



WESTSIDE Football

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A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS PUBLICATION

GO TURLS, GO

THE West Coast Eagles war-mongering contingent of skilled hard-running midfield invaders have blitzed two of last year's finalists, Melbourne and Collingwood, in their opening two salvos in the AFL.

And one of the generals responsible for engineering the Eagles march to the top of the premiership table is ruck-rover Craig Turley, one of the most improved players in the AFL this season.

And there's no reason to suspect Turley won't be equally as damaging when the Eagles take on night football specialists North Melbourne under lights at the WACA Ground this Friday night.

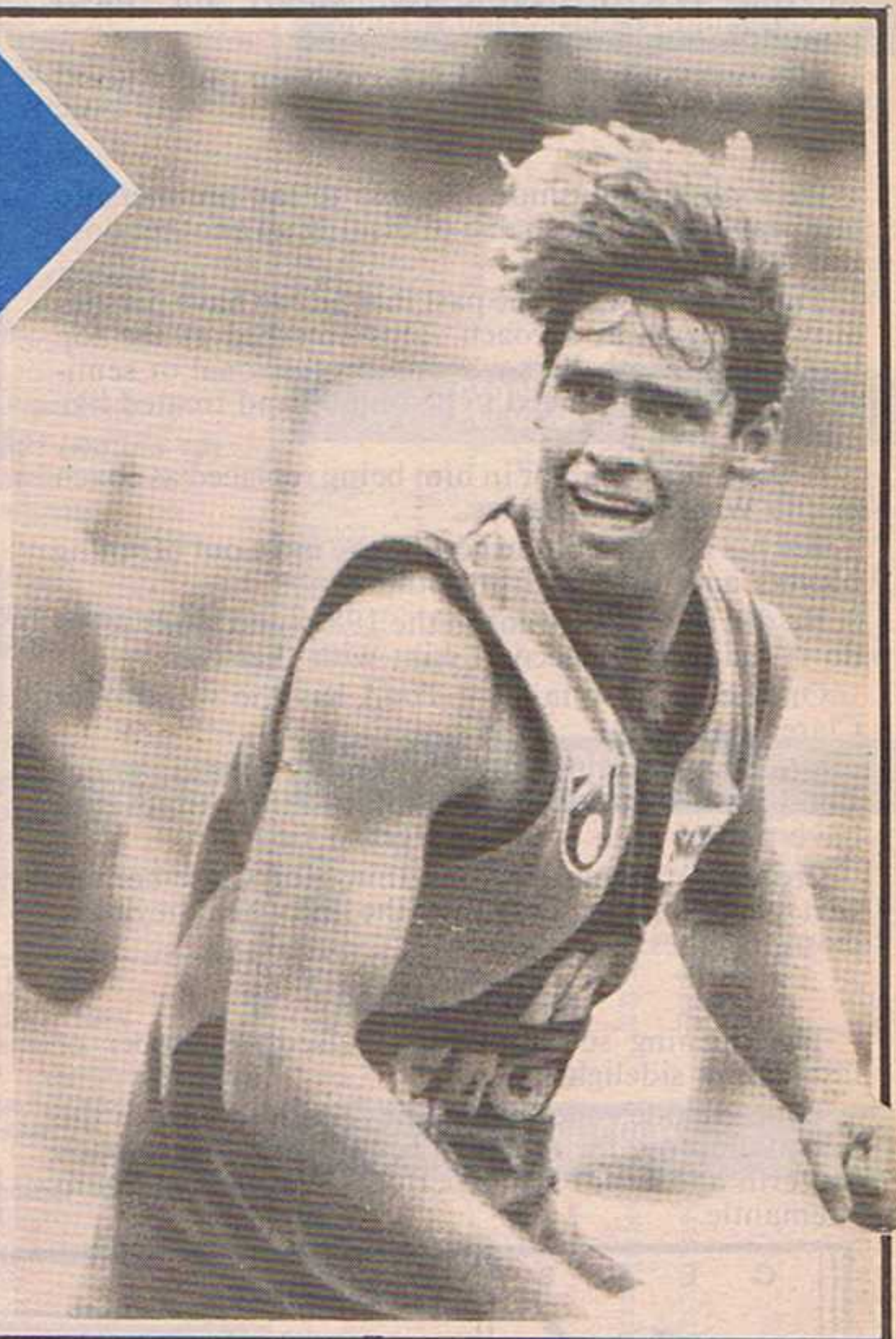
Ros coach Wayne Schimmelbusch believes his team can rebound from their disastrous loss to Essendon last week and end the Eagles unbeaten run.

But the Eagles have other ideas....

WHY BEYER QUIT THE SHARKS....Page 3

The Narkle Sparkle shines again....Page 8

Westside's unique ratings....Page 20



BAN THE UMP!

By **RON ALEXANDER**

Former WA, Eagles and East Fremantle coach

THE emergency umpire involved in the controversial Dale Kickett incident at Bassendean Oval should be suspended for at least a month.

Bevan Sturgess-Smith, the official in question, inflamed what was a very minor and relatively harmless scuffle between two players by the over-aggressive manner in which he "chested" the Tigers forward.

And on that basis he should be held accountable for the escalation of the incident and the ramifications it caused.

Kickett and his two clubs, the West Coast Eagles and Claremont, have every justification in lodging an appeal over the suspension he received for the misconduct charge surrounding his "man-handling" of Sturgess-Smith.

I have no complaints about the penalty Kickett received for head-butting Swans rookie Shane Atherton shortly before the misconduct charge was laid — the Claremont and Eagles forward deserved a holiday for that.

A few minutes after Kickett was involved in that incident with Atherton — and quite correctly reported by Phil O'Reilly — he was provoked by a Swans player and started a pushing and shoving match.

The central umpires had everything under control and there was no need for the emergency umpire to sprint all the way from his position on the fence; side-step the offending Swans player pushing Kickett and aggressively "chest" the emotionally-upset Tiger.

It came as no surprise that Kickett held his ground and pushed the over-zealous official.

Kickett has been done a grave injustice. I saw the whole incident clearly from the raised press box and there should be an immediate appeal by the Eagles. But just as urgent should be the disciplinary action taken against the umpire concerned.



Temper flare!...Emergency umpire Bevan Sturgess-Smith moves in on Claremont forward Dale Kickett while Tigers runner Peter Thorne tries to diffuse the situation. Field umpire Trevor Garrett (right) shows no interest in the matter

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Todd relishes Tigers bouts



STRAIGHT SHOOTING

with **ROBERT BENNETT**
of the Sunday Times

JOHN Todd should be banned from coaching in the WAFL. He's too smart for local coaches.

His two years in the AFL have been put to good use at Swan Districts.

He took an unfashionable side to the premiership last year and looks capable of dishing up another dose this season.

Todd has shown in the past that he can have personality problems as a coach. This emerged at the top level where footballers who are professional or semi-professional don't need to be bullied and treated like kids.

It was a major factor in him being replaced as coach of the West Coast Eagles.

But his strength lies in getting the most out of young players and outcasts from other clubs.

He did this with Swans in the 1980s and looks set to do it again in his second stint with that club.

One thing is certain — Todd has the wood over Claremont.

He must love playing the Tigers. Swans, under Todd, have beaten Claremont the last three times they have played each other in a grand final.

Probably the most galling thing for Claremont is that Swans tend to sneak over the line when they have close matches.

SIDELIGHTS

The opening set of fixtures raised a number of fascinating sidelights.

They include:- the need to have a close look at the role of umpires; the return of Ken Armstrong as coach of Perth and East Perth's performance against South Fremantle.



John Todd...has the wood over Claremont

Emergency umpire Bevan Sturgess-Smith should be rapped across the knuckles for his role which led to Claremont's Dale Kickett getting four weeks for manhandling an umpire.

For a start, he should not have been on the ground, let alone taken such a high profile in an incident that the field umpires had under control.

That was bad enough. But the vitriolic way he tackled Kickett sparked a situation that should never have occurred. He should have been dousing things, rather than inflaming them through an aggressive approach.

WA football has had its share of umpires who like to grandstand. The best umpires are the ones who have control, but are unobtrusive.

People go to the football to watch the players, not umpires.

POOR STANDARD

And while on umpires. The standard in the Claremont-Swan Districts was pretty ordinary.

Some Claremont supporters felt they were hard done by. They can point to the number of free kicks — Swans had twice as many.

But the most fascinating aspect of the free kicks was the eight to nil given in Swans favor in the last quarter.

When was the last time a team did not get a free kick in a quarter?

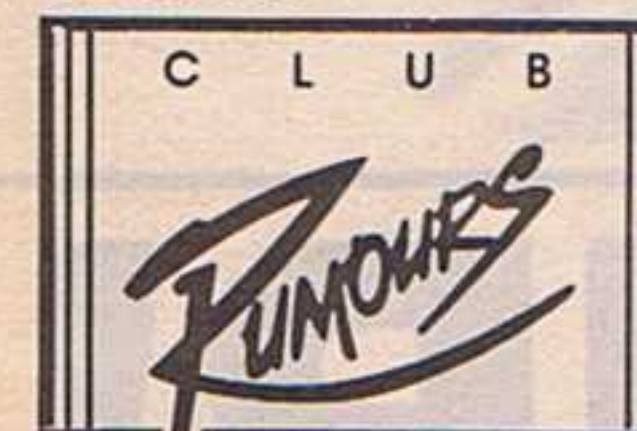
It's good to see East Perth back as a force in the WAFL.

Over the years they have been crippled by the drain of top class footballers, first to the VFL and then AFL.

It will be interesting to see if they caught South Fremantle on an off-day or they are as good as the scoreboard indicated.

Ken Armstrong looks as though he will also lift Perth from the basement of the competition.

Some may have felt he had been out of coaching too long, but Armstrong's strength is his no-nonsense approach to the game. He is also a disciplinarian and those factors should get the best out of a team that during pre-season had been written off by most critics.



presents . . .

Footy Rumours

GOSSIP FROM AROUND THE TRAPS

WHISTLE-BLOWER BLUES

THERE were plenty of "blues" made by the men-in-white last week as they opened up the 1991 season ... and plenty of boos from the crowd. Even boundary umpires came in for heckling, especially the two men at Perth Oval, Andrew Neale and Phil Nolan. Both men incurred the wrath of the members stand with incorrect decisions relating to the ball being signalled out of bounds when, in fact, it had been kept in by Royals players. Neale and field umpire David Johnson were also out of favour when they allowed a boundary line throw-in to take place right on the spot where Bulldogs defender Ned Fimmano was on the ground being treated by trainers. Only a sensible approach by the two ruckmen avoided what could have been a nasty incident.

Back to defence

EAST Perth's newly-appointed reserves coach John Scott debuted in his role with a one-point loss at the hands of South Fremantle — and he couldn't blame anyone but himself. Scott has resumed playing with the Royals after an illustrious career at Claremont and he had two chances to seal the game in the final minutes. "The only reason we didn't win was because I kicked into the man on the mark," he told members after the game. He also had a shot at goal from 45-metres out in the final minute, but registered a point. Back to the backline for the former full-forward turned full-back.

CAN'T PLEASE 'EM ALL

YOU can never please everyone; that's for sure when it comes to footy. Take last week's official opening to the season, with teams lining up for the coin-toss and the national anthem being played to give the competition's start a little class. But West Perth captain David Palm ridiculed the pre-match ceremony — and with some rather colourful language not really suitable to radio airwaves — and claimed that it put the Falcons off. What next?

HARD-HITTING

VERSATILE John Hayes played his football tough with a number of clubs and never shirked the issue. Such is his role as a commentator with Radio 6NR and he pulled no punches with a message for football administrators last Saturday. He expressed amazement at some of the changes introduced to the game by football's chiefs and suggested that while most of them had played some football, "they would not have won many hard balls." Hayes was obviously referring to the send-off rule introduced in WA and the AFL rule relating to players hovering over the ball — a rule that is in favour of the "sweater", the player who waits for the man in front to get the ball and then crashes on top of him.

Out of balance

SOUTH Fremantle coach Steve Hargrave had a WAFL debut that he would rather forget with a 21-goal thrashing from old rivals East Perth. But the team selected by the Bulldogs was a mystery, particularly to those critics who had done their homework on the Royals. The East Perth side was built around a mobile fleet of runners, with about eight or nine players capable of moving the ball through the middle of the ground. But Souths went in with a top-heavy big-man side that lacked runners. They had no recognised rovers; converted a couple of defenders into ruck-rovers and relied on regular wingman Brad Collard — making his first match appearance for more than a month — to handle the onerous duties of centreman. In retrospect, the team was never a match for East Perth's fleet-footed brigade.

ONE-EYED FEELINGS

THERE'S no stopping the Mouth from the South, Radio 6PR's Bob Maumill whose one-eyed loyalty for the Bulldogs has never been questioned. During last

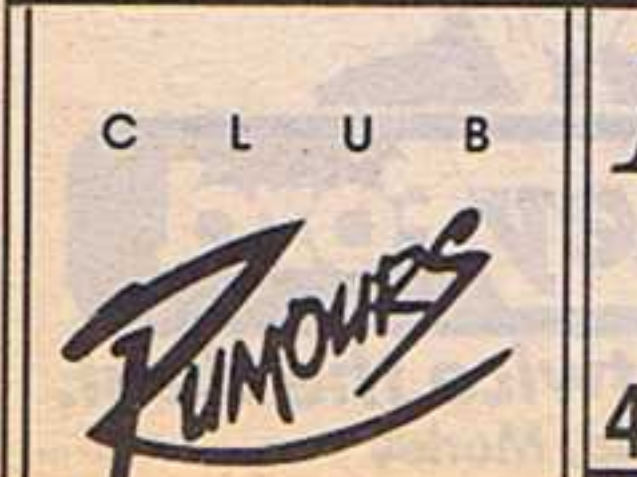
Saturday's football show he had the audacity to suggest that Swan Districts supporters were "a weird lot". Coming from a dinky-die Port patriot who loves standing among the one-eyed, biased vocal dedicated Bulldogs in front of the press box area, that's some statement! He did go on to pay Swans people a compliment, especially president Bill Walker, whose total dedication to the Bassendean boys is a great trend-setter for local club officialdom.

Clarkson saga

THE verbal warfare between East Fremantle and Perth over John Clarkson's football future is a sad indictment on today's game. Perth president Ted O'Connor was a special guest on Radio 6PR on Saturday morning specifically to answer some comments from East Fremantle's Hans Beyer about the issue. But because of Beyer's surprise overnight decision to resign, O'Connor was reluctant to talk much about Clarkson. Maybe he didn't want to repeat any of arbitrator Brian Sierakowski's comments towards Perth. Sierakowski didn't pull any punches in his criticism of Perth's treatment of Clarkson — especially the Demons decision to withhold last year's payments due to their former vice-captain.

HITTING HARD

THERE were some hard-hitting words of advice to football administrators from 6PR's Percy Johnson last weekend. Joining in the growing criticism of some new rules designed to change the nature of our great game, Johnson said that there was an aura of "school-teaching" being introduced to the game. The introduction of the send-off rule in particular was not needed. "It's almost as though we want to tell players that they have been naughty little boys and will be sent outside the room till they learn to behave themselves," he said. Percy pointed the bone a little when he suggested that the WAFL was acting under instructions from the AFL to be the testing ground for the send-off rule.

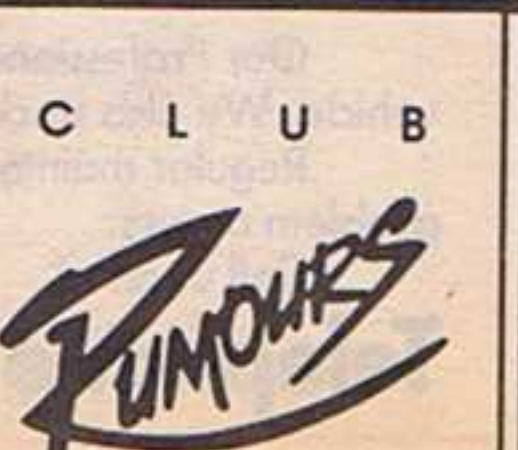


For pre and post match celebrations....

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TOP OF THE LADDER IN THE NIGHT CLUB LEAGUE

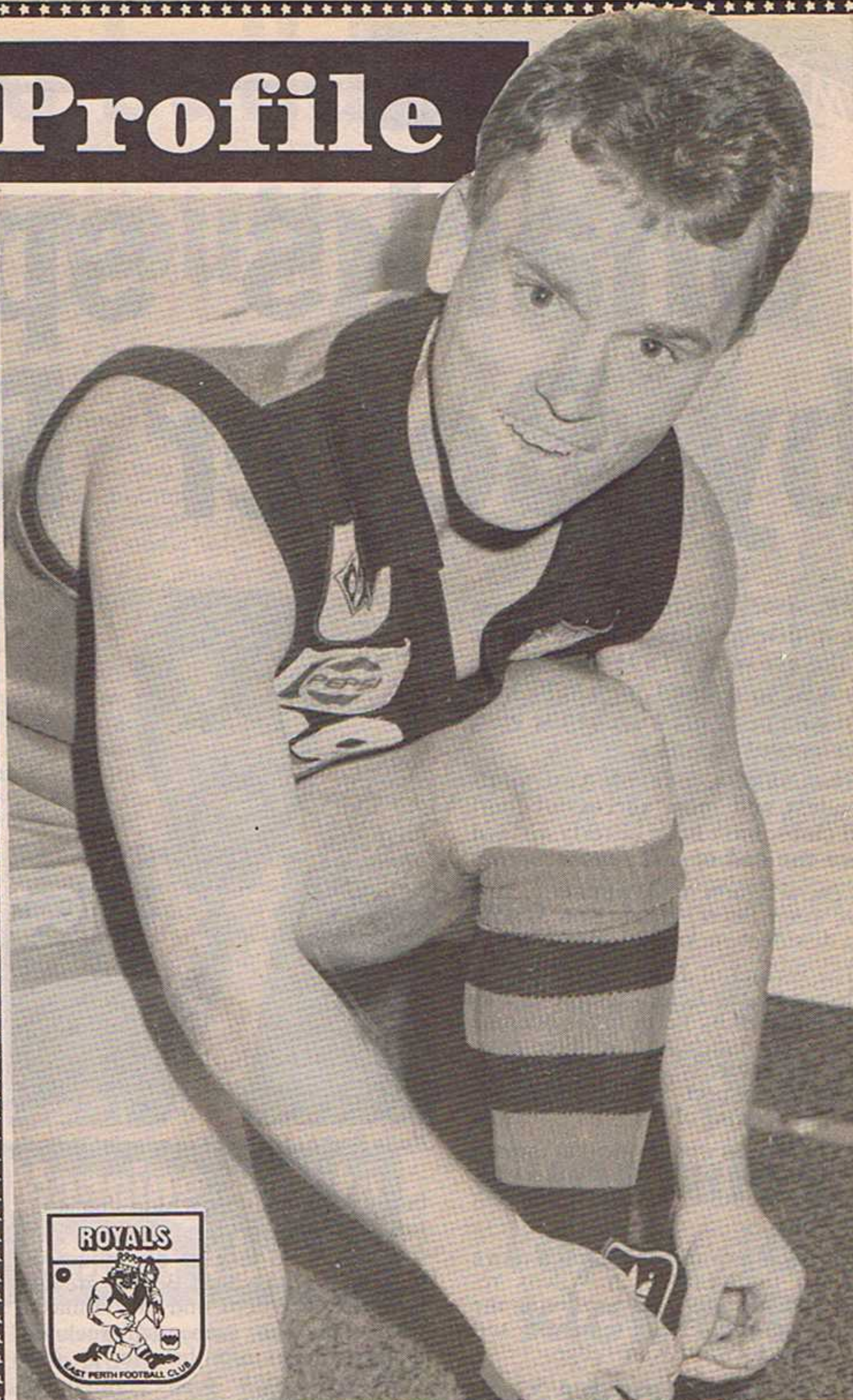


ANGOVE'S...
presents...

