after quarter-time as deplorable conditions took their toll.

On Saturday, the Eagles were able to goal in every quarter, but their final score of 5.11 was eight points less than that recorded two years previous.

SATURDAY'S game was also the first in which the Eagles have had less than four goalkickers.

On three previous occasions — all in Melbourne, against Richmond in 1987, and Collingwood and Footscray last year — four players had kicked all of the Eagles goals.

On Saturday, only two players — Andrew Lockyer and Chris Lewis — shared the Eagles five goals.

THE conditions at Windy Hill were obviously less conducive to scoring than at Princes Park, as Essendon and Footscray struggled to kick three goals each for the game.

The match aggregate of 51 points was the lowest in a VFL game for over 60 years. In the 1927 grand final, Collingwood kicked 2.13 to Richmond's 1.7 in conditions considered to be possibly the worst-ever for a VFL match, giving an aggregate of only 38 points.

Essendon's score of 3.10 was also the lowest winning score since the 1927 grand final.

FOOTBALL FACTS

By top WA football historian
DAVE CLEMENT



Home grounds

HOME grounds generally give teams an advantage in sports all over the world, so how have the eight WAFL clubs fared in games at home?

Here's a look at their efforts:

Club	Ground	% of wins
E. Fremantle	E. Fremantle & Fremantle Oval	70%
W. Perth	Leederville	65%
E. Perth	Perth Oval & WACA Ground	63%
S. Fremantle	Fremantle	58%
Perth	Lathlain & WACA Ground	54%
Claremont	Claremont Oval	49%
Subiaco	Subiaco Oval	47%
Swan Districts	Bassendean	45%

(East Fremantle had a 75% success rate when they used Fremantle Oval as their headquarters).

Just to show that winning percentages don't guarantee success at home, East Fremantle have only beaten Claremont at East Fremantle Oval twice in the 1980s.

In the same time, East Perth have won only two games at home against Swan Districts and Perth have a similar record against Claremont.

Late finishers

HOW much start can you give a team and still win? As the Sydney Swans stormed home in a vain bid to beat Geelong last Sunday, that was a topical question. Try this one — when South Fremantle played Perth at the WACA on May 13, 1922, the Demons led all day and half-way through the last quarter South trailed 1.4 to 6.5. But in the last nine minutes the Bulldogs kicked six goals to win 7.4 to 6.5!

Selfish Eagles hurt WAFL

WEST Australian football received another kick in the face this week — from our own VFL club.

What a weak excuse — “mid-season fatigue” — by the West Coast Eagles to make so many players unavailable for WAFL matches this weekend, while the Vics and South Australia play a State-of-Origin match in Melbourne.

You can bet your bottom dollar that most of those “unavailable” players would be considered for selection if the Eagles were playing a match this weekend.

WA footy needs a lift at the moment, but it seems a pretty one-sided arrangement between the Eagles and WAFL.

The WAFL is expected to give Eagles players match practice when they are not required for VFL games — but there's no return thanks.

The fact the WAFL was prepared to switch fixtures to accommodate the expected influx of Eagles players into its competition shows how keen they are to give the local competition a boost.

So why couldn't the Eagles have come to the party?

That answer is quite obvious — all they care about is how they perform in the VFL.

Reluctant

One could understand them being reluctant to release players if they were fighting for a place in the finals.

But this season is history for the Eagles even though coach John Todd is obviously anxious to win a few more matches.

While the Eagles have become very competitive, they have the job ahead of them not to finish with the wooden spoon.

Todd's pride may be on the line. But his reputation is not. As a coach he has the runs on the board. But he has found a sticky wicket in the VFL.

The decision on whether he will remain as coach will have already been made.

And it will probably revolve around things other than his ability to coach. So it really makes little difference how the Eagles finish the season.

Sure, it would be nice for them to finish on a high note. It would enable Bill Kerr and Co. the opportunity to salvage a little bit of face.

It has been a miserable season for them; one you can bet they will not be anxious to repeat next year. They may look for scapegoats and it could be Todd.

But that's their problem.

... and finals rule should be changed

It's a pity that it appears as though selfish motives will prevent some of the State's best players being on display this weekend in the WAFL.

And while on the the relationship between the Eagles and WAFL — if a player becomes a regular member of the Eagles, he should not be allowed to return to the WAFL for the finals.

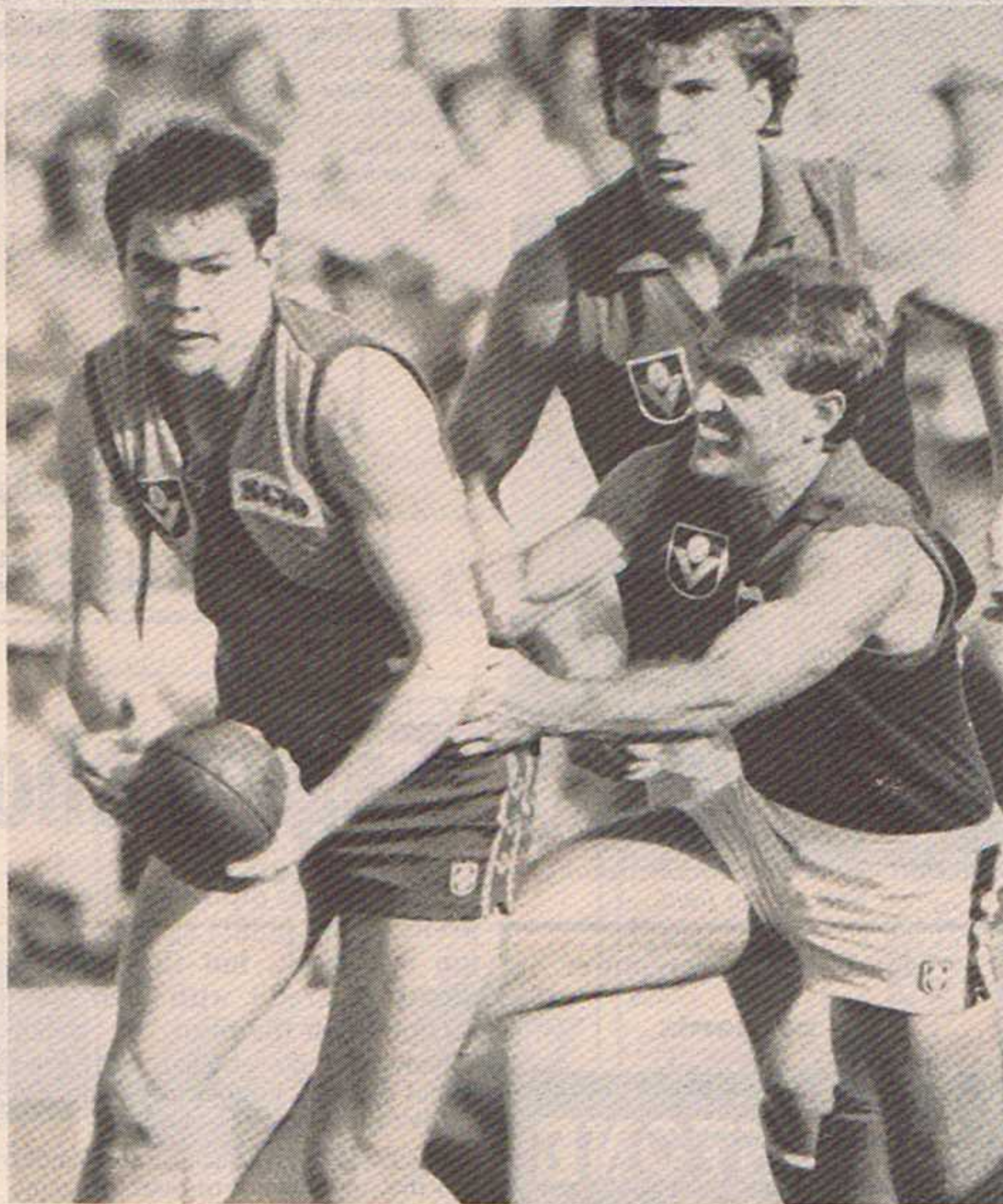
It was a joke last year that Laurie Keene was allowed to play for Subiaco after cementing his place in the Eagles side and being probably their most influential player in the lead-up to their VFL finals appearance.

It was particularly unfair that he was able to become eligible for Subiaco through a technicality, by being left out at the last moment after being selected for an Eagles match.

Subiaco probably would not have made it into the grand final, let alone won the premiership if Keene had not played for them.

Now it seems as though South Fremantle could be tempted to qualify Stevan Jackson for the finals under a similar ruse.

He shouldn't be eligible as he has become an integral part of the Eagles line-up.



Stevan Jackson ... he should be ruled ineligible for Souths.

FAI CAR OWNERS' MUTUAL presents ...

BENNETT'S BURST

By ROBERT BENNETT
of The Sunday Times



Eagles men in a mess

THE Royal Parade Hotel in Carlton might not be a posh five-star hotel...but it does provide good service for the West Coast Eagles on their Melbourne trips.

But the friendly receptionists couldn't have been too happy last Friday when the players walked into the foyer after a training run.

On the eve of experiencing the worst playing conditions they have encountered in their short history — against Carlton at Princes Park — coach John Todd gave his troops a real “dirty” session on the Friday afternoon.

