



# WESTSIDE Football

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A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS PUBLICATION



Eagles hopeful and Bulldog star Glen Jakovich marks strongly.

## JUMPIN' JACKO

... and he's ready for the big-time

EXCITING teenage star Glen Jakovich is just one of the reasons why South Fremantle fans have been counting down the days to this Saturday's start to the WAFL Pepsi Cup competition.

The powerfully-built Jakovich, only just 18, is entering his third season of senior football and already he has the reputation of being one of the brightest prospects in Australia.

That's certainly what the West Coast Eagles thought last November when they made him one of their two priority choice under-age draft players.

But the Eagles have let Jakovich know in no uncertain terms that he has a lot of learning to do and must prove himself still further in the WA league before he gets his chance in the national arena.

Early indications are that the tall key-position player will spend most of the season with South Fremantle and while that might not please the ambitious Jakovich, it will delight Bulldogs fans who are predicting the Port team can improve under new coach Steve Hargrave and grab their first premierships since 1980.

But Jakovich, who made his senior debut with the Bulldogs just weeks after his 16th birthday, is hungry for a taste of the big time.

He is all fired up to play well with the Bulldogs in their opening match of the season, against a vastly improved East Perth at Perth Oval.

The youngster looks certain to start at centre-half-back and could find himself playing on his new Eagles teammate, the experienced Craig McGrath, who will be equally determined to do well and regain his Eagles berth.

Jakovich is aware that only consistent big performances in the WA league will prise open the door for an early entry into the powerful Eagles team.

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 WA Football administrators cop a blast on new rules. Page 3.  
 THE RECYCLED COACH — the Lathlain Legend returns to Demon Land. Centre Spread.  
 How will your team fare in the opening Pepsi Cup match this weekend? Previews Page 7.

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# Lions could be flag favourites



**STRAIGHT SHOOTING**  
with **ROBERT BENNETT**  
of the Sunday Times

## WHAT price Subiaco to win the WAFL premiership flag?

If you look at their line-up for the start of the season, they should be at pretty short odds to make the top five.

With so many Eagles players in the side, you would expect the Lions to have a big impact on the competition this season.

There is also the prospect of ruckman Laurie Keene recovering from his long-suffering ankle operation and being eligible to play for Subiaco should they make the finals.

A talking point such as Subiaco's prospects is the kind of topic that should give the local competition its best start to a season since the Eagles went national in 1987.

### SUSPENSE

The number of Eagles players who will be available to local clubs this season could keep the composition of the top five in suspense right till the end of the qualifying games.

Picking the top five won't be easy.

It will be interesting to see whether the WAFL's most successful club in the past decade, Claremont, will keep up their momentum this year.

Despite the number of Eagles players in other teams, the Tigers will probably be the benchmark for other teams in 1991.

It's fair justification to suggest that Swan Districts stole last year's premiership. In my opinion Claremont and South Fremantle were more talented sides, but were outsmarted by John Todd.

That shouldn't be the case this year as Swans appear to be a better equipped side than last season, even though they have lost some talented players.

Claremont and Swans should have no trouble qualifying for the finals.

Selecting the other three finalists is not so easy.

South Fremantle have promised a lot in recent seasons, but have not delivered the goods when it really counted.

They could easily have won the last two premierships.

South look certain to have Stevan Jackson and Glen Jakovich available for the major part of the season.

Those two players should provide them with the key-position talent to again make the finals.

On paper, Subiaco should cruise into the finals. They have an astute coach in Haydn Bunton and will be propped up with Eagles players.

The other position is up for grabs.

A lot is expected of East Perth this year after they finished last season with a flourish and the Royals should give a lot of cheek.

### IMPROVERS

Most critics have written Perth off as a finals contender, but don't underestimate the Demons; they can give the five a bit of a nudge.

West Perth should be one of the big improvers this season and also look capable of making the finals.

So what about East Fremantle?

They are the unknown quantity at the moment. Their pre-season form has been pretty ordinary, but it's hard to imagine them not playing in the finals, particularly in a top five.

It all adds up to a close and absorbing season. My five are Claremont, Swan Districts, South Fremantle, Subiaco and East Perth ... though not necessarily in that order.



John Todd...the master coach from Bassendean outsmarted all opponents last season

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## Footy Rumours

## GOSSIP FROM AROUND THE TRAPS

### Percy's converted

FAST-talking radio 6PR critic Percy Johnson is never short of a word on any subject...and doesn't miss a footy match if he's within kicking distance of an oval. Winding up his Saturday morning show on 6PR, Johnson was heading off to East Fremantle Oval to see his favoured Sharks in practice match battle. But his parting words indicated that he really has been converted to the national league. "I'll be there...but only after I watch the Eagles beat Collingwood on TV."

### Keep your distance

THE practice of television and radio commentators in eavesdropping on the coaches as they talk to their charges at the change over of quarters is certain to provoke a major confrontation shortly. Former Sydney Swan champion Gerard Healy, who is now an on-ground comments man with Channel 7, copped a verbal blast from Eagles coach Mick Malthouse at Waverley last Saturday. "If he paid out on the players like he paid out on me, then their ears will be burning," said Healy after being warned away from the West Coast group at quarter-time.

### Changing names

TALKING about Eagles coach Mick Malthouse, it's strange to hear how the Melbourne media continually call him "Micky". Since moving West at the start of last season, the former tough Richmond defender has always been referred to as Mick, with all official dispatches from Eagles headquarters naming him as Michael. However, a lot of his old mates, on Melbourne radio particularly, still call him Micky.

### Good timing, Hawks

IS IT mere coincidence that Hawthorn are planning a move to VFL Park Waverley at the same time that the AFL finals are going to be held there this season? The Hawks will play 10 qualifying matches on the wide open spaces of Waverley this season as a natural prelude to the finals, which will be held away from the MCG while the home of football (and cricket) undergoes major grandstand surgery.



Will the send-off rule see umpires like Mike Ball (left) in constant confrontation with players?

### Cribb's in fine voice

FORMER Perth football critic Bob Cribb is still in fine voice in Melbourne and his enthusiastic support of the Eagles is a priority in his sporting life. Calling the game on radio 6NR last Saturday, Cribb waffled on exuberantly about the Eagles victory and declared that they could now win anywhere... "even on the moon."

### Send-off controversy

THE debate over the introduction of the send-off rule will rage all season, of that there is no doubt. Swan Districts premiership coach John Todd is one of those people who doubt its wisdom...and he has plenty of supporters. Todd hopes that the rule will not be over-used and would prefer to see any player sent off being allowed to be replaced. He suggests that football will not tolerate a situation where a team has to play a man short.

### ....but who knows!

THE send-off rule might officially be introduced for football this season, but who is going to implement it? If the umpires have that responsibility — which is what we were told — then they are not getting much practice in during the practice matches. The all-in last quarter brawl at Lathlain Park last Saturday between Perth and West Perth was certainly triggered by an incident that qualified for the send-off implementation. Perth's Richard Caldwell has concussion as a result of a wayward elbow that didn't even result in a free kick even though it happened in front of an umpire. The players thought it was bad enough to brawl over; the umpire ignored it.

### Whistle-blowing blues

NOTHING has changed in the world of umpiring; that was obvious when Collingwood posted their first goal against the West Coast Eagles on Saturday. With both sides goal-less in a fierce opening term, the men-in-white had to spoil things by handing out a soft free kick to Magpie forward Craig Starcevic just on the siren. Even Melbourne commentator Bernie Quinlan said that the resultant goal was a lucky one because the free kick just wasn't there. The TV replay clearly showed Starcevic out of position as the Eagles defence kept him at bay.

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# Blunders at the top

**FOCAL POINT**

with **ROBBIE BURNS**



**THE decision-makers in West Australian domestic football circles appear to have made two blunders in format changes to the competition for the 1991 season.**

The introduction of the send-off rule and the change to a final-five system are unnecessary amendments that smack of over-zealous administrators making changes for the sake of being seen to make changes.

The most disturbing aspect of the decisions is that they have been made without apparent consultation with those best-equipped to advise on such matters — the coaches and others who are involved in the practical hands-on operation of today's football.

It is the people in the clubs who best know football and, in many cases, the changes have been made against the wishes of coaches and experienced football personnel.

## VIOLENCE

WAFL officials will argue that they introduced the send-off rule in an effort to eliminate violence and win back youngsters who have switched to the less-physical sport of basketball.

But in doing so they are, by inference, suggesting that football is becoming a more violent sport when, because of the increased speed and tempo of the game, it is actually far less violent than it has been in the past.

The very nature of one of the world's toughest and most exciting physical

contact games will not eliminate all the rough stuff — thankfully. Nor will the introduction of the send-off rule.

Of far greater concern to our national game is the increasingly wide win-loss margins that have become prevalent under the modern run-on style and the introduction of the centre square.

The send-off rule, which will result in a team playing one man short for a given period, could further widen the scoring gap and will most certainly detract from the game as an exciting spectacle.

And football at State level can ill-afford that.

In a game that is already over-legislated, the send-off rule throws an even bigger responsibility on umpires.

The only saving grace is that perhaps the men in white will adopt a common-

**YOU'RE OFF!**



David Johnson...calling the send-off tune

# The great battle is renewed

**GERARD Neesham, the heir-apparent to John Todd's throne as the WAFL's premier coach, is out for revenge.**

By **KIM HAGDORN**

Neesham has waited all summer for a shot at his former Swan Districts mentor.

And this Saturday's opening to the 1991 WAFL season is a marketing consultant's dream.

Two of WA football's most colourful characters will lock horns at Bassendean Oval for the opening of what should be one of the most exciting local football seasons in history.

Neesham was left with that sick feeling of having been out-smarted by his former boss on grand final day last September.

## REVERSAL

Todd's form reversal in last year's finals series to win the flag at Claremont's expense, brought the score to four-all in head-to-head coaching clashes between master and apprentice.

The pair first clashed in Neesham's coaching debut year of 1987 and again last season, after Todd's two year stint with the West Coast Eagles.

The opening of the Pepsi Cup premiership competition brings the first of what shapes as many more titanic battles of wit and tactics between Todd and Neesham for 1991.

It remains one of the worst kept secrets in local football that Todd and Neesham's healthy respect for one another is cosmetic.

Despite their successful Bassendean Oval connection, they now get great delight in beating each other.

Dubbed the "Little General" during his distinguished 223-game career, Neesham was well versed in Todd's coaching prowess; after all, he spent seven years of his playing days under Todd.

Neesham played his inaugural two senior football seasons at East Fremantle in 1975 and '76, before Todd moved to Swans in 1977.



Gerard Neesham...can he outwit his old coach in 1991?

Neesham cross to Bassendean in 1979 for the first of five years under Todd at Swans, earning premierships medals in 1983 and '84. He also won fairest-and-best awards in 1979 and 1980.

## LAMENTING

But Neesham, who went on to win five premierships medals with three clubs, was left lamenting what might have been when Todd turned the tables in last year's finals series.

Claremont looked premiership material when they won a low scoring second semi-final on a wet, wintry day on September 9 last year.

But Todd, with his old favourite "us against them" tactic to turn the media and critics against the black and whites — coupled with some clever and emotive selection criteria on the big day — stole an historic premiership from Neesham's grasp.

Neesham, entering his fifth year at the Tigers' helm, in a time of deep

financial crisis for the club and amid some unsavoury criticism for his relationship with the West Coast Eagles, will seek revenge.

But stopping Todd's reigning premiers won't be easy for Neesham's vengeful Tigers.

Both clubs were big losers in off-season player movements. However, the black and whites have recruited wisely and can expect solid service from Eagles players Murray Rance, Phil Narkle and Troy Ugle.

## EXCITEMENT

Neesham will bank on his seemingly endless supply of local talent and big doses of experience from Eagles stalwarts Steve Malaxos and Geoff Miles, plus some excitement from Dale Kickett, along with his crop of imports including East Fremantle pair Clinton Wolf and Lance Durack.

The result? Almost impossible to predict.

What better way then, to start a new season?

sense approach and disregard the send-off rule — provided they are not subjected to pressure from those all-seeing umpires observers who record every move the umpires make.

## LUDICROUS

The introduction of the final five in an eight team competition is even more ludicrous.

League football in WA can now almost be likened to a pre-school birthday party, when they give all the kids get a present so no-one goes home feeling they have missed out.

The end result is that home-and-away fixtures that make up 21 weeks of a 25-week season have been devalued and will lose much of their urgency and significance.

The only way in which a final five can be justified is an increase in the number of teams to 10.

After all, how unjust would it be for a team to take part in the finals after losing more games than they won — as would have happened seven times in the past 10 years had a final five been in place.