Player Profile

Ryan Turnbull

NICKNAME: Emu
FAVOURITE POSITION: Anywhere on the field
CURRENT POSITION: Key defender
FIRST POSITION: Centre-half forward
No.: 50. **HEIGHT:** 196cm **WEIGHT:** 92kg
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: September 23, 1971; Perth
RECRUITED FROM: Claremont/Christchurch Grammar School
JUNIOR CLUB: Karrinyup
FIRST STARTED PLAYING: Aged 6yrs **FIRST SENIOR GAME:** 1989 Claremont
GAMES PLAYED: 25 Claremont, 1 East Perth
MARITAL STATUS: Single
GIRLFRIEND'S NAME: Narelle
OCCUPATION: Student, physical education UWA.
SCHOOLS ATTENDED: Christchurch Grammar
CURRENT CAR: Pulsar **DREAM CAR:** 2Range Rover
FAVOURITE PASTIMES/HOBBIES: Windsurfing
FAVOURITE FOOD: Pasta
FAVOURITE DRINK: Milk
FAVOURITE SINGER/GROUP: Midnight Oil
FAVOURITE MOVIE: Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure
OTHER SPORTS: Basketball
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My mother and father
MOST ADMIRED FOOTBALLER: Bob Beecroft, Bernie Quinlan
BEST PLAYER YOU HAVE SEEN: My father, John Turnbull
MATCH DAY ROUTINE: Music, relax, think
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: None
FOOTBALL INJURIES: None
BIGGEST THRILL: Playing in the 1989 premiership team for Claremont
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: 1989 WAFL grand final
FOOTBALL AMBITION: To play in a AFL grand final
YOUR PERSONAL MOTIVATION: To succeed in football



Peter Miller

Date of Birth: 6.4.69 **Place of Birth:** Margaret River
Height: 167cm **Weight:** 67kg
Age started playing: 8yrs
Previous club: Augusta-Marg. **River Junior club:** Cowaramup
Marital status: Single and highly eligible **Girlfriend's name:** Nothing yet
Occupation: Chemical engineer **Place of work:** —
Other sporting interests: Cricket, golf, tennis
Favourite position: Rover **First position:** Rover
Current position: Rover
League debut: 1988 **Versus:** Swan Districts
Games played: 53 **Goals kicked:** 57

FAVOURITES

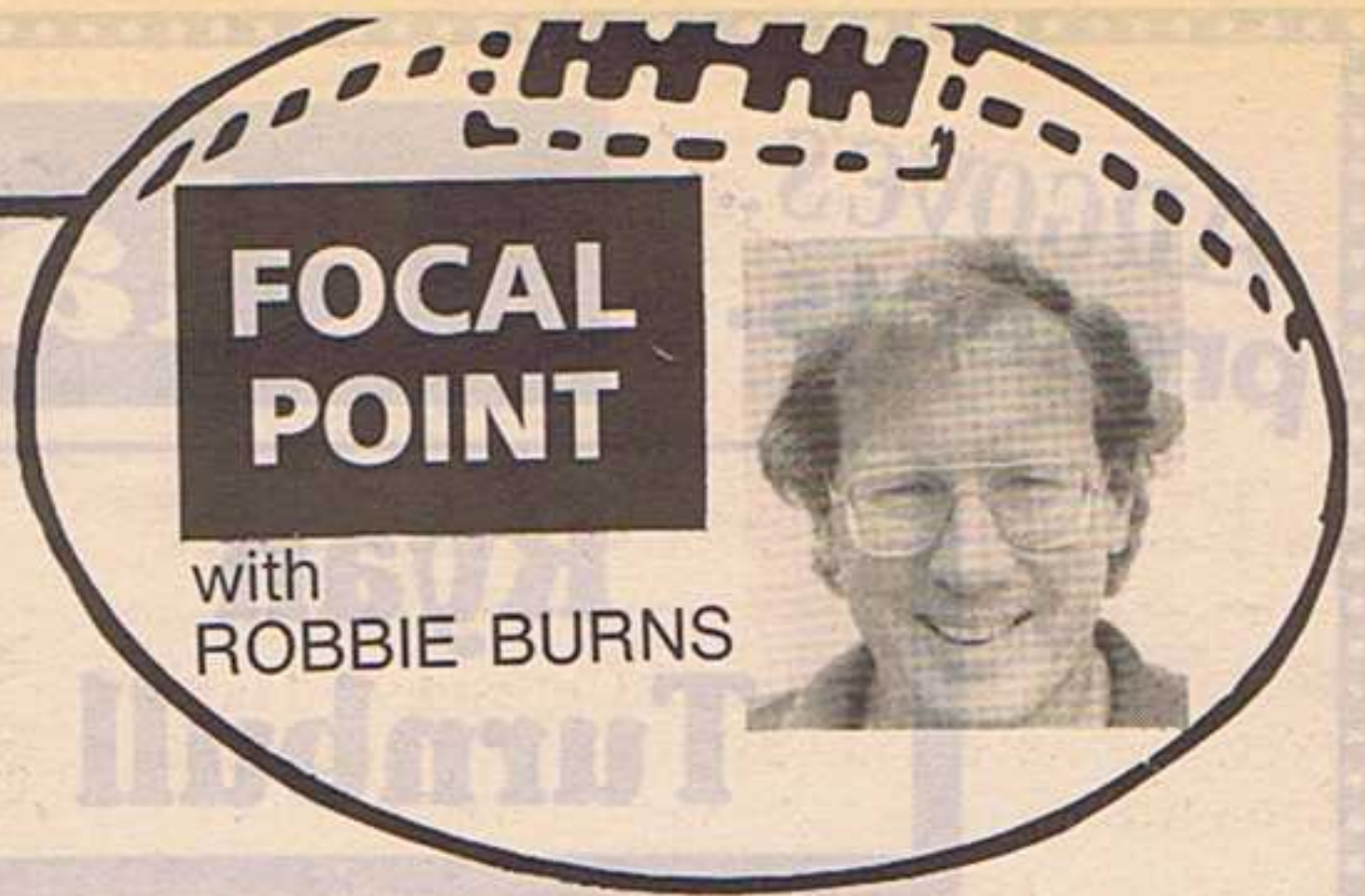
Actor: John Cleese
TV show: Sports shows **Movie:** Raiders of the Lost Ark
Music: Johnny Cougar **Drink:** Emu Export
Food: Meat
Ground: Perth Oval
Your car: Holden Sunbird **Your favourite car:** Porsche
Career highlights: Playing Teal Cup in 1986; third in East Perth's fairest and best last year.
Worst moment in football: Losing
Hardest things in football: The day after losing
Football idols: Barry Cable
Toughest opponent: No-one special
Most respected opponent: None.
Most memorable game: East Perth's win over South Fremantle last week.
Ambitions: To win a premiership this year
What do you like about football: Comradeship and competition.
How do you mentally prepare for a game: Nothing special; just sleep in a little.
Who influenced your career: Rod Duggan, former East Perth player in Margaret River
Guernsey number: 39 **Any reason:** No
Worst injury: Hamstring
Luckiest break: When Wayne Dawson got injured and I came out of the reserves side to make my league debut.



ANGOVE'S.... Pick a fine wine

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Sharks split by Beyer Row



THE shock resignation of East Fremantle president Hans Beyer on the eve of the 1991 season has brought to a head internal strife that has been brewing at the club over recent months.

The Sharks, one of Australia's proudest and most successful football clubs, have been bitterly divided since the end of last season.

Central figures in the simmering row have been Beyer, coach Ron Wilcox and dissident ruckman Lance Durack.

The impact of Beyer's walk-out — reflected on the field when the Sharks were thrashed by Perth in the opening Pepsi Cup match at East Fremantle Oval on Saturday — was the most disturbing aspect of an otherwise buoyant opening of the WAFL season.

Two factions were evident at the end of last season after the Sharks were beaten by South Fremantle in the first semi-final.

Shortly afterwards there was a move to have first-year coach Wilcox replaced for the 1991 season; giving the job to former East Fremantle and Hawthorn forward Ken Judge.

NO SUPPORT

Beyer led the move to appoint a new coach, but failed to get the support of other board members, who voted 4-2 in favour of retaining Wilcox.

Significantly it was vice-president Len Anderson, the man who has taken over from Beyer under the club's constitution, who led the support for Wilcox, which suggests that there will not



Hans Beyer...led move to appoint a new coach

be any immediate coaching changes at East Fremantle.

A perceived lack of discipline was believed to have been Beyer's greatest criticism of Wilcox and this climaxed when the club suspended ruckman Durack for six months after an incident at the club at the end of last season.

There was a strong faction at board level which thought the six month ban was too harsh and the penalty was eased.

MORE TROUBLE

However, there was more trouble involving Durack on a bus trip back from Bunbury after a practice game against



Ron Wilcox...ready to pick up the pieces

Swan Districts last month. The big ruckman subsequently quit the club and is currently seeking a clearance to Claremont.

But last Friday there was a move to get Durack back to the club and it was the lack of support Beyer received from his boardroom colleagues that brought about his sudden resignation.

Health reasons have been given as the official explanation for the sudden departure of Beyer.

But the basic result is that the Sharks are now in disarray and Wilcox is faced with a tough job of picking up the pieces and getting the team back on track before their stocks slump even lower.

Hans Beyer has been one of WA's most maligned football administrators during his four years as president of East Fremantle.

His sometimes abrasive personality did not always see him on side with some of his fellow football administrators at both League and club level and he was never comfortable dealing with the media.

But few could doubt his commitment to the club he served with so much devotion as a director and then president over the past decade.

It was his parochial single minded attitude that always placed the Sharks interests ahead of anything else that saw him lose out in the popularity stakes.

Beware the explosive situation

EXCITING Claremont forward Dale Kickett can consider himself lucky and unlucky at the same time.

The 1991 West Coast Eagles recruit was perhaps fortunate he didn't lash out and hit the overzealous emergency umpire Bevan Sturgess-Smith in the heat of the moment at Bassendean Oval last Saturday.

Just two minutes after going on report for head-butting first-gamer Shane Atherton, Kickett was confronted by an emergency umpire in the thick of a fracas between Swans and Claremont players, which also included Tigers runner and former champion rover Peter Thorne.

In taking evasive action as Sturgess-Smith hastily approached Kickett, the Tigers forward pushed at the emergency man in white ... and black. The emergency umpire was wearing a white umpires shirt, but black tracksuit pants; the same as league team runners.

EVIDENCE

In evidence last Monday night, Kickett claimed he confused Sturgess-Smith with a Swans player.

That could well have been the case, as he was not to suspect that an umpire was trying to take control.

Football authorities must carefully examine the policy of emergency umpires — and even some central umpires for that matter — getting too involved with on-field scuffles.

— KIM HAGDORN

TV replays should be banned

THE WA Football Commission should take action to protect local footballers from being tried and executed via the electronic media.

The Commission is certain to investigate pre-tribunal coverage of Claremont forward Dale Kickett's head-butt of Swan Districts rookie Shane Atherton at Bassendean Oval last Saturday.

The controversy over the Kickett incident comes amidst club fears of that the fateful day when a WAFL player is sent from the ground for the first time.

Pressure is mounting on the WAFC to clarify its controversial send-off rule — there are too many grey areas in the rule, which has been introduced against the wishes of six of the eight league clubs.

MISCONDUCT

Kickett, in a second infringement of the rules last Saturday, was reported for misconduct when he man-handled emergency umpire Bevan Sturgess-Smith.

In most sporting codes, the "man-handling" of any match official would constitute expulsion from the game.

Kickett's fate on the second charge was left in the hands of the WA Football League tribunal last Monday night.

Page 4 — Westside Football, Thursday APRIL 11, 1991

KIM HAGDORN

The potentially explosive forward was subsequently suspended for seven weeks — three for the head-butting and four for the man-handling charge.

The head-butting, widely referred to in sporting codes as the "Liverpool kiss", became one of the most-talked about issues in football last weekend.

It is not the media's responsibility to protect reported players before their case is heard.

But some protection must be available for the player; in their interests and those of the game.

Reported players should be afforded similar rights as in the legal system, which retains a degree of innocence till a hearing.

However, by last Sunday night the head-butt had been well-aired on television. Kickett, in his return match to WA after a disgruntled season with Fitzroy, was virtually convicted 24 hours before the tribunal hearing.

GUIDELINES

Local football authorities must adopt a similar set of guidelines that exist between the Australian Football League and Channel 7 nationally.

Under Seven's exclusive rights agreement with the AFL, electronic media outlets are not permitted to highlight reported incidents till the night of the tribunal.

Seven is entrusted, by the rights agreement, to regulate the vision they offer to other outlets for their news coverage.

Seven has even been known to extract certain frames of a reported incident before farming to opposition television news departments, to assist with guarantees that the passage of play will not be shown.

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Beyer walk-out a major blow

with
Ron Alexander



Former State, Eagles and East Fremantle Coach

THE sudden resignation of president Hans Beyer will have a devastating effect on East Fremantle.

Apart from his loss as an administrator, his walk-out on the eve of the season has disturbing connotations of disharmony in the club.

There must be something drastically wrong for a dyed-in-the-wool blue and white man like Beyer, a bloke who played in lower grades in his younger days, to quit the Sharks at short notice at such a crucial time.

SUPPORT

As a board member during my time as coach of East Fremantle, Beyer was quick to offer support to anyone in whatever way he could; often at his own expense.

For example, in 1984 the Sharks were the only club without a major sponsor, a big problem to all associated with the playing side of things.

Beyer was able to secure the Magic group of companies (now Magic Nissan) as a major sponsor and with other associated sponsors, he was able to raise \$330,000 in his first year as director of sponsorship — a big boost from the total of \$24,000 from the previous year.

Magic not only contributed money, but became involved in other important areas such as motivating incentives for players (over and above their sponsorship agreement) and jobs for the players.

INFLUENCE

There's no doubt that his influence had a big bearing on our 1985 premiership win.

Beyer was also quick to put his own money up and on one occasion he paid the airfare from Geraldton for a player we probably would have lost otherwise.

Beyer was often in dispute with the Football Commission and the Eagles, not because he was bloody-minded, as has been suggested by his critics, but because he had the courage to say what other club officials were thinking, but not prepared to say.

He deserves now to be able to enjoy watching the Sharks from the grass banks at East Fremantle Oval rather than from within football's political arena, content in the knowledge he has made a major contribution to the success of the Sharks.

Newcomers do well

IT was good to see the many new players in the Eagles squad perform well when they debuted in various colours in last week's opening WAFL round.

It was particularly pleasing to see Shane Porter, Craig McNaughton (Perth), Robbie West (West Perth) and Cory Young (Subiaco) all feature prominently in their team's best-player lists in their first games in WA.

Porter and McNaughton featured well in a great Demons victory at East Fremantle, while West and Young both kicked five goals in opposing sides at Subiaco Oval.

'GOD' TO RETURN

THE man they know in football circles — especially down Geelong way — as "god" is the mercurial Gary Ablett. The strong rumour going around Melbourne is that he could make his return to the Cats in the next game or two.

Setting targets

SETTING targets in any football club is often a dangerous practice — and it was back at the pre-season camp in January that Eagles coach Mick Malthouse sat down with the players to plan ahead.

They set what seemed to be some realistic goals for the season and the first four objectives are displayed in the coaches room for all to see.

In what will obviously be a tough season, it is pleasing to see that the first three goals have been achieved so far:-

1. Be competitive in practice games.
2. Beat Melbourne at home in the first game.
3. Beat Collingwood (last year's premiers) in the second game in Melbourne.

It will be interesting to see if the players can maintain the high standard they have set and achieve what they want in season 1991.

The Waverley experience

THE experience gained by the Eagles during last year's finals campaign will prove invaluable to the team's progress this year.

And the important factor, of course, is that all those finals games were at VFL Park, Waverley — the venue for this year's grand final.

Six of the Eagles last seven games have been at Waverley, including this year's Foster's Cup match and the team's next visit there is for the Round 6 clash with Geelong on April 27.

Not so lucky

EAGLES coach Mick Malthouse and star midfielder Chris Lewis had a pretty ordinary time last weekend even though they enjoyed the luxury of a weekend off.

commercial for major sponsors SGIO at Perry Lakes, starting 6.30am with all the players and the coach rolling up to do the right thing.

The duo were rather unhappy when they returned to their cars to find that they had been broken into and some money stolen.

with
IAN MILLER



Former player, coach, commentator and now West Coast Eagles selector

Opportunity for Pyke

THE Eagles will obviously be hoping that third time is lucky when it comes to injuries as they line up for Friday night's clash with North Melbourne.

Despite their two good wins to open the season, they both came at a cost with a serious casualty.