The Eagles trained on the oval adjacent to Princes Park and the one-hour session was held in the centre cricket wicket area.

Towards the end, Todd paired off the players and ordered them to wrestle each other in the “smelly” gluepot.

In something akin to mud wrestling, the players caked each other with the filthy stuff.

Watching in mild amusement was injured captain Murray Rance...but that quickly changed as the players grabbed their skipper and tossed him into the fray.

Twenty-one mud-caked footballers then trooped across Royal Parade and into the hotel, heading towards a welcome hot shower.

Worsfold is blacked out

STAR Eagles midfielder John Worsfold has had his share of setbacks this season ... and he encountered a further problem last Saturday in the Princes Park bog.

Worsfold, one of the team's vice-captains, had to leave the ground after getting some mud in his eye.

The problem was complicated because Worsfold wears contact lenses and he simply couldn't see.

With the help of the training staff, he had to take the lenses out, wash them and put them back in before taking the field again.

Pyke's problem

PINT-sized Claremont rover Don Pyke has made a good transition to VFL football this season.

However, the Eagles small man is currently playing with a handicap and faces a shoulder operation at the end of the season.

Pyke faces the problem of having the shoulder “pop out” almost every time he's in a physical clash.



HOUGHTON WINES
PRESENT ...

IN THE EAGLES NEST

with 6NR's PETER VLAHOS



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PROGRESS

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11 Guy McKenna,
8 Phil Scott,
7 Chris Mainwaring
6 David O'Connell
5 Michael Brennan

This week's broadcast games:

WAFL — Saturday from 2pm
East Fremantle v Subiaco

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



Dining with the Dipper



Robert DiPierdomenico...doing well off the field.

FORMER Brownlow Medallist Robert DiPierdomenico is making every post a winner in his football — and business — career. During last week's sojourn in Melbourne, one-time Hawthorn champion and premiership player John Hendrie — now the national sales manager for Puma Australia — entertained me and naturally we dined at the new Dippers Cafe, run by the one and only DiPierdomenico. The big Dipper is in partnership with former VFL players Michael Green (Richmond) and Frank Dimmatina (North Melbourne and Richmond). The cafe might be in Carlton territory, but business was booming and Dipper was at his confident best. While his year on the field has only been average, the tough wingman is doing well off the field. He has become something of a TV star in a kids show; is on Melbourne radio and writes a weekly newspaper column.



IAN MILLER

Former VFL, WAFL star
Sandover Medallist and league coach



Eagles showed some true grit in the mud

THE Eagles didn't get the four premiership points against Carlton last week, but they gained plenty of credit with their performance in the mud.

I always believed that the Eagles would struggle, not because of ability, but because of the conditions.

But I was wrong because the Eagles had the opportunity to take the game away from Carlton and showed plenty of grit to overcome the horrendous playing surface.

Lapses in concentration at crucial stages such as in the third quarter and the fact that many players are still coming to terms with the continual physical commitment required, cost them the game.

The Eagles lost and no one should accept mediocrity in performances.

But under the conditions they did well. Next time around at Princes Park — against Hawthorn in two weeks — will be another test for them.

The efforts of David O'Connell and Adrian Barich over four quarters was tops and it's good to see "border-line" players like that succeeding.

Tough Tucky still at it

A BRIEF visit to Glenferrie Oval to see the mighty Hawthorn side train gave me a chance to have a close look at veteran Michael Tuck.

It was fascinating watching Tuck, whose build could only be described as 'slight', doing weights work!

Surely he was only trying to set an example; after 17 years in the VFL, those arms and legs aren't going to get any stronger!

VFL leading goalkickers

Tony Lockett, St. Kilda	70.23
Jason Dunstall, Hawthorn	65.38
Gavin Exell, Geelong	44.20
Brian Taylor, Collingwood	44.26
Gary Ablett, Geelong	41.22
Richard Osborne, Fitzroy	39.27
Stephen Kernahan, Carlton	34.25
Jeff Hogg, Richmond	33.29
Brad Hardie, Brisbane Bears	29.20
Paul Salmon, Essendon	29.09
Scott Robert, Geelong	28.16
Tony Hall, Hawthorn	21.15
Bill Brownless, Geelong	21.17
Stevan Jackson, West Coast Eagles	20.10
Nicky Winmar, St Kilda	19.17
Dermott Brereton, Hawthorn	19.12
John Georgiadis, Footscray	19.15
Mark Naley, Carlton	19.06
Peter Sumich, Eagles	18.07
Ian Fairley, North Melbourne	18.04

The Blues look good off-field

THE ground surface at Princes Park might be a mess, but that doesn't apply to some of the other facilities.

Carlton, one of the VFL's richest and most successful clubs, have certainly not held back with the facilities in the new John Elliot Stand; they are tremendous, from the cocktail and dining areas to the sponsors and super-boxes ... and the media facilities.

Unfortunately radio 6NR and 6PR — unlike our print friends — were not housed in the new area, but on the opposite side of the ground, in an open area among the fanatical Blues supporters!

But after lunching in luxury and walking through the new media facilities, it was something of a comedown, with Peter Vlahos, Ken Piesse and myself sharing one microphone, one Football Record and one pen!

The spirit prevails

WITH a win/loss record reading 2/11, the average Eagles supporter could be forgiven for thinking that the players team spirit and off-field confidence would be down.

Travelling back from Melbourne last week with the Eagles squad confirmed that, even after the frustrating loss to Carlton, the team spirit was still there.

There are strong bonds developing among the players, especially the newcomers.

When a side continually struggles to win, spirit off the field can flag; but that's certainly not the case with the Eagles.

State battle lacks interest

IT was interesting being in Melbourne last week and testing the Victorian public's reaction to this week's State-of-Origin clash with South Australia.

It will be the first State game held in Melbourne between the two teams for 18 years ... but do the Vics really care?

The feeling I got was that it only interrupted their club competition and interest in State football from the public, not the players, was minimal.

The VFL is promoting the game strongly on TV and in the print media and there was a strong feeling that the Croweaters attitude was getting up the nose of many a Victorian.

GI changes his colours

WALKING through the Carlton members area before Saturday's game at Princes Park, I ran into a former Perth teammate in Gerry Iseger.

Gerry was a member of Perth's 1967 and 1968 premiership teams, but is now very much a Blues supporter. He has been living in Melbourne for 13 years and looked a treat, rugged up in his Carlton scarf and all.

A successful businessman, he's still not short of a word or three.

I always remember GI having the odd verbal encounter with Demons coach Mal Atwell; Gerry never did like to concede a point — on or off the field!



Adrian Barich..... in form

Max Heiden's Tyrepower presents

MILESTONE MEN

50 GAMES

- 48 Peter Owens (Claremont)
- 48 Scott Watters (South Fremantle)*
- 48 Graham Jones (Subiaco)*
- 48 David Hart (Eagles)
- 47 Graham Jones (Subiaco)
- 46 Scott Watters (South Fremantle)
- 47 Mick Grasso (Swan Districts)
- 45 Paddy Madaffari (West Perth)
- 45 Stephen Edgar (East Fremantle)
- 45 Peter Melesso (Claremont)
- 45 Arthur Maskos (South Fremantle)

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than current club as follows: Scott Watters — 46 South Fremantle, 2 Eagles, Graham Jones — 47 Subiaco, 1 Sydney Swans.

100 GAMES

- 99 Brad Shine (Swan Districts)
- 98 Chris Mainwaring (Eagles)*
- 96 Kim Hetherington (Swan Districts)
- 97 Bryce Forman (East Fremantle)*
- 96 Dean Turner (Eagles)*
- 95 John Scott (Claremont)
- 92 Tony Beers (Claremont)*
- 93 Craig Edwards (South Fremantle)
- 91 George Giannakis (East Perth)

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than current club as follows: Bryce Forman — 85 East Fremantle, 12 Perth, Tony Beers — 85 Claremont, 7 Collingwood, Chris Mainwaring — 51 Eagles, 47 East Fremantle, Dean Turner — 42 Eagles, 54 Fitzroy.

150 GAMES

- 149 Kim Hetherington (Swan Districts)
- 149 Clinton Browning (East Fremantle)*
- 145 Clinton Browning (East Fremantle)
- 144 Maurice Rioli (South Fremantle)
- 143 Peter Thorne (Claremont)*

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than current club as follows: Kim Hetherington — 96 Swan Districts, 53 East Fremantle, Clinton Browning — 4 Eagles, 145 East Fremantle, Peter Thorne — 82 Claremont, 34 East Perth 27, Melbourne.

300 GAMES

- 289 Brian Peake (East Frem)

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NFL coaching director John Warren (left) receives a sponsorship cheque from Commonwealth Bank's Vic Williams.

Champions emerge from WA's Teal Cup campaigns

SOME outstanding footballers have graduated out of WA's Teal Cup teams in the last decade.

The list of players includes three Sandover Medallists — Phil Narkle (1982), John Ironmonger (1983) and Steve Malaxos (1984) — plus a Brownlow Medallist in Brad Hardie.

There are 25 WA Teal Cuppers currently playing with VFL clubs and five players from last year's team have already graduated to WAFL senior teams.