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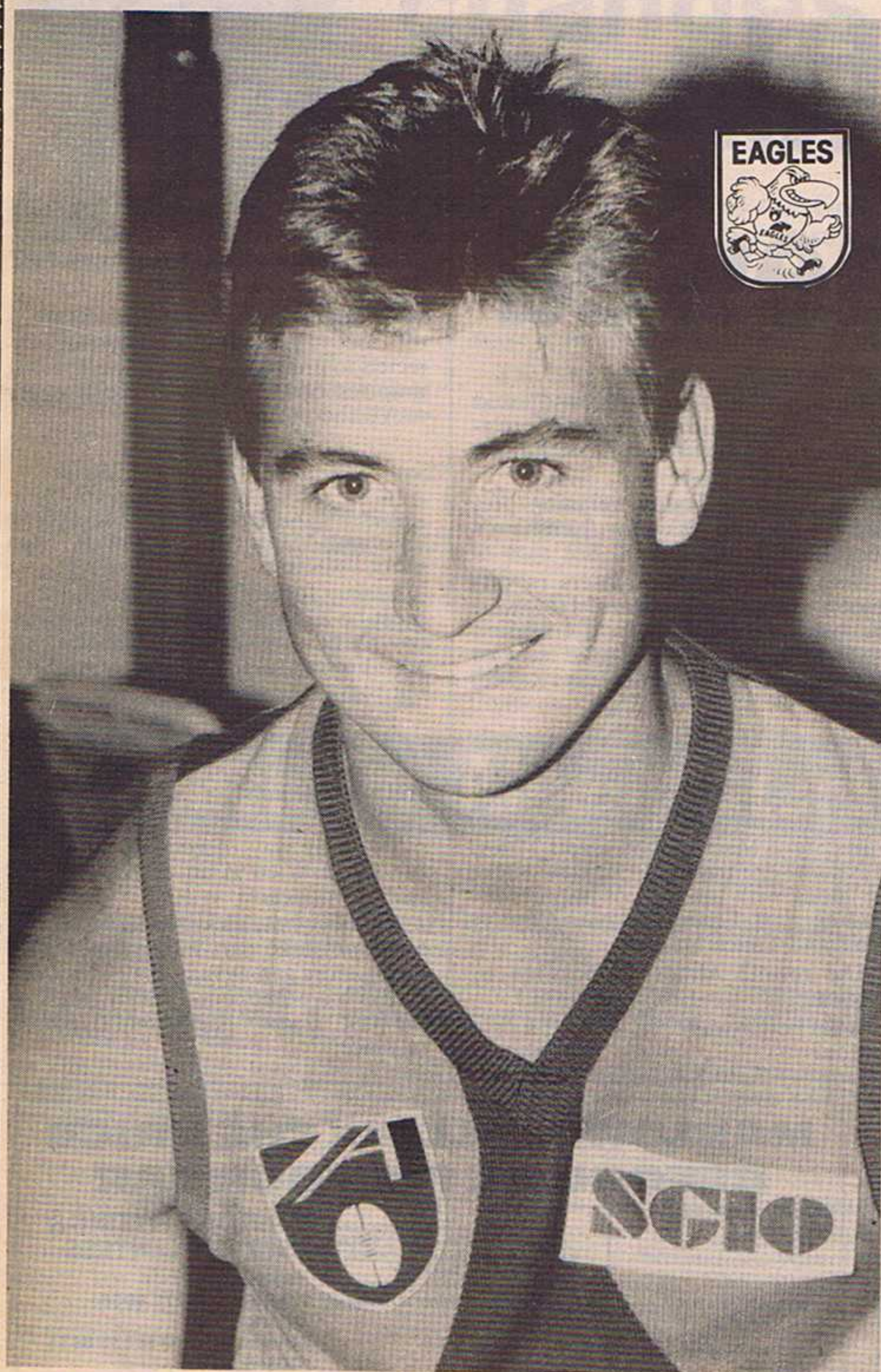


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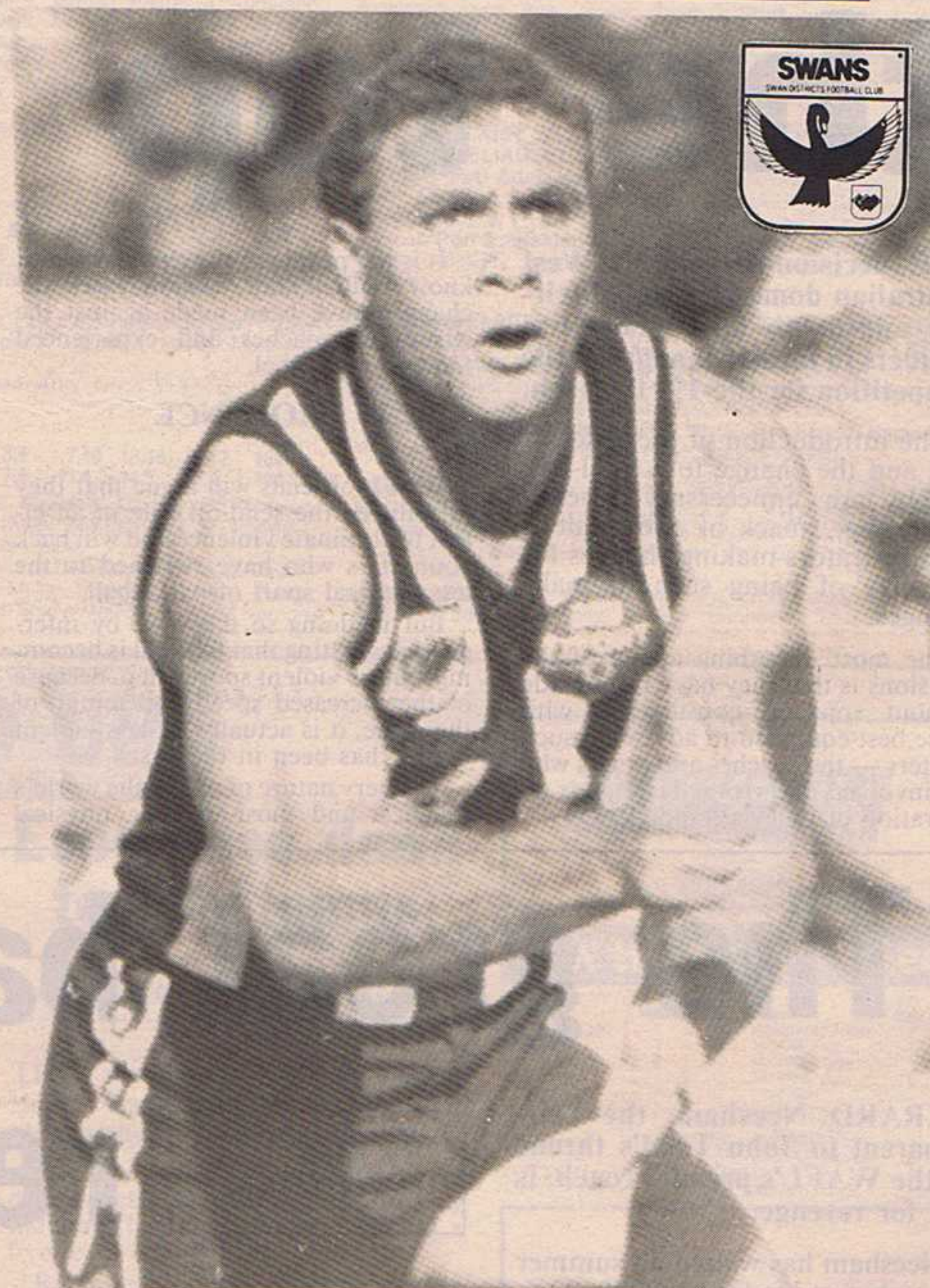
# Player Profile

## Tony Evans

**NICK NAME:** Evo  
**FAVOURITE POSITION:** Rover  
**CURRENT POSITION:** Forward pocket  
**FIRST POSITION:** Forward pocket  
**No.:** 40. **HEIGHT:** 178cm **WEIGHT:** 75kg  
**DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:** June 14, 1969, Claremont  
**RECRUITED FROM:** Claremont/Christchurch Grammar.  
**FIRST STARTED PLAYING:** Aged 6yrs  
**JUNIOR CLUB:** Dalkeith/Nedlands  
**FIRST SENIOR GAME:** 1989 Claremont  
**GAMES PLAYED:** 42 Claremont, 2 Eagles  
**FOOTBALL HONOURS:** State selection; runner-up Claremont fairest and best 1990  
**MARITAL STATUS:** Single. **GIRLFRIEND'S NAME:** —  
**OCCUPATION:** Student — Business degree Curtin University  
**SCHOOLS ATTENDED:** Christchurch Grammar  
**YOUR CAR:** Ford Falcon. **DREAM CAR:** Range Rover  
**FAVOURITE PASTIMES/HOBBIES:** Any sports  
**FAVOURITE FOOD:** Roast lamb  
**FAVOURITE DRINK:** Pepsi, Emu Export  
**FAVOURITE SINGER/GROUP:** Midnight Oil  
**FAVOURITE TV SHOW:** Hogans Hero's, Cheers.  
**FAVOURITE MOVIE:** Young Guns  
**OTHER SPORTS:** Tennis, Golf  
**BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:** Gerard Neesham; my parents  
**PLAYERS YOU ADMIRE:** Greg Williams, Chris Lewis  
**MATCH DAY ROUTINE:** Walk the dog  
**FOOTBALL INJURIES:** Nothing major  
**BIGGEST THRILL:** Winning the 1989 grand final with Claremont  
**MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:** 1989 debut game for Claremont  
**FOOTBALL AMBITION:** Perform to the best of my ability  
**PERSONAL MOTIVATION:** Sheer enjoyment of doing everything well



## Danny Penny



**Date of Birth:** 16.2.67 **Place of Birth:** Perth  
**Height:** 178cm **Weight:** 74kgs  
**Age started playing:** 10yrs  
**Previous club:** Cloverdale **Junior club:** Cloverdale  
**Marital status:** Single **Girlfriend's name:** —  
**Occupation:** Printer...but I'm looking for a new job **Place of work:** Nowhere at present; I'm open to offers  
**Other sporting interests:** Indoor cricket, golf  
**Favourite position:** Centre **First position:** Wing  
**Current position:** Ruck-rover  
**League debut:** 1985 **Versus:** South Fremantle

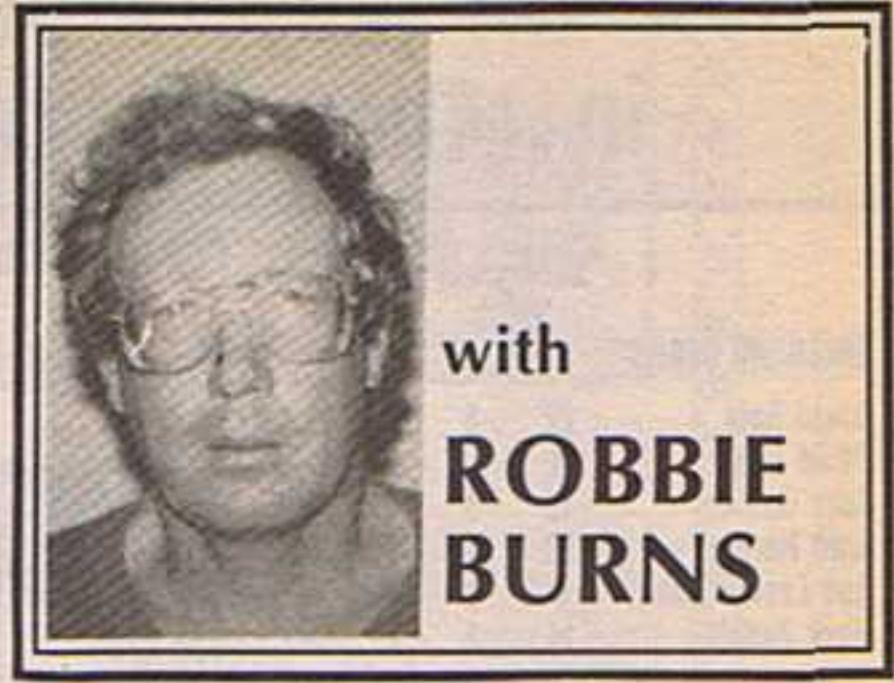
### FAVOURITES

**Actor:** Clint Eastwood  
**TV show:** Sports shows **Movie:** Scarface  
**Music:** Nothing special **Drink:** Emu Export  
**Food:** Fettucini carbinara  
**Ground:** Bassendean Oval  
**Your car:** Sigma **Your favourite car:** My car  
**Career highlights:** Winning the 1990 premiership with Swans; being named fairest and best for WA in the 1984 Teal Cup carnival in Sydney; Swans fairest and best 1989  
**Worst moment in football:** Any injury  
**Hardest things in football:** Making the commitment to play the game  
**Football idols:** Phil Narkle  
**Toughest opponent:** They're all hard  
**Most respected opponent:** No-one special  
**Most memorable game:** The 1990 grand final  
**Ambitions:** To play AFL  
**What do you like about football:** Meeting friends and the continual competitiveness  
**How do you mentally prepare for a game:** No special routine; take it easy in the morning  
**Who influenced your career:** My father, Ed Blackaby and John Todd  
**Guernsey number:** 48 **Any reason:** No  
**Worst injury:** Hamstring  
**Luckiest break:** Being fit for last year's grand final after a hamstring injury

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# Royals snare handy prize



## Edgar unveils his potential

FORMER East Fremantle wingman Stephen Edgar looks like justifying the faith Carlton showed in him when they selected him in the November 1989 draft.

The talented midfielder was one of the stars for the Blues in their impressive 23-point win over Adelaide at Football Park on Sunday.

Edgar used his considerable pace, stamina, physical strength and skill to eclipse talented Crows wingman David Marshall, one of the stars for the Adelaide team in their big win over Hawthorn the week before.

His ability to hit key forwards Jon Dorotich and Stephen Kernahan on the chest with precise foot passes would have done East Fremantle stars of the past such as Steve Marsh and Oscar Howard proud.

Edgar did not leave Perth with a big reputation and has had to work hard to make it with the Blues. But on that performance he may well take over the negating mid-field role vacated by the Blues former Claremont ruck-rover Wayne Blackwell, who has retired to the VFA.