The opening game saw skilled rover Scott Watters damage a knee and will miss up to four weeks and the second match saw big man Mark Hepburn bow out with a groin strain.

Injuries are part of the game and test a club's depth and flexibility and also create opportunities.

Don Pyke, whose pre-season form was very good, grabbed his opportunity against Collingwood and showed fine form in a variety of roles, especially on the wing in the second half.

The 1990 season was a forgettable one for Pyke, but his confident start to '91 shows that every year is a different ball game.

Family flavour

THERE is a strong family flavour with Collingwood, one of the game's most traditional football clubs.

Former player and captain — and one-time South Fremantle boy — Wayne Richardson is a keen student of the Collingwood reserves side at present.

Richardson is a director of the Magpies and has son Mark playing at full-forward in the seconds side.

At 18 years of age, Mark has shown fine form in the early games, kicking eight and seven goals. He is taller than his famous father and if he can play as many games for the Magpies as Wayne did (over 200) then the family will be well-pleased.

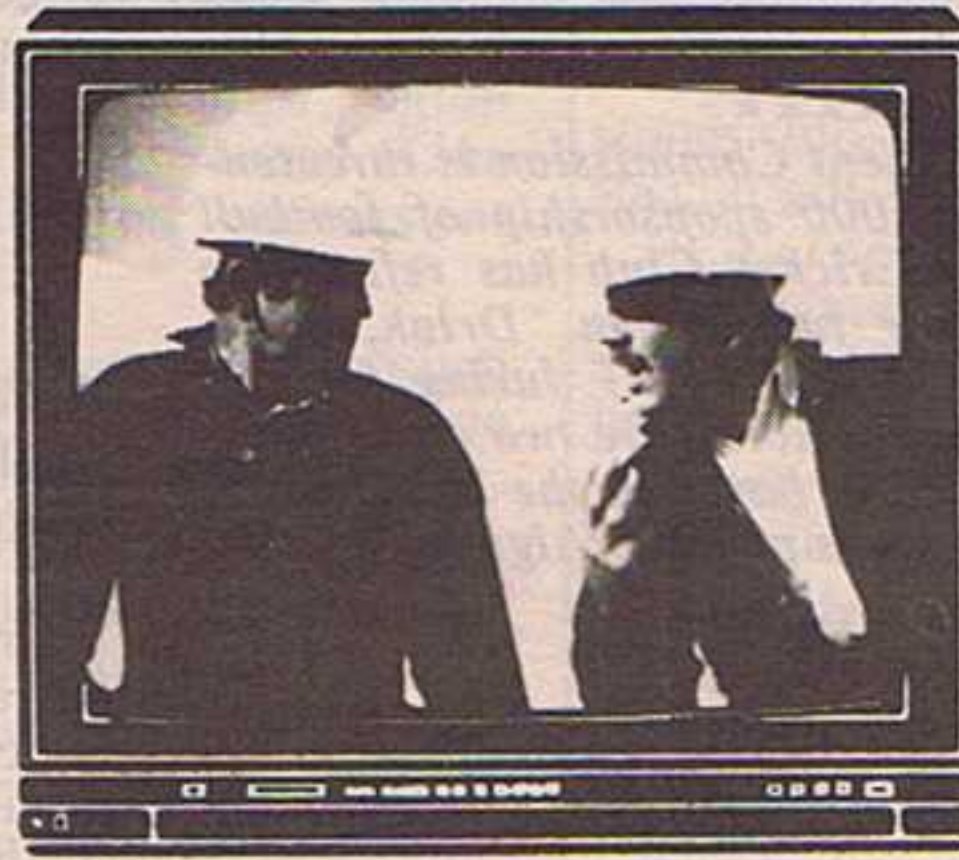
Tough times ahead

IT'S interesting to compare the progress of the Adelaide Crows in their first year of competition, with the Eagles in 1987 — the WA club's first season in the VFL.

Adelaide play Essendon at Windy Hill this week — and I hope the Crows have better change-room facilities than we did in our second game of our debut season when we shared a tiny room with the visiting reserves team and the little league team.

And we only lost by four points.

"I GUESS FAI MEANS GENUINE PEACE OF MIND DOUGIE!"



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How WA players performed in other AFL teams

Adelaide				FITZROY					
Kicks	Marks	H/balls	Score	Kicks	Marks	H/balls	Score		
Stephen Rowe	8	0	11	1.0	Brad Fox	1	0	1	0.2
BRISBANE BEARS				GEE LONG					
David Bain	22	4	6	—	Mark Bairstow	25	1	4	1.1
Brad Hardie	13	4	2	3.0	Stephen Hooper	5	2	2	0.1
Rod Lester-Smith	6	5	4	3.2	HAWTHORN				
Mark Zanotti	12	4	2	—	Ben Allen	16	1	8	—
CARLTON				MELBOURNE					
Jon Dorotich	11	8	3	5.4	Darren Bennett	8	6	1	6.0
Steve Edgar	11	5	4	0.1	Earl Spalding	10	1	1	—
COLLINGWOOD				NTH MELBOURNE					
Michael Christian	15	9	7	1.1	Peter Mann	4	0	7	—
Craig Starcevic	16	9	4	1.2	ST KILDA				
ESSENDON				SYDNEY SWANS					
Todd Ridley	3	1	6	0.2	Wayne Henwood	6	4	6	1.1
Darren Bewick	23	7	2	5.5					
Peter Cransberg	12	2	3	1.0					
Derek Kickett	6	5	5	0.1					

HIT OUTS: John Ironmonger 11; Paul Harding 7; Wayne Henwood 5; Steve Hooper 5; Michael Christian 2; Rod Lester-Smith 1; Earl Spalding 1; Peter Mann 1.

Have you heard...

Controversial Collingwood president Allan McAlister has a few other suggestions for the Australian Football League hierarchy — including deporting Fitzroy to Tasmania; forgetting about propping up the Brisbane Bears and the Sydney Swans and dropping the idea of supporting private ownership of AFL clubs. And he also says that North Melbourne's future is bleak.

The presence of the Adelaide Crows in the revamped national league is going to cause a few headaches...and not just on the field, as a couple of clubs have already discovered. Their off-field "unofficial" propaganda machine is obviously well geared up to mount psychological campaigns if their lead-up to the recent Carlton match was any indication. Dozens of fax messages flooded into the Blues headquarters, stirring up Carlton...and especially having a shot at former South Australian Stephen Kernahan, the much-loved skipper of Carlton.

The Brisbane Bears are working towards becoming an independent club, but they will guarantee a return for private owner Reuben Peleman. Their change to a traditional club structure is targeted for 1993, with Peleman standing aside at the end of this year. However, there will be some guarantees given to the wealthy Brisbane businessman to help him salvage something out of the millions he has poured into the Gold Coast outfit.

Victoria's Transport Accident Commission is threatening to withdraw a \$500,000 sponsorship of football because the Melbourne Cricket Club has refused to allow them to have their full slogan "Drink, drive, bloody idiot" displayed at the MCG during football matches. Richmond and Footscray are two clubs sponsored by the Commission — but with the AFL heavily supported by Foster's, there is plenty of signage conflict around the ground.

If you thought that volatile grounds like Victoria Park and Windy Hill make life tough for visiting teams and coaches, then wait till you see Adelaide's Football Park crowd in action. The AFL is looking at introducing special security guards to protect the coaches box, which is out among the crowd with incumbents subjected to a tirade of abuse from one-eyed Crows fans.

Channel Seven seem certain to be asked to re-introduce their controversial wide-eyed television lens to film behind-the-play incidents. The camera was used three years ago and was able to monitor the whole ground, giving officials a wide-eyed replay view of the action behind the action. The difference of opinions over the Dermott Brereton report indicates that Seven might be asked to bring the camera back into action.

How the Eagles rated

Player	Melb	Coll	Tot	Player	Melb	Coll	Tot
BRENNAN, Michael	6	5	11	MAINWARING, Chris	8	5	13
EVANS, Tony	5	4	9	MATERA, Peter	8	6	14
HART, David	5	5	10	McGRATH, Craig	4	—	4
HEADY, Brett	5	6	11	MCKENNA, Guy	6	7	13
HEPBURN, Mark	4	6	10	PYKE, Don	—	5	5
HYNES, David	5	5	10	SUMICH, Peter	7	7	14
IRVING, Dean	6	5	11	TURLEY, Craig	6	6	12
LAMB, Dwayne	5	5	10	WATERMAN, Chris	7	5	12
LANGDON, Karl	5	5	10	WATTERS, Scott	2	—	2
LEWIS, Chris	7	5	12	WILSON, Peter	5	7	12
LOCKYER, Andrew	7	7	14	WORSFOLD, John	6	6	12

AFL GOALKICKERS

Jason Dunstall (Hawthorn)	17.9
Darren Bennett (Melbourne)	14.5
Peter Sumich (Eagles)	10.5
Jeff Hogg (Richmond)	10.6
Jon Dorotich (Carlton)	10.6
Scott Hodges (Crows)	9.4
Stewart Loewe (St Kilda)	9.3
Chris Naish (Richmond)	9.5
Darren Jarman (Hawthorn)	9.4
Peter Daicos (Collingwood)	9.4
John Klug (Crows)	8.5
Warwick Capper (Swans)	8.7
Dean Rice (St Kilda)	8.1
Brian Wilson (St Kilda)	8.1
Stephen Kernahan (Carlton)	8.1
Darren Smith (Crows)	7.6
Russell Morris (St Kilda)	7.2
Steven O'Dwyer (Melbourne)	7.0
Doug Hawkins (Footscray)	7.1
Paul Salmon (Essendon)	7.3

SGIO

Presents

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
EVANS, Tony	2	15	5	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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Fun at the Brewery

WEST Coast Eagles full-back Andrew Lockyer won't make it as a man-in-white when his playing days are over...according to the Eagles match committee, who claim they were on the receiving end of some dubious decisions last Sunday.

The 52-member Eagles squad, their families and support staff gathered at the Swan Brewery on Sunday afternoon — the work-home of chairman of selectors Trevor Sprigg — for an afternoon of fun...but as usual, the players competitive spirits turned it into all-out war.

The South Fremantle squad members took on their team-mates from East Fremantle on the volleyball court and with the former Bulldogs winning easily, they were soon challenged by the match committee.

FIGHTBACK

Selectors Trevor Sprigg, Ian Miller, Tim Gepp, football manager Trevor Nisbett and coach Mick Malthouse, bolstered by the "drafting" of Ryan Turnbull, threw down the challenge, but lost narrowly in three sets after mounting a fightback in the second.

Claremont team-mates Don Pyke and Tony Evans showed good form on the tennis court, while Guy McKenna showed he is not only a talented defender, but also a handy golfer when he won the golf challenge by driving closest to the pin on a 150-metre hole.

The day was enjoyed by all and was part of developing togetherness in the camp, which trains together three nights a week, but is split in two on the weekends when 30 players filter back into WAFL ranks.

Selection time

WITH Mark Hepburn set to miss the next few weeks with a groin injury, the Eagles match committee are looking for a big-man replacement.

Craig McGrath's four-goal performance with the Royals at Perth Oval last Saturday has made him the logical replacement for a berth down the centre of the ground against North Melbourne this Friday and that is the way that the match committee will almost certainly lean.

That means former Eagles skipper Murray Rance will miss out, despite performing solidly in defence for Swan Districts in a torrid encounter at Bassendean Oval last Saturday.

"I was pretty pleased with my game and I'll keep hanging in there," Rance said.

Rance last lined up for the Eagles in their losing Foster's Cup match against St Kilda earlier in the year, but has been over-looked in the first two games of the season.

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IN THE EAGLES NEST

with Tania Armstrong

No love lost

THERE is no love lost between fellow Eagles when they return to their old clubs and become rivals for an afternoon in the WAFL if the season-opener between East Perth and South Fremantle was any indication.

Bulldog Glen Jakovich and Royal Matt Clape showed that nothing will stand in their way of making an AFL debut as soon as possible, including their Eagles team-mates.

Jakovich used his strength when he ran through Clape at Perth Oval, while at Bassendean Oval, where there were six Eagles in action, there was plenty of heated moments and a lot of pushing and shoving.

Gaelic footballers given all-clear

DON'T be surprised to see more Irish footballers pulling on AFL guernseys in the near future — and the Eagles are in there pitching.

As part of an agreement between the Australian Football League and the Federal Government, there will be strong emphasis placed on continuing relationships between the two countries.

Melbourne followers have enjoyed the talents of their Irish duo, Jim Stynes and Steve O'Dwyer, for a number of seasons and the pair could find some of their country counterparts joining them down-under in the near future.

The agreement will allow for the temporary entry and stay in Australia of up to 10 Gaelic footballers from the Republic on a sport visa.

Besides broadening the avenues of recruitment available to the 15 AFL clubs, it will give the game an international flavour — one of the aims of the Gaelic test series played between Ireland and Australia each season which last year saw Eagles John Worsfold and Steve Malaxos in action.

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TOWN & COUNTRY WA

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Brayshaw keen to be back in town



Mark Brayshaw...in contention for a game against the Eagles

THE PROSPECT of playing the Eagles in Perth is not as daunting an assignment as many easterners believe — especially when matches are scheduled on a Friday night under lights at the WACA Ground.

That is the opinion of Perth expatriate Mark Brayshaw, who is in contention to join fellow Claremont "old boy" Peter Mann in North Melbourne's squad for the important round four fixture this Friday.

Brayshaw says playing the Eagles at the WACA under lights is a far different — and less daunting — assignment than opposing them at sandy Subiaco on a Sunday afternoon.

Brayshaw says the Roos play seven of their 22 home-and-away matches at night — a higher ratio than any other club — and it will be the Eagles and not North who will go in with more pre-game apprehensions.

MIDFIELDERS

"I've always believed North are capable of beating the Eagles because of our potent forward line and quick midfielders," says Brayshaw.

"We've beaten the Eagles the last couple of times we've played. Last year we had lost six games in a row leading into the Eagles match and we beat them, arresting our slide."

Brayshaw admits North Melbourne players were relieved to see their Eagles fixture on a Friday night, rather than a Sunday, as the Eagles have been far more vulnerable under lights.

town

From **KEN PIESSE** in Melbourne



"Playing on a Friday night is an enormous bonus," hesays.

"All of a sudden the ball is more in our court. The guys are confident. We travel well and there's no reason, particularly at night, why we can't take it right up to them."

The 25-year-old half-back is not yet certain of returning to his home State with his adopted AFL club for the game.

A pre-season hip injury robbed him of valuable match practice and he was omitted from North's night grand final team, despite an impressive effort against boom Crows full-forward Scott Hodges in the Foster's Cup semi-final.

Having to start the season in the seconds was a blow, with the reserves having a bye last weekend and a practice match against VFA team Werribee was hardly the ideal preparation.

Brayshaw played 17 of North's 22 games in his first year, including the final 13 games in a row and when he is in form, he is an integral part of the senior team strategy.

"My hip injury stopped me from training for the first four weeks of the year," he says. "But now I'm as fit as everyone else."

Brayshaw was disappointed at missing the Foster's Cup grand final, but was far more interested in the season

proper and is keen to regain his senior spot.

North have tended to use him primarily in defence, even though he was a forward line star in Claremont's 1989 grand final victory.

FOOTNOTE: The Eagles have lost three of their last four games to North Melbourne since 1988, their only win coming in Round 19, 1988, at Subiaco when they won, 16.19 to 12.12 with skipper and former Kangaroo Ross Glendinning kicking six goals.

Swapping homes

POWER clubs Hawthorn and Carlton seem headed for a dispute over territorial rights. Carlton are determined to extract some compensation from the AFL and Hawthorn over the Hawks plans to set up base at VFL Park, Waverley by next season. The Blues insist that Hawthorn are legally bound to continue their tenancy agreement at Princes Park till the year 2006...and share the expenses of the new \$7.1 million grandstand. Carlton want the AFL to guarantee 24 matches at Princes Park, a deal the Blues struck with the State Government and the Melbourne City Council when they agreed to share their home ground with Hawthorn. But the Hawks say they are not legally tied to Princes Park and will be established at Waverley by 1991.

Record is on the improve

THE West Coast Eagles continue to improve their record for victories outside of Perth.

Their win over Collingwood at VFL Park Waverley was their 15th away from home.

The only clubs the Eagles have not beaten outside Perth are Adelaide, Essendon, Fitzroy and North Melbourne. The Eagles play all four clubs in the Eastern States this year.

Port influence

PLAYERS from the two Fremantle clubs continue to dominate the goalscoring for the West Coast Eagles.

Ten of the Eagles 13 goals against Collingwood were scored by Fremantle players — giving Port people 23 of the 27 goals scored by the West Coast Eagles in 1991.

Last year, South Fremantle or East Fremantle players scored just over 45 percent of the Eagles 380 goals for the season. So far this season they have lifted that rate to over 85percent.

Results the same

THE first three rounds of AFL fixtures have featured 15 games (excluding newcomers the Adelaide Crows) and all but one of the results had repeated season 1990.

St Kilda's victory over Richmond in Round 1 is the only result so far in 1991 which does not coincide with last year.

This weekend, apart from the Eagles attempting to beat North Melbourne for the first time since 1988, St Kilda will be seeking their first win over Collingwood since 1987.

In other games, Carlton, Sydney and Fitzroy will be chasing victories over Melbourne, Richmond and Footscray respectively for the first time since 1989.

Changed needed

THE Adelaide Crows, in winning two of their opening three games in the AFL, have emulated the 1987 feat of the Brisbane Bears when they debuted in the expanded competition.

The Bears won their first two games — against North Melbourne at the MCG and Geelong at Kardinia Park.

The West Coast Eagles won one of their first three games and unlike Brisbane and Adelaide, had to wait till their third away game to record a win away from home.

THE Adelaide Crows squad features seven players with previous AFL experience — with a total of 469 games to their credit before this season.

Four players — Danny Hughes (124 games), Tony McGuinness (109), Bruce Abernethy (103) and Bruce Lindner (66) — have played over 50 games with other AFL clubs.

The initial West Coast Eagles squad also included seven players with league experience in Victoria, with a total of 535 games behind them before joining the WA team.

Ross Glendinning (190 games to the start of the 1987 season), John Annear (108), Rob Wiley (95) and Dean Turner (54) were the four players to have played over 50 games.

Home away from...

