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WESTSIDE Football

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THE COUNTDOWN HAS STARTED

The official kick-off for the 1993 football season is just 10 weeks away — but the action hots up much earlier than that. Next week's Westside Football will preview the big Kalgoorlie centenary practice match between the Eagles and the Crows — and a glance through the Goldfields football history file

WESTSIDE FOOTBALL'S
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WESTSIDE Football

LET'S GET GOING . . . While football isn't far away from the minds of the West Coast winners, they do have time for other pursuits — as dashing rover Tony Evans can confirm. The grand final star was among the big crowds who attended the Hopman Cup by Pepsi international tennis tournament at the Burswood Superdome and he's pictured here with girlfriend Anna Gasiorowski — Photograph by GREG WOOD



Bairstow settles . . .
Madden reconsiders . . .
Treleven decides . . .

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PRESENTS ...

Summertime Gossip

Around the traps with KIM HAGDORN and ALAN EAST



Winning for quitting

WEST Coast midfielder Craig Turley is a popular man, with sporting interests that spread far and wide.

From roaming the fields of the AFL arena to catching the waves down the coast of Spain, Turley does it well ... and now he adds speedway to his list of sporting loves.

He was a recent guest at the Quit Claremont Speedway to present a special prize for 'kicking the habit' and he's pictured handing over a \$250 cheque to Mrs Chris Nicholls, of Kelmscott, a former 40-a-day smoker who quit as part of a speedway competition.

Snow in demand

IT SEEMS as though former Subiaco coach Haydn Bunton won't give up trying to entice talented utility player David Snow to Adelaide.

Bunton was back in Perth last week for another shot at Snow — but the tough Lion seems certain to stay put.

Indications are that the disciplined utility player, one of the tightest taggers in the WAFL and a consistent performer with Subiaco, could become a surprise West Coast Eagles draftee in March.

Snow was surprisingly passed over in last November's national draft, but Eagles talent scouts are impressed with the 20-year-old Lion.

Flighty Falcons

WEST Perth might have finished on the bottom of the WAFL premiership ladder last season, but players and administrators have travelled far and wide to erase the bitter taste of failure.

After a group of Falcons players lazed in the sun on picturesque Hawaiian beaches back in December, football manager Matt Tweedie trekked off to Europe, while general manager Steve Woodhouse spent his well-deserved Christmas break snow ski-ing in Canada.

Falcons players and officials alike will be well-refreshed for what shapes as a tough year for West Perth — their last at Leederville Oval.

Shark changes

RUGGED East Fremantle defender Graham Ralph has been in training with Subiaco.

Ralph made six senior team appearances with the Sharks last season, five in a row at the start of the year. But the tough defender was overlooked for the finals campaign.

The Sharks are expected to look favourably on a clearance for Ralph, but are anxious for a player-trade.

Bulldogs stay

SOUTH FREMANTLE'S 1993 premiership drive has gathered strength over the summer with decisions by brilliant teenagers Warren Campbell and Russell Williams to resist temptations to move to Melbourne.

The pair had carefully considered moving east to take up duties after being drafted last November — Campbell by North Melbourne and Williams by Essendon — after brilliant debuts in the WAFL.

Campbell, in particular, has swung into summer training with improved gusto after spending a week with North Melbourne just before Christmas.

The rangy forward trained with his pending North team-mates and returned better aware of the immense commitment necessary for any aspiring AFL player.

NEXT WEEK: A Westside special on Kalgoorlie

Fitzroy will play

REGARDLESS of the wheeling and dealing involving Fitzroy's future, there was never any doubts about the Lions not taking their place in the fixtures line-up for next season.

Any suggestions that they would fold before the 1993 season were never entertained at AFL House — mainly because of the huge cost involved.

For example, one million coloured fixture cards had already been printed and ready for distribution; almost 200,000 membership cards have been produced showing Fitzroy in the fixtures; sponsorship packages have been put in place that include the Lions and games allocated for Princes Park (shared by Fitzroy) have 21 matches set down, which would result in major changes if the Lions pulled out.

Ovens re-appointed

FOOTBALL Commission secretary Jeff Ovens has been re-appointed to the board for another year, despite announcing that he will vacate his full-time administrative role this season.

Ovens, the financial controller at the WAFC and the man who has orchestrated the change in fortunes on the balance sheets of the WAFL clubs, plays a dual role as Commission secretary and board member.

His re-appointment to the board came along with further terms announced for former East Fremantle president Merv Cowan and one-time umpire John Fuhrmann.

Always working

EAGLES coach Mick Malthouse is the first to admit that he takes his job pretty seriously — and the 1992 AFL premiership is undoubtedly the reward for that dedication.

He recently confessed that even when he's on holidays, he finds it hard to ignore football.

"If I've gone away to relax somewhere I generally find myself digging out a team list and going through names," he said.

Treleven stays

EAST Fremantle received an early boost to their 1993 defence of the Pepsi Cup premiership trophy when exciting follower Craig Treleven opted to stay another season with the club.

Treleven, drafted by St Kilda last November, had informed club officials he would move to Melbourne in time for the new season.

However, discussions with coach Ken Judge have altered the classy ball getter's directions and he will stay at least another season.

Treleven (22) burst onto the WAFL scene in the early rounds last season, flying up from Esperance each week, before battling for form late in the season.

He was a valuable member of the Sharks premiership combination, but has been told by Judge that another WAFL season would enhance his prospects of settling into the AFL on his ultimate move east.

Treleven seems certain to base himself in Perth this season, which will avoid a lot of tiresome travelling.

Cocker comeback

SUBIACO coach Tony Solin has enticed former premiership player Shane Cocker out of retirement.

Cocker (31) played 108 league games with the Lions before hanging up his boots after the 1991 grand final loss to Claremont.

He had considered playing Sunday football last season, but nagging back problems, family and work commitments outweighed the advantages of continuing his career.

However, with the retirement of Subiaco big man Phil Scott and doubts about whether giant ruckman Laurie Keene will play at all, the Lions were anxious to replenish the tall-player stocks.

According to Solin, Cocker has completed all pre-season training requirements so far and looks set for a successful return to league ranks.

The Lions have already been bolstered with the return of former all-Australian winger Andrew Macnish, adding bite to the forward line.

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EJ plans to beat the blues



THE WHITTEN ROAR . . . Victoria's chairman of selectors Ted Whitten loves nothing more than enjoying success in the interstate arena — and he likes to let everyone know about it

FOOTBALL runs proud in the Ted Whitten doctrine; no man loves the game or the Victorian cause with more fervour than the man they simply call EJ, or Mr Football. Recent rumours about his failing health prompted leading Victorian football journalist and award-winning writer MICHAEL SHEAHAN to pen this piece in Melbourne's Sunday Age newspaper

TED WHITTEN was a monument in football in the era when it was richer in on-field characters and colour.

He may have become a relic to some, yet there's no bigger name in the game, Dermott Brereton and Tony Lockett included.

To many of us, he remains a monument.

He has a posture that exudes good health. He could have been the model for the old Chesty Bond character; protruding lower jaw, barrel chest, sparkling eyes.

Then there's the tan, the incongruous jewellery and a handshake that would make Sylvester Stallone buckle at the knees.

In my 40-year spiritual affair with AFL football and its people, Whitten always has seemed indestructible. Yet, even the legendary EJ has his frailties.

The past couple of years have been frustrating, painful and demoralising for him, starting with a prostate gland operation, compounded by the chronic degenerative bone condition Paget's disease, a duodenal ulcer, psoriasis, gout and a parasite in the bowel, a complaint known as giardiasis.

He even stopped taking alcohol for more than a month and that's as pain-

ful for him as watching Victoria lose an interstate match.

He shed almost 10 kilograms earlier this year, his weight tumbling to 85kg, prompting an endless stream of inquiries from friends about his health and the persistent suggestions that he was seriously ill.

"Yeah, I was crook during the finals," he bellowed this week. But he still managed to make a Truth reporter cower a few days ago when the news hound from the toughest school in journalism asked bluntly if he had cancer.

TURNING 60

While the man who played 321 games for Footscray from 1951-70 says: "I feel good," he adds: "I'm not bloody 21 any more." In fact, he will turn 60 in March.

EJ 60? What a thought! But as another legend in John Kennedy used to tell his players at Hawthorn: "It's later than you think."

Whitten, who, like Mark Twain, believes reports of his demise are exaggerated, said recently: "I'm not 100 percent at the moment. I've had a bloody bad trot, but I'm coming good.

"I'm all right, but I'm still having tests. It's a long-term thing. I'm thinking positive about everything, but you don't know, do you?"

Whitten, who tackled retirement

with the same enthusiasm, vigour and disregard for convention that was the trademark of his playing days, has been hounded by health worries since contracting a bowel infection in Fiji in February.

The problem ruined the Fiji visit and a post-grand final holiday in Cairns with his family, including son Ted junior, a member of Footscray's match committee and a former player.

"I couldn't eat," says EJ. "Halfway through dinner I'd have to race off to the . . . that's embarrassing. When you go 16 times a day, you get a sore you-know-what!"

Whitten declared last week that he was on the way back.

Solin seeks talks on Eagles

TONY Solin, WA's newest league coach, has called for an urgent meeting with West Coast officials over the handling of rookie Eagles players in the Lions camp.

Solin says that catering for 14 West Coast squad members shapes as the biggest hurdle in his initial steps into league coaching.

The new Lions leader hopes to find a compromise with West Coast coach Mick Malthouse, particularly with the borderline and developing young Eagles who will remain on the Lions books for WAFL matches.

Solin says that he is not concerned so much with established Lions in the Eagles line-up such as Dean Kemp, Brett Heady, Dwayne Lamb, Mitchell White and Karl Langdon.

"More than a third of our league team each week will be away on Eagles training commitments and then return to us for one training session before playing," a concerned Solin said.

"I have to try and reach an agreement with the Eagles where some of these guys can be with us for more time."

Solin has already held talks with Malthouse and Eagles football manager Trevor Nisbett and he hopes that

By **KIM HAGDORN**

further discussions later this month will solve his dilemma.

"Mick's attitude has been very positive and I appreciate his position. He's got a team to coach as well," Solin said.

"He wants to have a good look at his development guys as the deadline for the AFL list reductions draws nearer.

"What I'll be trying to do is get the young Subi players who are definitely not going to play for the Eagles for, say two to three weeks at a time, to spend the majority of their time with us.

"We have more than a healthy share of experienced players at Subiaco; we've probably got more experience than most sides in the competition.

"We have about nine guys who have played well over 50 games.

"But under a new system at Subiaco — and while I'm establishing new policies — it will be important to have regular contact with the players."

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PRESENTS



Thinking aloud



A column of news and views by ALAN EAST



Brown has Big money not in everyone guessing again football

THE continued speculation over Malcolm Brown's immediate football future raises a fascinating scenario of options.

Why, suddenly, has the man who orchestrated the South Fremantle on-field revival last year, decided to seek greener pastures?

There were many critics who felt that Brown had a premiership team in the making and though they faltered at the final Pepsi Cup hurdle, that could easily be remedied within 12 months.

But Brown is a deep-thinker; he often has a hidden agenda and maybe, just maybe, he's looking ahead at his own football dream — an AFL team out of Fremantle — when it comes to considering his latest move, a clearance to Melbourne, a city that he admits he hates, only because of the weather.

Brown is on the verge of accepting an interesting post as a marketing consultant with the giant beer group, Carlton United. The role would include a consultancy attachment to the Richmond Football Club, where his Victorian football heart really lies.

Maybe the whole deal is part of Fremantle's ploy to be the next AFL side.

Brown has always insisted that AFL clubs operating out of WA need experienced Victorian people at the helm — either in a managerial post, a coaching role or a football position.

He could well be setting himself up for his own job! A two-year stint in Melbourne learning the football club ropes would be an ideal apprenticeship for his appointment to a key position in the Fremantle consortium.

And what about Carlton United? The Victorian giant has snared the most lucrative WAFL sponsorship deal ever, offering Southe Fremantle \$100,000 a year for the next three years. Is that the forerunner to a major sponsorship of a Fremantle AFL team?

WHILE football and cricket might be the country's major sports, they certainly don't produce the big-money earners.

A list of top money earners compiled by leading Melbourne journalist Gerard Wright in the Sunday Age newspaper, couldn't fit a footballer — even one from the 'other' codes — or a cricketer into the top 25.

The best Aussie Rules could manage was 36th spot, with Hawthorn glamour boy Dermott Brereton earning an estimated \$385,000, made up of \$140,000 from playing, \$120,000 from endorsements such as adidas and Tip Top bread and \$125,000 from television and personal appearances.