MAKING predictions on the future of young footballers on the basis of a couple of pre-season practice games can be fraught with danger — the path to football stardom is littered with players who have been March geniuses, but have not been able to get a kick when the real thing starts.

But it would come as a great surprise if East Perth's nippy rover from Albany Royals, Shawn Colbung, falls into that category.

Judging by the way in which he has blitzed in practice games against Swan Districts and particularly against East Fremantle on Saturday, Colbung not only looks a ready-made league player, but a potential star.

### RESEMBLANCE

Colbung, who bears a striking resemblance in looks and movement to football legend Jimmy Krakouer, showed flashes of that Krakouer magic with his lightning reflexes, exciting midfield skills and extraordinary goalkicking feats that should make him a huge crowd puller.

Colbung, at 22, is a much more mature player than most country hopefuls and given his impressive and well-documented performances (he is a former Wesfarmer's country all-stars team member) over the past few years, it is surprising that Claremont did not get hold of him.

Genuine rovers with Colbung's attributes are scarce and history shows that

**Colbung is a star of the future**

all top premiership teams have had such a fall-of-the-ball player.

On that basis, East Perth's hopes of rising up the list will be greatly boosted — provided they get a clearance for him from the Tigers.

Colbung's resemblance to Krakouer magic extends even further than the fact they both come from the Albany region.

The handful of fans who went to the Sharks-Royals practice game at East Fremantle Oval on Saturday thought they were seeing double when Colbung and Billy Krakouer (Jim's younger brother) were on the field together.

Billy was wearing the Sharks No. 1 guernsey, while Colbung the same number for the Royals. Don't be surprised to see these two have some absorbing duels this season.

## Ridley's debut is memorable

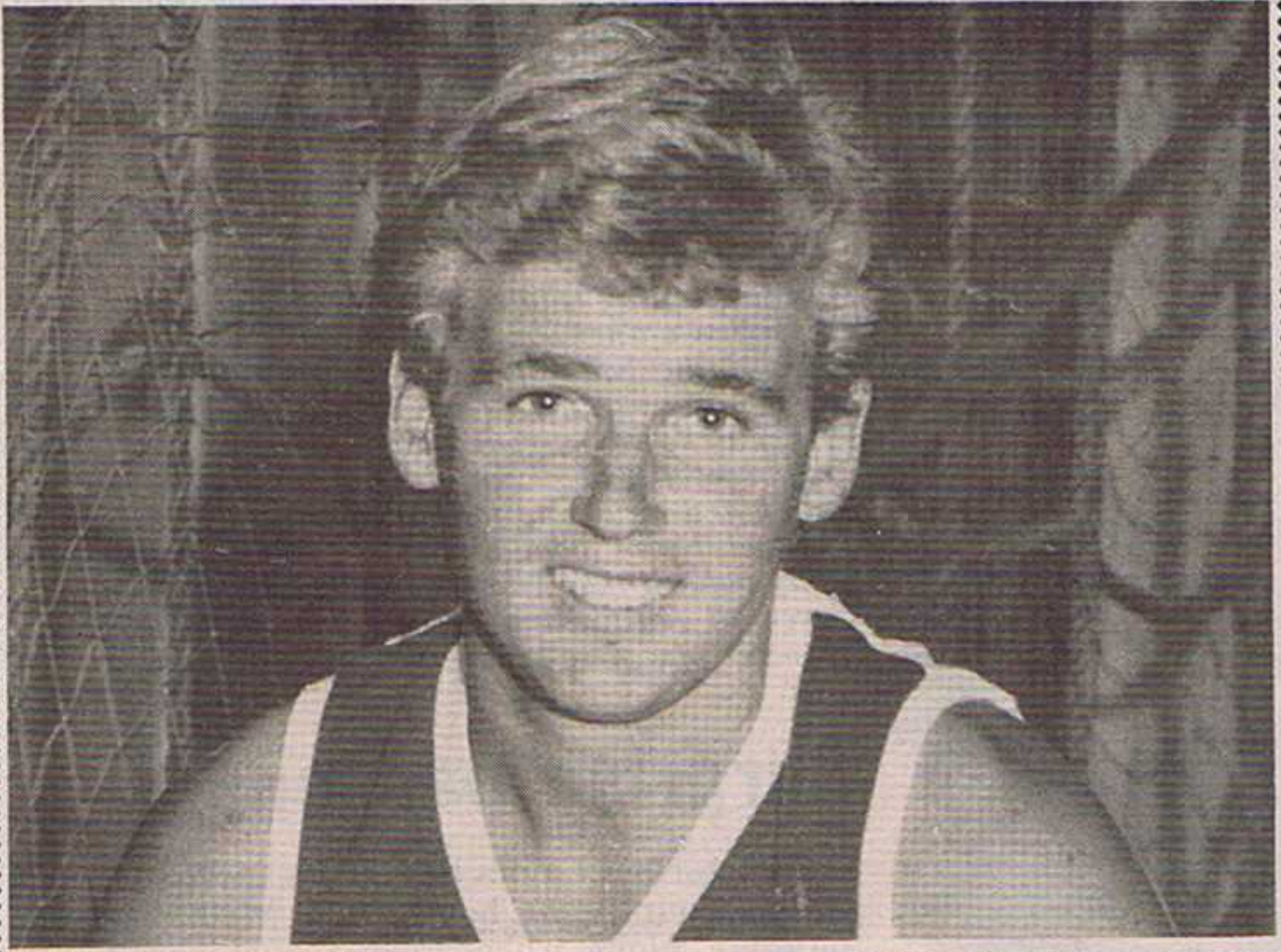
ESSENDON'S Claremont recruit Todd Ridley was a surprise choice in the Bombers senior team for the game against Richmond at the MCG on Monday.

The high flying forward had played in only two inter-club practice games and had been nursing an ankle injury in the lead up to the season.

Bombers coach Kevin Sheedy obviously has a high regard for Ridley's ability and he was chosen for his debut regardless of a lack of match practice.

That confidence was more than justified after the 22-year-old kicked four goals, starting on a half-forward flank before moving to full-forward.

And in view of the Bombers four point win snatched in the last six seconds, Ridley's first-up contribution was invaluable.



## Magpie joke can backfire

IT'S hard to take Collingwood president Allan McAlister seriously. Anyone who goes on record as saying that his club would refuse to play a finals game away from Melbourne is asking for the comments to come back and haunt him.

McAlister claimed that the Magpies were against any finals matches being played outside of Melbourne because it would give intersate teams such as the West Coast Eagles too big an advantage.

McAlister must have had his tongue in his cheek — or been anxious to maintain his controversial profile in the media — when he suggested Collingwood would boycott such a final.

He is not the first club president to get carried away in a pre-match luncheon speech, where egos do tend to run riot.

McAlister is only too aware that the Eagles have had to contend with giving opposition teams that enormous home ground advantage in half of their qualifying games — and all of their finals matches, including two against Collingwood last year.

While the possibility of a Subiaco Oval or Football Park (Adelaide) AFL finals game is a long way down the track the AFL hierarchy would be justified in pressing for McAlister's removal from office if they thought he was even half serious about his comments.

Like it or not, Collingwood are part of a national competition and, like the Eagles, must abide by the rules.

Besides, if it is a genuine threat, let's hope the Eagles draw Collingwood in a Perth-based final.....it would be an easy walk-over!

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## How WA players performed in other AFL teams

Team	Kicks	Marks	H/balls	Players Score
<b>BRISBANE BEARS</b>				
David Bain	22	3	4	1.1
David Ogg	8	5	7	—
John Gastev	12	6	4	—
Brad Hardie	13	4	2	0.2
Rod Lester-Smith	6	4	1	—
Mark Zanotti	14	3	2	—
<b>GEELONG</b>				
Mark Bairstow	25	3	2	3.2
Stephen Hooper	5	1	5	—
<b>HAWTHORN</b>				
Ben Allen	12	0	8	—
<b>CARLTON</b>				
Jon Dorotich	10	9	3	5.2
Steve Edgar	10	2	9	0.1
<b>MELBOURNE</b>				
Darren Bennett	12	10	4	8.4
Earl Spalding	10	4	5	0.1
<b>COLLINGWOOD</b>				
Craig Starcevich	19	10	3	2.1
<b>NTH MELBOURNE</b>				
Peter Mann	5	3	2	0.2
<b>ESSENDON</b>				
Todd Ridley	8	4	5	4.0
Peter Cransberg	14	2	3	—
Derek Kickett	9	2	6	—
<b>ST KILDA</b>				
Paul Harding	7	3	2	—
<b>FITZROY</b>				
Joe Cormack	8	3	8	0.1
David O'Connell	14	10	7	—
<b>SYDNEY SWANS</b>				
Wayne Henwood	5	2	5	1.0

HIT OUTS: Peter Mann 4; Paul Harding 6; Wayne Henwood 4; David O'Connell 6; Stephen Hooper 5.

# Eagles snatch top perch

THE West Coast Eagles are sitting pretty on top of the AFL premiership table — though their position after this weekend's round three will be determined by the newly-introduced match ratio.

With two wins from two starts, the Eagles have a ratio of 100, as have North Melbourne, Carlton, Geelong and Essendon, though those four sides have only played one game each.

The introduction of the Adelaide Crows into the competition, stretching it to a 15-team league and resulting a bye each week, has led to the match ratio being introduced to keep track of teams with uneven numbers of games played.

The ratio determines the standing of teams on the ladder and takes precedence over percentage — which only comes into play when two clubs have the same match ratio.

Match ratio operated in the 13-team AFL reserves last season, but byes have not been a part of the league competition since 1919-1924 when nine teams fought it out in Victoria.

This is how match ratio is calculated:  
MATCHES WON x 100

MATCHES PLAYED

## Sweet Sumich revenge

REVENGE was sweet for fast-leading Eagles full-forward Peter Sumich when they beat Collingwood at Waverley last Saturday.

The Eagles tore the heart out of Collingwood's defence in the third-quarter when they added six goals to leave the Magpies 32 points in arrears.

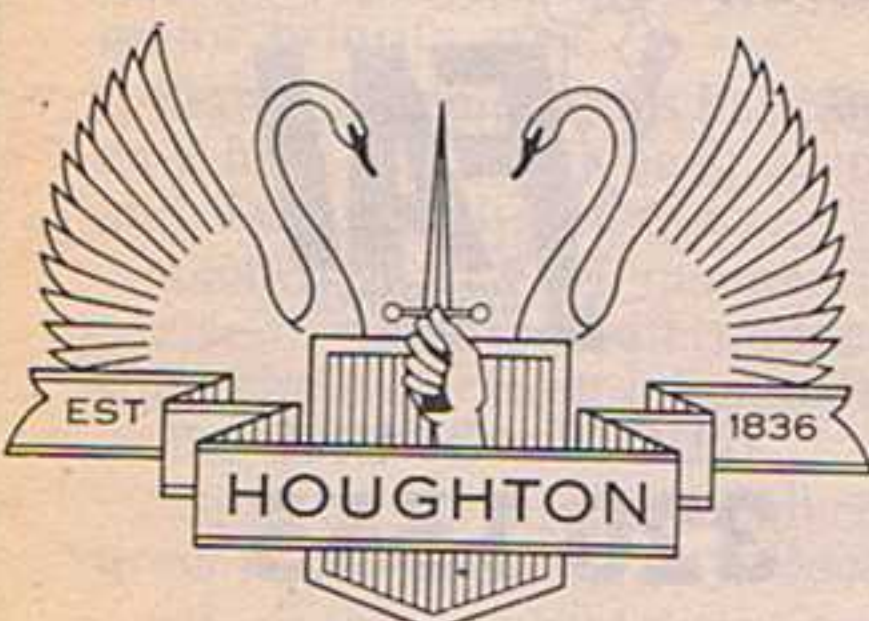
Sumich deserved much of the credit for the victory, kicking five goals and being instrumental in two others when he unselfishly laid the ball off to Chris Lewis and Peter Matera.

Sumich had a point to prove against Collingwood after his missed opportunity in last year's qualifying final to sink Collingwood's premiership bid when he missed that now famous shot at goal.

However, the mercurial left-footer dimmed that memory as he clearly eclipsed Magpie full-back Ron McKeown. Playing with far more aggression and power this year, Sumich snapped a brilliant goal in the third term which radio 6NR commentator Bob Cribb described as a snooker shot.

While it's unfair to predict big expectations of Sumich at this early stage of the season, it's obvious that he has the potential to be the first interstate winner of the John Coleman Medal for the league's goalkicking honours.

## HOUGHTON'S TOP PERFORMER



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

CRAIG TURLEY  
with 20 kicks  
5 marks and  
6 handballs



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## EAGLES FACT FILE

Name	Games 1991	Total	1991 Kicks	1991 Mrks	1991 H/B	Score	Name	Games 1991	Total	1991 Kicks	1991 Mrks	1991 H/B	Score
BRENNAN, Michael	2	82	16	5	2	3.0	MAINWARING, Chris	2	82	41	8	8	3.1
EVANS, Tony	2	2	15	5	6	2.5	MATERA, Peter	2	7	33	8	11	3.3
HART, David	2	76	24	5	11	0.0	McGRATH, Craig	1	70	2	0	0	0.0
HEADY, Brett	2	22	34	13	7	0.1	McKENNA, Guy	2	66	26	6	16	0.0
HEPBURN, Mark	2	58	15	3	6	0.0	PYKE, Don	1	21	13	1	2	0.0
HYNES, David	2	2	9	4	14	0.0	SUMICH, Peter	2	44	23	13	3	10.5
IRVING, Dean	2	18	16	3	7	0.1	TURLEY, Craig	2	34	29	5	11	1.0
LAMB, Dwayne	2	87	14	3	8	0.1	WATERMAN, Chris	2	25	28	6	12	1.0
LANGDON, Karl	1	54	9	4	0	0.1	WATTERS, Scott	1	14	3	0	3	0.0
LEWIS, Chris	2	71	31	5	9	2.1	WILSON, Peter	2	75	23	9	12	2.2
LOCKYER, Andrew	2	58	20	6	11	0.0	WORSFOLD, John	2	77	20	4	18	0.0



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## Turley cashes in

WEST Coast Eagles utility player Craig Turley won the Emu Export player-of-the-match award before a crowd of around 150 people at the post-match presentations held in the bowells of Waverley last Saturday.