Collingwood have passed the century mark of games at VFL Park; their loss to the Eagles was their 101st at the venue for this year's grand final. Only Hawthorn have played more games at the ground than the Magpies.

Interstate Update with

Richard Camm



The Eagles record after seven games at VFL Park stands at two wins, four losses and one draw.

THE West Coast Eagles will be attempting to record their first victory over North Melbourne since August, 1988 when they clash this Friday night.

The Eagles and the Kangaroos have met six times — twice at Subiaco Oval, twice at the WACA Ground and twice at the MCG, with the Eagles winning twice at Subiaco.

Essendon's nail-biting victory over Richmond to open their season stretched their run of opening-round wins to eight. The last time that the Bombers lost the opening game of the season was in 1983.

Essendon are the third club to record eight consecutive opening round wins. Collingwood achieved the feat between 1926 and 1933 and Geelong won their opening round games each year between 1949 and 1956, before drawing the first game of the 1957 season.

The only other clubs to have won their opening games in both of the past two years are St Kilda and the Eagles. St Kilda have now recorded three consecutive opening round wins, while the Eagles have won their opening game of the season four times in five years.

The loss to Essendon was Richmond's ninth consecutive opening round loss, which is the Tigers worst run of opening round losses.

The record number of opening round losses is 13, by Hawthorn between 1944 and 1956.

Bulldogs wait on Annear

SOUTH Fremantle coach Steve Hargrave will be anxiously monitoring John Annear's fitness in the hours leading up to the Derby clash with East Fremantle at Fremantle Oval on Saturday.

Annear, the Bulldogs former Claremont, Collingwood, Richmond and Eagles recruit, missed the game against East Perth last week because of a thigh strain.

The 125-point drubbing handed down to the Bulldogs stressed the importance of the tough, hard running Annear to the club's hopes of success this season.

And on that basis Annear will be a priority selection for the Derby if he can pass a fitness test, probably as late as Saturday morning.

Both the Bulldogs and the Sharks will go into this game under a great deal of pressure following disastrous starts to the season.

For new coach Hargrave, his debut to senior coaching was an afternoon nightmare and Ron Wilcox, the man he assisted at East Fremantle last year, had a similar day when his team was thrashed by Perth — the Sharks first loss to Perth at East Fremantle Oval for 10 years.

There's little doubt the Sharks loss was the result of problems off the field as much as on.

PRESSURE

The turmoil resulting from the walk-out by president Hans Beyer has placed Wilcox under enormous pressure and a strong performance against the Bulldogs is crucial.

The Sharks have the capacity to improve immediately — they have players of genuine talent such as Billy Kraouer, John Lawrence, Robbie Weber,



League previews
With **ROBBIE BURNS**

Clinton Browning, John O'Sullivan and Darren Hammond capable of lifting.

As well they have potential match-winners in elusive goal-kicker Neil Lester-Smith and newcomers Jeff Davidson and VFA recruit Damien Condon.

Souths will still be without the hard core of their experienced players such as Cliff and Derek Collard, John Macdonald, Mark Bayliss, Robert Solin, Stevan Jackson and Ken Martin.

That leaves huge holes for the likes of ruckman Craig Edwards, centre-liners Brad Collard, Steve Pinzone and Chris Popjoy and competitive utility players Ned Fimmano and Phil Cronan to fill.

Roving duel a highlight

WEST Perth would have been delighted by the first-up performance of their Eagles recruit Robbie West.

The tough little rover kicked five goals against Subiaco in a debut that stamps him as one of the finds of the season.

So the individual clash of the day at Leederville Oval may well be that between West and East Perth's dynamic Peter Miller, one of the prime movers in the Royals massive 125-point win over the Bulldogs.

Despite the Falcons competitive effort against the Lions, it's hard to make a strong case for them beating the Royals.

Ian McCulloch has too many outstanding running players such as Butch Baroni, George Giannakis, Steve Richardson, Sean King, Dean Bertram, Dean Turner, Miller, Paul Peos, Matt Clape, Andrew Slade and Paul Evans as well as a powerful array of big men headed by full-forward Glen Bartlett, Ken Seymour, Gavin Rose and Ryan Turnbull.

Tougher now for Demons

PERTH, revived under the refreshing coaching of veteran Ken Armstrong, gave their campaign a great start last week with a crushing win over East Fremantle.

But it may be back to reality for the Demons this week when they play reigning premiers Swan Districts at Lathlain Park.

Swans are the best disciplined team with the most even spread of talent in the competition. They also have the capacity to win in tight situations, a fact painfully obvious to Claremont.

Perth were motivated by a dynamic display by Eagles powerhouse Adrian Barich as the talented midfielder fought tenaciously to prove he has a lot to offer at AFL level.

Kemp on his way back to Eagles

SUBIACO fans had mixed feelings about the sensational game played by midfielder Dean Kemp in the Pepsi Cup opener against West Perth last week.

While there's little doubt Kemp's creative performance played a big part in the Lions win, it also indicated the lightning fast winger would soon win a recall to the Eagles.

But that's unlikely to be this week and Kemp is certain to line up across the centreline against Claremont, at Claremont Oval. In fact, he could return to his wing and oppose Tigers captain and fairest and best winner Mark Hann in what will be one of the best clashes of round two.

EAGLES POWER

The Tigers, last-minute losers to premiership favourites Swan Districts last week, have to counter the Lions powerful Eagles players led by Kemp, Ian Dargie, Mitchell White, Matthew Burton, Todd Breman, Andrew Macnish and new rover Cory Young, who posted five goals on debut.

The Lions must decide who they will play on the Tigers most experienced and effective midfielder, Steve Malaxos, who was almost a match-winner last week.

Garry Kemp, one of the most effective midfielders in the league, could get the job of shutting Malaxos down.

Mr Magic regains his sparkle

KEITH Narkle, a former Swan Districts premiership captain and veteran of 254 senior games, has an inherent ability to pick up even the most minor flaws in a footballer's make-up.

So it follows that what he had to say to younger brother Phil last season has had a subtle effect on the Swan Districts and Eagles utility player over the summer months.

"Keith reckoned I had lost some of my 'aggro' when going for the footy," says Phil Narkle. "He felt that the little bit of spark or desire that used to enable me to get to the ball first was no longer there," Narkle said.

"I wasn't consciously aware of it, but I knew I was going a bit softer because I was feeling my way back after two years out with leg injuries.

ENTHUSIASM

"Having been made aware of what Keith thought was a psychological problem, I worked on it over the summer months and I now find I have all my old desire and enthusiasm back.

"A lot of it is because I am now fully confident that my leg problems are all behind me — after all, I played 23 games of senior footy with the Eagles and Swans last year and it's been many years since I held up that well.

"I was able to do the full pre-season training this summer and I have found that I have regained my pace off the mark and my agility. It feels great."

Those who watched the 30 year-old Narkle give a best on ground performance for Swans against Claremont at Bassendean in the opening Pepsi Cup match last Saturday will testify to the fact there is still a lot of top football left in the 1982 Sandover Medallist — and that his nickname "Magic" is still more than applicable.

By **ROBBIE BURNS**

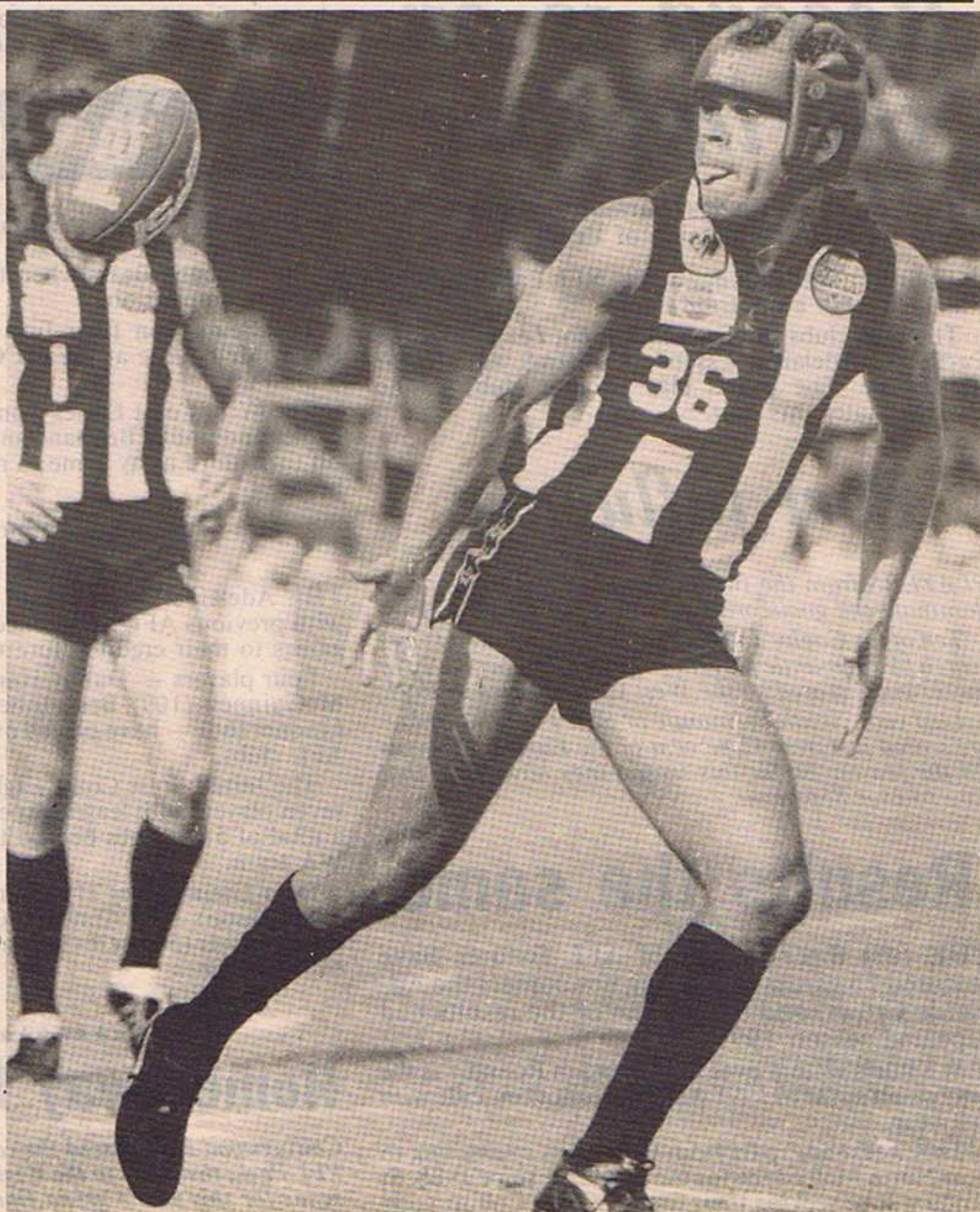
His exhilarating performance from a half-forward flank, with bursts in the centre at the bounces, has left those who wrote Narkle off during his long stint on the sidelines shaking their heads in wonder — the Narkle comeback has been a testimony to the man's courage, perseverance and depth of character, not to mention to his superb skills.

That effort has shot Narkle into contention for a similar role with the Eagles over the next few weeks, particularly after the mercurial Dale Kickett was suspended for seven weeks by the WAFL tribunal.

Narkle is naturally keen to add to the 48 senior games he played with St Kilda and the 18 with the Eagles. In the meantime, he is very satisfied playing at Swans, the club that has given him three premierships, including last year.

"It's not as if you feel you are on your footy death bed at Swans — it's exciting up there and I still find it an honour to play with them," Narkle says. "In some ways I have the best of both worlds playing under John Todd and Mick Malthouse.

"Toddy expects a lot of me and has always driven me hard. He does not resent his players moving up to the Eagles — he encourages us to get there."



The magic of Phil Narkle....it's still there

Mann will be in the Eagles eye



PETER MANN, the young footballer with the big reputation who shunned the West Coast Eagles, might live to regret that situation come Friday night.

Mann was two years ago selected as a pre-draft choice by the Eagles, along with Claremont teammate Ryan Turnbull.

But he was adamant that he would not play with the WA club, so he was traded for Mark Hepburn.

Obviously a player of outstanding potential, Mann has made a slow, but steady start to his AFL career. However, this Friday night he can expect a hostile reception from the 20 men who could now be his teammates.

Mann could have the task of again playing at full-forward if champion goal-sneak John Longmire remains on the injured list with a torn hamstring and life will not be easy for the 'Roos forwards at the WACA Ground.

REPUTATION

Despite their reputation as night game specialists and a 4-2 win-loss advantage over the Eagles, North will find it difficult to fly out of Perth with four premiership points.

After a string of impressive performances in the Foster's Cup pre-season series, the Kangaroos have been disappointing in their opening two games of the season proper.

They struggled to cast aside the Brisbane Bears in a night game at Carrara in their opening match and last Saturday were completely out-played by Essendon.

Still, the Kangaroos boast some exciting young talent and the WA public should appreciate the opportunity to have a first hand look at the likes of Wayne Carey, Anthony Rock, Jose Romero, Alistair Clarkson, Matthew Larkin and Ross Smith.

It is the North little men who represent the biggest danger to the Eagles.

Larkin, Romero, Clarkson and Rock have the capacity to cause headaches for their opponents and when they are on the boil, life is much easier for the likes of Carey and Longmire.

But the Eagles look well-equipped to handle the problems as they have some of the best negators in the game.

Dwayne Lamb, David Hart, Don Pyke, Craig Turley and Chris Waterman are capable of taking up any challenge and aside from eliminating their opponents from the game, they generally gather a lot of possessions.

The West Coast Eagles have some interesting selection problems to ponder with Craig McGrath, former captain Steve Malaxos, goalkicking rovers Robbie West and Cory Young, wingman Dean Kemp and robust Perth centreman Adrian Barich all pressing their claims for recall after last weekend's round of WAFL fixtures.

The pressure from outside the team should ensure the Eagles perform at their optimum for most of the season. One hiccup and it could be all over for the season.

DISAPPOINTMENT

Perhaps the biggest disappointment for the Eagles is that Hepburn will not get the chance to play against his old club after a groin injury late in the game against Collingwood a fortnight ago.

That creates one opening and McGrath should claim the vacancy after an outstanding game at centre-half-forward for East Perth in their 125-point demolition job on South Fremantle.

McGrath kicked four goals and worked tirelessly from start to finish for 12 marks, 15 kicks and 10 handballs in a performance which smacked of a man who is ready for promotion.

The Eagles defence should be able to restrict the Kangaroos to a respectable score, while their attacking unit looks extremely dangerous.

With Peter Sumich averaging five goals a game and playing some confident, attacking football, the North defence should be under plenty of pressure.

Opportunities will be guaranteed if Chris Lewis, Turley, John Worsfold and Guy McKenna continue their good form.

Catch the action, miss the parking hassles.



Friday, 12 April
WACA Ground
Eagles Vs North Melbourne

Buses displaying Route 888 will leave from the bus stop outside the Entertainment Centre for the WACA every 10 minutes between 4.30pm and 6.30pm. Buses will stop outside Wellington Street Bus Station and at all stops along Wellington Street.

Return services operate after the game from Hay Street. This is a free bus service.

For timetable information
telephone 221 1211.



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AFL ROUND FOUR

WAFL ROUND TWO

	Tally	West Coast v Nth Melb	Melbourne v Carlton	Richmond v Sydney	Essendon v Adelaide	St Kilda v Collingwood	Fitzroy v Footscray	Bris Bears v Geelong	Claremont v Subiaco	Perth v S. Districts	West Perth v East Perth	S. Frem E. Frem
RON ALEXANDER	13	West Coast	Melbourne	Richmond	Essendon	St Kilda	Fitzroy	Brisbane	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem
TANIA ARMSTRONG	16	West Coast	Melbourne	Richmond	Essendon	St Kilda	Footscray	Geelong	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem
ROBERT BENNETT	15	West Coast	Melbourne	Richmond	Essendon	St Kilda	Footscray	Geelong	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem
PETER BOSUSTOW	16	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Footscray	Geelong	Claremont	Perth	E. Perth	S. Frem
ROBBIE BURNS	16	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Fitzroy	Geelong	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	E. Frem
GLENN CORDINGLEY	11	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	St Kilda	Fitzroy	Geelong	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem
ALAN EAST	14	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Fitzroy	Geelong	Claremont	Perth	E. Perth	S. Frem
KIM HAGDORN	15	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Footscray	Geelong	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem
IAN MILLER	15	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Fitzroy	Brisbane	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem
KEN PIESSE	10	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Footscray	Geelong	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem
GARY STOCKS	14	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	St Kilda	Footscray	Geelong	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem
MOST FAVOURED	16	West Coast	Carlton	Richmond	Essendon	Collingwood	Footscray	Geelong	Claremont	Swans	E. Perth	S. Frem

how about you?

Eagles show their local depth

THE opening of the 1991 WA football season further strengthened West Coast Eagles threats to win this year's AFL premiership.

Even with the Eagles big names rested from active duty as the West Coast had their first bye last weekend, the peripheral senior team members went on full alert.

Quality performances from borderline Eagles throughout a refreshingly strong and buoyant WAFL, further revealed an enormous depth in the Eagles squad.

Craig McGrath at East Perth, Karl Langdon and Dean Kemp at Subiaco, Phil Narkle and Murray Rance at Swan Districts, Steve Malaxos, Tony Begovich and Geoff Miles at Claremont and Adrian Barich with Perth were all in explosive form.

And that's just the surface of the vast back-up strength at coach Mick Malthouse's fingertips.

The Eagles boss is also awaiting the return to playing duty of experienced ruckman Phil Scott, utility players Troy Ugle, Scott Watters and Dean Laidley after injury bouts.

DAY OFF

Malthouse allowed 18 of his 20-man team that swept reigning AFL premiers Collingwood aside the previous week, a day off last Saturday.

The viability of the WAFL competition will benefit through the presence of these stars at the local clubs each week.

But so too will the Eagles in their quest to prise the coveted premiership title from Melbourne.

Malthouse and his co-selectors Trevor Sprigg, Ian Miller and Tim Gepp, went on the search for at least one replacement for the vital game against North Melbourne at the WACA this Friday.

McGrath's creative display at centre-half-forward in the Royals systematic demolition of South Fremantle should earn the former Fitzroy utility player a call-up to replace the injured Mark Hepburn.

