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WESTSIDE Football

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THE PEPSI CUP SHOOT-OUT

A FREMANTLE derby grand final — what a way to finish off the WAFL season! Inside this week Westside presents an eight-page lift-out guide to the big game
PLUS ... the West Coast success in Melbourne has put the fear of death into Victorians, who see their beloved premiership trophy heading West. Our writers look at the AFL grand final implications



WESTSIDE Football

OUR FUTURE'S BRIGHT ... so we've got to wear shades

Taking in the view from the front row at Subiaco Oval are a few cool dudes from the West Coast Eagles — complete with their Bolle sunglasses!

The Eagles have their sights set on a grand final rendezvous at the MCG on Saturday week and the players, from left, are Glen Jakovich, Dean Kemp, Dwayne Lamb, Craig Turley and Chris Waterman

It's WAFL grand final time this Saturday and these three men will play a key part.

South Fremantle coach Mal Brown has a word of congratulations for tough Bulldogs skipper Ned Finmano, while East Fremantle's resurrected ruckman Ian Newman has developed into the Super-man of the Pepsi Cup finals series



Don't miss your WAFL premiership T-shirt if your team wins.

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★★★★★

ANGRY SHARKS:
Legal threat to Bulldogs

★★★★★

SUNDAY LEAGUE:
Wanneroo take the flag again



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Footy gossip

It's no rumour ...

FOOTBALL officialdom broke one of their own rules on Saturday — but it's not likely that they will impose a fine on themselves.

A long drawn-out half-time presentation of some junior football awards, followed by a display of Rally Australia cars around the arena — along with the Little League matches — saw the break between the quarters stretch to 25 minutes.

With 20 minutes the time allowed under the laws, the players had to cool their heels for a few extra minutes.

with TANIA ARMSTRONG and ALAN EAST

Draft debate rages

THE never-ending saga about the values, or otherwise, of the AFL draft system raised its head on 6WF's sportshow on Saturday morning.

Compere George Grljusich said it was a 'kick in the guts for WAFL football' when the rules were changed several years back, dropping the three conditions under which players had to qualify on two counts before being eligible for a clearance.

The ABC show suggested an interesting compromise to prevent players being drafted to clubs that they had no desire to play with.

"If players had to nominate themselves to go into the draft, they would then at least have some say over when they wanted to go," said Grljusich.

Tough decisions

STILL with the ABC — you never win if you're in the football media, that's for sure.

In recent weeks the 6WF commentary has opted to stay with the AFL match of the day, in preference to taking the early WAFL final in the double-headers from Subiaco Oval.

Explaining the decision, George Grljusich said the station decided to stay with the game that they felt had the most interest in it.

Last week, they turned away from the AFL first semi-final between Footscray and St Kilda and kicked off with the WAFL preliminary final between East Fremantle and East Perth.

"We made the right decision," said GG during the afternoon. "This is a much better game than the Footscray-St Kilda match."

TV doesn't help

TELEVISION commentators are told not to over-commentate and to let the pictures do the talking ... but Channel 7's team didn't rate all that highly on Sunday.

The nation's No. 1 caller in Perth's Dennis Cometti was joined by Peter Landy for the Geelong-West Coast battle and that team just didn't work.

Landy often called the wrong players and very seldom were the many thousands of viewers in Perth lounge rooms told things they needed to know — such as who was playing on who, what players had been switched around and so forth.

There was always going to be some terrific matchups in the contest, but the television viewer was never told who had lined up on who.

"I think Geelong might have switched wings," was all Landy offered when Sean Simpson was swapped with Paul Riccardi to counter the effect of Peter Matera in the second term.

If not for fleeting glimpses of the centre square, Channel 7 viewers never knew that Chris Mainwaring was switched, to good effect, back onto his wing later in the game.

Big challenge

EAST Fremantle captain Steve Malaxos has faced some tough odds in his time — and there would be few bigger than Saturday's clash with South Fremantle for the fifth time this season.

Having lost all four derby encounters this year, Malaxos says the Sharks might just try something different against their bogey side.

"We tried third time lucky a little while ago and that didn't work, so maybe the fifth time might be it," said Malaxos, after a top preliminary final effort, leading the way from defence.



FOOTY FAN... it takes a fair bit of concentration to do a live television cross from Eagles training to the news when you have critters like this Crazy character around the place. Just ask Channel 9's Mark Readings! But the Peters Crazy Critter found injured Eagle Daniel Metropolis more to his liking, anyway



Pointing the bone

EAGLES ace forward Peter Sumich had a few words to say to some of the team's critics on Radio 6PR last week.

When asked to comment on the Chris Mainwaring drink driving offence, Suma said it was unfortunate that the incident got so much media attention.

"Too many people are interfering in our private lives," said Sumich.

And on the form of Chris Lewis, he added: "I still rate him in the top 20 footballers in the AFL; everyone gets down on form sometime and he'll bounce back."

Exclusive comments

WHILE on the Chris Mainwaring incident, this town's daily media — print and electronic — really went overboard with their coverage last week.

All three commercial stations led their nightly news with his charge and the morning newspaper, The West Australian, gave it front and back page treatment — which meant that it was rated as the most important news item in the world that day!

That saturation coverage was repeated on TV three days later after his court appearance — and surely that's an over-kill for an incident, regrettable as it was, that happens hundreds of times a day to lesser-known mortals.

One interesting aspect of The West's coverage came on Tuesday when they headlined the story 'No word on Mainy' and indicated that no-one in the Eagles camp, Mainwaring especially, was having anything to say.

Yet on Monday evening, Mainwaring had been interviewed extensively about the incident on Channel 7 — where he works — and there were plenty of good quotes coming out of that segment.

Medal bonus

STAUNCH football fan and Midland travel agent Laurie Elliott has thrown his weight behind the Sandover Medal Club.

The former outstanding middle distance runner — and brother to Olympic gold medal 1500-metres champion Herb Elliott — is best known for his pre-season fitness work with Swan Districts teams of old.

His support for the elite Sandover Medal club comes in the form of a trip for two for this year's winner to the AFL grand final, with airfares and accommodation included.

West Perth's Robbie West, who became the 64th person to receive a Sandover Medal, will certainly enjoy the trip back to his home State for the grand final featuring his Eagles squad team-mates.

Shared loyalties

EAST Perth coach Stan Magro had good reason to feel cheated when Matt Clape wasn't needed in West Coast's second semi-final win — and maybe the versatile Eagle would have made up those four points difference between the Royals and East Fremantle.

But Magro appreciated the Eagles situation and added that he knew Clape's heart was with the West Coasters.

"I have lengthy chats with Matt (Clape), Ryan (Turnbull) and Paul (Peos) and I realise that they all want to play AFL," said Magro.

"It was an important game for us and while we would love to have Matt play with us, the Eagles were also going into an important match.

"The three boys spend a lot of time at the club and they also want us to do well."

It was a costly exercise for the Eagles to take Clape, Dean Laidley and Jason Ball to Melbourne as emergencies, but it paid off, with the final 20 in doubt till the team ran onto the MCG.

The fact that star forward Brett Heady didn't make the trip was fairly well known. But the Melbourne rumour mill had him coming over later after sitting for an examination.

Goal for Garrett

IT'S not often you can credit a goal directly to an umpire — apart from the odd bad decision, that is.

But last Saturday, field umpire Trevor Garrett could lay claim to featuring prominently in East Fremantle's ninth goal, brought up by Mark Amaranti.

East Perth had cleared the ball out of defence via Shawn Colbung, but the ball hit Garrett on the leg, bounced into Ian Newman's hands and the big Shark just handballed over to a waiting Amaranti to goal.

With four points the final margin in East Fremantle's favour, no wonder a few Royals fans were a bit annoyed.

Subi fans angry

THE rather sad departure of Subiaco coach Haydn Bunton last week provoked plenty of criticism on talk-back radio — particularly from Lions fans.

But one Swan Districts caller to 6PR's Saturday morning show summed it up by simply saying "I'm disgusted."

Radio 6PR critics Peter Bosustow ('he deserved a lot better') and Mal Brown ('he should get a medal for what he's done') were united in their disappointment at the way the issue had been handled by Subiaco.

"Even if he did get the sack, the club should have made sure that the newspaper wrote it differently," said Brown.

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JO'S OFF TO BALI



Swans fan a winner

BECAUSE Josephine Doolan is a Swan Districts fan, she wasn't paying a lot of attention to the broadcast of last Saturday's preliminary final between East Fremantle and East Perth.

With one ear on the Radio 6PR call of the game, she was relaxing at home in Cloverdale — and nodded off for 40 winks as the game went into the second half.

That meant she missed the big draw in Westside Football's Qantas Bali trip when her coupon was pulled out of the competition barrel by 6PR guest commentator, John O'Connell.

Mrs Doolan was quickly woken out of her litle daze by telephone calls from friends congratulating her on winning a trip for two to Bali, flying Qantas and staying at the Bali Troppo Zone, with George Michalczyk's Motive Travel handling all the arrangements.

Mrs Doolan entered the Eagles Pick-

the-Margin competition every week, but never collected the weekly prize — a fabulous dinner for two at Sardi's, The Place for Ribs, on the South Perth foreshore.

"But this is fabulous, this makes up for missing out," she says. "There were plenty of weeks when I went really close, but I'd be just one point out either way."

The mother of two boys and a girl gave herself plenty of chances by sending a Pick-the-Margin coupon in every week, with all entries received going into the barrel. Ironically, it was one of her early coupons, for the Eagles round 4 clash with Geelong, that came up trumps.



presents

FOCAL POINT

With
KIM
HAGDORN



Sharks threat to bar Bulldogs pair

ALL OUT war erupted in Fremantle this week as tempers flared in rival camps in the lead-up to Saturday's first WAFL derby grand final since the inception of the West Coast Eagles.

Eagles players David Hynes and David Hart are at the centre of an off-field controversy that could end up in court.

East Fremantle are considering taking out an injunction to prevent the pair from playing in the Pepsi Cup grand final.

The Sharks, enraged at a WA Football Commission ruling that declared Hynes and Hart eligible to represent their WAFL club, have confirmed the legal action threat to prevent the pair taking the field.

As Sharks officials pondered what action to take to stop Hynes and Hart playing, rival coaches Mal Brown and Ken Judge engaged in a verbal debate on radio 6PR's Howard Sattler programme on Tuesday.

Brown wanted clarification over whether star Sharks big man Andrew Lockyer was medically fit to play — and that East Fremantle were not putting Souths players at risk legally.

The Bulldogs coach claimed Lockyer suffered concussion in last Saturday's bruising preliminary final against East Perth and, if he played, was in danger of further injury, which could leave South Fremantle and the players liable for damages.

Judge refuted any suggestion that Lockyer was a risk. He declared that the decision to let him play would be made by his club's medical staff.

Sharks president Len Hitchen re-acted angrily to the change of eligibility policy by the WAFC and want the original ruling on Eagles players to stand.

That decision, altering a five-game qualifying rule to allow Eagles players to play in the WAFL finals, carried a "quarantine" clause for team members from Sunday's AFL second semi-final against Geelong.

The Commission deviated from the ruling on Monday, freeing Hynes and Hart to play with Souths.

The change-of-mind cleared the way for Scott Watterson, who has made just two senior team appearances with Souths, to also play in the premiership play-off.

The ruling also means that Peter Wilson and Paul Harding are eligible to play for East Fremantle, but the Eagles have the final say on who will be released. Under those terms, Hart appears likely to be the only one to play, as he continues his recovery from a thigh injury that sidelined him a month ago, before he returned for last Sunday's win over Geelong.

The original rule regarding availability of Eagles players during the WAFL finals, announced in a media release on August 14, stated:

"In the event that the West Coast Eagles win a qualifying final and are granted a bye on one of the AFL finals weekends, the 20 players nominated in the previous week shall be quarantined from WAFL availability."

The Commission last Monday, added the words: "except those players qualified under the five-game rule."

It is this late change that has infuriated Sharks officials.

"We feel the decision is unfair," Hitchen said.

"It's a matter of principle and it's a pity that it gets down to a dispute involving individual players."



FIERCE RIVALS ... the gloves are off as rival Port coaches Mal Brown and Ken Judge shape up for Saturday's grand final

"We feel the decision is wrong and we're not prepared to just let it happen. We're definitely looking at all the rules and it's fair to say we are considering seeking legal advice."

Hitchen and his directors are well-aware of how an anomaly in the WAFL rules played a hand in East Fremantle missing the 1988 grand final.

Star Eagles ruckman Laurie Keene had played just four games with Subiaco, but because he had been 21st man on one West Coast trip east, he was ruled eligible to play in the WAFL finals, after West Coast bowed out with a loss to Melbourne.

The talented big man turned in a blistering preliminary final performance; the Lions knocked the Sharks out of the premiership race and Keene led Subiaco to victory over Claremont with an outstanding individual grand final effort.

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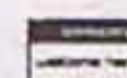
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AFL Cat 'n Dog fight

By

KIM HAGDORN

FOOTSCRAY coach Terry Wheeler would never admit it, but his chances of a grand final showdown with West Coast depend largely on the coaching tricks of his predecessor and fierce rival, Mick Malthouse.

If Wheeler has any intention of a head-to-head with Malthouse in the ultimate final, he will have to take a leaf from his adversary's coaching manual this Saturday.

Wheeler must silence Geelong's big Cats in the MCG preliminary final to have any hope of giving the Bulldogs their first grand final date in 38 years.

Two weeks ago they made the grave error of engaging in a goal-for-goal shoot-out with the big-scoring Cats.

Wheeler can ill-afford to allow his Dogs to engage in another goal-scrap with the Cats. It would surely backfire.

Malthouse, who will be at the MCG on Saturday taking notes, showed with great style last Sunday, how to close down the powerful Cats.

OUTSTANDING

Bill Brownless, Gary Ablett, Michael Mansfield and Barry Stoneham were all outstanding when the Cats obliterated Footscray in the second-half of the qualifying final at the MCG Sunday-week ago.

Brownless, in particular, looms as a giant headache for the Bulldogs.

The brilliant forward kicked a qualifying-final record nine goals against them two weeks ago.

But, with the Malthouse nullifying message ringing loud and clear in the ears of teenage backman Ashley McIntosh, the long-kicking Cat was beaten pointless.

Brownless had just 11 possessions and kicked 2.1 for the day.

Ablett's brilliance was limited by the close-checking John Worsfold and Stoneham was beaten to a pulp by Eagles teenager, Glen Jakovich.

Wheeler took over as Footscray coach after Malthouse left the Dogs and started coaching the Eagles in 1990.

It was under Malthouse, as assistant coach, that the tough former Bulldog player cut his coaching teeth.

And it is no secret that Wheeler was partly behind Malthouse's ultimate fall-out at Footscray, before he searched for greener pastures in the West.

But the outspoken Wheeler, a central figure in the Bulldogs revival as an AFL power, refuses to engage in a verbal shoot-out with, or about, Malthouse on the past.

Footscray's last appearance on the final day in September was in 1954 when the club claimed its only premiership.

The closest the western suburbs club has gone to a grand final appearance since was in 1985 under Malthouse, when Footscray lost the preliminary final to Hawthorn by 10 points.

Wheeler has to try some Malthouse strategy

However, the Bulldogs received a huge confidence boost with their exciting win over St Kilda in last Saturday's first semi-final, when 19-year-old Chris Grant turned in a "Brownless-like" performance, with a five-goal, best-on-ground effort.

The initial challenge Footscray threw at Geelong in the qualifying final, remains an option to Wheeler and his charges.

The Scraggers led Geelong by as 34 points midway through the qualifying final.

Melbourne sidelights with BASIL ZEMPILAS

ESSENDON champion Terry Daniher knows what it takes to win big finals — he played 21 of his 313 games in September and captained the Bombers to flags in 1984-85.

And he was spot-on in picking the reason why the Eagles could win last Sunday's second semi-final.

Writing in Saturday's Herald-Sun, Daniher said the Eagles' chances rested on the shoulders of ace full-forward Peter Sumich.

"He's quick for a big fellow and as well as being a good lead, he's handy when the ball is on the turf," Daniher said.

"You often see him kicking the odd

goal off the ground, or over his shoulder. But I reckon his kicking from set shots can be a bit of a problem, particularly if he misses a couple of goals early.

"He hooks the ball, so it's always coming in across the goal face rather than straight at it, but he still gets plenty," Daniher noted.

Daniher got it right — with Sumich bagging eight goals in the first three quarters.

COLLINGWOOD star Gavin Brown will have surgery on his stomach and a knee before the club embarks on pre-season training for 1993.

The Magpies champion was restricted by torn stomach muscles leading up to the finals, though he played in the elimination final against St Kilda.

Brown is not the only Magpie with a "ticket for the table".

Gary Pert (knee), Doug Barwick (knee), Glen Sandford (groin), Mick

But there is a huge risk element. A big question remains on Footscray's capacity — or any side's — to match the Cats in a goal frenzy.

Defence against Geelong is the only means of survival.

Footscray have the midfield power in Simon Atkins, Tony Liberatore, David Baxter, Steve Kolyniuk, Steve Wallis and Nigel Kellett to match the Cats on-balls.

Closing out their prime-movers in the midfield — Mark Bairstow, Paul Couch, Robert Scott, Peter Riccardi, Sean Simpson, Garry Hocking and Andrew Bews — is the only means of restricting supply to the Cats forwards.

Few of those big name players were sighted in the Eagles efficient and disciplined defensive game last Sunday and the West Coast taggers picked up numerous possessions themselves to feed to the in-form Peter Sumich.

Footscray's only hope of remaining on track to continue their appointment with destiny, is to employ Eagles strategies... even if it does go against Wheeler's grain.

McGuane (groin) and Craig Starcevic (groin) will all be undergoing surgery.

JOHN Worsfold is renowned as one of the toughest defenders in the AFL, but according to Lou Richards he is also one of the meanest.

In his Melbourne newspaper column "Lou's Kiss of Death," Richards said: "The Eagles defence has rarely flinched this season and the bloke who sets the example is one of the toughest nuts in the business, skipper John Worsfold."

"He's so mean I reckon you'd catch him laughing as he let down the tyres on his grandmother's wheelchair!"

FOOTSCRAY were good value with Melbourne bookmaker Norm Short at the weekend, at 13/8 before their good win against the Saints — who were quoted as favourites at 4/9.

Geelong went into the second semi-final as favourites at 8/11, shortening to 1/2, while the Eagles, even money during the week, drifted to 7/4.



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Brownlow to stay in the East

A LATE betting plunge on West Coast Eagles star Dean Kemp is unlikely to take the prestigious Brownlow Medal to Western Australia.

As good as Kemp and team-mate Chris Mainwaring have been this season, neither look like finishing in the top six, in what is shaping as one of the most even Brownlow counts for years.

Victorians are expected to fill the top five places when votes are counted on Monday night.

Since the War, the Victorian domination has been broken by only six players — WA's Graham Moss (1976), Ross Glendinning (1983) and Brad Hardie (1985) and three South Australians — Bernie Smith (1951), Malcolm Blight (1978) and John Platten (1987).

Adelaide's Chris McDermott and Footscray's Scott Wynd have been the centre of the two biggest pre-count plunges — McDermott from 100/1 to 10s and Wynd from 66/1 to 5/2.

McDermott's 336 handballs are unsurpassed this year, while his 384 kicks puts him fourth behind Collingwood's Mick McGuane, Geelong's Mark Bairstow and Fitzroy's Paul Roos at the end of the home-and-away season.

His weekly averages were 17 kicks and 15 handballs — a magnificent individual effort.

Last season he also had some fine games, but polled only two votes.

West Coast's Kemp has had his best year and leads Westside Football's player ratings list, sponsored by the Town & Country Bank.

After Craig Turley's surprise second placing last year, an Eagle top four placing is a possibility.

However, the count appears to be a race-in-five between Footscray pair

Wynd and Tony Liberatore. McGuane, Roos and Hawthorn's Jason Dunstall, who went within five goals of equalling the record for the most goals in a season.

Liberatore, the 1990 winner, has had an even better season this time.

He hasn't missed a match (unlike in '90) and has taken full advantage of the dominating influence of Wynd, the No.1 ruckman in the AFL.

Most of the heavily-fancied chances, bar Roos, will have team-mates taking votes off them.

Dunstall, the AFL Football Writer's Player of the Year, kicked 12 goals or more four times this year. That should guarantee him at least 12 votes. He may get as many as 18-19.

The South Australian likely to poll most votes is Dunstall's team-mate, John Platten, who has again had a mighty season.

Platten polled double figures in each of his first six seasons, winning it in 1987 and finishing runner-up in 1989. He remains one of the most popular players with the umpires, rarely disputing decisions or showing dissent.

Another South Australian, Stephen Kernahan, could finish in the top 10, after kicking more than 80 goals for the first time in his AFL career. However, he's unlikely to be a serious contender, given that he has played at full forward most of the season.

On-ball players have won seven of the last eight Brownlows, the exception being Saint full-forward Tony Lockett in 1987.

Leading media award winners this

year include McGuane, Simon Atkins, Dunstall and Chris Mainwaring.

Wynd had a brilliant start to the year. However, team-mates Liberatore and Atkins have also had magnificent seasons, which may rob him of the votes necessary to win.

Another Brownlow front-liner is St Kilda's Robert Harvey, who had an enormous second half of the season.

"He's got to have a great chance," said experienced utility player Russell Morris. "He's had more kicks and handballs than anyone else since July."

FORMER Claremont premiership player Mark Brayshaw is understood to be one fringe player North Melbourne may use in pre-draft manoeuvring in coming weeks.

He played only occasionally at senior level this year.

THIS week's release of the All Australian team had some notable omissions, but did include both star full forwards, Jason Dunstall, after his career-best 145 goal season and Tony Lockett, who kicked 132.

Dunstall averaged 6.3 goals a game, compared with Lockett's six, including his 4.1 in last Saturday's first semi.

NO wonder sidelined St Kilda captain Danny Frawley was so disappointed on Saturday night.

He had made wonderful progress from an Achilles strain and would have been available to lead the Saints had they won through to the preliminary final.

On the East Coast with **KEN PIESSE**



AUSTRALIAN cricketer Tony Dode-maide, in a forthcoming diary article for *Cricketer* magazine, says an Australian Rules footie was a constant companion on the recent tour of Sri Lanka.

He writes: "The locals don't know what to make of these grown men running into each other and occasionally screaming 'Ablett!'"

GERARD Healy, Channel Seven's hard-hitting celebrity commentator, was scathing in his criticism of St Kilda after Saturday's first semi-final.

He claimed four or five of St Kilda's side were "simply not up to it" and would need to be replaced if St Kilda was to continue its improvement and advance any further than its 1992 finishing place of fourth.

"I was surprised to again see Craig Devonport start in defence, when to me, he's a natural forward," he said.

"Many say he adds bite and wins a lot of the ball down back, but to be more successful in that area, he needs to lift his work-rate and be a little more disciplined.

"The 50-metre penalty he conceded in the first five minutes on Saturday was a shocker.

"He looked much better when shifted to the forward line later in the match — as occurred against Collingwood the previous Saturday.

"He has the ability to kick goals consistently and is far more prolific than someone like Gilbert McAdam who is worse than 50-50 from set shots and Dale Kickett, who is also very 'iffy' and loses the ball by not taking the first option."

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WHAT a great — yet terrible — position to be in.

To go straight into an AFL grand final with a week's break is all that a team could want, under normal circumstances.

For the West Coast Eagles it provides two weeks to get over injuries and plenty of time to plan for the match.

But the way the Eagles demolished Geelong, who had slaughtered Footscray the previous week, creates a feeling that the Eagles merely have to turn up at the MCG on September 26 to win the premiership.

DEVASTATING

If they don't win, it will have a shattering effect on those supporters who, unrealistically, won't hear of the Eagles being beaten — that would be much more devastating than last year.

I am amazed at the attitude of many West Aussies. There is an undesired cockiness pervading the community following the Eagles win over Geelong.

In some respects it has put enormous pressure on coach Mick Malthouse.

He's going to be either tasting champagne or vinegar. There will be no in-between because of last year's grand final hiding.

If the Eagles win the premiership, then there will be those happy to give them the keys to WA.

If they lose again, there will be those who say Malthouse got the Eagles into the grand final in successive years, but couldn't win them a premiership.

Eagles will be heroes or villains

The whole situation is unreal, because of the high expectations for the Eagles.

Last year they went into the grand final as underdogs. This year they are odds-on favourites to win.

The Eagles won't have an easy ride in the grand final.

PERSPECTIVE

Hopefully, supporters will get the match in perspective.

Here are the Eagles, only six years into the AFL and seemingly on the verge of winning a premiership.

Yet the other two teams still in the premiership race have done it tough for longer than they care to remember.

It has been almost 30 years since Geelong won the flag, while Footscray have only one premiership to their name, back in 1954.

Making a grand final doesn't guarantee a premiership.

The fact that the Eagles have been able to get there in successive years in such a short time says a lot about the calibre of the team.

While it would be great to win a premiership, the Eagles should not be condemned if they fail.

Straight Shooting

with ROBERT BENNETT of the Sunday Times



Who knows, if they don't win the flag, in time some may say it was a golden period for the Eagles because they were able to get to the preliminary final and two grand finals in three years.

Despite being beaten comfortably last week, Geelong showed they could turn the tables should they meet in the grand final.

If Gary Ablett had been on target in the third term, when he had the Eagles defence on the run, the result could have been different.

And will Peter Sumich be able to blitz the opposition again in the grand final?

If the Eagles grand final opponent is Footscray, it's well to remember that they not only beat the Eagles last time they met, but have even more incentive than the Eagles to win the flag — 38 years without a premiership is a long time.

There are so many "ifs," but to make the grand final two years in a row is a tremendous effort.

Their performance should be judged in that light. A premiership will be a bonus.

WAFL derby calms Eagles hype

THE focus on the WAFL derby grand final this weekend could be the best thing that has happened to the West Coast Eagles this season.

Obviously, the Eagles played magnificently last Sunday to earn a place in their second consecutive grand final and the break will do them good.