ENDORSEMENTS

St Kilda's Tony Lockett claimed the 50th spot, with a salary of \$300,000, coming from his contract (estimated at \$175,000) and a host of endorsements, plus something from his greyhound breeding activities.

Soccer produced the best of the football codes, with French-based Robbie Slater coming in at No. 28 with earnings of \$550,000. Rugby league's Allan Langer made No. 46 with \$350,000 in estimated 1992 earnings.

The best cricket could do was Allan Border's 40th place, with \$430,000 his estimated earnings, of which \$220,000 came from playing.

Golfer Greg Norman headed the list, naturally enough, with more than \$13 million, coming from a variety of sources, the least of which was \$1-million in priemoney.

Certainly golf — with five in the top 10 — and tennis (with four in the next 10) are the best sports to train your youngsters in.

Big West Aussie Luc Longley topped the local money-earning list with almost \$2-million, most of which came from his season with the American Timberwolves.

He claimed the No. 8 spot, just ahead of adopted WA golf star Craig Parry, whose 1992 earnings were around \$1.9 million. Rapidly-rising WA jockey Damien Oliver was 44th with \$380,000 — but that will explode when he comes out of his apprenticeship shortly.

Taylor keeps Mandurah job

FORMER Subiaco veteran Neil Taylor has been re-appointed as coach of Mandurah, who were runner's-up in the Peel League last season.

The Mustangs lost the inaugural Peel grand final to Mundijong, but the club enjoyed a successful season, with the reserves side being undefeated and the colts finishing third.

Bob Maher and Peter McKell were re-appointed as coaches of the two respective minor grade sides.



TOP: The four Celebrity finalists (from left) Peter Matera, Peter Sumich, Tim Horan and Nick Farr-Jones. LEFT: Swan Gold marketing man — and premiership chairman of selectors with the Eagles last year — Trevor Sprigg presents Horan with a trophy that he certainly enjoyed. BELOW: International tennis star Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere watches as Sumich executes a sliced backhand that looked a little like his old-style hooked shots on goal

Eagles rackets not quite sharp enough

TWO of the West Coast stars in a premiership year went oh so close to snatching another jewel during last week's Hopman Cup tennis extravaganza.

But, unfortunately, Peter Sumich and Peter Matera had to lower their colours to a rival football code — Australian rugby union stars Nick Farr-Jones and Tim Horan.

The four men fought out the final of the Swan Gold Celebrity Pro-Am event held at the Burswood Resort as part of the \$700,000 Hopman Cup by Pepsi international tennis tournament.

Sumich and Matera made it through to the final of the event, eliminating a few other sporting teams, but the rugby stars were too powerful in the play-off.



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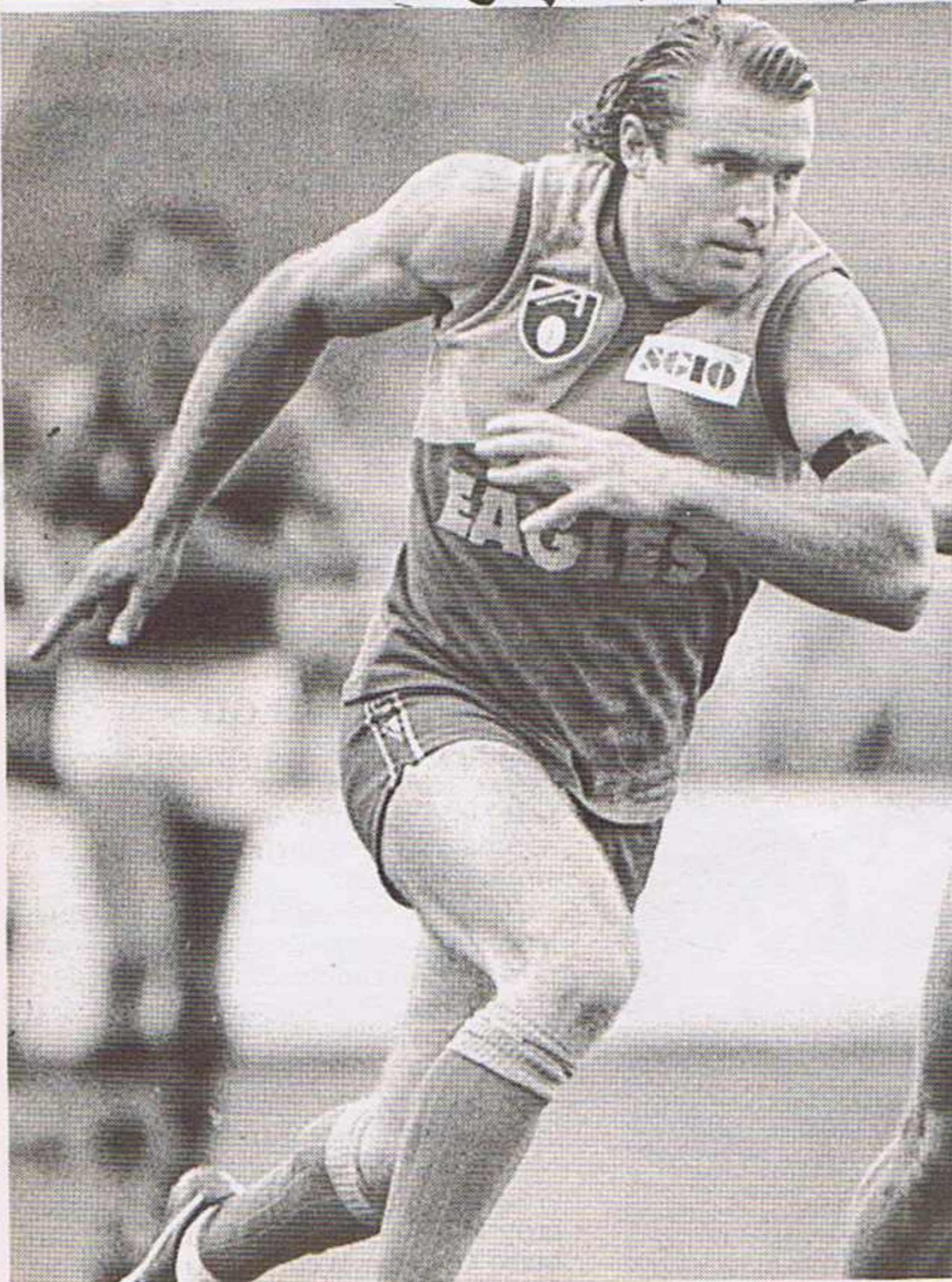
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PRESENTS



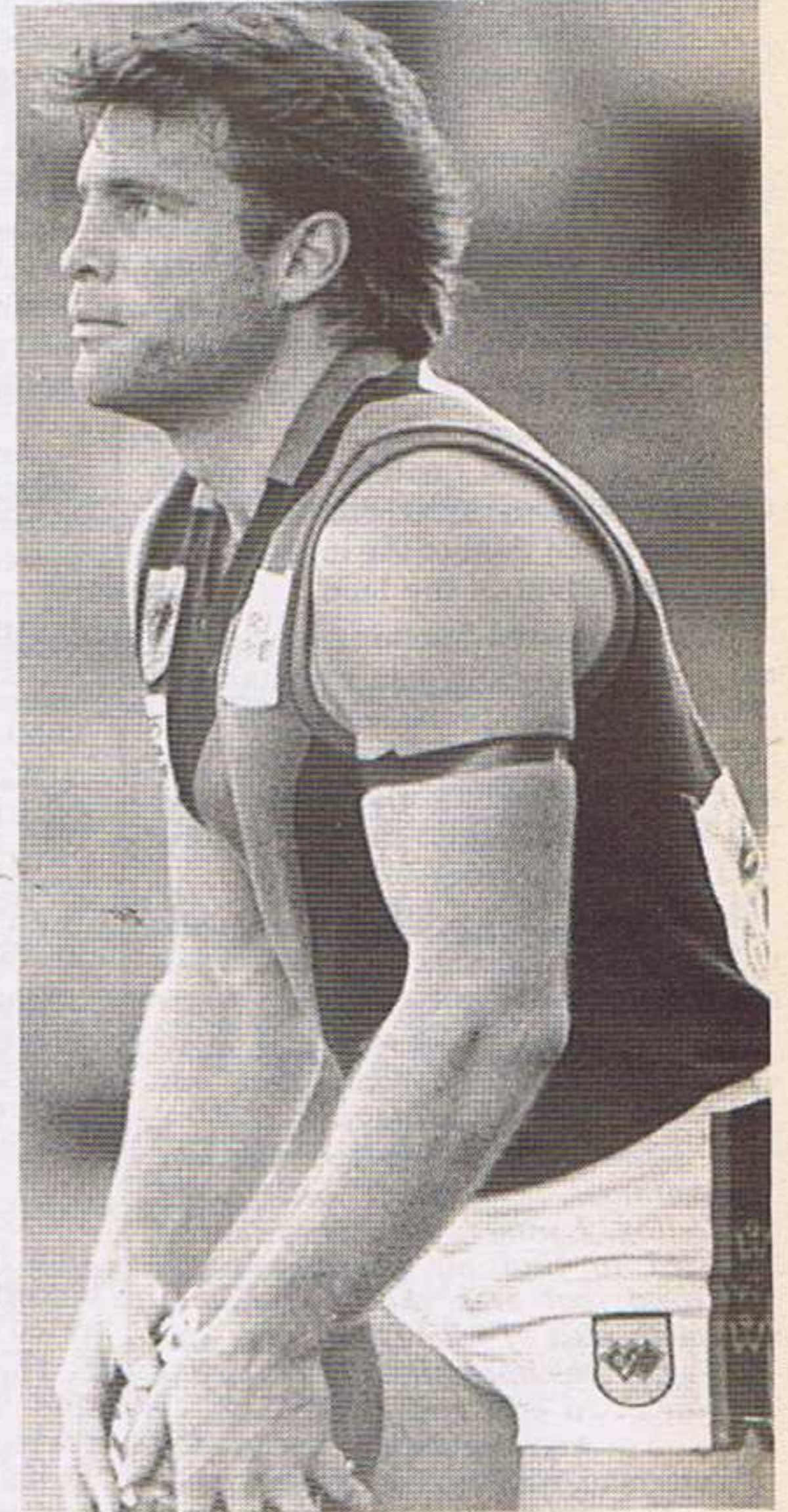
Talking Footy

With **KIM HAGDORN**



Facing facts . . . Finals told Barich his time was up

CHANGING ROLES . . . Adrian Barich has retired from the West Coast Eagles and is taking on a new challenge with Perth — with strong support from his wife, Jenny (below)



NEWLY-appointed Perth captain Adrian Barich knew during the historic Eagles grand final victory that it was time for him to retire from the AFL.

The affable Barich, with 47 West Coast games, wasn't one of the 20 players who etched their names in stone on that great day in West Australian history, but the message was clear.

Barich (29) decided that he would struggle to contribute to the on-field ambitions of the Eagles in the future and, initially, he decided to hang up his boots.

However, while reflecting on a career that spanned almost a decade with Perth and 119 league games with the club — and some heavy persuasion from the Demons hierarchy — Barich decided to play again.

In fact, he has opted to play a role in Perth's intended resurgence as a force in WA football and accepting the captaincy is his part of the challenge.

Barich said he had considered his playing future during the Eagles 1992 finals campaign.

EUPHORIA

"I suppose the catalyst was in the grand final and then in the euphoria of the celebrations," the former Canberra product reflected this week.

"I realised that I probably wouldn't be able to contribute much to the club on the field anymore.

"But I did feel content that I had played a part in what the players of the day had achieved.

"It had been a thrill for me to have been part of the evolution of the Eagles over the club's first six years.

"Now I hope to play a hand in helping the Eagles further develop as a club.



"The Eagles have proven, after the sweat and tears of the past six seasons, that as a team they can compete with and beat the likes of Hawthorn, Collingwood and the big AFL sides.

"The aim now, is to become a big club."

Barich, along with a host of former Eagles players including inaugural captain Ross Glendinning, John Annear, Phil Narkle, Murray Rance and the O'Connell brothers, David and Michael, are all expected to be part of the new past players band.

Barich says that forming a past players branch within the Eagles camp will strengthen a sense of club feeling; something that is gradually being achieved.

The popular Barich, a respected media spokesman for the Social Security Department, has declared his total support to veteran Demons coach Ken Armstrong.

The Armstrong-Barich partnership can be expected to last for at least two more years, according to the Demons on-field boss.