In the search for form across the squad, Malthouse was treated to an

WAFL boosted by new recruits

almost faultless exhibition from Eagles waiting in the wings for their call to AFL duty.

Only the injury to burly South Fremantle forward Stevan Jackson and the report and resultant seven week penalty to Dale Kickett created any degree of concern.

The inability of new rover Tony Evans to break an effective tag from Swans rival Greg Walker may have been a concern, but a vital lesson learned by the newcomer.

Astute recruiting and subsequent relocation successes over the summer months bore further fruit for the Eagles hierarchy.

ROVERS

With roving deficiencies in recent seasons, the Eagles attracted Richmond's Cory Young and Victorian country recruit Robert West, who were brilliant in their first up WAFL exhibitions, both capping their games with five goals.

Young joined fellow Eagles squad members Andrew Macnish and Todd Breman playing major roles for Subiaco in halting West Perth.

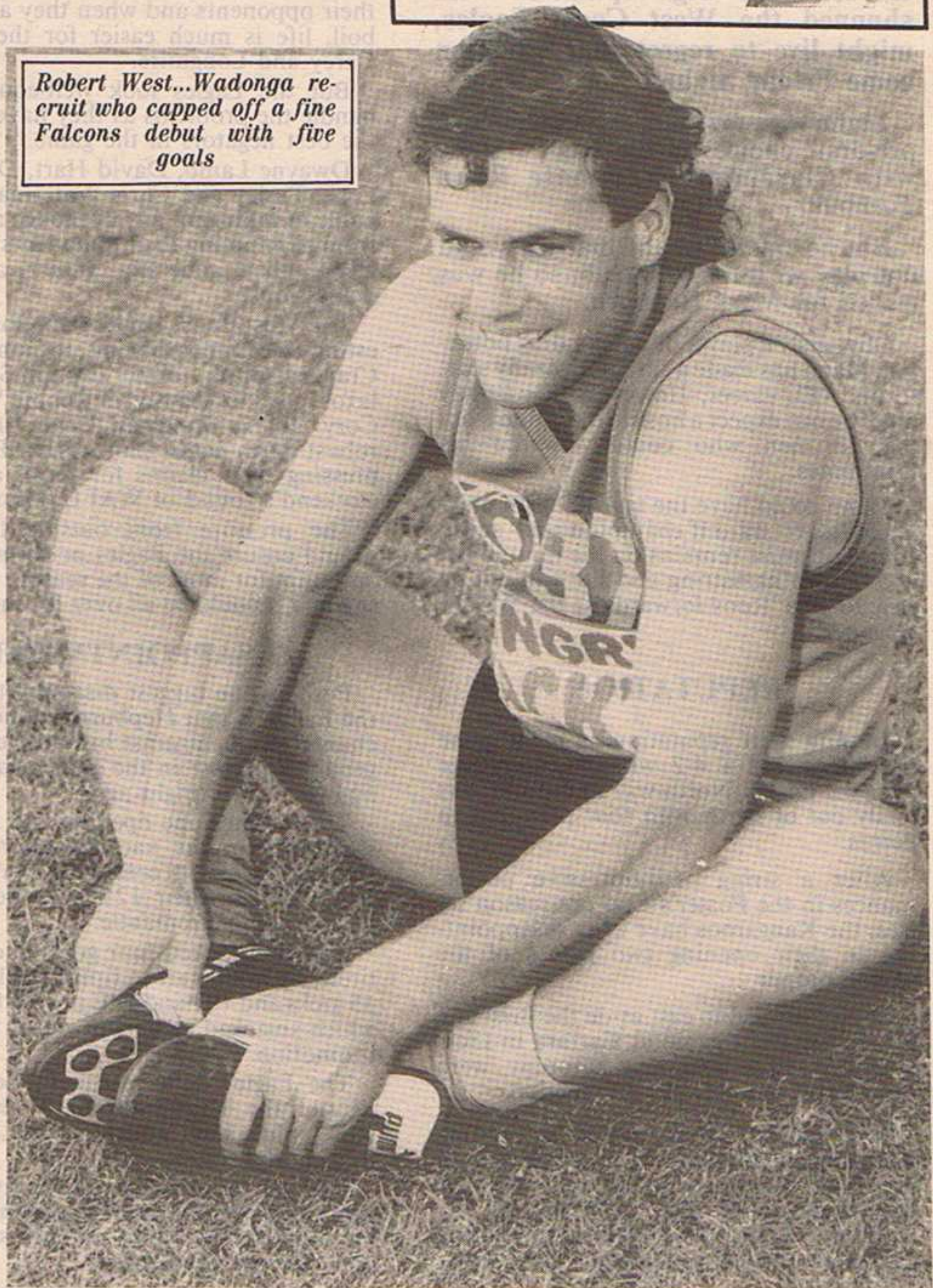
But with their presence and early form, they add weight to the player depth in the camp.

West was among the Falcons best and gave clear indication he can emerge as an Eagles on-ball player in the future.

While Barich pressed his claims for a berth in the Eagles 20 to play North Melbourne, his new Demons teammates Shane Porter and Craig McNaughton also vindicated their recruitment to Perth's AFL combination with handy displays in their new club's astonishing start to the new season.

The Eagles now have a depth of talent that is of enormous value to the WA football industry in general.

Robert West...Wadonga recruit who capped off a fine Falcons debut with five goals



By

KIM HAGDORN



Schimmer ready for reversal

NORTH Melbourne coach Wayne Schimmelbusch predicted this week that former Claremont centre-half-forward Peter Mann would succeed in the AFL — but he hinted that it would not be instant success.

"I'm pleased by the way in which Peter is developing and he will be a very good player here," says Schimmelbusch. "But he has a long way to go."

"He has struggled to come to grips with the increased pace, but that's to be expected."

"It has to be remembered he's playing at centre-half-back and it's not an easy spot for a new and inexperienced player."

LESSONS

Schimmelbusch will be hoping that Mann — and most of his teammates — learnt a lot from the lesson Essendon handed out when they thrashed the Roos by 73 points last Saturday. The Roos face a potentially greater threat on Friday night when they fly to Perth to do battle with the top-of-the-ladder West Coast Eagles at the WACA Ground.

"Our effort against Essendon was disappointing given we were in front

By **ROBBIE BURNS**

after the first quarter," he said. "Essendon are a very experienced and confident team, certainly better than most critics have predicted."

"But we are aware that we cannot be as lethargic as we were last week when we play the Eagles. We simply can't afford to cop two hidings in a row at this early stage of the season, so I predict we will be a lot more competitive in Perth."

EIGHT GOALS

Schimmelbusch will be pinning a lot of his hopes for an improved performance on the fitness of champion goal-kicker John Longmire, who missed the Bombers game because of hamstring problems caused by a back injury.

"John has got a much better than even chance of playing, but we won't really know for sure until later in the week," the former champion wingman said. "He's a player we don't want to take any chances with because he's such an important part of the team."

The Eagles don't need to be reminded of that following Longmire's eight goals against the WA based team at the

MCG last year, a performance that was a crucial factor in the Roos win and also played a big part in the then 19 year-old heading the AFL goal kicking with 98 goals.

Schimmelbusch does not go along with the theory that his team is an "under lights" specialist.

"We have beaten the Eagles under lights a couple of times at the WACA and last year, but I don't place a lot of importance on that because we have seen just how the Eagles have improved."

"I'm confident we will be very competitive against them on Friday night — we have to be."

Number's up

TOUGH East Perth defender George Giannakis was a proud recipient of his guernsey No. 7 at the players' presentation on the Thursday before the opening game last Saturday.

But on Saturday he lined up in No. 5 and it looked as though he was searching for a change of luck from his 1990 injury problems by adopting a change of guernsey.

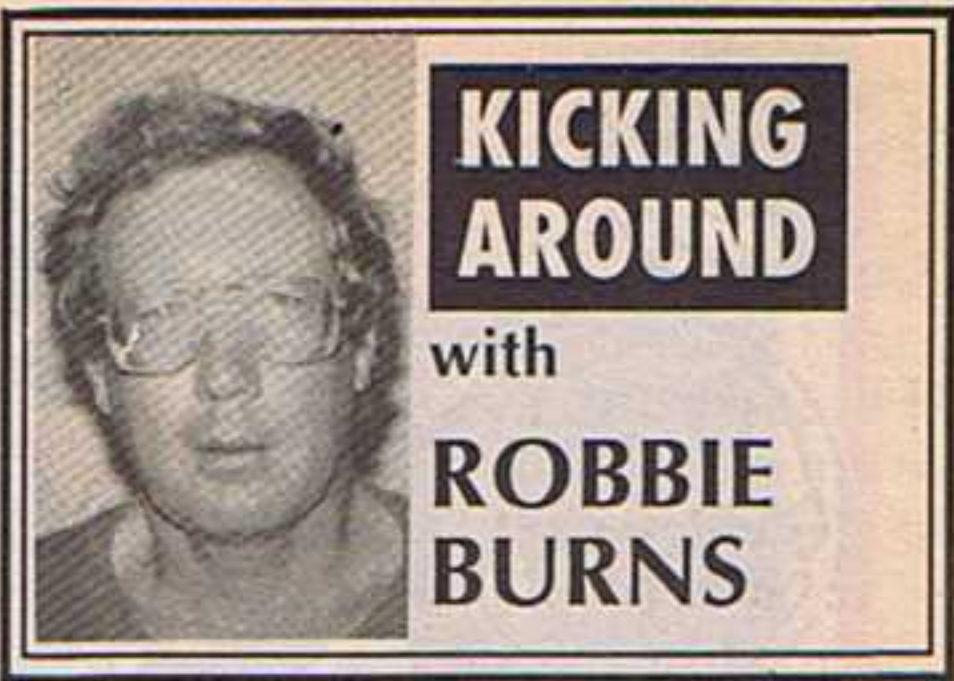
No such thoughts, however. It seems as though the No. 7 guernsey was "missing" and even though Giannakis was getting the blame, he denies all knowledge of its whereabouts.

He hopes to be back in Seven this week.

HOUGHTON'S TOP PERFORMER



Western Australia's Premier Wine Maker



Turnbull relishes ruck role

BIG and agile is Ryan Turnbull and he went a long way towards dispelling any doubts about his versatile ability when he played his first game for East Perth on Saturday.

The young Eagle could not get a senior game at Claremont last year and has been struggling to come to terms with playing at centre-half-back in practice games.

But he relished the chance to play in the ruck and it was his high leaping work at the bouncings and some lively play around the ground that set the Royals on fire early and paved the way for their upset 125-point win over the Bulldogs.

Turnbull did drop some marks during the day, but his renewed enthusiasm and agility were reminiscent of his finals performance for the Tigers in their 1989 premiership win.

Something pleasant for Sharks

EAST Fremantle had little to enthuse about when both their senior and reserves teams were well-beaten by Perth at East Fremantle Oval last Saturday.

The exception was an 11-goal haul in the reserves by the Sharks highly-prized Collie recruit Jeff Davidson; a performance made all the more meritorious by the fact the Sharks managed just 15 goals and were beaten by 10.

On that performance, the 23-year-old would have to be an automatic selection in the senior team for Saturday's big Derby clash at Fremantle Oval.

Davidson, a brother of former Claremont, Eagles and now Brisbane midfielder Peter Davidson, topped the goal-kicking in the South West with 62 goals and was a member of the Country All-stars team last year.

Bottom sides out to tip the balance of power

BRILLIANT displays by East Perth and Perth and a highly-competitive losing performance by West Perth have given the WAFL one of its most encouraging starts to a season in years.

It's no secret that the down-the-list efforts of the three Perth teams over the past decade has been one of the most worrying factors for football administrators at Pepsi Cup level.

Pre-season premiership fancies Swan Districts, Claremont, South Fremantle and Subiaco have been given a less-than-subtle shake-up, especially by the manner in which the Royals demolished the Bulldogs.

The Royals now have the most important ingredient in football — a horde of attacking running players midfield such as Butch Baroni, Dean Turner, Steve Richardson, Dean Bertram and Paul Evans.

CONTINGENT

So strong is their midfield contingent they can afford the luxury of playing perhaps the best centreman in WA — George Giannakis — off a half-back flank; his original position in league football.

In addition, the Royals can now boast a top roving division of Peter Miller, Shawn Colbung and Andrew Slade — and everyone knows how important rovers are to aspiring premiership teams.

With big and effective players on their goal-to-goal line, the Royals at last look like climbing to a position of power.

It's too early to make optimistic predictions about the Demons — resurrected coach Ken Armstrong would be the first to admit one big win doesn't constitute a finals berth, particularly when he has beaten a team as disorganised and lacking in spirit as East Fremantle.

Just the same, Demons fans can take a lot of heart from that inspired performance; likewise Falcons fans can feel optimistic about their team's future after a close and tight encounter with the Lions.

It all augers well for a much tighter and more closely contested season.

Expensive day for sponsors

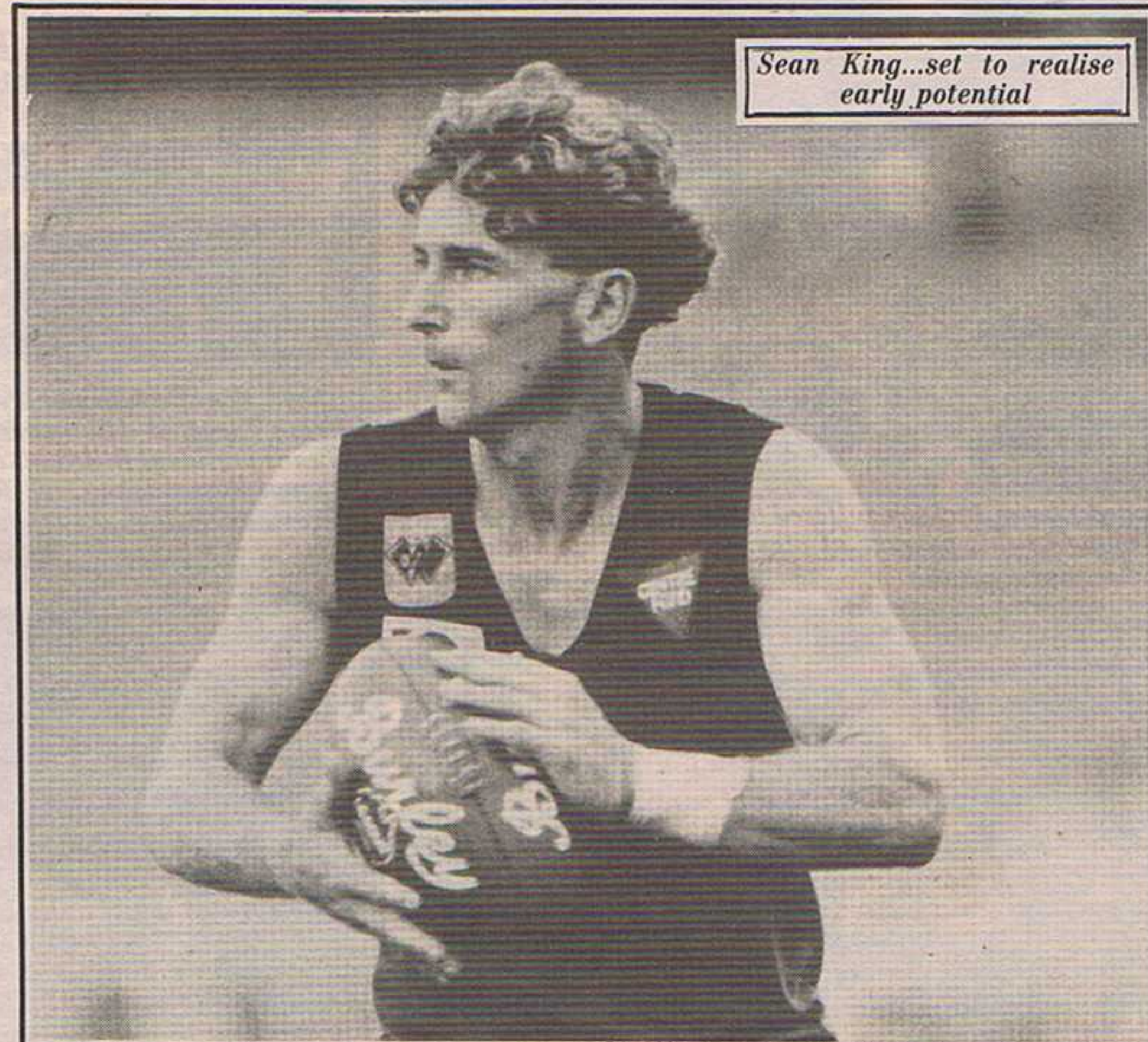
LAST week was an expensive one for East Fremantle's major sponsor Magic Nissan.

Apart from the \$30,000-plus that principals Ron Bennett and Nobby Wendt tip into the Sharks each year, they have also put up a \$23,000 car as a prize for the outstanding player in WA over the season, with both WAFL and Eagles players eligible.

Then on Sunday the boys from Magic put up a \$15,000 Nissan Pulsar as the prize for a hole-in-one golf competition conducted at East Fremantle Oval for Telethon.

Tony Dynes, who happened to be at the function handling the public address work, thought he should fill in some spare time with a couple of shots, despite the fact he's a non-golfer. His first effort went "out of bounds on the full" and the next dribbled off the tee...but somehow rolled all the way into the cup.

It was a pretty ordinary golf shot...but good enough for him to drive home in a brand new car, thanks to one of football's major sponsors.



IN the eyes of most football critics, Sean King has something to prove as a player.

A member of the Eagles initial squad in 1987, he played just one VFL game before getting the chop and going back to West Perth.

King appeared as though he couldn't come to terms with his dismissal by the Eagles and didn't have a big impact in

his 60 games with the Falcons; quitting last year to help with Avon League club Quairading to a premiership.

But King now looks as if he may realise his early potential at league level. In an effort to resurrect his football career, he has joined East Perth and on practice match form and his explosive 16 possession third term he looks certain to be a valuable player at Perth Oval.

Jakovich showed style in defence

EAGLES rookie Glen Jakovich conceded plenty of experience when he was given the responsibility of playing on East Perth captain Glen Bartlett on Saturday.

It was Jakovich's first serious try-out at full-back...and he showed his inexperience by kicking out over the goal-square line at his second attempt.

But the 18-year-old South Fremantle utility player worked hard and played Bartlett close in the first half, in what was a classic man-on-man duel.