But the attention the derby grand final has created will aid coach Mick Malthouse, who is desperate to play down the special significance of the match.

That's understandable because the Eagles are in a unique situation with almost an entire State behind them. It's easy to cast players in the mould of superstars, often prematurely.

It is only natural for the football public to adore the men who fly the WA football flag each weekend of the winter.

But this week, at least, football will focus on the WAFL.

While it was sad to see East Perth bow out after such a great run during the previous month, a derby grand final provides the WAFL with the perfect climax.

And early in the week there was some good old-fashioned football talk among the two Fremantle clubs.

East Fremantle thought the WAFL Commission had done an about-face on the eligibility of Eagles players, but declared they would win the game anyway.

The rival camps were at each other early and that helped fuel the rivalry between two of the great clubs of the WAFL.

It should be a tremendous game, even if the Bulldogs go in as strong favourites.

As Mick Malthouse says, who cares about odds in football betting. All that matters is the winning and losing and on the day. As we have seen in both the WAFL and AFL this season, any team is capable of beating their opponents.

South easily accounted for East Fremantle in the second semi-final to earn the week's rest, but one must wonder whether that will work against them.

They are a very young side and there must be a worry that the youngsters might have gone off the boil in the last week and some of them might have trouble recapturing the form which carried them to the grand final.

Winning four derbies in the season could also be a trap, lulling the Bulldogs in a false sense of security.

One thing is certain — the Sharks will not surrender meekly.

CHARACTER

They had to earn another crack at the Bulldogs by disposing of the determined and emotion-charged East Perth and will be anxious to restore some pride to Fremantle derbies.

East Fremantle showed a lot of character to fight back against South Fremantle in the second semi-final and again in the preliminary final against the Royals and that must give them some confidence going.

To win, everything must fall into place, but bigger upsets have occurred in previous grand finals.

Souths must be favoured to win when everything is considered and coach Mal Brown will know how to address the perils of a young team having the week off.

Much will depend on the form of

some of the exciting young talent in the Bulldogs kennel, with Jason Spinks, Warren Campbell, Ashley Clementi, Michael Dunstan and Russell Williams needing to shoulder a great deal of responsibility.

TAKING STOCK

with GARY STOCKS of The West Australian



In the rival camp, the onus will fall on some of the experienced players with Peter Quill, Neil Lester-Smith, Andrew Lockyer and Steve Malaxos required to repeat the effort they put in last week.

Time was up for Bunton

By TANIA ARMSTRONG



HOW long is too long for a coach?

The departure of Haydn Bunton from Subiaco last week probably was inevitable, considering the lifespan of a football coach.

He had been at the club nine years — a long time in anyone's language.

But after five grand finals and two premierships it could have been — and should have been — handled better by the Lions.

Even Bunton admits his time was up.

After watching his team bow out in the elimination final with a forgettable performance against East Perth, he knew it was time to move on.

S-W TEAM

Bunton's name being linked with a possible coaching job with the proposed South-West team did not help preparations for that match.

Speaking out the day after his departure, Bunton said he knew he had been at Subiaco Oval too long.

"When they have heard it all before and they don't respond to your ideas any more, I guess it's time," he said.

"Guys like Rod Willet, John Georgiades and Ian Dargie have been there as long as I have and they could do with a change.

"A change in personnel can sometimes lift a club."

Subiaco general manager Alan White defended the club's action on radio.

"A breath of fresh air was required and Haydn wanted a change also," he said.

"The use of the words dumping and sacking were not acceptable. They didn't deserve to be used in conjunction with Haydn's departure.

"It was unfortunate terminology, but the words 'new era' and 'amicable parting' don't sell newspapers."

Bunton needed a new challenge and should have had the opportunity to step down in the same way Allan Jeans left Hawthorn.

After seven years at Melbourne, John Northey also has opted for a new challenge, which he hopes he will find at Richmond.

Some players respond to change and fresh ideas and that is what Subiaco are looking for. Others respond to uniformity.

Some coaches use the same training drills forever and find success, but others try to introduce a mixture of the new and the old.

It comes back to one thing — the motivation by the coach and Haydn Bunton had tried every means.



HAYDN BUNTON . . . "I guess it's time".



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Melbourne Calling



AFL race comes down to big three

THE AFL premiership race is down to three clubs — Footscray, Geelong and, of course, West Coast.

Now is an ideal opportunity to discuss each of the team's strengths and weaknesses in the lead-up to the final two matches of 1992.

Footscray are a very close-knit club — which is partly due to the fact that just two years ago they were facing extinction.

They really have no single player in the superstar category. However, they have won many matches this season on sheer determination.

They seem to stick to basic football fundamentals, they punch from behind, play in front in the forward line and run in numbers to assist team-mates in every contest.

TOP RUCKMAN

Scott Wynd's brilliance in the ruck is important, as he can give first use of the ball to the creative Simon Atkins and Brownlow Medallist Tony Liberatore.

Chris Grant, in the forward line, is also coming into good form and will create headaches for his opponents.

BEN ALLAN, the West Aussie who won Hawthorn's club champion award in last year's premiership-winning team, writes from Melbourne exclusively for Westside Football

Geelong rely on their obvious star-studded forward line to kick a winning score.

Forwards of the calibre of Barry Stoneham, Gary Ablett and Billy Brownless can rarely be kept out of business for an entire match.

West Coast's advantage over both the Bulldogs and the Cats rests with their midfield taggers.

These players have the ability to negate their opposition to few possessions and, in turn, become valuable players.

In much the same way as basketball teams transform a defensive play into a counter-attack, the Eagles running players can restrict and pressure opponents, force a turnover and create scoring opportunities.

In short, they can, with equal efficiency, attack or defend and now do so instinctively.

The Eagles have the luxury of sitting back to work out their best possible combination for their grand final opponents — either Footscray or Geelong.

You can bet your bottom dollar their midfield players will play an important role in the outcome of the final match of 1992.

Defeat... it's hard to take



Loyal Royal **ALAN EAST** looks at life after a losing finals match

HOW are you supposed to feel when your team bows out of the finals race, just one straight kick short of a victory that would have given them a grand final appearance?

Tough question, especially when their last grand final was 1978 and the memories are starting to dim — 14 years without a real crack at a flag means you have to be dedicated.

But for those hardened East Perth fans who made up the majority of the 12,500 crowd at Subiaco Oval on Saturday, the four-point loss produced mixed feelings.

While victory would have been tremendous, you knew deep down that they had done well; they had given it their best shot and just fallen short. It was better than you could have expected, especially with the memory of that second-last qualifying game loss to Subiaco, when the performance was lamentable.

Things clicked much better with a nerve-wracking win over Perth to claim a finals spot, followed by an upset elimination final victory over Subiaco to reverse that earlier result and then a dour, gritty first semi win against tough rivals Swan Districts.

The fans were in front at that stage (especially the betting ones) and belief was there... a grand final appearance was a real possibility.

It's easy to be a one-eyed supporter, even after 20 years in the media reporting football; the feeling for that original team doesn't go away.

The memories of being caught climbing the Perth Oval fence to see Polly Farmer play in his debut year of 1953 are always there.

DEDICATED STAFF

But those feelings are mixed in the rooms after the preliminary final loss; what do you say to a group of gutsy players who have just lost by one straight kick? You look dejectedly at other dedicated supporters, coaching staff, support people — some of them still going about their business of icing the wounds regardless of the result.

Coach Stan Magro walks from player to player, a handshake, a quiet word of thanks, a pat on the head. Very few recipients respond, they probably don't even notice who it is. But there's no going back, no matter how hard you try, those last couple of tense minutes cannot be reversed. The chances that went begging, the missed shots at goals, the free kicks that could have been there... all thoughts flowing through a mind that's very close to being blanked right out.

There's still a visit to be made to the winner's rooms by this critic; a few words of congratulations to coach Ken Judge, a couple of quotes from some weary, but happy players. Well done to Neil Lester-Smith, a man who has destroyed your team so many times before; to Peter Davidson, who is nursing a couple of injuries that dampen his enthusiasm.

You look around the room and feel some sense of enjoyment on behalf of players you admire.

So it's back to the club, the final farewells; the accolades flow to everyone, the players, officials, support staff, the behind-the-scenes people, the office staff and even the club's loyal major sponsor, Brian Hayward, whose firm Centre Ford has just celebrated its 10th year at Perth Oval.

They are all called up to the stage by coach Magro, whose throaty voice gets through a long list of thank-yous. The strains of East Perth echo across the packed room.

Anna Magro grabs the microphone before husband Stan can say his official thank-you to his right-hand woman; she breaks the room up with her "behind every good man, there's a good woman" line and the females get their cheers.

"You see him more than I do, I hope you realise," she tells the crowd.

So was it all worthwhile? Sometimes you think it's better to lose by 24 points than four — but then you look back and remember that you were only a straight kick away from that elusive grand final.

There's two great things about football — if you lose on a Saturday afternoon, there's always next week to atone. When you run out of next weeks, it's just a matter of waiting till next year.

Roll on March, '93

AFL LEADING GOALKICKERS

Player (Club)	Score	Game	Year	Aver
Jason Dunstall (Hawthorn)	145.84	6.3	1991	6.3
Tony Lockett (St Kilda)	132.58	6.0	1991	6.0
Stephen Kernahan (Carlton)	83.50	3.8	1991	3.8
Peter Samich (Eagles)	76.45	4.2	1991	4.2
Bill Brownless (Geelong)	71.39	3.2	1991	3.2
Danny Del'Be (Footscray)	68.35	3.2	1991	3.2
Gary Ablett (Geelong)	65.51	3.4	1991	3.4
John Longmire (North Melbourne)	64.37	3.2	1991	3.2
Simon Minton-Connell (Swans)	60.42	3.8	1991	3.8
Paul Salmon (Essendon)	59.23	3.1	1991	3.1
Richard Osborne (Fitzroy)	58.43	3.6	1991	3.6
Peter Daicos (Collingwood)	52.31	2.7	1991	2.7
Scott Hodges (Adelaide)	48.19	3.7	1991	3.7
Chris Grant (Footscray)	48.28	2.1	1991	2.1
Wayne Carey (Nth Melb.)	46.32	2.2	1991	2.2
Stewart Loewe (St Kilda)	45.53	2.0	1991	2.0
Jeff Hogg (Richmond)	45.22	2.5	1991	2.5
David Strooper (Sydney Swans)	44.33	2.0	1991	2.0
John Hutton (Brisbane)	43.15	2.4	1991	2.4
Robert Scott (Geelong)	42.20	1.9	1991	1.9
Brian Royal (Footscray)	42.22	2.6	1991	2.6
Darren Whieldon (Fitzroy)	41.31	2.1	1991	2.1
Allen Jakovich (Melbourne)	40.37	3.6	1991	3.6
Paul Hudson (Hawthorn/DI)	39.39	2.0	1991	2.0
Doug Hawkins (Footscray)	39.19	1.8	1991	1.8
Paul Brown (Geelong)	37.27	1.5	1991	1.5
Steven Kolyniak (Footscray)	35.31	1.8	1991	1.8
Mark Bairstow (Geelong)	33.22	1.5	1991	1.5
Barry Stoneham (Geelong)	32.17	1.6	1991	1.6
Darren Bewick (Essendon)	32.28	1.6	1991	1.6
Garry Lyon (Melbourne)	30.14	1.9	1991	1.9
Darren Jarman (Hawthorn)	30.30	1.3	1991	1.3
Craig Devonport (St Kilda)	29.31	1.4	1991	1.4
Steven Jackson (Richmond)	29.14	1.5	1991	1.5
Saverio Rocca (Collingwood)	29.20	2.9	1991	2.9

FORM GUIDES



AFL

FOOTSCRAY: W(27), W(32), L(22), W(45), W(39), b, W(56), L(59), W(42), W(27), W(34), W(62), W(107), L(16), L(9), W(87), W(13), L(16), W(46), W(47), b, L(82), W(30), L(57), L(61), W(29)
GEELONG: L(20), L(8), W(126), W(24), b, W(98), W(164), W(123), W(57), L(15), W(31), W(28), W(77), W(75), W(9), L(19), W(73), W(82), L(19), b, W(52), W(93), L(91), W(46), W(61), L(38)
ST KILDA: W(17), L(32), L(33), W(10), W(20), L(8), W(74), W(60), b, W(108), L(3), W(1), W(53), W(49), W(8), L(28), L(13), W(66), W(75), W(17), L(35), L(16), W(15), b, W(8), L(29)
WEST COAST: b, L(3), W(33), L(24), d, W(1), L(20), W(59), W(24), W(40), b, W(44), L(1), W(14), W(75), W(22), W(53), L(66), W(22), W(131), W(20), W(30), L(30), W(33), W(13), W(38)

WAFL

EAST FREM: L(38), L(7), W(20), W(37), W(52), W(73), W(17), W(89), L(20), W(2), W(21), W(1), W(23), L(23), W(45), L(42), W(52), W(53), L(4), L(33), W(84), L(25), W(4)
EAST PERTH: L(8), W(33), W(25), W(10), L(52), L(15), W(42), W(48), L(70), L(41), W(10), L(1), W(12), L(22), W(12), L(25), L(16), L(43), W(4), L(79), W(12), W(85), W(9), L(4)
SOUTH FREM: W(32), W(7), L(25), W(46), W(73), L(15), W(30), L(13), W(20), W(41), L(25), W(41), W(8), L(49), W(32), W(42), W(16), L(3), W(28), W(47), L(39), W(92), W(25)

W-Win
L-Loss
b-bye
d-draw
 (figures in brackets represent winning/losing margins)

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TANIA ARMSTRONG	157	Geelong	South Fremantle
ROBERT BENNETT	166	Geelong	South Fremantle
PETER BOSUSTOW	166	Geelong	South Fremantle
BRUCE BUTLER	170	Geelong	South Fremantle
ALAN EAST	165	Footscray	East Fremantle
KIM HAGDORN	160	Geelong	East Fremantle
IAN MILLER	160	Geelong	South Fremantle
KEN PIESSE	165	Geelong	South Fremantle
GARY STOCKS	160	Geelong	South Fremantle
MOST FAVOURED	158	Geelong	South Fremantle



Reckon you're as good as the experts.



IT'S something only a Melburnian could truly understand — but the Western suburbs inferiority complex that has tormented the dogged Footscray Football Club for so long, has finally been lifted.

Critics of the Scraggers, of which there are plenty, have been as consistent in their questioning of Footscray's ability as the Bulldogs have been in proving them wrong.

Despite occupying a place in the AFL top three for the entire season, many people still doubted whether Footscray were a genuine finals threat.

Those critics have surely been silenced now.

The boys from the Western Oval are still in the hunt for the premiership flag, having survived till the second-last football week in September.

With their level of enthusiasm, professionalism and, above all, fierce pride in the club at an all-time high, Footscray look capable of not only playing in, but also winning, the grand final.

The 'Dogs are on a roll, their confidence is high and they are looking mighty dangerous.

And what are the reasons for this dramatic rise to super-team status?

SIMPLE ANSWER

The answer is simple — Terry Wheeler.

Wheeler is confident, composed and, most importantly, charismatic and the fact he has been able to instil those qualities into his players is a major reason for Footscray's dynamic charge to the top.

"When we came in six goals up at half-time, with the work that had been done during the week and the response that was given by the players, I just knew that we were going to win," a confident Wheeler said after Footscray's demolition of St Kilda.

Wheeler, who played 157 games with the club, from 1974 to '83, is obviously enjoying the success; it's always sweeter after you have tasted defeat — and that's something the 37-year-old and his team have both endured.

"We know how tough it is at the bottom, we know what it's like down there and that's why I'm not allowing

From the depths of despair come the battlin' Bulldogs

By **BASIL ZEMPLAS**

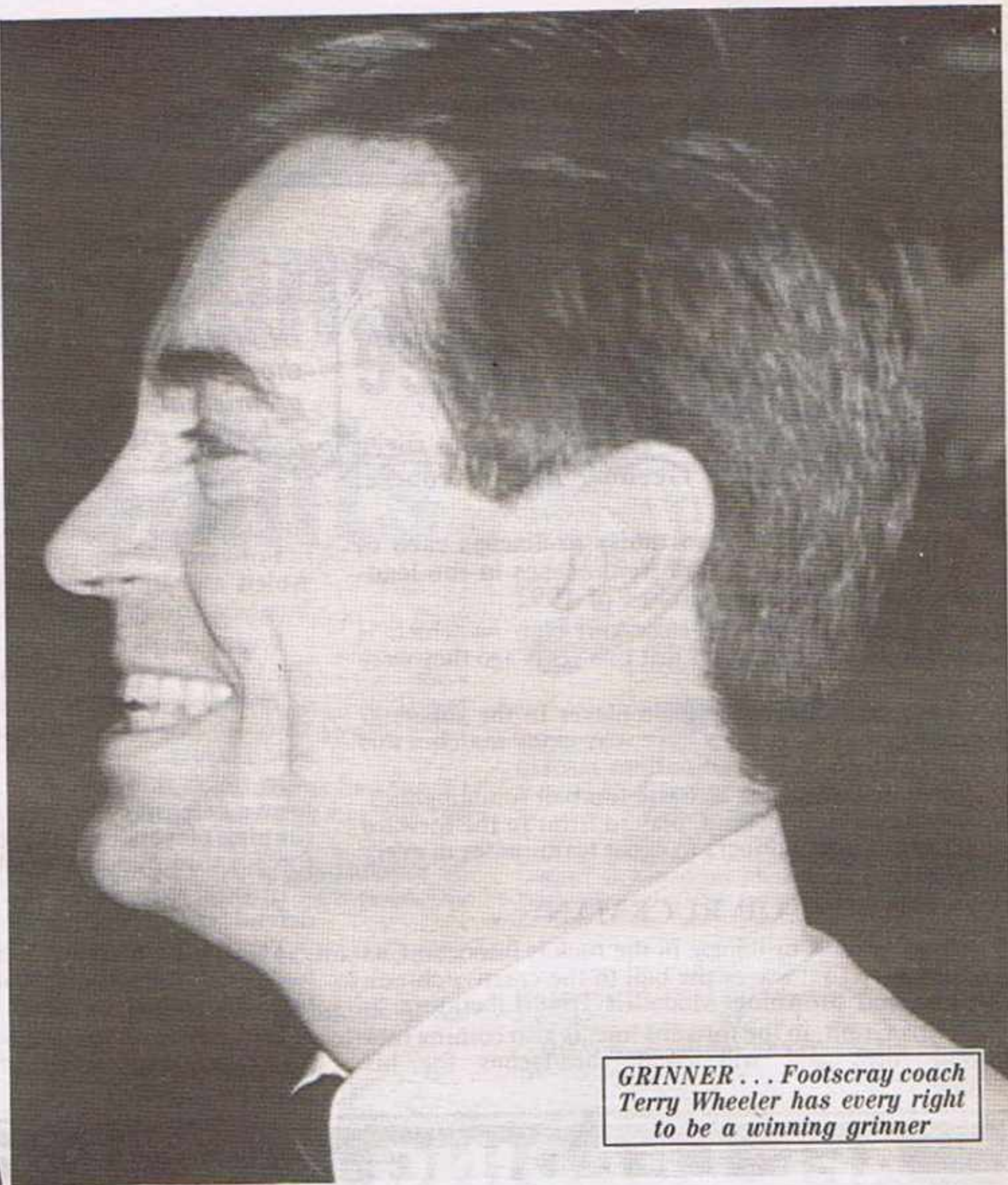


anything to distract me or my players away from the task ahead, because it wasn't fun down there," Wheeler said.

And with that, Wheeler has set himself and his team for the top.

"We can beat both of them," he said in discussing the prospect of playing either Geelong or West Coast in the next two weeks.

For those that know Wheeler, Footscray's success and growing confidence is not surprising.



GRINNER... Footscray coach Terry Wheeler has every right to be a winning grinner

At sunrise on Australia Day earlier this year, when Footscray placed their flag at the top of Mount Bogong, the highest point in Victoria, Wheeler's message that the sky was the limit started to get through.

REAL CHANGE

"There was a real change in the way the players viewed Footscray, viewed themselves and viewed their teammates," Wheeler said.

When Wheeler was asked the inevitable 'how does it feel to be in a preliminary final' his answer was business-like.

"As a coach you get to a stage where it just becomes a job, you lose the euphoria of wins in these situations until you get the job done," he said.

"I think I'm beginning to see how coaches can become social outcasts."

His counterpart on Saturday, Ken Sheldon, probably understood better than anyone what Wheeler was talking about.

Visibly upset with his team's performance, Sheldon was glowing in his praise of Footscray.

"They really showed us how to play finals football," he said. "If they are prepared to take that level of enthusiasm and commitment to the MCG, they are capable of going all the way."

Sheldon, with one year of his contract to run, now faces the task of regrouping and re-assessing his team's strengths and weaknesses before starting next year's campaign.

"As a club, we have improved, we got to fourth on the ladder, after finishing fifth last year and today we were beaten by a side that were in the top three all year."

Sheldon hit the nail on the head; Footscray have been there all year — the club is oozing enthusiasm and they are armed and ready to destroy, once and for all, the hoodoos and lack of success that has plagued the working-class side of town for decades.

Souths are bookies favourite

SOUTH Fremantle will start Saturday's WAFL grand final as odds-on favourites.

The Bulldogs are 2/1-on to win their 11th premiership.

East Fremantle are 13/8 to take the local title for the 27th time.

Local sports betting bookmaker Keith Nixon has also declared Geelong, losers to West Coast in last Sunday's AFL second semi-final, as odds-on to beat Footscray at the MCG in Saturday's preliminary final.

The Cats are 7/4 on to win and claim a re-match with the Eagles for this year's premiership.

Footscray are 6/4 to win and qualify for their first grand final in 38 years.

The Eagles have stormed into favouritism to win the AFL flag after their impressive second semi-final victory.

West Coast are at 6/4 on, with Geelong 7/4 and Footscray 5/1.

Nixon quotes three eastern states players as equal favourites to win the Brownlow Medal on Monday night. Fitzroy captain Paul Roos, Footscray ruckman Scott Wynd and Collingwood follower Mick McGuane are all 4/1 to win the coveted award.

Hawthorn full-forward Jason Dun-

stall is 6/1, St Kilda mid-fielder Robert Harvey 8/1 along with Adelaide captain Chris McDermott.

Others in the market are: Ken Hinkley (Geelong) 14/1; Simon Atkins (Footscray), Stewart Loewe and Mil Hanna (Carlton) 20/1; Derek Kickett (Essendon) 25/1 and others, 33/upwards.

Keith Nixon Sport operates at Gloucester Park on Friday afternoons

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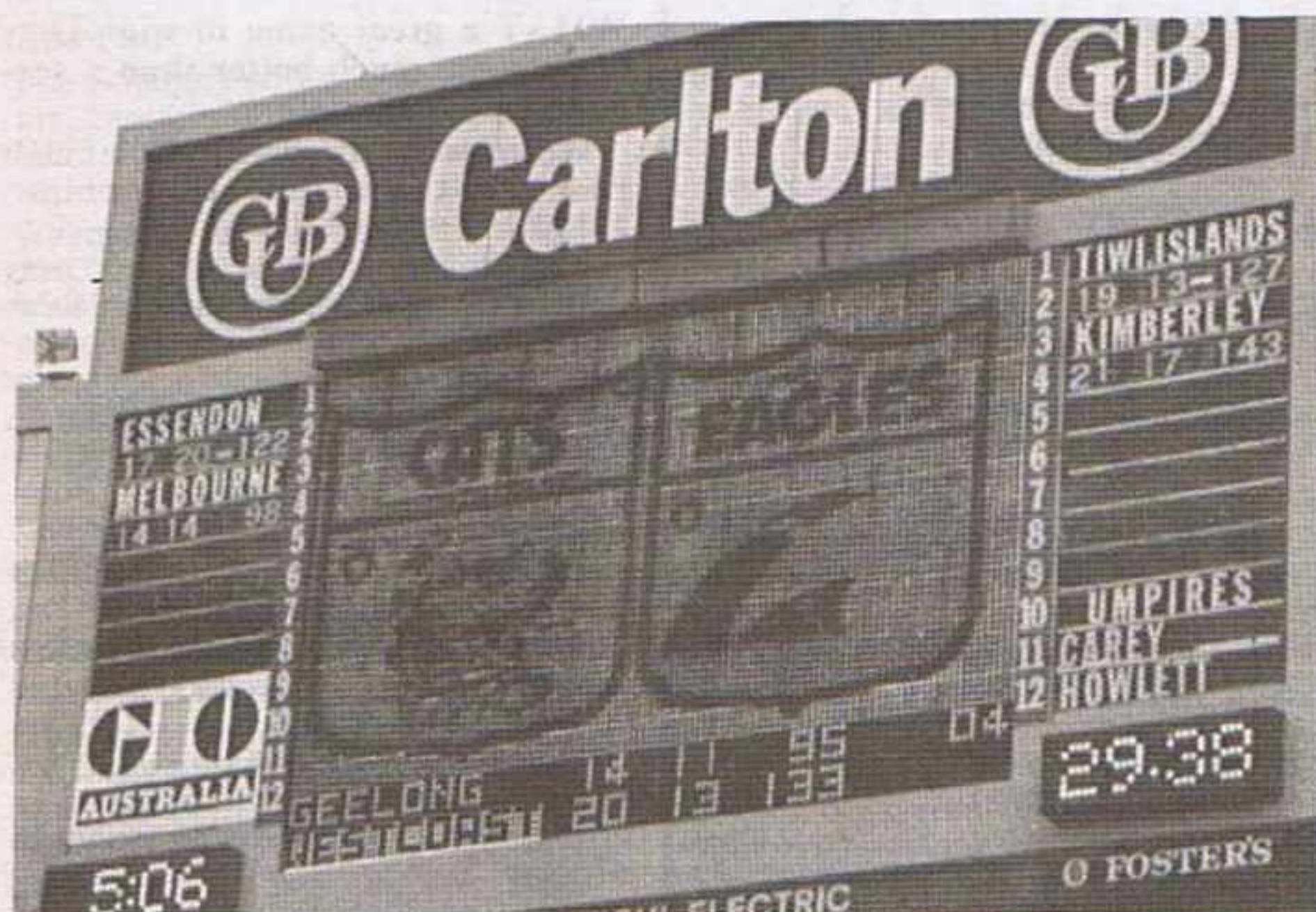
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Two one-eyed views about those mighty Eagles

Our boys ready for the Big One

By
BASIL
ZEMPILAS



PRINT-OUT... the MCG scoreboard is frozen in time as it tells the final story on Sunday

ONE to go — that was the theme echoing around the Eagles changerooms after they demoralised Geelong in the second semi-final at the MCG on Sunday.