Turley gave yet another top-class performance on the wide-open spaces of VFL Park, following on from where he left off in last season's finals series.

Chris Waterman collected the Pepsico award for his tagging role in a back-pocket on the mercurial Peter Daicos, while the Puma award went to recalled rover Don Pyke.

Full-back Andrew Lockyer took off the Pierre Cardin shirt award, Peter Sumich's five-goal effort at full-forward earned him the Arena Swimwear award, while Peter Wilson collected the Estee Lauder award.

## The top Eagles

JUST for the record....if the Daily News Farmer Medal for the best Eagles player of the year had been operating, this is how the votes would have gone for the game against Collingwood: Craig Turley 5, Chris Waterman 4, Peter Sumich 3, Brett Heady 2, Guy McKenna 1.



Peter Sumich...Eagles award winner after another five-goal effort at full-forward where he shrugged off the defensive efforts of hulking Magpie defender Rod McKeown

## Big turnover

THE amazing turnover in Eagles players was emphasised last Saturday by Channel Seven commentator Dennis Cometti. He pointed out that the side playing Collingwood only had three players from the Eagles team that debuted in the AFL in 1987, beating Richmond at Subiaco Oval. The survivors were Michael Brennan, Chris Lewis and Dwayne Lamb — though eight other first-gamers are still in the Eagles squad. In that debut game Lamb played in a back pocket; Brennan at full-back and Lewis started on the bench. Brennan, now the West Coast Eagles vice-captain, is still a key defender, while Lewis and Lamb are prime movers in midfield.

## On the move

ONE interesting feature of the West Coast Eagles victory over Collingwood last Saturday was the way they soccered the ball off the ground continuously. One player who used this to great effect was Craig Turley. Whenever he was surrounded by Collingwood players he would soccer the ball out into the open spaces and then run on and pick it up for a precise delivery downfield. Channel Seven boundary-side commentator Gerard Healy pointed that Mick Malthouse emphasised to his players at quarter-time to knock or soccer the ball on whenever they were in trouble; to keep it moving at all costs.

## Surprise passenger

THE victorious Eagles had an unexpected passenger on their flight home from Melbourne last Saturday night when injured ruckman Laurie Keene joined his team-mates on the way to Tullamarine Airport.

Keene was heading home after surgery on his troublesome Achilles heel and he jumped at the chance to re-live the memories of the day and his side's big victory over the Magpies.

Ansett Airlines were quick to make the big fellow comfortable by giving him and the injured Mark Hepburn three seats each to stretch their weary legs.

Hepburn was carted from the ground during the second term with a groin injury that is likely to see him miss a few weeks of football action.

After this weekend's bye, he will be struggling to front up against his old team, North Melbourne, at the WACA Ground on Friday week and the Adelaide Crows in round five.

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# Malaxos out to prove a

## point

STEVE Malaxos will be under the microscope when he lines up for Claremont against Swan Districts in the opening round Pepsi Cup match for 1991 at Bassen-dean Oval on Saturday.

The former All-Australian, WA, Eagles and Claremont captain will be making something of a rare appearance for the Tigers in the replay of last year's grand final.

By virtue of his magnificent on-field performances at all levels over the past decade, Malaxos should have little to prove to anybody.

But in this instance Malaxos will be striving for more than four premiership points for the Tigers.

After an outstanding opening to the AFL season last year, the then Eagles skipper suffered the disappointment and humiliation of losing his place in the team for the finals.

And with the awesome depth of talent in the Eagles squad this season, he has not been able to regain his midfield berth — and there are plenty around to say he won't get it back.

### DETERMINED

So it will be a grimly determined Malaxos who, for 120 minutes on Saturday, will be calling on all his still abundant reserves of talent, skill and application to prove a few points.

It won't be easy because the Tigers face last year's premiers, who in practice games have shown they are the most disciplined, best balanced and most authoritative team in the League.

Malaxos may find himself lining up in the centre opposed to fellow Eagle

Troy Ugle, another desperately unlucky player to lose his AFL berth.

Swans officials will be anxiously monitoring Ugle's fitness near the end of the week after the brilliant utility player injured an ankle last week.

Swans should repeat their 1990 grand final win over the Tigers because of their explosive goal-kicking ability, with the return of Kevin Caton and the acquisition of promising Brisbane Bears reserves player Stephen Handley, two of the club's pre-season stars.

Add the depth of midfield talent in Phil Narkle, Len Gandini, Andy Holmes, Geoff Passeri, Peter Hodyl, Brendon Retzlaff, Steve Bazzo, Greg Walker and a well-disciplined defence headed by Murray Rance, Mick Grasso, Danny Penny, Steve Eaton, the promising Stephen O'Reilly and newcomer Shane Atherton and it is obvious the Tigers will struggle to stay with the champions.

### LOSSES

Swans certainly appear to have covered the losses of top players Shane Stempel, Paul Gow, David Ogg, Don Langford and Don Holmes more adequately than the Tigers have covered the absence of players such as Todd Ridley, Joe Cormack, Peter Higgins, Peter Mann, David O'Connell, Don Pyke, John Scott and Scott Rowland.

But Swans would be foolish to underestimate a team which includes Malaxos, Mark Hann, Tony Evans, Dale Kickett, Tony Begovich, Geoff Miles, Jason Norrish, Jeremy Guard and Kevin Mitchell.

Swans coach John Todd may opt to tag the Tigers dangerous Eagles players Evans and Kickett with Grasso and Retzlaff.

## Subiaco look too strong

SUBIACO, alias the Eagles No. 2 team, should have little trouble in accounting for West Perth at Subiaco Oval.

Apart from their regular players such as Mick Lee, Rod Willet, Garry Kemp, Shane Cocker, Bret Hutchinson and Fintan McGuire, the Lions will call on Eagles stars Phil Scott, Todd Breman, Dean Kemp, Andrew Macnish, Cory



## League previews

With **ROBBIE BURNS**

Young, Matthew Burton, Ian Dargie and Mitchell White.

The Falcons have had little to enthuse about recently, but they can look forward to creative performances from Eagle Derek Hall at centre-half-forward, the return of ruckman Craig Nelson from South Australia and a typically gutsy performance from Eagles midfielder Dean Laidley.

## Desperate start for Armstrong

KEN Armstrong, coaxed out of retirement to coach a desperate Perth, will face a tough first-up assignment against East Fremantle, at East Fremantle Oval.

Despite the Sharks less-than-impressive display against the Royals in last week's practice game, they should have far too much experience and skill for the Demons.

The Sharks ruck strength has been boosted by Eagle and former Claremont big man Peter Higgins and they have plenty of ability at ground level, with Billy Krakouer, George Christie, Glen Moir, John Lawrence, Robert Weber and Darren Hammond all in good touch.

The return of former captain John O'Sullivan from South Australia gives them stability and experience in defence, with seasoned players Clinton Browning, Jon Derocourt and Shane Ellis providing flexibility.

The Demons will rely heavily on inform Eagle Adrian Barich, midfielders Willie Dick and Joe Santostefano, defender John Zaikos and tall full-forward Stephen Pears.

# Royals start with tough challenge

EAST Perth are heading for a resurgence in 1991...that's the prediction coming from Perth Oval as the Royals endeavour to throw off their cellar-dwellers status of recent seasons.

A slick and talented Royals team brushed aside East Fremantle in their final practice game, indicating that Ian McCulloch's boys are set to continue the good form they showed at the end of last season.

But they have a tough first-up assignment against South Fremantle at Perth Oval in their opening Pepsi Cup match.

Positive signs for the Royals have been the abundance of outstanding midfield runners led by Butch Baroni (a Sandover Medal favourite), George Giannakis, Dean Bertram, Paul Evans and Steve Richardson.

And be prepared to see the brilliance of little Albany rover Shawn Colbung lift the Royals.

With the departure of Stephen Hooper to Geelong, the Royals are battling in the big-man department, but the performance of defender Gavin Rose as a ruckman last week was a positive sign. This week they can also use Eagles pair Craig McGrath and Ryan Turnbull on the ball to counter Craig Edwards.

It is significant that Edwards, one of the most respected players in the WAFL, should return to his original home ground to play his 200th league game against his old club. Don't be surprised to see him dominate.

Edwards won't be the only problem confronting the Royals.

Overcoming big key Bulldogs forward Stevan Jackson, a player with the potential to kick a winning score himself, will be a mammoth task...not forgetting the influence of Glen Jakovich.

**Emu Export presents . . .**

## WESTSIDE'S EXPERT SELECTIONS

### AFL ROUND THREE

### WAFL ROUND ONE

	Tally	Hawthorn v Richmond	Carlton v Bris Bears	Collingwood v Fitzroy	Nth Melb v Essendon	Syd Swans v Adelaide	Footscray v Geelong	Melbourne v St Kilda	E. Fremantle v Perth	East Perth v S. Fremantle	Subiaco v West Perth	S. Districts Claremont
RON ALEXANDER	7	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Syd Swans	Footscray	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	E. Perth	Subiaco	Swans
TANIA ARMSTRONG	8	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Adelaide	Geelong	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	E. Perth	Subiaco	Swans
ROBERT BENNETT	8	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Syd Swans	Geelong	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	E. Perth	Subiaco	Swans
PETER BOSUSTOW	8	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Adelaide	Geelong	Melbourne	Perth	E. Perth	W. Perth	Swans
ROBBIE BURNS	9	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Essendon	Adelaide	Footscray	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	S. Fremantle	Subiaco	Swans
GLENN CORDINGLEY	6	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Syd Swans	Geelong	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	S. Fremantle	W. Perth	Swans
ALAN EAST	8	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Syd Swans	Geelong	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	E. Perth	W. Perth	Swans
KIM HAGDORN	8	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Adelaide	Geelong	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	S. Fremantle	Subiaco	Swans
IAN MILLER	8	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Adelaide	Geelong	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	E. Perth	W. Perth	Swans
KEN PIESSE	5	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Syd Swans	Geelong	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	S. Fremantle	Subiaco	Claremont
GARY STOCKS	8	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Adelaide	Footscray	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	E. Perth	Subiaco	Claremont
MOST FAVOURED	8	Hawthorn	Carlton	Collingwood	Nth Melb	Adelaide	Geelong	Melbourne	E. Fremantle	E. Perth	Subiaco	Swans

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## Who's Who in the Demons camp