Just have a look at these two hypothetical sides selected from WA Teal Cup sides:

Players now in the VFL:

Backs: Brad Hardie, Wayne Henwood, Paul Harding.
Half-backs: Michael Brennan, Murray Rance, Guy McKenna.
Centres: John Worsfold, Steve Malaxos, Darren Bewick.
Half-forwards: Steve Da Rui, Craig Starcevich, Brent Hutton.
Forwards: Peter Sumich, Darren Bennett, Richard Dennis.
Ruck: Alex Ischenko, Chris Lewis, Scott Watters.
Interchange: Chris Waterman, John Ironmonger, Peter Sartori, Karl Langdon, Paul Peos, Warren Dean.

Players now in the WAFL:

Backs: Brian Taylor, Clinton Brown, George Giannakis.
Half-backs: Tony Begovich, Michael Broadbridge, Stephen Edgar.
Centres: Kim Hetherington, Wayne Dawson, Danny Penny.
Half-forwards: Greg Turner, Peter Cransberg, Brad McDougall.
Forwards: Derek Collard, Grant Campbell, Tony Papotto.
Ruck: John Gavranich, Cliff Collard, Peter Miller.
Interchange: Jon Derecourt, Steve Bazzo, Geoff Passeri, John Clarkson.

Campbell is WA's only Medal man

AT the end of every Teal Cup championship a special memorial medal is awarded to the fairest and best player in the carnival.

WA's only winner in 11 years has been current East Perth veteran Grant Campbell, who was a star at the 1979 carnival.

Several other outstanding players have won the award including VFL players David Murphy in 1980 (playing with the ACT), Paul Salmon (Victoria) in 1981, Greg Anderson (South Australia) in 1983 and Steve Kolyniuk (Victoria) in 1987.

The Michael Larke Medal is named after a young NSW player who was killed in a bus accident as the team travelled to a practice match.

Those two teams are firm proof of the developmental aspect of Teal Cup football.

And don't forget — that WAFL team leaves out some pretty handy emerging young players such as Nathan Higgins, Darren O'Brien, Brad Fox, Greg Walker, Brett Heady, Craig Maclean, Brian Sutherland and John Lawrence.

In addition, this year's two star players in the Teal Cup side — Greg Turner and Glen Jakovich — are both current league players with South Fremantle, with Turner captaining the side.

The team is coached by Grant Dorrington, the general manager of the Town and Country Football Development Trust. The FDT's Ross Luckman is team co-ordinator.



Teal Cup skipper Greg Turner is pictured with coach Grant Dorrington and Town and Country representative Kevin Ridgewell.

The Cup's background

THE history of the Teal Cup championships dates back to 1953, but Western Australia didn't get involved till 1978 when they sent a team to Adelaide.

Initially, the Teal Cup — a trophy donated by a Mr and Mrs Teal, Australian Rules fans who lived in Sydney — was contested by New South Wales and Queensland, who won the first two interstate under-17 battles in 1953 and then again five years later, in 1958.

The series became an annual fixture in 1963, with Queensland beating NSW 11 years running.

In 1974, the National Football League sanctioned the Teal Cup as a national series and gradually other States joined the annual competition. NSW were victorious in 1974-75; Victoria in 1976-77; South Australia in 1978-79-80 and Victoria for the next four years.

WA's big victory came in 1985 when the series was staged in Perth and the talented home side, coached by Grant Dorrington, downed Victoria in the final.

Victoria have dominated the carnival in the last three years, but this year's series is expected to see tougher opposition from both South Australia and WA.

League stars from past Cup teams

THE following players have represented WA in Teal Cup carnivals and gone on to play senior football in the WAFL or the VFL, with the latter represented by an asterisk*.

1978: Mark Triplett, Phil Narkle, Glyn Williams, Peter Ashworth, Stephen Malaxos*, Kim Hetherington, Gary Armstrong, Grant Campbell, Brian Taylor, John Ironmonger*, David Court.

1979: Glyn Williams, Rod Campbell, Robert Zupanovich, Grant Campbell, John Gavranich, Mike Furlong, Brad Hardie*, Clinton Brown, Alan Rowe, Len Gandini*, Brad Lohar, Tony Adamson, Murray Rance*, Wayne Henwood*.

1980: Stephen Da Rui*, Michael Cockie, Trevor Malcolm, Mark Valli, Lyndsay Carter, Alan Rowe, Peter Sartori*, Robert Zupanovich, Peter Davidson*, Warren Mosconi, Rhet Baynes*, Oral McGuire.

1981: Paul Cook, Mark Valli, Michael Mori, Tim Bushe-Jones, Brent Hutton*, Rod Grljusich, Stephen Da Rui*, Ken Martin, Warren Dean*, Gary Bock, Dean Farmer, Paul Harding*, Robert Zupanovich, Peter Sartori*, Alex Ischenko*, Rhet Baynes*.

1982: Angelo Del Borrello, John Garnaut, John Zaikos, Shaun Kelly, Richard Dennis*, Ken Martin, Michael Brennan*, Darren Bennett*, Ian Newman.

1983: Richard Dennis*, Tony Papotto, Wayne Dawson, Anthony Begovich, Alex Rattray, Darren Best, Rod Bogaards, Brett Little, Derek Collard, Howard Collinge.

1984: George Giannakis, Danny Penny, Darren Bewick*, Craig Starcevich*, Stephen Edgar, Heath Soutar, Grenville Ugle, Warren Nicholas, Cliff Collard, Brad McDougall, Darren Williams, Anthony Begovich, Peter Cransberg, Greg Walker, Andrew Host, Finton Maguire.

1985: Alan Jakovich, Peter Sumich*, Guy McKenna*, Scott Watters*, Paul Peos*, John Worsfold*, Brad Mumme, Brian Sutherland, Grant Hatch, Brad Graham, Chris Waterman*, Chris Lewis*, Gavin Kerruish, Michael Broadbridge, Jon Derecourt, Richard Graham, Karl Langdon*, Mark Ryder.

1986: Geoff Passeri, Paul Gow, Shane Evans, John Clarkson, Brad Fox, Grant Hatch, Stephen Hooper, Richard Graham, Scott Watters*, Mark Cartier, Graeme Garnaut, Paul Sanzone, Peter Miller, Michael Chalmers, Steven Bazzo, Darren O'Brien.

1987: Craig Maclean, Damon Buckley, Peter Worsfold, Damien Read, Brett Heady, John Lawrence, Stephen Pears, Greg Jones, Steve Rosich, John Cooper.

1988: Greg Turner, Glen Jakovich, Craig Maclean, John Lawrence, Nathan Higgins.

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Kalgoorlie gold



Dean Kemp....potential star.

THE Kemp brothers from Kalgoorlie are two talented players with a big future in football.

Though Garry is moving into his late 20s, he is a player of considerable talent, while younger brother Dean has just turned 20 and has enormous potential.

Garry delayed his move to Perth to test his football ability, which is unfortunate because he would probably now be playing in VFL ranks, with his excellent skills giving him the credentials to be a success at the highest level.

Dean has learnt from his older brother and come to Perth young enough so that he can learn and adapt to the increased demands of senior football.

Dean has sound skills, plus an added ability that makes him a top priority for VFL recruits — a safe mark.

Mobile smaller players who can take a big overhead mark such as Richard Dennis or Nicky Winmar are excellent VFL prospects.

Kalgoorlie was one of the game's strongest football areas earlier this century; players of class were abundant. But the flow of talent from the Goldfields has been greatly reduced for a variety of reasons.

WAFL clubs have found it hard to attract talented youngsters from the Goldfields due to the high wages they can earn working in the mines. Moving to the city simply for football — with employment prospects not all that bright, let alone the lower salaries — is no great incentive for young players.

The recent achievements of Subiaco (and Eagles) player Glen O'Loughlin and Simpson Medal winner and premiership team member Mick Lee, plus the Kemp brothers now, will be a boost for Goldfields football.

They can become household names and heroes, enticing present-day

Kemp boys headed for VFL

DORRO'S DIARY

By GRANT DORRINGTON



juniors to Perth and tackle the WAFL before attempting the VFL.

Don't be surprised to see the Kemp brothers selected in the VFL draft later this year — and then become successful at that level.

But it would be great to think that both players could have another season in the WAFL, as they are potential crowd-drawers with their natural talent.



Garry Kempseasoned player

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Testing time for youngsters

THE 1989 Commonwealth Bank Teal Cup championship in Melbourne over the next week will be a real challenge for WA's aspiring young footballers.

The WA team will play the strong Victorian country side on Saturday at Princes Park...and if the fixture is unchanged, the atrocious ground condition will test our players.

A mud heap would adequately describe the oval, bringing back memories of last year's carnival in Canberra, where the grounds were like cow paddocks.

It is a new experience for our talented young players to compete against the best in Australia and it is a testing opportunity to play in conditions they have never experienced before.

Overcoming such challenges are the key to success. Watching the young players face a challenge and overcome it is one of the most rewarding parts of coaching teams like the Teal Cup.

The Victorians will have a great advantage in the mud, but will be challenged by the West Australians and the other States in what is the best display of our young talent that can be seen.

STRAIGHT TALKING

With Claremont coach GERARD NEESHAM



Edwards still has VFL potential

THE huge improvement in the football being displayed by big Craig Edwards confirms, once again, the value of allowing players to mature.

His football has improved over the past four seasons to a point where he can assert the same influence on a match that VFL stars like Simon Madden or Jim Stynes do.

His marking would be some of the strongest I've seen and for a man of his build, his mobility is exceptional.

Too many people expect too much of young players and their progress can be viewed in the wrong perspective.