"I've got about two good seasons left in me," says Barich. "I hope to continue what has been a good relationship

with Ken into a working relationship as an on-field leader for him.

"I first thought I would retire completely and concentrate on my own work and perhaps get into local football media.

"But I realised I couldn't let the opportunity slip, while I am still able to play, to be part of a revival at a club like Perth, as a force both on and off the field.

"I have a few personal ambitions as well. But basically, I want Perth back as a power.

"We're aiming to finish in the top three this year.

"I think with Willie Dick back from Essendon and what we have at the club, with a few recruits in the pipeline, we can realistically look at the top third of the table.

"Perth has definitely gained some credibility over the past couple of seasons under Ken, but we haven't been able to finish off our promising starts.

"That can be said of many games as well as the seasons.

"A look at last year's statistics shows that Perth had more than its share of possessions in many games, but we didn't finish it off in front of goals.

"Finding some goal-kickers will be a priority for us this season."

Barich says his role will be aimed at offering the Demons some professionalism, both on and off the field.

He joins head coach Armstrong, former Demons premiership pair and State forwards Steve Hargrave and Murray Couper and new colts coach Roger Kerr as the coaching hierarchy at Lathlain Park.

"We need guys at Perth we can build a club around; to rekindle the tradition that has been so great at the club," Barich said.

"It's the same as we are trying to generate at the Eagles.

RESPECTED

"To see Perth back as a respected force in local football and to think I have played a part in giving something back in the late stages of my own career would be a great sense of achievement.

"It's the same with the Eagles.

"I will take great delight at some stage of my future, in retirement, to see the likes of Glen Jakovich and Ashley McIntosh reach their full potential.

"They both have the ability to become true champions of WA football.

"It would be a great to be able to say 'I played with those guys in the early days of the Eagles history'.

"Seeing young blokes develop and go on with their potential is definitely a rewarding aspect in football.

"It's what we hope to achieve at Perth.

"But it will definitely take a complete commitment, right across the club.

"The coaching staff, senior players, junior players alike and the management staff have all got to play a big part.

"It sure is challenging to us all."

HUNGRY JACK'S

HUNGRY JACK'S

RESISTANCE IS USELESS

HUNGRY JACK'S

Reflections from an Eagle

BOLLE, the world's best sunglasses, present a special column on West Coast memories

CHRIS WATERMAN



WATCHING major sporting moments on television almost always conjures up thoughts of being there one day at the big event.

Such was the case with the young Rossmoyne junior who was always perched in front of the television set on the last Saturday in September to witness the grand final of the highest football competition in the land.

"I never missed watching a grand final," recalls a young man who has now experienced that special feeling for himself — Chris Waterman, one of the unique 20 footballers who helped take the West Coast Eagles to their historic AFL grand final win.

Now that he has achieved that magic moment, what does he best remember about Saturday, September 26?

"The lap of honour; that was huge," says Waterman.

"The response from the crowd was enormous, I couldn't believe the feeling. I wanted to do two laps. I tried to find my parents in the crowd, but even though I had a rough idea of where they were sitting, it was impossible. It was just a blur... a blue and gold blur."

Waterman, who turned 24 just a week before that grand final success against Geelong, is one of the most under-rated players in the West Coast camp.

With 73 AFL games behind him after a 1988 debut — following 51 matches with East Fremantle — Waterman is one of the team's regulars and even though he was in a back pocket as the final siren approached, he wasn't thinking about victory.

"I was as shaky as anything in those last few minutes," he recalls.

"While I naturally felt confident, being five goals in front, I just couldn't wait for the final siren."

"As soon as it did I raced off down the flank and ran into the guys coming off the interchange bench."

Waterman, an insurance consultant, works under the MLC banner, joining forces with Paul Peos. But he now faces business with a 'silent' partner as the former Eagle heads for a new football life with Brisbane.

With the nickname Muddy, Waterman is no slouch on the field and while coach Mick Malthouse has used him in a variety of roles, he's just happy getting a game.

Initially, Waterman was designated as a wingman, but he is equally adept in attack; in defence or with an around-the-ground role.

And his persistence and quiet determination had its rewards last season, when he played all but one game in the 26-match premiership-winning season.

"The premiership has certainly made life interesting in Perth, particularly in the business world," says Waterman.

"Everyone wants to talk about the grand final and it's amazing to find so many people who have watched the replay over and over again."

"Footy talk certainly opens a few doors and it's not hard to swing off the Eagles premiership when you're introducing yourself to clients."

Behind the scenes at the Eagles

TREVOR SPRIGG ...

Tough-guy approach at the selection table

By

KIM HAGDORN

WHEN Trevor Sprigg stepped into the hot seat as chairman of selectors for the West Coast Eagles in time for the 1990 season, he was very much a reluctant starter.

After all, the role would be one where confrontation with the coach — regardless of who held that job — could be a regular happening.

And having 'been there, done that' in selection roles with East Fremantle and West Australian teams, who needed any more confrontations?

His work load with the Swan Brewery was also a consideration — but then again, Sprigg always loved a challenge.

With a stern task-master in Michael Malthouse holding down the coaching spot — and a very single-minded person he is — the flexibility in the chairman's role didn't look all that promising.

But when the end of his two-year contract was up, the no-nonsense former defender had no hesitation in accepting a further year in the hot seat.

SPECULATION

Even when there was speculation that he could be given a seat on the Football Commission, he wasn't interested in budging from the Eagles.

The rugged former East Fremantle and State full-back would have been forced to relinquish his Eagles post if he had accepted the WAFC position — and that just wasn't on, with the club on the verge of history.

Sprigg, an astute judge of football and a key behind-the-scenes man at the Eagles, didn't want to miss his part in their premiership history.

Along with his co-selectors Rob Wiley, Tim Gepp and Ian Miller, Sprigg could sense that 1992 was going to be the year of the Eagle.

History now records that he was right in his assessment and Sprigg takes great pride in playing his part in the success of the Eagles, although he is always quick to downplay his role.

RECRUITING

Work commitments in his role as a marketing man with the Swan Brewery — plus a desire to spend more time with his growing family after a lifetime in football — have now seen Sprigg step down from the job, though he will keep his Eagles connection very much alive in a recruiting capacity.

Even though he was a behind-the-scenes man, Sprigg was anything but a silent partner in the confines of selection-room meetings.

Sprigg made it clear when first offered the post that he would have his

the Swan Brewery, as part of the decision-making process.

But Sprigg, also a leading media critic with Radio 6PR, did more than that.

He gave the selection team a louder voice on ideas for coach Malthouse to ponder in his daily preparation for the approaching contests.

STRATEGIES

Sprigg, robust and straight through in his career at East Fremantle and later in Tasmania in the late 1970s, approached his selection strategies in a similar manner.

He was a constant advocate for the hard approach; generally as uncompromising in his endeavours to find players with a tough physical and mental attitude as he was on the field.

His hard-hitting style was well-complimented by the refined, but just as astute, opinions from the likes of Miller and Wiley.

Sprigg and his selection crew regularly burned the midnight oil at Subiaco Oval on Wednesdays, searching for the perfect combination best-equipped to bring about the downfall of a rival and highly-competent AFL club.

The dedicated band of selectors, moulded with the Malthouse discipline and determination to find the winning formula, never complained or left an option unexplored in their search for the best.

UNITED FRONT

After the tough decisions were made, Sprigg and the selectors would form a united front as they stood by coach Malthouse; there was never a chink in the armour despite what had been debated around the selection table.

Unity remains a vital ingredient in football clubs; so too does the selection policies and how they are enforced.

As part of the 1992 premiership success, West Coast had another winning combination in their selection panel.

★ Former Subiaco and St Kilda star George Young has been appointed as a West Coast selector, with Ian Miller taking over the chairman's role



LISTEN HERE ... Trevor Sprigg, in his 6PR mode, makes a strong point

say; he would be happy to play the devil's advocate role and withstand the pressure that comes with making tough decisions. When you select a team of 20 from a squad of 50 players, there are many options — and plenty of hard-luck stories.

Ultimately, the final selection word must go to the coach and men like Malthouse live — and quite often die — by those decisions around the selection table.

While Sprigg, as chairman, might often engage in verbal debate with the coach over the merits, or otherwise, of certain players, the door was always locked.

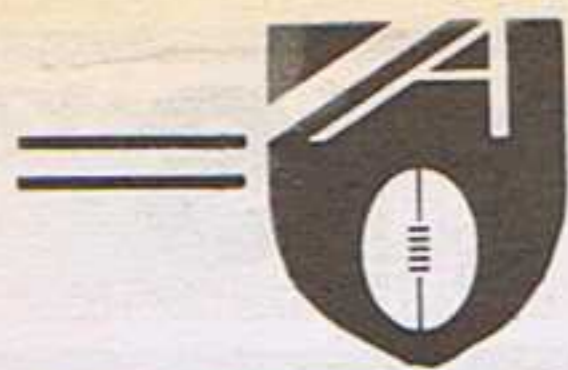
In keeping with the strong bond of unity that exists within the Eagles hierarchy, the selection room tactics and decisions were a closed inner-sanctum; nothing was ever made public.

It suited the Eagles to have Sprigg, a personality of high standing within the football community and a full-time marketing man with major sponsors,



WORKING MAN ... former Eagles chairman of selectors Trevor Sprigg is hard at work alongside coach Mick Malthouse (left) ... and enjoys a Swan Gold as he goes over the match stats with Melbourne manager Steven Nash

bolle
Put 'em on your face



Footy around the nation

Back to the bush for Daniher

ONE of football's great names has slipped out of the Melbourne limelight destined for a season in country ranks.

Essendon veteran Terry Daniher has resisted offers from rival AFL clubs and returns to the Riverina area to be playing coach of the Wagga Tigers — only about 130kms from the New South Wales town of Ungarie, where the Daniher reputation was forged.

Daniher will live in Wagga, a football area that is under threat from rugby league and he plans to spend two years there developing his coaching aspirations.

He will maintain links with Melbourne via his cleaning contracting business, which is run in with brothers Chris and Anthony.

Daniher says he wants to find out how he will go in the coaching sphere and after 313 games with the Bombers — including two premierships — he will have plenty to offer the Tigers from around Wagga.



PHONE HOME ... Terry Daniher makes a mobile call as he is chaired off the ground after Essendon won last year's AFL reserves premiership

Holiday time in WA

MOST Victorians probably hate Western Australia — for a variety of reasons — but controversial Collingwood star Craig Kelly loves the place. The man who has bowled over a few Eagles in his day is engaged to a Perth girl and has been holidaying at Yallingup, in WA's beautiful South West.

One of his neighbours is WA Federal member of Parliament Ron Edwards, who has a strong interest in sport, a fervent belief in Collingwood's superiority and a desire to teach Kelly how to fish.

Kelly is recovering from a knee reconstruction that curtailed his 1992 season and despite recent setbacks forcing another hospital visit, he's confident of being back in action by March '93.

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AUNTY'S BEST ... Eagles star wingman Chris Mainwaring receives his ABC footballer-of-the-year trophy from sports editor George Grljusich's on Ted Bull's radio 6WF breakfast show

Another win for Mainy

THE football season never ends, so it seems, with Chris Mainwaring picking up a late trophy at a recent presentation.

Mainwaring was presented with the prestigious ABC Footballer of the Year award during Ted Bull's breakfast show on radio 6WF.

The award is voted on by ABC commentators covering all AFL matches and Mainwaring is the first Eagle to claim the national trophy.

He polled 21 votes, to win by one vote from Robert Harvey, of St Kilda and Adelaide's Chris McDermott.

Saints on a winning run

IT SEEMS as though St Kilda are on a winning run with the introduction of gambling machines into Victorian sporting clubs.

The Saints were quick to convert their Moorabbin facilities into a gaming venue to accommodate the various forms of poker machines approved by the Government and they are No. 1 in football turnover at present.

In fact, St Kilda are ranked in the top 10 of all sporting clubs when it comes to turnover — and that includes the major race courses — and their financial future is certainly assured.

Ironically, a couple of the former football power clubs such as Melbourne and North Melbourne seem to have missed the boat as far as getting their gambling facilities up and running.

Brayshaw aims to be a Lion

FITZROY could be the new home for former Claremont premiership player Mark Brayshaw.

The versatile big man was de-listed by North Melbourne in the late-season wheeling and dealing, after playing 32 games in his three seasons.

He produced some handy games in his first season, but was troubled by injuries and never quite settled in.

Bombers angry over Anderson

THE introduction of new laws regarding clearance fees, salary caps and so forth are still not entirely accepted by all AFL clubs.

For example, Essendon believe they have been ripped off a fair bit with the decision of dashing wingman Greg Anderson to return to South Australia, where he will play with the Adelaide Crows.