This combination, with no disrespect to last season's campaigners, has grown up immensely in terms of ability to handle finals football.

The Eagles were well aware that a win over Geelong would secure a berth in their second grand final, unlike last season when playing in an AFL grand final fulfilled most of their footballing ambitions. This year they knew that the game had to be won.

The players' attentions are focused on the big one and no amount of finals hype is going to distract them from the task at hand.

COMPLIMENTS

Ashley McIntosh, in response to compliments for destroying Bill Brownless and curbing the influence of Gary Ablett, summed up the mature outlook of his team-mates when he said: "Yeah, I went OK, but there's one more to go."

And with that McIntosh proved that if the Eagles lose this year's grand final it certainly won't be complacency that beats them.

After the semi-final the mood in the changerooms suggested that bigger things were looming. The Eagles just might have delivered a day to remember, but it was comforting from a supporter's point of view to know that the best was yet to come.

"That win was one of our greatest, I suppose, because it means we go through to the grand final," skipper John Worsfold said.

"Grand finals are very tough to get into so while we are happy with today's win, we really have to forget about it and focus on the big one."

"We will be aiming to play at our very best regardless of who we play, because we know that if we deliver our best we will win."

At the after-match celebrations and on the plane home, the Eagles, who could have been forgiven for wanting to enjoy their win, concentrated on what lay ahead.

Every player spoken to came up with the same: "Today doesn't matter, it's the next one that counts."

Chris Lewis and Craig Turley, two of the Eagles stars, have not had the best of seasons. But as if on cue, they produced when it counted and with that the Eagles chain has no missing links.

Lewis thanked his team-mates for their support, then in the same breath reaffirmed the commitment that bonded the group.



ONE-EYED... there was no mistaking the loyalty of this fan

"I'd like to thank the boys for putting up with everything that's been going on, we all know there's one more to go and that's the one that counts," he said at the post-match celebrations.

Perhaps even the supporters have grown up, to the point where they are ready to comply with coach Mick Malthouse's request for space.

On their return to Perth early Monday morning, the fans who had ventured out to welcome home their heroes, were much smaller in number — though not in voice — than the crowds of the previous year.

Everything seems perfect — no major injury worries, they have a week off and the finals atmosphere is alive, yet subdued.

The team has learnt from last year, they are more experienced — more aware of the enormity of the task and more single-minded in their longing for the big one.

The Eagles are on the verge of creating history. They WILL win the grand final because they are so fanatical about making sure the job gets done.

In the process they will take every West Australian to the top with them, making them swell with pride and grateful that we are so privileged to have this team as our own.

Go boys, go — we are riding with you to glory!



Eaglemania plunges Vics into depression

Victorians are suffering from a new disease — and it comes from the West. The fear of losing their premiership cup to outsiders has reached paranoia level. TANIA ARMSTRONG has a parochial look at the AFL grand final

WHILE Eaglemania is sweeping through WA, try to imagine the panic that is gripping Victorians by the throat.

The distinct possibility of the AFL cup heading West will be starting to sink in after Sunday's win by the Eagles over Geelong.

Leading the sports pages of The Australian on Monday morning was the headline "Victorians facing their worst football nightmare: AFL flag heading West."

Michael Davis's match report began: "Parochial Victorians can brace themselves for their worst possible scenario — the Australian Football League 1992 premiership cup heading across the Nullarbor."

This is just what VFL supporters feared when the Eagles and the Brisbane Bears were admitted to their competition in 1987.

But a polished performance by Footscray or Geelong in Saturday's preliminary final will give the "home of football" new hope.

It is with this team that all Victorian hopes will be pinned. Not since Hawthorn last year will a team have more support.

The scenario is the ultimate in irony for the Geelong Football Club.

The boys from Sleepy Hollow will be seen as the saviours of Victorian football if they make it through to the

grand final.

Only three seasons ago, a premiership to Geelong would have been frowned on because the cup would have left Melbourne.

Club loyalties will be momentarily forgotten as Melburnians unite to keep the AFL cup in its rightful place — in Victoria.

While the Eagles carry the hopes of WA on their shoulders, imagine the pressure on their rivals.

No club wants to be known as the first to lose a grand final to the Eagles.

If that support lifts Geelong or Footscray over the line, even traditional football lovers in Victoria know that they are only prolonging the inevitable — that the cup one day will head West or North.

To make matters worse, the Eagles have the audacity to be showing up for their second successive grand final.

That is a "right" most recently reserved for the giants, Hawthorn, Carlton and Essendon.

One day the Eagles — or another interstate club — will lift the holy grail from the hallowed offices of the MCG in a feat akin to unbolting the America's Cup from its stand at the New York Yacht Club in 1983.

If it does happen this year, Victorians will have one consolation... at least Eagles coach Mick Malthouse learnt his craft in the East.

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WESTSIDE FOOTBALL — Thursday SEPTEMBER 17, 1992 — Page 9

Max Heiden's
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presents

Milestone Men

50 GAMES

- 49 Eric Maroni (East Perth)
 - 49 Stephen Eaton (Swans)
 - 49 Jeremy Silcock (East Perth)
 - 48 Brian Sutherland (Claremont)
 - 47 Shane Renfree (Perth)
 - 47 Ashley Flugge (South Frem)
 - 45 Stephen Pears (Perth)
 - 45 David Ogg (Swans)
 - 44 Adam Clark (Claremont) *
 - 44 Matthew Burton (Subiaco)
- * Denotes the tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Adam Clark 39 Claremont, 5 East Perth.

100 GAMES

- 97 Peter Wilson (East Frem)
 - 97 Ian Dargie (Subiaco)
 - 96 Mark Hepburn (Eagles) *
 - 95 Bret Hutchinson (Subiaco)
 - 93 Mick Grasso (Swans)
 - 91 Brett Heady (Eagles) *
 - 91 Tony Begovich (Claremont)
 - 90 John MacDonald (South Frem)
- * Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Mark Hepburn 13 Eagles, 56 North Melbourne, 15 Claremont, 12 South Fremantle; Brett Heady 56 Eagles, 35 Subiaco.

150 GAMES

- 146 John O'Sullivan (East Frem) *
 - 146 Andrew Lockyer (East Frem) *
- * Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: John O'Sullivan 133 East Fremantle, 13 Central District; Andrew Lockyer 68 East Fremantle, 78 Eagles.

200 GAMES

- 196 Michael Brennan (Eagles) *
- * Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Michael Brennan 119 Eagles, 77 East Fremantle.

250 GAMES

- 238 Phil Narkle (Swans) *
- * Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Phil Narkle 172 Swans, 18 Eagles, 48 St Kilda.

300 GAMES

- 298 Darrell Panizza (Claremont) *
- * Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Darrell Panizza 224 Claremont, 74 Woodville.

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**Team-mates win
Matera praise**

EAGLES speedster Peter Matera might have played the game of his life against Geelong, but he was quick to congratulate his team-mates on a fine performance.

"It's great to see the boys fire up for a game like this," he said after the match which saw him collect 30 kicks in an electrifying display.

"We're really glad to be there and now we'll just work on getting ready for the grand final."

Matera's emphasis on the all-round team performance was echoed by coach Mick Malthouse when he spoke to the press after the match.

"Today, the players who you blokes may not give your votes to, did a very important job for us."

**Goal-kicking
net spreads**

EAGLES forward Karl Langdon may not have spent too much time on the field after receiving a knee injury, but he paid tribute to the work of his fellow forwards and the 13 players who had shots at goal.

"The boys did tremendously well," said Langdon, now battling to prove his fitness for the grand final.

"Geelong are a very talented side, but we pressed them hard and exploited their backline."

While Peter Sumich was always going to be a handful for the Geelong defenders, the absence of Brett Heady had many fans wondering where the rest of the Eagles goals would come from.

They needn't have worried as only those players buried deep in defence missed out on adding to the score card.

Guy McKenna chipped in with his second goal of the season when he followed his opponent down field in the final term to kick the Eagles third goal of the quarter.

Chris Mainwaring also kicked two of the best goals of his career when snaps in the first and final terms sent the Cats defence reeling.

**Food for
thought**

DID you know that Eagles skipper John Worsfold gets his toughness from roast lamb? Or that Michael Brennan just can't go past a big steak cooked in red wine?

Well, they are just two of the interesting facts to come out of a new recipe book which reveals all about what your favourite Eagles and WAFL players like to eat.

The book, at \$10 a copy, contains 196 recipes and photographs and has been put together by football fan, Yvonne Malcolm.

It is dedicated to the memory of her three-month-old son Lloyd, who died from SIDS (Cot Death) in 1988 and all proceeds will go to the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Foundation.

The book is available at Subiaco Oval throughout the WAFL finals series, or copies may be purchased by sending \$13 (including postage) to SIDS Foundation, 33 Sixth Avenue, Kensington, 6151.

**Pain doesn't
stop Woosha**

WHEN John Worsfold ran on to the MCG with his left thigh heavily strapped, it was obvious he was going to play under duress, but nothing was going to stand between him and another crack at an AFL premierships.

"We've made it again and after last year's loss, we're ready to get a better result," said Worsfold.

And his thoughts on the grand final?

"We're fit and ready to go."

'Cats back Eagles

THE Perth Wildcats were quick to put their woes behind them when they went into the MCG rooms to congratulate the Eagles on their second semi-final win.

Looking down the barrel after a disastrous road trip which saw them lose two matches over the weekend, Wildcats Eric Watterson, Chris Carroll, James Crawford and Ricky Grace all wished the Eagles well in the grand final.

Wildcats coach Murray Arnold wasn't to be seen, but he had already wished the side luck at Subiaco Oval on Wednesday night.

Also in the rooms were Maurice Rioli and Willie Rioli, two of the Tiwi Islanders who played against the Kimberley in the MCG curtain-raiser.



EASY MATE . . .
Eagles ace sharpshooter Peter Sumich tells Channel 7's boundary-rider Tim Watson what it was like out on the arena.

**What the
coaches
had to say**



presents

Malcolm Blight (Geelong v Eagles): "It became a practice drill in the end. We didn't win a quarter, what more can I say? When a full-forward kicks six goals quickly, it's very difficult to cover that. I'd suggest a lot of the players have been under the heat in a few finals now and the bad is starting to outweigh the good."

Mick Malthouse (Eagles v Geelong): "It took a very good effort after the seven or eight minute mark of the second quarter to put a lid on it. We didn't get in a shooting match with them and we were able to get our nose in front at half-time. The players are very resolute in their thinking. We were hurt very badly 12 months ago in that loss to Hawthorn and the players who played in that game now understand the requirements."

Ken Sheldon (St Kilda v Footscray): "We got to where we are today with the players we've got and they weren't good enough. It was always going to take a monumental effort to win after half-time. Last week we didn't have a passenger — this week we'd have been flat out getting out of the train. They really did show us how to play finals football. They were able to win almost clearly across the ground and the majority of one-on-one contests."

Terry Wheeler (Footscray v St Kilda): "It was well-sighted that this was a test of the Footscray Football Club. I thought our players really took it on in the right frame of mind. They remained, very focused about their task during the week and continually through the game they were on the job. I knew that, because of the work done during the week and through the response from the players, we weren't going to drop off."



You can't beat the Feeling!



Teenage Bulldog works hard at being a super-star

By
BASIL ZEMPILAS



TUNED IN... Chris Grant is wired up for an after-match interview on Saturday

LIKE a true champion, Footscray's Chris Grant saved his best performance for a game that really mattered.

A super-star at 19? Well maybe not quite, but his training for such a lofty status is progressing nicely.

On Saturday, against St Kilda in the first semi-final, the young Bulldog forward turned in a best-on-ground performance that included five match-winning goals and, in the process, confirmed that he is destined for champion status.

Footscray captain Doug Hawkins is convinced that his young teammate, at 195cm, 89kg and with 56 games behind him, is already at the top.

"He's the Rolls Royce of the competition — and the frightening thing, for other clubs that is, he doesn't turn 20 till December," an elated Hawkins said after the game.

MESMERISED

From the moment Grant kicked Footscray's first goal 26 seconds into the match, he mesmerised the St Kilda defence to the point where he was the difference between the two sides.

After the match, Grant — very level-headed and mindful that the 1992 job wasn't over — said he was pleased to play so well in a final.

"There was a lot riding on the game, being a final, so I was happy to play well for the team," he said.

Footscray's performance was motivated by a fear of failure, they weren't prepared to bow out of the finals race in straight sets and Grant was well aware that many football people expected that to happen.

"The boys were pretty disappointed after last week and with the do-or-die nature of this week's game, we were determined not to let ourselves down," he said.

Under coach Terry Wheeler, Footscray embarked on a three-part pre-season programme at the start of the year, aimed at changing the culture of the club.

Using a series of outdoor camps and hiking trips, Wheeler endeavoured to instil a tougher mood and a different meaning of what Footscray was all about into the hearts of the players. Their form against St Kilda was firm evidence that the message had got through.

CONFIDENT

"We came through with flying colours," said Grant. "The boys really delivered the ball well and, above all, we were confident in each other."

"I think a lot has to do with the pre-season camps we went on, we got so close to each other and so confident in each other that it helped us out when it counted."

One of those pre-season activities involved climbing the highest moun-

tain in Victoria and raising the Footscray flag — now, eight months down the track, the Bulldogs are close to erecting a premiership flag at the Western Oval.

"We've got a lot of work to do, we've beaten St Kilda, but it's not going to be easy next week," a positive Grant said. "Geelong will give us a run for our money; we've got two games to go, we're not over-confident, but we reckon we can do it, that's for sure."

The young Bulldog showed plenty of composure against the Saints. After kicking the early goal, he missed several relatively easy chances, but to his credit he fought back with a display full of character.

"Bernie Quinlan keeps reminding me to relax and I think I just stiffened up," he says. "I was lining up and the crowd was roaring and the atmosphere got to me."

"But Bernie reminded me again at quarter-time about the importance of relaxing and, in the end, I finished with five, which was fantastic."

"It was my best goal-kicking performance for a while and to kick five in a final against St Kilda, in such a vital game for Footscray, was great."

UNBEATABLE

Grant, along with full-forward Danny Del Re, centre-half-forward Glen Coleman and skipper Doug Hawkins, formed an unbeatable forward line that oozed class and co-operation.

"Danny's our leader, he's our first option from the goal-square. I replace Glen when he goes up the field and Dougy gets what we miss."

"Glen has been fantastic this year since coming down from Sydney; he has fitted in well to our style of play and he makes a real contest for everything he goes for."

"Danny is a really fast leader, so we have a lot of variety around the forward line for the team to kick to and I'm sure that helps them upfield."

Cables pedals around WA

FOOTBALL legend Barry Cable has pedalled himself into another piece of history.

The former champion rover and now the game's No. 1 promotor is on his way to completing a marathon cycle around WA country towns in aid of the Spinal Cord Research Unit at Shenton Park.

The pedal power of the man who won three Sandover Medals will come to an end at Saturday's WAFL Pepsi Cup grand final, when he will cycle onto the ground at half-time for a special presentation.

Cable's ride started on Monday and takes him through Northam, Beverley, Corrigin, Kulin, Lake Grace, Dumbleyung, Katanning, Wagin, Narrogin, Boddington and finishes in Kwinana on Friday.

The ride has come about because of Cable's involvement with Geraldton footballer Steve Perham, who broke his neck in a game last year and spent a lot of time under-going rehabilitation at the Shenton Park Hospital annex for spinal cord injuries.

RECOVERY

"I spent a fair bit of time with Steve, trying to boost his recovery along," says Cable. "As a result I met another spinal cord sufferer in Stewart Yesner who is in a wheelchair, but is so determined to succeed that he's a great example for everyone."

"He's a lawyer and works strongly for the research unit, so we put the idea for this marathon ride together as a prelude for something bigger we're planning next year."

The country trip has involved schools in all of the towns, with Lou Thompson, a lecturer at the Edith Cowan University, co-ordinating the Education Department aspects.

Many of the country children who come in contact with Cable on his ride will find themselves sitting in the three-tier grandstand at Subiaco Oval on Saturday — courtesy of the little legend's free tickets that he has been handing out at schools.

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Curtain-call for Royals

Magro wants to consider his coaching future

STAN Magro, the major driving force behind East Perth's revival as a football power in 1992, could step down as coach of the Royals before next season.

That shock news will be a dampener on the satisfaction in the Royals camp, as Magro is yet to officially inform the club of his intentions for next season.

Magro, who took the Royals to within a straight kick of playing in this week's Pepsi Cup grand final, says he will take a month to decide whether to continue coaching.

Increasing work commitments as State manager of Berger Paints and the enormous time required to coach a WAFL club have forced him to reassess his position with East Perth.

TWO POSITIONS

If Magro steps aside, it will leave the Royals searching for replacements in the two highest positions of authority at the club, as president Bob Pearson has indicated he will step down after three years in the post.

The Royals chief is seeking election to the WA Turf Club committee and East Perth are searching for a replacement to continue the club's off-field resurgence to financial viability.

Magro joined the Royals this year, sitting out of football in 1991 after his controversial sacking from South Fremantle, where he had coached from 1987 to 1990.

He wants a two-week holiday with his family before he will make a decision on whether to stay in coaching.

Magro again confirmed his coaching qualities when, against the odds, he took the Royals into the preliminary final against East Fremantle, only to miss a grand final berth by four points.

"I'm finding it really difficult with my job and coaching as well," he admitted this week.

"I don't feel I can devote the time necessary to the young, developing players we have at East Perth.

REALISTIC

"I don't want to appear as though I'm jumping out, because I think we have achieved something this year. But I have to be realistic. There isn't enough time for me to do justice to my job and coaching."

Magro revealed that had his young Royals qualified for this Saturday's grand final shoot-out with South Fremantle, he would have missed much of the preparation for the biggest game of the year.

Magro wants to consider his coaching future



IT'S OVER ... East Perth rookies (from left) Rod Wheatley, Michael Prior and Clint Johnson can only reflect on what might have been. RIGHT: The scoreboard tells the tale

By

KIM HAGDORN

"I have to be in Melbourne from Wednesday and would only have got back in time for the match," he said.

"That's the sort of problem I'm facing. My work takes me away often."

Magro missed Round 12 this year because of work commitments in the east; a game when the Royals were coached by his assistant, Tony Solin and relinquished a 42-point three-quarter-time lead to lose by a point.

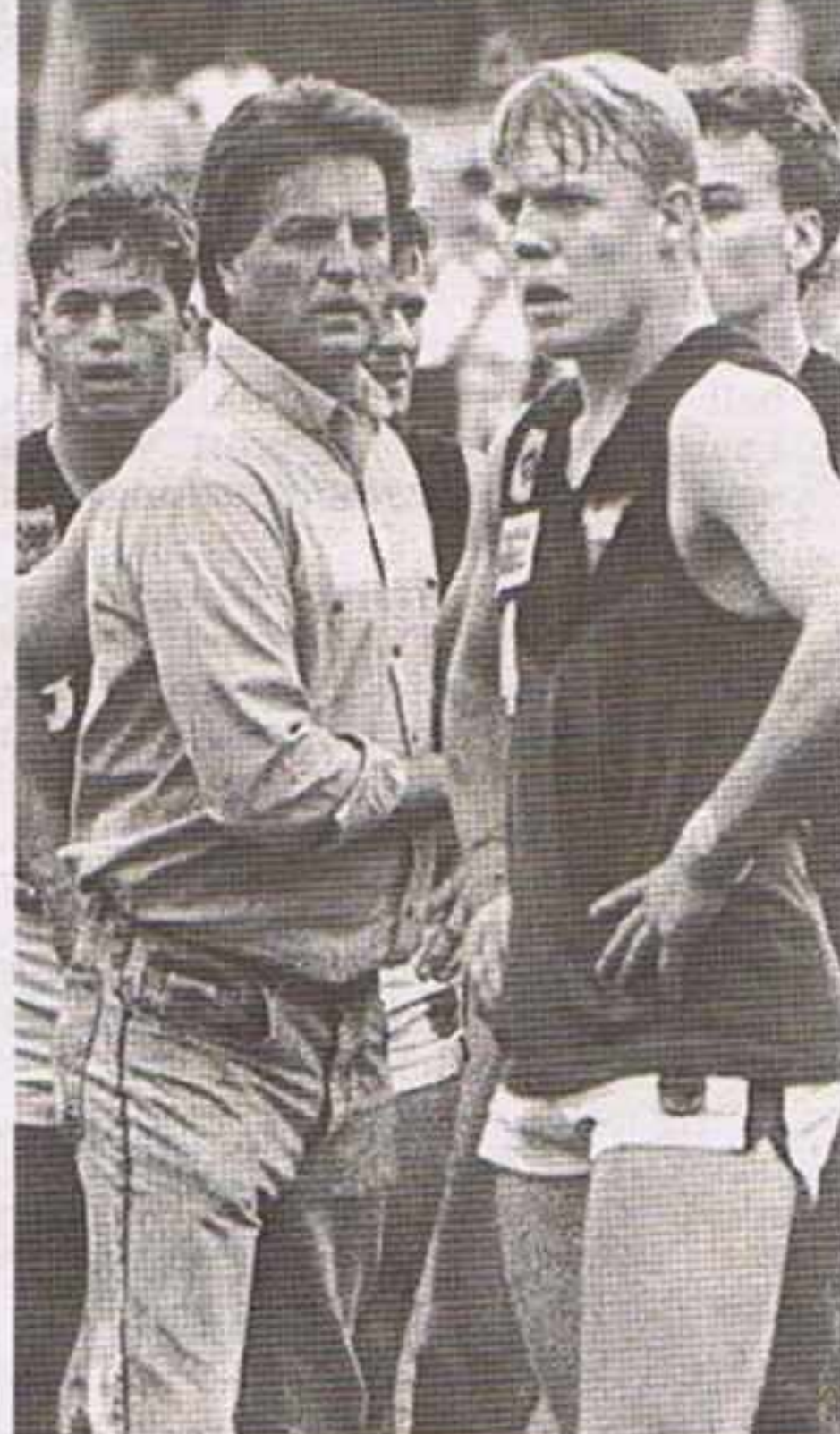
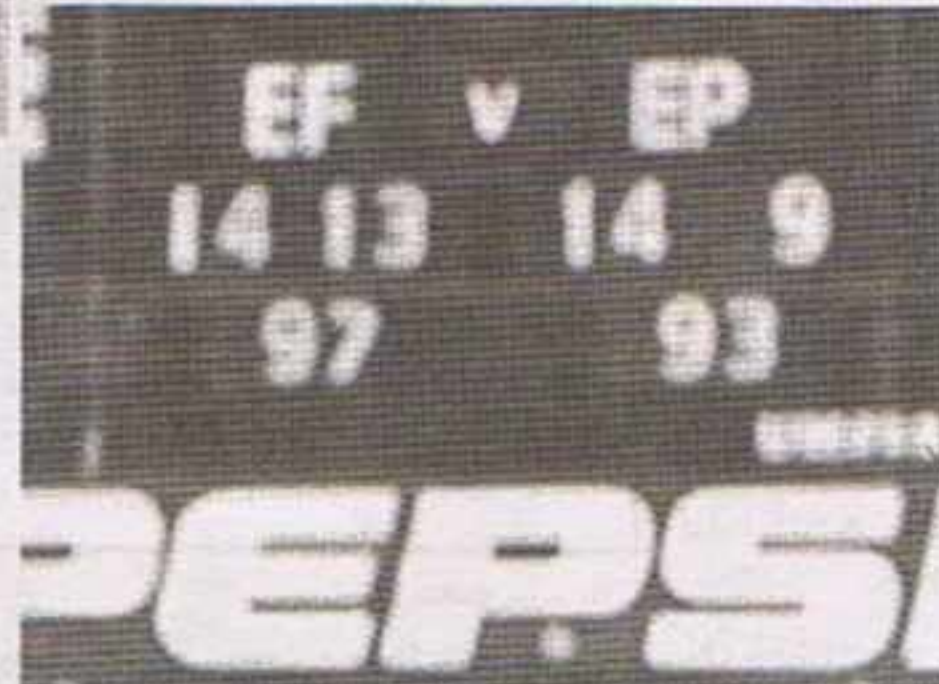
DISTINGUISHED

Magro was one of the toughest players to leave WA for a distinguished VFL career, posting 99-games with Collingwood, after a 105-game career with South Fremantle.

Typical of his strong character, Magro refused to accept any consolations in his efforts of taking East Perth to third place in the WAFL line-up for 1992.

"There are no consolation prizes just because we did better than many people might have expected," he said.

"I thought all along that we were genuine premierships contenders.



"This year, irrespective of what problems the club might have had, the players showed tremendous improvement in a lot of areas.

"The players certainly know more about the game now, than at the start of the year. We probably lack a little depth compared to some of the other clubs, though.

"I'm disappointed we didn't make it, because the opportunity was there for us to play for a premierships and we missed out."

STEPHENIES RESTAURANT PRESENTS...

Star of the final

Stephenies Restaurant, in the Nedlands Park Hotel, provides dinner for two to a star performer in each of the WAFL Pepsi Cup finals matches. This week's top player was Ian Newman

Words by TANIA ARMSTRONG

Back from the bush... to a grand final

WHEN former Perth ruckman Ian Newman returned from the wilderness of country football to East Fremantle, few could have predicted his amazing success in leading the Sharks ruck.

Newman was lured back to the city from the Avon League by Sharks coach Ken Judge early this year when East Fremantle were desperate for big men.

In a remarkable change of fortunes, he became the form ruckman of the competition for much of the home-and-away series.