P  
E  
R  
T  
H

Player	D.O.B.	Height (cm)	Weight (kg)	Came from	Debut	Games played	Goals kicked	State games	Occupation	Position
ALLARD, Wavne	29.5.74	176	82	Darwin	-	-	-	-	Student	Rover
BAKER, Brendon	21.8.68	173	70	Nollamara	1989	12	9	-	Sales rep.	Ruck-rover
* BARICH, Adrian	5.12.63	178	85	Canberra	1987 WCE	39 WCE	19 WCE	1	Public Servant	Utility
BARTLETT, Tony	11.1.71	185	80	Quairading	1984 Perth	89 Pth	45 Pth	-	-	-
BITMEAD, Neil	23.3.69	173	74	Wundowie	-	-	-	-	Butcher	Utility
BRAITHWAITE, Brendon	19.12.71	175	74	Kelmscott	-	-	-	-	Fettler	Defender
BROWN, Neil	1.7.70	190	95	Kalamunda	-	-	-	-	Dispatch hand	Utility
BUCK, Russell	30.5.70	184	84	Maddington	1989	17	2	-	Truck driver	Defender
CALDOW, Richard	2.4.67	183	74	University/Subiaco	1988 Subiaco	5 Sub	-	-	Accountant	Wing
CLEMENT, Darren	11.11.70	183	72	Kelmscott	1989	3	-	-	Alcoa worker	Utility
CUMMINGS, Steve	21.9.66	188	95	Northam	1987	34	2	-	Landscape gardener	Defender
DICK, Charlie	22.2.68	167	70	Goomalling	-	-	-	-	Community officer	Forward
DICK, Willie	16.3.66	178	78	Goomalling	1985	81	30	2	Labourer	Ruck-rover
DOWLING, Peter	10.6.69	193	90	University	-	-	-	-	Student	Forward
* EDWARDS, Brad	22.2.68	190	95	Brisbane/Fitzroy/Beverley	1987 Perth	19 Perth	9 Perth	-	Auctioneer	Ruck
GAVRANICH, John	3.1.62	192	100	West Pth/Osborne Pk	1989 Fitzroy	6 Fitz	1 Fitz	-	-	-
GEDGE, Bradley	18.4.69	188	82	Kenwick	1990 Brisbane	10 Bris	-	-	Fireman	Ruck
GROGAN, Mark	29.9.71	193	83	Carlisle	1980 West Pth	39 WP	6 WP	-	-	-
HANLEY, Michael	18.7.67	188	87	Kensington	1984 Perth	108 Pth	22 Pth	-	-	-
ILICH, Matthew	10.8.71	183	72	Kelmscott	-	-	-	-	Salesman	Defender
KELLY, Brenden	18.9.71	187	79	Trinity-Aquinas	-	-	-	-	-	-
KELLY, Merv	16.7.66	173	76	Subiaco	1987	35	21	-	Student	Defender
KERR, Roger	18.12.61	175	79	East Fremantle	1981 East Frem	86 EF	103 EF	-	Field officer	Centre
KNIFE, David	18.11.70	182	80	Northam	1990 Perth	15 Pth	19 Pth	-	Technician	Rover
LALLY, Steve	9.12.64	182	70	Northam	1986 Perth	28 Pth	39 Pth	-	Clerk	Utility
LESTER, Tim	15.11.71	185	85	Aranmore	1987 Cent Dist	52 CD	67 CD	-	Video store prop.	Forward
MAHONEY, Warren	13.4.70	180	78	Sydney	1990	3	1	-	Student	Defender
MANSBRIDGE, John	22.7.67	186	82	Canning	1989	29	7	-	Bank officer	Half-forward
McMURRAY, Matthew	30.8.72	174	74	Canning	-	-	-	-	Self-employed	Defender
* McNAUGHTON, Craig	27.11.70	185	84.5	Sandhurst, Vic.	-	-	-	-	Plumber	Utility
MILLS, Grant	3.4.70	180	80	Quairading	-	-	-	-	Insurance consult.	Half-forward
MIOCEVICH, Tim	24.8.71	190	75	Roleystone	-	-	-	-	Storeman	Centre
MUNRO, Duncan	5.8.71	178	74	Kenwick	1990	2	2	-	Refrig. mechanic	Ruck
NICHOLAS, Warren	25.8.67	184	92	Kenwick	1984	94	46	-	Bank officer	Defender
PAPOTTO, Tony	27.11.66	175	75	East Perth/Maylands	1983 East Pth	41 EP	45 EP	-	Landscape gardener	Utility
PEARS, Stephen	20.8.70	193	93	Maddington	1987 Perth	57 Pth	27 Pth	-	Promotions officer	Rover
* PORTER, Shane	31.1.72	188	86	Nth Launceston	1989	10	19	-	Factory hand	Ruck/forward
REID, Craig	23.6.67	190	85	Centrals, Cairns	-	-	-	-	Fitter machinist	Half-back
RENFREE, Shane	17.12.66	183	81	Bunbury/Swan Dist	1984 Swan Dist	61 SD	29 SD	-	Fitter/turner	Utility
RIGBY, Darren	21.2.72	174	73	Manning/Kelmscott	1990 Perth	15 Pth	5 Pth	-	Brickpaver	Half-back
SANTOSTEFANO, Joe	5.6.64	181	83	Aquinas College	1983	93	60	2	Shipwright	Centre
SPALDING, Scott	2.9.68	183	85	Old Wesley	1989	19	7	-	Student	Centre
THOMPSON Russell	16.7.72	176	78	Queens Park	1990	9	9	-	Sales rep.	Utility
THOMSON, Robert	9.10.69	183	80	Cunderdin	1990	12	7	-	Student	Rover
TOLAN, Paul	7.8.66	193	94	Maddington	1990	5	7	-	Farmer	Ruck-rover
VAN ROOYE, John	21.2.61	193	87	Waratahs, Darwin	1990	5	7	-	Policeman	Forward
WATSON, Anthony	12.7.66	194	97	Canning	-	-	-	-	-	-
WELLS, Ian	24.9.69	183	75	Maddington	-	-	-	-	Town planner	Ruck
WISKEN, Stephen	24.11.64	177	75	Canning	-	-	-	-	Student	Half-forward
YARRAN, Hank	17.9.68	188	80	Goomalling	1988	16	8	-	Podiatrist	Utility
YOUNG, Steven	5.4.71	193	93	Calingiri	-	-	-	-	Youth worker	Forward
ZAIKOS, John	11.5.65	178	78	East Vic Pk	1985	55	9	-	Trainee teacher	Utility

\* Denotes that player is a member of the West Coast Eagles squad; games played as at the start of the 1991 season.

### KEN ARMSTRONG

Born 27.1.36  
PLAYING RECORD: 170 games for Perth (1955-63). State games: WA 3.  
COACHING RECORD: Perth (1974-79). Won 81, lost 55. Subiaco (1980-82). Won 12, lost 51.



## Armstrong readjusts

LEARNING the art of coaching takes time and patience; learning it all over again for a second time takes a special dedication.

Such is the case with Perth's recently revived coach Ken Armstrong, who returns to his Lathlain Park home after an eight-year retirement.

It has taken a little time for Armstrong to get back into the coaching groove, finding that things are totally different to the halycon days of the mid-1970s when players were desperate for success.

"Our first objective is to make Perth a creditable inclusion in the league competition," says Armstrong.

"It's a similar challenge to 1974 when I took over a group of young and inexperienced players, but what is different today is that the players don't quite have the same priorities in their lives.

### POTENTIAL

"But we have plenty of potential at Perth and while we are still looking for the right players, we will be aiming to make them real fighters; they have to learn to want to be winners.

"Perth have been down for too long and it's time to change things."

As Perth's future continues to be under a threatening cloud, the return of Armstrong to Lathlain Park could herald a revival of the good old times.

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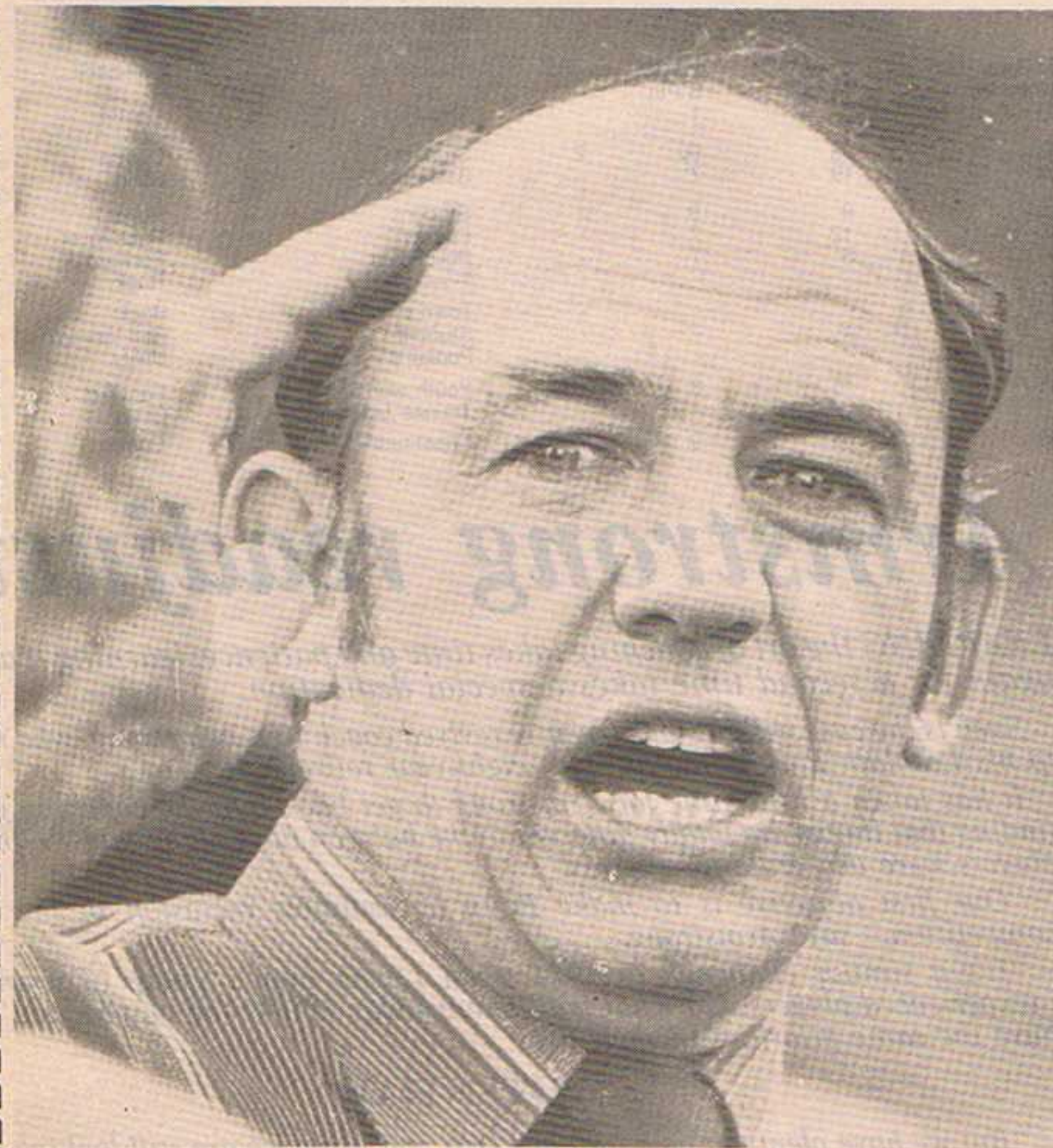


how about you?





Ken Armstrong directs traffic at Lathlain Park back in 1974



Ken Armstrong...never short of a word in 1978

# RECYC

...and n  
plan  
the go

by  
**ROBBIE BURNS**

**KEN** Armstrong took a look around the almost-empty changerooms at Lathlain Park and shrugged philosophically.

"Yes, it's a bit different from the old days, but we're working on it," he said.

Armstrong was talking immediately after Perth had been beaten by Subiaco in a pre-season practice game in the build-up to this week's WAFL season. If he had any preconceived thoughts of immediate success on his return to coaching his beloved Demons after a decade away, those illusions would have been shattered by the loss.

The veteran coach would have been less than human if he had not compared the low-profile atmosphere at Lathlain to the buzz and panache that made the Perth Football Club one of the country's most exciting sporting venues in the late 1970s.

## DYNAMIC DUO

Those were the halycon days when the Demons dynamic duo of coach Armstrong and president Vincent Yovich took the club to four grand finals and two premierships in five years.

And those were the days when a Demons fan had to be lucky to squeeze into the big social rooms to hang onto every word that Armstrong and Yovich uttered in numerous triumphant post-match speeches to members.

Moments like the day back in early 1978, when the reigning WAFL champions had been unluckily beaten by two points in a slugging encounter by VFL premiers North Melbourne in a practice game billed as the "Battle of the Premiers", the words rang loud and true.

"Perth is the strongest club in Australia," a euphoric and extravagant Yovich informed his members. With the possible exception of Roos coach Ron Barassi, no-one in the packed auditorium doubted him.

## DISCIPLINED

Armstrong casts his mind back with a feeling of fond nostalgia to those heady times of packed home grounds, deliriously ecstatic fans and back-to-back premierships.

"We regarded ourselves as football trend-setters and in terms of modern training tech-

nology and success, I suppose we were," says Armstrong.

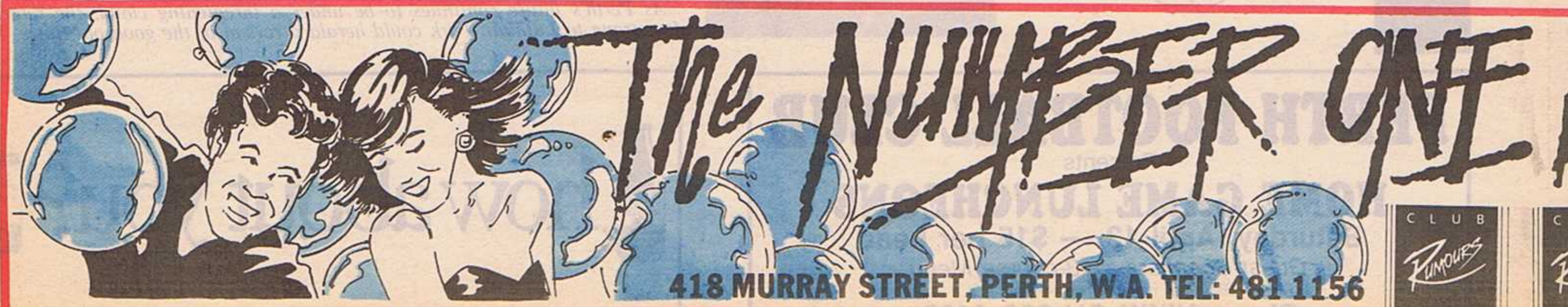
"Things were so exciting we used to say the walls were charged with electricity."

It was said, with justification, that Armstrong turned a group of average footballers into one of the most disciplined and effective combinations ever to play in WA. It is true that with the exception of champion rover Robert Wiley and brilliant, but unpredictable forward Murray Couper, the Demons had few genuine stars.

"Apart from Richmond ruck recruit Don Herbert, the players we had just about coached themselves," Armstrong said with a touch of modesty.

"Jeff Dickinson, Colin Lofts, Wim Rosbender, Chris Mitsopoulos, Geoff Watt, Gary Gibellini, Ken Inman, Steve Hargrave, Alan Johnson, Doug Farrant, Brian Cook, John Quartermaine, Mal Day, Wayne Currie, Wiley...they were superb types of people who were totally committed to the club and to football.