Peter Mann, who rucked against Edwards last Saturday, is an exciting prospect, but it will probably be 10 years — when he's 28 — before he's classed as a top player.

To discount Edwards' career at this stage — and write him off as only a WAFL player — is being short-sighted.

He has the capacity to play another four or five top seasons and would easily adapt to VFL ranks.

Leon Baker is a classic example; starting his VFL career at the ripe old age of 26 and finishing at 31. In five short seasons, he earned a reputation as one of Essendon's great players.

The best years for footballers fall between the ages of 24 to 32; something continually overlooked by the recruiting people.

A player in his 25th year is suddenly too old for the VFL; yet professional basketball in WA will not even look at players till they are 24.

Howlett case is a blunder

THE Gavin Howlett case highlights the inadequacies in our laws.

To lose possession of the ball for wasting time is penalty enough; but to face the aggravation of a tribunal hearing and possible suspension for something so trivial obviates the necessity for a tiered form of penalties.

When I was recently penalised for tripping — which warranted a 50-metre penalty at best — I had to sit through a tribunal hearing and, on being found guilty, received a reprimand.

In the next five games, I saw at least six cases deliberate tripping not reported obviously because of the pathetic nature of the law.

The Howlett case falls into the same category.

In the 1987 America's Cup water polo tournament, a Russian player was deemed to be wasting time 10 seconds from full-time. He lost possession, resulting in a goal to Australia which drew the game 15-15.

The time-wasting penalty was handed out there and then; as is the case with basketball and hockey.

Howlett received his penalty on the day and that is where it should have stayed.

Rain, rain stay away

OUR game is certainly not enhanced by playing in the rain and with terrible muddy conditions.

Watching games such as last week's Eagles match shows how the skill level decreases dramatically — and the melees increase.

The greatly-reduced attendances in Melbourne last week indicated the supporters attitude. At one game only six goals were scored — not much to shout about.



Narkle sinks Royals — again



Dempsey Narkle...match-winner.

KICKING goals against East Perth is a common habit that big Perth forward Dempsey Narkle is starting to enjoy.

The talented Narkle produced a match-winning six goals to help sink the Royals at the WACA Ground on Saturday — repeating his effort of June 18 last year.

Narkle, a 22-year-old from Cloverdale who joined Perth after starting his career with South Fremantle, has had a troubled career as he strives for league permanency.

He has had to shrug off several disciplinary measures such as the odd relegation back to the reserves over his training attitudes, but his determination to succeed has never been diminished.

"I really want to prove myself as a league footballer," says Narkle, who spent last summer playing with North Darwin in the Northern Territory competition.

"I guess I've been a bit lazy with my football at different times and I need a shove along sometimes."

Narkle made his debut with South Fremantle in 1986, but after playing only eight games in two seasons, he switched to Lathlain Park where he was an instant success, with 19 games in the 1988 season.

Tall and agile, Narkle — whose christian names Dempsey Michael are after two of the game's all-time great Aboriginal players Bill Dempsey and Stephen Michael — shows the skill and

ball handling of the Narkle brothers from Swan Districts, even though they are not closely related.

Narkle has generally been regarded as a ruckman, but his goal-scoring sense and the use of his body — particularly his marking power — makes him a dangerous forward.

"I played mainly at full-forward or centre-half-forward in Darwin and I enjoy being in the forward line," he says.

"That was certainly my best effort this year and I'm now looking forward to really getting into match fitness," he added after the exhibition against the Royals.

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Edgar in a cool-headed mood

EAST Fremantle are angry ... and that's their recipe to win the 1989 premiership.

That's the opinion of in-form half-back Stephen Edgar, who gave another powerful performance in the Sharks 48-point win at Leederville Oval last Saturday.

But it's still a softly, softly approach for East Fremantle, who have been tipped out in the finals by Subiaco in each of the past three years.

Hard-hitting

"We're fed up with being beaten by the Lions and we want to end that hoodoo," Edgar said. "But we won't become hard-hitting rough men like some other teams.

"We've got a lot of talented players and we prefer the cool-headed approach.

"East Fremantle have had a slow start to the season, so we're taking it game by game. A lot of our problems got sorted out in the derby against South Fremantle and against Swan Districts last week."

Edgar added that the Sharks knack of winning the close game this season is because of their hard training schedule.

"We do a lot of running and that allows us to keep going for 120 minutes when other teams are getting tired," said Edgar.

"At least, I hope that's the reason because I hate running — for that matter I hate training."

While East Fremantle may be taking it one game at a time, the 22-year-old Shark is taking matters just quarter-by-quarter.

"I never go into a game with preconceived ideas because things never work out the way you expect them to," Edgar said. "I tackle problems as they happen."

But rather than tackling problems, the half-back flanker created a few for West Perth coach George Michalezyk last Saturday.

Edgar defended and rebounded superbly and despite swinging four different players onto him — David Ross, Peter Menaglio (while resting), Steven Bradmore and Chris Davies — he could not reduce the blond-bombshell's effectiveness.



Stephen Edgar top defender

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Plotting....former West Perth men Rod Brown and Dennis Cometti.



Former Perth player and media personality Allan (Chubby) Stiles collected the Watsonia Ham....much to the amusement of John K. Watts.



Percy Johnson....always controversial.



Bevan Stephens, of Leederville, receives some Rosso Antico wine from Marie Healey, of 6PR.



Anthony Kelly, of Coolbellup, accepts his Barbarella's prize in good spirit.



Trevor Sprigg....in a forcef

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All eyes....6PR panelists (left to right) Graham Farmer, Joe Fanchi, John Watts and Gary Carvolth.

FIERY FOOTY FEVER

THERE'S a group of footy fans in the West whose football menu starts at Friday lunchtime....and following Radio 6PR's Football Forum panel show around the suburbs is their entree. The long-running panel show still draws big crowds to hotels and football clubs....and Westside's photographer GEORGE TEMPLE was there recently to capture the atmosphere.



Enjoying the day were Greg Edwards and Maureen Burton.



a forceful mood.



John K. Watts congratulates \$100 Sunny Citrus winner Bonnie Paull, of Warwick.

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Yesterday's heroes



*Big and small ...
that's the hero
ranking at Perth*

THERE could never be any dispute that a Perth All Stars team would have two automatic choices — the No. 1 ruckman and the No. 1 rover.

The ruck/rover combination would naturally be legendary heroes Merv McIntosh, the club's best ruckman and the brilliant Barry Cable, whose roving feats were unsurpassed.

Both men are legends of football with three Sandover Medals apiece.

But while Cable is still actively involved in the sport he loves, McIntosh has not been to a football match in more than five years.



Barry Cable chats with Chris Mainwaring in the Eagles camp.

Instead, he prefers to watch his daughters play sport and they, like their father, have proved outstanding competitors.

Daughters Jill, Anne, Jodie and Paula all held State swimming records, with the latter two, who are twins, holding 31 records simultaneously and being outstanding State performers.

Jill proved to be one of the world's best netball players, captaining Australia in numerous games and leading them to many victories in the international arena.

And McIntosh's children have all proved themselves good softballers as well.

Bookmaker

After retiring from football with Perth's 1955 premiership victory as his last game, the Demon giant became a bookmaker for six years and then ran a vending machine hire business before moving behind the wheel of his own taxi in 1969 — an occupation he still enjoys 10 years later.

McIntosh began his football career in 1939, but it was after the war that his talents as a ruckman came to the fore.

Known as Big Mac because of his huge size, he had the ability to outmanoeuvre opponents at centre bounces and throw-ins and though he never played in the VFL, the way he led WA to two wins over Victoria at Subiaco Oval in 1948 confirmed how great a player he would have been in Melbourne if it was a different era.

That was also the year that the 197cm/105kg giant won his first Sandover Medal. More Sandovers came his way in 1953 and '54, but one of McIntosh's greatest triumphs was reserved for his farewell performance in the 1955 grand final.

With Perth looking a spent force at three-quarter time, Big Mac lifted the Demons to a one-point win with one of the best ruck efforts ever seen at League Headquarters. McIntosh was rewarded

KNOW YOUR CLUB

By George Temple



with the Simpson Medal and the knowledge that Perth had broken their 48-year premiership drought.

As well as three Sandovers and the 1955 Simpson Medal, Big Mac won Simpson Medals against South Australia in 1952, and at the 1953 Australian Championships. He also won a Tassie Medal in 1953 and was a seven-times winner of the Perth fairest and best award.

evotion

Cable's loyalty to football has never waned despite being almost killed in a horrific farm accident in 1979. That accident curtailed his playing days, but he recovered to complete his coaching commitments with East Perth (after leading them to the 1978 premiership) and went on to coach in the VFL, lifting North Melbourne to the top of the table during his 1982-84 spell.

Cable's devotion to the game continues. He is an assistant coach of the West Coast Eagles and full-time coach with the Football Development Trust.

Cable, who travels State-wide conducting coaching clinics for the FDT, believes that the Trust is the best thing that has happened to WA football.

"We have taken football back to the grass roots level — the schools," Cable said. "These days we are competing against a lot of other sports and in primary schools in particular there are not a lot of teachers who can coach football.

"We are re-introducing it through Aussie Footy which is modified rules for juniors."

From his early days in Narrogin, Cable was determined to be a star. Even though East Perth sent him packing because they thought he was too small for big-time football, his dedication didn't waver and Perth were all the happier.