Certainly, in last Saturday's preliminary final, the lanky ruckman was the difference between the Sharks and the Royals in their thrilling four-point victory.

Statistics showed he had more than 40 ruck-knocks against East Perth's big man duo of Richard Graham and Ryan Turnbull, but some had him with even higher figures.

OUTSTANDING

East Fremantle coach Ken Judge paid particular attention to Newman in his three-quarter-time address and it reaped vast rewards with an outstanding final term.

His work around the packs was also a feature and two passages in the cut-throat final term highlighted his effectiveness.

On both occasions he shot a handball out of the pack and into the waiting hands of rover Trent Nichols, who cleared effectively from the centre.

While East Fremantle's so-called lack of pace has been widely criticised, it is these rapid transfers of play that can make the Sharks look slick.

If Newman played well last weekend, all Sharks fans are hoping he is saving the game of his life for the grand final.

On Saturday he will have to buck the odds against a powerful South Fremantle ruck, led by Dean Irving and well supported by David Hynes and Mark Hepburn.

STATS TELL... a worried-looking Royals coach Stan Magro examines the match statistics



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Simply stunning...

Good on you Mum



presents

Some famous footy mothers

Silent fan happy to sit and enjoy



Grand finals will certainly occupy the thoughts of Jeanette Sumich over the next few days, with her favourite team South Fremantle involved in the WAFL battle and son Peter spearheading the West Coast campaign next week. Westside Football's JENNY GROVE talks to a one-eyed mother



'He just loved all sports and considers that the enjoyment level is very important'

WIN, lose or draw, the Eagles have plenty of loyal fans and at every home game, there is a quiet lady sitting in the stands watching the moves of a certain full-forward.

Jeanette Sumich, the matriarch of the close-knit Sumich family, prefers to sit, watch and just listen, even if criticism of the infamous kicking style of her son Peter comes to her ears.

Mrs Sumich typifies the behind-the-scenes figure, the mother who downplays her role. But a quick chat reveals that this lady ranks of the utmost importance.

While not being a doting parent keen to bombard any listener with endless descriptions of Peter's prowess, there is plenty of pride in her voice when the subject comes up.

Jeanette has been associated with football long enough to know the ins, the outs and the upside-downs of the game and she takes it all with calm assurance.

Peter is one of four children; the second last, in fact and while his sisters, Ann (27) and Christine (21) are his biggest fans, elder brother Ross is also his main critic — according to Jeanette.

"Peter and Ross are really close, they grew up in a bedroom together and when Ross gets back (from studying in America) they still plan to share a bedroom," she said.

SUPPORTIVE

"While Ross is his biggest critic, he is also very supportive of Peter, who is looking forward to his return."

The Sumich clan are hard-working, self-made people who keep everything in perspective — and that includes football.

Probably the most important football influence on Peter, according to Jeanette, is his father, Lori, who played a bit for South Fremantle. Lori's parents are from Dubrovnik, in Yugoslavia, but he and Jeanette are WA-born and bred.

While Jeanette has ample football blood in her veins — she's a Grljusich, a second cousin to South Fremantle trio Tom, George (of ABC fame) and Don — it's Lori with whom Peter discusses his game.

"After every game, Peter and Lori sit down and talk about how the Eagles played, how Peter played and what could have been done differently," she said.

"I think it helps Peter to have someone who just watches him and what he does and can see what he, as an individual player, could have done."

Sumich's decision to turn away from soccer and tackle football at the age of 12 obviously pleased many thousands of fans — not forgetting the family themselves.

He started with the Cockburn Football Club, with fellow Bulldogs and Eagles team-mate in Scott Watters, whose father Alan at one stage coached the pair.

The move certainly disappointed soccer people, who felt that Sumich could have gone a long way — and some of his soccer goals confirm that.

Sumich has played many other sports apart from football and soccer, tackling golf, squash and tennis and while attending St Brendan's College, in Hilton, he added swimming and athletics to his activities.

"He never even had to be pushed to train," said Jeanette. "He just loved sport, all sports and he still considers that the enjoyment level is very important."

QUICK GRADUATION

He joined the South Fremantle colts side in 1985, moved to reserves in 1986 and had one league game that year. By 1987 he was a league regular and at the end of 1988, he was on the West Coast draft list.

While the Sumich clan are fiercely Fremantle when it comes to football — South Fremantle still rank very highly in winter activities — there is a degree of caution about a second AFL team, probably based in the Port.

"It would probably bring a lot of boys home, which would be great and it could take a lot of pressure off the Eagles," she says.

"The Eagles are pretty hard to break into and another team would give many other players an alternative avenue to AFL ranks.

"But we have to be careful about when it happens."

After many years serving as a taxi service for junior football commitments and working in canteens and selling raffle tickets, Jeanette is most-

emphatic when the subject of junior football comes up.

"Football should be promoted a lot more, with increased socialising between juniors and senior players," she says.

FOND MEMORIES

"I know how busy today's players are, but Peter still remembers having Maurice Rioli throwing footballs to him as a kid and I think it's sad that this sort of thing doesn't happen as much as it used to.

"Even the fact that kids aren't always allowed to go onto the field after games to pat the players on the back, like they do in Victoria, is a bit sad."

After a successful 100-goal season in

1991, Sumich's spasmodic start this year certainly concerned his parents — but Jeanette was always philosophical.

"It would have been nice for Peter to go through without injury or suspension, but those things happen and all you can do is to keep trying," she said.

"I'm sure Peter has found his feet and the more he plays, the more settled he will become."

Mrs Sumich, the lady who made her public debut in that Tip Top footy bread television commercial, might enjoy a low-profile sitting up in the grandstand. But in their Coogee household, she has a tight rein on her family's football achievements — and her high-profile son in particular.

SUPER MUM ... Jeanette Sumich thumbs through a well-filled scrap book. TOP: She enjoys a break in the family's Coogee home, overlooking the ocean and (inset) that television commercial featuring Peter Sumich's 'real' mum



Good on you Mum
Tip Top's the One

Port to reap finals bonus



PEPSI CUP GRAND FINAL



Second not good enough

WHEN South Fremantle officials early this year organised a major club function for grand final eve, they conceded that 1992 might not be the year of the Bulldog.

As part of the club's challenge to reduce a \$600,000 deficit, Souths arranged for the final draw of their monster "Save Our Souths" raffle to be held at Fremantle Oval on Friday night before the WAFL premiership showdown.

For the winner of this Friday's \$10,000 first prize, it could turn into a weekend of big celebration.

The Bulldogs hierarchy had set their sights on climbing from a disappointing seventh last year to simply qualifying for the finals.

A grand final appearance had not genuinely been anticipated.

Bulldogs general manager Brian Ciccotosto this week was bracing himself to cop flak for the "double booking" on grand final weekend.

"We certainly didn't realistically plan to play in a grand final this year," Ciccotosto said.

"When we appointed Mal Brown as coach last October, it was another step in our overall plan of turning around the club's deficit.

"We knew we had to be competitive on the field, so that off the field we

By
KIM HAGDORN

were attractive to members, sponsors and supporters.

"Mal has done a wonderful job with our young players and it is a credit to him and the staff that we've qualified to play off for the premiership."

Ciccotosto said Saturday's play-off with arch-rivals East Fremantle was another major financial boon for the Port clubs and the WAFL.

A derby clash and the West Coast Eagles win over Geelong at the MCG last Sunday have seen to that.

The derby grand final will be the showpiece of WA football this week and for the first time this season, not the Eagles.

After the huge success of this year's Foundation Day derby at Fremantle Oval and the Round 21 Friday night match against Swan Districts, Souths will budget for another injection of about \$30,000 this weekend.

Red Ticket outlets this week reported a near sell-out of seating at Subiaco Oval, almost guaranteeing the biggest WAFL finals crowd since the introduction of the Eagles in 1987.

Ciccotosto said the Saturday grand final, allowing for evening bar trade and Sunday post-match activities,

would be another big financial boost to the club.

East Fremantle, too, can anticipate a windfall in the grand final aftermath.

Fremantle this week experienced almost unprecedented activity, as euphoria grew in anticipation of the first derby grand final since 1979.

When long-serving East Fremantle general-manager Bob Uitenbroek opened the gates last Monday morning, up to a dozen fans already had lined up to be first in for seats at Subiaco Oval.

Both clubs had to employ extra telephone receptionists to handle the inquiries and demand for tickets.

"We sold our allocation of tickets almost straight after winning the second semi-final," Ciccotosto said.

"Since then we've taken left-over tickets allotted to Subiaco, West Perth, Claremont and the Football Commission.

"It's certainly the busiest I've seen the club and Fremantle itself for a very long time.

"In 1989, when we played Claremont on a Saturday, 38,000 people came to the game.

"Last year, between Claremont and Subiaco on a Sunday, only 23,000 turned up.

"South have a very good drawing capacity, especially when the opposition is East Fremantle.

"It's a huge bonus for us."

Sharks surprised at grand final

EAST Fremantle are pleasantly surprised to be in this Saturday's grand final.

A five-year plan adopted by the club last year didn't envisage a grand final appearance so early.

Sharks president Len Hitchen, with his board of directors and coaching staff, last November sat through a

weekend-long seminar that put the club on the path to winning a flag.

But Saturday's chance at premiership glory is at least two years ahead of plan.

"If anybody that weekend had declared we would play in the 1992 grand final, he probably would have been walked out the door there and then," Hitchen said.

"We planned, realistically, to make the top five this year, but we did not expect to play for the premiership.

"It's a great credit to our coaching staff and players and through wonderful co-operation in the club generally, that we find ourselves ahead of schedule.

"I am extremely satisfied with the character of the people and the players within the club.

"It took a few harsh decisions late last year and again early into the season to get the right personnel around the club, but it has all proved worthwhile."

BIG BOOST

Hitchen acknowledged that the Sharks run into the premiership play-off clash is a gigantic boost to the club in difficult financial times.

"We have proved that the club is well worth supporting," he said.

"This year's success is a another arrow in the quiver to attracting old and new sponsors to be with us again next year and offer greater exposure as a successful club.

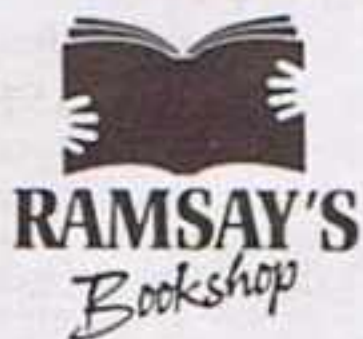
"Because of the tough economic times, we have suffered a drop in sponsorship, while our membership has stayed steady.

"We haven't won it yet, though and that's what this is all about, whether we planned it or not."

Hitchen is facing his first grand final as president, thrust into the job last season with the sudden resignation of Hans Beyer.

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Enrolment details available on phone 441 8222.

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PEPSI'S player guide to the finals



THE BULLDOGS

FINALS FEVER



1. WALLY MATERA
28yrs 170cms 70kgs
Games played 111SF, 24Eagles, 32Fitz, 1WA
Was down on form in their last match when he went kick-less for two quarters, but will bounce back strongly

2. JOE SANTOSTEFANO
27yrs 181cms 83kgs
Games played 12SF, 100Perth, 2WA
Spent three quarters on the interchange bench against the Sharks and had little impact on the game when he sustained another leg injury

3. MARK COLLINS
24yrs 182cms 84kgs
Games played 43
After a quiet first quarter, he played a major role as he set up many attacking moves from his wing

5. WARREN CAMPBELL
17yrs 182cms 79kgs
Games played 16
The talented young forward was in great touch in the qualifying final and could return after serving one week's suspension

7. RUSSELL WILLIAMS
18yrs 175cms 75kgs
Games played 10
Classy rover who has been a good performer in the two finals matches after a topsy turvy season

8. WAYNE HERNAMAN
20yrs 180cms 77kgs
Games played 17
A quiet achiever, but an important player in linking the Bulldogs mid-field play or fulfilling a tagging role

9. JASON SPINKS
20yrs 186cms 78kgs
Games played 18
Began the second-semi in great touch, but was well-held after half-time. An important player in the forward line

10. CRAIG EDWARDS
31yrs 194cms 100kgs
Games played 162SF, 73EP, 4WA
Didn't have a big impact in their last outing, but offers valuable marking power in front of goal; his experience is important

11. DAVID HART
28yrs 179cms 79kgs
Games played 74SF, 104WCE, 7WP, 3WA
Played with the Eagles last weekend, but may be released, having played only half a game of football in the last month. The run would do him good and would help his chances of an AFL grand final appearance

12. PAUL MAZUREK
22yrs 172cms 70kgs
Games played 20
A vital midfielder who is also capable of filling roles at either end of the ground

14. CLIFF COLLARD
25yrs 169cms 80kgs
Games played 132
A reliable defender who was in great touch in the second semi. Has been in the best form of the season at the right time

15. SCOTT WATTERS
23yrs 176cms 81kgs
Games played 46WCE, 68SF, 5WA
Will be a big asset in the mobile division and will be out to prove his worth with the AFL grand final coming up.

19. NICK CAPUTI
20yrs 193cms 93kgs
Games played 18
Talented and versatile big man who was unlucky to be squeezed out with the inclusion of Hynes and Hepburn

22. DAVID HYNES
25yrs 193cms 90kgs
Games played 17SF, 26Eagles, 119PortAd, 1WA, 1SA
Led the ruck superbly in the absence of Dean Irving when he dominated with 18 possessions and 20 hit-outs. Vital to Souths chances.

27. DEAN IRVING
26yrs 200cms 102kgs
Games played 51SF, 42Eagles, 1WA
Missed the second semi after his knee broke down at training. Will get an instant recall if fit

33. ASHLEY FLUGGE
25yrs 169cms 65kgs
Games played 47
Began the last match on the interchange bench, but proved to be a valuable half-getter when brought into the action

35. BRAD COLLARD
28yrs 178cms 74kgs
Games played 150, 1WA
One of the Bulldogs irreplaceable link-men, he had an incredible 17 handballs and 14 kicks against East Fremantle

36. STEVEN GRANT
24yrs 196cms 86kgs
Games played 65
Did well at full-back when shifted onto Clinton Browning. Will be a handy player against him again on Saturday

38. FRANK MORELLINI
19yrs 174cms 73kgs
Games played 11
Unlikely to play after missing the first two finals

41. MARK HEPBURN
24yrs 196cms 100kgs
Games played 13WCE, 12SF, 15Clare, 56NM, 1WA
Dominated at centre-half-back against Easts and will be a tough assignment for Brad Read

43. MARTIN ATKINS
23yrs 190cms 83kgs
Games played 44, 1WA
Good performer at centre-half-back and will get the job on Jeff Davidson

44. GRANT NALDER
23yrs 194cms 85kgs
Games played 12
A valuable big man who may be called upon to help out in defence

46. NED FIMMANO
28yrs 181cms 85kgs
Games played 89
Played another magnificent game in the centre against the Sharks. Will be watched closely by Stephen Bilcich

49. ASHLEY CLEMENTI
24yrs 173cms 70kgs
Games played 12
A lively forward whose explosive pace makes him a major headache for the opposition though he didn't play his usual flashy game against the Sharks

51. MICHAEL DUNSTAN
21yrs 180cms 80kgs
Games played 20
Versatile-footballer who can play at either end of the ground

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PEPSI'S player guide to the finals



THE SHARKS

FINALS FEVER



5. MARK AMARANTI
25yrs 180cms 86kgs
Games played 80
Had a day he would rather forget on Lucio Baroni and will be given another tough job against the Bulldogs

8. PETER QUILL
23yrs 185cms 80kgs
Games played 77
Was a big contributor on the wing and will need to perform at the same level on Saturday. Had 22 kicks and seven handballs

9. CRAIG TRELEVEN
22yrs 187cms 86kgs
Games played 22
Spent most of the first half on the bench; an exciting young ruck-rover capable of a big performance against Souths

10. CLINTON BROWNING
30yrs 188cms 86kgs
Games played 208EF, 4Eagles, 4WA
Was a non-contributor in the first term and spent the rest of the match on the bench. The side needs the experienced full-forward at his best

14. BRAD READ
23yrs 189cms 86kgs
Games played 52
Was rock-like in defence at centre-half-back where he took many saving marks. Has a big job ahead of him on Mark Hepburn

15. JOHN LAWRENCE
21yrs 176cms 71kgs
Games played 63
A late withdrawal with the flu, but is likely to return on Saturday. Has good skills and pace which would be an asset against the Bulldogs

16. KANE MORPHETT
20yrs 184cms 78kgs
Games played 33
Below his best on the wing and spent time on the interchange bench. Needs a much improved performance on Saturday

17. JEFF DAVIDSON
24yrs 185cms 88kgs
Games played 43
Was well held at centre-half-forward by Anthony Stubberfield. A big part of the side, a commanding performance is needed on Saturday

18. NEIL LESTER-SMITH
28yrs 180cms 79kgs
Games played 143
Spent time on the bench after a top first term. His experience and versatility a real asset

23. PETER DAVIDSON
29yrs 183cms 86kgs
Games played 6EF, 66Clare, 2Eagles, 7Bris, 1WA
Didn't play a major role in the preliminary final win, but his cool head in a crisis shone through on a number of occasions

24. DAMIEN CONDON
25yrs 190cms 88kgs
Games played 29
Top game on Craig McGrath and was rewarded when the Royals skipper was taken from the field. A good marking and spoiling player, he is a likely opponent for David Hynes

27. TRENT NICHOLS
23yrs 170cms 74kgs
Games played 17EF, 4Eagles, 56Rich
Was in scintillating form after the long break. His run and creative play out of the centre was the difference between the two sides

29. CLAYTON ANDERSON
21yrs 173cms 72kgs
Games played 24

Left the field with a bruised knee, but should recover. Played a good game minding Peter Miller and will be needed against Wally Matera

33. STEPHEN BILCICH
22yrs 175cms 75kgs
Games played 34
Blanketed Shawn Colbung out of the game and will be called on for a similar performance

34. JEFF MORRIS
21yrs 180cms 74kgs
Games played 19
A highly-skilled forward, who might get his chance this week; kicks inspirational goals and has pace

36. BRENDAN KRUMMEL
20yrs 188cms 80kgs
Games played 41EF, 1Eagles
Badly beaten by Robert Solin in attack, but a match-winning move to a wing saw him set up many attacking moves and was a big part of the turn-around

41. SIMON MOSS
24yrs 189cms 86kgs
Games played 5
An unheralded defender who closed Paul Peos out of the game. Will probably get the job on Jason Spinks after doing well on him in the second semi

45. ANDREW LOCKYER
27yrs 190cms 88kgs
Games played 68EF, 78Eagles
In doubt with concussion and would be a big loss. Chips in with four goals a match, which would be invaluable.

50. IAN NEWMAN
27yrs 200cms 95kgs
Games played 21EF, 88Perth
Man-of-the-match against East Perth, the big ruckman will take on Dean Irving or David Hynes

54. DARREN CAPEWELL
22yrs 180cms 85kgs
Games played 9
The pacy utility gave the side a lift when he was introduced off the interchange bench. Deserves to retain his spot, despite only playing his six games

Good luck Sharks... from your loyal supporters

1. BILLY KRAKOUER
25yrs 173cms 66kgs
Games played 62EF, 16Clare
Had 20 valuable possessions against the Royals; missed the last clash with Souths and will be a danger-man

2. STEVE MALAXOS
31yrs 177cms 83kgs
Games played 31EF, 151Cl, 66Eagles, 9Haw, 12WA
Played a top game in curbing East Perth danger-man Heath East. His poise and experience in the dying minutes show why he is such a big part of the side

Wishing EAST FREMANTLE all the best in the Grand Final

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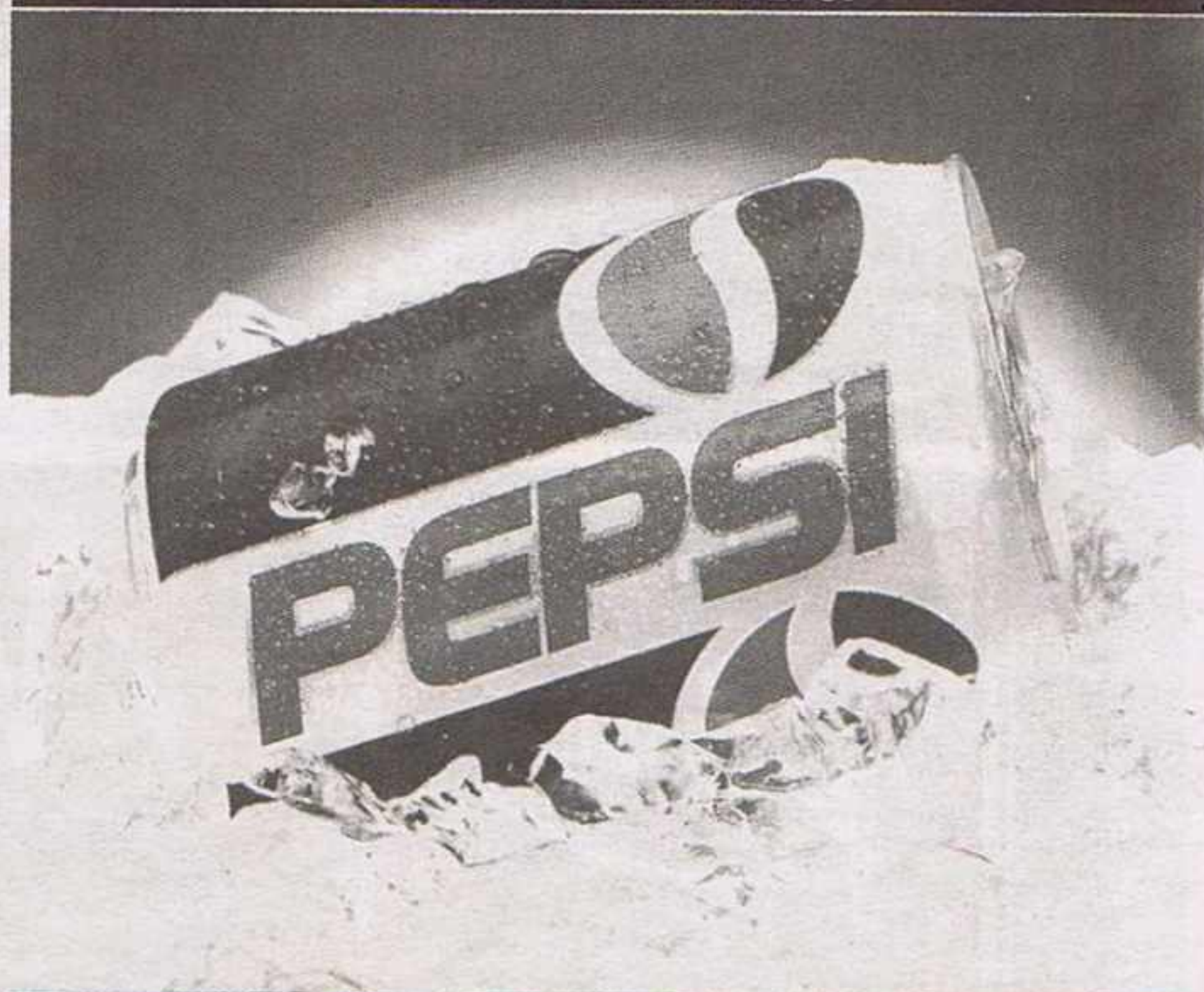
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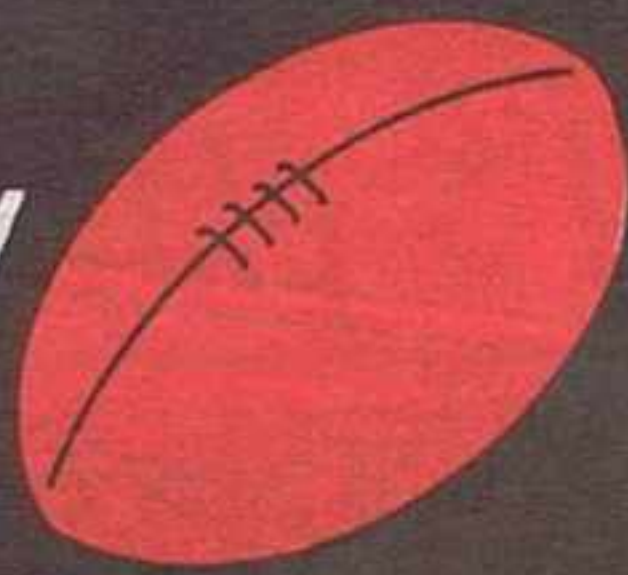
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that action.

At Subiaco Oval, WAFL
their grand final target the l
point thriller in the prelimi

But they survived to earn
... and Westside's team of G
capture t



TOP LEFT: The Eagles banner
ner has a clear message.
CENTRE LEFT: Skipper
John Worsfold leads the
team into battle

MIDDLE LEFT: There was
plenty of West Coast support
in the crowd. BOTTOM
LEFT: Coach Mick Malthe
ouse walks through that
famous MCG gate. LEFT:
The big crowd — and their
huge banner — at Perth Air
port to welcome the team
home on Sunday night.