"Herbert was a bit different. He was a rough diamond who turned up at Lathlain with dirty feet, wearing thongs, shorts and a torn singlet. But when he left the club to go back to Victoria, he not only carried a premiership medallion, but was proudly wearing the club blazer, a tie and grey pants.



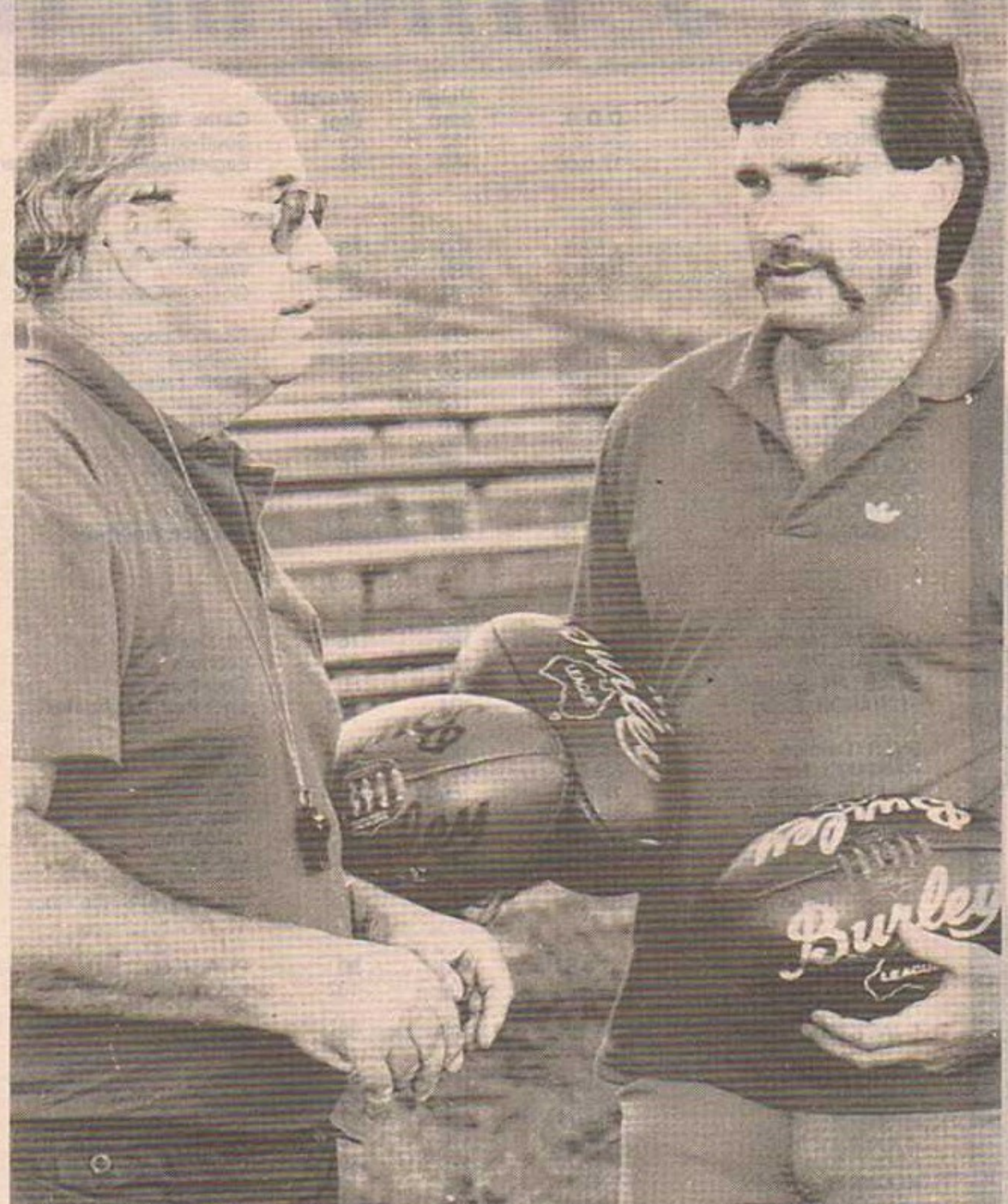
# MEETING PLACE

for post match celebrations  
for both players and  
supporters . . .



## LED...

### Now Armstrong aims to revive good old days



Today's version of Ken Armstrong...with one of his former champions in Peter Bosustow

Armstrong's success did not stop with the Demons. In 1977 he coached the State side to a memorable three-point win over South Australia, the first WA win in Adelaide for 39 years. He repeated the win in Perth later that year and again in 1978.

"Winning that match at Football Park provided me with one of my greatest coaching thrills," Armstrong said.

But Armstrong, pulled out of retirement after eight years away from coaching, finds the Perth Football Club — and the WA competition — vastly different in 1991.

Since Armstrong left the club the Demons have made the four only once, in 1986 and have wallowed at or near the bottom most other years. Now they are facing critical financial worries and are without the high-profiled players they have had in the past.

#### RESPONSIBILITY

Armstrong, who as a young centremen was part of the Demons 1955 premiership team, is fully aware of the huge responsibility that has been thrust on him.

"When I received a phone call from former player Greg Brehaut asking me to take

over as coach from Tom Mullooly, I said no way," Armstrong said.

"But Greg was persistent and the more I thought about it, the more I liked the idea.

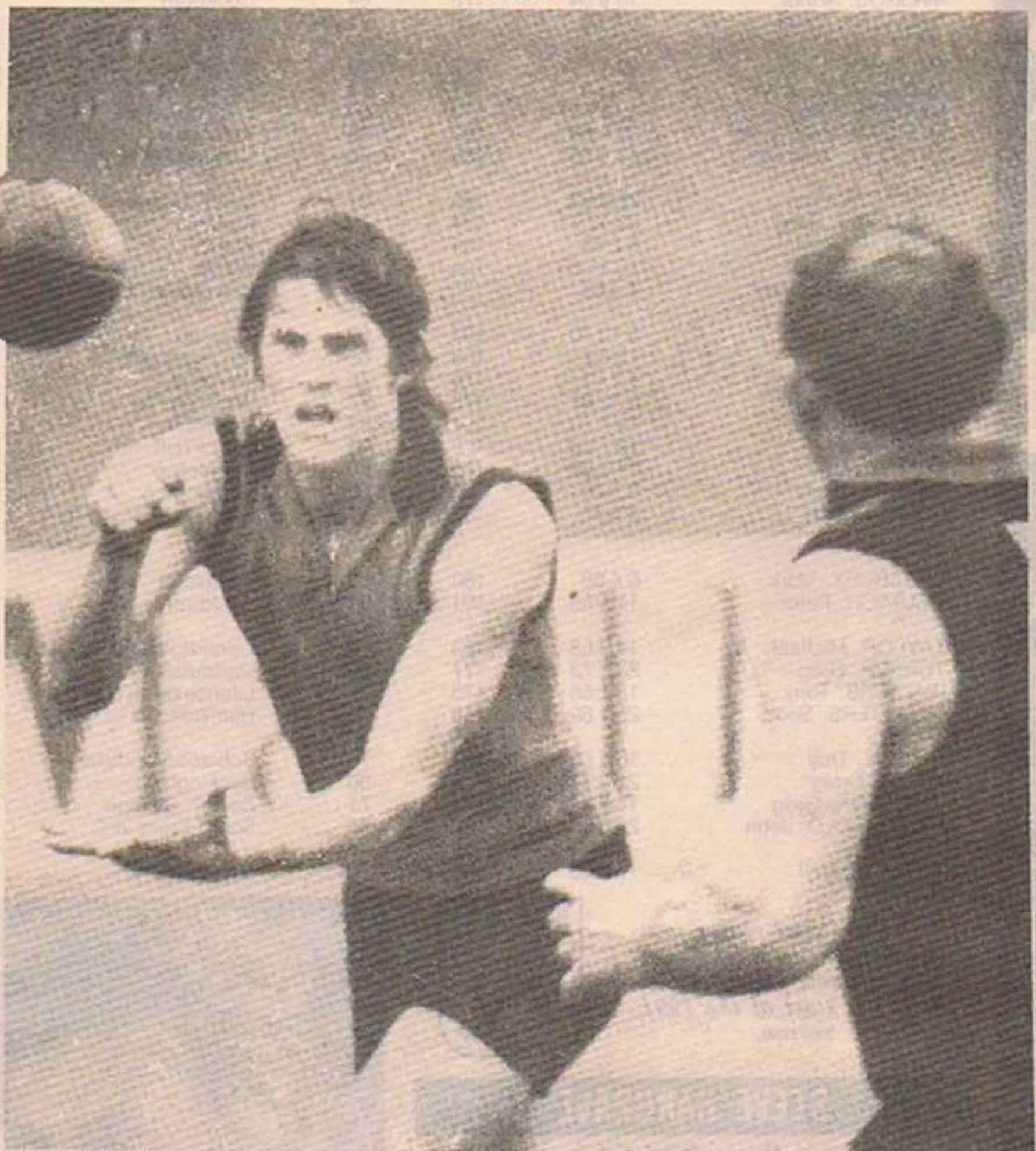
"Despite being away from coaching since I was at Subiaco in 1982, I have been in close touch through my radio work with the ABC and being president of the Coaches Association.

"What I'm undertaking is a salvage job; a complete rebuilding and I'm very aware that if I fail, and there's no sign of a recovery this season, the doors of the club could well close. It's as serious as that.

"It will be tough, but I admire the players who are working hard for little return. While their return has been cut back, their commitment hasn't.

"I'm impressed by the quality of the person we have at the club and my aim is to reproduce the type of players we had there in the 70s."

The Lesmurdie Senior High School teacher, now 55, has perhaps the most difficult job in WA football. But if Armstrong can't put the Demons back onto the path of success, it's doubtful if anyone can.



The youthful Armstrong on the training track with star half-forward Steve Hargrave back in 1977...they will be opponents this year

# MEETING PLACE

for post match celebrations  
for both players and  
supporters . . .