The ball was rocketed in Bartlett's direction numerous times, but Jakovich did well to hold the league's top goalscorer of last season to three first-half goals.

Perhaps in an effort to gain a badly-needed focal point in attack, Jakovich was moved to full-forward in the second half. Bartlett appreciated the move and added a further six goals to his tally in a magnificent display of leading and marking.

Mistaken identity

THE "dobbers" who were quick to tell Royals officials they had seen ruck-rover Steve Richardson out on the town enjoying the good life before Saturday's opening fixture, finished up with egg on their faces.

The bloke they saw having a few beers was of course Steve's twin brother Mike, the former Swan Districts, Collingwood, Essendon and Brisbane star.

He has recently retired and moved back to Perth and was renewing some acquaintances at a popular watering hole. At least, Royals officials are hoping that was the story...



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THE AGONY...



South Fremantle and Eagles forward Stevan Jackson suffered a bruised hip when he crashed to the ground in this passage of play . . .



...The big forward is attended by anxious trainers.

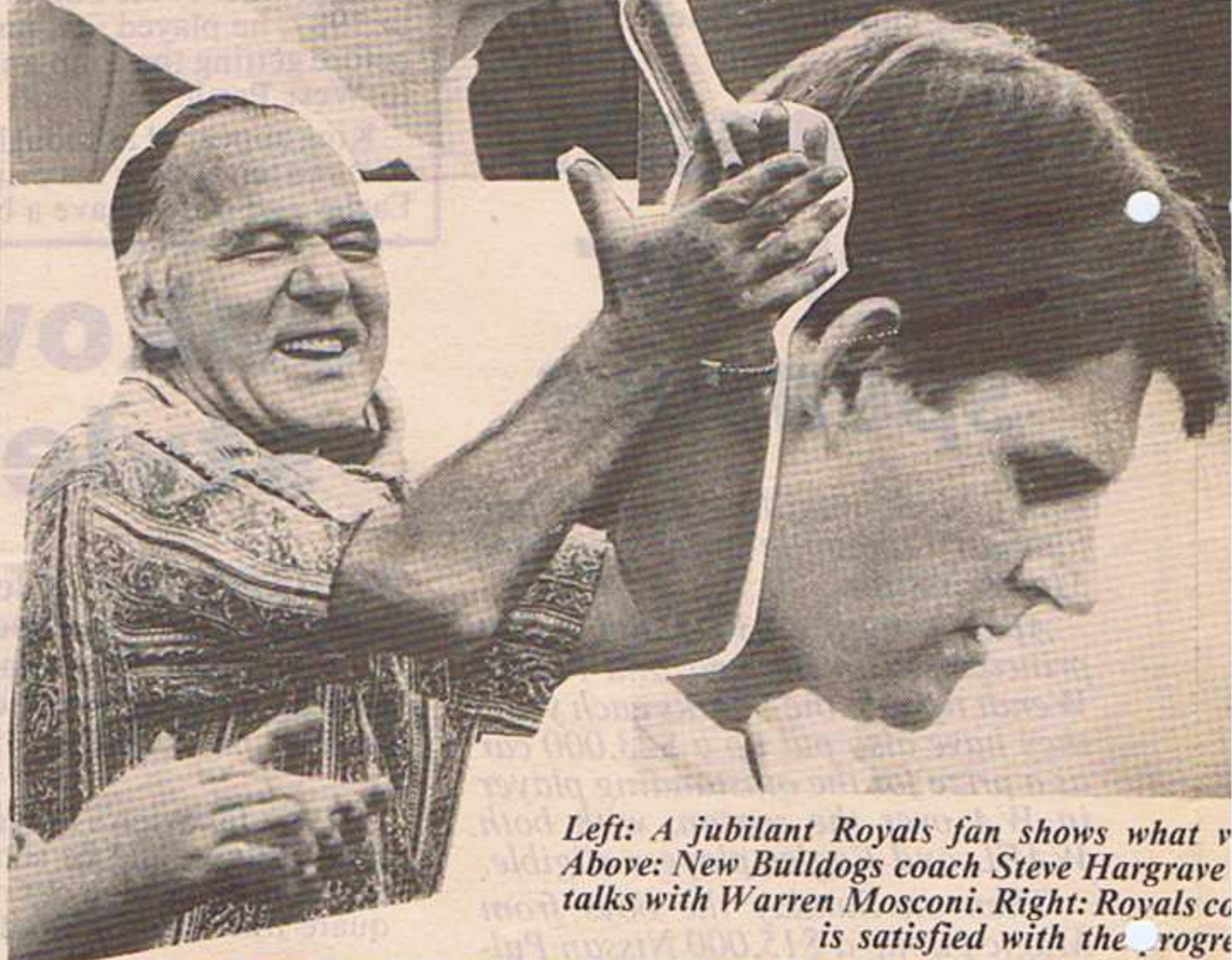


...And the agony shows as Jackson is carried from the ground.

THE HO



Above: WAFC chairman Peter Tannock (left) Swans, general manager Brian Close, WAFL general manager John O'Connell and a proud Swans president Bill Walker during the presentation of the 1990 Pepsi Cup at Bassendean Oval. Right: The Swans players line up before the ceremony. Below: A contented John Todd watches the football action.



Left: A jubilant Royals fan shows what v
 Above: New Bulldogs coach Steve Hargrave talks with Warren Mosconi. Right: Royals co is satisfied with the rogre

MEETING PLACE

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



HONOUR...

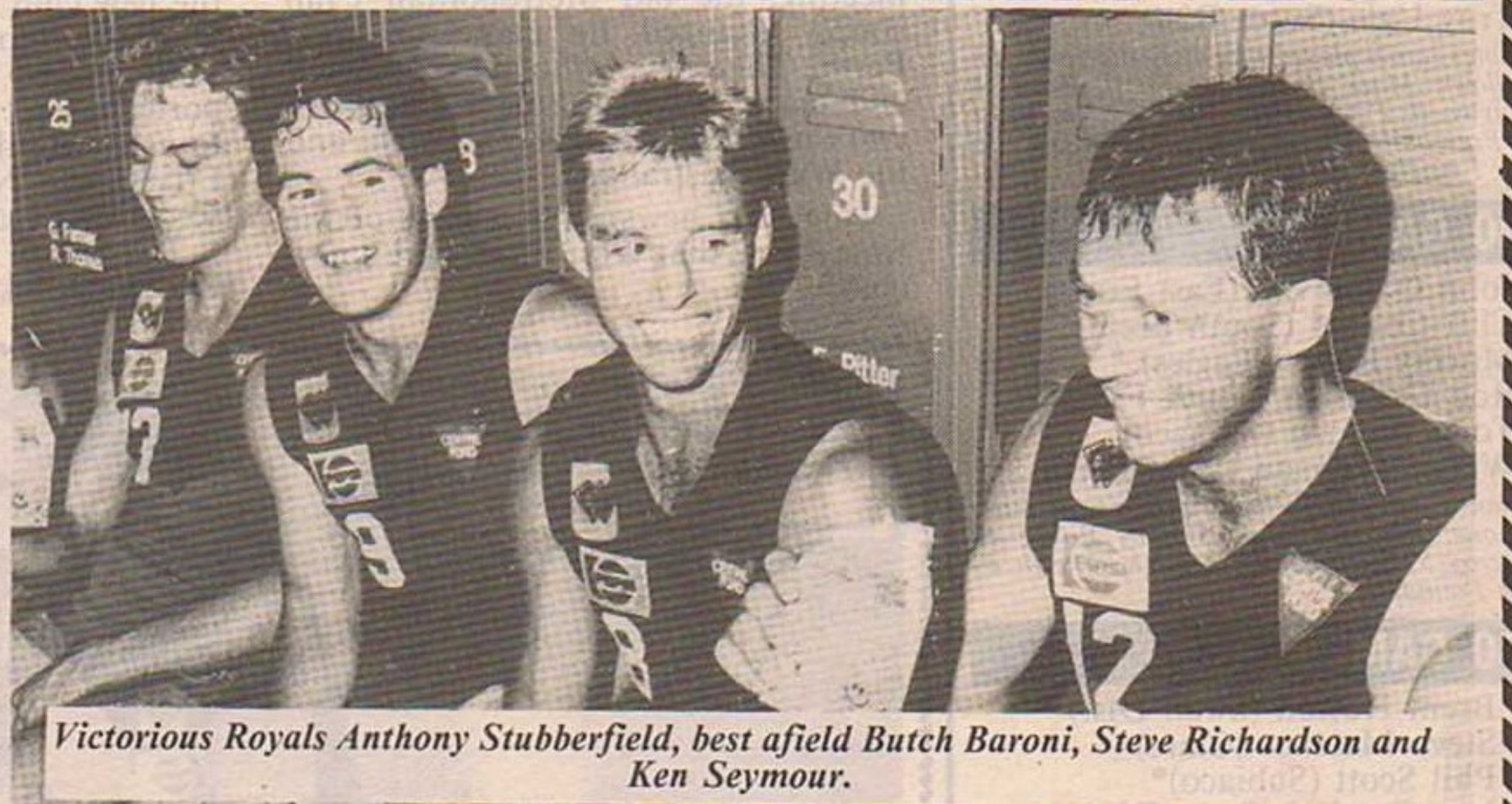
The WAFL's Pepsi Cup competition bounced away to a sensational start last Saturday and photographer GREG WOOD was at Bassendean Oval and Perth Oval to record the action, both on and off the arenas.



...THE ECSTASY



A happy Royals trio after the big win over the bulldogs — Matt Clape, captain Glen Bartlett and Andrew Slade sing the club song.



Victorious Royals Anthony Stubberfield, best afield Butch Baroni, Steve Richardson and Ken Seymour.



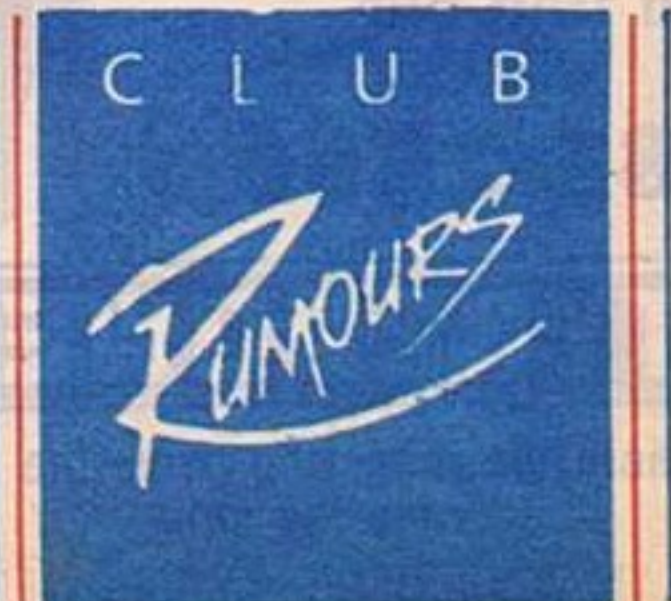
at victory is all about. rave looks stunned as he his coach Ian McCulloch rogre.



Dean Turner, the high flying Gavin Rose, Dean Bertram, Matt Clape and Paul Peos have every reason to smile.

MEETING PLACE

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



GOOD DEBUT

EAST Fremantle's rookie recruit from Port Melbourne, Damien Condon, was one of a handful of players to show early form for the Sharks. Condon has been in good form in pre-season practice matches and kicked three goals in the opening game against Perth at East Fremantle Oval last Saturday. The only other forward to show any resistance to the determined Demons was centre-half-forward Clinton Browning, who kicked three goals.

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Milestone Men

50 GAMES

- 49 Rod Grljusich (South Frem)
- 48 Mark Bayliss (South Frem) *
- 48 Peter Quill (East Frem)
- 48 Shane Cable (Subiaco) *
- 47 Matt Clape (East Perth)
- 47 Peter Higgins (East Frem) *
- 46 Troy Ugle (Swan Dist)

* Denotes games played with more than one club as follows: Mark Bayliss 44 South Frem, 4 Collingwood; Peter Higgins 48 Claremont, 1 East Fremantle; Shane Cable 12 Subiaco, 35 Perth, 1 Eagles.

100 GAMES

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

* Denotes the tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Murray Rance 40 Footscray, 57 Eagles; Rod Grljusich 48 Perth, 49 South Fremantle.

150 GAMES

- 149 Brent Hutton (Swan Dist) *
- 146 Steve Malaxos (Clare)
- 145 Phil Scott (Subiaco) *
- 144 Len Gandini (Swan Dist) *

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Brent Hutton 136 Swan Districts, 13 Eagles; Phil Scott 79 Subiaco, 66 Eagles; Len Gandini 51 Swan Districts, 92 Perth, 1 Melbourne.

200 GAMES

- 198 Shane Ellis (East Frem) *
- 181 Darrell Panizza (Claremont)

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Shane Ellis 188 East Fremantle; 10 Eagles.

250 GAMES

- 238 David Palm (West Perth) *
- 237 Dean Turner (East Perth) *

* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: David Palm 72 West Perth, 62 Norwood, 104 Richmond; Dean Turner 127 East Perth, 56 Eagles, 54 Fitzroy.

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West Perth's real centenary

IS the West Perth Football Club about to let their 100th birthday go by without a celebration?

The question was posed this week by Curtin academic and sports historian, Dr Steve Errington.

"The Falcons were formed 100 years ago on Wednesday, April 10," he says. "But an old misconception could see this wonderful milestone pass unrecognised".

He rejects the traditional view that the club was formed in 1885 as the Victorian Football Club.

"They held their party six years too early," he says.

Dr Errington's research shows that West Perth were actually formed on Friday, April 10, 1891. He cites the words of *The West Australian* at the time: "A meeting of footballers living in the West Perth District was held at the Shamrock Hotel on Friday last, for the purpose of forming a club."

The official club history complicates the issue by giving the date, wrongly, as "Friday, May 10, 1891" (actually a Sunday).

The club's version is that at this meeting, the old Metropolitan Club simply changed its name to West Perth. The Mets (who played in red and black) were an amalgamation of two earlier clubs — the Victorians and the West Australians.

However, newspaper reports of the time reveal that West Perth were a new club.

When the WA Football Association (now WAFL) held its annual meeting, at the Court Hotel on May 8 1891, *The West Australian* reported that, while Fremantle and Rovers were already members, West Perth and two other clubs were "admitted".

Newspaper stories published in April, 1893 named R. H. (Dick) Barrett and W. H. Strickland as the founders of the club. Barrett, a stockbroker, began a long term as president that year and was to guide the club to their first four premierships.

FOUNDER

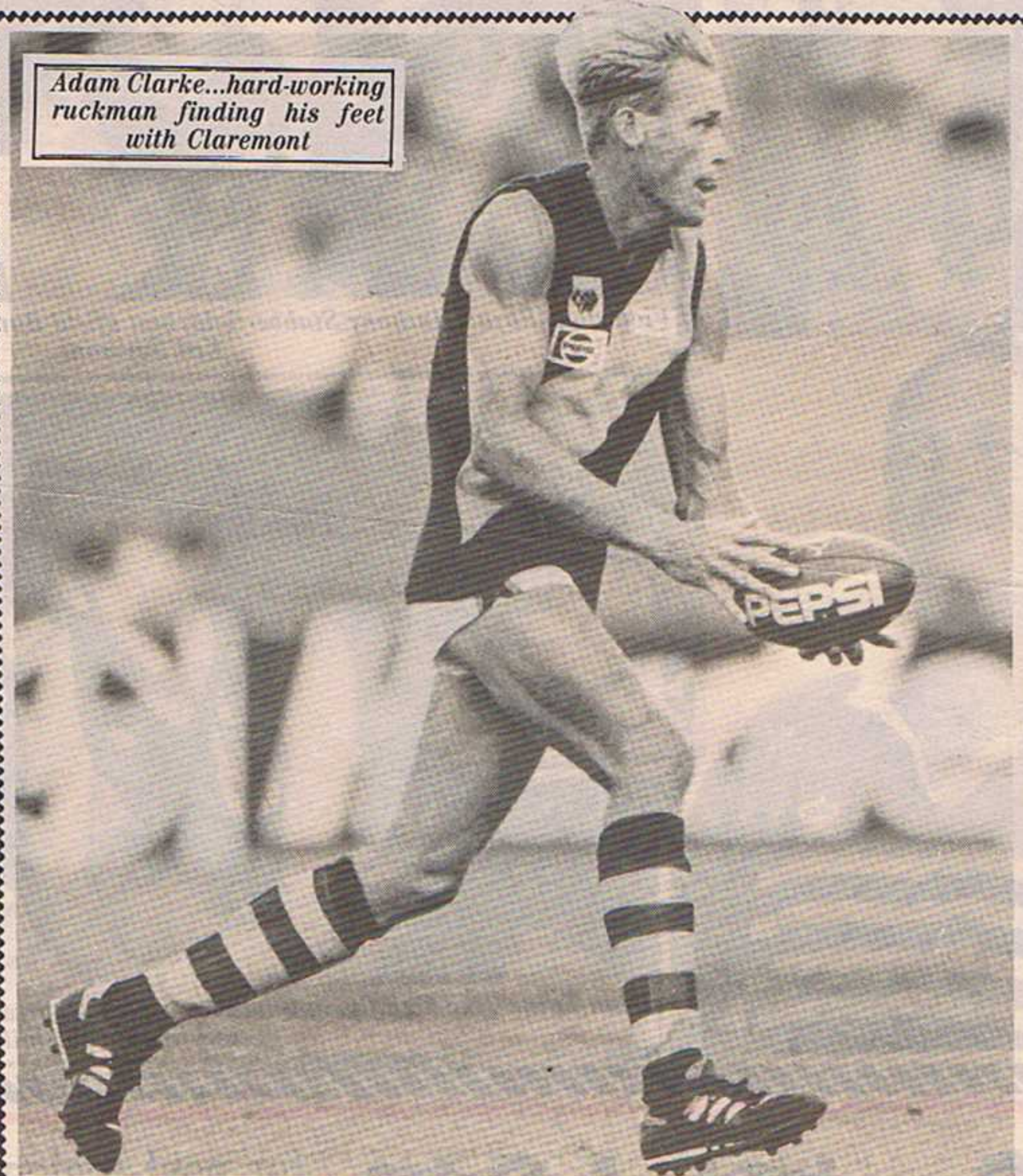
Had West Perth really begun as the Victorians, no-one but Hugh Dixon could have been named the founder. Dixon formed the Vics in April 1885 and the Association a week later. He left WA in June, but in 1891 he was back running a tobacco factory in Fremantle and was Association president that year. Dr Errington believes that the mix-up over West Perth's origins probably came about for two reasons.