RIGHT: Don Pyke is mobbed
as he works his way through
the crowd



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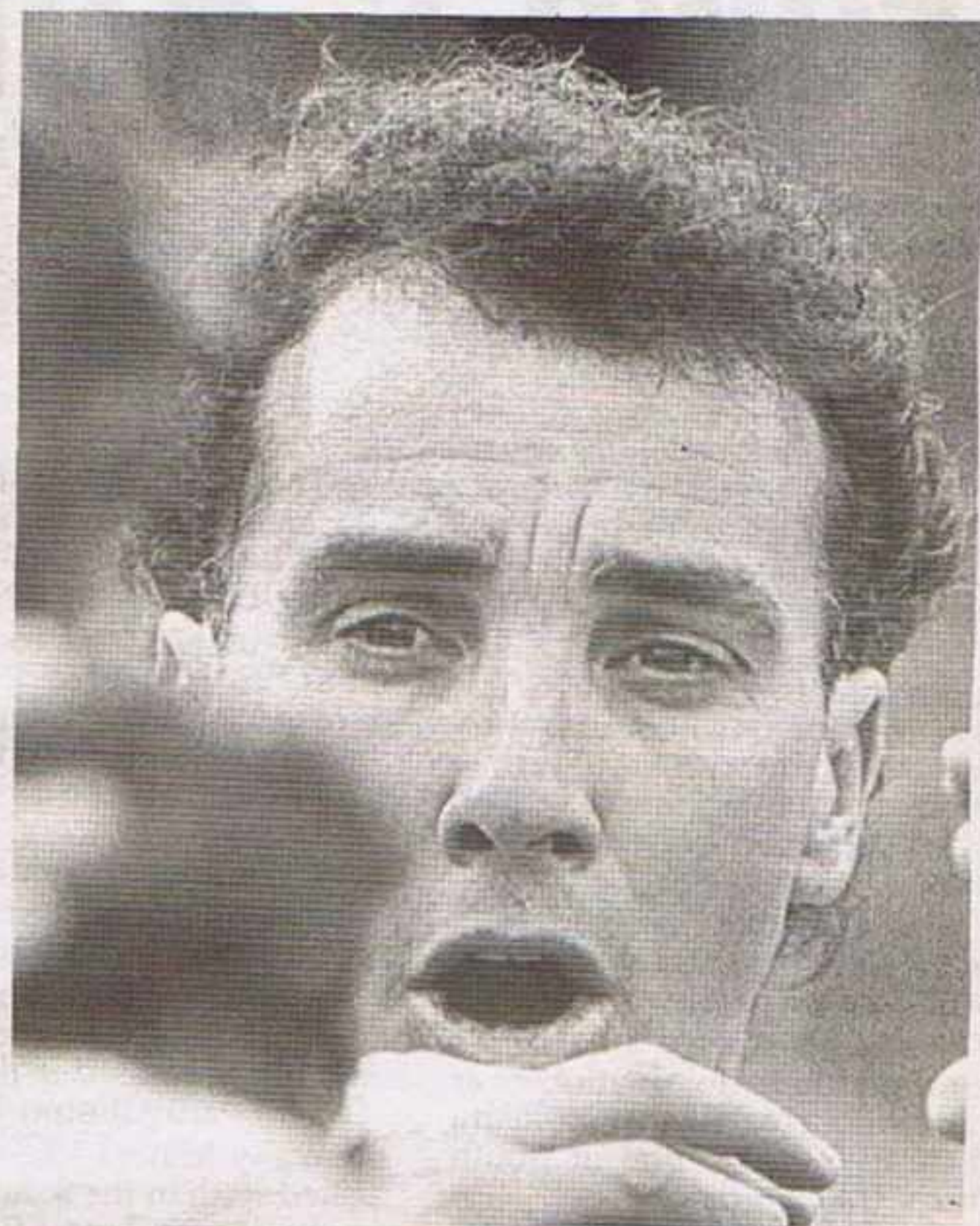
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THE Y TO RAND NAL



ABOVE: A trio of celebrating Sharks (from left) Peter Quill, Stephen Bilcich and Mark Amaranti



ABOVE: Sharks coach Ken Judge has his fingers on the East Fremantle pulse

It signals victory and entry to a grand final by a premiership win.

The past weekend were two much-loved clubs and East Fremantle.

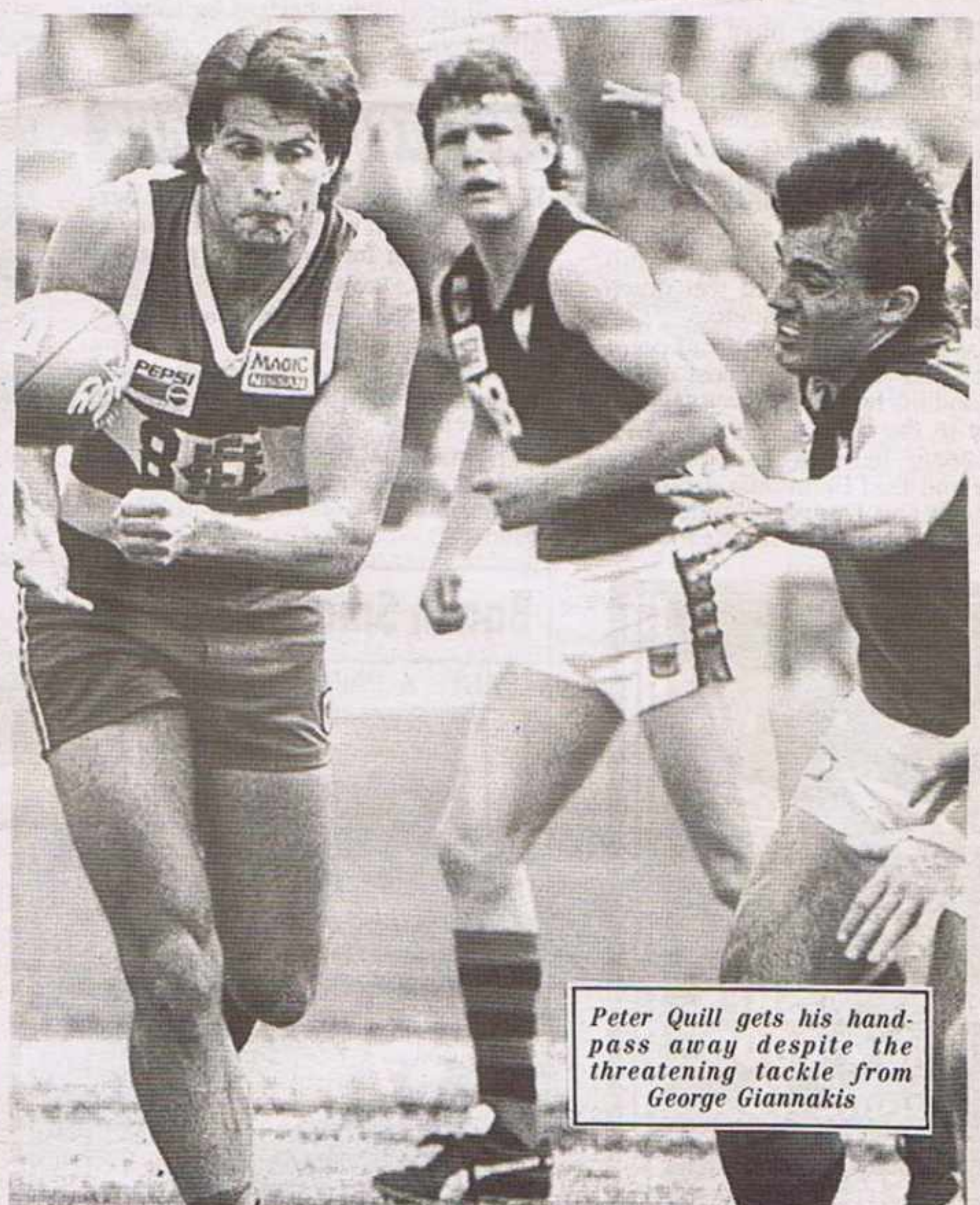
to the AFL grand final with a stunning Geelong in the second semi-final at the SIL ZEMPILAS was there to capture

able-toppers East Fremantle achieved a hard way, having to survive a tense four-year final against East Perth.

Derby re-match with South Fremantle G and NADINE WOOD were there to Pepsi Cup action



East Fremantle's Peter Davidson shoots a hand-pass to send his side into attack



Peter Quill gets his hand-pass away despite the threatening tackle from George Giannakis

MEETING PLACE

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Brown's Bulldogs will be hard to stop

FINALS FEVER



SOUTH Fremantle coach Malcolm Brown had the luxury of easing off the accelerator last weekend, but the Bulldogs will be hard to head on Saturday.

This premiership challenge is what Brown came out of coaching retirement for.

He coached Souths to their last flag in 1980 and a win on Saturday would give him a special place in the club's folklore.

An enjoyable training session last Saturday afternoon, while East Fremantle slugged it out with East Perth in a ferocious encounter, sees a fresh South Fremantle with a huge advantage.

Four wins over the Sharks in 1992 will give the Bulldogs great confidence, but it will take more than that to get them over the line.

To continue their domination over their traditional rivals will take team football at its best — one of South Fremantle's trademarks.

THE FORMULA ONES

SOUTH Fremantle have some of the best Formula Ones in the competition, the players who can make or break a game of football.

Their big-man brigade is led by Mark Hepburn, who will be looking for his second premiership in two years.

Last year he was a controversial inclusion in Claremont's premiership side, but this year he will feel much better about the circumstances.

He has been a dominant focal point at centre-half-forward for most of the season and his marking power came to the fore in the second semi-final.

At 196cm he is a hard man to counter and East Fremantle defenders Brad Read and Damian Condon will wait anxiously to see who gets the job.

The uncanny left-foot snaps from Jason Spinks can turn a game and perhaps he is the man to watch, along with Craig Edwards in a forward pocket.

At just 20, the rookie from Jerramungup is one of the most exciting prospects in the league and East Fremantle defender Simon Moss will have a tough afternoon curbing his influence.

Steven Grant, another of South Fremantle's unsung heroes, has been a big contributor in the past two months.

A versatile big man who can play at either end of the ground, Grant looks certain to be used in defence on Sharks full-forward Clinton Browning.

Wally Matera, the veteran who finished sixth in the Sandover Medal, had a quiet second semi-final, but consecutive performances like that are not part of his football make-up, even though he will be closely checked by Clayton Anderson.

THE TOURING CARS

THE Bulldogs playmakers are perhaps the most important players in Souths quest for their first premiership in 12 years.

Skipper Ned Fimmano and wingman Mark Collins gave a commanding performance across the centre in the second semi-final and they are looking for an encore.

Fimmano has developed into one of the best centremen in the league after playing much of his football in defence.

Collins' effectiveness from his wing saw him finish fifth in the Sandover Medal and his clash with Peter Quill or Kane Morphet will have a big bearing on the outcome.

Russell Williams and Scott Watters are two close to the ground players who will have a big say in what happens at the fall of the football.

While Watters will get a role on the ball, Williams is likely to start in either an attacking or defensive pocket.

THE STOCK CARS

ROOKIE Wayne Hernaman has shot to prominence in his first senior drive and he's a key team member.

Asked to mind East Fremantle sharp-shooter Neil Lester-Smith in the second semi-final, Hernaman may be given the task again.

ASHLEY FLUGGE... Bulldogs sharpshooter



Steven Grant ... versatile big man

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Sharks tune-up on the cards



EAST Fremantle go into Saturday's grand prix as underdogs, but they will only need some minor fine-tuning to be ready for the biggest match of the year.

The proud Sharks, the WAFL's most successful football club and the fastest qualifiers at the top of the Pepsi Cup premiership table, need a major derby turn-around this week.

Having not beaten the Bulldogs this season, coach Ken Judge must accelerate a little to overcome a major psychological speed hump.

A hard-fought four-point preliminary final win over East Perth takes them into the premiership play-off with newfound resilience — but how fresh they are after a bruising encounter remains to be seen.

THE FORMULA ONES

FORMULA Ones don't put in any more polished performances than Steve Malaxos did last Saturday and form like that will help bring a victory lap.

Malaxos, after marshalling his side from the centre for most of the season, was given a special minding task and closed down youngster Heath East with a dour display.

With Malaxos missing from the middle, it was Trent Nichols who came to the forefront. After idling on cruise control in the first half, Nichols hit top gear to take charge of the centre clearances, with Ian Newman methodically palming him the football.

Nichols pace off the mark makes and his 11 kicks in the final term confirms his match-winning influence.

Newman, clearly a best-on-ground performer, dominated the throw-ins and centre bounciedowns.

When he missed the ruck knocks, his handballing work in dishing the ball off to the waiting Sharks was superb.

Peter Quill, touted as a Formula One to watch a few seasons ago, also shifted up a gear against the Royals.

Opposed to talented Royal Jeremy Silcock, Quill's commitment and his run downfield could not be faltered in a hard-working four-quarter display.

THE TOURING CARS

BLESSED with many skilled players, the Sharks touring cars have the ability to quickly turn a match.

Brendan Krummel chipped in with a timely return to form when moved into the mid-field against the Royals.



Krummel, badly outpointed by Robert Solin across half-forward, fired better when moved upfield after half-time.

John Lawrence, a late withdrawal with influenza, should return to add bite around the packs, especially with Newman in such devastating form.

Damian Condon also adds a touch of class to the side, in defence or, if needed, in attack.

The high-leaping Condon excelled against East Perth skipper Craig McGrath and he will have another tough task this Saturday — on Mark Hepburn, Craig Edwards or David Hynes.

THE STOCK CARS

UNHERALDED defender Simon Moss adds his weight to stock car regulars, Stephen Bilcich and Clayton Anderson.

Moss, who bolstered the big-man stocks when he was cleared from Swan Districts, played the game of his life when he cut East Perth dangerman Paul Peos out of the match.

Moss restricted Peos to four touches in four quarters and rookie star Jason Spinks looks his likely opponent after he nullified the youngster's effect in the second semi-final.

DANGERMEN ... Sharks skipper Steve Malaxos (below) and ruckman Ian Newman (left) are key men this Saturday



The Sharks will closely monitor the fitness of Anderson, with a bruised knee forcing him from the track in the final term after a solid effort against Royals rover Peter Miller.

The pair shared the honours, but back in the second semi-final clash with South Fremantle, Anderson was one of the few Sharks winners, adding Wally Matera's name to his victim list. There are no prizes for guessing who he will play on this Saturday.

Bilcich went about his game against East Perth in his usual effective manner and another 30-possession performance was testament to his influence.

PREVIOUS STARTS

EAST Fremantle are yet to reach the finish line ahead of South Fremantle and a fresh approach will be needed if they are to turn the tables.

The Sharks have finished seven points, 20 points, 42 points and 25 points behind the red and whites in four hard-fought races this season.

Overall, East Fremantle have had the better of the Bulldogs, with 165 wins from 297 games, losing 129 and drawing four.

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PEPSI CUP GRAND FINAL

Medal again beckons Vasoli

By **KIM HAGDORN**

AFTER a frustrating 1979 season, the last thing Paul Vasoli thought about was wearing a premiership medal.

A week before the official start of the season, Vasoli, who had battled to play 32 games, was dropped from Perth's league list.

His career was in tatters and he reluctantly joined South Fremantle.

After a taste of league football with his new club, Vasoli ended the season in the losing reserves preliminary final side.

Sunday football looked his future as he considered giving away league football.

But Bulldogs coach Malcolm Brown made Vasoli a promise.

He guaranteed he would play in every pre-season match if the hard-working midfielder completed summer training for 1980.

"Brownie honoured his promise to the letter," Vasoli said.

"That's one of his strengths. Brownie is a man of his word."

Vasoli played every practice game, even one week when he was carrying a corked thigh.

It is history that the creative left-footer, whose slick handpassing was his forte, went on to become a member of the Bulldogs' 1980 premiership side.

This Saturday, he's looking at a premiership double as coach of the Bulldogs reserves team, also in the grand final, along with his assistant-coach role of the seniors.

Vasoli regrets missing his chance at meeting East Fremantle in the 1979 derby grand final — when he was overlooked — but he has special memories of his many derby encounters.

"The atmosphere in the build-up and the tempo of the game itself were different," he said.

"It didn't matter where the clubs were on the premiership table, the mood around Fremantle in the days before and on match day was exciting.

"This week has been the same, with an even bigger emphasis on the community involvement.

"After all, it's a grand final."

Vasoli hopes to start the ball rolling South Fremantle's way in Saturday's curtain-raiser.

The Bulldogs are defending champions in the reserves and confront Claremont, coached by John Dimmer.

Dimmer also knows the heady taste of elation that a premiership brings.

He was a member of Subiaco's 1973 premiership win over West Perth.



PORT MAN . . . former East Fremantle and State captain Doug Green says South Fremantle are his second choice

Flag must fly in Freo

FORMER top defender Doug Green is a Fremantle man through and through.

The dual East Fremantle premiership player and former WA captain has a simple answer to the premiership argument — the flag must fly in Fremantle.

"If East Fremantle can't win, I always hoped it could be won by Souths," Green said.

"It always was nice to beat Souths, but I maintained I had some very close friends there.

"At the end of my playing career, I worked with one of their best players, Joe McKay, at the taxation office."

Green said all the hype of derby animosity was established more before his time, but he conceded Fremantle derbies had something special about them.

RIVALRY

"A lot of the real heavy rivalry goes back into the 1950s and '60s," he said.

"It sure was nice to beat Souths in the 1979 derby grand final, but it was just as great beating Perth in '74.

"The '79 win meant so much because it was the end of an era, with so many guys of my vintage retiring.

"It was also a time when we recovered from some disappointments."

Green said the 1977 grand final loss to Perth was devastating after East Fremantle had been title favourites for most of the season.

Green and top midfielders Brian Peake and David Hollins all missed the big day through injury as Perth demolished the Sharks by 73 points.

East Fremantle missed the finals in 1978 before winning the last derby grand final in '79.

IN CONTROL

"I felt we were always in control of that match, even though we won by only about five goals," he said.

"Mal Brown was coach and when Souths came out and started a fight straight after half-time, we knew we were well in control."

Green, who retired after the '79 win, made a comeback mid-way through 1980 to play a handful of games with VFL club South Melbourne.

He will be a special guest at East Fremantle's final training session this week and a keen observer on Saturday.

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The stars of '92



The WAFL's major sponsor Pepsi and Westside Football will join together over the next month to name the 1992 Pepsi Cup All-Stars team.

In the next three editions, Westside's KIM HAGDORN and TANIA ARMSTRONG will present their candidates for positions in the Pepsi All-Stars line-up, starting this week with the defenders.

In the next two weeks, we will look at the forwards and then the on-ballers and midfielders. The series will culminate in our fabulous Picture Special edition on Thursday, October 8, when we will publish the full line-up.

SELECTION SKILLS

Westside readers can be part of this competition by trying to pick their line-up and match their selection skills with the judges.

Keep track of our expert suggestions over the next three weeks and then fill in the Pepsi All-Stars team placings map in our October 3 edition and send it in.

The first correct — or nearest correct — entry will receive a weekender for two at the Albany Travel Inn, one of football's strong country supporters.

This week Kim Hagdorn looks at the contenders for places in the backline.

THE BACKLINE

Swan Districts defender Stephen O'Reilly could celebrate his departure to Geelong as the only certainty to win a berth in the Pepsi All-Stars defence.

O'Reilly, drafted by the Cats last November and set to join his AFL club next year, was a stand-out star at centre-half-back with Swans throughout the season.

His main challenge to the key defensive position will come from South Fremantle half-back Martin Atkins and East Perth's Anthony Stubberfield.



Top Score

Goals in the finals race

THE official WAFL goal-kicking battle might be over, but the goals themselves become even more important in the finals series.

The GIO finals goalkicking table continues through to the WAFL grand final, showing the top scorers from each club taking part.

Leading the way is Heath East, the dashing Royals youngster — thanks to his nine-goal performance against Subiaco — and it will take a big effort from forwards at East or South Fremantle to catch him.

This is how the finals participants have fared:

EAST PERTH: Heath East 12.6; Paul Peos 7.5; Michael Prior 7.4; Shawn Colbung 6.2.

SOUTH FREMANTLE: Jason Spinks 7.5; Craig Edwards 6.4; Ashley Clementi 5.4.

SWAN DISTRICTS: Mick Grasso 3.3; Kevin Caton 3.2; Shane Stempel 3.1.

SUBIACO: Mal Williams 2.1; Wayne Golding 2.1.

EAST FREMANTLE: Andrew Lockyer 4.2; Damien Condon 3.0; Billy Krakouer 2.3;



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O'Reilly and Atkins were State teammates against South Australia, while Stubberfield had a consistent year with the Royals — and was a star at centre-half-back in East Perth's three finals.

West Perth's runner-up to the 1992 Sandover Medal, Derek Hall also played some games from centre-half-back.

Full-back has been a concern for all WAFL clubs this season.

State custodian Phil Gilbert (Claremont) finished the season as a pinch-hitter, filling positions from full-forward, to centre and on the ball.

East Perth's Paul Barnard threw his name into contention with a polished finals series, while South Fremantle's John Porter represented WA against South Australia, only to finish the season in the reserves.

.. and you can be a winner

Subiaco's Bill Monaghan spent much of his time at full-back, but was used in a variety of other positions as the Lions searched for a stability along their goal-to-goal line late in the season.

The back-pockets and half-back flank positions present a host of contenders.

East Perth's back-pocket specialist Dean Bertram gathered an impressive list of scalps with his tight defensive tactics, while East Fremantle's highly-disciplined back-pocket Mark Amaranti is also a contender.

South Fremantle's Nick Bolton could win a guernsey, but he is up against team-mates Cliff Collard and Ned Fimmano.

The hard-working rookie put together 18 successive games in defence for Souths, before injury forced him to miss the last three qualifying matches and the second semi-final win over East Fremantle.

Collard and Fimmano both have proven big-game records and some prominent scalps to their credit as negating defenders.

Perth's long-kicking John Clarkson and other attacking half-backs Peter Quill (East Fremantle) and Bret Hutchinson (Subiaco) will also be under serious consideration for a spot on the flanks.

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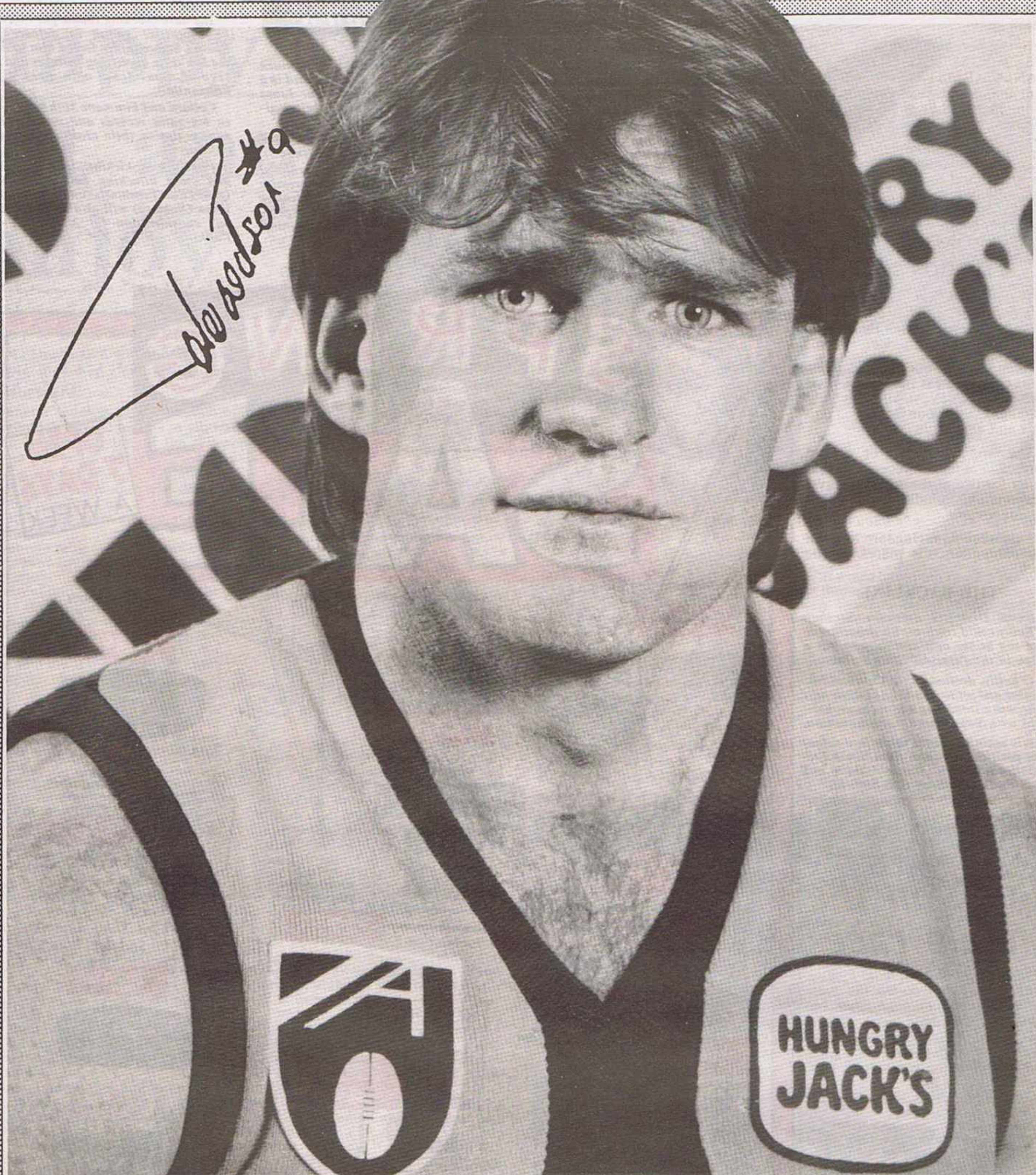


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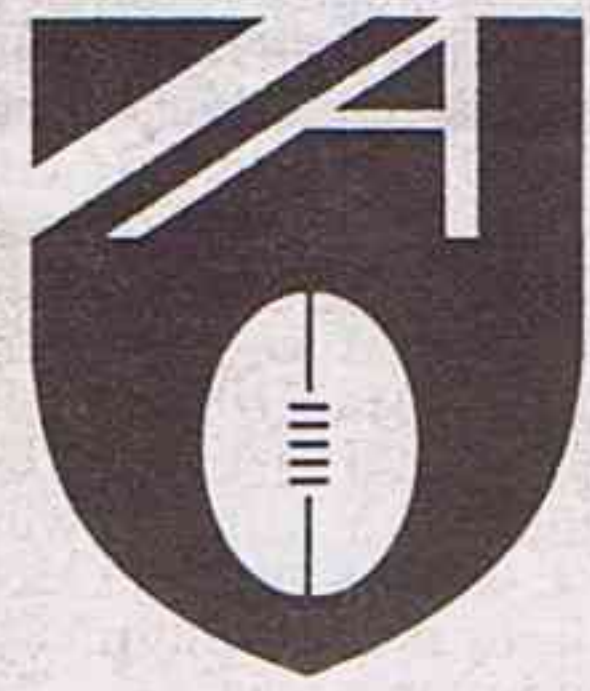


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Cardinals chasing first premiership

A LONG grand final drought was ended when Boyanup-Capel-Dardanup advanced to their first grand final since 1970 when they downed Bunbury by eight points in the South West League preliminary final last Sunday.