# Who's Who in the Swans camp

SWAN DISTRICTS

Player	D.O.B.	Height (cm)	Weight (kg)	Came from	Debut	Games played	Goals kicked	State games	Occupation	Position
AHMAT, Joe	17.2.63	180	80	Darwin/Claremont	1984 Swan Dist 1987 Claremont	51 SD 25 CI	35 SD 17 CI	-	Courier driver	Forward
ATHERTON, Darren	17.1.68	184	85	Donnybrook	-	-	-	-	Carpet cleaner	Half-back
ATHERTON, Shane	12.12.69	182	80	Donnybrook	-	-	-	-	Carpet cleaner	Wing
BALL, Jason	21.11.72	195	80	Swan View	-	-	-	-	Bank officer	Ruckman
BAZZO, Steven	1.5.69	185	80	Carey Park	1988	56	20	-	Loader operator	Utility
BEAZLEY, Darren	18.7.66	189	90	Borden	-	-	-	-	Teacher	Full-back
BELL, Ken	2.5.62	198	95	Perth/Kalamunda	1989	29	7	-	Student	Ruckman
BENNEL, Ian	22.6.66	180	79	South Bunbury	1989	18	14	-	Accountant	Wing
BROADBRIDGE, Michael	15.5.68	186	78	Karoonda	1987 East Frem	56 EF	69 EF	-	Teacher	Half-forward
BYRNE, Dean	5.4.72	178	75	Swan View	-	-	-	-	Student	Wing
CALLOW, David	25.11.70	175	75	Swan View	1990	12	2	-	Student	Centre
CATON, Kevin	10.5.65	185	85	Darwin	1984 Swan Dist 1988 WCE 1989 Fitzroy 1990 Brisbane	76 SD 1 WCE 9 Fitz 8 Bris	144 SD 1 WCE 8 Fitz 9 Bris	1	Clerk	Forward
DAVEY, Shaun	4.1.67	182	84	Maddington	1989	39	25	-	-	Forward
DEHRING, Glen	17.4.71	170	75	Carey Park	1989	2	1	-	Salesman	Rover
EATON, Stephen	8.4.70	180	80	Bunbury	1989	22	1	-	Dozer driver	Full-forward
EDMONDS, Travis	9.2.71	195	82	Guildford Grammar	1990	20	1	-	Bank officer	Ruckman
FOOTE, Troy	20.4.73	180	85	Aquinas College	-	-	-	-	Student	Half-forward
GANDINI, Len	5.1.62	183	86	Perth/Kelmscott	1981 Perth 1986 Melb 1987 Swan Dist	92 P 1 Melb 50 SD	21 P -	-	Advocate	Utility
GOW, Ben	20.9.73	184	76	Guildford Grammar	-	-	-	-	Student	Half-back
GRASSO, Mick	23.12.66	177	85	South Bunbury	1987	79	20	-	Storeman	Defender
GRAY, Jim	22.9.72	180	77	Esperance	-	-	-	-	Student	Half-forward
GRAY, Robbie	27.5.66	185	82	Swan View/Perth	1985 Swan Dist 1987 Perth	10 SD 7 P	1 SD 1 P	-	Stud farm manager	Wing
HANDLEY, Steven	23.7.70	196	90	Southport, Qld/Noranda	-	-	-	-	Salesman	Forward
HASTIE, Mick	26.12.68	178	78	Carey Park	1989	22	31	-	Labourer	Forward
HAWES, Todd	14.11.70	191	78	Swan View	-	-	-	-	Mechanic	Half-back
HEWITT, Jarrod	16.8.71	189	105	Guildford Grammar/York	-	-	-	-	Fibreglass sprayer	Forward
HODYL, Peter	7.5.62	175	80	Bassendean/South Bunbury	1983	61	89	1	Plumber	Utility
HOLMES, Andy	23.1.67	172	65	Swan View	1986	78	193	-	Teacher	Rover
HOLUB, Anthony	23.1.71	190	88	West Perth/Osborne Park	-	-	-	-	-	Full back
HUTTON, Brent	15.4.64	185	80	Bassendean/Eagles	1982 Swan Dist 1988 WCE	135 SD 13 WCE	225 SD 9 WCE	1	Insurance consultant	Utility
JORDON, Troy	7.2.72	175	75	Wesley College	-	-	-	-	Electrical sales	Half-forward
KEEN, Raymond	7.3.69	174	71	Midland	-	-	-	-	-	Rover
KESTEL, Stewart	19.1.71	176	74	Trinity College	1990	2	-	-	Student	Rover
MARKWELL, Derek	26.7.70	185	75	South Bunbury	-	-	-	-	Surveyor's assistant	Half-back
MONTGOMERIE, Wade	27.7.72	186	76	Gibson	-	-	-	-	Salesman	Half-forward
O'NEILL, Rod	24.1.71	185	82	Victoria	1989	15	19	-	Salesman	Full-back
O'REILLY, Stephen	9.11.72	195	95	Esperance	1990	3	-	-	Salesman	Defender
* NARKLE, Phil	29.1.61	175	80	Bunbury/St Kilda	1978 Swan Dist 1984 St Kilda 1987 WCE	140 SD 48 StK 18 WCE	146 SD 36 StK 18 WCE	5	Courier	Wing
NEWBY, Darren	9.2.72	190	78	Ashfield	-	-	-	-	Screen printer	Defender
PASSERI, Geoff	16.5.69	175	84	Belmont	1987	77	41	-	Storeman	Utility
PENNY, Danny	16.2.67	178	74	Cloverdale	1985	91	46	-	Printer	Wing
PENSINI, Adrian	27.2.70	190	89	Mazenod College/Kenwick	-	-	-	-	Bank officer	Half-forward
POLLOCK, David	3.3.70	185	80	Aquinas College/Belmont	-	-	-	-	Salesman	Half-back
* RANCE, Murray	25.1.62	191	91	Esperance/Footscray	1981 Swan Dist 1986 Footscray 1988 WCE	118 SD 40 Foots 57 WCE	24 5 Foots 7 WCE	7	Sales manager	Utility
RETZLAFF, Brendon	22.4.69	179	76	Collie	1989	30	10	1	Salesman	Wing
RATTRAY, Glyn	19.1.70	189	76	West Perth/Subiaco	-	-	-	-	Salesman	Forward
STANLEY, Sean	10.2.72	183	73	Belmont	-	-	-	-	Roof tiler	Half-back
SIDEBOTTOM, Michael	12.8.71	180	72	Bassendean	-	-	-	-	Bank officer	Half-forward
STEWART, Bruce	15.3.67	185	86	Nth Beach/East Pth/Guild Gram	1987 East Pth	11 EP	4 EP	-	Student	Utility
SMITH, Dean	18.4.69	190	80	Scarborough	-	-	-	-	Draughtsman	Wing
STEVENS, Matt	24.2.70	183	80	Gibson/Guildford Grammar	1988	9	1	-	Scaffolder	Utility
STONE, Brad	13.1.71	203	90	Trinity College	-	-	-	-	Bank clerk	Ruckman
* UGLE, Troy	18.4.68	175	78	Carey Park	1987 Swan Dist 1988 WCE	46 SD 32 WCE	46 SD 28 WCE	-	Welder	Utility
WALKER, Brett	24.11.71	180	75	Guildford Grammar	-	-	-	-	Student	Half-back
WALKER, Greg	8.7.67	170	71	Guildford Grammar	1986	50	54	-	Salesman	Rover
ZORICH, Marcus	8.1.70	177	78	Redcliffe	-	-	-	-	Salesman	Wing

\* Denotes that player is a member of the West Coast Eagles squad; games played as at the start of the 1991 season.



**JOHN TODD**

Born 21.5.38

**PLAYING RECORD:** 132 games for South Fremantle (1955-66). State games: WA 9.

**COACHING RECORD:** South Fremantle (1959; 1966-68). Won 37, lost 49. East Fremantle (1973-76). Won 45, lost 40. West Coast Eagles (1988-89). Won 20, lost 25. Swan Districts (1977-87). Won 136, lost 110.

**CURRENT COACHING RECORD**

Season	Won	Lost	Drawn	Finished
1990	16	8	-	Premiers

## Todd has the talent

REIGNING premiers Swan Districts have a habit of producing back-to-back premierships; in fact, they specialise in hat-trick achievements.

After coming in from the wilderness to win last year's premiership, there is ample confidence at Bassendean Oval that the black-and-whites can repeat the effort this season.

Coach John Todd, seemingly more comfortable back in his familiar surrounds at Swan Districts, believes he has enough players to cover for the loss of four draft choices who have gone on to AFL pastures.

Todd has developed good depth at Bassendean and some selective recruiting indicates that there is no shortage of talent available this season.

"I think we have a team that can improve on last year's side," says Todd. "We have lost some experienced players, but that is compensated by adding younger legs to the team. It's a relatively young side now, probably the youngest in the league. But we also have a hard-core of players in the 21-23 year bracket with 60 to 80 games behind them."

"Beating the complacency that often comes after a premiership is our hardest task and it's important that we be consistent."



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- 48 Mark Bayliss (South Frem) \*
- 48 Peter Quill (East Frem)
- 46 Troy Ugle (Swan Dist)
- 46 Matt Clape (East Perth)
- 46 Peter Higgins (East Frem) \*

\* Denotes games played with more than one club as follows: Mark Bayliss 44 South Frem, 4 Clontarf; Peter Higgins 48 Claremont.

## 100 GAMES

- 99 Rod Willet (Subiaco)
- 98 Cliff Collard (South Frem)
- 98 John O'Sullivan (East Frem)
- 97 Murray Rance (Eagles) \*
- 96 Rod Grljusich (South Frem) \*
- 96 Todd Breman (Subiaco)
- 95 Wayne Dayman (West Perth)

\* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Murray Rance 40 Footscray, 57 Eagles; Rod Grljusich 48 Perth, 48 South Fremantle.

## 150 GAMES

- 148 Brent Hutton (Swan Dist) \*
- 145 Steve Malaxos (Clare)
- 145 Phil Scott (Subiaco) \*

\* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Brent Hutton 135 Swan Districts, 13 Eagles; Phil Scott 79 Subiaco, 66 Eagles.

## 200 GAMES

- 199 Craig Edwards (South Frem) \*
- 197 Shane Ellis (East Frem) \*

\* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Craig Edwards 73 East Perth, 126 South Fremantle; Shane Ellis 187 East Fremantle; 10 Eagles.

## 250 GAMES

- 237 David Palm (West Perth) \*

\* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: David Palm 71 West Perth, 62 Norwood, 104 Richmond.

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# STAR-GAZING....

WHO will be the stars to watch in season 1991?

As the eight WAFL clubs delve deeper into their depths to cover player losses over the summer, a new generation of footballers will emerge to hold down key roles at senior level.

Every year these players breathe fresh life into West Australian football and yesterday's rookies will become today's driving forces in the quest for that elusive premiership.

Young Swan Districts ruckman **Travis Edmonds** made a successful transition from school football with Guildford Grammar to a round one league debut last year; though he lost his ruck spot to **Ken Bell** late in the season after playing 20 consecutive games.

Other Swans youngsters who will come to the fore in the club's quest for back-to-back flags are defender **Steven O'Reilly**, who is likely to be tried at full-back and rover **Stewart Kestel**, who captained the reserves in the finals.

## EXCITING

Claremont will no doubt unearth another exciting band of talented youngsters (as they have done in the past) to avenge last year's loss to Swans and **Jason Norrish** is sure to make a big impact.

The slightly built 19-year-old from Hale School only played eight league games in his first season and he will warrant more opportunities in '91.

**Andrew McGovern**, **Greg O'Malley**, **Nathan Brooks** and **Rob Malone** have all played a handful of games and will be keen to earn a regular place in the league side.

South Fremantle uncovered one of the rookies-of-the-year last season in a 20-year-old from Cockburn named **John Porter**.

**Porter** slotted into the Bulldogs side at their trouble spot, full back and played all but two games during the season.

**Bruno Italiano**, the talented dairy farmer from Harvey, was another name to emerge at the Port as a player to watch. He was often used off the interchange bench by last year's coach **Stan Magro**, but quickly picked up the tempo in defence or across the centre.

Each season East Fremantle reap the rewards from an extensive development programme in the State's north and this year should be no exception.

A major find last year was ruck-rover **Glen Fletcher**, from Railways, in Geraldton, though he suffered a major setback when he was stretched from the ground with a knee injury in a hard-fought derby at East Fremantle Oval.

Fletcher has had a pre-season opera-

# Plenty of promise among the rookies

by  
**Tania Armstrong**



Travis Edmonds...Swans ruckman with a big future

over summer and midfielder **Paul Evans**, who played the last nine games of season 1990 in fine style, should earn regular league berths.

**Leigh Willison** and **Tony Stubberfield** are two talented 20-year-olds who will continue to develop, along with **Aaron Gale** and **Troy Starcevic**, who were both used sparingly last season.

Perth, one of the youngest teams in the competition, will give senior responsibility to a band of youngsters referred to as 'the new breed'.

**Wayne Allard**, a 16-year-old from Darwin, will share the roving duties with **Russell Thompson**, a local from Queens Park, who is still eligible for a place in the under-19s.

Ruck-rover **Robert Thomson**, from Cunderdin, has performed well in pre-season matches, as has wingman **Tim Lester**, who was tried in the last three games of the season in 1990.

## DRAFTEES

At Subiaco Oval, West Coast Eagles draftees **Matthew Burton** and **Mitchell White** will continue to impress the locals as they build up for their AFL call-up.

Blond wingman **Tony Godden** showed courage which belied his slight frame in his 12 matches last year and fellow Teal Cup representative **David Snow** should emerge as a league regular in defence or as a tagger.

Featherweight Falcons forward **Nathan Higgins** was one of West Perth's most valuable finds in a season they would rather forget and Sunday League recruit **Matt Cullen** will also cause problems for opposition defenders.

Members of their under-19s premiership winning team expected to make league appearances this year are **Justin Driffill**, **Todd Curley**, **Craig Rinder** and **Dean Brunton**.

All in all, player stocks for season 1991 appear to be in top shape and as the season progresses, the names of players as yet unheard of, will be on everybody's lips.

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# Kicking football into the future



## New clubs join northern region

THE Northern Suburbs junior football region takes on a completely new look this season with many changes among the teams and the clubs competing.

Included in the changes are a new name and colours for the district's combined side — they will be known as the Raiders, sporting green and gold guernseys.

The district has 11 clubs, bolstered by the inclusion of the Karrinyup and Carine clubs, who were previously part of the Subiaco-Wanneroo junior league.

The club areas are Whitfords, Ocean Ridge, Kingsley, Northern Districts, Sorrento-Duncraig, Warwick, Girraheen-Koondoola, Carine, Karrinyup, Edgewater and Wanneroo, who are bound to WAFL clubs Subiaco, West Perth and East Perth.

## Schools the big target

THE Town and Country Football Development Trust is targeting local and country schools in its bid to spread the Aussie Footy word this year.

Since 1987, the FDT has taken on a high profile in numerous youth programmes including the co-ordination of events such as:

The CIG Shield (year 10 and below); the Quit Cup (high schools first XVIII); the Toyota Cup (community 16s and 17s teams); the Tip Top State Championships (for 13, 14 and 15-year-olds); the Tip Top State Schoolboys (for 15-year-olds); the PIBA Country 17s carnival and the Town and Country Teal Cup team for the State's best 17-year-olds.

These programmes represent a three-pronged area of priority from the Trust and have been in operation over the last five years.

The first target was establishment of the CIG Shield for high school students aged up to 15 years.

This started with 33 teams in 1983 and had 106 schools competing in last year.

Then came the push towards upper high schools, with the Quit Cup being developed for the older students and now covering 54 metropolitan and 18 country schools.

Community football has been the second area of priority.

With many suburban 16s and 17s teams floundering, a Toyota sponsorship enabled this age group to expand from 33 teams in 1988 to 44 last year.

### TALENT SEARCH

Talent identification and the monitoring of players has been the third major priority area.

State Championships have been given a high profile, as have country 17s and Teal Cup trials.

According to FDT manager Gerard McNeill, youth football is under a constant challenge from other sports such as basketball and rugby.

"Simply providing football competitions is not enough," says McNeill.

"With the youth of today becoming far more sophisticated in their social desires and leisure activities, the development of football must be a high priority in the 1990s."

The Wanneroo Football and Sporting Club has donated a transportable office and meeting room which will be used as the regional headquarters and located at the Kingsway Reserve in Wanneroo.

This season starts on Sunday, April 14 and extends for 16 weeks, with finals scheduled for 13s to 17s age groups.

Trevor Mundy, the Northern Suburbs region president, says that the junior competition has been strengthened on an administrative and playing level, with more voluntary work coming from parents and supporters.

"We are also looking at staging a combined inter-region competition for the 13s, 14s and 17s, which will give the better players the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge," said Mundy.

## Central region starts shortly

THE Junior council region Central Districts will start its season on the weekend of April 13 and 14.

Central Districts is the biggest junior region in the metropolitan area, extending from Mosman Park to North Beach and Bayswater to Maylands.