Because of his body size he worked tirelessly at increasing his weight and strength and honing his natural hand and foot skills.

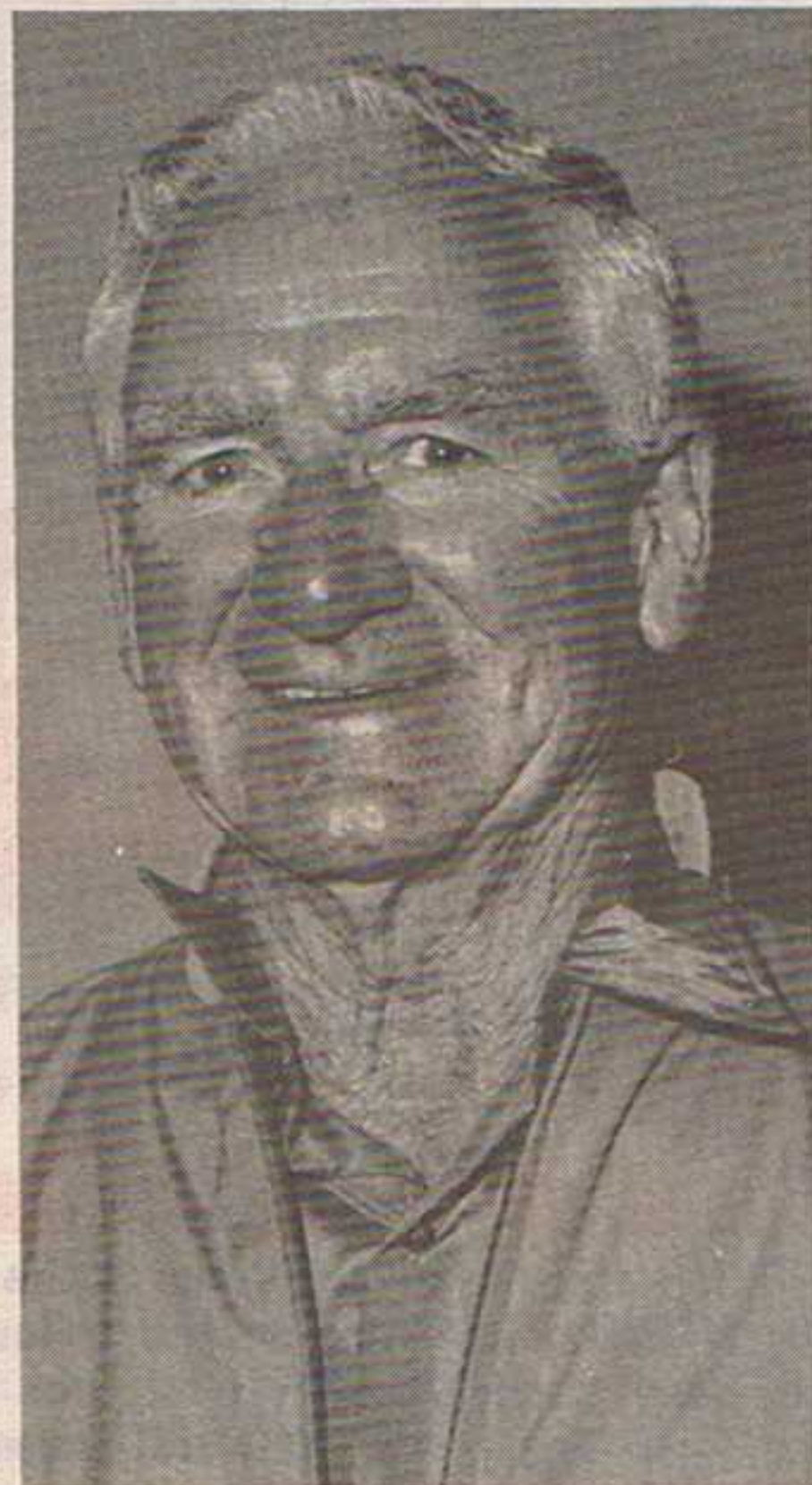
In 1966, '67 and '68 Perth won their famous hat-trick of premierships and Cable's contribution was brilliant, suffice to say he won the Simpson Medal in all three matches.

Dynamo

Cable became a pocket dynamo winning his Sandover Medals in 1964, '68

and '73, two All Australian blazers, seven Perth fairest and best awards and another with North Melbourne in 1970.

Cable established himself as one of the VFL greats of his era, playing in premiership teams with the Kangaroos in 1975 and '77 before returning to WA and leading East Perth as captain/coach to the WAFL premiership a year later.



Merv McIntosh...a ruck legend.

Then came the near-fatal tractor accident. There were months of speculation over his survival, but Cable's courage and determination wasn't to let him down. With an MBE in his pocket, he recovered and is still leaving his mark on football.

Cable has never forgotten his Perth loyalties and in 1985 he came out of retirement to be the club's development officer and coach of the Under 19s before being "recruited" by the Eagles.

The Cable name lives on with sons Shane and Barry jnr playing at Perth, with Shane earning his VFL spurs recently with his debut in the Eagles side.

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Swans stars serve the club loyally



KNOW YOUR CLUB
by **GEORGE TEMPLE**

THERE are many outstanding names on the Swan Districts honour board — but two men stand out when you look at the club's premiership glories of the 1960s.

In terms of football excellence, dynamic rover Bill Walker and versatile key position player Ken Bagley were heroes of the 1960s hat-trick of premiership teams.

And the duo have contributed greatly to the club's success, both then and in later years.

Apart from being champion players, Walker and Bagley have served the club at board level and in coaching capacities and Walker is currently guiding the club positively in his seventh year as president.

Away from football, the triple Sandover Medallist is a partner in a hotel chain, owns several newsagency outlets and has a avid interest in dressage horses. In fact, Walker recently visited Saudi Arabia to inspect some Andalusian horses in pursuit of his favourite hobby.

When one looks at Bill Walker the footballer and analyses his approach to the game, it is hardly surprising that he has also been successful in business.

The club's games-played record holder on 305 has a cool directness about him which was a characteristic that epitomised his football career.

Walker tasted premiership success with Swan Districts in 1961 — his first season of league football — and he never looked back.

For a man of small stature, Walker had amazing strength as a player, being able to break free of the packs and dispose of the football efficiently — a fact

that was to destroy many opposition teams.

Ultimately, this made him one of the most decorated players in the game.

Walker won consecutive Sandover Medals in 1965-66-67 and was runner-up on a countback in the 1970 Medal — which, one day, could be awarded retrospectively if the WAFL follows the VFL lead.

He won two Lindy Awards as the WA Sportsman of the Year, earned All Australian selection in 1969, was a Simpson Medallist in 1967, collected many media honours and won the club's Swan Medal for their fairest and best player on five occasions.

Finest

Walker's roving display against South Australia, which won him the Simpson Medal, is said to be one of the finest ever seen at Subiaco Oval. In that match he steered WA to a 20-point win.

Though he did not go to the VFL, there is no doubt that Walker would have been successful at that level.

In 1978 he joined the Board of Swans Directors, a position he held up until 1983 when he was voted president. Under his presidency Swans went on to complete their second hat-trick of premierships — the feat he helped achieve as a player 20 years earlier.

Since then he has worked tirelessly for WA football and has been instrumental in helping Swans rebuild after seeing the club slip to football's basement department. He could see just rewards for his efforts in the coming seasons as Swans unveil a host of young players and appear to be on the crest of another premiership wave.

Two players who could be featuring in future premiership teams include Walker's own sons, Greg, who has established himself as a competent league player and Brett, who is part of the table-topping Under 19s.

Yesterday's heroes



Bagley has also served the club well in addition to establishing himself successfully in business.

He resigned as a Swan Districts director at the end of 1988 after almost three years in the job and had previously coached the reserves side at Bassendean.

"I just had too many business commitments and felt that someone else with more time could do a better job," Bagley said.

When his playing days ended in 1970 — he played 232 games — Bagley furthered his business career, rising to be State manager of General Electric before becoming a partner in a huge Bassendean printing company, Advance Press, which is now a major club sponsor.

Bagley also likes to play golf when the opportunity arises, but one of his biggest responsibilities will come on November 18 when he gives his daughter, Michelle, away to West Coast Eagles defender Andrew Lockyer.

Difficult

It was Bagley's unique talent to hold down any position on the ground which stamped him as one of the most difficult players to counter in his era.

He was equally at home at either end of the field, or in the centre and his team-play was the standard-setter which earmarked Swan Districts as the glamour side of the early 1960s.

Bagley was among Swans best players in all three premierships and was justly rewarded with the Simpson Medal when Swans clinched the hat-trick in 1963.



Bill Walker president

He was also a member of the WA team which won the Australian carnival in 1961, but, like Walker, never ventured to the VFL. With his versatility and aerial strength he would certainly have been an outstanding performer in that arena.



Ken Bagley....versatile champ.

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Esperance hosts top country talent

ESPERANCE, one of WA's most remote country towns, is expecting a football feast this weekend as the oldest football carnival in Australia comes to town.

And this year's Elders Pastoral Great Southern championships are tipped to be the closest in years — unlike last season when Central Great Southern won easily at Katanning.