Under the automatic expatriate clearance agreement that the Crows negotiated on their entry to the AFL, Anderson's release only cost \$65,000 — a far cry from the \$250,000 price tag a player of his ability would have returned a few years ago.

Anderson, with 103 games in his five years with Essendon, says he was reluctant to leave Windy Hill, but he had always expressed a desire to finish his career back in his home town.

Hepburn move disappoints Malthouse

THE decision of big Mark Hepburn to give football a miss for a season has disappointed a number of people in the West Coast camp, who worked hard to help the former Esperance youngster overcome a number of setbacks.

After two troubled seasons — with injury and opportunities hampering him — the 24-year-old decided that a complete break from the game would help him freshen up.

Eagles coach Mick Malthouse was especially disappointed, as he rates Hepburn as a big man with an enormous amount of talent.

"He's had a few personal and injury problems that he hasn't been able to get over," said Malthouse, who sees a tough path ahead for Hepburn if he attempts to renew his football activities in 1994.

"It will be difficult for him to get back into the mainstream of AFL after having 12 months off," the Eagles boss suggested.

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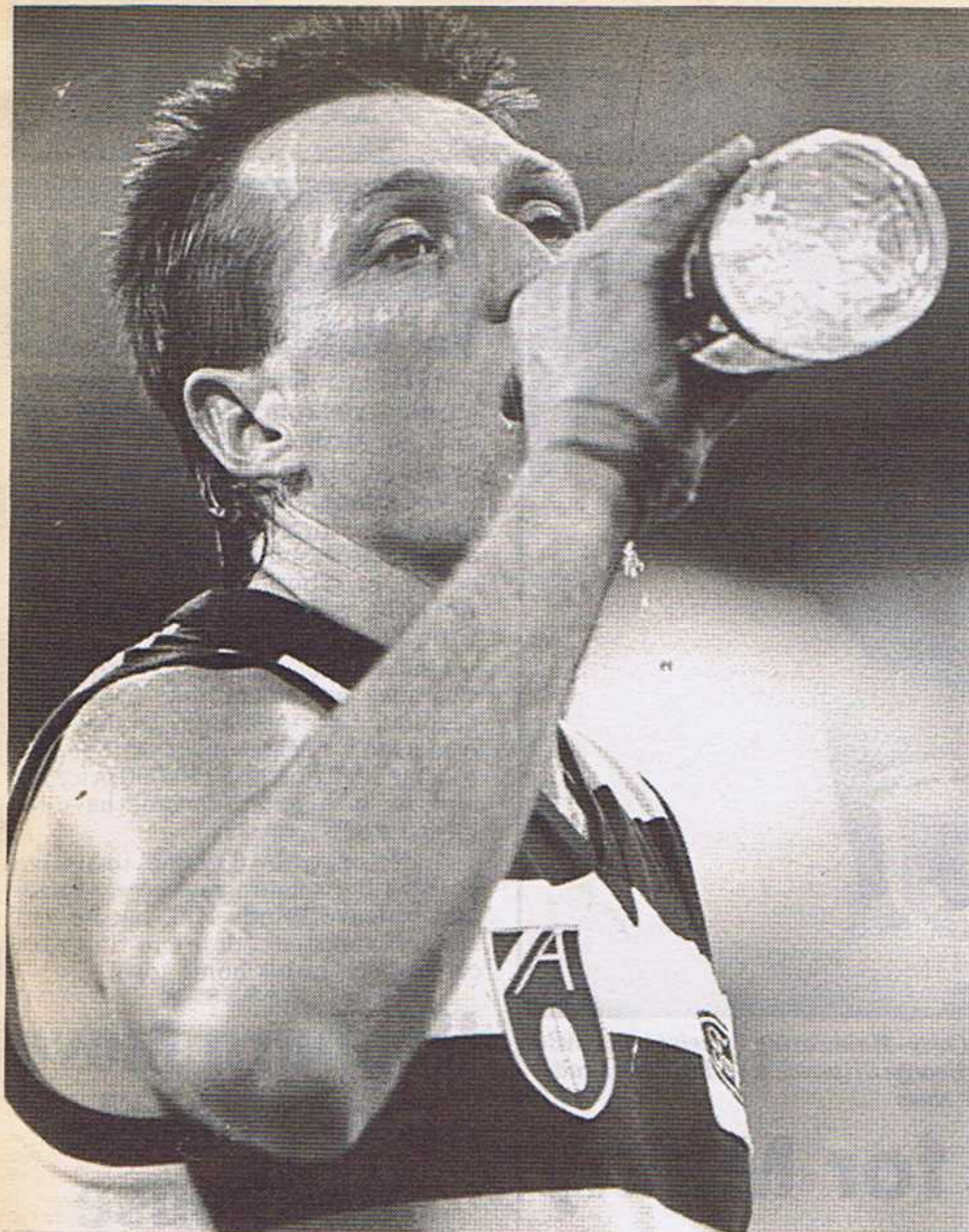
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COOL CAT... Mark Bairstow has had a hectic time since the end of the football season

Bairstow is a busy Cat

IN BETWEEN racing his horses, maintaining a property and training six times a week for football, much-travelled Mark Bairstow has barely had a moment to himself over the summer.

The boy from WA's wheatbelt area of Lake Grace has added to his workload in recent weeks by shifting his family into a 35-acre property at Freshwater Creek, near Geelong, where he's looking to keep six or seven horses in work.

"We've been travelling around like a gypsy for the last few years," says the Geelong skipper. "Now we've got a place to call home."

"I'll tell you what, though, we won't shift again for a while!"

Bairstow says that Geelong, like most clubs, were "full bore" with the players having just a short break over Christmas before resuming training.

TRADITION

"Pre-season training has become a tradition, now; you can't give other clubs a start," he says.

Geelong's grand final 20 started training a little later than the rest of the senior squad, a concession to their hard work-load in September.

Bairstow says everyone at Geelong is

On the East Coast from KEN PIESSE



still bitterly disappointed at losing to West Coast in the premiership play-off.

"You don't go through a big match like that without remembering it," he says. "It's still there; ask the West Coast Eagles."

"The positives are that we beat 13 other teams."

"We know that we've got to go that little bit further."

The triple All-Australian star is starting his sixth year of AFL football full of expectation and is likely to lead the Cats for a second consecutive season.

Osborne on the move

THE future of talented Fitzroy forward Richard Osborne is in doubt and he could be a surprise inclusion in the March pre-season draft.

The 28-year-old veteran of 187 games has apparently parted company on good terms with the Lions, where he established himself as the club's best goalkicker in recent years, with 58 majors last season.

Joseph set to boost Sydney

ONE of football's El Supremo's of the past has been given the job of reviving the football campaign in New South Wales.

Ron Joseph, the man who forged a premiership-winning administration with North Melbourne, has been appointed to a NSW post that sees him involved in football at grass-roots level and also with responsibilities for the Sydney Swans.

The post will be funded by the AFL, who are concerned about the credibility of football in Sydney, where falling attendances and a lack of profile have hampered the success of the Swans.

Joseph, a life member of the AFL, served North Melbourne for more than 25 years and earned a nation-wide reputation for quality recruiting, excellent player-management and astute administration.

Cordy has a change of mind

SYDNEY veteran Neil Cordy has decided to stay with the Swans, after considering a switch back to his former AFL club, Footscray.

"I'd like to finish well, rather than just fade away with an injury," he says.

After initial thoughts of a return to Melbourne for a 15th

— and final — league year, Cordy is currently negotiating with the Swans.

"The money is not the main thing," he says. "I've always said to myself that even if I won Tattsлото, I'd definitely keep on playing football."

Cordy had initially told the Swans he was heading back to his first league club, Foot-

scray, but negotiations lapsed.

"The Swans are happy to have me," he now says.

"I'm in an awkward position, as I did tell them I was going back to Melbourne and that I'd probably join Footscray. But things fell through there."

"I want to keep playing, so I had to go back with my tail

between my legs to talk to the Swans again."

Cordy is currently renovating his Melbourne terrace house in Enmore and intends moving back to Victoria next spring, hoping to accept an on-going business opportunity.

His injured shoulder, which restricted him to just seven games in 1992, is strong again.

MASTERS CHOC PRESENTS

What's happening in sport

BASEBALL

January 15-16: Daikyo Dolphins v Perth Heat, Gold Coast. January 20-21: Perth Heat v Sydney Blues, Parry Field. January 27-28: Perth Heat v Melbourne Bushrangers, Parry Field.

State League: Sunday, January 17: Victoria Park v Wembley; South Perth v Wanneroo; Swan Districts v Morley; West Stirling v Gosnells; Perth v Melville Braves. Sunday, January 24: Victoria Park v Wanneroo; Wembley v Morley; South Perth v Gosnells; Swan Districts v Melville Braves; West Stirling v Perth.

CRICKET

Sheffield Shield: February 3-6 — New South Wales v WA, Sydney.

Australia v West Indies Test series: Adelaide Cricket Ground — January 23-27 Fourth Test; WACA Ground — January 30-February 3 Fifth Test.

World Series: Sydney — Thursday January 14 Australia v Pakistan; Sydney — Saturday January 16: First final; Monday, January 18: Second final; Wednesday, January 20: Third final (if needed)

HORSE RACING

Ascot — Saturday, January 16: Tudor Mak Quality, 1800m; Saturday, January 23: Belmont Community Handicap, 1400m.

SPEEDWAY

Quit Clarendon Speedway — Friday, January 15: WA Super Sedan championships; New Year speedcar derby. Friday, January 22: Pilkington Glass twin 20-lap super sedan feature race; American sprintcar series.

TROTTING

Gloucester Park — Friday, January 15: Heats of the \$100,000 Swan Gold Nuggett for four-year-olds. Friday, January 22: Final of Swan Gold Nuggett.

TENNIS

Fremantle — January 30-February 1: Masters Dairy City of Fremantle championships. Bayswater — January 18-22 Wesfarmers country week.

GOLF

The Vines — January 28-31: Heineken Golf Classic.

YACHTING

Matilda Bay — Omega Australia Cup: January 27-31 — Heats and finals.

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Eagles survive tough weekend

MENTAL toughness emerged as the major achievement in a hectic weekend camp for West Coast footballers at Margaret River.

While there were plenty of physical challenges such as rock climbing, cave crawling and abseiling, it was the mental aspect of the weekend that organisers placed the most emphasis on.

Putting players through tough and strenuous exercises was designed to test their physical endurance — and even courage — and team officials were impressed at the attitude of many leading performers when it came to coping with the challenges.

CHALLENGE

Eagles club champion Dean Kemp excelled at almost everything he tackled, while Dean Irving, Tony Evans and Peter Wilson showed out remarkably well in the rock climbing challenge — considered the toughest aspect of the weekend.

A total of 44 players (plus about 15 officials) went to Margaret River for

weekend

the weekend, camping out on the magnificent property of club director Mark Hohnen and working out each day at a demanding physical fitness camp set up about 10kms away.

The camp at Merribrook is operated by Richard Firth and was well set-up to provide a challenging test for any sporting group, with rope climbing, rock climbing, abseiling, bush walking, orienteering and horse riding.

Former navy instructor Andy Shearman, who now runs the physical fitness aspect at the Sacred Heart College, in Sorrento, organised the Eagles programme, helped by Gary McGrath.

While most of the exercises were serious and challenging, almost everyone agreed that the funniest sight of the weekend was lanky ruckman Matthew Burton hanging upside from a rope!



Barnard aims for a big year

EAST Perth rookie Paul Barnard is setting himself for a big season with the Royals, despite some obvious disappointment at not being drafted in the November AFL call-up.

The 19-year-old graduated from Carey Park to play eight games with East Perth, filling the full-back and full-forward roles towards the end of the season — despite suffering a broken jaw.

He was targeted by a number of AFL clubs, including the Adelaide Crows, who were keen to call him up and East Perth had resigned themselves to losing the big, strong youngster.

He was keen to move to Adelaide, but will now concentrate on his season with East Perth — where he could be joined by an older brother, Jeremy.

With two younger brothers Richard

and Brendon also in the football game, the family links set up by their father, former Royals half-forward David Barnard, could continue for several years.

Lions lose a veteran

SUBIACO have lost one of their genuine old-timers with the death of Wally Young.

A former captain of the Lions reserves side, club secretary for more than 30 years and a life member of both Subiaco and the WAFL Members' Club, he passed away recently at the age of 92.

Madden thinking about another kick

MASTER ruckman Simon Madden is being urged to play a 20th AFL season.