Firstly, about half the new team were former Mets and even included two former captains of the Vics. Secondly, the new club chose to play in red and blue, the colours used by the Vics.

"It will be very sad if Falcons supporters aren't out on Wednesday night to celebrate their centenary," says Dr Errington. "Not many meetings start something that lasts 100 years."

The Savoy Hotel now stands where the Shamrock once did.

Adam Clarke...hard-working ruckman finding his feet with Claremont



CLAREMONT supporters have been impressed with the perseverance of ruckman Adam Clark, who joined the Tigers from East Perth two years ago.

Clark won the Prendergast Medal for the reserves fairest and best player in 1989, but Royals coach Ian McCulloch felt that his future at Perth Oval wasn't too bright, so he was released to Claremont.

Clark didn't earn a league game last year, but persisted and suddenly found himself with a senior role this year as Claremont's big-man strength disappeared to other clubs.

As skipper Mark Hann said after Clark's hard-working debut against Swan Districts:

"He has really impressed everyone with his determination. He could easily have walked away from league football, but his persistence has paid off."

Dempsey's desire

THE return to Fremantle Oval of big Dempsey Narkle has raised a few eyebrows among Bulldogs fans who remember his great debut back in 1985.

The big ruckman never really went on with his early promise, playing just eight games with Souths before drifting off and then turning up at Perth, where he added another 30 senior games to his tally ... including a couple of match-winning efforts.

He dropped out of football midway through the 1989 season and his arrival back at Fremantle Oval caught a few people by surprise.

But he still has a lot to prove and was told that he needs to show greater dedication in order to win a regular league place.

The strong-marking Narkle has knuckled down to hard training, losing quite a few kilos in pre-season work ... and by working as a groundsman at Fremantle Oval, he is constantly under the attention of tough general manager Brian Ciccotosto.

SIDELINED STAR

MUCH speculation surrounds the football future of former WAFL and AFL star Mike Richardson ... but he is having no part of a comeback suggestion.

Radio 6NR put Richardson on the spot when they caught him at the end of a telephone joining East Perth celebrations at coach Ian McCulloch's Brisbane Hotel last Sunday.

Richardson was a keen observer of twin brother Steve's role in the Royals win over Souths, but he says he has no desire to join him on the field.

"I've had 22 consecutive years of football since my junior days and I feel as though that's enough," Richardson told 6NR's Kim Hagdorn.

The former Swan Districts premiership star was a West Australian who conquered the heights of VFL ranks when he switched to Collingwood in 1983. After 87 games with Swans, he went on to play another 156 games with Collingwood, Essendon and the Brisbane Bears.

RARE DOUBLE

THE reserves match at Perth Oval last Saturday produced a rare double with two playing-coaches being opposed. East Perth have appointed John Scott as assistant coach and with his clearance from Claremont safely negotiated, he has decided to play with his reserves side — but says he is available to join the seniors if needed. South Fremantle veteran Robert Solin has taken on the reserves coaching job and still plans to continue as a senior player. He has been suffering from a virus and sat on the interchange bench for most of Saturday's game — but joined the action in the hectic last quarter.

PLUMP BUZZ

DEMONS' runner Peter Bosustow is singing the praises of the new prospects at the Perth Football Club this year. After Saturday's big win over East Fremantle, Bosustow said the Demons had the taste of winning and were not interested in second-best after the drought of previous years. He paid tribute to first-year player Wayne Allard, who roved well in his debut and Darwin ruckman John Van Rooye, who is a player of potential. "The blend of the more seasoned players such as Steve Cummings, Warren Nicholas and Willie Dick, along with the Eagles members Adrian Barich, Shane Porter and Craig McNaughton, provided stability," he said. While the former Perth and Carlton champion was confident about the Demons future, he wasn't too pleased with his effort. A plump-looking Bosustow said he would have to shed a few kilos if he was to continue his running duties.



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Swans have plenty of depth

SWAN Districts were a tower of strength in the early 1980's under coach John Todd and if early-season form is any indication, the boys from Bassendean look certain to dominate the start of another decade.

Having won premierships in 1982, '83 and '84, the black and whites are shooting for back-to-back flags this season.

The number of players lost over summer was not high compared to some of the other WAFL clubs, but it was the quality of the players who left that concerned Swans supporters.

Don Holmes, Don Langsford, Brad Shine and Kim Hetherington all hung up their boots with a total of just over 600 WAFL games between them.

Shane Stempel left the club after being drafted by the Brisbane Bears. He was accompanied by premiership team-mate David Ogg while Todd Menegola headed for Richmond and Paul Gow for Footscray.

EXPERIENCE

The experience and football talent of those departures left a question mark over Swans before the start of the season.

But Swans have the depth to cover those losses and an indication of their depth was shown in the season-opener when only three players were called on to make their debut.



Former Donnybrook wingman Shane Atherton received a controversial welcome to league football when he was the subject of a Dale Kickett head-but midway through the second quarter.

His younger brother Darren, who has also moved to Bassendean, has shown promise as a key defender in the reserves and is tipped to join Shane in the seniors soon.

While Swans lost two members of last season's premiership side to the Brisbane Bears, they also gained two players from Queensland who both slotted nicely into last Saturday's team.

Mercurial forward Kevin Caton has returned for another stint at Bassendean where he debuted in 1984 before trying his hand at AFL football with the West Coast Eagles, Fitzroy and Brisbane.

The 25-year-old was off-target against the Tigers, kicking 2.4, but he showed why he will be a constant headache for opposition defenders with his aerial supremacy and quick-thinking in front of goals.

Steven Handley, a 196cm 20-year-old from Brisbane (and earlier Nor-

depth

anda, in East Perth territory) made a sound debut at centre-half-forward and he will be a handy acquisition.

Handley has impressed at Bassendean since his arrival over summer and while East Perth will lament his sneaking through their fingers, the versatile big-man is determined to show the form that several times took him close to a Brisbane Bears debut.

Former East Fremantle ruckman Michael Broadbridge switched to Swans after four seasons with the Sharks and he will share the ruck duties with Ken Bell and Travis Edmonds. Todd believes that the tall Shark is one of the most skilled footballers in WA and has no qualms about picking him up despite him being out of favour at East Fremantle.

Swans have also recalled rover Glen Dehring from Sunday League premiers Osborne Park. Dehring, who was on the verge of league selection two seasons ago, dropped out of football temporarily to play cricket in England.

Midland rover Ray Keen has shown promise in practice games and Anthony Henry from Geraldton is a utility player who could have a future in league football.



Steven Handley...useful key position player



Darren (left) and Shane Atherton...Donnybrook brothers out to break into league football with the reigning premiers

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Royals set to show revival spirit

IF East Perth's 125-point demolition of South Fremantle last Saturday was any indication, the Royals are in for a bumper season.

Coach Ian McCulloch, in his third season at Perth Oval, has turned his young Royals into a formidable combination capable of pushing any side in the WAFL.

The Royals recruited comprehensively over summer and scored a pre-season coup when they signed accomplished Southern Districts footballer Shawn Colbung from their country namesake, the Albany Royals.

PERFORMANCE

Though McCulloch says Colbung, at 22 years of age, is a far from proven league footballer, the 170cm rover impressed in his debut performance at Perth Oval.

Colbung was one of East Perth's five newcomers who helped the Royals to their first four-point effort of 1991.

Included in the five were Sean King and Malcolm Williams, a duo snapped up from arch-rivals, West Perth.

King, a New South Wales—born foundation member of the West Coast Eagles, has returned to Perth after a season with Avon Football Association premiers Quairading, a club he turned to after becoming restless at West Perth.

Former Falcon Williams played 16 games for West Perth last season and he is always a dangerman close to goals, though he strayed last Saturday when he kicked three points.



Damien Lunt...injury worry

Switching clubs has often rejuvenated a flagging career and Subiaco and East Perth have traded numerous footballers in the past six or seven years.

PREMIERSHIP

Shane Cocker and Greg Carpenter both swapped their blue and black guernseys for maroon and gold and went on to play in premierships teams with the Lions and rover Damien Read has retraced their steps back to Perth Oval.

Starved of opportunities at Subiaco Oval, having only played four league games last season, Read made a sound debut against the Bulldogs last Saturday. He joins his former Subiaco teammates Dayman Port and Andrew Slade, who switched clubs last season, at Perth Oval, along with outstanding wingman Paul Evans.

The fifth first-gamer last weekend was former Claremont key position player and Eagles squad member Ryan Turnbull.

Turnbull, disgruntled with his treatment at Claremont last season which eventually saw him forfeit the league finals series, nominated for the March reverse draft and was greeted with open arms by the Royals, who had fourth choice.

SELECTION BONUS

His selection was a bonus for the camp who will also have the services of defender Matt Clape for much of the season and centre-half-forward Craig McGrath will come and go as is dictated by Perth's AFL club.

Other young players who should have a big impact on senior football as the season develops are ruck-rover Michael Chalmers, making a comeback after two seasons out because of injury, Busselton defender Mark Colthart, Mt Barker brothers Alan and Dennis Smallwood, Heath East from Manjimup and Subiaco forward Graham Garnaut, a player the Royals will be working hard to get cleared from Subiaco.

The question being asked at East Perth is; will reserves coach John Scott make a comeback to the league team after several years at Claremont?

The 32-year-old Scott is training well and played with the reserves team against Souths last week. He could be a useful backup for a key position at either end of the ground if he gets fully fit.

The Royals biggest loss from last year was the departure of strong ruckman Stephen Hooper, who was chosen as Geelong's (and the AFL's) No. 1 draft choice over every other aspiring footballer in the country.

His bulky presence will be missed by East Perth and Gavin Rose carried most of the ruck burden against Craig Edwards last Saturday. Wembley amateurs ruckman Luke Wundke is tipped to be given an early trial and he looms as an outstanding future star.

Other losses have been minimal with John Hackett returning to his former club in the Amateur Football League, Trinity Aquinas, following a nine-game season with the Royals last year.

The Royals have also recruited big ruckman Damien Lunt from Victoria, but he has been hampered by an injury pre-season and is yet to show his true form.

Mark Blakely has also been lured to the amateurs by reigning premiers North Beach after a 50-game career at Perth Oval which began back in 1983.

One good win does not make a season, though the Royals are now being touted as genuine premierships contenders with a big chance of breaking their 12-season premierships drought.



Malcolm Williams...former Falcons dangerman

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Luke Wundke...recruited from amateur ranks

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Kicking football into the future



Send-off rule deserves support

THE Town and Country Football Development Trust strongly supports the send-off rule and would like to see it introduced in all areas of football.

The FDT believes that the introduction of the send-off rule into the WAFL league ranks is a major step in eradicating one of the biggest criticisms of the national game — unnecessary violence.

The Trust hopes that the new rule

support

will be accepted by coaches, players and spectators who realise that football can be a physical, but fair game.

WAFL umpires will have the authority to order players off the field for striking, kicking or elbowing offences. The offending players will not be replaced for the 15 minutes they are off

the ground and they also face a report on the charge.

FDT manager Gerard McNeill said the new rule — which is already used in junior football — will help younger players who treat their idols as role-models.

"This move should help improve the community perception of the sport by officials, parents, supporters and youngsters," he said.

New league at the Port

EAST Fremantle and South Fremantle have amalgamated to form a separate 17s competition called the Fremantle Districts Football League.

The new competition will be run independently by a board of management comprising the football managers from the respective clubs, Clinton Pike and Steve Martin; East Fremantle junior president Wayne Dale, South Fremantle districts president Bill Wallington and junior co-ordinator David Lindsay.

"At this stage it is a separate competition inside the junior board and will be held in accordance with the local junior fixtures," said Dale.

The competition, which starts on Saturday, April 27, will be held at a variety of grounds from Riverton to Rockingham during the forthcoming season.

The new league is in desperate need of sponsors and parent support and anyone interested can contact Wayne Dale on 457 1003.

Level One courses

THE Swan Districts junior region have completed their Level One coaching accreditation courses at Bassendean Oval.

A total of 26 coaches passed through the course, which was run by Aussie Football co-ordinator Peter Manucci.

Football Development Trust manager Gerard McNeill was responsible for skills programmes and lessons.

Region president Ian Foss said the course was a complete success with all coaches being educated on the same level with common guidelines.

Swan Districts will kick off their season on Sunday, April 28 and have a total of 86 teams this year ranging from the 9s to the 17s age group.

Clinics for coaches

THE South Suburban Junior Football Region, in conjunction with the Football Development Trust, is about to embark on a series of extensive coaching accreditation courses.

The Level One courses will be held at the Maddington Sportsman's Club on the following dates — Thursday, April 11, 7pm-10pm; Saturday, April 13, 1-4pm; Wednesday, April 17, 7-10pm; Wednesday, April 24, 7-10pm.

The South Suburban region will be represented by 35 coaches who will be educated on the role of coaching, teaching football skills, coaching psychology, games and drills, laws of umpiring, improving game practises and emergency first-aid.

Little League

THE opening round of the Town and Country Little League saw a host of youngsters take to the arena at half-time last Saturday. The results and best players were:

Claremont (Burrows Burke, Andrew Scanion and Todd Whishay) beat Swan Districts, (Charles Baker, Brent McDonald and Marcis Soklich).

West Perth (Evan MacIndoe, Adam Sydney-Smith and Brett Sydney-Smith) beat Subiaco (James Crow, Joel Romet and Toy Niemann).

South Fremantle (Ryan Hinchcliffe, Roger Spicer and Craig Cole) beat East Perth (Sutni Danti, Andrew Humble, and Joseph Pini).

East Fremantle (Simon Black, Lee Wolski and Rob Wanki) beat Perth (Aaron Kitson, James Tyson and Gavin Jones).

This week's teams representing the WAFL clubs will be Carine (Subiaco); Kardinya (East Fremantle); Cockburn (South Fremantle); Ballajura (East Perth); Ocean Ridge (West Perth); High Wycombe (Swan Districts); and Claremont (Claremont).

Combined sides for Eagles game

JUNIOR footballers from Northern Districts and South Suburban will clash in a curtain-raiser to the West Coast Eagles versus Adelaide Crows match at Subiaco Oval on Sunday, April 21.

The two districts will select the best of their 17s talent for the combined sides.

Northern Districts coach Eddie Herald says the match will be an opportunity for juniors with potential to prove their worth in a different atmosphere.

Careful monitoring of the game will be carried out by the Football Development Trust — who will be helping organise the teams — and development squad officers.



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with Guy McKenna



Big target for clinics in schools

AUSTRALIAN junior football will take a huge leap forward this year with the FDT and sponsors Hungry Jack's promoting youth football education in schools.

Whopper coaching clinics will see a proposed target of 350 metropolitan and country primary schools, which will involve around 75,000 children from years three to six.

Each Whopper Clinic will involve a fully qualified instructor and prominent WAFL players taking the boys and girls in a skill-learning through fun full-day clinic.

The Hungry Jack's Superclinics will

only be conducted at schools accepting Whopper Clinics; where school sides have been formed or where they have nominated to take part in a lightning carnival.

GIVEAWAYS

The Superclinics will target 500 schools involving about 15,000 juniors from years six and seven; all of whom will receive a host of Hungry Jack's give-aways.

Primary schools in both metropolitan and country areas will be invited to send their school teams to Hungry Jack's lighting carnivals, as they did in 1990.

Each team taking part will receive a football certificate, with match footballs going to the best presented and best behaved school — and a special shield for the winning team will be presented by senior WAFL or Eagles players.

Promotional assembly visits by Eagles players will again be a popular format among primary children this year.

These visits will involve a player being the guest of honour at school assemblies. He will present special certificates and give a short address on relevant football topics.

CLINIC DATES

Superclinics will be conducted by four Eagles players at the following times and schools:

Chris Lewis — Thursday, April 11: 9am-10am Aranmore Primary; 11am-noon Mt Hawthorn. Wednesday, May 1: 1pm-2pm Mosman Park. Thursday May 2: 9am-10am Maylands; 11am-noon St Pauls; 1pm-2pm Takari.

Phil Narkle — Thursday, April 11: 9am-10am Swan View; 1pm-2pm Helena Valley. Tuesday, April 30: 9am-10am Lesmurdie; 10.20-11.05am Forrestfield; 1pm-2pm Wattle Grove. Thursday, May 2: 9am-10am East Beechboro; 11am-noon West Midland; 1pm-2pm Ashfield.

Dean Irving — Thursday, April 11: 2.15-3.15pm Redcliffe. Wednesday, May 1: 12.50-1.50pm St Augustines; 2.15-3.15pm Rivervale. Thursday, May 2: 12.50-1.50pm Rhema Christian; 2.15-3.15pm Ursula Frayne Catholic.

Guy McKenna — Tuesday, May 7: 9.30-10.30am Applecross; 11am-noon Attadale; 12.50-1.50pm St. Benedicts; 2.15-3.15pm Ardross.

Mighty Milo says ...



FRONT POSITION

Always try to take the front position. The player in front has many advantages, especially when it comes to getting free kicks off the umpire.

If you are leading out, it's obviously better to be in front right from the start.

If the opposition has the ball and they are coming into attack, you're much better off in front of your opponent — but keep him right behind you, don't let him drop back away from you.

If you're going for a mark, you've got the advantage if you hold front position; the umpire always favours the man in front.

And, most important of all, if you're in front and your opponent comes into your back, you get the free kick. There's more chance of him pushing you in the back than you giving a kick away.

It's marvellous what a difference



makes

Armada look to build on their youth

ARMADALE, one of the oldest clubs in Sunday League football, are planning a campaign to take them into the top five this year after narrowly missing the finals last season.

The club's big push upwards is based on their growing depth.

Armada's senior side last played in a finals series in 1985, but with the reserves winning the premiership last season and the colts losing the grand final, the talent is emerging.

Armada have not recruited any noted players from the WAFL, concentrating mainly on promoting those younger players who performed well in the minor grades.

Armada president Bob Sutherland is expecting big things this season after the club's consistent 1990 year and their credible performances in the pre-season practice matches.