The Cardinals won 13.13 (91) to 11.17 (83) and meet premiers of the past two seasons, Harvey-Brunswick-Leschenault, in Sunday's grand final.

A victory would give Boyanup-Capel-Dardanup their first premiership.

The Cardinals started well with the aid of the strong breeze, but a lapse in concentration allowed Bunbury to score two valuable goals and they were just 21 points up at the first break.

Bunbury opened the second term slowly, but by the 15-minute mark they had taken the lead and looked likely to over-run a lack-lustre Cardinals combination.

However, the BCD defence fought

tenaciously and a goal on the siren by Tom Williams left them just eight points behind.

Bunbury began the third term well and maintained their high work-rate throughout the quarter, to go into the final term three points behind — and coming home with the wind.

DETERMINATION

However, the Cardinals rose above the odds and attacked relentlessly into the wind.

Their determination was rewarded when they kicked three goals, opposed to Bunbury's two with the breeze.

Experienced rover Angelo Conti, who left Bunbury this season to take up the captaincy at Boyanup, led by ex-

ample all day.

Hayward Medallist Brett Glass collected numerous possessions, while full forward Stephen Hill (five goals), wingman Dennis Hill and full-back Henry Norman enjoyed excellent games.

Bunbury ruck-rover Grant Hawkes was tireless in picking up 40 possessions, but lacked support from his fellow on-ballers.

Defenders Tony Deighton, Scott Cooper and Matt Hislop battled manfully for Bunbury all day to be among their side's better players.

Nukarni in return bout with Burra

NUKARNI qualified for the Eastern Districts grand final when they had a convincing win over Kondinin in the preliminary final, 15.15 (105) to 9.12 (66).

Kondinin had first use of a four-goal wind, but failed to make the most of it or restrict Nukarni, who trailed by just eight-points at the first change.

Kicking with the wind, Nukarni opened with six goals in the second term — to Kondinin's one — to lead at half-time by 27 points, 9.9 (63) to 5.6 (36).

Kondinin had their share of the ball in both quarters with the wind, but broke down across half-forward, where Nukarni half-back Darryl Anderson was outstanding.

Nukarni also had a winning mobile division, with rovers Tom Haines and Ian Delacy in great touch, ruckman Andrew Green and captain-coach Andrew Crook dominating on the ball.

The game was still up for grabs at the final change, though Nukarni led by five points and were coming home with the wind.

Crook, ruck-roving, was superb in the final 30 minutes, firing his side into attack, where they slammed on 6.5 for the term to snuff out Kondinin's grand final hopes.

For Kondinin, ruck-rover Chris Browning, wingmen Brad Crisp and Mark Jetta, centreman Darren Poole and full-forward Ashley Collard (three goals) battled hard.

Michael Caughey (four goals), Haines (three), David Haines and Alf Nelson (two each) did the damage for Nukarni in front of goal.

For Kondinin, Collard, rover Justin Eaton (two goals) and Scott Morton (two) were their main avenues to goal.

Souths blitz seals grand final win

SOUTH Mt Barker saved their best for last when they produced a stunning effort to upset favourites Royals in the Great Southern League grand final.

Souths, who finished the season in third spot, blitzed Royals with an incredible 7.6 to nil in the first term.

Kicking with a five-goal wind, the Hawks were unstoppable as young rover Darryl Eades and ruck-rover Darren Long cut the Royals defence to pieces.

After Souths stunning start, Royals failed to make best use of their turn with the wind and trailed by 26 points at half-time.

Royals kicked 3.4 for the term and held South scoreless, but that wasn't enough after Souths break-away start.

Sensing they had a match-winning lead, the Hawks concentrated on stout defence to restrict the blue and whites.

Royals came out firing in the third term, desperate to hold Souths who again had the wind.

With ruckman Steve Oreo doing well and ruck-rover Bruce Turner taking the points over Hawks skipper, Russell Jones, Royals added two valuable goals into the wind and held the Hawks to just two.

Souths were getting good service from defenders Ross Allison, a star in the finals after a quiet year and Paul Gallantino.

Allison continually thumped the

Hawks into attack with his long, raking left footers.

The Hawks also had good contributors in centreman Jamie Back, wingman Murray Anning and centre-half-back Mal Bryant.

After an even third term, Royals turned for home — kicking with the wind — trailing by 23 points, 9.12 (66) to 6.7 (43).

With centre-half-back Kim Crabb, rover Joe Tricholo and key forwards Gavin Morgan and David Bayly in good form, Royals were still a chance to storm home and take the flag.

Unbeaten on Centennial Oval all year (their home ground) and convincing winners over Souths in the second semi-final, the Royals faced a mighty challenge.

RESTRICTED

But with Long in great form and the Souths defence, led by Allison, Bryant and Gallantino, in a grim mood, Royals were restricted to a solitary goal as they came home with the wind.

The Hawks could only manage two points for the term, but their dogged defence did enough to protect the vital 23-point lead they held at the final change.

Darryl Eades was the Hawks leading scorer, with three goals, Darren Long kicked two and Back, Richard Ugle, Mick Doney and Jones kicked singles.

For Royals, full-forward Bayly kicked three and Jason Page, Michael Riches and Gavin Morgan kicked one each.

* Souths ruck-rover Darren Long won the Alan Hamilton trophy as fairest and best in the grand final.



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Seven-goal burst stuns Boulder

KALGOORLIE produced a sizzling seven-goal first quarter to stun Boulder and win a berth in the Goldfields grand final against hot favourites Mines.

After slamming on 7.3 in the first term — and keeping Boulder scoreless — Kalgoorlie held on to win by 11 points, 12.10 (82) to 10.11 (71).

Boulder bounced back in the second term — their turn with the wind — kicking 5.4, while Kalgoorlie kicked a vital goal into it, to go into half-time with a comfortable lead.

Kalgoorlie had a 19-point break, 8.5 (53) to 5.4 (34) up at the main break, with Glenn O'Loughlin and league fairest and best Glen Moir in great form.

Graham Reside, Adrian Hicks, Gary Longa and Rod Anderson were also giving Kalgoorlie plenty of drive.

The third term was a tight, tough affair with neither side able to break away, both adding just one goal.

Boulder, trailing by 17 points, had the wind at their backs in the last quarter and were still in with a fighting chance.

George Ford, Adam Bloomer, Russell Sparks, Ray Akee, Clayton Anderson and Ernie Dimer were in everything for Boulder and the scene was set for a titanic last term, with a grand final berth the prize.

Boulder did their best, slamming on 4.3, but they let Kalgoorlie through for three crucial goals to maintain their hard-earned lead.

After three tight quarters, Boulder went down by 11 points, with Kalgoorlie's seven-goal first term the difference between the sides.

For Kalgoorlie, Anderson (three goals), Russell Wellstead, Scott Prentice and Wes Coutts (two each) did well in attack.

Sparks and Bloomer (two goals each) were Boulder's only multiple scorers.

Quairading in grand final

QUAIRADING, shock losers last Sunday to Beverley, bounced back to secure an Avon League grand final spot, beating Federals in the preliminary final.

The reigning premiers, looking for a third consecutive title, got home by 14 points, 13.15 (93) to 12.7 (79).

Federals had first use of the wind, but led by just 10 points at quarter-time after a tight opening.

Quairading, with Bill Daly in great form, blitzed Federals in the second term, slamming on six goals to set up a handy 26-point lead at half-time, 8.10 (58) to 5.2 (32).

Federals came out strongly in the third term with the wind, kicking 5.5 to Quairading's 1.2, to lead by a point going into the final quarter.

Quairading were well-placed, coming home with the wind and with Daly, Adrian Stone and Sean Powell dominating, they guaranteed a grand final berth.

Daly (four goals), Steve Johnston (three) and Clayton Faulkingham (three) were Quairading's man avenue to goal, while Des Dalli (four goals) and Jason Jones (three) were busy for Federals.

Michael Ryder, Peter Hiltz and Yarran battled hard for Federals but couldn't lift them to victory.

This Sunday, Quairading play Beverley in the grand final.

Three Springs win the flag

THREE SPRINGS — losing grand finalists for the past two years — finally won a North Midlands premiership, beating Morawa 14.14 (98) to 6.10 (46).

The Bombers, hungry for success, blitzed Morawa in the first two quarters, virtually wrapping up the pennant by half-time.

With Brad Colegate and Wayne Hambley firing in attack, Three Springs led by 44 points at the main break, 8.8 (56) to 1.6 (12) and never looked back.

The Bombers adjusted better to the damp, blustery conditions and established midfield supremacy with their hard, run-on football.

Wayne Green, full-back Darren Colegate, Craig Morgan and Billy McGree were all on top for Three Springs, mak-

ing life difficult for the Tigers.

Morawa found some form in the second half in a desperate bid to fight their way back into the game.

With Brenton Calver, Max Johnson and David Dique working hard, Morawa lifted, but they were never going to peg back Three Springs huge lead.

Both sides added 2.4 in an even third term and went goal for goal in the last, with Three Springs stretching their lead by eight points.

Darren Colegate, the Bombers best, won the Len Angell Medal for best on the ground and Brad Colegate and Hambley (six goals each) dominated Three Springs forward line.

For Morawa, Calver, Johnson and Dique were their best, but lacked support.

Towns thrash Mullewa in preliminary

TOWNS trounced Mullewa in the Great Northern League preliminary final, 16.18 (114) to 7.7 (49), to secure a grand final berth against Chapman Valley.

The game was over at half-time when Towns led 8.10 (58) to Mullewa's dismal 1.4 (10).

For Towns, Graham in the ruck, Fitzpatrick in a back pocket, Stone, ruck-roving, Ricky Marianna in the centre and Walters at centre-half-forward, dominated the game.

Their supremacy midfield made life easy for their forwards, with Jeff Gadenne (three goals) and Hank Yarran, three from full-forward, doing well.

Jerra take grand final

JERRAMUNGUP capped off their undefeated season by beating Boxwood Hills in the Ongerup League grand final.

The victors set up their 17.11 (113) to 11.8 (74) win with a five-goal first term and were never in danger after that.

At half-time they led 7.5 (47) to 4.6 (30) and at the final change they had stretched their lead to 37 points.

For Jerramungup, Morrie Meola (five goals), Kim Siviour (three), Wayne Woods (three), Lee and Gray (two each) dominated the game.

Atherton's top effort

DONNYBROOK'S Darren Atherton was rewarded for a top season in the SWNFL when he collected the Myles \$1500 player-of-the-year award, as voted by South Western Times football writers.

The 24-year-old who played five games with Swan Districts last season, has dominated in the centre and finished 12 votes clear of his nearest rival.

Atherton's father Rod also won the award in 1965 when it was known as the Humes award.



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Goldfields medal to Moir

KALGOORLIE midfielder **Glen Moir**, the former Perth and East Fremantle rover, has won the Mitchell Medal as the Goldfields League fairest and best.

Moir and Boulder's livewire rover **George Ford** tied on 26 votes, but Ford was ineligible to win because of suspension.

Ford, runner-up last year to Mick Garbin, was found guilty of striking Kambalda rover Steve Kreinbihl in a behind-the-play incident.

He wasn't reported by umpires over the incident, but was hauled before the tribunal after Kambalda lodged a written complaint.

Mines half-back **Albie McKenzie** polled 24 votes, but was also ineligible due to suspension, leaving Railways ruckman **Todd Colquhoun** (23 votes) as official runner-up and team-mate **Robbie Payton** (20 votes) in third spot.

Moir (29) was delighted to win, but conceded that Ford would have won the medal on countback if he had not been suspended.

A truck-driver, Moir is playing his first season in the Goldfields, after successful stints in the WAFL.

The gutsy midfielder also played an integral part in Goldfields winning the Wesfarmers Country Championship A-grade premiership in July.

He will now be hoping his team can recover from their second semi-final loss to Mines and win Sunday's preliminary final and earn a second chance against favourites Mines in the grand final.

Geraldton's coverage

SUNDAY'S Great Northern Football League grand final will create a first for Geraldton when it is broadcast by local radio station, 98FM.

It's the first time a football match has been broadcast on the FM band in WA and local football identities will be used in the coverage.

Reid is tops

CRAIG Reid, from Goldfields League club Mines Rovers, has collected the Kalgoorlie Miner footballer-of-the-year award in his first season.

Reid, who played five games for Perth last season after arriving from Cairns, collected prizes to the value of \$2000.

Thomson wins Kleeman medal

RAILWAYS ruckman **Mal Thomson** capped a fine year when he won the Kleeman Medal as fairest and best in the Great Southern League.

The former Claremont player was also the best player in the Great Southern Carnival win in Albany in July.

Thomson polled 22 votes to win from clever Tambellup rover Foster Farmer (19) and Hawks premiership captain Russell Jones, who polled 18 votes.

SITUATIONS VACANT 1993 coaching positions

SCARBOROUGH AFC COACHES

Applications are invited for the following coaching positions for the 1993 season:

A GRADE, A COLTS, C GRADE, H GRADE

Applications in writing to be forwarded to:

The President

Scarborough Amateur Football Club
P.O. Box 8, Scarborough W.A. 6019

Applications close 9th October 1992

Willetton Football Club

(Affiliated with the Sunday F/Ball League)

Invites applications for

COACHES

League/Reserves/Colts/Saturday Side

Written applications to

CHAIRMAN

WILLETTON FOOTBALL CLUB
PO BOX 111, WILLETTON 6155

Applications close Nov 6th 1992

COACHES REQUIRED

LEAGUE, RESERVES, COLTS
AND SATURDAY AMATEURS

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Club Inc

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League

Written applications to the
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Armadale, 6112 by Sept 30, 1992

Rockingham Amateur Football Club

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COACHES FOR 1993 SEASON FOR "B"
COLTS, "H" AND "K" GRADE.

Apply in writing stating
experience and remuneration

Required to:

P.O. BOX 242 ROCKINGHAM 6168
Applications close 1st November 1992

BASSENDAN AMATEUR

FOOTBALL CLUB

REQUIRES PLAYING &
NON-PLAYING COACHES

C-grade, H-grade, C-colts

for the 1993 season

Applications in writing to be forwarded to:

The Secretary

BasSENDAN AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

P.O. Box 40, BasSENDAN 6107

Applications close 9th October 1992

NORANDA JUNIOR

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plus fresh blood for the 1993 season

Applications in writing to be forwarded to:

The Secretary

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Applications close 2nd October 1992

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NORTH BRIDGE AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB
Plus applications for the 1993 season. Duties include coaching, fitness supervision, Saturday coaching, plus Saturday coaching. Applications in writing to be forwarded to: The Secretary, Club House, 100 North Street, Northbridge 6865. Address letter to PO Box 119, Northbridge 6865. Denis Hestel, P.O. Box 119, Northbridge 6865. Applications close Monday, October 17, 1992, with details of your background and required remuneration.

NORTH BRIDGE AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB
Invites applications for coaching positions for grades from 9s to 17s, plus fresh blood for the 1993 season. Applications in writing to be forwarded to: The Secretary, P.O. Box 65, Boulder 6432. Conditions and remuneration to be discussed. Phone: 090 211 344 or 090 217 275.

Mt Lawley shake off tough Norths

MT LAWLEY moved into the grand final against University this Saturday with a stirring 28-point win over North Beach in the amateurs A-grade preliminary final.

The Hawks got off to a good start, controlling the centre and half-forward line and breaking away to a 20-point lead at quarter-time.

Jerrard Kearney, Brad Kirwin-Ward and Andrew Brady were all playing well for Mt Lawley and carried that form into the second quarter.

However, 10 minutes into the term, Norths settled and with Paul Bistrup taking charge at centre-half-forward, Gary Tait doing well in the ruck and Bruce Stewart returning to form, they fought back.

Norths outscored Mt Lawley by five points in the second term and were well-placed to continue the challenge against their more-fancied opponents.

Norths bounced out after the main break and grabbed the lead early in the third term.

But Mt Lawley were not to be outdone and fought back strongly.

tough Norths



By
**DAVID
EGGLESTON**

In a superb third quarter, the lead changed four times in 20 minutes, as both sides fought desperately to establish a break.

It was the Hawks who snuck away to a slender two-point lead at the final change.

Norths, the surprise packets of the finals series after finishing fifth, were throwing everything at the reigning premiers.

Again, the first 20 minutes of the final term was tight and torrid, with neither side able to take a substantial lead.

Mt Lawley's Ben Stewart and Mark Cartier were giving their team-mates every opportunity to break away and finally, in the last eight minutes, Mt Lawley cracked North Beach's defence and slammed on four quick goals to seal the match.

North Beach had tireless workers in Anthony Clatworthy and Ian Halley on a wing, but it was the dominance of Mt Lawley at centre bouncdowns, enabling them to create fast forward moves, that turned the game.

This Saturday Mt Lawley will have to be at their best to beat University at Perth Oval, but big forward Victor Lowe — the league's top goalkicker — could be the key if the Hawks are to succeed.

COLTS ROUND-UP

A COLTS

UNIVERSITY, led by captain and association fairest and best Peter Phillips, were too good for minor premiers North Beach in the preliminary final at Perth Oval on Saturday.

The 11-point win in the keen contest showed the students are back to their best after a late-season form loss.

Wingman Todd Anderson and Mark Brown, in the centre, provided the midfield run that gave University the chance to win their fourth consecutive A Colts premiership.

North Beach were valiant in defeat, but were unable to live up to the form they showed in the home-and-away rounds.

Jason Blythe, Jason Dover, Ryan Dawson, Paul Wittber and Gavin Friedlieb were the best for North Beach.

B COLTS

SWAN Athletic outlasted a determined Rockingham in a physical encounter to move into the grand final with a five-point win in the preliminary final.

The lead changed several times and it was not until the final 10 minutes that Swan Athletic broke away.

Best players for Swans were half-back flanker Jason Bombardier, rover Mark Turner and Matthew Smith at centre half-forward.

C COLTS

SWAN VIEW dumped North Beach out of the premiership race with a convincing 15-goal win in the preliminary final.

North Beach succumbed to the tenacity and pressure of Swan View to bow out in disappointing fashion.

Best for Norths were Kristian Vanderwick, Graeme Trehwella, Troy Francesconi, Mark Love, Craig Hendrie and Jason Lee.

Highlights around the grades

B GRADE

BASSENDEAN Swans won a classic preliminary final by 34 points over a gallant, hard-running Dianella Morley at Bassendean Oval.

The match was played with a lot of vigour from both sides and the perfect conditions provided for a display of excellent skills.

In a match that could have gone either way, Bassendean's commitment and attacking style of play saw them prevail.

Best for Bassendean were King, Moylan and Gardiner.

C GRADE

MT LAWLEY stormed into the grand final with a 35-point win over Bayswater in the preliminary final.

In a high standard, hard-fought match, Mt Lawley's superior team play got them over the line.

Tony Crook, at centre-half-back, was impassable, Dave Armstrong at centre-half-forward dominated and Peter Bourne was resolute in the back-pocket.

Paul Andrews contributed a valuable three goals to the winners.

Next week's grand final against Cockburn Lakes will see a re-match of the second semi-final.

D GRADE

WANNEROO reversed the result of the qualifying final when they downed Cowan University by 24 points in the preliminary final at Claremont Oval.

Wanneroo relished the wide-open spaces and fine weather and opened strongly to lead by six goals at quarter-time.

With Chris Sampson dominating across half-forward, Wanneroo increased their lead to eight goals at the long break.

The third quarter was all Wanneroo as they pushed ahead to lead by 10 goals at the final change.

As Wanneroo tired, Cowan made their charge in the last quarter and held the leaders goal-less, but it was too late and Wanneroo won the right to meet Hamersley-Carline in this week's grand final.

Best for Wanneroo were Sampson, ruck-rover Steve Game and rover Michael Dohlar.

This Saturday's grand final appearance will be Wanneroo's fourth in a row.

E GRADE

REDCLIFFE won their way through to their fourth consecutive grand final and their eighth in nine years with a hard fought 12-point win over Dianella Morley.

Redcliffe bounced out with a five-goal first quarter to lead by 24 points and with good team play and some hard running they extended the lead to 38 points at half-time.

Dianella hit back and piled on six goals while keeping Redcliffe down to one point in the third term.

With the game up for grabs in the last quarter, Redcliffe managed to overcome the loss of full-back Ray Wilkinson and 1992 E Grade medallist Glen Dowling, to run out winners.

Inspirational goals from winger Phil Leech and utility Gary Walker helped seal the game in the dying minutes.

Redcliffe's best were Leech, Walker and Michael Kelly.

Next week's grand final opponents will be Balcatta who beat Redcliffe by 23 points in the second semi-final.

F GRADE

WEMBLEY won through to the grand final with a 10-goal win over Brentwood.

In a game where the scores didn't reflect the closeness of the match, Wembley's determination to win held them in good stead when the game was up for grabs.

Wembley's best were ruck-rover Dave Harris, wingman Steve Hancock and back-pocket Phil Delmenico.

This week's grand final between Coolbellup and Wembley will provide the Magpies with an opportunity to atone for their defeat in the second semi-final.

G GRADE

NORTH Fremantle will meet Ocean Ridge in the grand final following their 82-point demolition of Whitford in the preliminary final.

With two reliable avenues to goal in Chris Banbury and Tyson Keenan, who both kicked five goals, Norths were able to capitalise on their midfield dominance and kick a match-winning score.

Other good players for the Port side included Heath Nelson, Kim Robinson, Bill Eagen and Ben Tiller.

The score in head to head contests between the two grand finalists stands at one all, but North will need to improve markedly to beat Ocean Ridge this week.

H GRADE

EAST Fremantle snuck into the grand final with a three-point preliminary final win over Murdoch University.

Murdoch got away to an early lead but with Phil Gangemi and Ian Bancroft holding firm in defence, East's were able to get the better of numerous last quarter lead changes to get up and win.

Other good players for East's were Troy Jinman at centre-half-forward and Rob Barron.

J GRADE

AFTER a very even first-half Collegians got the better of a close second-half to snatch a 19-point win over Dianella Morley and advance to the grand final.

Three valuable goals from rover Paul Grist, a fine display from ruck-rover Andrew Irwin and a strong game from centre-half-forward Cam McIntosh helped sway the game in Collegians favour.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

GRAND FINALS

Colts start 12.20pm (25 minutes, no time on); Seniors start 2.30pm (25 minutes, plus time on).

A GRADE University v Mount Lawley, Perth Oval.

B GRADE Whitford v Bassendean, Leeder-ville Oval.

C GRADE Cockburn Lakes v Mount Lawley, Claremont Oval.

D GRADE Hamersley Carine v Wanneroo, Robinson Reserve.

E GRADE Balcatta v Redcliffe, Bassendean Oval.

F GRADE Coolbellup v Wembley, East Fremantle Oval 2.00pm

G GRADE Ocean Ridge v North Fremantle, Charles Riley Reserve.

H GRADE Rockingham v East Fremantle, Gil Fraser Oval.

I GRADE Cockburn Lakes v Bullcreek, Karoonda Park No.1.

J GRADE Wanneroo v Collegians O. S., Den Penman Reserve No.1.

K GRADE Wembley v Rockingham, Mar-mion Reserve.

L GRADE Brentwood v Trinity Aquinas, Riverton Reserve.

A COLTS Wembley v University, Perth Oval.

B COLTS C. B. C. v Swan Athletic, Leeder-ville Oval.

C COLTS Cowan University v Swan View, Claremont Oval.

AMATEUR RESULTS

EMU EXPORT LEAGUE

Preliminary Finals

A GRADE: Mt Lawley 17.12 d North Beach 13.8.

B GRADE: Bassendean 15.14 d Dianella-Morley 12.10.

C GRADE: Mt Lawley 15.18 d Bayswater 11.7.

D GRADE: Wanneroo 15.10 d Cowan Uni 11.7.

E GRADE: Redcliffe 13.10 d Dianella-Morley 12.4.

F GRADE: Wembley 17.10 d Brentwood 7.7.

G GRADE: North Fremantle 19.10 d Whitford 7.8.

H GRADE: East Fremantle 13.7 d Murdoch Uni-ersity 12.10.

I GRADE: Bullcreek 19.17 d Warnbro Swans 4.5.

J GRADE: Collegians Old Scotch 14.18 d Dianella-Morley 12.11.

K GRADE: Rockingham 12.14 d Mt Lawley 12.12.

A COLTS: University 9.13 d North Beach 8.8.

B COLTS: Swan Athletic 14.8 d Rockingham 13.9.

C COLTS: Swanview 21.11 d North Beach 6.10.

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PRESENTS...

A roundup of news from the West Australian Amateur Football League



University favoured . . .

THIS Saturday's A-grade amateurs grand final between University and Mt Lawley looms as a classic battle with little separating the two sides.

University, coached by former Perth and Claremont veteran Cam Shepherd, took the minor premiership and are the form side.

They took the points convincingly over Mt Lawley two weeks ago when they stormed home to win the second semi-final by 47 points.

University struggled early in that game, before regaining control and running out winners, 15.15 (105) to 8.10 (58).

Mt Lawley, who came through a tough hit-out with North Beach in Saturday's preliminary final, would appear to have to find an extra gear to match the talented students.

DANGEROUS

University have a lot of players who kick goals, with their most dangerous forwards being Christo Edwards, who finished second on the goalkicking ladder with 63 and Ben Matthews, who has kicked 48.

Before University's success in the second semi-final Mt Lawley, the reigning premiers, won the previous clash between the two.

But the Hawks, coached for the first time by well-travelled league player Phil Cronan, have worked hard to qualify for their grand final showdown.

They only managed to shake off a gallant North Beach in the final 10 minutes to win the preliminary final and gain the chance to defend their premiership title.