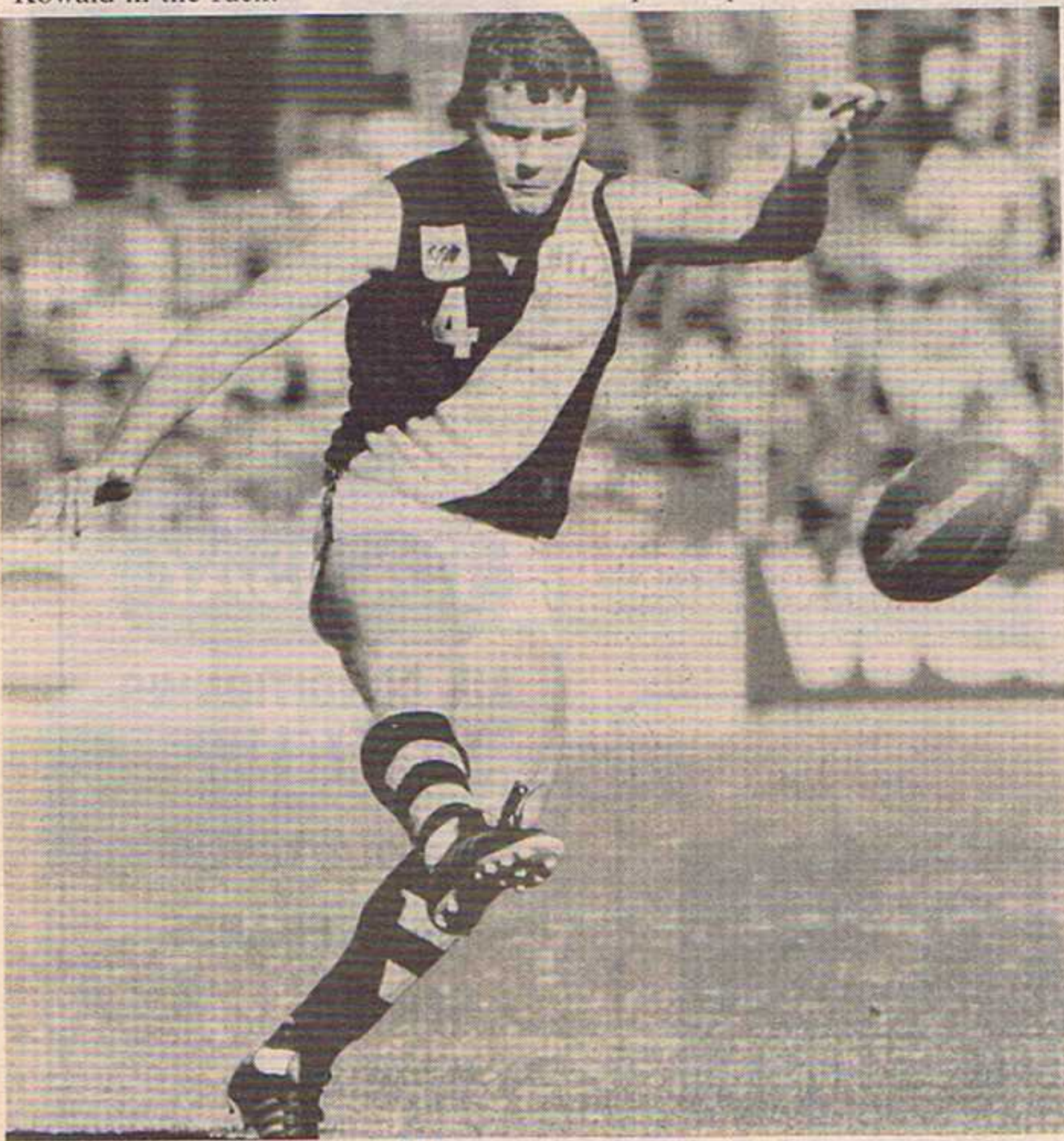
Though only four associations are competing — CGS, Ongerup, Southern Districts and hosts South East — all have selected competitive teams with enough talent to give them winning chances.

No league ranks as outsiders, though back-to-back champions Central Great Southern are natural favourites.

Centrals coach Dennis Frost is quietly confident of completing the hat-trick of wins despite having star utility player Darryl Hart sidelined with a knee injury.

"We have another three players out with injuries, but otherwise we are at full strength," he said.

"The key to our game is our goal-to-goal line which includes 1987 Caris Medal winner Ross Ditchburn at full-forward, country All-Stars in Ian Batchelor and Rowan Bigwood in the key defensive and attacking positions, Kerry Jenkins at full-back and Michael Kowald in the ruck."



Noel Morton key player

THE FIXTURES

SATURDAY, JULY 1

Ports Oval: 10am (Super Rules curtain-raiser) — South East vs Lakes District.
Noon (Under 19s) — South East vs Southern Districts.
2pm (league) — South East vs Southern Districts.

Esperance Oval: Noon (Under 19s) — Central Great Southern vs Ongerup.
2pm (league) — Central Great Southern vs Ongerup.

SUNDAY, JULY 2

Esperance Oval: 10am — Under 19s third and fourth play-off.

Ports Oval: 10am — League third and fourth play-off.
Noon: Under 19s grand final.
2.10pm: League grand final.

Other players who could figure prominently for Centrals are centreman Tom Pearce and wingmen Brad Higgins and Darren Ballard, who both have tremendous pace.

Improved

Frost said that their opening match against the vastly improved Ongerup could be one of the best clashes in the championships.

by GEORGE TEMPLE

"They have some good players, like former Claremont and WA star Noel Morton, so we won't be taking them lightly," said Frost.

"They're bound to be on a high after beating Ravensthorpe so easily in the elimination match, but I'm sure our players know what to expect."

Ongerup, who beat Ravensthorpe 30.14 to 4.11, also boast Ian White who was a member of Centrals 1988 championship side.

Coach Frank Peczka said that White adds much-needed experience to his team.

"Having Noel Morton in the side is our biggest bonus," he said. "Noel's a classy player and his record with Claremont speaks for itself."

Exciting

"The game against Ravensthorpe was the team's first outing together and they showed that they are capable of some exciting stuff."

The clubs who are represented

CENTRAL GREAT SOUTHERN: Katanning Wanderers, Kojonup, Kokerin, Tambellup, Australas.

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS: Denmark, North Albany, North Mt Barker, Railways, Royals, South Mt Barker.

ONGERUP: Borden, Boxwood Hill, Gnowangerup, Jerramungup, Kent, Newdegate, Ongerup, Pingrup.

SOUTH-EAST: Condingup, Esperance, Gibson, Newton, Norseman, Ports.

Peczka added that utility Bradley Smallwood, key position players John and Greg Dunkeld, ruck-rover Wesley Hall, centreman Peter Smith, skipper Bill Bailey and Jan Sternick would form the backbone of his team.

Hosts South East have not fared too well in this carnival over recent years, but coach Ron Sullivan believes that things are about to change.

"I think that we can beat Southern Districts in our opening game," he said.

"Their ruckmen will be bigger than ours, so we're going to throw in some high-leapers like Mark Quinlivan. But we do have a fast side and players like wingman Jason Fiegert, utility Kim Curnow and ruck-rover Rob Whyatt should serve us well."

Goalkicker

"Scoring shouldn't be a problem because full-forward Doug Reid has been regularly kicking eight goals for Ports in our local competition."

Centreman Shane Stringer, centre-half-back Lindsay Burnett, skipper Phil Turner, his deputy Ron Williams and Murray Scheer will be among South East's other top players.

Southern Districts are entitled to be confident as they are an imposing combination.

The have a strong Fremantle flavour with former Sharks winger Russell Jones leading the team and former Bulldog ruckman Gerard Cameron his deputy.

Like Centrals, Southern's goal-to-goal line is loaded with talent.

RADIO COVERAGE

SUNDAY

9.30am - Radio 747: Talk-back show including interviews with the grand final coaches.
2pm - Rainbow Radio: Ball by ball description of the grand final with Peter Sheridan.

All-Stars

Former Wesfarmers Country All Stars full-back Ashley Melvin is the only man in the competition with the credentials to match it with Ross Ditchburn; Kim Crabb is a robust, fast-leading full-forward and Cameron should easily dominate the ruck against South East.

Southern Districts utility player Stephen Woods and half-back Don Nesbit were also members of the 1988 Country All Stars side and together with ruck-rover Larry Dwyer, who has coached Royals to successive premierships in the local competition, will provide immense depth.



Tom Pearce... key man for CGS

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PREVIOUS WINNERS

Table listing previous winners of the Caris Medal from 1922 to 1987, including names and locations like Albany, Narrogin, and Wagin.

CARIS MEDAL — PREVIOUS WINNERS

Table listing previous winners of the Caris Medal from 1922 to 1987, including names and locations like Bruce, Unknown, Wheeler, and Robertson.

Elders up support

ELDERS Pastoral have increased their sponsorship for the Great Southern Carnival to \$6000 this year.

Elders general manager in Esperance and South East Football League president John Galloway said that this was in line with Elders 150th anniversary celebrations.

“Additionally it is the first time that the carnival has been held in Esperance and the increased money was used to subsidise the travelling costs of other associations,” Mr Galloway said.



Peter Ball..... medal winner

Caris Medal

THE prestigious Caris Medal for the Great Southern Carnival's fairest and best player will be presented this season.