THUMBS UP ... maybe that's Simon Madden's positive thoughts for this year

The 35-year-old Madden has been asked to reconsider his 1993 commitments, which appeared to revolve around non-playing roles, including writing a football column for The Age newspaper.

"I'm not saying where the suggestion has come from," says Madden. "But it's great for the ego for someone to say, 'maybe you could get another year'."

"While it's only a minor bit of interest, it gets the little voice in the back of your head saying, well maybe you could."

COMPLETE REST

"But I haven't trained at all, I've given my body a complete rest. I'm going to start from now on, doing some running and training, if only to get fit for normal life."

The Melbourne-based clubs who appear most in need of a ruckman are Fitzroy and Geelong, who are unsure if 1992 grand final follower John Barnes will be available from the start because of injury problems.

North Melbourne also need a back-up for Alex Ishchenko, but Madden, the decorated former Victorian captain, confirmed that his New Year offer had not come from the Roos.

MARCH DRAFT

To be serious about continuing into a 20th year and make himself available for the March draft, Madden says he would have to be in full training within a couple of weeks.

"I'm 95percent sure of not playing, but that's not 100percent," he says.

"The trouble is after 19 years of football, there is always this little voice in the back of the head."

"Until you can get rid of that voice completely, you probably will have some inkling, whether it's realistic or not, of trying to get another kick."

Madden says he has enjoyed playing all of his football at one the club (Essendon), but says he's a sports person and likes doing what he loves as long as he can.

"In 19 years, when you've been used to running around for that time, it's a bit hard suddenly stopping. You still have these remorseful thoughts: 'Gee I have to get myself fit.'"

He says he's chatted informally to his brother and Carlton ruckman Justin Madden, about '93.

"Justin says do what you want to do. He's changed from one club to another and been successful, so he has no qualms about anybody going from A to B."

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What's on at your club



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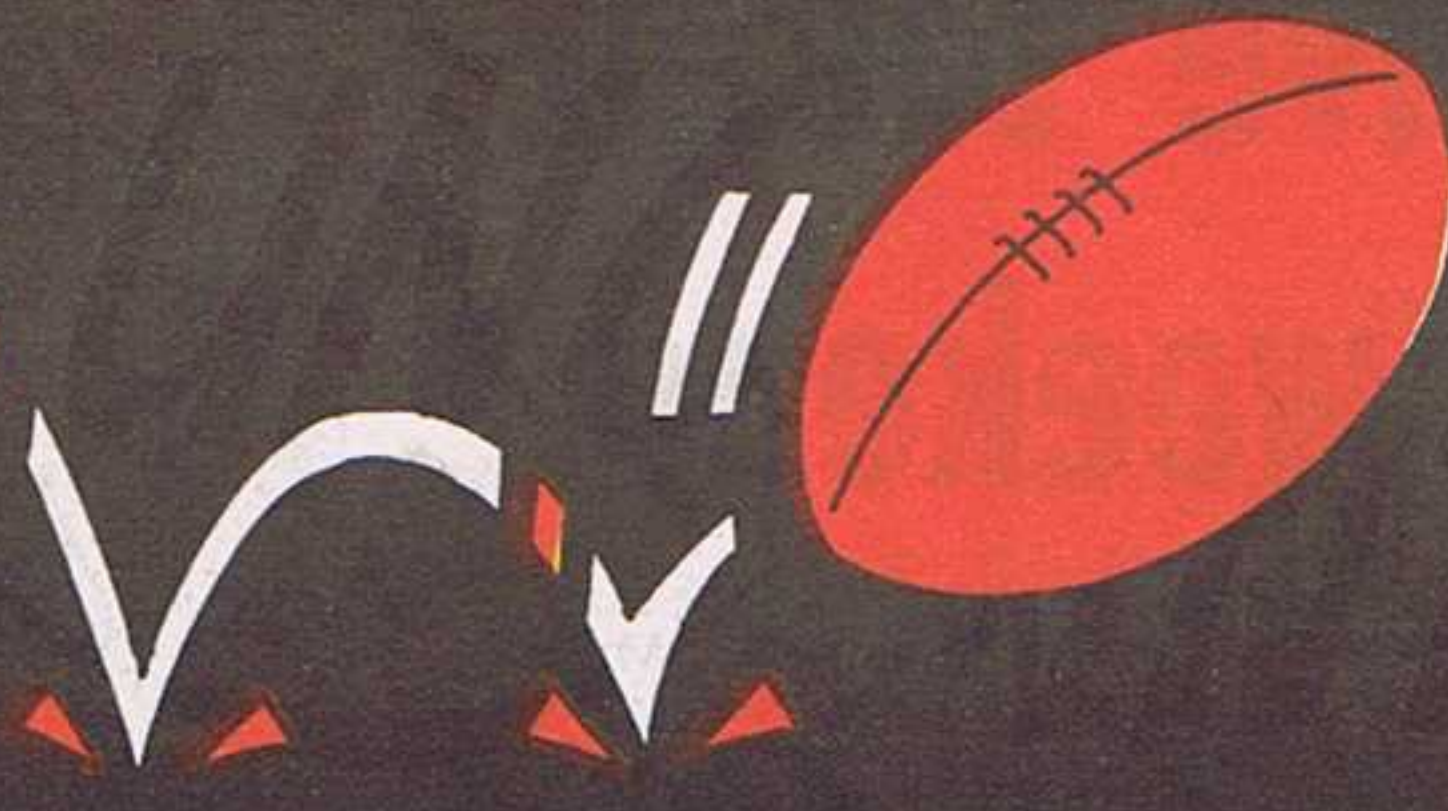
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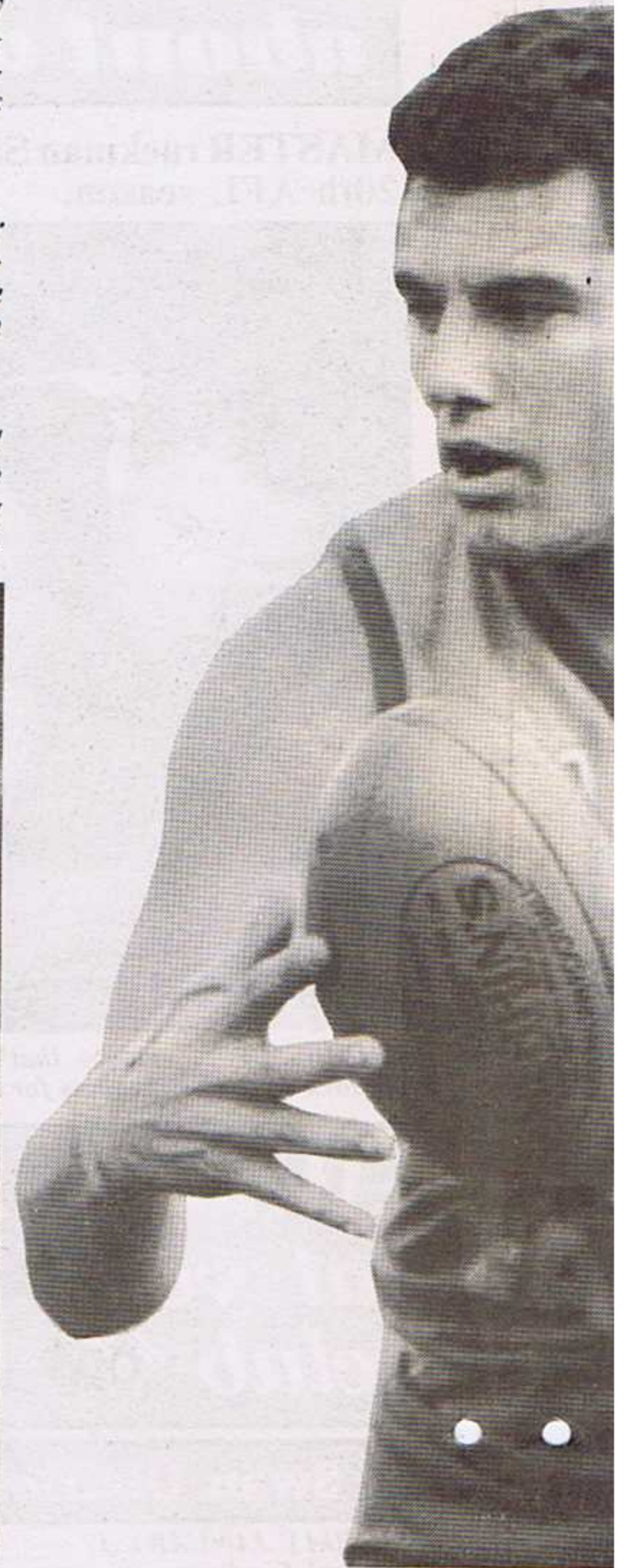
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LEFT.
EAST FREMANTLE: Craig Treleven. Don't be fooled by his disappointing finish to 1992. He stormed into prominence early last year before being closely tagged by opposition teams. He will have learned from those experiences and will be a major factor in the Sharks title defence.

BELOW LEFT.
SWAN DISTRICTS: Big Jason Ball has the ability to tear the WAFL competition apart — if he doesn't secure a full-time promotion to the Eagles. If he enjoys a complete WAFL season, perhaps an appointment with Mr Robin Sandover late in September will be on his calendar.

BELOW.
SOUTH FREMANTLE: Warren Campbell or Russell (Rusty) Williams — take your pick. Both draftees have decided to stay at the Port this season and the exciting teenagers will be even better for their first season exposure.



EAGLES: Peter S expected to shine and injury problem hind him, the class "hooked" kicking goals is

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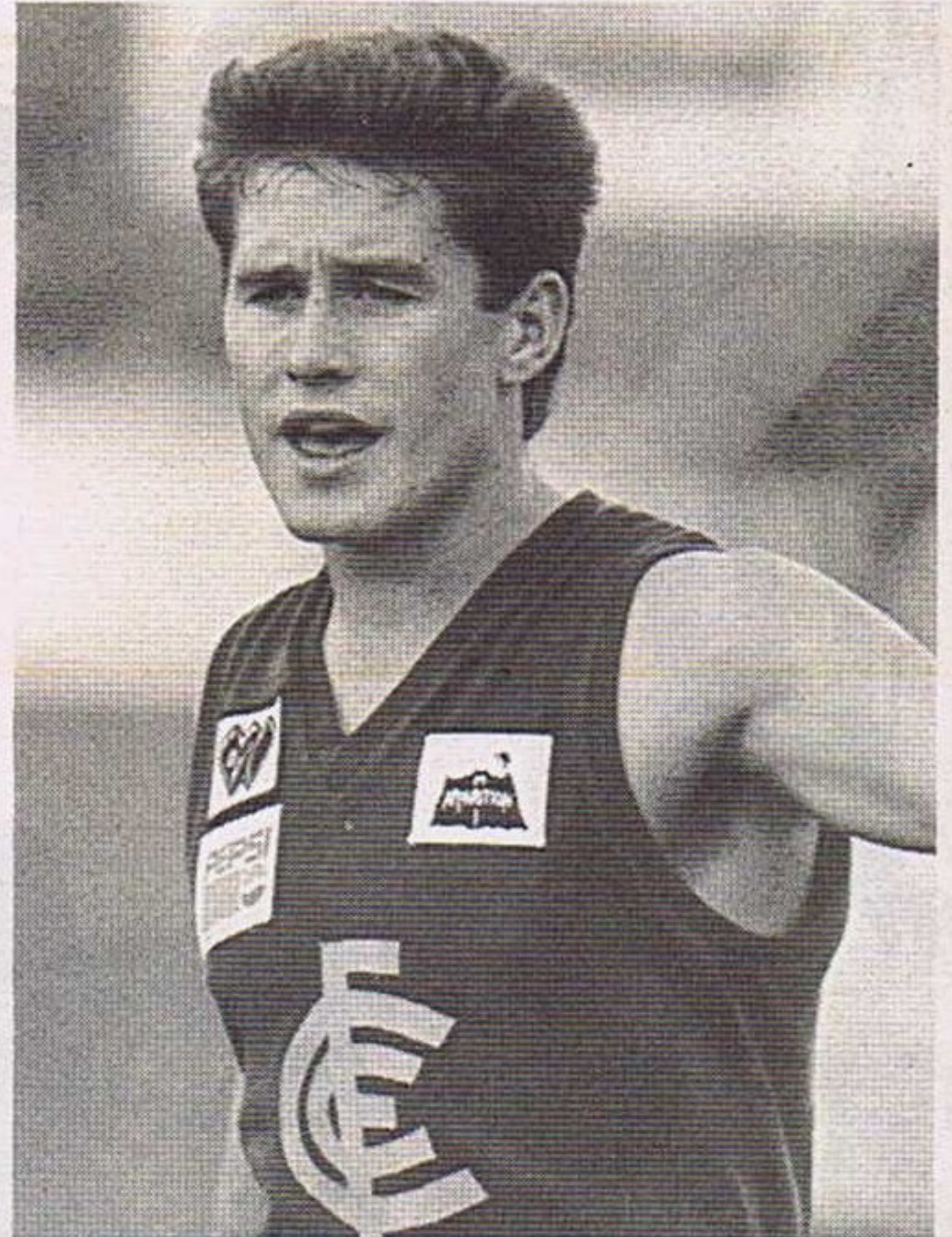
RUMOURS



WESTSIDE FOOTBALL opens the New Year with a glance into the crystal ball to see just who the 1993 stars of the WA football scene will be.