EXPERIENCED

Shepherd, whose players have the benefit of a week's rest, has a bevy of midfield talent and experience at his disposal.

Ruckman Bill Fry, forward Christo Edwards — second in the goalkicking — wingman Roger Steinepreis, consistent half-back Michael Prendiville, former Claremont defender Simon Lill and damaging half-forward Ben Matthews are all important cogs in the University machine.

. . . but Mt Lawley are keen to retain title

Former Demon wingman Richard Caldwell is another experienced player Shepherd hopes can perform under grand final pressure.

Cronan says the Hawks don't rely on individuals, but three players who are important for him are midfielder Mark Cartier, the association's fairest and best, big full-forward Vic Lowe, who topped the goalkicking with 66 (ahead of Edwards) and productive centreman Ben Stewart.

Another is former West Perth utility Peter Cutler, who can be used in attack or defence.

Jerrard Kearney is another top-rating Hawk who is one of Cronan's keys to success.

The Mt Lawley coach acknowledged that University were a powerful side, but said his players — keen to score back-to-back flags — had also come through a tough finals campaign.

Lowe tops goalkicking

VIC Lowe, from Mt Lawley, won the A-grade goalkicking award, with 66 — just three ahead of University's Christo Edwards.

Top goal kickers are as follows: A-grade: Vic Lowe (Mt Lawley) 66; Christo Edwards (University) 63; Paul Bistrup (North Beach) 50; Kevin Edwards (Scarborough) 48; Ben Matthews (University) 42; Tony Fullgrave (Scarborough) 40.

B-grade: Peter Brindley (CBC) 108; Troy Bozich (Swan Athletic) 64; Phillip Brooks (Roekingham) 64; Curt Rossman (Wesley-Curtin) 59; Bradley O'Brien (Dianella-Morley) 58; Paul Higgins (Bassendean) 52.

"If we can switch on mentally in the pressure of a grand final then we can win.

"Our team is a little like Footscray (who Cronan played with) — very close-knit, hard-working and we don't rely on too many individuals."

Cronan, eager for his first coaching success, added: "It really will depend on who is better on the day."

Milestone in grand final

COCKBURN Lakes stalwart Colin Doyle is set to play his 200th game for the club in this week's I-grade grand final against Bullcreek.

Doyle (34) has been playing with the club since 1981, when he was the best player in the grand final. Since then, he has amassed a long list of personal achievements.

In 1982 he was voted J-grade best backman and in '84 he played in the club's undefeated premiership side; in 1988 he was voted K-grade's best and fairest; in 1989 he was the J-grade Champagne Footballer and in 1991 he won the K-grade fairest and best.

This week will be Doyle's fourth appearance in a grand final, the others being in '84, '86 and '91.

LIKELY LINE-UPS

MT LAWLEY

FULL-BACKS: Armstrong, Glynn, Ryan
HALF-BACKS: Brady, Kearney, Cutler
CENTRES: Horton, Smithall, Cahill
HALF-FORWARDS: Dirou, Mellard, Grigo
FULL-FORWARDS: T. Cook, Lowe, Pagonini
RUCK: Chapman
RUCK-ROVER: Tory
ROVER: Copeland

UNIVERSITY

FULL-BACKS: Bucat, Angus, McNeer
HALF-BACKS: C. Massey, Mark Prendiville, Michael Prendiville
CENTRES: Hudson, Steinerpries, Matthews
HALF-FORWARDS: Stone, Foster, Hewitt
FULL-FORWARDS: S. Massey, Lill, Caldwell
RUCK: Fry
RUCK-ROVER: Edwards
ROVER: Mumme

OUR OFFICE

The West Australian Amateur Football League Office is situated in the three-tier grandstand at Subiaco Oval.

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Sunday flag goes north

Roo underdogs rebound against Saints

By
BRUCE BUTLER



Sunday Sunday Football League

WANNEROO	0.5	5.7	7.9	10.17	77
OSBORNE PARK	2.1	4.7	5.14	6.17	53

GOALS — Wanneroo: C. Davies, M. Paterson 2, T. Floyd, I. Jansen, A. Kiernan, G. Sims, B. Williamson, H. Soutar. **Osborne Park:** Ray Ewen 3, G. Rattray 2, O. McGuire.

BEST — Wanneroo: Ian Jansen, Neil Whatmore, Chris Davies. **Osborne Park:** Billy Kickett, Oral McGuire, Ray Ewen.

RESERVES

KELMSCOTT	5.0	7.1	8.3	9.3	57
OSBORNE PARK	2.1	4.2	6.4	7.12	54

GOALS — Kelmscott: C. McCamish 2, C. Aitken, B. Anderson, C. Brierty, S. Carlson, S. Hogden, R. Osborne, R. Renton. **Osborne Park:** H. Lewis 4, S. Agrela, J. Atkinson, N. Whatmore.

BEST — Kelmscott: Chris McCamish, Andrew Tigchelaar, Craig Davis. **Osborne Park:** Ian Grant, Anthony Holub, Tony Mirco.

COLTS

WILLETTON	1.0	5.3	7.7	8.14	62
CANNING	2.6	2.7	4.8	5.9	39

GOALS — Willetton: D. Kalejs 3, C. Barraclough 2, D. Glass, T. Wedgewood, D. Witherow. **Canning:** M. Distefano, D. Piccirilli 2, S. Thompson.

BEST — Willetton: Justin Luff, Luke Johnstone, John Hart. **Canning:** Shane Thompson, Des Milne, Tim Heuchan.

SUNDAY League giants Wanneroo carved out another chapter in their successful history with a powerful grand final win over favourites Osborne Park at Lathlain Park.

The 24-point win gives Wanneroo — and coach Les Fong — consecutive premierships.

The Roos, who came into the grand final as underdogs after being thumped by the Saints in the second semi, won 10.17 (77) to 6.17 (53).

The premiership was a sweet personal triumph for Fong, who has the enviable record of two flags with the Roos in his two seasons as coach.

Osborne Park coach Ed Blackaby, aiming for his second flag in three years, was bitterly disappointed with the Saints, who were beaten in virtually every position.

ONE LOSS

They made it to the grand final after dropping just one game during the season — to Kelmscott — and drawing with Wanneroo in the second round.

Then they cruised through the second semi, brushing aside the Roos, 14.15 (99) to 5.8 (38).

But on Sunday, their brilliant midfielders — centreman Greg Carpenter and followers Oral McGuire, Darrell Woods, Michael Arnold, Paul Sanzone and Mike Smith — lowered their colours to Wanneroo.

It was no secret the game would be decided by the respective following divisions, which bristle with tough, skilful players — many with extensive WAFL experience.

Fong paid tribute to centreman Ross Munns, who ignored the effects of a back injury to turn in a superb display on Saints skipper Carpenter, a dual Subiaco premiership player.

Munns, a former Falcons midfielder, matched Carpenter, creating many opportunities for his forwards.

"Munns has done that before on top centreman, matching them and just running off them with the ball," Fong said.

The Roos' Ian Jansen, troubled by groin and ankle injuries before the finals, was the dominant big man, doing well at hit-outs and working hard around the ground.

Jansen, normally at centre half-forward, was thrown into the ruck when Heath Soutar — another former Falcon — was hit by the flu.

Fong decided just an hour before the start to use Soutar, who was well below full strength, but keen to play, at full-forward and Jansen in the ruck.

The forced move was a winner, with Jansen responding to the challenge.

"Janno is a very fit, very mobile player and he did a magnificent job. Perhaps Heath Soutar's virus was a blessing in disguise," Fong said.

MIDFIELD STRENGTH

Rovers Chris Davies — another who recovered from serious injury for the finals — brother David, busy ruck-rovers Mike Paterson, Tom Floyd and Munns were instrumental in the Roos' midfield supremacy.

Chris Davies and Paterson, with two goals each, also were dangerous for-

wards, with Floyd, Jansen, Aaren Kiernan, Graham Sims, Soutar and wingman Bruce Williamson contributing one each.

Williamson, an exciting left-footer who had a stint with Claremont, has been restricted by injury, but got his chance when regular wingman David Brown had a car accident last week.

Brown, who sustained whiplash, declared himself fit, but Fong was unwilling to risk him.

The Wanneroo defence, one of the tightest all year, again shone.

Neil Roach, 21st man in last year's win over Armadale, made up for that disappointment with a brilliant display in a back pocket and Neil Whatmore again was rock-solid on a back flank.

For Osborne Park, Tim Scanlon played a lone hand in the ruck against Jansen, earning Blackaby's vote as their hardest worker.

Ruck-rovers Mike Smith, who shifted into the centre in the second half, replacing Carpenter, also tried hard, with Andrew Sanzone, at centre-half-back and centre-half-forward, and Brett Fullarton gave his all for the Saints.

LITTLE SUPPORT

Billy Kickett, on a back flank, McGuire and specialist forward Ray Ewen (three goals) all tried hard, but had little support from team-mates.

Blackaby made many changes after half-time, shifting Andrew Sanzone into attack and Smith into the middle to lift the Saints, but they had no marked effect on the Wanneroo charge for the flag.

In the first term Osborne Park, after winning the toss, kicked with a handy wind, but managed only 2.1, while the Roos looked dangerous with 0.5, including two posters.

With the wind in the second quarter, Wanneroo slammed on 5.2, to lead by a goal at half-time — 5.7 (37) to 4.7 (31).

WASTED CHANCES

In the crucial third term, Osborne Park squandered their turn with the wind with a wasteful 1.7, while the Roos added 2.2.

The Saints missed several set shots, but Wanneroo put their forwards under pressure, which contributed to the inaccuracy.

"It was probably one of our few four-quarter efforts for the year and we produced it in the grand final," Fong said.

"We hit the post twice in the first quarter, but we held them and that is where we set up the win.

"We played better all day, particularly in the third quarter when there was less breeze.

"In that term we would have controlled the ball for 22 minutes.

"Five or six of their shots at goal were under enormous pressure from

our guys, when we were right on their hammer.

"At three-quarter-time the guys knew they could go on and win. It was one of the best feelings I've had for many years."

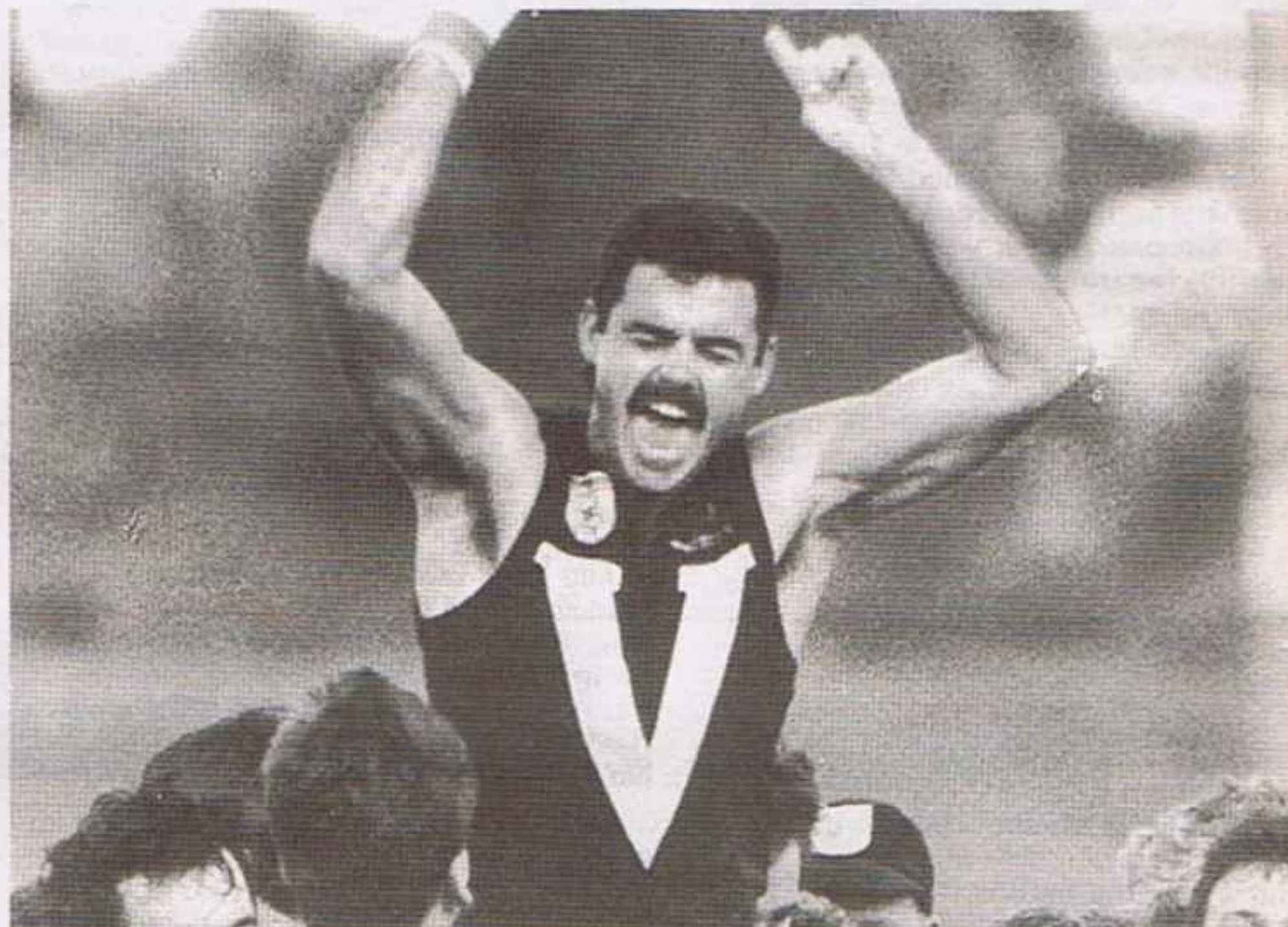
Blackaby said the Saints had turned in one of their worst games for the year.

"We didn't have a good player all day, we didn't have a winner in any position," he said.

"Even though our backline did well, we just didn't get enough of the ball.

"They won across the middle of the ground and their ruck-rovers and rovers were on top.

"We were still a chance 10-15 minutes into the last quarter, but we just didn't have the legs. It looked like we'd already played a game."



CHAIR-MAN... Wanneroo captain Robbie Steele is chaired off after the Roos victory



BIG BOOT... Darryl Woods kicks Osborne Park into attack

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Wanneroo repeat premiership success

Coaches eye next step

BOTH Sunday League grand final coaches will ponder their futures over the summer.

Les Fong, a 284-game veteran with West Perth, has had remarkable success in his first foray into coaching, with an unblemished record in his two seasons at Wanneroo.

Ed Blackaby, the former Canberra and Swan Districts stalwart, also has an enviable record in his three years at Osborne Park — two grand finals for a 1-1 result.

Fong, a financial adviser, has a fine record as a player and Sunday League coach, which would make him an ideal candidate for a WAFL job.

STEP UP

Blackaby also could take the step up, if he wanted to.

The brilliant rover, a sales rep with a transport firm, was at Swans during their revival in the late '70s and early '80s, but missed out on premiership success because of illness.

A near-fatal blood disease prematurely ended his playing career.

The gutsy rover showed enormous courage to fight back from the illness and was an inspiration to all football fans. He would command respect from any young player.

Fong, celebrating with his players on Monday, said: "It has been a difficult year, losing eight of last year's grand final side and losing a few games during the season.



DOUBLE UP... Les Fong has notched his second successive flag with Wanneroo

"I am absolutely rapt to win two in a row, but I certainly haven't made any decisions about next year.

"I've been involved in football for 21 years straight and it takes its toll."

Blackaby, one of the stars for WA's Superules team, the national titleholders, said: "I'm going away in October for the Australian Superules carnival on the Gold Coast.

"I'm not looking any further ahead than that — but maybe I can win a premiership there."



YOU BEAUTY... the Kelmscott reserves side show their premiership jubilation

Howatson snares Bowden

KELMSCOTT rover Rohan Howatson — one of the prime movers in the Bulldogs revival in the second half of the year — has won the prestigious Bowden Medal.

Howatson polled 22 votes, well clear of his nearest rival, Wanneroo ruckman Heath Soutar, who polled 15 votes.

Osborne Park ruckman Tim Scanlon was third with 13 votes — including four best-on-ground-performances.

Just behind Scanlon, with 12 votes, were Wanneroo centre-half-forward Graeme Sims, all from top vote games, Maddington rover Russell Buck and utility player Mark Dominish (Gosnells).

TOP performers from each club:
OSBORNE PARK: 13 Tim Scanlon, 10 Mike Smith; **WANNEROO:** 15 Heath Soutar, 12 Graeme Sims; **WILLETTON:** 9 Doug Gibb, 9 Stuart Crole; **KELMSCOTT:** 22 Rohan Howatson, 9 Leigh Gorton, 5 John Spilsbury, 5 Mark Spilsbury; **ARMADALE:** 9 Matt Hill, 8 Phil Preedy, 3 Bruce Loo; **THORNIE:** 10 James Ninnett, 9 Randell Prowse, 7 Tim Miocevich; **MADDINGTON:** 12 Russell Buck, 5 Darren Johnson, 5 Kim Lambkin, 4 Dean Glenn; **APPLECROSS:** 9 Dwain Regan, 6 Darren Smythe, 4 Harry Thorne; **CANNING:** 8 Dean Piccirilli, 5 Nicky Yarran, 3 Charles Schuilling; **GOSNELLS:** 12 Mark Dominish, 6 Ray Keen, 6 Paul O'Keeffe, 3 Paul Hill; **SOUTH PERTH:** 6 Jamie Giancola, 6 Laurie Liddel, 5 Simon Boyd; **KENWICK:** 9 Rod Smith, 7 Neville Luff, 6 Paul Stephan; **KALAMUNDA:** 5 Peter Spalding, 4 Scott Hall.

Mirco best in reserves

OSBORNE Park's Tony Mirco polled 15 votes to win the reserves fairest and best from Kelmscott team. ...tes Chris McCamish and Andrew Walker.

Walker was awarded the runner-up trophy on a countback from McCamish, both on 14 votes.

The best from each club were:

ARMADALE: 6 R Greenwell, 6 D Carlson, 6 P Jones; **APPLECROSS:** 9 S Morley, 9 S Bodey; **CANNING:** 4 M Richards; **GOSNELLS:** 8 B Corbett, 7 D McGilvray, 6 P McGilvray; **KALAMUNDA:** 6 A Offer, 6 G Hill; **KELMSCOTT:** 14 A Walker, 14 C McCamish, 7 C Moreno, Kenwick; 7 N Thomas, 5 M Delamere; **MADDINGTON:** 4 W Condon, 3 J Dickinson; **OSBORNE PARK:** 15 T Mirco, 9 F Figliomeni, 8 D Cananzi; **SOUTH PERTH:** 7 A Crutchley, 6 M Kiel; **THORNIE:** 9 G Taylor, 6 G Cook; **WANNEROO:** 11 J Hathaway, 10 A Hutchings; **WILLETTON:** 12 A George, 7 T Sieracki.

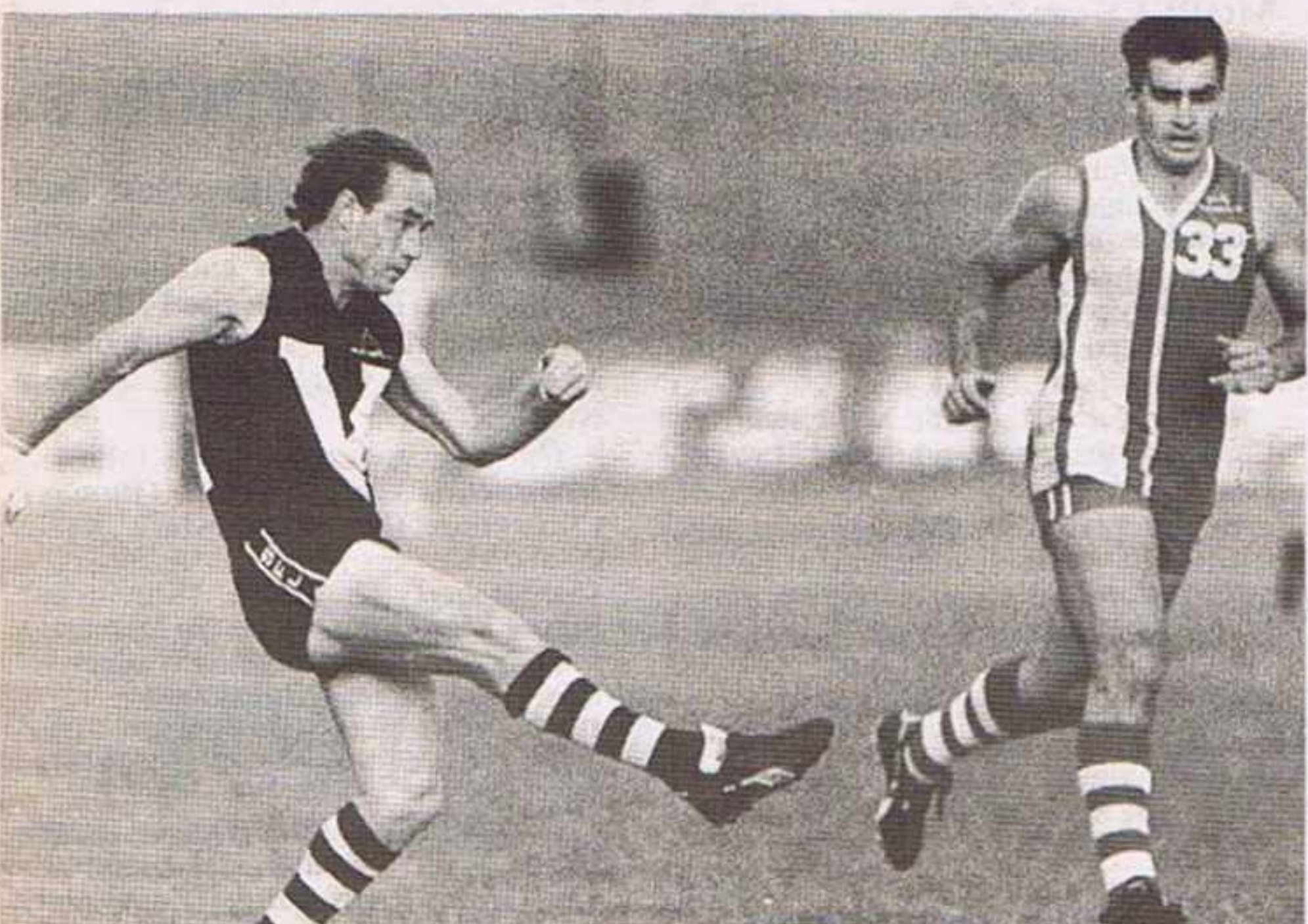
Thompson is best colt

THE COLTS fairest and best was also extremely close with Canning's Shane Thompson taking the trophy on countback from Jason Stewart, of Kelmscott.

Both scored 22 votes, but Thompson — with six best-on-ground performances — took the award with Bruce Johns (Armadale) third with 18 votes.



WATCH IT... Osborne Park's Peter Adams is claimed by Neil Whatmore



ON THE RUN... Wanneroo rover Tom Floyd puts his team into attack

Congratulations to the Wanneroo Football Club on winning the Sunday League Grand Final from

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Fremantle win 17s shield

By JENNY GROVE

FREMANTLE District came out on top when the five 17s junior football regions went head-to-head in the battle for the Nissan Shield.

Introduced this year, the shield was played as a round-robin with each of the regions — Fremantle, Central, North Suburban, South Suburban and Swan Districts — playing each other once.

Catering for the second level of 17s players — those not playing regular colts games — the regional competition has unearthed many talented players.

The idea of the inter-regional competition is to expose as many boys as possible to a higher level than they would experience in their own regions.

Considering the importance of giving talented footballers as many opportunities as possible the shield is a step in the right direction.



TOP COMBINATION . . . Fremantle Districts coach Dave Lindsay holds the Nissan Shield, presented by Rod Tilt, the manager of dealer operations for Nissan. Fairest and best in the competition was Scott Reed (left), with runner-up Neil Lancaster

Swanleigh take flag

SWANLEIGH 17s overcame a determined High Wycombe to take the premiership in the Swan Districts region, 9.10 (64) to 6.4 (40).

With the use of a strong breeze in the first quarter, High Wycombe scored three goals to one.

Swanleigh made up the margin when they used the breeze in the second quarter to be just one point down at the long break.

The third quarter was the difference between the two sides as Swanleigh held High Wycombe to two goals and trailed by five points at the last change.

Swanleigh kicked away in the last quarter to claim the flag by 24 points in a top-class game, where both sides showed considerable skill.

Swanleigh coach Trevor Malcolm praised the spirit the match was played in.

"Both teams played with discipline and enthusiasm and this made it a great game," he said.

Best players for Swanleigh were Bradley Lyon, who kicked four goals, rover Brady Lord, full-back Rodney Seigert and Neil Lancaster in the centre.

In other results, Belmont beat Swan View by 36 points 8.8 (56) to 2.8 (20)

to take the 15s premiership with James Boot (Swan View) best-afield.

The 14s grand final ended with Swan View overcoming Airport Eagles by 16 points 8.8 (56) to 6.4 (40), with the top performer being John Pepe (Airport Eagles).

In a tense struggle, Upper Swan narrowly beat Bassendean by two points 5.6 (36) to 5.4 (34) to take the 13s flag with Jason Laverick (Bassendean) best-on-ground.

Junior takes two awards

VERSATILE Simon Black, from the Bullcreek-Leeming Sharks, followed on from his best-on-ground performance in the 13s grand final by winning the region's best and fairest award.

Wade Russell (Ferndale) took out the 15s award by three votes, from Michael Collica (East Fremantle) with Daniel Jerome (Karooonda) third.

The 14s trophy was won by Willetton's Clinton Bickle by one vote from Dathan Allmark (Tigers) and Glen Waters (Willetton).

Morley grabs 17's flag

MORLEY made the most of their scoring opportunities and convincingly beat Osborne Park in the Central Districts 17s grand final.

Steve Pendleton turned in a great performance for Morley, while Daniel Spina was the best for Osborne Park.