"Last year we lost a number of games by less than a kick and with the experience our younger guys have gained, we will improve dramatically," says Sutherland.

YOUNG SIDE

"Our average age last year was 23, which would be youngest in the competition.

"There will be eight colts coming into the senior side, which shows the depth we have at the moment; something that has been missing for a number of years.

"Senior coach Craig Smith has been



happy with the numbers on the track and has been pleased with the performance of the younger players in the senior side.

"Our policy this year will be to promote the youth of the club and that will stand us in good stead for the future."

All the coaches at Armada are local players who have come through the junior ranks and have continued their senior football with the club.

Smith, a former Perth player, will be hoping he can take Armada into the finals in his second year as coach.

Smith has played all his senior football with Armada, except for a two-year stint with the Perth Football Club and he continues this season as playing-coach.

Gary Bradshaw, the premiership coach of the reserves side, will enter his third year, having previously coached the colts for four years.

Colts coach Gavin McPhail will be re-building the side this year with a number of players from last season being promoted to the league side.

The Armada Football Club was founded in 1909, playing in the South Suburban Football Association competition, winning 12 premierships between 1913 and 1944.

In 1960, they joined the South Suburban Murray competition, an unsuccessful period in the club's history.

Armada progressed to the Sunday League in 1984 and since being in the competition, they have only played in the 1985 finals series.

Last season's fairest and best for Armada, Ashley McPhail will remain with the club after contemplating a move back to the WAFL ranks.

MEDAL MEN

Armada have produced four Bowden Medal winners in the club's history — in 1960 Alan Steel; 1976 Gary Greer; 1977 Peter Smith and in 1985, former South Fremantle champion Rod Barrett.

Barrett coached the club between 1985 and 1987, while his former Bulldog captain Brian Ciccotosto was in charge between 1982 and 1984.



Craig Smith...second year at the helm

Former Claremont and Collingwood defender Kevin Worthington coached the senior side for two seasons, in 1988 and 1989.

A number of years ago, Armada approached the Kelmscott Football Club with an amalgamation proposal in order to join the WAFL.

The move was to bring league football out to the southern suburbs, but the proposal didn't come to fruition.

Does the TV camera ever lie?

OPTICAL illusions are breaking out all over — or so it seems.

While many other of my beleaguered physical functions are groaning under the burden of advancing years, two important areas of my physiology have survived — my eyes and my teeth.

Unhappily, as far as boasting about my excellent eyesight is concerned, it seems I must now review my situation.

Into a new football season and there I was, transfixed to my videoed version of the Adelaide versus Carlton match.

My formerly-impeccable eyesight picked up a Crows player letting rip with one of the sweetest and shortest left jabs to an incensed Carlton opponent one would wish to see outside the Madison Square Garden.

RETRIBUTION

Was it an illusion? I think not, for the struck one appeared most upset and tried, rather unsuccessfully, to effect some form of retribution. Neither the umpires, nor more importantly, the man charged with viewing the video, saw a thing!

Did I really see it?

In Melbourne during the same round, two players were reported and again consulting my videotape — and with the benefit of numerous replays including stopping the frames — I cogitated on the actions of the reported ones.

I consulted my wife, admittedly a rabid Sydney Swans fans, about the reason why one of her team was lying pole-axed on the ground holding his jaw. Her opinion as to how many weeks the report warranted ran in fact to several years. But being a rational

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and unemotional fellow, I ventured an opinion that around a month would be fair enough.

Lo and behold, it never happened! My eyesight, even with the most modern of technical aids, had failed again. Case dismissed.

I addressed my attention on video to the other report.

A small Fitzroy player seemed to have been fairly violently dealt with by a very big Melbourne ruckman.

He seemed considerably distressed. Perhaps he was a good actor and not hurt at all! But surely that was a fast gyrating arm that came through and my faithful stop frame seems to bear out the conclusion reached through my formerly reliable eyesight, that contact had been made.

Once again, case dismissed!

On these non-findings, I reckon Dermott Brereton has to be the unluckiest footballer in Australia.

CONSISTENCY

Please, when are we going to get some democracy and consistency regarding reportable incidents?

Surely with the indisputable aid of videotapes, it must be much easier to judge offences than ever before.

Or has pollution reached such a stage that everyone's eyesight is deteriorating?

There is an old saying that the camera doesn't lie. Apparently, like my eyesight, it does now!

Manning set to stamp claims

THE strong Manning club, who suffered a pre-season blow when their social rooms were burnt out at James Miller Oval, are still on track to be competitive in this year's Metropolitan League.

New coach Bruce Rowlings, formerly from Applecross, has led the club to some impressive victories in pre-season matches and have been bolstered by former Gosnells player Shane Gidgip, Mal Curtis, from Forrestfield and Scott Kinninmont, from Coolbinia-Yokine.

In the opening round of Metropolitan Football League fixtures on Sunday (April 14) Manning travel to Waroona in what will be a good test of their potential.

Waroona have appointed Ken Marshall as league coach and the club has undergone a heavy pre-season training schedule.

Dominic Pinzone, Troy Van Die-man, Gordon Riley and Dwayne Marshall are all expected to become regular league players. Waroona are also expecting the return of their former top player in Glen Wilson, from Boddington.

Kwinana clash with South Mandurah at Medina Oval. Former Knights champion player Murray Lloyd has resumed as coach, while Peter Miguel will take on a non-playing coaching role with the Falcons.

The Falcons have adopted a heavy recruiting campaign with former Albany Railways player Ray Horne their star recruit. Brett French (Mundijong) and Mark Bushell (Applecross) will also add depth to the Falcons.

Last year's grand finalists Midland and Mosman Park clash at Tom Perrot Oval, Mosman Park.

Reigning premiers Midland have excelled in practice matches against Sunday League clubs Kenwick and Kalamunda and will be match-hardened.

Coach Noel Baker is looking for back-to-back flags and though the Tigers have lost the talented Mick Walter, Baker is more than happy with new recruits Adam Kiernan, Mark Bond and Neil Harvey.

Mundijong have appointed former Kalamunda player Ric Ellard as coach and defender Brad Carter has returned after a short stint at Kelmscott.

Superules ready to kick-off

THE 1991 Superules season will get under way this Sunday, when rookie club Eastern Hills host the first round of fixtures at their home ground in Great Northern Highway, Swan Valley.

Eastern Hills played in the competition last year on a restricted basis and will be looking forward to their first full-time season.

To accommodate them and reduce the competition to a more viable eight team situation, Northern Districts and neighbour Whitford Warriors have amalgamated to form a new club, the Northside Warriors.

There will be four games played in the first round of fixtures.

10am Eastern Hills v Wembley. 11am Northside Warriors v Vic Park Demons. Noon Bunbury v Southern Saints. 1pm Mandurah v Fremantle.

As Superules enters its 10th season, 1991 promises to be an interesting one with teams like Vic Park moving out to use Ferndale/Lynwood as its new home base; a re-juvenated Wembley club; the amalgamation of Northern Districts and Whitfords and the introduction of Eastern Hills.

The second round of fixtures will be played on Sunday, May 5 with all four games at Bunbury.

Over the summer, Superules held their annual general meeting and listed below are the elected office bearers for 1991: Chairman — Bruce Arlow, vice-chairman — Nick Catalano, secretary — Rick Forrest, treasurer — Wayne Koch, executive members — Brian Thompson, Mike Evans, Gary Althorpe.

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1991 FOOTBALL FIXTURES

WEST AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE AND WEST COAST EAGLES

SERIES ONE

Saturday, 6 April 1991 (Round 1)
 East Fremantle 10.13, Perth 22.14
 East Perth 24.26, South Fremantle 6.9
 Subiaco 21.22, West Perth 18.10
 Swan Districts 14.17, Claremont 13.14

Saturday, 13 April 1991 (Round 2)
 Claremont Vs Subiaco
 Perth Vs Swan Districts
 South Fremantle Vs East Fremantle
 West Perth Vs East Perth

Friday, 19 April 1991 (Round 3)
 West Perth Vs Claremont (WACA)

Saturday, 20 April 1991
 East Fremantle Vs Subiaco
 East Perth Vs Swan Districts
 Perth Vs South Fremantle

Thursday, 25 April 1991 (Anzac Day) (Round 4)
 East Fremantle Vs West Perth (WACA)
 Subiaco Vs East Perth (WACA)

Saturday, 27 April 1991
 Claremont Vs Perth
 Swan Districts Vs South Fremantle

Friday, 3 May 1991 (Round 5)
 East Perth Vs East Fremantle (WACA)

Saturday, 4 May 1991
 South Fremantle Vs Claremont
 Subiaco Vs Perth
 West Perth Vs Swan Districts

Saturday, 11 May 1991 (Round 6)
 Claremont Vs East Fremantle
 Perth Vs East Perth
 South Fremantle Vs West Perth
 Swan Districts Vs Subiaco

Saturday, 18 May 1991 (Round 7)
 East Fremantle Vs Swan Districts
 East Perth Vs Claremont
 Subiaco Vs South Fremantle
 West Perth Vs Perth

SERIES TWO

Saturday, 25 May 1991 (Round 8)
 Claremont Vs Swan Districts
 Perth Vs East Fremantle
 South Fremantle Vs East Perth
 West Perth Vs Subiaco

Saturday, 1 June 1991 (Round 9)
 East Perth Vs West Perth
 Subiaco Vs Claremont

Monday, 3 June 1991
 East Fremantle Vs South Fremantle
 Swan Districts Vs Perth

Saturday, 8 June 1991 (Round 10)
 Claremont Vs West Perth
 South Fremantle Vs Perth
 Subiaco Vs East Fremantle
 Swan Districts Vs East Perth

STATE GAME: Tuesday, June 11 - Subiaco Oval.
 Western Australia Vs South Australia

Saturday, 15 June 1991 (Round 11)
 East Perth Vs Subiaco
 Perth Vs Claremont
 South Fremantle Vs Swan Districts
 West Perth Vs East Fremantle

Saturday, 22 June 1991 (Round 12)
 Claremont Vs South Fremantle
 East Fremantle Vs East Perth
 Perth Vs Subiaco
 Swan Districts Vs West Perth

Saturday, 29 June 1991 (Round 13)
 East Fremantle Vs Claremont
 East Perth Vs Perth
 Subiaco Vs Swan Districts
 West Perth Vs South Fremantle

Saturday, 6 July 1991 (Round 14)
 Perth Vs West Perth (John Durin Oval, Kelmscott)
 Claremont Vs East Perth
 South Fremantle Vs Subiaco
 Swan Districts Vs East Fremantle

STATE GAME: Tuesday, July 16 - WACA.
 Western Australia Vs Victoria State of Origin

SERIES THREE

Saturday, 13 July 1991 (Round 15)
 East Fremantle Vs Perth
 East Perth Vs South Fremantle
 Subiaco Vs West Perth
 Swan Districts Vs Claremont

Saturday, 20 July 1991 (Round 16)
 Claremont Vs Subiaco
 Perth Vs Swan Districts
 South Fremantle Vs East Fremantle
 West Perth Vs East Perth
 (Kingsway Res. Wanneroo)

Saturday, 27 July 1991 (Round 17)
 East Fremantle Vs Subiaco
 East Perth Vs Swan Districts
 Perth Vs South Fremantle
 West Perth Vs Claremont

Saturday, 3 August 1991 (Round 18)
 Claremont Vs Perth
 East Fremantle Vs West Perth
 Subiaco Vs East Perth
 Swan Districts Vs South Fremantle

Saturday, 10 August 1991 (Round 19)
 East Perth Vs East Fremantle
 South Fremantle Vs Claremont
 Subiaco Vs Perth
 West Perth Vs Swan Districts

Saturday, 17 August 1991 (Round 20)
 Claremont Vs East Fremantle
 Perth Vs East Perth
 South Fremantle Vs West Perth
 Swan Districts Vs Subiaco

Saturday, 24 August 1991 (Round 21)
 East Fremantle Vs Swan Districts
 East Perth Vs Claremont
 Subiaco Vs South Fremantle
 West Perth Vs Perth

FINALS

Sunday, 1 September 1991
 Double Header
 Elimination Final Qualifying Final

Saturday, 7 September 1991
 Double Header
 1st Semi Final 2nd Semi Final

Saturday, 14 September 1991
 Preliminary Final

Saturday, 21 September 1991
 Grand Final

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Team	P	W	L	For	Agst	%	Pts	Ratio
WEST COAST	2	2	0	184	78	235.90	8	100
CARLTON	2	2	0	231	151	152.98	8	100
GEELONG	2	2	0	247	172	143.60	8	100
ESSENDON	2	2	0	280	203	137.93	8	100
COLLINGWOOD	3	2	1	321	219	146.58	8	66.67
ADELAIDE	3	2	1	368	281	130.96	8	66.67
Hawthorn	3	2	1	371	309	120.06	8	66.67
St Kilda	3	2	1	365	357	102.24	8	66.67
Nth Melbourne	2	1	1	198	225	88.00	4	50
Melbourne	3	1	2	345	302	114.24	4	33.33
Richmond	3	0	3	270	356	75.84	0	—
Sydney Swans	2	0	2	183	298	61.41	0	—
Brisbane Bears	2	0	2	128	231	55.41	0	—
Footscray	2	0	2	144	263	54.75	0	—
Fitzroy	2	0	2	107	297	36.03	0	—

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE LADDER

Team	P	W	L	For	Agst	Pts	%
Glenelg	3	3	0	393	270	6	59.28
Eagles	2	2	0	228	151	4	60.16
North Adelaide	3	2	1	355	274	4	56.44
Port Adelaide	3	2	1	276	266	4	50.92
Central District	2	1	1	198	173	2	53.37
South Adelaide	3	1	2	386	346	2	52.73
Norwood	3	1	2	267	394	2	40.39
West Adelaide	3	0	3	235	362	0	39.36
Sturt	2	0	2	167	269	0	38.30

PEPSI CUP LADDER

Team	P	W	L	For	Agst	Pts	%
E PERTH	1	1	0	170	45	4	377.77
PERTH	1	1	0	146	73	4	200.00
SUBIACO	1	1	0	148	118	4	125.42
SWANS	1	1	0	101	92	4	109.78
CLAREMONT	1	0	1	92	101	0	91.08
W Perth	1	0	1	118	148	0	79.72
E Frem	1	0	1	73	146	0	50.00
S Frem	1	0	1	45	170	0	26.47

PEPSI RESERVES

Team	P	W	L	For	Agst	Pts	%
PERTH	1	1	0	179	99	4	180.00
SUBIACO	1	1	0	113	69	4	163.70
SWANS	1	1	0	104	87	4	119.50
S FLEM	1	1	0	80	79	4	101.20
E PERTH	1	0	1	79	80	0	98.75
Claremont	1	0	1	87	104	0	83.65
W Perth	1	0	1	69	113	0	61.06
E Frem	1	0	1	99	179	0	55.30

PEPSI COLTS

Team	P	W	L	For	Agst	Pts	%
SWANS	1	1	0	126	66	4	190.90
W PERTH	1	1	0	126	77	4	163.60
E PERTH	1	1	0	107	82	4	130.40
E FLEM	1	1	0	77	71	4	108.40
PERTH	1	0	1	71	77	0	92.20
S Frem	1	0	1	82	107	0	76.63
Subiaco	1	0	1	77	126	0	61.11
Claremont	1	0	1	66	126	0	52.38

SANFL GAMES

This week's South Australian fixtures are:



ROUND 4
Sunday, April 14
 Eagles v South (F/Park)
 Sturt v Port (Adelaide)
 North v Norwood (Prospect)
Monday, April 15
 West v Central (F/Park)
Bye: Glenelg

WESTSIDE Football

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS PUBLICATION
 Publisher/Editor: ALAN EAST
 Advertising manager: JEFF TAYLOR
 OFFICE:
 Daily News Building
 120 Roe Street, Perth, WA 6000
 PHONE: Editorial, Advertising and Distribution
 227 6722. FAX No. 227 9487
 Correspondence:
 P.O. Box 119, Northbridge, WA 6865
 Printed by Colourpress
 Briggs Street, Victoria Park
 Distributed by Bell Publishing
 54 Hasler Road, Hertsman Business Park
 For Subscriptions or Home Deliveries
 PHONE: 227 6722
 or write to
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Clarkson saga must be solved

PERTH and East Fremantle need to get together urgently to settle the John Clarkson dispute. After WAFL arbitrator Brian

Sierakowski surprisingly ruled that Clarkson could not switch camps, one of WA's best young footballers is now in limbo — and that's no good to anyone.

Sierakowski, bound by the guidelines of the WAFL, ruled that Clarkson's intended move from Perth to East Fremantle was not in the best interests of the competition.

He deemed that it would harm Perth's chances of remaining competitive and hinder the club's plans to find financial stability.

But one wonders how one man can

block a move being sought by an uncontracted player.

There were a number of other clearance disputes settled by the arbitrator — and some of them had interesting overtones, particularly in relation to country zoning.

Clarkson has threatened to take the matter further by challenging the decision in a court of law and that would not be in the best interests of the game.

Perhaps Perth might be more willing to progress to the negotiating table now that they have thrashed the Sharks to win their first game at East Fremantle Oval since May, 1980.

by
Gary Stocks
of The West Australian



Clarkson has already missed one week of the season and the two clubs should come to a suitable arrangement as quickly as possible. He represented WA last season and the competition needs those quality players out on the arena each week.

Certainly, after last week's poor start to the season, the Sharks could do with the lively utility player.

Pepsi Cup

This week's WAFL fixtures are as follows

Saturday, April 13
(Round 2)

Claremont vs Subiaco, at Claremont Oval (broadcast by 6PR).

Perth vs Swan Districts, at Lathlain Park.

South Fremantle vs East Fremantle, at Fremantle Oval (broadcast by 6WF).

West Perth vs East Perth, at Leederville Oval (broadcast by 6NR).

The Pepsi Cup competition is sponsored by Pepsi — the choice of a new generation major supporters of the WAFL



East Perth players were jumping out of their skins when they took on South Fremantle in the opening Pepsi Cup match of the season last Saturday.

In fact, Royals defender Gavin Rose looked as if he was bumping his head on a Pepsi sign at Perth Oval when Westside Football photographer GREG WOOD captured the high flyer attempting this spectacular mark.

Little wonder the athletic Rose has the ability to leap over big South Fremantle forward Stevan Jackson — he is a former State junior high jump champion.



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