This year the region will be made up of 24 junior clubs, with 133 teams in the following age groups — 9s 26 teams; 10s 18 teams; 11s 19 teams; 12s 19 teams; 13s 15 teams; 14s 11 teams; 15s 12 teams; 17s 13 teams.

Central Districts president Bill Forrest is pleased with the progression of the junior regions system, with the amalgamation of some weaker clubs and a common set of rules and by-laws consistent throughout the competition.

"Like most other junior clubs in the regions, we require sponsorship to help keep things afloat," he says.



## THE HUNGRY JACK'S WHOPPER CLUB

with Guy McKenna



Aussie Footy co-ordinator Mick Pember (left) and FDT general manager and coaching co-ordinator, Gerard McNeill

## Coaching programme

THE Fremantle junior football region is about to embark on an extensive programme of coaching clinics.

The clinics will be held in conjunction with the Football Development Trust, the South Fremantle Football Club and the Bulldogs junior council.

"The clinics will be used as a feeder system to help guide youngsters into existing clubs, or even help form new clubs in the area," said region president Bill Wallington.

Promotion officers will visit local schools to ascertain the viability of the clinics and leaflets will be distributed to households within the district.

### PARENT INVOLVEMENT

"This is a good opportunity for parents to become involved in the training and promotion of junior football," he said.

"The clinics will be split into two groups with five weeks at one school and five weeks at another, with lots of free giveaways and incentives from major sponsors Masters Dairy.

"They will be attended by senior South Fremantle players and development officers from the FDT."

Details of the clinics will be announced shortly, with the first one taking place at the South Lake High School. Further details will be announced on Fremantle's local radio station 100fm on Saturday mornings between 10am and 11am or contact Steve Martin, at South Fremantle on 335 1555.

Mighty Milo says ...



The spoiling tactics: DON'T try to be a super-star and take 'specy' marks when you are not in the best position. You should always spoil from behind unless you are absolutely certain you can mark over your opponent's head.

Footy is a game where you have to do the best for your team and very few marks are taken from behind... unless, of course, you are a lot taller than your opponent.

Don't let your opponent take easy marks in the front position. You should try to get your body in front, but if you can't, then rely on punching it away from his hands.

Remember, if you are in front, go for the mark. If not, play safe and punch it away.

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# Nollamara plan for a

## revival

NOLLAMARA, one of the traditional clubs in amateur football, are hoping for big things this season after a disappointing year in 1990.

The club will field five sides in the WAAFL competition — A-grade, A-colts, C-grade, F-grade and K-grade.

Former Perth and West Perth full-forward Mick Rea will coach the A-grade side for the third year running and he will be assisted by former East Perth and Essendon rover Wayne Otway.

The C-grade side will be coached by Bob Edmonds, who replaces Brian Polson after a one-year stint.

Nollamara life member and club stalwart Don Wilson, who coached the A-colts in 1987, will be playing coach for the F-grade team.

Chris Carr will be in charge of K-Grade, while Brian Morris has been appointed coach of the A-colts.

Pre-season training has attracted big numbers of players, something that has been missing during the past few years at Nollamara.

With the increase in numbers at training, Nollamara's depth will be the

strongest it has been in years, a luxury the club has missed in past seasons through injuries and player retirements.

Nollamara are hoping that players from last year's colts side, who lost the grand final to University, will graduate to senior ranks and continue to be the future of the club.

The 1990 A-grade fairest and best winner, Brendon Baker, is Nollamara's only major loss from last season as he is resuming his football career with WAFL club Perth.

The club has recruited well over the summer, snapping up former West Perth and East Perth ruckman Mal Bennett, but they are also concentrating on developing the younger players from the local area.

With Rea able to choose from a greater number of players, 1991 could be the year for the Nollamara Cougars.

Ken Baling, in his first year as

president of Nollamara, says the club's tradition comes from a dedicated group of people who work behind the scenes.

"To keep large numbers of players on the field involves a tremendous commitment from a band of volunteer administrators," says Baling.

"That kind of tradition is then carried onto the field.

"The majority of players all grew up in the same area and played junior football with each other, which helps in building a strong spirit in the club."

Nollamara fielded their first side in 1964 and since then the club has won seven premierships, with their most successful year being 1974 when two out of the three sides won flags.

Their only A-grade premiership was in 1980.

### WAFL PLAYERS

Nollamara have produced many players who have gone on to play WAFL, the most notable being current West Coast Eagles utility player Craig Turley.

Baling is proud that Nollamara can teach the skills and discipline of Australian Rules football from under-9s right through to A-grade.

"There is also the opportunity for lovers of the game to participate as



Nollamara coach Mick Rea

coaches, trainers, umpires, or just enjoy our hospitality as a supporter," he said.

Nollamara occupy modern changeroom facilities at Des Penman Reserve, with the building built over the summer break two seasons ago by members, with the co-operation of the Stirling City Council.

## Fans demand physical conflict

JUST where does Australian Football lie in the overall sports and entertainment sphere?

And what are the long-term prospects of maintaining Australian Football in its present prime position?

Interesting questions in the light of the rather gloomy predictions promoted in some quarters relating to the demise of body contact sports.

Indeed, there are some who are almost paranoid in their condemnations of sports and activities which inflict injuries and inflame some spectators of a volatile disposition to violence.

### SENTIMENTS

While one can possibly sympathise with such sentiments, especially in the area of boxing, the people citing them would command more credence if they were equally critical of the vocation of driving a motor car, which unfortunately has developed into one of modern civilisation's most deadly mass killers.

There is no doubt that on a per-capita basis, the incidence of sports injuries pales into relative insignificance when compared to the carnage emanating from the use of the motor car.

Accordingly, we then need to balance contact sport injuries against other activities which create absolute havoc, yet receive little, if any, criticism.

Australian Football, by its very nature, is rough; yet soccer as an example, has far more lower leg injuries than the National Code.

Netball is another sport which, though non-contact, has a terrible record of injury. The virtual epidemic of serious back injuries now suffered by fast bowlers in cricket is a major cause of concern — as are the missiles they aim at 150km/hr at opponents bodies, not to mention their heads!

While Australian Football authorities should pay attention to any measure which nullifies injury, it should also be recognised that the sports fans

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The national

view  by JOHN WARREN

who determine whether sport is successful or not, still love physical contact.

The bottom line then really is that any serious attempt to remove "violence" from Australian Football is going to jeopardise its chances of maintaining public interest.

The public definitely love to hate personality players who are prone to "running through" opponents. Of course, they must possess skill too. The days of the old style king-hit or bash artist are long gone.

It is surely no coincidence that, with the exception of some horse races, and at Olympic Games, the largest sports crowds in the world are consistently at the various codes of football.

Why? Because they are attracted to physical contact. By seeing players crashing into one another, their primal instincts are to some extent, assuaged.

### SOPHISTICATED

No matter how sophisticated we think we have become, the cold hard facts are that human nature still very much relates to people matching against each other physically in much the same way as when they were all cave dwellers.

In modern society, the social and education systems have ensured the provision of an ever-widening range of sports and activity options — and this can only be good. It also provides passive pastimes available for those who are not physically or psychologically geared to engage in more violent activity.

It also should be admitted however, that there is a place, even a requirement, for heavy contact sports — even at the expense of injuries. They are needed by player and spectator alike. That is the nature of the beast.

# Fong relishes move to Wanneroo

THE appointment of former West Perth champion Les Fong as coach of Wanneroo for the 1991 Sunday Football League season, has boosted the club's chances of winning their second SFL premiership.

Last season saw Wanneroo lose the first semi-final to Maddington after finishing fifth at the end of the qualifying games.

Fong has completed a three-year stint with amateur club Trinity Aquinas and is now looking forward to the challenge of coaching at another level of football.

"Sunday League is a great competition and I am pleased to have the opportunity to coach at this level," says Fong.

"Wanneroo is a great club and the co-operation of the administration over the summer months has been tremendous.

"The immediate goals for Wanneroo are to play consistent football for four quarters and adopt my style of football, which could take a while.

"Our long-term goal is to aim for the top two spots on the ladder and then the premiership.

"There is tremendous depth at the club and most senior spots are up for grabs, which is a healthy position."

### PROFESSIONALISM

Wanneroo president Mal Lothian says that the professionalism Fong has brought to the club has rubbed off on the players and created an atmosphere that has been missing over the past few seasons.

"We are expecting big things this season after what we have seen on the track from Les and the players during pre-season and the practice matches," says Lothian.

"Recruiting players hasn't been a major priority this year, with Les only seeking players that the club really needs.

"With the appointment of Les as coach, there was a tremendous response from the players and from what we have seen, he is getting through to them.

"It has been a great marriage between Les and the club and he has put a lot of work in already, so the season is looking good for Wanneroo."



The club has recruited former Swan Districts premiership player Peter Ware to add stability to the defence, plus West Perth duo Heath Soutar and Chris Davies.

Former West Perth player and 1988 Wanneroo premiership goalkicker Tony Fraser has returned after taking a year off due to work commitments.

Neale Fong has followed his brother to Wanneroo after stints with West Perth, Nollamara and Trinity Aquinas.

These players will form a vital nucleus that will benefit the club immensely and their experience will help the younger players in the side.

The depth in the club is strong with the reserves side only losing one home and away game last year and the colts finishing in the final five during the past few seasons.

Former Swan Districts player Tom Floyd will play a dual role at the club, playing senior football and coaching the reserves.

Wanneroo life member Peter Rogers has been retained as coach of the colts.

The senior runner for 1991 is former West Perth premiership player and Wanneroo premiership coach Stuart Hillier.

The Wanneroo Football Club began in 1926, playing organised games against other clubs.

In 1947 they joined the Hills Association and in 1960 entered the West Australian Football Association competition, their most successful period as a club, winning premierships in 1969, 75, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, and 83.

In 1984, when they joined the expanded Sunday League, they finished second on the ladder, eventually losing the grand final.

They atoned in 1988 by winning the premiership under current East Perth league coach Ian McCulloch and were runners-up again in 1989. The 1985 season was the only time they have finished out of the five.

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## Pepsi Cup

This week's WAFL fixtures are as follows:  
Saturday, April 6  
(Round 1)

East Fremantle vs Perth, at East Fremantle Oval.  
East Perth vs South Fremantle, at Perth Oval (broadcast by 6PR).  
Subiaco vs West Perth, at Subiaco Oval (broadcast by 6WF).  
Swan Districts vs Claremont, at Bassendean Oval (broadcast by 6NR).  
The Pepsi Cup competition is sponsored by Pepsi, major supporters of the WAFL.



# Stop destroying our great game

**THE AFL power brokers are in danger of destroying our great game!**

And if the decision-makers don't update their thinking caps pretty smartly, the game will end up being like basketball; but played on grass with an oval ball.

Teams will simply alternate control of the ball, taking it turn-about to score; the most accurate club taking the four premiership points.

The physical and defensive aspects of Australian Football will join the dinosaurs unless the AFL reviews the directions it is obviously issuing to the umpires.

The move towards a truly national

competition is terrific, particularly for those players and fans who live outside of Melbourne.

### EVOLUTION

The introduction of teams in Sydney, Perth, Brisbane and Adelaide has been a positive step in the evolution of the sport, but the foresight they have shown in expanding the competition is pointless if the game itself loses direction.

With more attention being focussed on players "hatching" the ball and using the boundary line as a method of defence, players who make the effort to get in front and win the hard ball are being penalised.

All through junior football players are advised to make the ball their object, do everything possible to win front position and the reward will come.

It was also a tactical ploy to hold up play when in defence.

### SPECTACLE

But those basic fundamentals which contribute to make football the tremendous spectacle it is, no longer apply.

The umpires are now red-hot on defenders seeking the sanctuary of the boundary line; players can now sweat on an opponent who is courageous enough to dive into a pack in a bid to set up the play and generally there is no protection for the man going hard at the ball.

Several times in the Eagles-Collingwood clash last Saturday, the player making the ball his object was penalised.

A couple of occasions stick in mind, particularly the instance involving Guy McKenna in the final quarter. He was prostrate on the ground with the loose ball spilling dangerously towards centre-half-forward for the Woodsmen.

He raked the ball back into his body and tried to tunnel it out between his legs, but it ricocheted back off his feet and was trapped under his body when

By

**Gary Stocks**

of The West Australian



a Collingwood forward cannoned into his back.

The decision? Holding the ball!

What was he supposed to do — knock the ball towards goal and make life easy for the Collingwood forwards?

On another occasion Karl Langdon showed tremendous endeavour to dive fearlessly into a pack to gain possession. A couple of Magpies set upon him and despite his attempts to get the ball, he was pinged for holding onto the leather.

The same thing happened to Collingwood players, though the incidents were not nearly as memorable.

### INCIDENTS

Similar incidents occurred in Sunday's clash at Football Park in Adelaide between the Crows and Carlton.

And the umpires in that game were quick to dish out 50-metre penalties, a number of them dubious.

The players and the public are confused and the umpires are copping plenty of criticism when it is obviously a direction which has been passed on to them.

When will this meddling of the laws cease?

Speaking about changing the laws, the umpires in WAFL matches will be in the hot seat with the introduction of the send-off rule.

There has been a couple of incidents in practice games which could have been construed as worthy of ejecting the offending players, but understandably, the umpires are hesitant to be the first to use the law.

Former Perth president Vince Pental hands over a \$50,000 cheque to Perth Lord Mayor Chas Hopkins for the first Demons instalment on a new repayment system to erase their Lathlain Park debts.



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