SUBIACO: Daniel Metropolis showed in just a brief AFL burst early last season that he can be a sensational goal-kicker. But he had to hurdle a few setbacks and if he can recover that glittering opening, he has the ability to dominate at senior level.



CLAREMONT: The exciting skills of midfielder Brendan Green developed as last season progressed — and he is set go on with things this year. His pace and ball-getting ability as a rover was recognised midway through the year and he grabbed the opportunity to be a regular player and he now shapes as a key factor in Claremont's intentions to get back into the top four.



EAGLES: Peter Sumich. The star of the south is set to shine on Suma. With the suspension and injury problems of early last season well behind him, the classy left-footer has remedied his "wed" kicking style and the magical century of goals is within his range.



PERTH: With pace, balance and sound skills, young Geelong draftee Matthew McMurray will be a major drawcard at Lathlain Park and should feature prominently in Perth's determined bid to return to power.



WEST PERTH: The Wodonga double will again be a dominant factor in the Falcons revival. Darren Harris roved in the shadow of his former Victorian country partner Robbie West last season and this year the deadly double can be expected to dominate on the ball.



EAST PERTH: Michael Prior will be one of many sensations for the revived Royals. With the recession gloom behind them, 1993 could be a year Charlie Chandler's tree blossoms. Prior, the brilliant young half-forward, should carry on his outstanding development to be an integral cog in the Royals machine.

MEETING PLACE

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Always the entertainer

THERE'S no doubt that Jack Sheedy was one of the most entertaining people in football... even in his retirement days!

Westside Football readers showed their appreciation of the former East Fremantle and East Perth great with a host of humorous entries for the Kodak Picture Puzzle in our last edition.

We carried that classic picture of Sheedy minus his shorts kicking East Perth into attack and invited readers to put a caption to the photograph.

While many were quite funny — and some unprintable — the winning entry was most applicable:

"And, as the good Lord said, the Rev. Jack, never known to be aggressive, simply turned the other cheek."

The winning entry came from Brian Bogue, of Doubleview, who will receive two rolls of Kodak colour film — and all entrants go into our end-of-summer barrel for a weekend at the fabulous Travel Inn Motel, in Albany.

WEST Australian football has produced some champion big men over the years and four of the all-time greats are captured in action in this edition's Kodak Picture Puzzle.

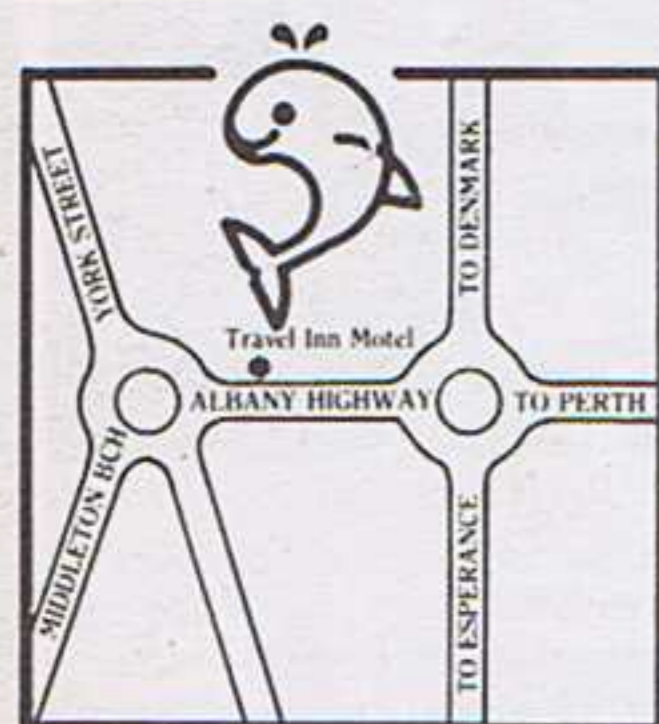
Picture No. 1 has a Swan Districts star holding the front position; No. 2 features an East Perth and his East Fremantle rival doing battle, while picture No. 3 has a Claremont champ winning the tap-out.

Simply name the four players on the back of an envelope and send your entry, along with your name and address, to:-

*** Westside Pic Quiz
*** PO Box 119
*** Northbridge, WA 6865.

Entries close on the Tuesday before our next edition (Thursday, January 28) and we will award two rolls of Kodak colour film to the first correct entry drawn from our barrel. All entries will go into our end-of-summer draw for a weekend at Albany's Travel Inn Motel.

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FLAG



LETTERS TO
EDITOR

Have your say

A selection of readers letters on football matters

Second side

WE should have a second AFL side in WA; there would be many advantages to the development of football and very few disadvantages.

There seems to be some concern about where ready-made AFL players would come from to make up a second team.

Initially, this would be a problem and the second team might not be competitive for five years or so, but with half the State to pick from, players would develop to AFL standard fairly quickly.

When you consider players of the calibre of Nicky Winmar, Mark Bairstow, Darren Bewick, Allen Jakovich, Michael Christian, John Gastev, Craig Starcevic, John Hutton, Wayne Henwood, Brad Tunbridge, Derek Kickett, Earl Spalding, Ben Allan and many others graduated quickly to the AFL, players of this calibre will continue to come through the WAFL system.

A second team would mean that many WA players striving for AFL ranks could either stay in Perth and not face relocation in Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane. It would also mean an AFL game in Perth each week.

The draft system would have to be abolished for WA, with the Eagles having a zone of, say, Claremont, West Perth, East Perth and Subiaco, while

the second team would draw from South Fremantle, East Fremantle, Perth and Swan Districts. This would benefit WA football, with the AFL teams putting money and resources back into their zones.

Players aged over 21 who are not signed by the Eagles or the second WA side, could obviously go to another club.

Ideally, all AFL teams should have a zone of about half-a-million people. This would be of much more benefit to the game, as all clubs would have a supporter base and the game would develop better with each zone having a parent club and a team for youngsters to aspire to.

As it stands now, most WAFL players want to be drafted by any AFL club — simply to play in the national league — and that means they are lost to WA football.

If they are picked by the Eagles or a second WA side, they will still play in the WAFL if they don't make the senior team — and those who do make the grade will be seen in action live every second week.

The WAFL can continue to prosper, especially with an injection of support from the two local AFL teams and the enthusiasm of young players coming up through the ranks.

Eventually there should be two teams from WA, two from SA (with zones in their States), one from

Queensland — with a zone covering the whole State, the Northern Territory and part of Victoria; one from NSW — with a zone of NSW, ACT and Tasmania — and six teams from Victoria, with the rest of that State divided equally into zones for those teams.

This would provide 12 top-class teams and a high-standard competition.

Establishing a second AFL team from WA will help hasten this eventual ideal situation by drying up a major source of players for Eastern States AFL clubs.

John D'Emden,
Esperance

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Rod gets his reward

TRAVELLING thousands of kilometres over country roads is no problem for Rod Daw, one of the pioneers of football in the Ravensthorpe region.

Daw was one of the instigators in the formation of the Ravensthorpe Football Association and his 25 years of continuous service were recognised when the WA Football Commission presented their annual Volunteer Award certificates.

Daw held the president's role in the new association from 1968 to '74, when he took over as secretary-treasurer, a position he still holds.

In all those years, he has never missed a meeting, covering roads all through the region to attend an estimated 250 meetings.

In recent years Daw has acted as the delegate to the Football Development Trust's Lower Great Southern regional committee, adding to his mileage.

His administrative duties come after a playing career of 21 years, during which time he has also coached junior teams.

WELL DONE . . . Eagles general manager Brian Cook presents Rod Daw with his Certificate of Recognition, watch by Ravensthorpe's Kevin Williams

Geraldton star takes double

TALENT scouts from a number of WAFL clubs have had a close look at Geraldton's top player from last year, Towns centreman Ricky Marianna.

The skilful midfielder completed the 1992 double when he won his club's fairest and best award to add to his JJ Clune Medal for the Great Northern League's fairest and best player.

He won the award from centre-half-forward Dean Walters, who completed a remarkable comeback after breaking a leg at the end of the 1990 season. The talented big man missed all of the 1991 year, but fought back determinedly to be best-on-ground in the opening game of the 1992 season and he continued with that form throughout the year.

Milestone men

THERE were plenty of meritorious milestone achievements last season and two veterans worth a mention came from the Beacon Football Club, in the Central Wheatbelt League.

Noel Miguel and Max Lancaster both reached their 250-game milestones with the club, having started with them in 1976 and 1977 respectively.

Miguel, Beacon's captain-coach and a regular combined side team member, started his career with Mukinbudin and then Aquinas College, while Lancaster went to Christ Church Grammar School and then played with Collegians and University in amateur ranks.

Lancaster coached Beacon to the 1986 premiership, a feat Miguel repeated in 1991.

GNFL seminar looks at media

A SPECIAL football forum initiated by the Great Northern Football League has focused attention on improving relations with the media in a bid to help stabilise the sport in the Mid-West region.

Delegates to the conference were told that treating the media as an 'enemy' was a futile exercise and did little to serve the best interests of football.

The forum agreed to work out ways of achieving a return to the days when Geraldton radio did live broadcasts of the local match-of-the-day, with an immediate objective being to obtain a talk-back football show segment each week, along with scores and match summaries.

Northampton coach Mick Thompson threw out the challenge to other GNFL coaches when he suggested that there should be more media access in

the clubs, especially before and after games in the change rooms.

The forum suggested that the GNFL should review the age of the colts competition and lower it by a year to under-19 to help players graduate easier.

It was suggested that the junior age limit of under-17 was too low, creating too big a gap for players going from juniors to colts.

One suggestion that attracted interest was the introduction of a foster system, where a senior player adopted a junior footballer for the year in a bid to help bridge the generation gap and involve the younger players more in the senior activities.

Veteran takes over at South Bunbury

SOUTH Bunbury stalwart Ray Rendell will assume his first senior coaching position when he takes over at the helm of the Tigers this season.

The 44-year-old long-serving chairman of selectors and a veteran of 180 games, took a break from the sport last year, but is keen to resume in his new role.

He says that South Bunbury, who were knocked out in last year's first semi-final, will be looking at a pre-season campaign based on improving their skills, especially their disposal of the ball.

McTaggart steps down

FORMER city footballer John McTaggart will not continue as coach of Augusta-Margaret River in next season's South West League.

The former East Perth and West Perth utility player led the Hawks into sixth place last season, missing the finals by a game.

However, McTaggart will stay involved with the club as he now operates a physiotherapy centre in Margaret River.

S-W crowds encouraging

CROWDS attending matches in the South West League were down by 14percent last season — but the finals crowds increased by 13percent.

Retiring SWNFL president John Silcock said that the finals series produced plenty of interest in the region and with children allowed in free of charge all season, the overall attendance situation was encouraging.

Silcock said that the strong finish in the finals — when six different clubs were involved in the three grades on grand final day — helped the League balance their books for the season after being about \$5000 behind budget during the qualifying games.

Coaching vacancies

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Cannington Gold Cup feature



Locals keen to retain dominance

A NUMBER of WA's leading greyhound trainers have been busy in recent weeks negotiating the purchase of quality dogs from the Eastern States to have them in Perth for the rich Be Active Gold Cup Series.

It's a tough challenge for greyhounds from across the border to be brought to Perth on the eve of the series, particularly if the late-January time slot produces some typical searing WA heat.

However, there have been plenty of cases where the move has succeeded — and a couple of times when only bad luck stopped an Eastern States victory.

Last year, for example, Victorian sprinter Noble Stranger looked a real chance for the rich prize when he clocked a remarkable 31.79sec. in winning a heat, only to suffer interference in a semi-final and miss a place in the final.

It became an all-WA result last year when Wynlee Supreme won for Banjup trainer Linda Britton, from Roxcourt, trained by Jeff Leppard and the Dave Watts-produced Chief Senior.