No medal was awarded last year because the organisers felt that the competition was uneven and not fair to all participants.

In 1987 there was a three-way tie for the Caris Medal. The winners were Upper Great Southern duo Lindsay Borthwick and Peter Ball and Lower South West's Neville Luff.

“The prize money has also been increased this year.”

Mr Galloway said that Elders wanted to ensure that the 61-year-old Great Southern Carnival — the oldest of its type in Australia — continued.

“We think that it is an important part of the rural community,” the Elders man said. “A lot of the people taking part are our clients and we're just putting back into the country some of what we have taken out of it.”

“Each travelling association will receive \$400 to help with their expenses.”

Southern Districts, who will drive to Esperance on Saturday morning, have additional sponsorship from the Weld Tavern in Albany.

The Weld has outlayed \$2000 for the Southern Districts carnival squad this year.

Coach Barry Panizza, brother of former Claremont and WA star Darrell, said that the funds would be used to help with travel expenses to the Great Southern and Westfarmers carnivals.

The winners of this year's carnival will receive \$500, the runners-up \$250, third \$150 and fourth \$100. The Under 19 champions will get \$250 with second receiving \$125, third \$75 and fourth \$50.

ELDERS CARNIVAL

THE 1989 Great Southern Football Carnival is the longest surviving carnival of its type in Australia and this year it will celebrate its 61st anniversary.

Albany won the first title way back in 1922, while Central Great Southern were winners in 1988.

For the first 39 years the carnival was conducted on a town versus town basis with Albany (12 premierships) Katanning (8) and Wagin (6) dominating proceedings. The best record of the town's concept was Wagin's four straight premierships from 1936 to 1939.

Since the inter-league competition came to fruition, the Upper Great Southern have dominated the carnival, winning 13 titles - including a record five in a row from 1962-1966.

This season is also landmark in the competition's history as South East Football League will be hosts for the first time.

This will be the 40th year of the Under 19s competition and anyone doubting the standard only needs to look at the list of Sandover Medallists which have come through its ranks. They are: Barry Cable (1964, 1968, 1973), Alan Quartermaine (1975), Stephen Michael (1981-2), Mark Bairstow 1986 and Mark Watson (1987).

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COUNTRY PREMIERSHIP TABLES. Ongerup table with columns: P, W, L, For, Agst, % Pts. Rows include Jerramungup, Newdegate, Kent, Gnowangerup, Borden, Pingrup, Ongerup, Boxwood Hills.

Great Northern table with columns: P, W, L, For, Agst, % Pts. Rows include Towns, Railways, Mullewa, Rovers, Northampton, Brigades, C/Valley.

Geraldton Toyota

Goldfields table with columns: P, W, L, For, Agst, % Pts. Rows include Boulder, Kambalda, Railways, Kalgoorlie, Mines.

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North Pilbara League table with columns: P, W, L, For, Agst, % Pts. Rows include Karratha Kats, Dampier, Rovers, Sth Hedland, Falcons, Wickham.

Swan Gold

Central Wheatbelt table with columns: P, W, L, For, Agst, % Pts. Rows include Southern Cross, Beacon, Bencubbin, Koorda, Mukinbudin, Towns, Kalannie, Nungarin.

Hathway Farm Equipment

Southern Districts League table with columns: P, W, L, For, Agst, % Pts. Rows include Royals, Nth Albany, Sth Barker, Nth Barker, Railways, Denmark.

Studio 10

Upper Great Southern League table with columns: P, W, L, For, Agst, % Pts. Rows include Boddington, Railways, Wickepin, Williams, Wagin, Towns, Pingelly, Lake Grace, West Arthur.

Ron Culleton Wools

Central Midlands table with columns: P, W, L, For, Agst, % Pts. Rows include Rovers, Warriors, Dalwallinu, Dandaragan, Bindi Milling, Watheroo.



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ROVING ROWE

EAST Fremantle's whiz-kid Bradley Rowe is rated as one of the most exciting little men to emerge in WA football in the last decade.

Current East Fremantle director Ray (Oscar) Howard was also an outstanding rover with the blue-and-whites and has watched Rowe's progress closely.

Last Saturday I went to Leederville Oval with Howard explicitly to watch Rowe take on West Perth.

With his right ankle strapped — the legacy of an injury from his Geraldton days — Rowe was given five minute bursts on the ball throughout the match.

But whether he was roving or resting in a forward pocket, you could always sense that he was about to do something special.

Handball

Two deadly Rowe handpasses resulted in goals to Neil Lester-Smith and Brian Peake in the opening term and he joined the scoring off his own boot when he hit the post at the 26-minute mark after running away from opponents on the right wing.

"His pace off the mark then was explosive," said Oscar. "His chasers never got close to him."

By his own standards, Rowe had a quiet second term. But it was his anticipation of where the ball would drop that gave him the Sharks 10th goal.

With the ball pumped high into the goal area, Rowe was waiting behind the pack — and made no mistake from two metres out when it spilled over into his waiting hands.

That was followed up four minutes into the second term by his second goal when Falcons rival Sean King tried to handpass out of trouble. Rowe, on the ready, intercepted, eluded another op-

Sharks

star is

all

class

by
**GEORGE
TEMPLE**

Brad Rowe...with the Foundation Derby Cup after another great performance.



ponent and goaled with pure rover opportunism.

He was anticipating West Perth again six minutes later.

Rebounding out of defence, he burst between two Falcons to intercept a handpass and his unerring footpass found Peake leading from full-forward. The goal was a formality.

Just minutes before three-quarter time he took Brad Tunbridge's ruck tap-out, sprinted away from opponents and perfect disposal lead to a Clinton Browning goal.

Said Oscar: "He really came to life in that quarter. Brad demonstrated how he likes to use his dash, then steady and deliver the ball upfield."

Rowe delighted the East Fremantle fans in the final quarter by running down West Perth's favourite son, skipper Peter Menaglio. The Falcon star

was dashing away from the pack when East Fremantle's John Platten look-alike quickly reined him in and earned a free kick for holding the ball.

"With his ability Brad would go straight into most VFL teams," Oscar said. "He has all the characteristics shown by the key players in VFL teams that have played the Eagles this season."

Those words were echoed by veteran Peake — the stalwart Shark who left his mark on the VFL after a 66-game spell with Geelong.

Tribute

After the Sharks win Rowe paid tribute to Peake.

"Bomber has been a big help to me this season. He takes me aside at training and tells me little things that help improve my game."

And Bomber added: "His talent is unlimited. Brad just has to learn to curb his fearless enthusiasm and turn it into creative football."

Another of Rowe's mentors is father John, who journeys from Geraldton every weekend to watch his son ... a trip that could be a bit hard next season if he's in the VFL!

INTERSTATE UPDATE

with
RICHARD CANN



Eagles set records — in the mud

THE Princes Park mud — conditions quite foreign to the West Coast Eagles — resulted in WA's VFL team recording their lowest score.

Previously the Eagles lowest score was 6.13, against St Kilda at Moorabbin in May, 1987. On that day, the Eagles scored only one goal after quarter-time as deplorable conditions took their toll.

On Saturday, the Eagles were able to goal in every quarter, but their final score of 5.11 was eight points less than that recorded two years previous.

SATURDAY'S game was also the first in which the Eagles have had less than four goalkickers.

On three previous occasions — all in Melbourne, against Richmond in 1987, and Collingwood and Footscray last year — four players had kicked all of the Eagles goals.

On Saturday, only two players — Andrew Lockyer and Chris Lewis — shared the Eagles five goals.

THE conditions at Windy Hill were obviously less conducive to scoring than at Princes Park, as Essendon and Footscray struggled to kick three goals each for the game.

The match aggregate of 51 points was the lowest in a VFL game for over 60 years. In the 1927 grand final, Collingwood kicked 2.13 to Richmond's 1.7 in conditions considered to be possibly the worst-ever for a VFL match, giving an aggregate of only 38 points.

Essendon's score of 3.10 was also the lowest winning score since the 1927 grand final.

"TOP MARK"

Big South Fremantle ruckman Craig Edwards pulls in one of his many strong marks opposed to Claremont's Peter Mann.



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Sharks can post their 250th win

EAST Fremantle look set for another milestone this week with victory giving them their 250th win at East Fremantle Oval.

Included in the tally is their record at that ground in the 1906 season when they temporarily made their home there.

Subiaco have a bad record at East Fremantle, having won only 11 out of 55 games there. In fact, their first 25 games there produced only one win and in the 1980's they have only won there twice.

Goal shortage

LAST week's Footscray-Essendon game failed to produce a goal in the third quarter ... a rare occurrence, but with a recent one for the record books. Just last year Subiaco and East Fremantle could only manage one point each in a quarter when the Lions won 6.7 to 3.9. The only other goal-less quarter in the last 60 years was in 1950 when Claremont added two points to West Perth's in a 3.13 to 3.8 victory.

National coaches

WHILE there is still much talk about the VFL becoming a truly national competition, the coaching ranks are starting to achieve a national flavor. There is a South Australian in Malcolm Blight at Geelong, a Tasmanian in Darrel Baldock at St Kilda, a West Aussie in John Todd with the Eagles and from the ACT returns Carlton coach Alex Jesaulenko.

FOOTBALL FACTS

By top WA football historian
DAVE CLEMENT



Home grounds

HOME grounds generally give teams an advantage in sports all over the world, so how have the eight WAFL clubs fared in games at home?