The other grand finals resulted in premierships for Mt Lawley, who easily accounted for Hawks by 71 points in the 15s.

Unbeaten all season Mt Lawley's, Luka was their best, while for Hawks, Hogg tried hard.

In the 14s, West Coast proved too strong for Wembley Downs running out comfortable winners by 57 points.

Smoker was the top performer for West Coast and for Wembley Downs, Isles battled hard all day.

Cougars defied the odds to topple the previously unbeaten Wembley Downs by 9 points to take the flag in the 13s.

Cole was the best for Cougars and Lange shone for Wembley Downs.



YOUNG FAN . . . Thomas McGown, of Nedlands, might only be six years old, but he's a dedicated West Coast fan and is pictured here with his favourite Eagle as part of the Hungry Jack's promotion

Town and Country Little League

SOUTH Fremantle have won the Town and Country Little League lightning carnival played during the WAFL finals series.

Under the unique scoring system, with points for a win, a draw and a loss, the Bulldogs clinched the title from Swan Districts.

Best for the Bulldogs were Luke Hill, Troy Pavlovic and Jarrett Campbell, with Robert Campo, Allan Till and Shaun Vanderkley showing out for Swans.

Perth had a good win over the Falcons, with Jason Van'beuningen, Noel Lavis and Murray Jones all playing well.

West Perth's best were Brett Sydney-Smith, Scott Doncon and Anthony Dyer.

CELEBRATION

The Sharks made it a double celebration when they beat the Royals in a carbon copy of the league preliminary final.

For East Fremantle, Nathan Hebbard, Wade Prouse and Luke Green all did well and for East Perth Brad Hardingham, Brendon Croll and Angelo Molinari battled hard.

Claremont's best team effort was not enough to stop an accomplished Lions outfit, led by Shaun Gronow.

Other good players for Subiaco were Alan Bamfield and Shaun Meyrick.

During this Saturday's grand final, 400 boys will parade around the boundary line in their Little League colours as part of a Town and Country Bank presentation to the WAFL club that has used the most participants this season.



TON UP . . . reaching a milestone is important in any grade of football and Beechboro youngster Allan Ferguson was a proud player when he notched his 100th game for Morley Police Boys. He's pictured running through the special century banner prepared for him by the club

Medal winners

KINGSLEY might have lost their premiership battle to Warwick, but they gained some compensation when Jeff Gibson won the 17s North Suburban region's best and fairest award from Chris Stone (Ocean Ridge).

The other awards were as follows:
 16s: Scott Vandensinker (Pumas); Chris Trev (Kingsley); Mark Keans (Warwick).
 15s: Robert Thompson (Karrinyup); Steven Klgmovich (Northern Districts).
 14s: Gold: Micheal Scuddi (Wanneroo); David Robotham (Kingsley).
 14s: Green: Matthew Pilbeam (Warwick) tied with Scott Hillier (Whitfords).
 13s: Gold: Troy Hill (Ocean Ridge); Shane Joyce (Northern Districts).
 13s: Green: Ricky Dillon (Edgewater); Lance Whit (Whitfords).



THE
**HUNGRY JACK'S
 WHOPPER CLUB**

with Guy McKenna



Eagles not swept away by the win

THE grand final is what we all play football for and that is why no one was getting carried away with our second semi-final win over Geelong.

It is great to have another crack at the premiership and we got there with a fighting team performance against the Cats.

The bitter memory of last year's grand-final loss to Hawthorn is still fresh even though it's 12 months ago

— and we'll be working overtime to erase it.

Peter Matera and Peter Sumich really stood out, but Don Pyke and Mitchell White also were outstanding in the roles they had to play.

We have a weekend off to prepare for the big match and most of the guys will go to the WAFL grand final in between training sessions.

While the rest of the team is keen for the week's rest, I would love to have another match to improve my fitness, which is slowly building.

With the groin injury and the operation mid-year, I feel like I've played only a half-season.

Because I need as much work as possible, I'll be running pretty hard on the training track.

What's happening in football.

Aust. Football League

SATURDAY — Preliminary final, Geelong v Footscray, at MCG (highlights Channel 7, 5pm-6pm. Full delayed telecast 10.55pm).

WA FOOTBALL LEAGUE

SATURDAY — Grand final (2.30pm): South Fremantle v East Fremantle, at Subiaco Oval (6WF,6NR,6PR).

Reserves (11.10am): Claremont v South Fremantle.

Colts (8.45am): Claremont v East Fremantle.

Amateur League

SATURDAY — A-grade grand final: 2.30pm University v Mt Lawley, at Perth Oval.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SATURDAY: First semi-final — North Adelaide v Glenelg; Second semi-final — Port Adelaide v Eagles, double-header at Football Park

World of football

RADIO 6NR offers the football fan a comprehensive service covering all aspects of the game

This is their coverage coming up:

Thursday: 7pm — Football teams selection

Saturday: 7am — World of Football; noon — AFL preliminary final, Geelong v Footscray, from MCG; 2pm — WAFL grand final, South Fremantle v East Fremantle, from Subiaco Oval.

Sunday: 5pm — Football round-up

Rioli pulls on the boots

TWO combined Aboriginal football teams made the long trek to the MCG last Sunday for a curtain-raiser with a difference.

A team from the Melville and Bathurst Football Leagues (Tiwi Islands) clashed with a side from the West and East Kimberley leagues.

Included in the Tiwi touring party was former South Fremantle and Richmond legend Maurice Rioli, who was the official broadcaster.

However, even his presence couldn't prevent the strong Kimberley side running out winners, 21.17 (143) to Tiwi's 19.13 (127).

Football Budget has it all

THIS Saturday's WAFL grand final Football Budget is a must for all footy fans.

With the Pepsi Cup to be contested between South Fremantle and East Fremantle, the WAFL season comes to a great climax.

And the 76-page four-colour A-4 sized publication has everything you want to know about the big match — the teams in colour, all the players in profile, the coaches and the stars who made the 1992 season great.

In addition, the Football Budget's final edition carries a host of statistical information, including:-

* Complete voting details for the Sandover, Prendergast and Medallists Medals.

* All the goalkickers in the eight WAFL clubs.

* A review of each WAFL club.

* A round-up of the West Coast Eagles' march to the AFL grand final.

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	%	Pts	Ratio
GEELONG	22	16	0	6	3057	2099	145.64	64	72.73
FOOTSCRAY	22	16	0	6	2384	1836	129.85	64	72.73
COLLINGWOOD	22	16	0	6	2195	1911	114.86	64	72.73
WC EAGLES	22	15	1	6	2206	1755	125.91	62	70.45
HAWTHORN	22	14	0	8	2579	2098	122.93	56	63.64
ST KILDA	22	14	0	8	2415	2009	120.21	56	63.64
Carlton	22	14	0	8	2362	2103	112.32	56	63.64
Essendon	22	12	0	10	2241	2414	92.83	48	54.55
Adelaide	22	11	0	11	2317	2286	101.36	44	50.00
Fitzroy	22	9	0	13	2186	2398	90.33	36	40.91
Melbourne	22	7	1	14	2083	2380	87.30	30	34.09
Nth Melbourne	22	7	0	15	2263	2535	89.51	28	31.82
Richmond	22	5	0	17	2180	2938	73.52	20	22.73
Brisbane Bears	22	4	1	17	2770	2742	64.55	18	20.45
Sydney Swans	22	3	1	18	1997	2694	74.13	14	15.91



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE LADDER

	P	W	L	For	Agst	Pts	%
PORT ADELAIDE	22	18	4	2673	1946	36	57.87
EAGLES	22	15	7	2173	2051	30	51.44
NORTH ADELAIDE	22	13	9	2283	2006	26	54.18
GLENELG	22	13	9	2431	2143	26	53.15
SOUTH ADELAIDE	22	11	11	2371	2411	22	49.58
West Adelaide	22	10	12	2267	2290	20	49.75
Norwood	22	9	13	2187	2045	18	51.68
Central District	22	8	14	2038	2467	16	45.24
Sturt	22	2	20	1667	2820	4	37.15

PEPSI CUP LADDER

	P	W	L	For	Agst	%	Pts
EAST FREM	21	14	7	2133	1731	123.22	56
SOUTH FREM	21	14	7	2060	1766	116.65	56
SWAN DIST	21	13	8	2180	1986	109.77	52
SUBIACO	21	11	10	2152	2125	101.27	44
EAST PERTH	21	10	11	1912	2076	92.10	40
Perth	21	8	13	1982	2186	91.51	32
Claremont	21	7	14	1756	1912	91.84	28
West Perth	21	7	14	1756	2169	80.96	28

PEPSI RESERVES

	P	W	L	For	Agst	%	Pts
SOUTH FREM	21	18	3	2671	1420	188.10	72
CLAREMONT	21	13	8	2035	1649	123.41	52
SWAN DIST	21	13	8	1786	1666	107.20	52
EAST FREM	21	10	11	1928	1958	98.47	40
EAST PERTH	21	10	11	1605	2063	77.80	40
Perth	21	9	12	1813	1936	93.65	36
Subiaco	21	7	14	1683	2059	81.74	28
West Perth	21	4	17	1687	2457	68.66	16

PEPSI COLTS

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Pts	%
CLAREMONT	21	19	-	2	1774	1019	174.09	76
EAST FREM	21	16	1	4	1687	1195	141.17	66
SWAN DIST	21	13	-	8	1551	1136	136.53	52
SUBIACO	21	8	1	12	1377	1440	95.63	34
SOUTH FREM	21	8	-	13	1342	1668	80.45	32
Perth	21	7	-	14	1240	1631	76.03	28
East Perth	21	6	-	15	1384	1832	75.55	24
West Perth	21	6	-	15	1286	1723	74.64	24

MASTERS CHOC



You'd think that Masters Choc comes from chocolate cows.

JACK DANIEL'S

MAN OF THE WEEK

ASHLEY McIntosh burst onto the scene as the rookie-of-the-year last season and many were expecting a second-year fade-out from the strapping teenager.

While some consistency is still lacking in his football, McIntosh's versatility is an asset to the Eagles line-up. Placed in attack or defence, McIntosh is one of the best marks in the business.

His second season in the AFL has been dogged with knee troubles, but at full fitness, the exciting Claremont recruit can counter any of the big men in the AFL. One of the quickest Eagles, his explosive pace off the mark is deceptive due to his burly frame.



ASHLEY McINTOSH

AGE: 19
HEIGHT: 194cm
WEIGHT: 92kg
GAMES PLAYED: 33



JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY



PEPSI CUP LEAGUE

Preliminary final

EAST FREMANTLE	6.4	7.7	11.12	14.13	97
EAST PERTH	3.0	9.5	10.8	14.9	93

GOALS — East Fremantle: Lockyer 4.2; Krakouer 2.3; Nichols 2.0; J. Davidson, Lester-Smith 1.1; Amaranti, Condon, Newman, Capewell 1.0; Browning 0.2; Treleven, P. Davidson, Krummel 0.1. 1 point forced.
East Perth: Baroni 3.0; Turnbull 2.3; Prior 2.2; East 2.1; P. Evans 2.0; Peos 1.1; Colbung; Haskett 1.0; Miller 0.1. 1 point forced.

BEST — East Fremantle: Newman, Nichols, Quill, Read, Malaxos, Billich. **East Perth:** Baroni, Solin, Turnbull, Stubberfield, Miller, Barnard.

Played at Subiaco Oval. Umpires: Trevor Garrett, Sam Kronja. Attendance: 12,490.

PEPSI RESERVES

SOUTH FREMANTLE	4.6	6.7	14.11	19.14	128
SWAN DISTRICTS	4.0	7.2	7.2	10.4	64

GOALS — South Fremantle: Bayliss 5; D'Angelo 4; Woods, Ball, F. Caputi, N. Caputi 2; Hutton, Morellini. **Swan Districts:** Stevens, Cornelius, Hewitt 2; Dehning, Thomas, Hawes, Cummings.

BEST — South Fremantle: Maloney, Caratti, Ball, Bayliss, D'Angelo, N. Caputi. **Swan Districts:** Bradbrook, Skender, Cornelius, Laurito, Kelly, Netherway.

PEPSI COLTS

EAST FREMANTLE	0.1	2.5	6.6	8.10	58
SWAN DISTRICTS	2.3	4.4	4.6	5.7	37

GOALS — East Fremantle: Williamson, Mundy, Ahern, McDonnell, Bondin, Allen, Chester, McManus. **Swan Districts:** Matson 2; Gow, Smith, P. Bialobrodzki.

BEST — East Fremantle: Williams, Williamson, Barnden, Andrews, McDonnell. **Swan Districts:** Bradbrook, Skender, Cornelius, Laurito, Kelly, Netherway.

CELEBRATE WITH PEPSI



AFL — Finals

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

First semi-final

FOOTSCRAY	5.2	9.3	15.5	19.5	119
ST KILDA	1.0	3.2	6.4	14.6	90

GOALS — Footscray: Grant 5; Hawkins, Del'Re 3; Atkins 2; Wallis, Macpherson, Liberatore, Toohey, Kolyniuk, Frost. **St Kilda:** Lockett 4; Devonport 3; Loewe, Vidovic 2; Bowey, Harvey, Kickett.

BEST — Footscray: Grant, Wynd, Liberatore, Wallis, Reynolds, Macpherson. **St Kilda:** Daniels, McAdam, Winmar, Devonport, Lockett, Harvey.
Played at Waverley Park. Umpires: Denis Rich, Grant Vernon. Attendance: 59,512.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Second semi-final

WEST COAST	4.4	10.7	15.11	20.13	133
GEELONG	4.1	8.4	11.8	14.11	95

GOALS — West Coast: Sumich 8; Mainwaring, Matera 2; Kemp, Lamb, Wilson, McKenna, Evans, Hynes, Hart, Waterman. **Geelong:** Ablett 4; Bairstow, Brownless, Mansfield, G. Hocking 2; Couch, Hickmott.

BEST — West Coast: Matera, Sumich, Harding, McIntosh, McKenna, White. **Geelong:** Couch, McGrath, Bairstow, Barnes, Ablett, Hinkley.
Played at MCG. Umpires: Peter Carey, David Howlett. Attendance: 71,745.

Victorian State League

First semi-final

CARLTON	0.0	4.6	4.6	10.7	67
ST KILDA	2.3	3.7	7.13	7.17	59

GOALS — Carlton: Bond, Parker, Bassett 2; Aitken, Cavedon, Clarkson, Verbeek. **St Kilda:** Allen 3; Davies, Everitt.

BEST — Carlton: Bond, Aitken, Rhys-Jones, Bassett, Heaver, Doyle. **St Kilda:** Allen, Reade, Coghlan, Craven.

Second semi-final

ESSENDON	5.5	9.10	14.16	17.20	122
MELBOURNE	6.4	10.8	12.12	14.14	98

GOALS — Essendon: Werner 5; Plain 4; Ridley, Calthorpe 2; Ezard, Filandia, Burns, Alessio. **Melbourne:** Cuthbertson 7; Wearne 2; Kowal, Beveridge, Eishold, Williams, Nitz.

BEST — Essendon: Werner, Ezard, Ridley, Hamilton, Burns, Filandia. **Melbourne:** Cuthbertson, M. Febey, Kowal, Dyson, Doyle, Grinter.

South Australian League

Elimination Final

GLENELG	6.1	14.4	17.6	24.10	103
SOUTH ADELAIDE	5.4	7.6	13.11	15.13	103

GOALS — Glenelg: Mansell 5; Murphy 4; Marshall, Fidge, Chigwiddden 3; Lamb, Kretschmer 2; Russell, Hallahan. **South Adelaide:** McIntyre 4; Trevena 3; Powell 2; Bennett, Kappler, Groom, Naley, Mills, Koster.

BEST — Glenelg: Hallahan, Marshall, Duthy, Mansell, Murphy, McKay. **South Adelaide:** Kappler, Naley, Bennett, Osborne, McIntyre.

Qualifying Final

EAGLES	4.0	10.1	16.7	24.10	154
NORTH ADELAIDE	3.6	5.6	5.7	7.10	52

GOALS — Eagles: Taylor 5; Neave, Phillipou 4; Morphet 3; Klemm 2; Niemann, Nicol, Totham, Sziller, P. Schwarz, Haylock. **North Adelaide:** Burton, Atkinson 2; Sanders, Parsons, Nunan.

BEST — Eagles: Klemm, Pyman, Bulluss, Neave, Phillipou, Niemann. **North Adelaide:** Redden, Krieg, Sanders, Klomp, Sims, Barrett.

Double-header played at Football Park. Attendance: 17,154.



Sharks have the history

HISTORY supports East Fremantle winning the 1992 premiership — even if the odds and recent derby form are against the Sharks.

South Fremantle will create a special piece of derby history if they can win the grand final — the fifth clash between the port clubs this season.

They have won all four derbies this year, but neither club has ever won five successive derby clashes.

The Sharks are going for their 27th title at the expense of their arch rivals, while the Bulldogs are chasing their 11th premiership.

WA's doyen of local football history, Dave Clement, says history is stacked in favour of the Sharks.

An extensive search through WAFL records reveals that the Bulldogs have beaten East Fremantle four times in a season eight times.

Clement, who has seen every WAFL grand final since 1948, is a football historical fanatic.

He had to search as far back as 1901 for East Fremantle's best sequence against Souths when Old Easts — as they were then — won all four derbies.

INAUGURAL SEASON

Before that, it was East Fremantle's inaugural season in the competition in 1898, that a club won five contests.

West Perth beat Old Easts in all five matches that season in a four-team, 15-game season without finals.

On only three occasions in WAFL history has one club won five matches against another club.

The last time was 1974, when East Fremantle beat East Perth in three qualifying and two final round matches.

In 1944, when East Perth went through to win the premiership undefeated, the Royals beat East Fremantle at all five outings, including the title play-off in September.

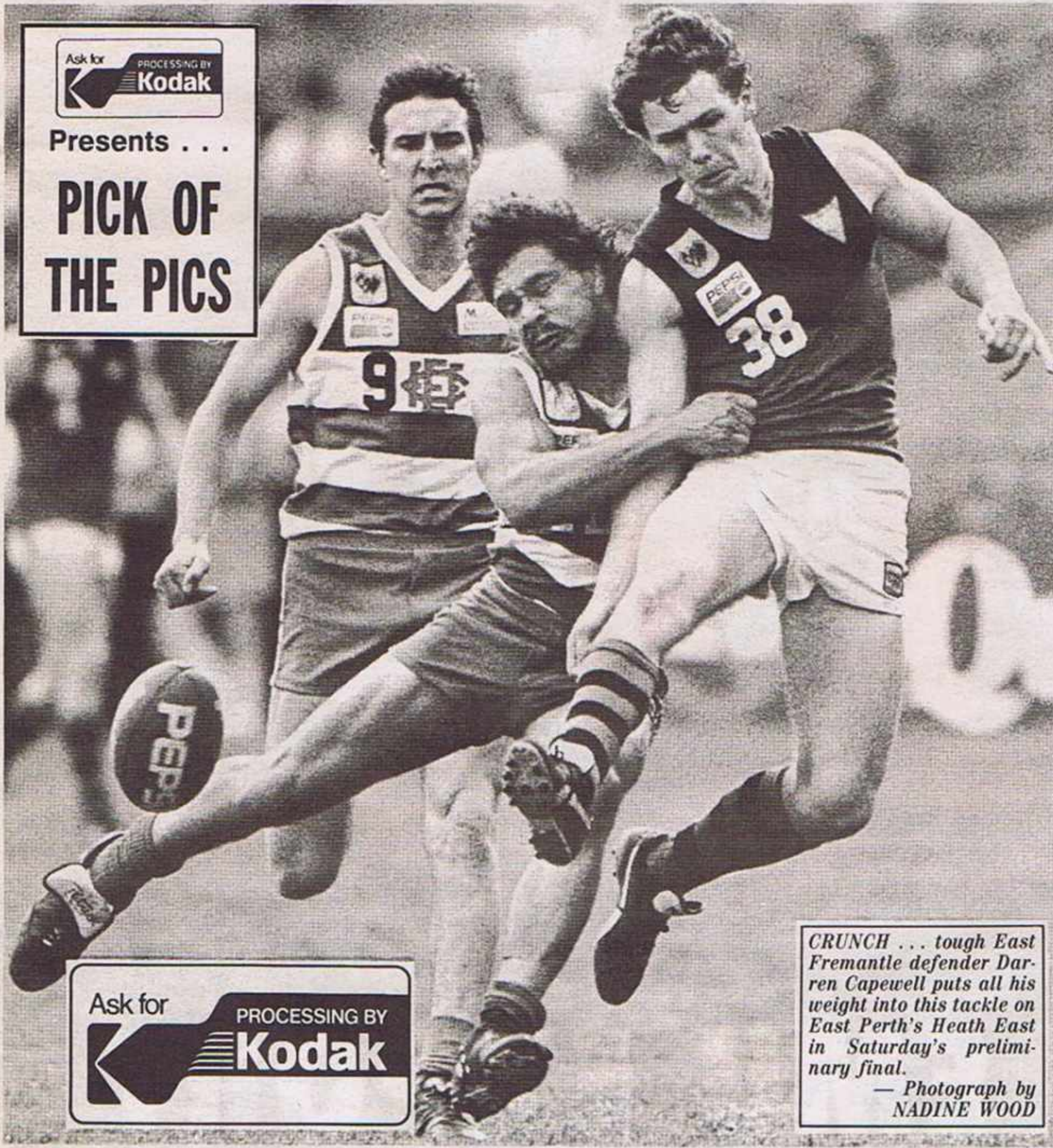
In 1974, East Fremantle beat Perth in all three qualifying round matches and then again twice in the finals on the way to club's 24th premiership victory.

The Sharks can repeat a piece of WAFL history if they manage to buck the odds and beat Souths for this year's title.

East Fremantle can join Swan Districts and Subiaco in turning the tables against a grand final opponent after four previous losses in the same season.

In 1961, Swans lost all four previous encounters to odds-on premiership favourites East Perth and reversed the trend to take the flag.

In 1973, Subiaco lost all four matches to West Perth, but collected their fifth flag, by turning the tables on grand final day and breaking a 49-year premiership drought.



CRUNCH . . . tough East Fremantle defender Darren Capewell puts all his weight into this tackle on East Perth's Heath East in Saturday's preliminary final.

— Photograph by NADINE WOOD

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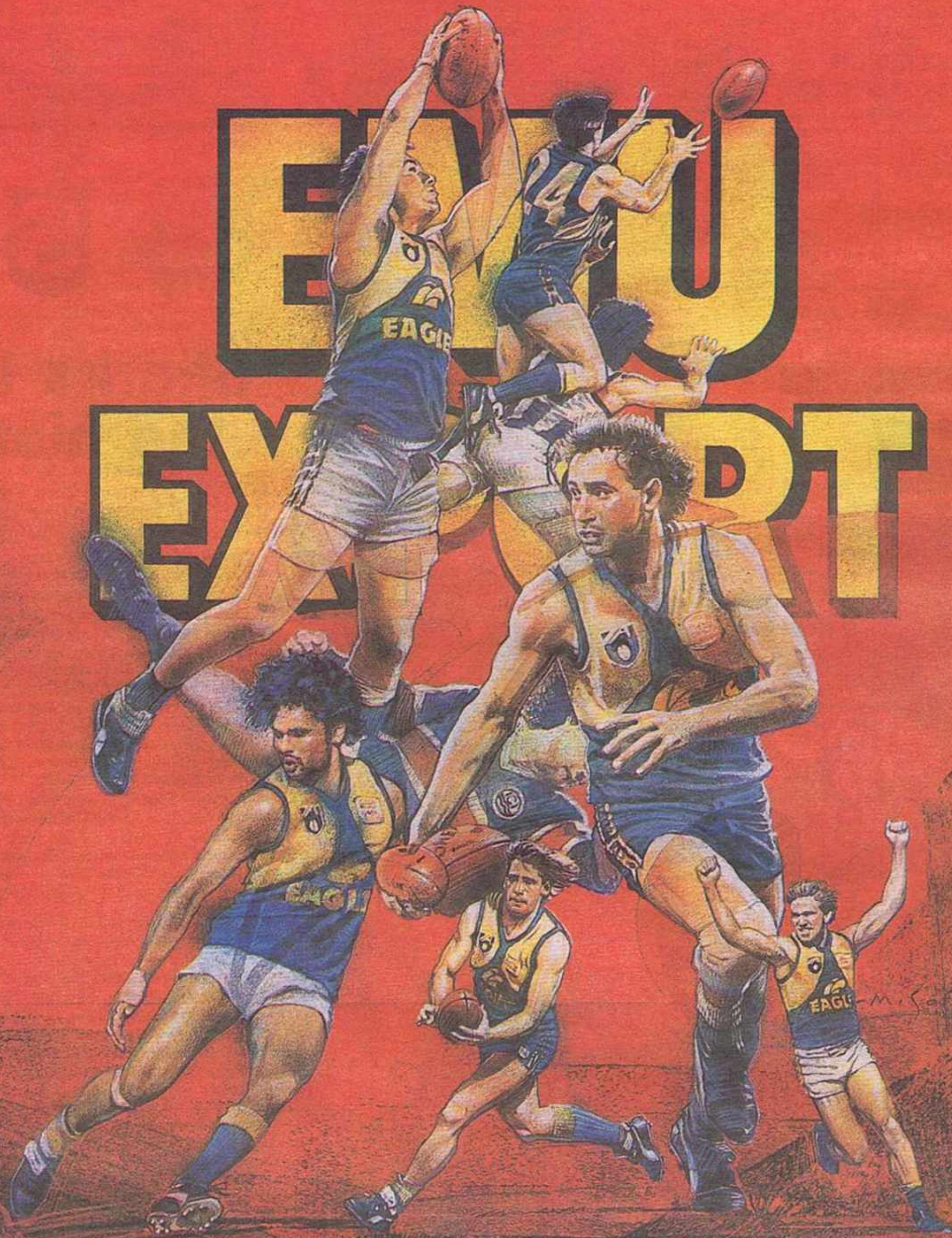
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