There will be a strong WA influence in this year's series, with some pretty handy form being produced by local

chances as they build up for the Gold Cup.

Neil Gardiner prepared Wise Man Sam to win the Winfield Spring Gift back in October, while the Schweppes All Stars event in November went to Dandy Lassie, trained by Ray Pike.

Watts, one of WA's most prolific producer of winners, held Down Town

Struta on the podium after the 18th Anniversary Cup in December, while the Christmas Gift went to Hay Sterling (Max Julien).

Other locals in contention are Metallica Drive (Keith Harding), Cool Gent (Peter Jones) and the promising Just Rhee, out of the stables of leading trainer Grant Langston.

Record will take some beating

IN THE 17 years of Gold Cup action, some amazingly-fast times have been recorded by the winners.

Marcus Rate, who took the honours in the inaugural Gold Cup in 1976, clocked 32.09sec. for the 530-metre event.

The 1978 winner Biafra's Son came under that time with 31.65sec. and the next three years saw the time tumble even further, with General Jeff, the champion NSW greyhound, being the first to crack the 31sec. barrier, breaking that mark by .06sec.

It was to be another eight years before the 31sec. mark was crashed again and this time it was a WA entrant, Miss Crisp, who won the 1989 crown with a race record time of 30.89sec.

The brilliant NSW-bred bitch arrived in WA two months before the event and that enabled her to run as a locally-owned entrant, claiming the \$14,000 first prize in sizzling fashion.

The last three Gold Cup finals have been run on the sand surface at Cannington Raceway, producing slightly slower times, with last year's winner Wynlee Supreme clocking 32.15sec.

1976.....	Marcus Rate (WA)	32.09
1977.....	Canonero's Gift (WA)	32.72
1978.....	Biafra's Son (WA)	31.65
1979.....	Rare Discovery (NSW)	31.34
1980.....	White Panther (SA)	31.00
1981.....	General Jeff (NSW)	30.94
1982.....	Wotta Wizard (SA)	31.12
1983.....	Superstar (SA)	31.66
1984.....	Legatee (WA)	31.02
1985.....	Supreme Carmen (WA)	31.15
1986.....	Farquhar (SA)	31.01
1987.....	Pretty Fearless (QLD)	31.01
1988.....	Karinya Flash (WA)	31.65
1989.....	Miss Crisp (WA)	30.89
1990.....	Sand Pebble (WA)	31.63
1991.....	Frantic Night (WA)	31.98
1992.....	Wynlee Supreme (WA)	32.15



GOOD OMEN... Expected Riches, with trainer Joe Panetta, is one of WA's leading contenders in the Cannington Be Active Gold Cup

Photographs courtesy of Australian Greyhound Monthly — available in major newsagencies and at Cannington Central

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Sports Spotlight on greyhounds

Big money the lure in greyhounds Gold Cup

GREYHOUND racing in Australia focuses its spotlight on Perth over the next few weeks with the staging of the Gold Cup series — one of the most prestigious events on the national calendar.

Sponsored by Be Active, the Healthway campaign, the \$70,000 Cannington Raceway series now rates as Western Australia's richest event, with the increased priemoney putting the Gold Cup up among the most attractive races in Australia.

The growing importance of the event sees local greyhound owners and trainers preparing their contenders to withstand the expected challenge from the top Eastern States entrants.

There have been 17 Gold Cup finals since the event

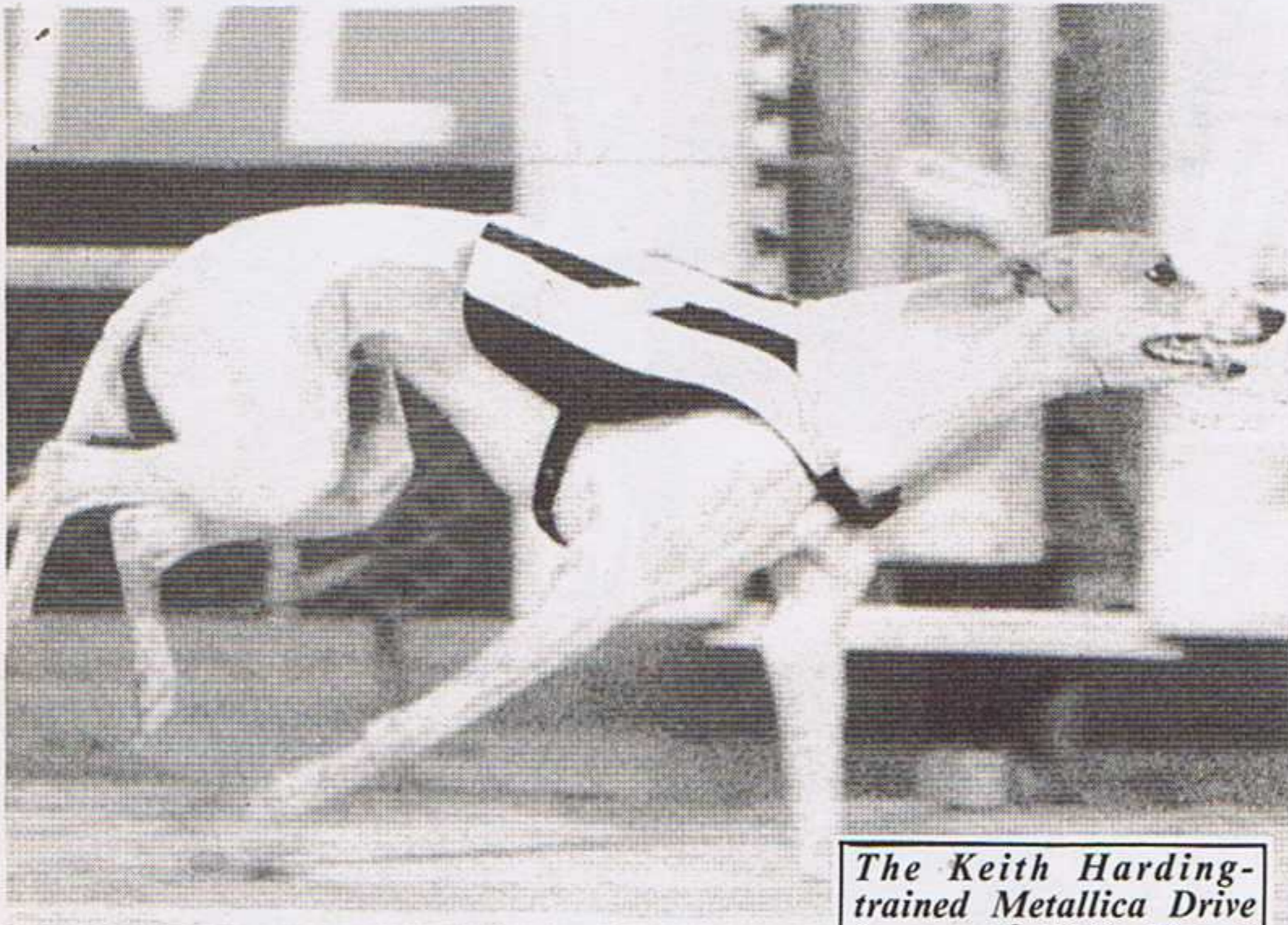
was introduced in 1976 and Eastern States greyhounds have taken home the spoils nine times.

The first three Gold Cup winners were West Australian greyhounds, but then the invasion from across the Nullarbor started in earnest in 1979 when Rare Discovery claimed the major trophy.

The inaugural WA winner was Marcus Rate, followed by Canonero's Gift and Biafra's Son. But then the visiting greyhounds started to dominate and it was six years before another WA performer stood on top of the winner's dais.

That was Legatee in 1984, followed by Supreme Carmen before South Australia's Farquhar and Queensland's Pretty Fearless took the honours.

Since then however, it's been a WA stronghold, with the last five winners being local entrants — even though they had originally come from the Eastern States — with Wynlee Supreme the reigning champion.



The Keith Harding-trained Metallica Drive is one of WA's biggest chances in the Gold Cup



mandurah forum

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The Diabetes Association with funding from Healthway, are keen to promote the "Beat Diabetes 2 Be Active" health message through sponsorship of the 1993 Be Active Gold Cup Series.

This message emphasises the link between regular physical activity and the prevention of Diabetes 2.

Every year, many thousands of Australians develop risk factors for Diabetes 2.

If you choose to follow a healthy lifestyle by eating less fat exercising regularly and keeping your weight down, you can go a long way to preventing Diabetes 2.

Over the coming years the Diabetes Association and Healthway are committed to developing a strong relationship with the Greyhound Industry.

For further information about Diabetes 2 and how to prevent it telephone the Diabetes Association on 325 7699.



Sports Spotlight focus on the Swan



SAIL AHOY . . . there will be plenty of fierce action on the Swan River when the Omega Australia Cup international yachting series is sailed on Matilda Bay. Ten world-class skippers will sail these identical Farr 36s in the world match race event

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1989. Excel Hatch, late model, popular vehicle, under \$8000, log books, cloth trim, sporty, four on the floor. Don't miss!



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Royal Perth to the

forefront

A SMALL band of hard-working officials — backed up by an army of volunteers — are responsible for organising the 1993 Omega Australia Cup.

Hosted by the Royal Perth Yacht Club, the executive committee has operated under the chairmanship of Vice Commodore John Flower, Rear Commodore Kel Quinlan and club member, Tim Ward.

Match racing in today's yachting world involves an enormous amount of

management on the water, especially with umpires.

Under the guidance of Royal Perth's chief umpire Graeme Owens, a team of 13 umpires — including five from overseas — will decide the fate of competitors infringing the rules.

Events like the Australia Cup continue to provide the opportunity for local umpires to increase their skills at an international level.

Many umpires such as Kevin Kennedy, Adam Parslow, Rick Scott-Murphy, Chris Semmens and John Standley,

have reached a level of competence which qualifies them for umpiring at other match racing events around the world.

CREDENTIALS

Owens is one of Australia's foremost yachting people and has the international credentials for his chief umpire's role.

He is an international judge and umpire and a senior instructor in umpiring. His appointment as an umpire in more than 30 international events is testimony to his level of expertise.

With on the water umpiring, any dispute or infringement which occurs during a match is resolved instantly by a pair of umpires shadowing the race in a fast, manoeuvrable power boat.

The all-important job of principal race officer is being undertaken by well-known Perth yachtsman and businessman John Rosser, who has a long career in water sports.

After success in the Head of the River rowing championships with Hale School in 1954 and '55, he was stroke in the winning WA Kings Cup eight in 1960 and stroke of the Australian eight at the 1960 Olympic Games.

His yachting career saw an Australian championship come WA's way when he sailed a Soling to victory in 1976 and he was a crew member in Australia's America's Cup challenges in 1977 and '80.

Rosser will be supported in his race officer role by the club's long-time starter, Jack Summers and his team, while John Marshall will be the man responsible for radio control throughout the event.

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship of the event is an important part of the Australia Cup success and Vice Commodore Flower is pleased with the level of support on a recurring basis.

Major sponsor Omega is well backed up by firms like Mazzucchelli's, RAC Insurance, Budget Rent-a-Car, the Swan Brewery Pty Ltd, Debretts Travel and Ronstan.

The support from Eventscorp has also been well-received, especially their assistance in producing a television programme for the event, which will be broadcast internationally in February.



OUR CUP... Royal Perth's Vice Commodore John Flower (left) and Omega managing director Graham Davies with the Omega Australia Cup

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Sports Spotlight yachting feature



Dual role for Ward



DUAL ROLE ... Tim Ward will be a sailor and an organiser for the Australia Cup series

ONE yachtsman who will have a foot in both camps — on and off shore — leading up to the Omega Australia Cup series is Tim Ward.

An executive member of the Royal Perth Yacht Club's organising committee, Ward will sail on a South of Perth club entrant in the preliminary series.

Ward, the State manager for Rosemount Wines and a former marketing man with the West Coast Eagles Foot-

ball Club, will be on board Rupert Leslie's entrant in the two-day qualifying event, where one of the 10 yachts will graduate to the Australia Cup field.

Ward has always been a keen sailor and his days at the Eagles often saw him talking yachting with former champion footballer Graham Moss, who was the new AFL club's inaugural general manager — and will be a rival in the elimination series as a crewman on Will Hammond's entry from Royal Perth.

Perth will host world finale

PERTH will be the venue later this year for the culmination of the world match race sailing series.

The world-wide series sees 10 events held throughout the year at different venues around the globe and Perth will host its round, the Omega Australia Cup, this month, culminating in the final on Sunday, January 31.