Here's a look at their efforts:

Club	Ground	% of wins
E. Fremantle	E. Fremantle & Fremantle Oval	70%
W. Perth	Leederville	65%
E. Perth	Perth Oval & WACA Ground	63%
S. Fremantle	Fremantle	58%
Perth	Lathlain & WACA Ground	54%
Claremont	Claremont Oval	49%
Subiaco	Subiaco Oval	47%
Swan Districts	Bassendean	45%

(East Fremantle had a 75% success rate when they used Fremantle Oval as their headquarters).

Just to show that winning percentages don't guarantee success at home, East Fremantle have only beaten Claremont at East Fremantle Oval twice in the 1980s.

In the same time, East Perth have won only two games at home against Swan Districts and Perth have a similar record against Claremont.

Late finishers

HOW much start can you give a team and still win? As the Sydney Swans stormed home in a vain bid to beat Geelong last Sunday, that was a topical question. Try this one — when South Fremantle played Perth at the WACA on May 13, 1922, the Demons led all day and half-way through the last quarter South trailed 1.4 to 6.5. But in the last nine minutes the Bulldogs kicked six goals to win 7.4 to 6.5!



Kicking football into the future



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



Little Leaguers in action at Fremantle Oval.

Two reach CIG quarters

VICTORIES in two CIG Shield curtain-raisers have put Aranmore Catholic College and Trinity College into the quarter-finals of the school football competition.

Aranmore beat Mirrabooka at Subiaco Oval on Sunday, June 11 to move a step closer to being named West Perth champions.

Trinity College downed Chisholm College under lights at the WACA Ground on Friday, June 16 to become East Perth champions for the third year in succession.

Girrawheen High School will represent the Subiaco zone and Cyril Jackson are the Swan Districts champions.

The remaining four quarter-finalists are still being decided and the finals will be played after the school holidays in July.

Over 100 schools took part in the 1989 CIG Shield competition for students up to and including year 10.

Quit champs reach grand final again

THE Hamilton, Governor Stirling and Eastern Hills high schools have made it through to the Quit Cup grand finals to be played at Subiaco Oval on Sunday, July 23.

The first 18 teams for Hamilton and Eastern Hills will battle for the title of Barry Cable Division champions.

In the Graham Farmer Division, Governor Stirling will play either Safety Bay or Clontarf College, a semi-final delayed because of student exams.

Winners

Hamilton and Eastern Hills have both continued their good form from last year, when they were winners of the Barry Cable Division and Graham Farmer Division respectively.

Eastern Hills kicked a goal in the dying seconds of their semi-final against Warwick, at Subiaco Oval, to scrape home by two points.

Undefeated Eastern Hills went into the game as favourites and a talented Warwick team pushed them to the limit before going down, 9.9 (63) to 9.7 (61).

Six points separated Hamilton from Wesley College in the semi-final played at Lathlain Park.

Both teams went into the game without a loss and forwards in both sides struggled to find the goals under good defensive pressure.

Hamilton beat Wesley, 4.6 (30) to 3.6 (24), to progress to the final against Eastern Hills and move one step closer to a trip to Victoria in September.

The winners of WA's Barry Cable Division will travel to Melbourne to play the Victorian Quit Cup champions on September 2 at Victoria Park before the Collingwood vs West Coast Eagles match.

Governor Stirling won their semi-final against Duncraig at Leederville Oval with a 68-point margin, 13.5 (95) to 4.3 (27).

Too strong

North-East champions Governor Stirling were too strong for Duncraig, who scraped into the semi-final a week earlier with a four-point victory over Balcatta.

The Quit Cup started back on April 5 and every Wednesday afternoon saw games played at schools throughout the metropolitan area.

Seven rounds of fixtures reduced the field of 58 schools to eight semi-finalists.

The two Quit Cups will be presented to the winners of both divisions after the grand finals are played as curtain-raisers to the Eagles vs Sydney Swans clash.

Rosich kicks Whitfords home

A NINE-goal performance from Whitford's Stephen Rosich last Sunday helped his side to victory over Warwick in the Subiaco Toyota Cup zone.

The win was Whitford's 10th of the season and they won comfortably, 28.12 (180) to 8.7 (55).

Rosich was well supported by Darren Collard and Peter Cappini, who both kicked five goals.

In the other Subiaco zone game, Kingsley overcame a five-goal half-time deficit to beat Northern Districts, 20.16 (136) to 15.15 (105).

Applecross and East Fremantle fought out the second Toyota Cup draw of the season — both in the South/East Fremantle zone.

Inaccurate kicking from East Fremantle cost them the game against Applecross and they drew 11.12 (78) to 10.18 (78).

Last Sunday's Toyota Cup results were:

TIGERS CUP — Marist 26.22 (best Farich) d North Beach 5.3 (Dover), Karrinyup 15.11 (Berry) d West Coast 10.10, Carine 17.14 (Gartin) d Hawks 17.6.

SOUTH/EAST FREMANTLE — Lynwood 16.24 d Cockburn 5.10 (D'Alessandro), Applecross 11.12 (Write) drew East Fremantle 10.18, Karoonda 19.13 (Hodge) d Rossmoyne 10.6 (Williams) Kardinya 18.20 (Davis) d Willetton 7.8.

SWAN DISTRICTS — Redcliffe 11.12 d Eastern Hills 5.3, Bassendean 18.16 d Swan View 4.1.

SOUTH SUBURBAN/PERTH — Thornlie 10.12 d Kelmscott 7.6, Gosnells 27.17 d Forrestdale 1.1, Armadale 13.11 d Forrestfield 7.9, Belmont 19.6 d Maddington 4.5, Kenwick 12.9 d Roleystone 10.7.

EAST/WEST PERTH — East Perth/Highgate 19.8 (Gotsis) d North Innaloo 5.12 (Donaldson), Osborne Park 15.16 (Turnden) d Noranda 3.7 (Taylor), Cougars 16.10 (Austin) d Swanleigh 8.10 (Shocker).

SUBIACO — Whitfords 28.12 (Semenow), d Warwick 8.7; Kingsley 20.16 (Phillips) d Northern Districts 15.15 (Perrie).

Schoolboys squad out to impress

THE task of choosing the Tip Top State Schoolboys squad has begun and 35 under-15s will be trying to impress the selectors in the coming weeks.

A squad of 35 were selected after a trial game at Subiaco Oval last Sunday and that will be reduced before the final team is announced.

A 25-member squad will be named after a camp at Point Perron on July 13 and coach Rick Evans will begin final preparations for the August championships in Darwin.

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Last Week's Burley-Sekem winner was Jarrod McGlym, of Beechboro. He correctly named Jason Dunstall as the winner of this year's Simpson Medal.

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TRIAL BY VIDEO

THERE was a time when Australian Football was regarded as the toughest sport of them all.

It was a time when people like Jack Sheedy, Mal Brown, Mal Atwell and, more recently Stan Magro, were admired for their fierce tackling and sheer physical strength.

But times are changing. If the toughness isn't umpired out of the game, then "trial by video" certainly will eliminate it.

The series of reports made from video evidence in the VFL this season has been an embarrassment to the sport.

Incidents

Every Monday morning, the tapes of matches played at the weekend are heaped in a pile and, one by one, are examined, singling out incidents that have happened in the heat of the moment, but escaped the attention of the umpires.

No-one likes to see a player hurt, particularly with a behind-the-play elbow or a king-hit which sees him stretched off the ground.

But it seems as though some people in control of the game are forgetting that one of the great attractions of the uniquely Australian code is the bone-crunching physical confrontations.

Football survived for more than a century without having to eradicate that toughness.

Taking the toughness out of footy

Video replays had never been needed; it was up to the umpires to report violations of the laws.

Surely the bevy of umpires — two goal, two boundary, two field and an emergency — are alert enough to report incidents which occur outside the laws of the game.

Complaints

There was a time when clubs would lodge a complaint over an incident if it escaped the attention of the umpires.

Surely that was a better system than the one which is now in operation.

Take the incident last week where champion Geelong utility player Gary Ablett fronted the tribunal.

Ablett is one of the VFL's most mercurial players, one of those freaks who attract crowds to the football and obviously one who is deserving of plenty of attention from the opposition.

He was being closely checked by Garry Lyon and responded by giving the Melbourne defender a back-hander.

TAKING STOCK

By GARY STOCKS
of the West Australian



For all we know, Lyon was the original aggressor and Ablett would certainly have had no intention of removing Lyon from the field of battle.

Ablett won many fans for his honesty at Thursday's tribunal hearing. But now he cannot win the Brownlow Medal, for which he was one of the favourites and Geelong are robbed of his services for the next three weeks. Not to forget the thousands of fans who are also deprived of star-status entertainment.

The number of times incidents have been referred by the VFL to the tribunal suggests the letter of the law is being taken too far.

Detrimental

Claremont coach Gerard Neesham has a good point on another aspect of footy toughness — he sees umpires eliminating the physical side of the game by over-use of the whistle.

A tough customer as a player, Neesham has never shirked the heavy going, copping as much as he gave out.

On Radio 6PR's Football Forum panel show recently, he was critical of umpires — and the men who decide their policies and judge their performances — for being over-technical in their whistle-blowing.

He suggested that football would become too timid if the physical clashes were umpired out of the game.



Gary Ablett suspended

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