The Omega Australia Cup is rated among the top three events on the world match racing circuit and it will be Perth's turn to stage the end-of-year finale in September.

Television coverage by the ABC will guarantee that the finals will be watched by millions of people around the world.

OTHER VENUES

The other events in the world-wide Grand Prix are:-

- ★ Congressional Cup, Long Beach, California.
- ★ Liberty Cup, New York.
- ★ Steinlager Logan Cup, Auckland.
- ★ Royal Lympington Cup, Lympington, United Kingdom.
- ★ Nippon Cup, Japan.
- ★ Omega Gold Cup, Hamilton, Bermuda.
- ★ Mobil Match Cup, Hong Kong.
- ★ ACY Cup, Rovinj, Croatia.
- ★ French Open championships, St Tropez.

Local skippers chase a start

THE battle for the vacant 10th position in the final fleet to contest the \$61,000 Omega Australia Cup will see 10 skippers in action.

Gary Geitz, from NSW's Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, will be the only Eastern States representative, with the others coming from local clubs.

Royal Perth's Will Hammond, who won last year's elimination series to claim the 10th spot in the Australia Cup, will again be in the field and favoured to do well. He is backed up by fellow Royal Perth sailor Skip Lissiman, a helmsman from Australia II days.

The other contenders are:

Chris Sutherland, Royal Freshwater Bay; Paul Eldrid, Fremantle Sailing Club; Andrew Bell, South Perth's S80 match racing champion and his club-mate Rupert Leslie; Ian Younghusband, from Whitfords Sea Sports Club; Brad Sheridan, from East Fremantle Mounts Bay's Scott Glaskin.

The selection trials will be held next Monday and Tuesday, where each skipper sails against the other just once.



HANG ABOUT ... the crew of this Farr 36 enjoy a leisurely sail on the Swan River — but things will hot up in next week's Omega Australia Cup series. The 10 identical Farr 36 boats will be sailed by leading international skippers

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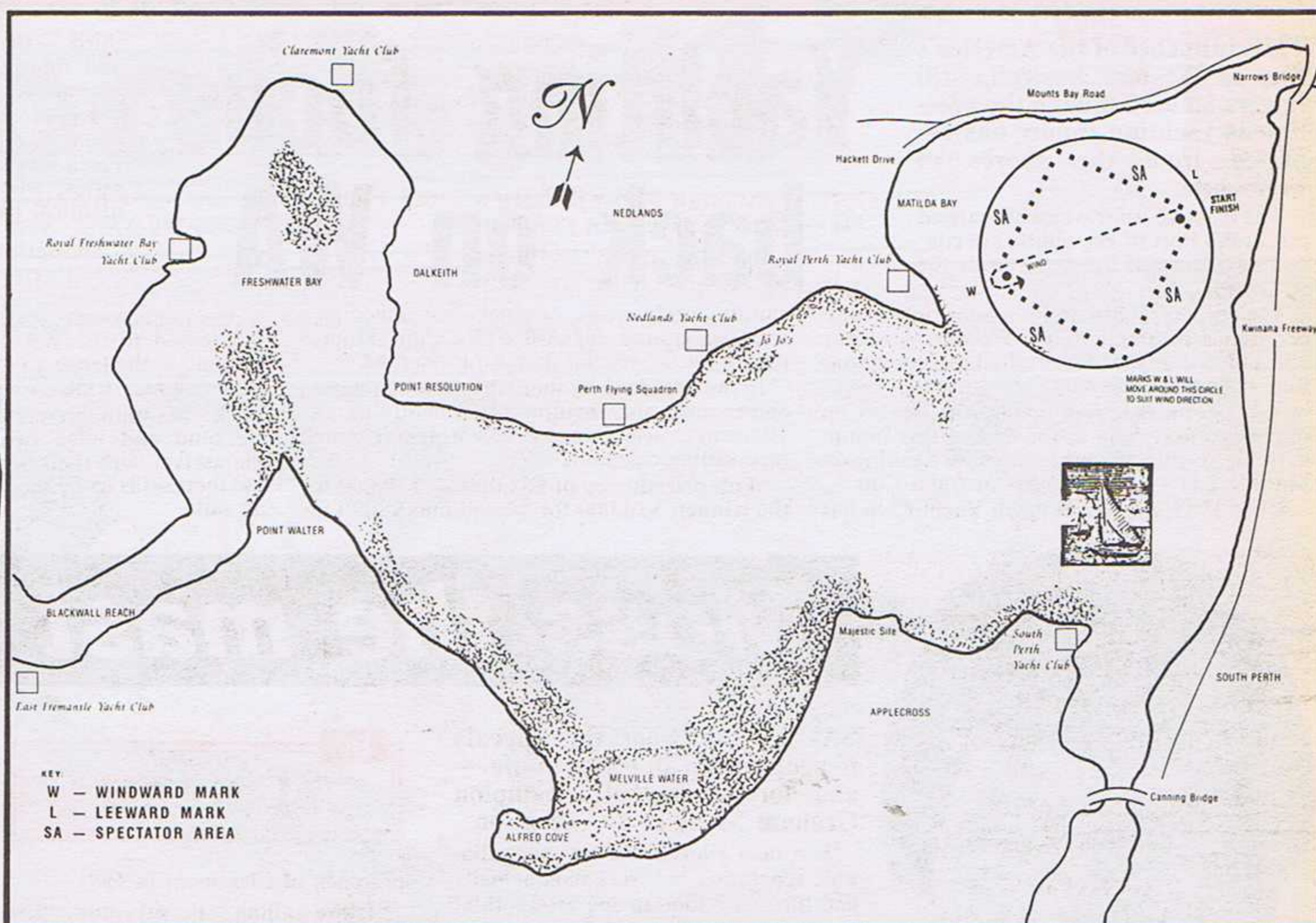
Sports Spotlight advertising feature

Where to see the stars

THE Omega Australia Cup match race series will be held in full view of the on-shore public, who will have ample viewing points around Mounts Bay Road and Hackett Drive, Crawley.

The round robin series — where each skipper meets the other skipper twice as the field is narrowed down to four semi-finalists — will be held on a windward leeward course, using the Matilda Bay area in front of the Royal Perth Yacht Club for the first time.

The round robin heats will be sailed on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday January 27, 28 and 29. The semi-finals will be on the Saturday, with the finals starting at 11am on Sunday, January 31.



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- All appliances must be turned off and cylinder valves must be closed in an emergency, when craft is not in use, or whilst refuelling of the craft is in progress.
- Check connections at appliances, regulators, and cylinders for leaks with soapy water or similar means at regular intervals and at least every 6 months.
- Never use a match or flame to test for leaks.
- All gas appliances should be examined regularly to ensure they remain in a safe condition and in good working order.
- All cylinders should be free of corrosion and dents and must be regularly inspected by a licensed inspection station every ten years.
NOTE: The last inspection date is stamped and located either on the cylinder collar, neck or foot ring.
- Regularly check permanent ventilators, flues and vents to ensure that they are clear.
- In the event of an accidental gas leak, stop all motors, close all cylinder valves, turn off all appliances and ventilate the craft until the air is clear.
- If fitted, regularly check and maintain the gas detection system and bilge blower.
NOTE: The Regulations require the installation of a gas detection system on marine craft in some circumstances.
- In the event of a gas leak being detected, close all cylinder valves, ventilate the craft until the air is clear and contact an authorised gasfitter to carry out repairs.
- Gas installations, alterations, additions or repairs can only be carried out by authorised gasfitters.

NOTE: Unauthorised gasfitting work is an offence under the Gas Standards Regulations 1983. A person who commits an offence under these regulations is liable to a penalty not exceeding \$2,000.

If you are in any doubt about your LP gas system contact an authorised gasfitter for a safety check. Advice is also available from SECWA Gas Regulatory Services Telephone (09) 2251555 between 0715 to 1600 hours Monday to Friday.



Top names sail into Perth

SOME of the world's best yachtsmen have come to Perth in recent years to tackle the Omega Australia Cup as part of the Grand Prix series.

This year's field reflects the growing standard of the event and is the strongest since WA hosted the inaugural world championship of match race sailing at Fremantle in 1988.

The field is headed by Australia's own Peter Gilmour, ranked No. 4 in the world match race sailing listings.

The former Perth skipper and America's Cup helmsman on Kookaburra II in the Fremantle defence, is now based in Sydney.

WA's veteran blue-water sailor Gordon Lucas, ranked No. 14 in the world, will fly the local flag and will be out to atone for three successive seconds — behind world No. 1 Chris Dickson in 1990, Kiwi Rod Davis in 1991 and Briton Chris Law last year.

This year's seven international contestants (with their world ranking) will be:-

- 5 Ed Baird, USA
- 6 Peter Isler, USA
- 7 Rod Davis, New Zealand
- 11 Magnus Holmberg, Sweden
- 13 Thierry Peppinnet, France
- 16 Chris Law, United Kingdom
- 17 Roy Heiner, Netherlands

There have been plenty of big-name yachtsmen tackle the event in recent years, including victorious Australia II skipper John Bertrand, England's Harold Cudmore and Italian Mario Pelaschier, who took the trophy home with him.



TOP PAIR ... last year's Australia Cup winner Chris Law (left) and WA's Gordon Lucas.

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Unit 1, Fremantle Sailing Club

THE influence of the America's Cup on Western Australia still lingers on even though the prestigious yachting trophy has departed from the shores of Fremantle.

The massive improvements carried out in the Port of Fremantle are concrete evidence of how enormous the event was.

The impact overseas — where millions of people learnt about Perth, Western Australia and all its beauty — has resulted in tremendous tourism developments.

And one further sign of the America's Cup impact comes along at the end of this month with the staging of world match race sailing on Matilda Bay — the Omega Australia Cup.

Since 1982, the Royal Perth Yacht Club has

Yachting focus back on WA

run the world series, originally conceived as a training ground for America's Cup skippers preparing for special match race sailing.

In the decade since then, the event has grown enormously and features prominently on the 10-event Omega Grand Prix world-wide match race sailing calendar.

With prizemoney of \$61,000 — \$20,000 for the winner, \$12,000 for second and \$8000 for

third — the competition is keen and interest comes from right around the nation.

Some of the world's top yachtsmen will descend on Perth this month to contest the series, where they all skipper identical Farr 36s.

The series goes from January 27 to 31.

The boats, owned by the WA Government, but leased to the WA Yachting Foundation, present a challenge to the skippers, who get little pre-race trials or testing.

The six-man crews start assembling next weekend and have two days to familiarise themselves with their boats. They then have to use their skills to get the best out of the hull and its sails.



INSIDE

Special preview on the Omega Australia Cup PLUS... a look at the greyhounds Gold Cup

Moss the mast man



SAILOR MAN... former football star Graham Moss now enjoys life on the water

SAILING is a sport that appeals to people from all walks of life — and former football champion Graham Moss is no exception.

The man who forged an Australia-wide reputation as a ruckman, actually had life as a sailor among his youthful sporting loves.

He sailed Pelicans and Cherubs out of the Nedlands Yacht Club as a youngster and on his return to Perth from a successful football career in Victoria, he bought his own Laser to sail in club competition.

Moss became the first West Australian to win the Brownlow Medal for the fairest and best player in the Victorian Football League — with Essendon in 1976 — and retired with more than 300 senior games and a premiership as play-

By

ALAN EAST

ing-coach of Claremont in 1981.

"I love sailing," he says now. "I've always loved boats and it's great being out there on the water.

"It's you against the elements, picking wind changes and so forth. It's an extremely interesting sport and I've really enjoyed different aspects of sailing."

CONTENDER

Moss, now the general manager of the Mt Claremont Superdrome, has spent recent summers crewing for other skippers. He will be a contender in next

week's elimination series to select an additional WA boat for the prestigious Omega Australia Cup.

The genial giant of the football arena is a member of Will Hammond's Royal Perth crew and they were successful at securing the vital 10th place in the field when the Australia Cup was held in Perth last year.

"That was an interesting challenge, sailing against some of the best yachtsmen in the world," says Moss.

"My job is as a mast man, where I'm required to hoist the spinnaker. The rest of the time I'm expected to sit on the wide part of the boat and use my bulk as ballast!"

Moss has had some previous experience at top-level sailing, teaming with former WA champion Noel Robbins to claim third place in the national Soling championships held in South Australia in the early 1980s.

"We'll be sailing in the elimination series hopeful of claiming a place in the field for the Omega Cup," added Moss.

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To celebrate the sponsorship of The Omega Australia Cup, Omega and Mazzucchelli's are offering these special prizes.

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